

INTERNATIONAL SKATING UNION

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Sochi 2014 Olympic Winter Games **Figure Skating Team Event Preview**

The figure skating competition at the 2014 Olympic Winter Games will start in Sochi, Russia, on February 6. Russia is hosting the Olympic Winter Games for the first time in history and it will also be the first time that a figure skating team event will be contested at the Olympic Winter Games.

Canada, Russia and USA are favored to compete for the medals in the inaugural team event at the Sochi 2014 Olympic Winter Games. 10 teams qualified based on the results of the ISU World Championships 2013 and the ISU Grand Prix of Figure Skating series 2013/14. Canada is the top qualified team. The second ranked team is Russia followed by USA.

USA has won the ISU World Team Trophy in 2009 and 2013, while Japan came first in 2012. However, the format of the ISU World Team trophy is slightly different. In Sochi, only one competitor or couple per discipline will compete. At the Team Trophy, two men and two ladies per country participated in addition to one pairs and one dance couple. Teams are allowed to switch up to two entries between the Short Program and Free Skating, provided they have more than one entry in that discipline.

The top five teams following the Short Programs will advance to the Free Skating. Canada, USA and Russia have strong contenders in all disciplines. Japan is a dominant force in singles. France, Italy and China can be a factor as well. The other qualified teams are Germany, Ukraine and Great Britain.

Please note that for the seasonal best total scores only the ISU Grand Prix competitions (senior and junior) and the Olympic Qualifying event Nebelhorn Trophy 2013 have been taken into consideration, not other international competitions or National Championships.

The final entries have been submitted for the Men and Pair Skating Short Program Team Event which start at 19:30 GMT + 4 on January 6, 2014:

Country	Men	Pairs
CAN	CHAN Patrick	DUHAMEL Meagan / RADFORD Eric
CHN	YAN Han	PENG Cheng / ZHANG Hao
FRA	AMODIO Florent	JAMES Vanessa / CIPRES Morgan
GBR	PARR Matthew	KEMP Stacey / KING David
GER	LIEBERS Peter	WENDE Maylin / WENDE Daniel
ITA	PARKINSON Paul Bonifacio	BERTON Stefania / HOTAREK Ondrej
JPN	HANYU Yuzuru	TAKAHASHI Narumi / KIHARA Ryuichi
RUS	PLUSHCHENKO Evgeny	VOLOSOZHAR Tatiana / TRANKOV Maxim
UKR	GODOROZHA Yakov	LAVRENTIEVA Julia / RUDYK Yuri
USA	ABBOTT Jeremy	CASTELLI Marissa / SHNAPIR Simon

The entries for each category of the Team Event will be confirmed approximately 24 hours before.

The schedule of the figure skating events at the 2014 Olympic Winter Games is as follows:

Thursday, February 6: Team Men Short Program, Team Pairs Short Program

Saturday, February 8: Team Short Dance, Team Ladies Short Program, Team Pairs Free Skating

Sunday, February 9: Team Men and Team Ladies Free Skating, Team Free Dance

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Tuesday, February 11: Pairs Short Program
Wednesday, February 12: Pairs Free Skating
Thursday, February 13: Men Short Program
Friday, February 14: Men Free Skating
Sunday, February 16: Short Dance
Monday, February 17: Free Dance
Wednesday, February 19: Ladies Short Program
Thursday, February 20: Ladies Free Skating
Saturday, February 22: Exhibition Gala

For more information, full entry lists and results please see: www.sochi2014.com

For further information please contact:

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