

March 2, 2020

Tallinn, Estonia

## **World's best young skaters to compete in Tallinn ISU World Junior Figure Skating Championships 2020 Preview**

The World's next generation of Figure Skaters will find out who is the best of the best at the ISU World Junior Figure Skating Championships 2020 in Tallinn, Estonia (March 2 - 8). Tallinn has hosted the ISU World Junior Figure Skating Championships once before in 2015, and has hosted the ISU European Figure Skating Championships in 2010 as well as the ISU Junior Grand Prix of Figure Skating events.

174 skaters from 43 ISU members have been entered for the Championships: 36 Men, 48 Ladies, 16 Pair Skating couples and 29 Ice Dance couples. All skaters compete in the Short Program/Rhythm Dance and the top 24 Single Skaters, top 16 Pairs and top 20 Ice Dance teams proceed to the Free Skating/Free Dance.

### **Overview of the top contenders**

The Junior Men's event promises to be very exciting with a deep field of strong competitors. [Yuma Kagiyama](#) (JPN) will debut at the ISU World Junior Figure Skating Championships, but earlier this year he won the Youth Olympic Games and took bronze at the recent ISU Four Continents Figure Skating Championships, where he achieved a season's best of 270.61 points. Japan has another medal hope in ISU Junior Grand Prix of Figure Skating Final Champion [Shun Sato](#) (season's best 255.11). 2019 ISU World Junior Figure Skating bronze medalist [Daniel Grassl](#) (ITA) is aiming at the podium again (season's best 244.88).

Russia sends two strong contenders to Tallinn with ISU Junior Grand Prix of Figure Skating Final and Youth Olympic Games silver medalist [Andrei Mozalev](#) (season's best 241.48) and ISU Junior Grand Prix of Figure Skating Finalist [Petr Gumennik](#) (season's best 232.39). Other contenders include 2018 ISU Junior Grand Prix of Figure Skating Final Champion [Stephen Gogolev](#) (CAN), [Adam Siao Him Fa](#) (FRA), [Joseph Phan](#) (CAN) and [Andrew Torgashev](#) (USA).

In the Junior Ladies, the three ISU Junior Grand Prix of Figure Skating Final medalists are expected to battle it out again: ISU Junior Grand Prix of Figure Skating Final Champion [Kamila Valieva](#) (RUS) tops the Junior Ladies season's best list with 221.95 points. ISU Junior Grand Prix of Figure Skating Final silver medalist [Alysa Liu](#) (USA) comes with a season's best of 208.10 points to Estonia. Both Ladies have a quadruple jump in their arsenal and Liu also a triple Axel. ISU Junior Grand Prix of Figure Skating Final bronze medalist [Daria Usacheva](#) (RUS/season's best 200.37) has set her eyes on to the podium as well. Other contenders include [Haein Lee](#) (KOR), [Seoyeong Wi](#) (KOR), [Ekaterina Kurakova](#) (POL) and [Maiia Khromykh](#) (RUS).

The Russian Junior Pairs are aiming at a podium sweep like at the ISU Junior Grand Prix of Figure Skating Final with Final Champions [Apollinaria Panfilova/Dmitry Rylov](#) (season's best 199.21 points), bronze medalists [Luliia Artemeva/Mikhail Nazarychev](#) (season's best 179.83) and ISU Junior Grand Prix of Figure Skating Finalists [Kseniia Akhanteva/Valerii Kolesov](#) (season's best 185.05). Others to watch include ISU Junior Grand Prix of Figure Skating Finalists [Annika Hocke/Robert Kunkel](#) (GER) and [Kate Finster/Balazs Nagy](#) (USA).

In the Junior Ice Dance, ISU Junior Grand Prix of Figure Skating Final Champions [Maria Kazakova/Georgy Reviya](#) (GEO) hope to make history again by becoming the first Georgian ice

dance couple to win a medal at an ISU Championship. They also have the highest season's best score with 174.90 points. Competition should come from ISU Junior Grand Prix of Figure Skating Final silver medalists [Avonley Nguyen/Vadym Kolesnik](#) (USA/season's best 174.74) and bronze medalists [Elizaveta Shanaeva/Devid Naryzhnyy](#) (RUS/season's best 171.07). 2018 ISU World Junior Figure Skating bronze medalists [Arina Ushakova/Maxim Nekrasov](#) (RUS) missed the Junior Grand Prix series as he was recovering from surgery, but they are ready to fight for a medal in Tallinn. Others to watch include ISU Junior Grand Prix of Figure Skating Finalists [Loicia Demougeot/Theo Le Mercier](#) (FRA), [Katarina Wolfkostin/Jeffrey Chen](#) (USA) and [Miku Makita/Tyler Gunara](#) (CAN).

Please note that for the seasonal best total scores only the ISU Junior Grand Prix of Figure Skating competitions (senior and junior), ISU Championships, Olympic Winter Games and the ISU Challenger Series have been taken into consideration, not other international competitions or National Championships.

### Prize Money

The ISU awards a global prize money of US\$ 140,000 at the World Junior Championships to skaters/couples placed 1st to 6th. The prize money is awarded to winners and placed skaters/couples as follows:

#### *Men and Ladies*

1st place US\$ 10,000  
2nd place US\$ 7,000  
3rd place US\$ 5,000  
4th place US\$ 4,000  
5th place US\$ 2,000  
6<sup>th</sup> place US\$ 1,000

#### *Pairs and Dance (per couple)*

1st place US\$ 15,000  
2nd place US\$ 10,000  
3rd place US\$ 7,000  
4th place US\$ 5,000  
5<sup>th</sup> place US\$ 3,000  
6<sup>th</sup> place US\$ 1,000

### Event Schedule

**The schedule of the ISU World Junior Figure Skating Championships 2020 is as follows:**

Wednesday, March 4: Junior Men Short Program, Junior Pairs Short Program

Thursday, March 5: Junior Rhythm Dance, Junior Pairs Free Skating

Friday, March 6: Junior Ladies Short Program, Junior Men Free Skating

Saturday, March 7: Junior Free Dance and Junior Ladies Free Skating

Sunday, March 8: Exhibition Gala

### Where to watch and follow the ISU World Junior Figure Skating Championships 2020?

Viewers will be able to watch either via their national broadcaster / channel and for countries where there are no broadcasters, the ISU will offer a live stream on the [Skating ISU YouTube Channel](#). You will find the full list in the [Where to Watch news here](#).

Subscribe to the [ISU Newsletter](#) or Press Releases to receive the latest information and the "[Where to Watch](#)" news. You can also subscribe to the [Skating ISU YouTube Channel](#) to receive notifications when live streams start or new videos are published.

Highlights, clips, interviews, behind the scenes:

YouTube: [SkatingISU](#)

IG: [@ISUFigureSkating](#)

Facebook: [@ISU Figure Skating](#)

Twitter: [@ISU\\_Figure](#)

For more information, full entry lists and results please see the [ISU website](#) and the [official website](#). Follow the event on social media using the hashtags #WorldJFigure and #FigureSkating.

**About ISU World Junior Figure Skating Championships**

The ISU World Junior Figure Skating Championships started in 1976 and is the most prestigious annual international competition for juniors. The up and coming skaters of the world aged 13 to 19 (21 for the male Ice Dance and Pair Skating partners) compete for the World Junior Titles in the Men's singles, Ladies' singles, pair skating and ice dance disciplines.