USA snatched a last-gasp winner against Australia on Sunday, to win the final of the FINA Water Polo World League Men's Intercontinental Tournament, which took place in Yokohama (JPN) from May 10-15.

In the bronze match, Brazil somehow denied Japan with a storming fightback, beating the hosts for a second straight day, while Kazakhstan were too strong for China in the 5th place decider, at Yokohama International Swimming Pool.

The top four teams — USA, Australia, Brazil and Japan — have now qualified for the Super Final of the FINA Men's Water Polo World League in Huizhou, China, from June 21-26. Team China automatically qualified as the tournament host.

The five teams will be joining Greece, Italy and Serbia, the squads representing Europe.

USA had finished top of the round-robin group last week with five wins, followed by Australia on four, Brazil three, Japan two, and Kazakhstan one, while China lost all five matches.

USA captain Tony Azevedo took the MVP award, Brazil’s Josip Vrlic topped the goalscoring charts with 21 strikes, Japan’s Katsuyuki Tanamura was named top goalkeeper, and his team-mate Atsushi Arai took the special Organising Committee Award.

Final ranking of the Intercontinental Tournament:

1. USA
2. Australia
3. Brazil
4. Japan
5. Kazakhstan
6. China

The FINA Women’s Water Polo World League Super Final kicks-off on June 7 in Shanghai (CHN). Australia, Brazil,
In sport, a medal is particularly hard to win. It requires enormous patience, as well as nerve and skill.

Diving competitions are ferocious, in particular from the Chinese - the leading nation since the 90’s.

The FINA/NVC Diving World Series 2016 was no exception as Team China largely prevailed at most legs, claiming 38 gold medals out of 40 and giving very few winning possibilities to the other competing nations.

After stopping in Beijing (CHN), Dubai (UAE), Windsor (CAN) and Kazan (RUS), China naturally leads the rankings in most events; the men’s 3m springboard, the men’s 10m platform, the women’s 3m springboard, the men’s 10m synchro, the men and women’s 10m synchro as well as both mixed events.

Following the huge success of the Series, FINA decided to give a voice to the overall winning nation of the year’s edition.

3m overall winner Cao Yuan, 21, comes back on his impressive journey.

“I was so surprised as I did not expect to win the 3m title! It is the first time I get it. I won the single events at all four legs for the first time! It is a breakthrough for me as well as a great rehearsal for the Rio Olympic Games.”

“In this year’s circuit, I particularly loved the Windsor leg because I achieved my highest score of the year there with 540.15 points. Windsor is my lucky place! I won this leg for three consecutive years.

However the last meet in Kazan was the most breathtaking as I only secured gold with a small margin of 1.20 point over Russia’s favourite Ilia Zakharov.”

Continue to read full interview HERE

SEE RESULTS ON FINA.ORG

Eight FINA Clinics & Courses hosted in Paraguay

Alongside the South American championships hosted by the South American Swimming Confederation (CONSANAT), FINA organised a series of eight courses for coaches, judges and officials in Paraguay.

In March the city of Lambaré was the venue for two courses for advanced coaches and open water swimming referees, while two synchronised swimming courses, two courses for water polo referees and two courses for swimming officials took place in Asunción from 15 to 30 March.

MORE ABOUT FINA DEVELOPMENT INITIATIVES
The Fédération Internationale de Natation, FINA (founded in 1908) is the governing body for aquatics worldwide. Its five disciplines - Swimming, Open Water Swimming, Diving, Water Polo and Synchronised Swimming - are all included in the Olympic programme. High Diving is on the World Championships programme since 2013. FINA organises World Championships, World Swimming Championships in 25m-pool and World Masters Championships every two years. FINA counts 207 affiliated National Federations on the five continents and has its headquarters in Lausanne (SUI).

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FINA OFFICE // AVENUE DE L’AVANT-POSTE 4 - 1005 LAUSANNE // TEL. (+41 21) 310 47 10 // FAX (+41 21) 312 66 10