

February 15, 2020

Dordrecht, Netherlands

Hat-trick of golds for Rep. Koreans as Dutch heroine Schulting finally wins at home

The Rep. Koreans dominated the first day of finals at the ISU World Cup Short Track Speedskating in Dordrecht, Netherlands, winning three of the four individual events on Saturday as [Kim Dageom](#) (KOR) and [Lee Yu Bin](#) (KOR) each topped an individual World Cup podium for the first time. [Suzanne Schulting](#) (NED) claimed her first World Cup medal on home ice by winning the Ladies' 1500m, while China clinched the gold in the 2000m mixed team relay.

Kim (KOR) rises to the occasion in Men's 1000m

After winning a bronze in the Men's 1500m in Dresden last week, Kim Dageom rose to the occasion in the 1000m to finish with his first-ever World Cup gold medal.

"I feel like I really grew towards this result," he said afterwards. "I got better each competition and today I felt really good. To finally make it to the first place, is something big. It's good for my motivation towards the Worlds (World Championships in Seoul in March), too."

"During the race, I tried to be calm and I managed to slowly move up to the first place. It was not easy to stick to my plan, though."

His executed the plan well, however, finishing ahead of [Cedrik Blais](#) (CAN) and [Itzhak de Laat](#) (NED), who settled for silver and bronze respectively after a disqualification for [Park Ik Wook](#) (KOR).

"I just knew something would happen today," Blais said of his first World Cup silver. "During the race I was always in the back, waiting for the opportunity to go in front. That opportunity came and I got into second place."

"At some point, there were two falls and a DQ. To be honest, it doesn't really feel like as if I raced. Of course I am happy with the silver, but at the same time I think my race wasn't that great. I'll take it."

Lee Yu Bin (KOR) wins 1000m and Park Ji Won (KOR) races to another 1500m gold

On the women's side, Lee Yu Bin (KOR) grabbed her first World Cup gold medal by winning the 1000m. "I didn't expect it at all and am very proud of this medal," said the 18-year-old. "To have achieved this is one more step towards the big international level. I have won gold medals at the World Junior Championships [she was the overall champion in 2016/2017], but never won an individual gold in the seniors. I am very happy."

Lee finished .48 seconds ahead of Zhang Chutong (CHN), while Poland's [Natalia Maliszewska](#) took the bronze medal.

Lee's teammate [Park Ji Won](#) is used to winning medals and was the man to beat in the 1500m, after taking gold over the distance in Montreal (CAN) and Nagoya (JPN).

The 23-year-old skated fast throughout the race and managed to overtake his teammate [Lee June Seo](#) (KOR) on the line. Park clenched his fists, but was not sure of victory until the photo-finish verdict, which puts him to the top of the World Cup rankings. [Ren Ziwei](#) (CHN) finished third.

The 1500m finals also marked the individual comeback of Dutchman [Sjinkie Knegt](#), who won the B-final after being sidelined for more than a year with two horrific injuries. "Competing in the final really felt like usual and I am very happy with the way I raced," he said. "Today I showed that I'm on the right track."

Schulting (NED) clinches first World Cup gold on home ice

World 1500m No.1 Suzanne Schulting (NED) has topped the podium at Olympic Games, World Championships, European Championships and World Cups, but never won a World Cup gold in front of a home crowd until Saturday.

"It was nerve-racking," she said after victory in the Ladies' 1500m. "I knew it was going to be a fast race, so I really had to keep my calm. I really wanted to see what I could do in the last couple of laps."

With Endor's *Pump It Up* playing on the sound system and the crowd screaming for Schulting, the 22-year-old finished 0.2 seconds ahead of [Kim Ji Yoo](#) (KOR), with [Noh Ahreum](#) (KOR) in third place.

"It's insane, to do this in front of a sold-out arena," said the Dutch skater. "To take the win just on the finish line, that's the most beautiful thing. It's just sick."

The fifth gold medal of the day was won by the Chinese squad, as they finished ahead of Rep. Korea and Japan in the 2000m Mixed Team 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](#)

IG: [@isuspeedskating](#)

Facebook: [@ISUShortTrackSpeedSkating](#)

Twitter: [@ISU_Speed](#)

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.