

HEADQUARTERS ADDRESS PHONE (+41) 21 612 66 66 AVENUE JUSTE-OLIVIER 17 - CH 1006 LAUSANNE - SWITZERLAND FAX (+41) 21 612 66 7 E-MAIL media@isu.ch

Press release

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Tough Ladies in pretty costumes: Stiff challenge for Medvedeva (OAR)

The Figure Skating competition at the Olympic Games will conclude with the Ladies event. Two-time World Champion Evgenia Medvedeva (OAR) is looking to crown her remarkable young career with Olympic gold, but she needs to watch out for teammate <u>Alina Zagitova</u> in particular, who handed her the first defeat in two and a half years at the ISU European Figure Skating Championships in Moscow last month.

15-year-old Zagitova, who also won the ISU Grand Prix of Figure Skating Final in December, tops the seasons best list with her 238.24 points from Europeans. Medvedeva, 18, who was sidelined by injury and missed the ISU Grand Prix of Figure Skating Final and the Russian National Championships, scored a seasons best of 232.86 points at the European Championships.

Medvedeva and Zagitova will face stiff competition coming from World silver medalist <u>Kaetlyn</u> <u>Osmond</u> (CAN/seasons best 217.55 points), ISU Grand Prix of Figure Skating Final silver medalist <u>Maria Sotskova</u> (OAR/seasons best 216.28 points) and 2014 Olympic bronze medalist <u>Carolina</u> <u>Kostner</u> (ITA/215.98 points).

They also need to watch out for 2015 World silver medalist <u>Satoko Miyahara</u> (JPN), newly minted Four Continents Champion <u>Kaori Sakamoto</u> (JPN) and 2017 World bronze medalist <u>Gabrielle</u> <u>Daleman</u> (CAN).

A total of 30 Ladies representing 21 ISU Members have qualified for the Olympic Winter Games and the best placed 24 competitors in the Short Program will qualify for the final Free Skating.

The schedule of the Olympic Ladies event is as follows:

Wednesday, February 21: Ladies Short Program Friday, February 23: Ladies Free Skating

For more information, schedules, full entries and results please refer to the <u>ISU website</u> and the <u>official</u> <u>website</u> of the Olympic Winter Games in PyeongChang.