

February 10, 2019

Anaheim, USA

## **Sui/Han (CHN) and Uno (JPN) win gold on Day 3 of ISU Four Continents Figure Skating Championships 2019**

[Wenjing Sui/Cong Han](#) (CHN) and [Shoma Uno](#) (JPN) mined gold in Anaheim as the ISU Four Continents Figure Skating Championships 2019 continued Saturday with the Pairs and Men's Free Skating.

### **Sui/Han (CHN) clinch Pairs victory by 0.06 points in Anaheim**

Olympic silver medalists [Wenjing Sui/Cong Han](#) of China clinched victory in the Pairs event by just 0.06 points, overtaking Canadians [Kirsten Moore-Towers/Michael Marinaro](#). [Cheng Peng/Yang Jin](#), also from China, earned the bronze medal. Moore-Towers/Marinaro and Peng/Jin won their first medals as a team at an ISU Championship.

Performing to "Rain, In Your Black Eyes" by Ezio Bosso, Sui/Han opened with a triple twist, a triple toe-double toeloop combination and throw triple Salchow. Sui then fell on an underrotated triple Salchow, but recovered to land a throw triple flip. The 2017 World Champions earned a level four for two lifts while the pair combination spin was rated a level two only.

Sui/Han scored 136.92 points and totaled 211.11 points to edge out Moore-Towers/Marinaro and take the fifth Four Continents Championships title of their career.

"We were pretty nervous," said Sui. "I'm really happy we could show what we have today on the ice, but honestly this was not the best of us. We will do the best we can and continue training hard.

"This is our fifth Four Continents title, but it was my third time coming back (from injury). It's very different every time I come back. I want to thank people who helped me and stood by me - my opponents, my partner and my coaches - they really helped us a lot."

Han admitted the pair were not really ready for the competition "We were only showing what we have completed during our training, but actually we are not familiar with our program yet," he said.

Moore-Towers/Marinaro skated last and turned in a solid performance to a Pink Floyd Medley that featured a triple Salchow-double toe-double toe, triple toe, throw triple loop and Salchow and three level-four elements. However, their reverse lasso lift was shaky.

The Canadian Champions were ranked second in the Free Skating with 136.39 points and slipped to second at 211.05 points overall.

"I think having the result being so close to winning is a little bit bittersweet for us. We're proud of ourselves, but we know we left some good points on the table that maybe would have made for a result that we were more happy with, but if you would have told us last year we would have been disappointed at second, we would have called you crazy," Moore-Towers said.

"We do something right, we know what we need to do and we'll work for it for Worlds," she added.

Peng/Jin produced a triple toe-double toe combination, triple twist, throw triple loop and Salchow as well as three level-four elements, but Jin doubled the solo Salchow while Peng stumbled on a

triple. The ISU Grand Prix Final silver medalists picked up 135.94 points and remained in third place with 205.42 points overall.

“We’re not very satisfied with the performance today. We need to keep improving the quality,” Peng said.

“She did better than me today,” Jin said. “My landing of the triple jump was not very steady. But overall the program was good. This competition is a good learning experience and wake-up call.”

2018 Four Continents silver medalists [Ashley Cain/Timothy Leduc](#) (USA) delivered a solid performance to finish fourth at 196.82 points. [Haven Denney/Brandon Frazier](#) (USA) pulled up from seventh to fifth on 184.18 points while 2018 Four Continents Champions [Tarah Kayne/Danny O’Shea](#) (USA) slipped from fifth to sixth after a few errors (180.36 points).

### **Shoma Uno (JPN) rallies to mine gold**

Olympic silver medalist [Shoma Uno](#) of Japan rallied in the Free Skating, coming from fourth place to strike gold in the Men’s event. Defending champion [Boyang Jin](#) of China this time earned the silver medal. USA’s [Vincent Zhou](#) took the bronze, his first ISU Championship medal at the senior level.

Uno was drawn to skate first in the last flight and set the tone for an exciting final. Skating to “Moonlight Sonata” by Ludwig van Beethoven, the World silver medalist opened with a quad flip and quad toeloop followed by a triple loop, quad toe-double toe, two triple Axels and two more clean triples. The only glitch came when he stepped out of a triple flip.

At the end, Uno collapsed onto the ice and remained kneeling for a few seconds before getting up and acknowledging the crowd. The Japanese Champion collected a level four for his spins and footwork. He posted a season’s best with 197.36 points and racked up 289.12 points overall to win his first ISU Championship title at the senior level.

“There weren’t a lot of happy emotions when I collapsed, it was like ‘I really did it,’” the 21-year-old said. “I thought about how I was injured after the Nationals and how I can bring it (my skating) to the next level.

“I don’t want to be caught up with rankings, but I am very happy with how I did with the program and to score first place. It was my first big medal at the senior level. For Worlds, I want to practice more and win the World title.”

Jin laid down a strong performance of his Flamenco-themed routine to “Hable con ella” by Alberto Iglesias, hitting two quadruple toeloops and six clean triples including two Axels. He only stepped out of his opening quadruple Lutz.

The two-time World bronze medalist set a season’s best with 181.34 points and pulled up second at 273.51 points. “Overall I did quite well, but there were little mistakes in both programs,” the Chinese Champion said. “Before the Worlds I wanted to pull out a better performance here, so I am a little frustrated I wasn’t able to do what I’ve done in practice.”

Zhou’s kung-fu inspired routine to “Crouching Tiger, Hidden Dragon” by Tan Dun featured a quad Lutz-triple toeloop combination (but he underrotated the toe) as well as five more triples, but he wobbled on a triple Axel and underrotated the quad Salchow and quad toeloop.

The 2017 World Junior Champion ranked fifth in the long program with 172.04 and slipped from first to third at 272.22 points. “I am very proud of myself at this competition for continuing the upward trend I put myself on,” the U.S. silver medalist said. “I’m looking forward to the next month of training for Worlds and to continue to improve the consistency.

“I expect myself to improve even more. I really want my skating to be something that everyone can enjoy, watch because they love watching good skating, freedom on the ice, and that’s what I hope to show at the Worlds and in competitions after that.”

[Keegan Messing](#) (CAN) placed third in the Free Skating to move up one spot to fourth on 267.61 points. 2018 Four Continents bronze medalist [Jason Brown](#) (USA) finished fifth on 258.89 points while [Junhwan Cha](#) (KOR) dropped from second to sixth after underrotating five jumps (255.83 points).

The ISU Four Continents Figure Skating Championships 2019 conclude Sunday with the Free Dance and Exhibition Gala. Click on the highlighted text for [entry lists](#), [full results](#) and the [official event website](#). Follow the discussion on social media using [#4ContsFigure](#) and [#FigureSkating](#).

**For further information please contact:**

ISU Media Coordinator  
Selina Vanier  
E-Mail: [vanier@isu.ch](mailto:vanier@isu.ch)

ISU Four Continents Championships  
Michael Terry, Press Officer  
E-Mail: [mterry@usfigureskating.org](mailto:mterry@usfigureskating.org)