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**China are 2018 World Cup of Pool Champions!**

Team China earned \$60,000 between them, two gold medals and the magnificent trophy. It was the third World Cup of Pool victory on home soil following the Philippines in 2009 and England in 2014.



China have been crowned the 2018 World Cup of Pool Champions after they defeated defending champions Austria by 10-3. This is the biggest winning margin in the events race-to-ten era. The team of Wu Jiaqing and Liu Haitao dominated the Austrian pair of Albin Ouschan and Mario He to the delight of the crowd at the Luwan Arena, Huangpu District in Shanghai. The victory also equals the Philippines record of three World Cup of Pool wins following wins for China in 2007 in Rotterdam and 2010 in Manila.

Commented Liu, "I have played Matchroom tournaments before but never had a good run like this. I cannot remember how I played, it is a bit of a haze, but I must thank Wu as well."

Wu added, "I am really, really happy to win this tournament. I had never played with Liu as a doubles partner so we were working on the chemistry from day one and the first few matches we struggled but in this final it was a really brilliant performance."

The \$250,000 tournament originated in 2006 and has since moved around the world before touching down in Shanghai. The World Cup features 32 pairs from across the globe including two from host nation China. Running from 15th to 20th May, the event is on live TV in over 100 countries around the world.

2018 World Cup of Pool sponsored by Iwan Simonis who supply the Official Cloth; the Official Balls are Super Aramith by Saluc. Simonis & Aramith China Sales Manager, Leo Niu commented: "At this level, only the best conditions are acceptable. The world's best players must get the ultimate conditions. This can only be achieved with Simonis cloth and Aramith balls".

Ends.....

23<sup>rd</sup> May 2018

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Sold in over 50 countries, **Simonis™** cloth is truly the universal choice for cue sports. Having earned its reputation with professional players and amateurs alike, Simonis remains the choice for more tournaments worldwide than any other cloth.

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Made by Saluc in Belgium, **Aramith™** Billiard balls have enjoyed a legendary reputation for outstanding endurance and uncompromised quality. Used by almost 80% of players worldwide, they are recognised as the reference of the industry.

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**Strachan™** is made in the West of England and is the world's leading brand of snooker and English pool cloth. The official cloth of World Snooker and used at professional tournaments worldwide. It is the choice of champions.

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