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STORY HEADLINE: GOLD MEDALS IN RUGBY 7 FOR ARGENTINA MEN AND NEW ZEALAND WOMEN AT YOUTH OLYMPIC GAMES BUENOS AIRES 2018

DATE: 15 October, 2018
LOCATION: Buenos Aires, Argentina
LANGUAGE: English, Spanish

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

STORY SCRIPT:

Argentina celebrated yet another home triumph at Buenos Aires 2018, winning gold in Men’s Rugby Sevens.

Argentina met France in the final, a team the Pumas had beaten in a bad tempered match in the pool stage.

The home side got off to a flying start. Ignacio Mendy scored a try inside 40 seconds and Nicolas Roger scored two more within the first five minutes.

France did show signs of fightback after the break. They scored two quick tries at the start of the second half, first with Joachim Trouabal going over the line, and Baptiste Germain adding the conversion. The pair combined again to put the French within a try of their Argentinian opponents at 19-14.

Then France suffered what turned out to be a fatal blow to their hopes, Germain shown the yellow card and sin-binned, leaving the French down to six men.

Not surprisingly, Argentina scored straight away Ramiro Costa making it 24-14, Roger missing the conversion.

The bigger surprise was that there was no further scoring. Full time; Argentina 24 France 14 so gold for the Argentinians, silver for the French, and Japan, who host the Rugby World Cup in the 15 a side version next year, won the Bronze Medal Match, beating South Africa.

France also contested the women’s final. They also lost but only narrowly to New Zealand, who also got off to a flying start, scoring a try from Montessa Tairakena in the opening minute. Iritana Hohai added another just after the four minute mark to make it 10-0.
Neither try was converted and there was a danger of that proving costly. Alycia Christiaens scored and converted her own try to make it 10-7 to the Kiwis. That's how it stayed until half time.

Just two minutes after the resumption of play Lucy Hapulat scored a French try but the conversion was missed. Just three minutes later New Zealand retook the lead with a try from Mahina Paul. Again, kicking at goal was woeful, leaving the score at 15-12 to New Zealand.

There was no further scoring. Full time: New Zealand 15, France 12. The Bronze Medal Match was won by Canada who beat Colombia.

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 Action of the first try of the Men’s final.
00:16 Action of the celebration at the end of the game.
00:26 The Argentinian team step on the podium.
00:28 View of the people celebrating.
00:31 The Argentinian team receives the gold medal.

**00:41 SOUNDBITE:** Juan González, Rugby Sevens Men’s Youth Olympic Champion (Spanish Language)

“El podio con el himno, con la gente, algo tremendo, inexplicable que pasa muy pocas personas y nada..... contentísimo!”

With the podium, the national anthem and all these people you feel something amazing, it can’t be explained, it only happens to a few people.

00:50 The three teams on the podium with Argentinian anthem being played.

**00:52 SOUNDBITE:** Juan González, Rugby Sevens Men’s Youth Olympic Champion (Spanish Language)

“Cuando termino el partido me quede helado, no caía que hemos ganado y a penas entre en razón, abrase a los amigos y empezamos festejar como queríamos.”
When the game was finished I felt petrified, I didn't realize we had won and as soon as I did it I hug a friend and we started celebrating as we wanted.

01:07 Wide view of both teams before the game starts.
01:12 Action of the game.
01:26 Action of the end of the game and the New Zealand celebration.
01:36 Action of New Zealand team receiving the gold medal.
01:48 Wide view of the New Zealand team over the podium.
01:52 Action of the raising flags while New Zealand anthem is being touched.

01:59 SOUNDBITE: Lane Pouri, Rugby Sevens Women’s Youth Olympic Champion
(English Language)
“It’s just so surreal, our girls. We have gone through a lot of it yesterday and to come out here and perform like that. I am just so proud of how the girls won.”

02:06 Wide view of the three medal winners teams over the podium.

02:10 SOUNDBITE: Lane Pouri, Rugby Sevens Women’s Youth Olympic Champion
(English Language)
“We were just super overwhelmed. For the girls back home that can’t be here with us. For everyone back home, they helped us get here, so it was really emotional.”

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