

March 13, 2019

Lausanne, Switzerland

## **World's best Junior Synchronized Skating Teams in action**

The [ISU World Junior Synchronized Skating Championships](#) will be held in Neuchatel (SUI) March 15 and 16. A total of 23 teams representing 18 ISU Members have been entered for the fifth edition of the Championships that was a biennial event and has become annual beginning in 2017. The previous editions took place in Mississauga (CAN) in 2017, Helsinki (FIN) in 2013 and in Zagreb (CRO) in 2015 and 2018.

### **Overview of the top contenders**

Finnish teams have been dominant and top the medal table with six medals, two of them gold. However, Russia has caught up and claimed the title in the past two years. Two-time and defending Champions Team Junost Junior (RUS) is back and aiming for the hatrick. The challenge should come from 2018 World Junior silver medalists Team Skyliners (USA) and 2018 bronze medalists Team Crystal Ice Junior (RUS). Finland that finished off the podium last year, is looking to regain its leading position with Team Dream Edges Junior and Team Fintastic Junior.

Other contenders include Team Nexxice Junior (CAN) and Les Supremes Junior (CAN).

Teams from Australia, Croatia, Czech Republic, France, Great Britain, Germany, Italy, The Netherlands, Poland, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland and Turkey are competing as well.

The Junior Synchronized Short Program consists of six required elements and the Free Skating contains a maximum of ten elements.

The Junior Short Program consists of five required elements: Intersection Element, Move Element, No Hold Element, Pivoting Element – Block, Synchronized Spin Element (must be an upright spin) and Twizzle Element. The No Hold and Twizzle Element cannot be executed one after the other. The Short Program is maximum 2 min 50 seconds in length.

The Junior Free Skating program contains eight elements: one Intersection Element, Move Element, Travelling Element - Wheel, Twizzle Element plus a Synchronized Spin Element or a Pair Element and a Creative Element – Intersection or a Mixed Element. The Free Skating program is 3.30 min +/- 10 seconds in length.

### **Event Schedule**

The full event will be live streamed on the [Skating ISU YouTube Channel](#):

Friday, March 15: [Short Program](#)

Saturday, March 16: [Free Skating](#)

For more information, full entry lists and results please see the [ISU event page](#) and the [official website](#). Follow the event on social media using the hashtag: #WorldJSynchro

### **About Synchronized Skating**

Originally called Precision Skating, Synchronized Skating was introduced in the 1950s. Synchronized Skating is a team sport with 16 skaters (plus up to 4 alternates). It is a highly technical form of Figure Skating characterized by speed, precisions, unison, intricate formations, synchro elements, difficult footwork, spectacular lifts and exciting transitions.