

# *Sports News Roundup March 23*

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## **Baseball**

Dr. Juan Francisco Puello Herrera, *President of the Confederation of Professional Baseball Caribbean (CBPC)*, will visit Cuba during the discussion of the title of the *54th National Baseball Series (SNB)* with an agenda that includes 3 relevant topics for the future of the Cuban ball.

Puello arrives in Havana during the 2nd week of April to talk with the *Cuban Amateur Baseball Federation (FCBA)* to discuss various topics, among them the inclusion of Cuba as a *full member* of the *Confederation of Professional Caribbean Baseball*, said Heriberto Suárez, national commissioner, meeting with the Cuban press.

In addition, the visitor said they will also debate about the possible presence of Cuban players in leagues in the area and performing here a *Caribbean Series* for 2019 or 2020.

Juan Francisco will be joined by the heads of the *Venezuelan Professional Baseball League (LVBP)*, the *Mexican Pacific League (PML)*, the *League of Professional Baseball in the Dominican Republic (LIDOM)* and the *Roberto Clemente League of Professional Baseball (LBPRC)* of Puerto Rico, member organizations of the *Confederation of Professional Caribbean Baseball*.

Puello Herrera is one of the great supporters of the integration of Cuba into the regional organization he heads and the main architect of the Greater Antilles would return to the *Caribbean Series* from 2014 at Isla Margarita, after a battle of 14 years to achieve that goal.

## **Volleyball**

Cuba won the bronze medal by defeating Puerto Rico 3-0 at the *III Pan-American Women's Volleyball Cup U-18*, which concluded on Sunday in Havana with the triumph of Argentina.

The Cuban team, which won the ticket to the world event of August in Lima, Peru, exceeded Puerto Rico by 25-21, 25-22 and 25-16, to repeat its victory in the knockout stage when they beat 3-1.

The top scorer of the match was the Cuban Heidy Casanova with 16 points, while the Puerto Rican Dariana Hollongsworth scored 13.

In the semifinals, Cubans lost their unbeaten step after falling 1-3 against the Argentines, who outscored 3-2 the hitherto undefeated Dominican Republic on Sunday, while Peru decided 3-2 over Mexico and ranked 5th place.

In the 1st edition of 2011 in Tijuana, triumphed Argentina, while Brazil dominated the 2nd held in 2013 in Guatemala City.

## **Archery**

Cuba ended with 1 gold and 1 silver medals at the *VI Merengue Archery Cup* ended in Santo Domingo, Dominican Republic, last Sunday.

In the form of *recurved bow* at 70 meters, only to be summoned in Pan-American Games and Olympics, young Elizabeth Rodriguez reached the title by winning 6-0 to American Anna Marie Miscione, while her teammate, Liset Amador, finished the 6th.

For its part, the national couple formed by Elizabeth and Adrian Puentes won silver in *mixed teams*, overcome by the Americans duo of Marie Miscione and Eliot Simon.

In the men's singles lid, Cuban Puentes ended 4th in an event dominated by American Caleb Miller, who was escorted to the podium by Hugo Robles of Argentina and Puerto Rican Jose Irizarry, 2nd and 3rd in that order.

The *Merengue Cup*, where Cuba attended with a young team to raise their competitive experience, gave the last 8 available tickets for *Toronto 2015*, to which Cuba is already classified.

## **Boxing**

Cuba's *Los Domadores* stormed to their 10th consecutive victory in *Season V of the World Series of Boxing (WSB)* with a 4-1 win away to *Russian Boxing Team*.

This was Russia's first home defeat of the season, and they will be disappointed to have fallen to the *Group A* leaders.

Number one ranked Flyweight (52 kg) Yosbany Veitia opened the night for Cuba with success over Russia's Ovik Ogannisian, and won every round to take a giant step closer to qualifying for *Rio 2016* through *WSB*.

A closer fight occurred at Lightweight (60 kg) but the result was still a Cuban victory as Lazaro Alvarez won by split decision against Artur Subkhankulov.

The number one ranked Welterweight (69 kg) Radzhab Butaev earned Russia's sole win in Moscow, and accomplished his 5th win of the season as he defeated Olympic gold medalist Roniel Iglesias Sotolongo by a single point on all 3 scorecards.

Julio César La Cruz secured the overall victory for Cuba to set his dominance at the top of the Light heavyweight (81 kg) division by winning on points against Russia's Gamzat Gazaliev.

*Los Domadores'* Super heavyweight (91+ kg) Lenier Eunice Pero reignited his chances of Rio 2016 in the last fight of the evening as he subjected Maxim Babanin to his first loss of the campaign on points.

The Cuban team will travel to face China's *Dragons* next week while *Russian* Boxing Team visits Mexico's *Los Guerreros*.

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