

INTERNATIONAL SKATING UNION

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ISU World Junior Figure Skating Championships 2018

Day Four

The ISU World Junior Figure Skating Championships 2018 continued in Sofia, Bulgaria, Saturday with the Junior Men and Ladies Free Skating.

Erokhov (RUS) skates to Junior Men Gold as Krasnozhon (USA) drops out

Russia's [Alexey Erokhov](#) won men's gold at the ISU World Junior Figure Skating Championships after favorite [Alexei Krasnozhon](#) (USA) pulled out injured. [Artur Danielian](#) made it a one-two for the Russians by soaring from eighth to second to claim the silver medal. [Matteo Rizzo](#) earned the bronze and became the first Italian man to win a medal at the ISU World Junior Figure Skating Championships.

In a dramatic turn of the events, Short Program leader [Krasnozhon](#) suffered an injury right at the beginning of his Free Skating and had to withdraw.

Erokhov opened his program to Piano Concerto No. 2 by Sergei Rachmaninov with a quad toe-triple toe combination and followed up with a triple Axel-double toe as well as four more clean triple jumps. The 18-year-old collected a level four for his spins and footwork, but he stepped out of a quadruple Salchow and fell on a triple toe. Erokhov scored 154.98 points and racked up a total of 231.52 to win with 12.76 points to spare.

"This victory means a lot to me. I want to move up to the senior level next year and I am glad I was able to end my junior career with this victory," Erokhov said.

"I was focused on winning, but I got nervous when I saw that Alexei (Krasnozhon) was withdrawing. I did not know what had happened and when I would get to skate. I am upset that he had to withdraw and I wish him a quick recovery."

Danielian, at 14 years old the youngest competitor in the men's event, delivered a clean performance to 'Notre Dame de Paris' that featured eight clean triples including two Axels and level-four spins. The National Junior bronze medalist posted a personal best of 149.61 points and totaled 218.76 points.

"Second place is unexpected to me. I came here to skate clean and to show what we've worked on this season and to make the people that work with me happy," Danielian said.

"This second place is a motivation for me to continue to work, learn quads and be competitive. I want to skate well in the Junior Grand Prix, get to the Junior Grand Prix Final and come back to Junior Worlds (next season)."

Skating to a Beatles medley, Rizzo landed two triple Axels and four more triples, but doubled a Lutz and a loop to score 141.34 points. The Italian Champion ranked sixth in the Free Skating, but overall moved up to make the podium with 211.58 points.

"This is very important to me. It is not the best way to medal, but this is competition and anything can happen. It was my last junior competition and I think it (this medal) is a big step for me," the 19-year-old said.

The unfortunate Krasnozhon fell on his opening quadruple Salchow, injuring his right foot. He was unable to continue the performance and was taken to hospital for examination.

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Elsewhere the standings shuffled quite a bit. [Joseph Phan](#) (CAN) moved up from 14th place to fourth overall. He was ranked third in the Free Skating and missed the podium by less than one point (210.91 points). [Roman Savosin](#) (RUS) pulled up from 12th to fifth on 207.91 points. ISU Junior Grand Prix Final silver medalist [Camden Pulkinen](#) (USA) rose from 17th place to finish sixth (207.88 points). Meanwhile, [Mitsuki Sumoto](#) (JPN) faded from third to 9th after several errors (199.51 points).

Trusova (RUS) makes history with two quads in golden performance

Russia's [Alexandra Trusova](#) became the first Lady to land two quadruple jumps in one program on her way to gold as competition concluded in spectacular fashion at the ISU World Junior Figure Skating Championships 2018. Trusova outjumped her competitors to win by over 18 points. Fellow Russian [Alena Kostornaia](#) claimed the silver medal and [Mako Yamashita](#) of Japan took bronze.

Trusova gave a phenomenal performance to 'Four Seasons', reeling off a quadruple Salchow and a quadruple toe loop as well as triple flip-single loop-triple Salchow combination, a triple Lutz-triple loop, triple flip-triple toe, triple flip and double Axel. The 13-year-old is also the first female skater to perform a quadruple toe loop in competition. Trusova set a personal best with 153.49 points and racked up 225.52 points overall. Miki Ando (JPN) was previously the only woman to have landed a quadruple jump in competition - a quad Salchow at the ISU Junior Grand Prix of Figure Skating Final in December 2002.

"I am very happy to have won, but I'm even happier to have landed the two quads. I prepared for that and I did it," Trusova said. "After I landed the quads, I was very happy, but I still had the rest of the program to do. There were still three difficult combinations to come and I had to pull myself together."

Performing to 'Stella's Theme', Kostornaia produced six clean triples including two triple-triple combinations as well as two double Axels and level-four spins and footwork. The only glitch came when she stepped out of the triple Lutz. The ISU Junior Grand Prix Final silver medalist scored 135.76 points, a personal best, which added up to 207.39 points.

"I am not very pleased with my performance. The result is satisfying, but I could have skated much better," the 14-year-old said.

Yamashita's program to 'Madame Butterfly' featured seven triples and difficult spins. The 15-year-old posted a personal best with 128.38 points and remained in third place on 195.17 points overall. "I wasn't thinking about the result or the score, I just focused on what I had to do and I think that led to the result," Yamashita said.

[Stanislava Konstantinova](#) (RUS) completed a successful day for the Russian ladies by finishing fourth on 186.35 points. [Eunsoo Lim](#) (KOR) came fifth on 185.12 points and [Yuhuna Yokoi](#) (JPN) moved up from eighth to sixth place (184.78 points), while [Rika Kihira](#) (JPN) singled her two planned triple Axels to place eighth (175.25 points).

The ISU World Junior Figure Skating Championships conclude on Sunday with the Exhibition Gala. For more information and full results please see the [event website](#) and the [official website](#). Follow the event on social media using the hashtags #WorldJFigure and #FigureSkating.