Best athletes of Finland 2011

Last weekend Finnish Masters Athletes had its annual meeting and best athletes award gala in the sport institute Kuortane. This year was very successfully for Finnish athletes both in European Indoors in Gent (BEL) and World Championship in Sacramento (USA).

The best athlete award was given to mr Armas Rantala, M85. He won 6 gold medals in Sacramento, first athlete in Finland. He participated in 6 throwing event and win them all: shot put 9.52, discus 22.75, hammer 28.68, javelin 22.33, weight throw 11.20 and throwing pentathlon 3814 points.

The best female award was given to mrs Pirjo Karetie, W65. She won all walking events bots in Gent and in Sacramento. From Gent she won 2 gold medals: 3000m track walk 18.38,58 and 5km road walk 30.24. From Sacramento she won 3 gold medals: 5000m track walk 31.59,43, 10km road walk 1.03.36,98 and 20km road walk 2.14.19,94.

Beside these two athletes FMA gave the best event group award for following athletes:

Sprinter of the year Marja Metsänkylä, W60, 1st 300m hurdles, 53.75

Long distance runner of the year Heimo Kärkkäinen, M60, 1st 10 000m 34.05,81

Jumper of the year Pertti Ahomäki, M65, 1st in Sacramento long jump 5.51 (ER) and triple jump 11.28w, 1st in Gent long jump 5.20 and triple jump 11.28

Thrower of the year Armas Rantala, m85, results above

Walker of the year Pirjo Karetie, W65, results above

Decathlonist of the year Kyösti Poutiainen, M70, 1st in Sacramento 6794 points

Skier of the year Lauri Tahvanainen, M70, several national gold medals and organiser of skiing competitions

Skater of the year Sirpa Grönberg, W45, several national gold medals

Surpriser of the year Leena Puotiniemi, W35, reach A-time limit for London Olympic Marathon in Berlin

Journalist of the year Petri Maskonen, long time journalist publishing also master sport news

The best sport club of the year Kunto-Pirkat ry 1337 points

The best female sport club of the year Kunto-Pirkat ry 539 points

FMA-torch of the year Into Turvanen, M70, trainer, coach and leader of adults sport camps