

November 27, 2019

Nagoya, Japan

Asian leg of ISU World Cup Short Track Speed Skating kicks off in Nagoya

ISU World Cup Short Track Speed Skating action begins again on Friday, rolling into Nagoya, Japan before moving on to Shanghai, China next weekend – a tantalising Asian double-header that should help clarify who this season’s dominant skaters will be.

One name has shone brightest so far: [Kim Boutin](#). The Canadian came flying out the traps during the first two weekends of racing in North America, winning gold in the 1500m and 500m (2) in Salt Lake City, USA, then sparkling on home ice in Montreal, where she topped the podium in both the 1000m and the 500m – winning in 41.936 seconds, a world record.

ISU World Cup Short Track Speed Skating [Standings Ladies 1500m](#)

Boutin was consistent last season, too – but found herself losing out to [Suzanne Schulting](#) (NED) and [Choi Min Jeong](#) (KOR) too often on the big stages. She decided to mix things up during the off season, training in the Netherlands instead of at home, saying: “I told my coach I needed something new, to have more fun and see if I still enjoyed Short Track.”

The decision seems to have paid off in style, but can she maintain her form? Her strong results so far bring extra pressure, she admits. “It’s hard and stressful but I just need to focus on being calm,” she said in Montreal.

Schulting will be hoping to reassert the dominance she established last term. Still ranked No.1, the Netherlands’ ISU World Short Track Speed Skating Champion hasn’t exactly been skating badly – she won the 1000m in Salt Lake City – and had some ill fortune in Montreal. Don’t be surprised to see a reaction at the Nippon Gaishi Arena.

ISU World Cup Short Track Speed Skating [Standings Ladies 1000m](#)

Also quiet so far this term has been Choi. The three-time overall World Champion will be looking to step up her game in Japan.

Elsewhere, [Martina Valcepina](#) (ITA) has impressively continued her excellence over 500m, winning gold in Salt Lake and finishing second behind Boutin in Montreal. The 27-year-old has been on the ISU circuit for more than a decade – and this winter will mark ten years since she became the youngest Italian to compete at the Vancouver 2010 Olympic Winter Games – but she has never looked stronger.

ISU World Cup Short Track Speed Skating [Standings Ladies 500m](#)

Also on form? [Kim Ji Yoo](#) (KOR), [Seo Whi Min](#) (KOR), [Han Yutong](#) (CHN), [Petra Jaszapati](#) (HUN), [Yara van Kerkhof](#) (NED) and [Natalia Maliszewska](#) (POL).

ISU World Cup Short Track Speed Skating [Standings Ladies 3000m Relay](#)

In the Men’s racing, [Hwang Dae Heon](#) of the Republic of Korea started the season powerfully, but the current No.1 is missing from the line-up in Japan.

Who might capitalize on his absence? Both the Hungarian Liu brothers, [Shaoang](#) and [Sandor Shaolin](#) (who won the 500m in Montreal), have performed with real power so far, while [Semen Elistratov](#) of Russia has improved significantly, winning the 1500m in Salt Lake City and the 1000m in Montreal.

ISU World Cup Short Track Speed Skating [Standings Men 1000m](#)

[Wu Dajing](#) (CHN) looks back to his best in the 500m, too, while [Park Ji Won](#), [Lee June Seo](#), [Kim Dong Wook](#) and [Park In Wook](#), all of Rep. Korea, have made podiums already this year, once again illustrating Korea's incredible squad depth in the sport.

ISU World Cup Short Track Speed Skating [Standings Men 500m](#)

The home fans' best chances for glory this weekend also lie in the Men's field. [Kazuki Yoshinaga](#) (JPN) has had a quiet start to the 2019/20 programme – but he demonstrated in Calgary last season, where he won the 1500m, that he is capable of winning gold medals on a good day.

ISU World Cup Short Track Speed Skating [Standings Men 1500m](#)

The 20-year-old, whose mother was also a successful Short Track athlete, is from Nagoya, and learned to skate very fast on this very ice. He will be desperate to prove his worth in front of his family and friends.

ISU World Cup Short Track Speed Skating [Standings Men 5000m Relay](#)

Where to watch and follow the ISU World Cup Short Track Speed Skating 2019/20?

Viewers will be able to watch 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](#). 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. 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](#)

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Follow the conversation with #ShortTrackSkating.

For further information on ISU Short Track Speed Skating visit: <https://www.isu.org/short-track>.

ISU World Cup Short Track Speed Skating Series events 2019/20:

[Salt Lake City \(USA\) – November 1 - 2](#)

[Montréal \(CAN\) – November 8 – 10](#)

[Nagoya \(JPN\) – November 29 – December 1](#)

[Shanghai \(CHN\) – December 6 – 8](#)

[Dresden \(GER\) – February 7 – 9](#)

[Dordrecht \(NED\) – February 14 – 16](#)

About ISU World Cup Short Track Speed Skating Series

The World Cup series consists of nine distances 500, 1000 and 1500 meters for Ladies and Men, Ladies 3000 meters Team Relay, Men 5000 meters Team Relay and a Mixed Gender Relay over 2000 meters.

The competitions have a single distance character and are held in separate sessions over three days. Day 1 is dedicated to all Qualifying Rounds. Days 2 and 3 the last Qualifying Rounds (if necessary) take place, followed by the World Cup sessions.

For the Mixed Gender Relay Teams (2 Ladies & 2 Men), the Ladies 3000 meters Relay races and Men 5000 meters Relay races a maximum of four Skaters shall compete and must belong to the same ISU Member.