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STORY HEADLINE: NORTH AMERICAN RIDERS WIN GOLD AT BUENOS AIRES 2018

DATE: 9 October, 2018
LOCATION: Buenos Aires, Argentina
LANGUAGE: English, Spanish

Broadcast quality footage available at the IOC Newsroom: http://iocnewsroom.com

STORY SCRIPT:

The North American equestrian team won gold on Tuesday at Buenos Aires 2018.

For the show jumping at the Youth Olympic Games (YOG) at the Club Hipico Argentino there were no National Olympic Committee (NOC) teams competing. Instead as this is now the tradition for the YOG, the riders represented their home continents.

The event featured six continental teams of five riders and, after the first round on Monday, Tuesday's second round and a jump-off between Europe and North America decided the medals.

North America emerged victorious following a perfect round by the final rider, Mattie Hatcher (USA), on Santa Rosa Valery. Africa won the bronze medal.

It is important to note that the Youth Olympic Games (YOG) format for Equestrian Jumping is run on borrowed horses, so each rider has to develop a partnership with an unknown horse to compete successfully.

Equestrian continues on Friday (12 October), when the individual jumping event begins.

Buenos Aires 2018 is the third edition of the Summer Youth Olympic Games (YOG) to be held, bringing together the world’s best young athletes between the ages of 15 and 18. For the first time in Olympic history the Games will have gender equality, with equal numbers of males and females competing in the 32-sport programme.

Almost 4,000 athletes from 206 National Olympic Committees will be competing for 1,250 medals. The Youth Olympic Games Buenos Aires 2018 feature new sports and many new disciplines and events, reflecting the passions of the ‘Game Changers’, a new generation of athletes and fans.
The event offers a glimpse into the future of the Games as the new programme will introduce several innovations that will be replicated at the Olympic Games Tokyo 2020.

The first Summer Youth Olympic Games took place in Singapore in 2010. The second edition was held in the Chinese city of Nanjing in 2014.

SHOTLIST:

00:04 SOUNDBITE: Pedro Espinoza, Jumping International Team Gold (Spanish Language)
“Para mi, mi carrera ecuestre demuestra que siendo un jinete olímpico juvenil, ya tengo lo que puedo llegar hacer con mi carrera ecuestre y participar en una Olímpiada de verdad, grande.”
For me, and for my equestrian career being a youth Olympic rider shows me all that I have and what I can become on my career and also that I can reach the real Olympic Games, the big ones.

00:23 Various of Espinoza’s round

00:52 SOUNDBITE: Mattie Hatcher, Jumping International Team Gold (English Language)
“I really liked that it was mixed and that it wasn’t all USA. It was kind of fun just being the only one from the country, but also I loved being in a more international experience and getting to know more people that I’d never met before because that’s just a unique experience that’s very rare.”

01:11 Various Hatcher’s round on Santa Rosa Valery

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