

13 July 2019

Iran, Chinese Taipei win last two Taekwondo golds

South Korea finish top of the sport's medal table at the Universiade

NAPOLI, 13 July – Iran and Chinese Taipei won the last two Taekwondo gold medals at the Napoli 2019 Summer Universiade with victories in the men's and women's team Kyorugi events respectively on Saturday.

South Korea crashed out in the quarter-finals in the men's competition and had to make do with second place in the women's, but still finished top of the sport's medal table with seven golds, three silvers and two bronzes.

The team Kyorugyi event was a fitting way to conclude eight days of blistering Taekwondo in Naples. The action was furious, with every team member used at least once, creating frequent mismatches in terms of weight and making for wonderful entertainment.

Iran claimed their fifth Taekwondo gold of the Games, thumping Egypt 33-6. The Egyptian team is better than the sum of its parts, having knocked out Chinese Taipei and South Korea on the way to the final. But they could not do any more giant killing as they were clearly outclassed against Iran.

Mirhashem Hosseini, who also won the under-68 kilos individual competition, was the driving force of the Iranian triumph. He put his team up 6-1 in his first turn on the mat and kept landing kicks to the head throughout the contest.

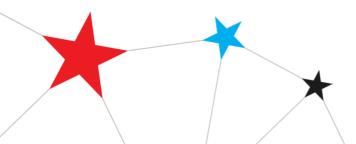
Erfan Nazemi, the only member of the Iranian team who did not an win individual gold at the Universaide, also played a big role, going upstairs to land a series of point-scoring hits.

The bronze medals in the men's team Kyorugi went to Malaysia and Chinese Taipei. The women's final was much closer, with Chinese Taipei edging South Korea 19-17. The Taipei women, led by Su Po-Ya, the winner of the individual under-53 kilo gold, made the early



running and took an 8-3 lead. But the Koreans clawed back that time and again when another five-point gap opened up later in the fight.

The teams were level 17-17 in the closing stages. But Ma Ting-Hsia landed a two-point hit with the clock running down to earn Chinese Taipei their second gold. Defeated semi-finalists Poland and the United States got the bronze medals.







The International University Sports Federation – FISU

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