
Olympic champion César La Cruz earns third Pan American Games boxing title

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Reigning Olympic champion Julio César La Cruz of Cuba secured his third consecutive Pan American Games title in the men's under-81 kilograms boxing competition.

The 29-year-old defeated Brazil's Keno Marley Machado on points to add a Lima 2019 gold medal to those won at Guadalajara 2011 and Toronto 2015.

Completing the podium was Nalek Rachid Korbaj Barrera of Venezuela and Rogelio Romero Torres of Mexico.

Cuba enjoyed a successful evening at Villa Deportiva Regional del Callao, with a further three boxers triumphing in gold-medal bouts.

Lazaro Jorge Alvarez Estrada defeated Leonel de los Santos Nunez of Dominican Republic on points in the men's under-60kg, replicating the feat of his compatriot and achieving his third successive Pan American title.

Leodan Pezo Saboya of Peru and Venezuela's Luis Angel Cabrera Machado finished with bronze.

London 2012 Olympic champion Roniel Iglesias Sotolongo was then victor in the men's under-69kg, winning by points against Dominican Republic's Rohan Polanco Emiliano.

Dainier Christi Pero Justiz was the last Cuban boxer to take to the ring, claiming his country's

fourth gold medal against Colombia's Cristian Camilo Salcedo Codazzi on points.

Bronze went to Richard Torrez Jr of the United States and Jamaica's Damion Brown Ricardo.



Argentina were the victors in the men's softball, defeating the US to take gold ©Getty Images

In the women's competition, American Oshae Taylor triumphed in the under-69kg, overcoming Myriam da Silva of Canada on points.

Argentina's Leonela Rosa No Sanchez was the winner of the under-57kg gold-medal bout, defeating Brazil's Jucielen Cerqueira Romeu on points.

Yeni Marcela Arias Castaneda of Colombia and Yarisel Ramirez of the United States had bronze.

There was more success for Argentina in the men's softball, with the team taking gold after cruising to a 5-0 victory over the United States, with Mexico the bronze medallists.

Cuba had started their gold rush in the shooting at the beginning of the day, with Jorge Alvarez Llanes coming first in the the men's 25 metre rapid fire pistol with 28 points.

Compatriot Leuris Pupo was just behind in second with 26, while Peru's Marko Carrillo completed the podium on 21.

American Alison Weisz came out on top in the women's 10 metres air rifle competition with a Pan American record of 249.4.

She beat her team-mate Minden Miles for the title, with Miles scoring 246.4.

Argentina's Fernanda Russo was eliminated in third place on 225.8.
