

WSC PITCH&PUTT ITALY 2017

30 March – 2 April

Following the success of the World Cup in St Andrews last September, this year's Pitch&Putt world strokeplay championship was held at Le Robinie Golf Club, an exceptional setting for an event that was attended by 120 players from 14 nations from all over the world.

- Austria
- Bosnia Herzegovina

- Bulgaria
- Cuba
- Denmark
- England
- France
- Netherlands
- Ireland
- Italy
- Japan
- Portugal
- San Marino
- Spain

Among the various delegations, Cuba was particularly interesting as it was the Ministry of Sports that participated, in absence of a Golf or Pitch & Putt Federation.



Figura 1 Cuban delegation

On March 30th, the first day, a charity tournament was held dedicated to “April 6 - World International Day of Sport for Development and Peace”. IPPA is a partner of **Peace and Sport** and the World Strokeplay Championship 2017 has been included as the main Italian event on the official calendar.

The tournament was attended by 72 players and it was won by the Sammarinese Giulio Caramaschi, who finished with a great -5 under par. The participation of Matilde Padoan, athlete of **Special Olympics Italia**, deserves special mention.



Figura 2 Peace and Sport trophy, IDSDP2017

31st March, 120 players were on the greens for the first 18 holes of the tournament. After a first round, under a summer sun that created problems for several players, the Spanish player Marroquin Javier, excelled with 5 shots under par, followed by the Irishman Ian Farrelly and the Cuban Mendez Diaz Idolio just a shoy behind. The first Italian was Panza Leonardo who, up to hole 17, was in the lead at 6 under par until he dropped 3 shots and closed with a score of 51 or -3. The first lady was the French player Ghislaine Roux with a score of 54 (or level par), while the first Junior was Thomas Artigas from Spain, with a stunning round of 52 (or -2).

1st April

The competition, wide open for the final victory, was intense due to 2 rounds of 18 holes each, and 7 hours of play. The 3rd round classification determined the final 72 finalists for the final day of the tournament.

Luis Montero from Spanish was now in the lead with a score of 154, 8 under par, followed by the Dutchman Rolf Kwant one shot behind.

Young Thomas Artigas was still the leading Junior, in 5th place overall on a score of 159, 3 under par. Annia Blanco Flores from Cuba headed the ladies' ranking list.

2nd April

After three days of competition the winner of the World Strokeplay Championship 2017, *Italy*, is **ROLF KWANT** from the Netherlands, with a final outstanding round of 47 shots (or 7 under par) and a total score of 202 (or – 14 overall).

Following three Spanish players: Montero Luis (209), Martin Augustin (210) and **Thomas Artigas** (210) new Junior World Champion with a strong regular play on all 4 laps.

In the ladies' section, the winner is the Cuban player **Annia Blanco Flores**, who also participated in last year's Olympic Games in Rio.

In the Seniors category, the winner was also **Rolf Kwant**, and the best Super Senior was the Italian **Fernando Proietti**.

The players received their prizes from the three times gold medalist and Ministry of Sport and Youth of Lombardy Region, Mr. Antonio Rossi, the Olympic gold medalist Valerio Aspromonte and the World fencing Champion Carolina Erba.

IPPA wishes to thank all the players, and is grateful to all the judges and Le Robinie's staff for their special help in the success of the event.

See you next year for the **World Team Championship**.



Figura 3 KWANT ROLF, the winner of the World StrokePlay Championship 2017



Figura 4 Thomas Artigas



Figura 5 Blanco Flores Annia Yoannis



World Strokeplay Championship 2017

