17 March 2019

Ekaterinburg Grand Slam 2019, Russia - DAY THREE

Changing of the guard after all-Russian epic

**Women
-78kg: Grand Slam debutant provides Japan with first gold medal in Ekaterinburg**

Tunis Grand Prix winner IZUMI Mao (JPN) won her country’s first gold medal at the Ekaterinburg Grand Slam 2019 with victory over double Olympic bronze medallist Mayra AGUIAR (BRA) in the -78kg final. World number 67 IZUMI submitted former world champion AGUIAR with a strangle outside the area to deny the Brazilian back-to-back Grand Slam gold medals.

In the first semi-final 17-time Grand Prix medallist Natalie POWELL (GBR) lost out to Tunis Grand Prix winner IZUMI Mao (JPN) by ippon.

In the second semi-final AGUIAR saw off Düsseldorf Grand Slam bronze medallist Bernadette GRAF (AUT) by a waza-ari score

The first bronze medal contest was won by GRAF who rolled over Tel Aviv Grand Prix bronze medallist Aleksandra BABINTSEVA (RUS) for her second waza-ari score with 37 seconds left on the clock.

The second bronze medal was won by Cancun Grand Prix winner TAKAYAMA Rika (JPN) who dismissed POWELL after a hip throw and a holddown.

**Final**AGUIAR, Mayra (BRA) vs IZUMI, Mao (JPN)

**Bronze Medal Fights**GRAF, Bernadette (AUT) vs BABINTSEVA, Aleksandra (RUS)
POWELL, Natalie (GBR) vs TAKAYAMA, Rika (JPN)

**Final Results**

1. IZUMI, Mao (JPN)
2. AGUIAR, Mayra (BRA)
3. GRAF, Bernadette (AUT)
3. TAKAYAMA, Rika (JPN)
5. BABINTSEVA, Aleksandra (RUS)
5. POWELL, Natalie (GBR)
7. SHMELEVA, Antonina (RUS)
7. TCHEUMEO, Audrey (FRA)

**+78kg:** Brazil’s **ALTHEMAN earns fifth Grand Slam title**

Two-time world silver medallist Maria Suelen ALTHEMAN (BRA) **won her fifth Grand Slam gold medal with a determined display in the women’s heavyweight category.** ALTHEMAN saw offThe Hague Grand Prix bronze medallist Anne Fatoumata M BAIRO (FRA) in golden score with an o-uchi-gari in an entertaining final.

In the first semi-final World Judo Masters bronze medallist Larisa CERIC (BIH) picked up a knee injury against M BAIRO and had to forfeit the contest. In the second semi-final ALTHEMAN beat world number nine Beatriz SOUZA (BRA) by ippon.

The first bronze medal was awarded to Tbilisi Grand Prix bronze medallist Sandra JABLONSKYTE (LTU) who threw with a makikomi and then held down SOUZA for a second and match-winning waza-ari.

The second bronze medal was won by Tel Aviv Grand Prix bronze medallist Rochele NUNES (POR) as CERIC could not compete due to injury.

**Final**ALTHEMAN, Maria Suelen (BRA) vs M BAIRO, Anne Fatoumata (FRA)

**Bronze Medal Fights**SOUZA, Beatriz (BRA) vs JABLONSKYTE, Sandra (LTU)
CERIC, Larisa (BIH) vs NUNES, Rochele (POR)

**Final Results**

1. ALTHEMAN, Maria Suelen (BRA)
2. M BAIRO, Anne Fatoumata (FRA)
3. JABLONSKYTE, Sandra (LTU)
3. NUNES, Rochele (POR)
5. SOUZA, Beatriz (BRA)
5. CERIC, Larisa (BIH)
7. ADLINGTON, Sarah (GBR)
7. SAVELKOULS, Tessie (NED)

**MEN**

 **-90kg: After five losses in Grand Slam finals, VAN T END ends wait for gold**

Osaka Grand Slam silver medallist Noel VAN T END (NED) finally won Grand Slam gold at his 21st attempt as he **defeated** two-time World Judo Masters winner Beka GVINIASHVILI (GEO) in the -90kg final. VAN T END had five Grand Slam silver medals to his name before the start of day three while GVINIASHVILI had one title at this level on his record. After a highly-competitive opening four minutes the Dutchman launched his Georgian adversary with an ippon seoi-nage for a crucial win.

In the first semi-final former world number one Aleksandar KUKOLJ (SRB) was second best against Noel VAN T END (NED) as he lost after 68 seconds of golden score to a ippon seoi-nage.

In the second semi-final GVINIASHVILI held down Cancun Grand Prix bronze medallist Rafael MACEDO (BRA) for 20 seconds and ippon.

