

PRESS CONFERENCE

Pairs, after Short Program

Aleksandra Boikova/Dmitrii Kozlovskii (FSR), 1st after the Short Program

Kozlovskii: We feel great, it was the first day of the big come back of the big figure skating event into this world after the quarantine. We are so thrilled we are a part of this history it's a reincarnation and a rebirth of our favorite sport. (on their ballroom style) The ballroom dance - we don't want to project one style, we are developing in different styles - we skated to very different music – to "Dark Eyes", to a very classical piece with "The Nutcracker" and now to "Howl's Moving Castle". Those are different programs, we are developing throughout our career and we are not repeating ourselves. (on changing the music for the Short Program) We wanted to feel some kind of an additional stream of positive emotions, to breath some new energy into our amazing program we already had. (on finding the new music) Imagine what a role you have in figure skating, dear viewers, we athletes listen to your ideas, and we are not the only ones, so please keep dreaming and keep updating us, because you give us these wonderful ideas.

Boikova: We are really happy to have changed the music. We are trying to message our love happiness and hope. It's the light message for everyone that everything will be alright. Soon. It was actually quite funny how we found the music. I found it while watching something in our fan group in Instagram, I showed it to the coaches, they liked it as well and together we decided to try it.

Wenjing Sui/Cong Han (CHN), 2nd after the Short Program

Sui: I think we did well, we missed some things and we enjoyed the competition. As for the audience - we still see the teammates and some athletes who came to watch. We just enjoyed it like before

Han: I think this year's hard training gave a good foundation and it's the first official international competition for this season though we only trained for a short time we did manage to perform well. Our goal is always to do better than our old selves.

Anastasia Mishina/Aleksandr Galliamov (FSR), 3rd after the Short Program

Mishina: We are happy to be here, I was afraid the competition would not happen, we are happy to be here, competing, meeting all the pair top skaters, our friends, so it's really a good feeling to be back here. (on whether sitting in third after the Short Program in their debut at the World Championship is a surprise for them) We were not thinking about the results, so we don't know whether it's a surprise or not - we were just not thinking about it.

Galliamov: We are thrilled performing at such a high level competition, we've waited for it for so long, we are thrilled it takes place even in this format. We understand it and we are grateful to the audience who are watching us behind the screens so thank you all so much for your support. We will try to keep making you happy with our long program. We are happy with our result today.

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