

INTERNATIONAL SKATING UNION

HEADQUARTERS ADDRESS: CHEMIN DE PRIMEROSE 2 - CH 1007 LAUSANNE - SWITZERLAND
TELEPHONE (+41) 21 612 66 66 TELEFAX (+41) 21 612 66 77 E-MAIL: info@isu.ch

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Samsung ISU World Cup Short Track **Seoul (KOR) – Saturday Finals**

The world's best short track speed skaters were back in action this weekend in Seoul, Korea, for the second stop of the 2013-2014 Samsung ISU World Cup Short Track Speed Skating series. Last weekend was an exciting start to the season, with some great racing; more of the same is expected this weekend, with the Korean athletes skating on home ice.

After two full days of racing that saw the skaters compete through the rounds of pre-preliminaries all the way to the heats for each of the distances, today was the time to move into the finals of the 1500m and 500m for both the ladies and men.

The Ladies' 1500m was won by Alang Kim of Korea, with her teammate Suk Hee Shim right behind her; these skaters swapped podium positions from last weekend's racing. The third-place finisher was Valerie Maltais of Canada. The fans were close to being delighted by an all-Korean podium finish. However, Seung-Hi Park, who crossed the line in third place, received a penalty. The win by Kim puts her at the top of the World Cup distance classification, tied with her teammate Shim. In third place overall in the standings is Jorien Ter Mors (Netherlands), who won the B Final.

The Men's 1500m final saw some very close racing, with six strong skaters who excel at this distance. With two laps to go, Charles Hamelin (Canada) made his final move to edge out Han-Bin Lee (Korea) for the win. Victor An of Russia was the third-place finisher after skating in the top two positions in the second half of the race. The win allows Hamelin to take the lead in the World Cup distance classification, with An in second place. Defending World Cup champion and last weekend's winner of the 1500m, Jinkyu Noh, is not racing this weekend.

In the Ladies' 500m event, defending World Cup distance champion and Ladies World Champion Meng Wang of China, was back to winning ways. Wang took the lead in the second lap to finish first in the 500m final, with her teammate Kexin Fan a close second. Arianna Fontana (Italy) was third. Fan maintains her lead in the World Cup ranking for the distance.

Meanwhile, the Men's 500m final was won by Victor An, who made a great pass on Dajing Wu (China) with two laps to go. This was An's second podium finish of the day. Wu eventually crossed the line in second place, ahead of Se Yeong Park of Korea. Unfortunately, 500m specialist Vladimir Grigorev of Russia was unable to make much of an impression, following a fall midway through the race. His fourth place does, though, allow Grigorev to take the lead in the World Cup classification for the distance.

Racing resumes tomorrow with the 1000m and Relay events for both the ladies and men.

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Samsung ISU World Cup Short Track Speed Skating – Seoul (KOR) Top 3 Results - Saturday

Ladies 500m

	Name	Nation	Time
1	WANG, Meng	CHN	43.038
2	FAN, Kexin	CHN	43.130
3	FONTANA, Arianna	ITA	43.351

Men 500m

			Time
1	AN, Victor	RUS	40.764
2	WU, Dajing	CHN	40.938
3	PARK, Se Yeong	KOR	42.301

Ladies 1500m

			Time
1	KIM, Alang	KOR	2:23.400
2	SHIM, Suk Hee	KOR	2:23.501
3	MALTAIS, Valerie	CAN	2:24.863

Men 1500m

			Time
1	HAMELIN, Charles	CAN	2:16.604
2	LEE, Han-Bin	KOR	2:16.760
3	AN, Victor	RUS	2:16.922

For further information, including complete results, see www.isu.org

Selina Vanier, ISU Communications Coordinator

Tel: +41 21 612 66 66

Fax: +41 21 612 66 77

E-mail: vanier@isu.ch