Press release

Minsk, February 11, 2017

ISU WORLD CUP 2016/17 – MINSK (BLR) #WCShortTrack

The ISU World Cup Short Track Speed Skating Series 2016/17 resumed today with the sixth and final round in Minsk, Belarus. The racing events today included the following: Ladies and Men's 1000 m (1) and 1500 m finals, and the relay semi-finals.

Yang Liu (CHN) and Dae Hwang Heon (KOR) win the first 1000 m of the weekend

Yang Liu (CHN) won the first 1000 m event of the weekend, in a race that required a photofinish review to determine the winner. Yara van Kerkhof (NED) had crossed the line in second place however received a penalty, thus allowing Shione Kaminaga (JPN) to claim second place. Cynthia Mascitto (ITA) finished in third place. With two wins during the World Cup 2016/17 Series, Min Jeong Choi (KOR) leads the classification for the distance with 28,000 points. Suzanne Schulting (NED) has 27,520 points with two silver and one bronze win and Elise Christie (GBR) sits in third with 21,678 points and two wins to her credit for the distance.

On the Men's side, Dae Heon Hwang (KOR) moved into the lead with two laps to go to earn the win in the first 1000 m event. Sjinkie Knegt (NED) finished a very close second, and Zhumagaziyev Nurbergen (KAZ) finished in third place. Joon Chun Kim (KOR) and Denis Nikisha (KAZ) both received penalties in the race. With one win during the World Cup 2016/17 Series, Shaoang Liu (HUN) leads the classification for the distance with 28,669 points. He is followed by two Korean skaters: Dae Heon Hwang (26,000 points) and Kyoung Won Lim (22,619 points). The Ladies and Men World Cup title for the distance will be determined tomorrow.

Double 1500 m gold for Korea: Ah Rum Noh (Ladies) and Hyo Benn Lee (Men) In the Ladies 1500 m, Ah Rum Noh (KOR) improved on her performance in Dresden (GER) where she finished second in the distance: a week later, she finishes first. Ekaterina Efremenkova (RUS) finished in second place while Lucia Peretti (ITA) was third. This was Peretti's first individual career World Cup medal. Hanne Desmet (BEL) finished in fourth place. Charlotte Gilmartin (GBR) and Suzanne Schulting (NED) both received penalties in the race, while Yutong Han (CHN) did not finish the race. Suk Hee Shim (KOR) wins the World Cup title for the distance with 40,000 points and four wins this season. Suzanne Schulting finishes second with 25,716 points and Kim Boutin (CAN) ranks third with 24,747 points.

On the Men's side, Korea swept the podium with Hyo Been Lee finishing first, followed by his teammate Kyung Hwan Hong. Yong Jin Lim took the last podium spot for Korea. Vladislav Bykanov (ISR) finished in fourth, followed by John-Henry Krueger (USA). Guillaume Bastille (CAN) finished in sixth place. Sjinkie Knegt (NED) wins the World Cup title for the distance with 44,400 points: he has three wins and two other podium finishes this season. With two wins, Jung Su Lee (KOR) finishes second (35,217 points) while Semen Elistratov (RUS) ranks third with 28,059 points.

For full results of the ISU World Cup Short Track Speed Skating Series 2016/17 please refer to <u>http://shorttrack.sportresult.com/</u> and <u>http://www.isu.org/en/speed-skating/series/isu-world-cup-speed-skating</u>

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Racing resumes tomorrow with the Ladies and Men 500 m and 1000 m (2) events. The teams advancing in Ladies 3000 m Relay are: Russia, Italy, Korea and Canada. Tomorrow's Men's 5000 m Relay final will see Russia, Kazakhstan, Netherlands and China compete.

About ISU World Cup Short Track Speed Skating 2016/17 Series

The ISU World Cup Short Track Speed Skating circuit consists of six events across North America, Asia and Europe. For the third year the format of the Series will consist of one day of qualification and two days of World Cup Sessions which includes the Finals. At each competition the Men and Ladies Relay races will take place along with Men and Ladies individual races which will be held over 500m, 1000m and 1500m and single distances determine the winners. The series starts in Calgary (CAN) on November 4-6 and will move to Salt Lake City (USA) on November 11-13. Almost a month later the Series will continue in Asia with Shanghai (CHN) on December 9-11 and move to Gangneung (KOR) on December 16-18 which will be the official test event for the 2018 Olympic Winter Games in PyeongChang. After a long break the World Cup will pick up again in Europe, with the first stop in Dresden (GER) on February 3-5 and finally in Minsk (BLR) on February 10-12. The full ISU Calendar of Events is available here: http://www.isu.org/en/news-and-events/calendar-of-events

The ISU World Cup Short Track Speed Skating Series is available as a live stream on the ISU Skating Channel. Please note that geoblocking may be required in certain territories <u>http://livemanager.eurovision.edgesuite.net/isu/index.html</u>

For further information, please contact:

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ISU World Cup Short Track Speed Skating Minsk (BLR) medalists

Ladies 1000m (1) Name of athlete Nation Time LIU, Yang 1:34.413 1 CHN 2 KAMINAGA, Shione JPN 1:34.546 3 MASCIOTTO, Cynthia ITA 1:34.669

Men 1000m (1)

	Name of athlete	Nation	Time
1	HWANG, Dae Heon	KOR	1:25.800
2	KNEGT, Sjinkie	NED	1:25.810
3	NURBERGEN, Zhumagaziyev	KAZ	1:26.378

Ladies 1500m

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	Name of athlete	Nation	Time
1	NOH, Ah Rum	KOR	2:40.818
2	EFREMENKOVA, Ekaterina	RUS	2:41.151
3	PERETTI, Lucia	ITA	2:41.244

Men 1500m

	Name of athlete	Nation	Time
1	LEE, Hyo Been	KOR	2:25.760
2	HONG, Kyung Hwang	KOR	2:25.843
3	LIM, Yong Jin	KOR	2:25.899

Official Series Hashtag: #WCShortTrack