

London Paralympic Games Medallists Excel in Adriatic Coastal Resort

By: Ian Marshall, ITTF Publications Editor

03/21/2013

Medallists from the London 2012 Paralympic Games excelled in the Men's and Women's Singles events at the Lignano Para Table Tennis Open Championships in the Adriatic coastal resort on Wednesday 20th March 2013.

Notably in Men's Singles Class 5, Norway's Tommy Urhaug, the gold medallist in London, repeated his success; he won the same class in Lignano finishing ahead of Serbia's Mitar Palikuca.

Similarly, Poland's Patryk Chojnowski repeated his London success.

He won the Men's Singles Class 10 title beating Russia's Pavel Lukyanov in the final.

A Surprise

However, there was one surprise; Germany's Holger Nikelis, a gold medallist in London, had to settle for silver in Men's Singles Class 1. He was beaten in the final by Austria's Andreas Vevera.



Andreas Vevera who caused an upset to win the Men's Singles Class 1 title *Photo By: Photo courtesy Lignano Para Table Tennis Open Organising Committee*

Success for Women's Singles Gold Medallists

Also, in the women's events, there were successes for London gold medal winners.

Sweden's Anna-Carin Ahlquist secured the Women's Singles Class 3 title beating Fanny Bertrand of France in the final; whilst Serbia's Borislava Peric Rankovic won the Women's Singles Class 4-5 crown and Kelly Van Zon of the Netherlands clinched the Women's Singles Class 7 title.

At the final hurdle, Borislava Peric Rankovic accounted for Sweden's Ingela Lundbäck, a bronze medallist in Women's Singles Class 5 in London; whilst Kelly Van Zon defeated Russia's Julia Ovsyannikova in the final, just as in the same event in London.

Silver Turns to Gold

Equally for two silver medallists in London, there was gold in Lignano.

Great Britain's Will Bayley won Men's Singles Class 7 overcoming Ukraine's Maxym Nikolenko in the final; whilst Thou Kamkasomphou of France secured Women's Singles Class 8 gold defeating Norway's Aida Dahlen to secure the top prize.



Gold for Thou Kamkasomphou in Women's Singles Class 8
Photo courtesy Lignano Para Table Tennis Open Organising Committee

Success for Bronze Medallists

Success for two London silver medal winners and there were titles for four London bronze medal winners.

Germany's Thomas Schmidberger overcame Austria's Egon Kramlinger to win Men's Singles Class 3 and Denmark's Peter Rosemeier clinched the Men's Singles Class 6 crown defeating Bastien Grundeler of France in the final.

Similarly, there were successes for Sweden's Emil Andersson and Pascal Pereira Leal; Emil Andersson overcame Hungary's Andreas Csonka to win Men's Singles Class 8, Pascal Pereira Leal, defeated Caglayan to secure the Men's Singles Class 11 crown.

Name to Note

Notable names and there was one other name to note who clinched gold; Croatia's Sandra Paovic, who competed in the Beijing Olympic Games, won the Women's Singles Class 6 title. She beat Ukraine's Antonina Khodzinska in the final.



Sandra Paovic, the Women's Singles Class 6 winner
Photo courtesy Lignano Para Table Tennis Open Organising Committee

Women's Singles – Gold and Silver Medallists

Women's Singles Class 1-2

Gold: Nadezda Pushpasheva (RUS) Silver: Florence Sireau FRA

Women's Singles Class 3

Gold: Anna-Carin Ahlquist (SWE) Silver: Fanny Bertrand (FRA)

Women's Singles Class 4-5

Gold: Borislava Peric Rankovic (SRB) Silver: Ingela Lundbäck (SWE)

Women's Singles Class 6

Gold: Sandra Paovic (CRO) Silver: Antonina Khodzinska (UKR)

Women's Singles Class 7

Gold: Kelly Van Zon (NED) Silver: Julia Ovsyannikova (RUS)

Women's Singles Class 8

Gold: Thou Kamkasomphou (FRA) Silver: Aida Dahlen (NOR)

Women's Singles Class 9-10

Gold: Olga Gorshkaleva (RUS) Silver: Neslihan Kavas (TUR)

Women's Singles Class 11

Gold: Natalya Kosmina (UKR) Anzelika Kosacheva (RUS)



Tommy Urhaug winner of the Men's Singles Class 5 title
Photo courtesy Lignano Para Table Tennis Open Organising Committee

Men's Singles – Gold and Silver Medallists

Men's Singles Class 1

Gold: Andreas Vevera (AUT) **Silver:** Holger Nikelis (GER)

Men's Singles Class 2

Gold: Vincent Boury (FRA) **Silver:** Stéphane Molliens (FRA)

Men's Singles Class 3

Gold: Thomas Schmidberger (GER) **Silver:** Egon Kramminger (AUT)

Men's Singles Class 4

Gold: Abdullah Öztürk (TUR) **Silver:** Nesim Turan (TUR)

Men's Singles Class 5

Gold: Tommy Urhaug (NOR) **Silver:** Mitar Palikuca (SRB)

Men's Singles Class 6

Gold: Peter Rosenmeier (DEN) **Silver:** Bastien Grundeler (FRA)

Men's Singles Class 7

Gold: Will Bayley (GBR) **Silver:** Maxym Nikolenko (UKR)

Men's Singles Class 8

Gold: Emil Andersson (SWE) **Silver:** Andreas Csonka (HUN)

Men's Singles Class 9

Gold: Iurii Nozdrunov (RUS) **Silver:** Andrea Aulie (NOR)

Men's Singles Class 10

Gold: Patryk Chojnowski (POL) **Silver:** Pavel Lukyanov (RUS)

Men's Singles Class 11

Gold: Pascal Pereira Leal (FRA) **Silver:** Caglayan (TUR)