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USA Climbing Claim Twelve Medals at IFSC Pan American Championships

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The IFSC Pan American Championships returned to the IFSC circuit for the first time since 2012. Team USA finished the five-day competition on a hot streak, winning 12 medals—6 golds, 3 silvers, and 3 bronze—and secured real estate on the podium at each of the three disciplines and the Combined event. The Pan American Championships took place in Guayaquil, Ecuador from November 22nd to 26th.

John Brosler and Piper Kelly opened up the competition by securing top honors in Speed. It was a difference of milliseconds between Kelly and Ecuador’s Andrea Rojas. Kelly edged out Rojas by 0.06 seconds with a time of 8.460 seconds to Rojas’s 8.520 seconds. John Brosler did what he does best to claim the United States’ second gold with a time of 6.140 seconds.

Both the US men and women brought their A-game during the Bouldering portion of the Pan American Championships. The United States had a total of seven men and six women in qualifiers, from which six men and four women would advance to the final round. Sierra Blair-Coyle and Ashima Shiraishi led the charge for the women with three tops apiece. Blair-Coyle impressed the crowd by finishing three of the four boulder problems on her first attempt to earn another gold for Team USA. Americans Palmer Larsen, Joseph Diaz, and Drew Ruana traded spots throughout men’s Bouldering finals. Larsen and Diaz secured 2nd and 3rd place, respectively, behind Canadian Zach Richardson.

The United States continued their success going into Lead Climbing. Ashima Shiraishi and Kai Lightner dominated the competition. Shiraishi made it to the top of both qualification routes and the final lead route. For the men, Lightner made quick work of the two qualification routes. Lightner would match the high point set by Ecuador’s Danny Valencia and secure another gold for the US on countback. American, Drew Ruana took home the bronze.

The top 6 men and women overall moved onto the Combined portion of the competition where athletes compete in Boulder, Lead, and Speed. All four Americans—John Brosler, Kai Lightner Drew Ruana, and Kyra Condie moved on to represent the US in finals. Lightner finished second behind Ecuador’s Danny Valencia with Brosler rounding out the podium in third. Kyra Condie claimed the women’s Combined title and the 6th gold medal for the United States.

About USA Climbing: USA Climbing is recognized by the United States Olympic Committee as the National Governing Body for the sport of competition climbing. The organization manages the disciplines of Bouldering, Speed and Sport climbing as well as the Collegiate and Adaptive series. USA Climbing, a member federation of the International Federation of Sport Climbing (IFSC), also hosts IFSC World Cup events and sends athletes to participate in the IFSC’s World Cup circuit and the World Climbing and Paraclimbing Championships. For more information contact:

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