

QUICK QUOTES

Pairs, Free Skating (warm up groups 2 & 3)

Annika Hocke/Ruben Blommaert (GER) 2018 National bronze medalists

Blommaert: Today we did everything, still everything could be improved, but we are pleased to have done two good programs in our first Europeans as a team. Exactly one year ago, on January 18, we had our first try out practice and stood on the ice together for the first time. Now, one year later we are here at Europeans, skate a clean program and we are going to the Olympics. It couldn't have been much better than that.

Hocke: (on next plans) We're going home tomorrow so we have time to train and improved what wasn't perfect here yet. Then we'll go to Oberstdorf for one week to train with Aljona (Savchenko) and Bruno (Massot), learning from them.

Miriam Ziegler/Severin Kiefer (AUT) 2018 National Champions

Kiefer: We did it, although not everything had the quality we would have liked. I am a little upset about my single toe in between (in the combination), that was ridiculous. (on next plans) Next week we'll get the team clothes (for the Olympic uniforms) and we go to Vienna for that. We'll do some off-ice training there and on February 7th we're going Pyeongchang.

Ziegler: It was hard, the air is so dry here. After the toeloop I was getting really tired already. So I think the choreography suffered. (on next plans) We're going back tomorrow and will train again starting Saturday before going to Vienna.

Lola Esbrat/Andrei Novoselov (FRA) 2018 National Champions

Esbrat: It was not our best skating but it's work. We did our season's best but we didn't do our free program clean. It was hard on the legs. We were tired. We're not very experienced at these big competitions and there was stress. (on recovering from injury) I had surgery on my ankle the last season (2016) and after it was hard to come back. My motivation was down but now it's up.

Novoselov: When the competition is in the evening you wait a long time and maybe it makes more stress. (on the rest of the season) We're going to Amsterdam and we will see about qualifications for Worlds. The Federation will decide.

Evgenia Tarasova/Vladimir Morozov (RUS) 2017 European Champions & World bronze medalists

Tarasova: We're very happy we managed it all. Yesterday was a real shock for us, but today we managed to gather ourselves. We felt really strong emotions at the start but after we successfully did the quad twist, we felt calmer. We know what we had to do and what we can do, and today we skated with only small mistakes, so we are happy.

Morozov: We didn't like the short program. It was the worst we have done. So today we were angry with ourselves and we used this anger to skate and complete everything well and with good speed and we got good marks for all our elements. It is a good step for us, but we are not completely happy. The short was bad and, for us, the free skate was just normal. Now we need to continue to prepare for our next event. I think we will make changes in the short to avoid the mistake at the beginning. The free skate doesn't need corrections, we will just keep trying to improve.

Nicole Della Monica/Matteo Guarise (ITA) 2017 GP Internationaux de France bronze medalists

Guarise: I think it was a good competition for us. Yesterday it was hard, not so much physically but mentally. There were mistakes that never happened. Except for my double jump, we fought today, maybe not everything was clean, but we were there. In three weeks we'll be ready.

Della Monica: (on next plans) We're going back to Milan for one week only, then we have to go to Korea, because we're going to compete in the team event, to get used to the time change. We have one week in Seoul with the whole team together. It will be nice to be together.