

16th IRO Rescue Dog World Championship, Žatec/Czech Republic

Gold for Czech Republic, Austria, Germany and Italy

Whereas the Czech host won four medals at the 16th Rescue Dog World Championship (Gold, Silver, Bronze in Area Search and Gold in the Team Competition), the other podium places were claimed by participants of various nations.

Nearly up to the end of the World Championship, which lasted four days, Christa Balzer from Switzerland looked like to be the winner in the category „Area Search“ – until Andrea Otto from Germany achieved due to a brilliant search work the first place. Third placed was Andrzej Gorowski from Poland.

The start number 01 01 brought luck to Gerlinde Häusermann. The 39 year old chemist already achieved the gold medal for Austria in the category “Rubble Search” in 2009 and repeated her success also this year. Friends indicated before her start that the number is a good omen: 01. Place 2009, 01. Place 2010.

Second ranked was Gina van Dijk-Gerolt from the Netherlands, third placed was Ana Viller from Croatia.

At the “Tracking Search” the Czech dog handlers were unbeatable. All three podium places were achieved by the host: first place Ludmilla Masatova, 2nd Miloslav Cenek and 3rd Iva Lzicarova.

In the water rescue discipline Nicola Carrara from Italy was successful.

In the Team Competition a team from the Czech Republic won Gold (Team: Svaz zachrannych brigad kynologu-SZBK). Silver: SMF (Swiss Army Dog Handlers Association). Bronze: Club for Sports- and Working Dogs Zagreb (KOSSP)

The World Championship was characterized by an unbelievable heat. During the search work the dog handlers had to make many breaks to cool down their dogs and to give them water to drink. Due to the very often windless situation, the work was made much more difficult for the dogs as they only could get the scent of the (symbolic) victims when they were very near to them. When there is a slight wind they can get the scent easier and can find the persons more easily and faster.

All results: <http://www.wch-iro-2010.zachranari.cz/index.php?lg=en>



World Champion 2010 in Rubble Search
Gerlinde Häusermann (LVHS) with Athos

