

## QUICK QUOTES

Ice Dance, Short Dance (warm up group 7)

### **Ekaterina Bobrova/Dmitri Soloviev (RUS) 2017 European bronze medalists**

Soloviev: Overall we're pleased with our performance. Technically and emotionally it was strong and our coaches were happy, which is important. Maybe we were holding back a little, were a bit careful, but before we went out I saw the confidence in Katia's eyes and I also felt confident in my abilities. Tomorrow in the free dance we probably will skate more freely and it will be more interesting. (on the Free Dance) We got a nice feeling from the free dance at Russian Nationals and we hope to carry that into this competition and maybe perform even better.

### **Charlene Guignard/Marco Fabbri (ITA) 2017 European Championships 6<sup>th</sup>**

Fabbri: We are very pleased with our result in this short program but it is a very hard competition, especially since everyone is focused on the Olympics. Well, I am not sure of everyone but a lot of the skaters that will be in Korea in a few weeks are saving themselves for the Olympics even though this is a very special event. It is like stepping stone for the Olympics. Last year we were aiming at the top 5 but we fell so this is our chance to finally get that top 5 at Europeans.

### **Gabriella Papadakis/Guillaume Cizeron (FRA) Three-time European & two-time World Champions**

Papadakis: We are happy with our performance. We had a little tiny mistake on the twizzle. It's the kind of thing that never happens – but it did. (on skating to music by Ed Sheeran) It was Christopher Dean who came up with the idea. We liked it, because we wanted to do something more young, more urban, more modern, more like us. We started playing with the music and we're having fun dancing to it.

Cizeron: (on skating the Rhumba) It's a hard element to perform. It's always a challenge to incorporate the compulsory dance into the Short Dance. It requires a lot of skills to integrate it as part of the whole program. But the more we do it the more we enjoy it. And the Rhumba element is very short – maybe 15 seconds and I think it works well with the whole concept of our program.

### **Anna Cappellini/Luca Lanotte (ITA) 2017 European silver medalists**

Cappellini: It is not the best score and what we were hoping for, we are a bit disappointed. This was supposed to be a stepping stone, an increase in our short program score and it wasn't. We had a demanding preparation and this means we need to keep training hard.

Lanotte: We tried to give our presentation lots of energy but it felt rough. We managed to do a good, clean skate but it was tough and I think that is what the judges saw. It is a good preparation for the Olympics.

### **Alexandra Stepanova/Ivan Bukin (RUS) 2018 National silver medalists**

Bukin: First of all, I want to thank the audience for this incredible reception. We've never had that and it really gave us energy. We've trained here, we competed here at the Rostelecom Cup, but today it was amazing.

Stepanova: It was unreal. Although the stands are not completely full because it is a working day, we felt like there were a million of spectators. Especially for the step sequence at the end the audience exploded. (on the performance) It felt like everything went well, but we haven't seen the levels yet. Our coaches said it was the best performance of the season, so it probably was and it is a personal best.