

Third HJ Sports Festival Is Held in Moscow

June 2, 2019– Russia

By Elena Kalmatskaya, Eastern Europe Second Generation Department director

The Eastern Europe Second Generation Department, together with FFWPU Russia, held the Third Hyojeong Sports Festival in Moscow on June 2.



A total of 189 people—108 children and 81 adults—participated in the sports festival, which was held in the Moscow Peace Embassy and nearby playing fields. The participants came not only from the city of Moscow and the surrounding Moscow Region but also from the Russian cities of Nizhny Novgorod, Ryazan, Saratov, Ulyanovsk, and Tula.

Mr. Yuriy Gavrilin, the chair of FFWPU Russia; Mrs. Elena Kalmatskaya, the leader of the Eastern Europe Second Generation Department; and Mr. Evgeny Mirzyanov, a local city leader, were in charge of the festival. Mr. Gavrilin opened the festival with a short talk about the role that sports play in human health and in building a world of peace.



The first event was a demonstration given by Second Generation karate student. Then the participants were divided into four large groups to compete in family games. These games helped everyone to feel part of one big family and to have a broader appreciation of sports for their unifying power.



One of the goals of the festival was recognizing 11 members of the Second Generation who have been engaged in sports professionally for more than three years. Together with their parents and all the guests, we proudly celebrated the success of these young people who work hard 365 days a year, promoting through their example a healthy lifestyle and the value of sports. They were awarded with diplomas and nice presents.

The festival included competitions in nine sports: athletics in a 100-meter and a 3-kilometer run; basketball; volleyball; football; chess; table tennis; weightlifting; badminton; and lotto for senior members.





For the youngest sportsmen, with their parents, we prepared a special obstacle course so they could enjoy this family day with everyone.



During the Closing Ceremony, we gave medals and diplomas to 47 winners. It was very inspiring to see blessed families naturally welcoming and caring for Second Generation, young members, new guests, and married couples who had received the Blessing in earlier ceremonies. Some of them received medals for building good, long-lasting relationships centered on the ideals of True Parents.



We would like to thank all the participants of the Third Hyojeong Sports Festival and especially all the leaders who supported us from the first day of organization until the end, as well as those brothers and sisters who were in charge of competitions, the celebration feast, all technical details, etc.

Most of all, we would like to thank Heavenly Parent and True Parents for guiding us to successfully handle this festival. It has become an annual celebration of sports achievements, and we hope it will develop, helping us to raise a proud Second Generation and to create a healthy family culture centered on Heavenly Parent and True Parents that attracts everyone.