

# INTERNATIONAL SKATING UNION

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## **ISU World Figure Skating Championships 2015** **Ice Dance Free Dance**

The ISU World Figure Skating Championships 2015 continued in Shanghai, China, on Friday with the Free Dance at the Oriental Sport Center.

### **Gabriella Papadakis/Guillaume Cizeron (FRA) dance off with the gold**

Gabriella Papadakis/Guillaume Cizeron of France upset the leaders after the Short Dance and danced off with the gold medal. Madison Chock/Evan Bates (USA) claimed the silver medal and the bronze went to Canada's Kaitlyn Weaver/ Andrew Poje. The French and U.S. ice dancers claimed their first World medals.

Papadakis/Cizeron, who stood in fourth place following the Short Dance, delivered a smooth performance to the Adagio of Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart's Concerto No. 23 and picked up a level four for the lifts, twizzles, spin and circular footwork. Only the diagonal step sequence was rated a level three. The European Champions set a new personal best with 112.34 points and totaled 184.28 points. It is like a dream, we didn't realize yet what happened. We cried when the scores came up and we saw our placement. I have no words right now. After the short dance, we had nothing to lose, we just were very determined", Cizeron commented.

Chock/Bates danced to "An American in Paris" and completed level-four lifts and a level-four spin. The twizzles and the step sequences merited a level three. Chock had a slight wobble on the twizzles. The 2015 Four Continents silver medalists achieved a new personal best score of 106.87 points were ranked second in the Free Dance. Overall they slipped from first to second at 181.34 points. „Maddie and I are really thrilled to have won a silver medal here at the World Championships. The season as a whole has been a massive success for us. This week especially was the icing on the cake. I think we learned a lot by entering today with the lead and having to skate under pressure“, Bates told the post-event press conference.

Dancing to a modern arrangement of "Four Seasons", Weaver/Poje collected a level four for five elements and a level three for the two step sequences to score 106.74 points. With 179.42 points overall, the defending World silver medalists dropped one spot to third and earned their second consecutive World medal. "Today Andrew and I felt great in our free dance, it was the strongest that we performed our Four Seasons program and we got off the ice thinking that we gave everything that we could and that's the ultimate goal and that's what we trained for. Unfortunately the marks didn't add up in our favour. But we are not going to mark of the season as a loss. We had an incredible year", Weaver noted.

2014 World Champions Anna Cappellini/Luca Lanotte (ITA) slipped from third to fourth at 177.50 points while Maia Shibutani/Alex Shibutani (USA) pulled up from sixth to fifth (172.03 points) and Piper Gilles/ Paul Poirier (CAN) also moved up one spot to sixth with 165.22 points.

The ISU World Figure Skating Championships 2015 continue with the Men's Short Program. For more information, full entry lists and results please see: [www.isu.org](http://www.isu.org) and [www. http://www.wfsc2015.com](http://www.wfsc2015.com)

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