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October 9, 2019

Lausanne, Switzerland

Emerging stars highlight ISU Junior Grand Prix series 2019/20

Seven events, seven countries, seven weeks, thousands of jumps, spins, steps performed, 394 young skaters/couples representing 68 ISU members, amazing performances and emerging stars highlighted the 22nd season of the ISU Junior Grand Prix of Figure Skating 2019/20. At the end, the six best skaters and couples per discipline booked a ticket to Torino for the ISU Junior Grand Prix of Figure Skating Final December 5-8, 2019. The circuit started end of August in Courchevel (FRA), travelled to Lake Placid (USA), Riga (LAT) and Chelyabinsk (RUS) on to Gdansk (POL) and Zagreb (CRO) before ending in early October in Egna/Neumarkt (ITA). Peru and Vietnam were represented for the first time on the circuit.

Alysa Liu (USA) makes history

Alysa Liu (USA) became the first female skater to land a triple Axel and a quadruple jump (Lutz) in one program when she acomplished the feat at the event in Lake Placid. Alysa won in Lake Placid and in Gdansk to qualify for the Final. Kamila Valieva (RUS) has joined the exclusive Ladies' quad club as well and is the top qualifier with two victories in France and Russia. Haein Lee (KOR) continued the success of the up and coming skaters from Korea to book her spot in the Final with gold medals from Riga and Zagreb. Russia remained dominant in the Ladies with Kseniia Sinitsyna, Daria Usacheva (RUS) and Viktoria Vasilieva also making the Final. All six Ladies will compete in their first Junior Grand Prix Final. A total of 179 Junior Ladies competed in the series.

ISU Junior Grand Prix of Figure Skating Standings Ladies

Exciting battle among the Junior Men

The battle for the spots in the Final was especially exciting in the Junior Men's category. Andrei Mozalev (RUS) is the only competitor to collect two gold medals on the circuit – in Riga and Zagreb. Reigning ISU Grand Prix Final silver medalist Petr Gumennik (RUS) is the only skater that returns to the Final and he did so by winning in Chelyabinsk and coming second in Egna/Neumarkt. Youngster Daniil Samsonov (RUS) turned heads in his international junior debut season and completed the success of the Russian junior men by qualifying with a gold and bronze medal. 2019 World Junior bronze medalist Daniel Grassl (ITA) triumphed on home ice in Egna/Neumarkt. Yuma Kagiyama (JPN) and Shun Sato (JPN) proved that the next generation of Japanese men are on their way and won one event each. The series featured 110 Junior Men.

ISU Junior Grand Prix of Figure Skating Standings Men.

Russia continues golden streak in Pair Skating

Russia once again dominated the Junior Pairs and provides five out of the six finalists. 2019 World Junior silver medalists Apollinariia Panfilova/Dmitry Rylov (RUS) lead the standings with two gold medals and excellent performances in the USA and Poland. The current ISU Grand Prix Final bronze medalists are aiming at gold again in Torino. Kseniia Akhanteva/Valerii Kolesov (RUS) are the only other team that returns to the Final. They won in Chelyabinsk and collected silver in Lake Placid. Iuliia Artemeva/Mikhail Nazarychev (RUS) and Diana Mukhametzianova/Ilya Mironov are newcomers on the circuit. Mukhametzianova/Mironov showed strong jump skills by including a

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triple Lutz and triple flip as side by side jumps into their Free Skating. Annika Hocke/Robert Kunkel (GER) are not only the first Junior Pair from Germany to qualify for the Final but they are also a brandnew team that has been skating together for less than a year. Alina Pepeleva/Roman Pleshkov (RUS) complete the list of finalists. Overall, 30 Junior Pairs participated in the four events that included Pair Skating.

ISU Junior Grand Prix of Figure Skating Standings Pairs.

Next generation of Ice Dancers step up

Avonley Nguyen/Vadym Kolesnik (USA) top the list of Ice Dance qualifiers with two victories in Lake Placid and Gdansk and the highest total score. Elizaveta Shanaeva/Devid Naryzhnyy (RUS) and Elizaveta Khudaiberdieva/Andrey Filatov (RUS) bagged the gold in their two events as well. Maria Kazakova/Georgy Reviya (GEO) became the first Georgian Ice Dancers to win an ISU Junior Grand Prix event by striking gold in Zagreb. Loicia Demougeout/Theo Le Mercier (FRA) and Diana Davis/Gleb Smolkin (RUS) qualified as well. Nguyen/Kolesnik and Kazakova/Reviya return to the Final and so does Khudaiberdieva, who comes back after teaming up with new partner Andrey Filatov last spring. In total, 75 Junior Ice Dance couples competed in the series.

ISU Junior Grand Prix of Figure Skating Standings Ice Dance

Full <u>entry lists, results, the General Announcement</u> of the ISU Junior Grand Prix of Figure Skating Series are available on isu.org.

Where to watch and follow the ISU Junior Grand Prix of Figure Skating 2019?

Live stream: <u>ISU Junior Grand Prix of Figure Skating YouTube Channel</u> Video on Demand: <u>ISU Junior Grand Prix of Figure Skating YouTube Channel</u>

<u>Subscribe</u> to the ISU Junior Grand Prix of Figure Skating YouTube Channel to receive alerts when the live streams start and when new videos are posted.

Highlights, clips, interviews, behind the scenes:

YouTube: ISU Junior Grand Prix

IG: @ISUFigureSkating

Facebook: @ISU Figure Skating

Twitter: @ISU Figure

Follow the conversation with #JGPFigure.

ISU Junior Grand Prix of Figure Skating 2019

Courchevel, France - August 22 to 24

Lake Placid, USA - August 29 to August 31

Riga, Latvia - September 5 to 7

Chelyabinsk, Russia - September 12 to 14

Gdansk, Poland - September 19 to 21

Zagreb, Croatia - September 26 to 28

Egna, Italy - October 3 to 5

ISU Junior Grand Prix of Figure Skating Final - Torino, Italy - December 5 to 8

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The ISU Junior Grand Prix Figure Skating Series started in 1997. It includes seven events and the ISU Junior Grand Prix of Figure Skating Final. The Series features some of the up and coming Skaters of the world and provides young skaters aged 13 to 19 (21 for the male Ice Dance and Pair Skating partners) with the opportunity to compete at a high international level. A points system based on the ranking has been established to determine the qualifiers for the ISU Junior Grand Prix of Figure Skating Final. Points are obtained according to the results in each of the seven events and only the top six Skaters / Couples in each discipline can qualify for the Final. The ISU Junior Grand Prix of Figure Skating is financed by the ISU Development Program.

Since 2011 all events of the Junior Grand Prix of Figure Skating are live streamed on the official ISU Junior Grand Prix of Figure Skating <u>YouTube Channel</u>. The 2019/20 season marks the 22nd edition of the ISU Junior Grand Prix of Figure Skating that was introduced in 1997.