

January 11, 2022

Tallinn, Estonia

## **Last pre-Olympic test for Europe's top skaters** **ISU European Figure Skating Championships 2022**

Europe's best figure skaters are getting ready for the ISU European Figure Skating Championships 2022 in Tallinn, Estonia (January 10-16), the last opportunity to test themselves at a major stage before the Olympic Winter Games in Beijing (CHN). Tallinn will host the ISU European Figure Skating Championships for the second time since 2010 and has hosted as well the ISU World Junior Figure Skating Championships in 2015 and 2020. The ISU European Championships are back after the event had to be cancelled in 2021 due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

171 Skaters from 37 ISU members have been entered for this 114<sup>th</sup> edition of the European Championships: 34 Men, 37 Ladies, 21 Pair Skating couples and 29 Ice Dance couples.

Skaters/couples need to have obtained a minimum total technical score in Short Program and Free Skating in order to compete at the European Championships. 2020 European Pair Skating Champions Aleksandra Boikova/Dmitrii Kozlovskii (RUS) and 2020 European Ice Dance Champions Victoria Sinitsina/Nikita Katsalapov (RUS) are back at the event and hope to defend their titles.

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

In the Men's event, a group of strong contenders is aiming at the top of the podium in Tallinn and the competition looks wide open. Gran Premio d'Italia bronze medalist [Daniel Grassl](#) (ITA/seasons best with 269.00 points) is looking to move up from his fourth-place finish from Graz in 2020.

Reigning European bronze medalist [Morisi Kvitelashvili](#) (GEO/seasons best with 266.33 points) hopes to continue his success after winning his first ISU Grand Prix gold medal at Rostelecom Cup in November. French Champion [Kevin Aymoz](#) (FRA) and 2013 European bronze medalist [Michal Brezina](#) (CZE) are eyeing the podium as well.

Other contenders include [Deniss Vasiljevs](#) (LAT), the new Russian Champion [Mark Kondratiuk](#) and his teammate [Evgeni Semenenko](#) (RUS), who will both debut at the European Championships. 2020 World Junior Champion [Andrei Mozalev](#) (RUS) comes in as a last minute-replacement for 2018 World bronze medalist [Mikhail Kolyada](#) (RUS), who suffered an injury in practice.

Following her spectacular performances at the ISU Grand Prix of Figure Skating earlier this season, rising star [Kamila Valieva](#) (RUS) wants to conquer Europeans in her debut. The 15-year-old comes armed with quads and the triple Axel and her seasons best of 272.71 points is currently the highest women's total score.

Competition should mainly come from her teammates, 2021 World Champion and 2020 European silver medalist [Anna Shcherbakova](#) (RUS/seasons best 236.78) as well as 2021 World and 2020 European bronze medalist [Alexandra Trusova](#) (RUS/seasons best 232.37). These two have quadruple jumps in their arsenal as well.

Others to watch include 2021 Gran Premio d'Italia bronze medalist [Loena Hendrickx](#) (BEL), [Alexia Paganini](#) (SUI), Golden Spin Champion [Anastasia Gubanova](#) (GEO), [Ekaterina Kurakova](#) (POL) and Estonian hopefuls [Eva-Lotta Kiibus](#) and [Niina Petrökina](#).

The Pairs event features 2021 ISU World Champions [Anastasia Mishina/Aleksandr Galliamov](#) (RUS), who will compete in their first ISU European Championship. The couple collected two gold medals on the ISU Grand Prix circuit as well as the national title on their way to Tallinn and scored a seasons best of 227.28 points.

The challenge should come from defending ISU European Champions [Aleksandra Boikova/Dmitri Kozlovskii](#) (RUS), who come with a seasons best of 216.96 points and from two-time European Champions [Evgenia Tarasova/Vladimir Morozov](#) (RUS), who posted the highest seasons best with 228.49 points so far. Several couples want to get to the podium as close as possible. Challengers include [Minerva Fabienne Hase/Nolan Seegert](#) (GER) and [Ioulia Chtchetinina/Mark Magyar](#) (HUN). Newcomers [Karina Safina/Luka Berulava](#) (GEO) and [Laura Barquero/Marco Zandron](#) (ESP) want to leave their mark as well.

Reigning World Champions [Victoria Sinitsina/Nikita Katsalapov](#) (RUS) are the top favorites in the Ice Dance event following the withdrawal of Olympic silver medalists [Gabriella Papadakis/ Guillaume Cizeron](#) (FRA). The Russian couple won their two ISU Grand Prix events and picked up a seasons best of 215.44 points, but had to withdraw from the Russian National Championships due to injury.

2019 European bronze medalists [Charlene Guignard/ Marco Fabbri](#) (ITA/seasons best 208.88) and four-time European medalists [Alexandra Stepanova/Ivan Bukin](#) (RUS/seasons best 202.18) have set their eyes on to the podium as well. Other teams to watch include 2021 NHK Trophy bronze medalists [Lilah Fear/Lewis Gibson](#) (GBR), 2021 Skate Canada bronze medalists [Olivia Smart/Adrian Diaz](#) (ESP), [Sara Hurtado/Kirill Khaliavin](#) (ESP) and newcomers [Diana Davis/Gleb Smolkin](#) (RUS).

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

### Prize Money

The ISU awards a global prize money of US\$ 294, 000 at the ISU European Figure Skating Championships to Single Skaters, Pair Skating and Ice Dance couples placed 1<sup>st</sup> to 6<sup>th</sup>. The prize money is awarded as follows:

#### *Men and Ladies*

1st place US\$ 21,000  
2nd place US\$ 16,000  
3rd place US\$ 11,000  
4th place US\$ 7,000  
5th place US\$ 5,000  
6th place US\$ 3,000

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

1st place US\$ 30,000  
2nd place US\$ 20,000  
3rd place US\$ 12,000  
4th place US\$ 10,000  
5th place US\$ 7,000  
6th place US\$ 5,000

## Event Schedule

The schedule of the ISU European Figure Skating Championships 2022 is as follows:

**Wednesday, January 12:** Men and Pairs Short Program, Opening Ceremony

**Thursday, January 13:** Women's Short Program, Pairs Free Skating

**Friday, January 14:** Rhythm Dance, Men's Free Skating

**Saturday, January 15:** Free Dance, Women's Free Skating

**Sunday, January 16:** Exhibition Gala

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

## Where to watch and follow the ISU European Figure Skating Championships 2022:

The ISU European Figure Skating Championships will be live streamed on the [Skating ISU YouTube Channel](#). Geo-restrictions will apply in markets where TV rights are in place. You will find the full list in the [Where to Watch news here](#).

Subscribe to the [Skating ISU YouTube Channel](#) to receive alerts when the live streams start and when new videos are posted.

## Stay connected with the ISU Social Media:

**Youtube:** [Skating ISU](#)

**IG:** [@ISUFigureSkating](#)

**Facebook:** [@ISUFigureSkating](#)

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

## For further information please contact:

ISU Media Team

E-Mail: [media@isu.ch](mailto:media@isu.ch)