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STORY HEADLINE: WILD CELEBRATIONS AS HOSTS ARGENTINA WIN WOMEN’S BEACH HANDBALL GOLD AT YOUTH OLYMPIC GAMES BUENOS AIRES 2018. SPAIN WIN MEN’S GOLD

DATE: 13 October, 2018
LOCATION: Buenos Aires, Argentina
LANGUAGE: English, Spanish
Broadcast quality footage available at the IOC Newsroom: http://iocnewsroom.com

STORY SCRIPT:

Argentina’s women’s beach handball team claimed Youth Olympic Games gold - beating Croatia - and sparking scenes of wild celebration in Parque Sarmiento.

The hosts won the first period 14-10. In the second period Argentina built up an 18-12 lead with three minutes remaining. Croatia staged a late fight back, closing to 18-16 with 15 seconds left on the clock.

But they were unable to score again, and Argentina duly won the second period 18-16 to win the match 2-0 and secure the gold medal.

In the men’s final, Spain won the first period 19-14, thanks to some impressive ‘spin shots’ on goal, earning them double points. They went into the half-time break looking confident of victory. But the Portuguese fought back to force a tie by winning the second period 18-16.

That meant a penalty shoot-out to decide the winner. There was a succession of double point scoring shots on goal from both sides. But crucially, Portugal’s Miguel Neves missed his shot on goal.

Sergio Perez-Manzanares stepped up to fire home the winning score, a 9-6 shoot-out victory. His successful shot on goal brought joy to the Spanish players and coaches, despair to the Portuguese.

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:**

00:00 Argentina team in a huddle
00:04 Argentina score a two pointer to lead 12-6
00:12 Argentina score to win the match and take the gold medal
00:18 Various of Argentina celebrating
00:31 Argentina team on the podium singing the national anthem
00:38 Wide shot of all three medal winning teams on the podium
00:42 Argentina team celebrating
00:46 Various of all three teams with their medals

00:55 **SOUNDBITE:** Lucilla Balsas, Gold Medal Winner Women’s Beach Handball (Spanish Language)

“Es hermoso, la verdad, es una locura. Seguimos tres años entrenando para esto. Todavía no ha caído! Es una Locura!”

It is beautiful, to be honest. It is crazy. We have been training for this for three years and I still cannot believe it. It is unbelievable

01:07 Argentina team celebrating

01:11 **SOUNDBITE:** Lucilla Balsas, Gold Medal Winner Women’s Beach Handball (Spanish Language)

“Estábamos pensando que teníamos que salir y dejar todo, que era los últimos veinte minutos que vamos a jugar juntas por ahora, entonces.... hasta dentro de mucho tiempo. Y nada dejar todo, no guardarnos nada de que seguimos entrenando los últimos tres años.”

We were thinking that we had to go out there and leave everything on the field. That it was the last 20 minutes that we were going to play all together, at least for a long time. And basically we had to give everything we had and not leave anything from what we have been doing these last three years behind.

01:26 Portugal win the second half to level the score at 1-1
01:38 Shootout: Sergio Perez-Manzanares scores for Spain to win the gold medal
01:46 Various of the Spanish team celebrating
02:01 Spanish team on the podium with their medals
02:11 Various of all three teams with their medals

02:16 **SOUNDBITE:** David Martinez Rodriguez, Gold Medal Winner Men’s Beach Handball (Spanish Language)

“La medalla al fin y al cabo es algo material, así que hemos ganado, fuimos los primeros, somos los mejores. Y yo que se, el equipo que tenemos formado fue lo más importante que una medalla.”

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The medal, in the end, is just something material. The fact is that we have won, that we ended up on top, the best. And the most important team is the team that we have formed all together, beyond the medal.

02:31 Spanish team applauding

02:34 SOUND-BITE: Sergio Venegas Rodriguez, Gold Medal Winner Men’s Beach Handball (Spanish Language)

“Yo también pienso que es increíble, que cuando llegamos y vimos todo tan lleno de tanta gente estuvimos flipando. Y nosotros decimos queremos llegar al final y que queremos jugar aquí el día de la final. Lo hemos conseguido y estábamos flipando pero flipando!”

I also think that it is incredible. When we came to this venue and saw all those stands full of people, we were amazed and we told ourselves that we wanted to be reach this, that we wanted to be here on the day of the final. And we have done it, we are really amazed.

-- ENDS --

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