

Canadian women claim team title at Pan American Wrestling Championships

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Canada's women have claimed the team title at the Pan American Wrestling Championships thanks to their two gold medals in Chile's capital Santiago.

Although its 58 team points was matched by Venezuela, who earned medals in five of the eight categories, Canada's pair of top podium spots saw it edge ahead.

Genevieve Morrison Haley got the Canadian domination underway with a victory over Ecuador's Jaqueline Toaza Avelino in the 48 kilogram contest, with the nation's other gold medal coming from Justina Renay Di Stasio in the 75kg weight class, where she defeated Cuban Lisette Medina.

Cuba also took a pair of gold medals thanks to Katerina Lopez's victory over Canada's Breanne Graham in the 63kg event and Yudaris Rodriguez's defeat of Argentine world number nine Luz Vazquez at 69kg.

"They are very talented," Brazilian Wrestling Federation President Pedro Gama Filho said of the Cubans.

"We saw them for the first-time around 2009 and today everyone saw that they were the most impressive yet."

Sarah Hillebrandt and Jennifer Page also made sure there was double gold for the United States with victories in the 55kg and 60kg events respectively.

The wins saw the nation finishing fifth overall.

Brazil and Colombia also earned a gold medal apiece, with Olympian Joice Silva defeating Canada's Jazmyne Barker in the 58kg weight class and Sayury Carreon overcoming American Carlene Ann Sluberski in the 53kg competition.



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The Pan American Championships conclude tomorrow with the men's freestyle competition.