



FENCING • ESCRIME
CANADA

PRESS RELEASE

CANADIAN FENCERS WIN RECORD NUMBER OF MEDALS AT PAN-AM CHAMPIONSHIPS IN VALENCIA, VENEZUELA

October 30 (Valencia) - Canada won a record 10 medals at the 2006 Pan-Am Zone Fencing Championships in Valencia, Venezuela. The previous high at a Pan-Am Championship or Games was five (87, 91 and 99). Canadian fencers doubled that mark, winning 4 gold, 2 silver and 4 bronze medals. It also marked the first time that Canada won more than one gold medal at the same Pan-Am Championships or Games.

The most notable performance came from Josh McGuire who won Gold in Men's Foil and then lead Canada to a Gold in the Men's Foil Team event with a stunning come from behind victory scoring 4 hits in the last 30 seconds in the final relay against the USA in the final. Joining Josh on top of the podium were Marek Wojcik, Nicolas Teisseire and Julien-Gaudreau Pollender.

The other gold medalists were Igor Tikhomirov in Men's Epee and the Women's Epee Team made up of Sherraine Schalm-Mackay, Julie Leprohon, Ainsley Switzer and Catherine Dunnette.

This event also served as a qualifying event for the 2007 Pan-Am Games. Canada qualified a full contingent of 16 athletes for Rio, where it looks to improve on the 10 medals it won in Valencia.

This has been one of the most successful periods in the history of Canadian Fencing. Over the last six weeks Canadian fencers have won a record number of gold medals (8) at the Commonwealth Championships, a first ever men's medal at the World Championships and set a new Canadian high for gold medals (4) and total medals (10) at the Pan-Am Championships. Furthermore Sherraine Schalm-Mackay captured the Women's Epee Overall World Cup Title (a first for a non-European) and Canadian fencers won a record 11 medals in World Cup competitions in 2006.

The next Pan-Am Championships will be held in Canada in November 2007 and will be an important qualifying event for the 2008 Olympic Games.

The Canadian medal winners at the championships were:

- GOLD (4):** Men's Epee: Igor Tikhomirov (Toronto, ON)
Men's Foil: Josh McGuire (Montréal, QC)
Men's Team Foil: Josh McGuire (Montréal, QC), Nicolas Teisseire (Boucherville, QC),
Marek Wojcik (Longueuil, QC), Julien Gaudreau-Pollender (Granby, QC)
Women's Team Epee: Sherraine Schalm-Mackay (Brooks, AB), Julie Leprohon (Laval, QC),
Catherine Dunnette (Calgary, AB), Ainsley Switzer (Toronto, ON)
- SILVER (2)** Men's Team Sabre: Michel Boulos (Candiac, QC), Pierre-Philippe Gouin (Outremont, QC),
Philippe Beaudry (Montreal, QC), Nicholas Mayer (Mont Royal, QC)
Women's Team Sabre: Sandra Sassine (Laval, QC), Wendy Saschenbrecker (Montreal, QC),
Julie Cloutier (Repentigny, QC), Donna Saworski (Port Hope, ON)
- BRONZE (4)** Men's Foil: Nicolas Teisseire (Boucherville, QC),
Women's Epee: Sherraine Schalm-Mackay (Brooks, AB)
Women's Epee: Julie Leprohon (Laval, QC)
Women's Team Foil: Monica Kwan (Victoria, BC), Élise Daoust (Montréal, QC),
Louise-Helene Bouchard (Mont St-Hilaire, QC), Nora O'Malley (Calgary, AB)

FINAL MEDAL STANDINGS

	Gold	Silver	Bronze	Total
1. USA	5	5	4	14
2. CANADA	4	2	4	10
3. VENEZUELA	2	1	5	8
4. CUBA	1	3	3	7
5. BRASIL		1		1
6. CHILE			2	2

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