



April 15 - April 18, 2021 Osaka, Japan

## Press Conference

Team Captains, after Day Two

### **Elizaveta Tuktamysheva (RUS), 1st after Day Two**

(on her team's performance on Day Two) All of our team members, the dancers, the pair, the boys skated great and achieved the best possible placement for them. Everyone is very strong and confident and I am very pleased with how our day went. (on heading into the final day with Russia having the chance to win the ISU World Team Trophy for the first time) Today when I looked at the result after the boys, I could not be happier, because I don't think we've seen such a score after the second day in a long time. I hope everything will go tomorrow as we plan and we remain in this place. It would be great for me if Russia wins the Team Trophy for the first time with me as captain. But we need to wait for tomorrow and skate well in the Pairs and Ladies. I hope everything will be fine. We are in a fighting mood. (on who is the best cheerleader for the team) I can't say it's me, but Nikita Katsalapov is great. He sometimes thinks of what we do in the Kiss & Cry and he is the best.

### **Jason Brown (Team USA), 2nd after Day Two**

(on his team's performance on Day Two) I'm very proud of my team's fight today. You know, we really fought out there and I'm proud to be up here again with the two other teams. I'm just looking forward to just cheering on my team tomorrow, the final day. We are going to be in the team space, cheering loud and proud. (on who is the best cheerleader for the team) Being in the last event both days so far, I've only been in the Kiss and Cry with Nathan (Chen) and Kaitlin (Hawayek) who I think has been the best cheerleader ever, so that's been really fun. I cannot wait for tomorrow, I'll get to be there the whole day with my teammates, so we're going to go crazy in the kiss and cry and cheer on our teammates. It's going to be an awesome day. (on heading into the final day of competition) All we can do is try and cheer for our teammates, they work so hard and are so trained. And I have faith in them and I trust them and they are going to go out and do their thing and that's all I can ask as a team captain. So, as long as they go up there and fight, I'll be cheering all the way.

### **Ryuichi Kihara (Team JPN), 3rd after Day Two**

(on his team's performance on Day Two) As I was saying yesterday, it's only been a couple of weeks since Worlds, I know it's been very hard to prepare for this competition. All of us in Team Japan really wanted to do this competition for Japan. Everyone did their best and I really think we all gave courage to each other. (on who is the best cheerleader for their team) Yesterday and today, I was able to join in the cheering. Sakamoto-san is really always energetic, to begin with, but I think that Komatsubara-san is great as well. She's really an active cheerleader, so I think that both of them are the ones that are leading our team cheering. (on heading into the final day of competition) This is my first time taking part, so I've never experienced a victory at World Team Trophy. I think everyone in our team wants to finish in first place, so if every one of our team is doing their part, I think that the results will follow.