

October 17, 2019

Las Vegas, USA

## **World Champion Chen (USA) starts his season at ISU Grand Prix of Figure Skating at Skate America**

Two-time and reigning ISU World Figure Skating Champion [Nathan Chen](#) (USA) and several world medalists open their season this week at the ISU Grand Prix of Figure Skating - Skate America in Las Vegas (USA), the first event of the ISU Grand Prix of Figure Skating 2019/2020. Skate America is the first of six events in the ISU Grand Prix of Figure Skating Series.

### **Chen (USA), Tuktamysheva (RUS), Hubbell/Donohue (USA) headline Skate America**

[Chen](#) will compete in his first full event since the ISU World Figure Skating Championships 2019. He has to expect competition from two-time ISU World Figure Skating medalist [Boyang Jin](#) (CHN), 2018 ISU Four Continents Figure Skating bronze medalist [Jason Brown](#) (USA) and ISU Grand Prix of Figure Skating Final bronze medalist [Junhwan Cha](#) (KOR). Other contenders include ISU Grand Prix Finalist [Michal Brezina](#) (CZE), 2016 ISU European Figure Skating silver medalist [Alexei Bychenko](#) (ISR) and 2018 ISU European Figure Skating silver medalist [Dmitri Aliev](#) (RUS).

2015 ISU World Figure Skating Champion [Elizaveta Tuktamysheva](#) (RUS) headlines the Ladies' field and will face 2018 ISU World Figure Skating silver medalist [Wakaba Higuchi](#) (JPN) as well as 2018 ISU Four Continents Figure Skating Champion [Kaori Sakamoto](#) (JPN). U.S. Champion [Bradie Tennell](#) (USA) and [Eunsoo Lim](#) (KOR) have set their eyes on the podium as well. 2019 ISU World Junior Figure Skating silver medalist [Anna Shcherbakova](#) (RUS) debuts on the senior circuit and is certainly a threat with her quadruple Lutz.

The Pairs event looks wide open with 2019 ISU Four Continents Figure Skating bronze medalists [Cheng Peng/Yang Jin](#) (CHN) leading the field. U.S. Champions [Ashley Cain-Gribble/Timothy Le Duc](#), 2018 ISU World Junior Figure Skating Champions [Daria Pavliuchenko/Denis Khodykin](#) (RUS) and [Haven Denney/Brandon Frazier](#) (USA) are expected to challenge the Chinese team.

Two-time and reigning ISU World Figure Skating Ice Dance medalists [Madison Hubbell/Zachary Donohue](#) (USA) lead the line-up in the Dance event. The challenge should come from 2019 ISU European Figure Skating silver medalists [Alexandra Stepanova/Ivan Bukin](#) (RUS), ISU Grand Prix Finalists [Tiffani Zagorski/Jonathan Guerreiro](#) (RUS) and [Laurence Fournier-Beaudry/Nikolaj Sorensen](#) (CAN), who won Nebelhorn Trophy last month.

Overall, 60 skaters/couples representing 13 ISU members compete in Skate America October 18-20. The top 6 qualifiers of the series in each discipline will proceed to the Final in Torino (ITA), December 5 to 8, 2019.

## Schedule of the event

Friday, October 18	Pairs, Men's Short Programs, Rhythm Dance, Ladies Short Program
Saturday, October 19	Pairs, Men's Free Skating, Free Dance, Ladies Free Skating
Sunday, October 20	Exhibition Gala

For full entry lists and further information regarding the ISU Grand Prix of Figure Skating Series please visit: <https://isu.org/GrandPrix>. Follow the discussion on social media by using **#FigureSkating #GPFigure**.

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

Viewers will be able to watch the Series either via their national broadcaster / channel and for countries where there are no broadcasters, the ISU will offer a live stream on the [Skating ISU YouTube Channel](#) as of season 2019/20. You will find the full list in the [Where to watch news here](#).

Subscribe to the [ISU Newsletter](#) to receive the latest information and the "Where to Watch" news and you can also subscribe to the [Skating ISU YouTube Channel](#) to receive notifications when live streams start or new videos are published.

Highlights, clips, interviews, behind the scenes:

YouTube: [ISU Skating](#)

IG: [@ISUFigureSkating](#)

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Follow the conversation with #GPFigure.

## ISU Grand Prix of Figure Skating 2019/20

[Skate America - Las Vegas \(USA\) – October 18 – 20](#)

[Skate Canada International – Kelowna \(CAN\) – October 25 – 27](#)

[Internationaux de France – Grenoble \(FRA\) – Novembre 1 – 3](#)

[SHISEIDO cup of China – Chongqing \(CHN\) – November 8 – 10](#)

[Rostelecom Cup – Moscow \(RUS\) – November 15 – 17](#)

[NHK Trophy – Sapporo \(JPN\) – November 22 – 24](#)

[ISU Grand Prix of Figure Skating Final \(Senior & Junior\) – Torino \(ITA\) – December 5 – 8](#)

### 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 invitational international senior events and the ISU Grand Prix of Figure Skating Final. The top six of the past World Championships are seeded. Competitors collect points in their 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.