

November 22, 2018

Lausanne, Switzerland

Last spots for ISU Grand Prix Final on the line at Internationaux de France in Grenoble

The last spots for the ISU Grand Prix of Figure Skating Final are on the line when top Figure Skaters such as reigning World Champion [Nathan CHEN](#) (USA) and three-time Ice Dance World Champions [Gabiella PAPADAKIS / Guillaume CIZERON](#) (FRA) compete this week at the Internationaux de France in Grenoble. The Internationaux de France are the sixth and last event of the ISU Grand Prix of Figure Skating Series 2018/19.

Overview of the event

Following his victory at Skate America last month, [Nathan CHEN](#) has an excellent shot at making his second consecutive ISU Grand Prix Final. Competition should come from two-time World bronze medalist [Boyang JIN](#) (CHN), [Alexander SAMARIN](#) (RUS), [Dmitri ALIEV](#) (RUS) and [Jason BROWN](#) (USA). However, since these men did not make the podium in their first Grand Prix, their chances for the Final are not as good. Jin needs to win, Samarin needs to place at least second in order to qualify for example. Other competitors include [Daniel Samohin](#) (ISR), [Kevin Aymoz](#) (FRA) and [Deniss Vasiljevs](#) (LAT).

The battle for the last available spots in the Grand Prix Final should be exciting in the Ladies event. NHK Trophy Champion [Rika KIHARA](#) (JPN) hopes to seal her spot, but she needs to watch out for two-time World Champion [Evgenia MEDVEDEVA](#) (RUS), who after taking bronze at Skate Canada, needs a victory in order to be sure to go to Vancouver. Grand Prix Helsinki silver medalist [Stanislava KONSTANTINOVA](#) (RUS) also has a chance to go to the Final. Other contenders include [Mai MIHARA](#) (JPN), [Bradie TENNELL](#) (USA) and [Alexia PAGANINI](#) (SUI).

In the Pairs, World bronze medalists [Vanessa JAMES / Morgan CIPRES](#) (FRA) are keen on qualifying for their first ISU Grand Prix Final after winning Skate Canada International last month. [Aleksandra BOIKOVA / Dmitrii KOZLOVSKII](#) (RUS), who ranked fourth in Canada, have a realistic chance to qualify as well. Other competitors include 2018 Four Continents bronze medalists [Tae Ok RYOM / Ju Sik KIM](#) (PRK), [Minerva Fabienne HASE / Nolan SEEGER](#) (GER) and 2018 Four Continents Champions [Tarah KAYNE / Danny O'SHEA](#) (USA).

Three-time World Champions [Gabiella PAPADAKIS / Guillaume CIZERON](#) (FRA) lead the Ice Dance field, however, after pulling out of NHK Trophy due to Cizeron suffering from a back injury, the team has no realistic chance to qualify for the Final anymore. The battle for the last spots will happen between NHK Trophy Champions [Kaitlin HAWAYEK / Jean-Luc BAKER](#) (USA), Skate Canada silver medalists [Victoria SINITSINA / Nikita KATSALAPOV](#) (RUS) and bronze medalists [Piper GILLES / Paul POIRIER](#). Other competitors are NHK Trophy bronze medalists [Rachel PARSONS / Michael PARSONS](#) (USA), [Marie-Jade LAURIAULT / Romain LE GAC](#) (FRA) and [Olivia SMART / Adrian DIAZ](#) (ESP).

Overall, 57 Skaters/Couples representing 14 ISU Members compete at Internationaux de France November 23-25, the sixth and final event in the ISU Grand Prix of Figure Skating series. The top 6 qualifiers in each discipline will proceed to the Final in Vancouver (CAN), December 6 to 9, 2018.

The ISU Grand Prix of Figure Skating series is available as a live stream and on demand in territories without TV Right restrictions on the [ISU Skating Channel](#).

Schedule of the event

Friday, November 23	Men's Short Program, Rhythm Dance, Ladies & Pairs Short Program
Saturday, November 24	Men's Free Skating, Free Dance, Ladies & Pairs Free Skating
Sunday, November 25	Exhibition Gala

For full entry lists and further information regarding the ISU Grand Prix of Figure Skating Series please visit [here](#). Follow the discussion on social media by using **#FigureSkating #GPFigure**.

About ISU Grand Prix of Figure Skating

The ISU Grand Prix of Figure Skating Series started in 1995 (previously known as the ISU Champions Series) and consists of six international senior invitational events and the ISU Grand Prix of Figure Skating Final. The skaters are seeded and invited to the six Grand Prix of Figure Skating events based on the results of the previous ISU World Figure Skating Championships. Competitors collect points in their Grand Prix events towards the qualification for the ISU Grand Prix of Figure Skating Final. Only the top six Skaters / Couples in each discipline can qualify for the Final.