



## PRESS CONFERENCE

Ice Dance, after Free Dance

### **Kaitlin Hawayek/Jean-Luc Baker (USA) 2018 Four Continents Champions**

Hawayek: Definitely we set out to put out solid performances this week and to come and show our consistency that we've been training and I think we did a great job on that. Being on top of the podium is just the icing on top of the cake. It's a great honor. (on what they see in their future) I think we see this success as continuing an upward trajectory for us in the future. This event and the results speak for the way that we've been training and that we are just at that same level as the top teams that are going to be at the Olympics. In our case we are in a country where the teams ahead of us are just incredibly strong. It pushes us every day to train harder and to be better. It didn't give us the opportunity to qualify for the Olympics in Pyeongchang. We are first alternates and we'll be training hard just in case. Hopefully our success will continue in the next four years and we'll get the chance to get to Beijing (2022 Olympic Winter Games).

Baker: (on their feelings on the podium winning their first medal at an ISU senior-level Championship) Yes, it's our first medal at an ISU senior Championship event. It was really awesome, it was a new experience for us. We've medaled at junior events and sporadically at senior events in Grand Prix or senior Bs. It was a really cool experience and we hope to do it more often in the future.

### **Carolane Soucisse/Shane Firus (CAN) 2018 Four Continents silver medalists**

Soucisse: (on their feelings on the podium winning their first medal at an ISU senior-level Championship) Like Shane said, it was very special for us, because it is only our second year together and our first international medal individually or first international medal together. We hope it's not the last one.

Firus: It's special for us, because it is our first international medal together and for me it is like my first ever international medal. Obviously we're happy with the performances and it was a really fun experience. (on what they see in their future) I guess, a very similar answer (to what Hawayek said). Canada is also very, very strong in ice dance. We're in the same boat. Skating here and representing Canada was a great honor. Continuing on forward we'll just go back to train and we'll see what happens with the Olympics and Worlds.

### **Kana Muramoto/Chris Reed (JPN) 2018 Four Continents bronze medalists**

Muramoto: Again today the performance wasn't as solid as we wanted it to be, but we're really happy with how we skated. We don't think about getting a seasons best, we just wanted to skate the way we have been practicing and I think we were able to do that today. It felt great. Going into the Olympics, medaling here and having in both short and free dance our season's best is definitely a confidence boost for us. We can't wait to skate at the team event and hope to help Japan to get a medal and also going into the individual event and hoping to qualify for the free dance.

Reed: (on being the first non-North American Ice Dance couple to win a medal at an ISU Championship) To be honest we weren't really thinking about it coming into this event. We were more focused on delivering two great performances here. But it is a great honor and a historical moment to achieve. (on their feelings on the podium winning their first medal at an ISU senior-level Championship) It was a really great feeling and that really helps as a confidence booster for the rest of the season. So we're really looking forward to getting back to work. Of course, to achieve the results here really helps us to improve even more. (on the meaning of medaling heading into the Olympic Games) We know what we achieved and what we can improve on. It gives us more motivation to keep bubbling up.

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