The first bronze medal was won by MACEDO who defeated Düsseldorf Grand Slam bronze medallist Jesper SMINK (NED) by a waza-ari score from an o-soto-gari.

The second bronze medal went to 2017 Junior World Championships gold medallist Goki TAJIMA (JPN) against KUKOLJ. World number 98 TAJIMA threw his Serbian rival with a ura-nage and held down the former world number one for 10 seconds to seal his victory.

**Final**VAN T END, Noel (NED) vs GVINIASHVILI, Beka (GEO)

**Bronze Medal Fights**MACEDO, Rafael (BRA) vs SMINK, Jesper (NED)
KUKOLJ, Aleksandar (SRB) vs TAJIMA, Goki (JPN)

**Final Results**

1. VAN T END, Noel (NED)
2. GVINIASHVILI, Beka (GEO)
3. MACEDO, Rafael (BRA)
3. TAJIMA, Goki (JPN)
5. SMINK, Jesper (NED)
5. KUKOLJ, Aleksandar (SRB)
7. MARGIANI, Ushangi (GEO)
7. MUNGAI, Nicholas (ITA)

**-100kg:** A star is unearthed as ADAMIAN **wins all-action battle of Russia**

Rome European Open winner Arman ADAMIAN (RUS) and five-time world medallist Kirill DENISOV (RUS) put on a classic final in the -100kg category in front of their home crowd. ADAMIAN starred in the preliminaries with some devastating ippons and met a gritty veteran in DENISOV with both men desperate to represent their country on the top of the medal podium. In a changing of the guard for Russia, ADAMIAN scored a waza-ari from a ura-nage and that was difference after four minutes as the 22-year-old newcomer wrapped up gold in only his **second Grand Slam appearance**

In the first semi-final Paris Grand Slam bronze medallist Peter PALTCHIK (ISR) was dismissed by ADAMIAN by ippon from a ko-uchi-gake.

In the second semi-final DENISOV threw Cancun Grand Prix winner Niiaz BILALOV (RUS) with an o-uchi-gari for ippon.

The first bronze medal was won by Osaka Grand Slam silver medallist Shady ELNAHAS (CAN) who threw BILALOV for a waza-ari in golden score from a makikomi effort.

The second bronze medal went to PALTCHIK who bested former world number one Michael KORREL (NED) by a waza-ari score from a counter attack.

**Final**DENISOV, Kirill (RUS) vs ADAMIAN, Arman (RUS)

**Bronze Medal Fights**BILALOV, Niiaz (RUS) vs ELNAHAS, Shady (CAN)
KORREL, Michael (NED) vs PALTCHIK, Peter (ISR)

**Final Results**

1. ADAMIAN, Arman (RUS)
2. DENISOV, Kirill (RUS)
3. ELNAHAS, Shady (CAN)
3. PALTCHIK, Peter (ISR)
5. BILALOV, Niiaz (RUS)
5. KORREL, Michael (NED)
7. BORODAVKO, Jevgenijs (LAT)
7. LKHAGVASUREN, Otgonbaatar (MGL)

**+100kg: Heavyweight glory for Russia’s BASHAEV**

World Judo Masters bronze medallist Tamerlan BASHAEV (RUS) struck Grand Slam gold for the first time in his career by defeating Olympic bronze medallist Or SASSON (ISR) in the closing seconds of their +100kg final. BASHAEV dropped under his Israeli rival with his trademark seoi-nage for a waza-ari score with four seconds left on the clock to end the tournament on a high for the hosts.

In the first semi-final Tel Aviv Grand Prix bronze medallist Anton KRIVOBOKOV (RUS) lost out against BASHAEV by ippon from a ko-uchi-gake.

In the second semi-final SASSON beat World Judo Masters bronze medallist David MOURA (BRA) by ippon to move into the heavyweight final.

The first bronze medal was won by MOURA who launched Düsseldorf Grand Slam bronze medallist Stephan HEGYI (AUT) with an uchi-mata for ippon after two minutes.

The second bronze medal went to double Olympic bronze medallist Rafael SILVA (BRA) who floored KRIVOBOKOV with an o-soto-gari for ippon.

**Final**SASSON, Or (ISR) vs BASHAEV, Tamerlan (RUS)

**Bronze Medal Fights**MOURA, David (BRA) vs HEGYI, Stephan (AUT)
KRIVOBOKOV, Anton (RUS) vs SILVA, Rafael (BRA)

**Final Results**

1. BASHAEV, Tamerlan (RUS)
2. SASSON, Or (ISR)
3. MOURA, David (BRA)
3. SILVA, Rafael (BRA)
5. HEGYI, Stephan (AUT)
5. KRIVOBOKOV, Anton (RUS)
7. TOKTOGONOV, Bekbolot (KGZ)
7. SHAKHBAZOV, Ruslan (RUS)