PRESS RELEASE



September 10, 2019

Riga, Latvia

Lee wins gold medal at ISU Junior Grand Prix in Riga

Haein Lee won the gold medal at the third <u>ISU Junior Grand Prix event in Riga (LAT)</u>. Andrei Mozalev and Elizaveta Khudaiberdieva/ Andrey Filatov added two gold medals to Russia's impressive collection and like Lee have a good chance to qualify for the <u>ISU Junior Grand Prix</u> <u>Final in Torino (ITA)</u>.

Lee gives Korea a JGP gold

Haein Lee struck gold, while <u>Daria Usacheva</u> (RUS) earned the silver medal and the bronze went to Rino Matsuike (JPN).

Lee skated a clean Short Program and stood in third place, trailing the leader Usacheva by a little over two points. The 14-year-old then delivered an excellent Free Skating to "Riverdance – Firedance", landing seven triple jumps including a triple Lutz-triple toeloop combination to pull up to first place on 197.63 points. Overnight leader Usacheva completed five clean triples in her routine to "Je suis malade" performed by Lara Fabian, but she fell on an underrotated triple Salchow and also two-footed an underrotated triple toeloop (194.40 points). Matsuike, who ranked fourth in the Short Program, turned in the second-best Free Skating of the night to grab the bronze medal at 193.03 points. Usacheva and Matsuike debuted on the ISU Junior Grand Prix while Lee had a bronze from one event last year.

"I was very nervous about this competition but I'm very happy to finish well," Lee said.

A total of 36 Junior Ladies competed in the event. ISU Junior Grand Prix of Figure Skating <u>Standings Ladies</u>

Mozalev (RUS) back on top of the podium

Andrei Mozalev (RUS) grabbed a narrow lead over Sihyeong Lee (KOR) in the Short Program where both men delivered a strong skate. The Russian then produced a quad toe-triple toe, a shaky quad toe as well as three clean triples in his program to "Step Up". However, he struggled with the triple Axel. Nevertheless, the skater from St. Petersburg took his second ISU Junior Grand Prix gold medal of his career with 223.72 points. The 16-year-old had won in Ostrava in 2018. Skating to "Love Never Dies", silver medalist Lee landed six clean triples. He did not attempt a quadruple jump (218.31 points). The Korean has been competing on the ISU Junior Grand Prix since 2015, and this is his first medal. Daniil Samsonov (RUS) stood in fourth place following the Short Program as he made errors on two jumps. He hit six triple jumps in the Free Skating, but fell on an underrotated quad Lutz. The Muscovite moved up one spot at 211.62 points to get the bronze in his ISU Junior Grand Prix debut.

"I am pleased with the result, but my performance could have been better," Mozalev commented. "This second victory on the Junior Grand Prix means that we're working in the right direction and get closer to the main goal. For my next Junior Grand Prix, I want to improve the quality of my elements and get them consistent in the programs," he continued.

23 competitors participated in the event. ISU Junior Grand Prix of Figure Skating <u>Standings Men</u>.

New dance team Khudaiberdieva/Filatov (RUS) celebrate instant success

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Elizaveta Khudaiberdieva/Andrey Filatov (RUS) have teamed up only this spring, but celebrated instant success in their ISU Junior Grand Prix debut, edging Maria Kazakova/Georgy Reviya (GEO) for the gold. ISU World Junior Figure Skating silver medalist Khudaiberdieva and her new partner danced to the lead in the Rhythm Dance, collecting a level four for one pattern of the Tea Time Foxtrot, the lift and the twizzles. The Russians skated well in the Free Dance to "Sign of the Times" by Harry Styles as well and earned a level four for three elements. They were ranked second in this segement, but held on to first place at 165.59 points. Dancing to "In the End", Kazakova/Reviya won the Free Dance segement with good levels and execution, but remained in second place overall on 165.25 points. The ISU Junior Grand Prix Finalists got their third ISU Junior Grand Prix silver medal. Sofya Tyutyunina/Alexander Shutitskiy (RUS) moved up from fourth to third place to take home their first ISU Junior Grand Prix medal (152.79 points).

"To be honest we didn't expect that outcome and we're very happy about our triumphant debut. Our first competition, our first JGP and our first victory. This result inspires us a lot to work even more," Khudaiberdieva said.

Overall, 19 Ice Dance couples competed in Riga. ISU Junior Grand Prix of Figure Skating <u>Standings Ice Dance</u>

The ISU Junior Grand Prix of Figure Skating Series continues next week in Cheliabinsk (RUS). 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: <u>ISU Junior Grand Prix</u> IG: <u>@ISUFigureSkating</u> Facebook:<u>@ISU Figure Skating</u> Twitter: @ISU Figure

Follow the conversation with #JGPFigure.

ISU Junior Grand Prix of Figure Skating 2019

<u>Courchevel, France - August 22 to 24</u> <u>Lake Placid, USA - August 29 to August 31</u> <u>Riga, Latvia – September 5 to 7</u> <u>Chelyabinsk, Russia - September 12 to 14</u> <u>Gdansk, Poland - September 19 to 21</u> <u>Zagreb, Croatia – September 26 to 28</u> <u>Egna, Italy - October 3 to 5</u> <u>ISU Junior Grand Prix of Figure Skating Final – Torino, Italy - December 5 to 8</u>

The <u>ISU Junior Grand Prix Figure Skating Series</u> 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

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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 <u>ISU Development Program</u>.

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 2018/19 season marks the 22nd edition of the ISU Junior Grand Prix of Figure Skating that was introduced in 1997.