

# INTERNATIONAL SKATING UNION

HEADQUARTERS ADDRESS: CHEMIN DE PRIMEROSE 2 - CH 1007 LAUSANNE - SWITZERLAND  
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## **2001 World Junior Figure Skating Championships** **Day One**

The 2001 ISU World Junior Figure Skating Championships started Monday in Sofia, Bulgaria, with 185 skaters participating from 43 ISU Members. This the first time that Bulgaria holds the World Junior Figure Skating Championships.

### **Men**

The Championships opened with the Men's qualifying round which counts for 20% of the skaters' final score. 45 skaters participated in the qualifying. Group B was drawn to skate first. China's Xiadong Ma put in a strong performance, dominating his group. The 18-year-old landed a quadruple-triple toeloop combination, two triple Axels and five more triples. "This was just the beginning, now I have to do well in the short and free programs", Ma said. "I landed the quad-triple for the first time in competition, but I hope to skate even better in the rest of the competition." Ma was the only skater to pull off a quadruple jump. Alan Street (GBR) came in second. His "Gladiator" program featured six triple jumps, but he fell on his second triple flip. Karel Zelenka of Italy finished third. He included six clean triples in his routine to "Carmen".

Johnny Weir (USA) won Group A. Skating to gypsy music, the 16-year-old opened his program with two triple-triple combinations, including an effortless looking triple Axel-triple toeloop. Weir completed four more triples and a combination spin with many different positions in his fast paced performance. "I did not think that I was going to win", he commented. "Now I won't be as nervous for the rest of the competition, I'll be more confident." Weir competes for the first time in Junior Worlds. Last year's silver medallist Vincent Restencourt of France finished second ahead of Evan Lysacek (USA). The Frenchman nailed two triple Axels and four more clean triples, but he stepped out of the last triple toeloop. "It's a comeback for me", Restencourt commented. "I had problems with my old coach, and I even didn't skate for a while." Lysacek, another newcomer to Junior Worlds, completed six triples, including a unique triple flip-step-triple salchow combination.

From both qualifying groups, the top 15 skaters advance to the Short Program on Tuesday.

### **Pairs**

Dan Zhang/Hao Zhang of China took the lead in the Pairs' Short Program. Skating to a Polka, the team from Harbin completed a spectacular double twist, a side by side double Axel and a double throw Salchow. The Chinese, who dominated the Junior circuit this season, got six first place ordinals from the nine Judges. "I think we did well today", said

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Hao Zhang. "We probably will try a quadruple twist and quadruple throw (toeloop) on Wednesday in the free program", he announced. Japan's Yuko Kawaguchi/Alexander Markuntsov finished a strong second. Their fluid program featured a solid side by side double Axel, an excellent double throw Salchow and an original lift. "We are satisfied with our skating, we enjoyed it", commented Kawaguchi. "Everybody skated well, so we are happy to be in the top three." Sitting in third, before the decisive Free Program on Wednesday, are Kristen Roth/Michael McPhearson (USA). Skating first of the 19 couples, they produced a clean program that included side by side double axels and a good double throw Salchow. "It was a bit hard to skate first", McPhearson told the press. "We had a great short, which kind of set the precedent."

The required elements for the junior pairs' Short Program differ from those of the senior ranks. For example, the couples must do a double flip or a double Axel as the side by side jump. The required throw jump is the double Salchow.

The Championships continue tomorrow (Tuesday) with the Compulsory Dances and the Men's Short Program.

## Results

### Men

FPl.	Name	Nat.	Points	QB	QA	SP	FS
1	Xiaodong MA	CHN	0.4	1			
1	Johnny WEIR	USA	0.4		1		
3	Vincent RESTENCOURT	FRA	0.8		2		
3	Alan STREET	GBR	0.8	2			
5	Evan LYSACEK	USA	1.2		3		
5	Karel ZELENKA	ITA	1.2	3			
7	Stéphane LAMBIEL	SUI	1.6		4		
7	Tomas VERNER	CZE	1.6	4			
9	Sergei DOBRIN	RUS	2.0	5			
9	Nicholas YOUNG	CAN	2.0		5		
11	Jeffrey BUTTLE	CAN	2.4		6		
11	Benjamin MILLER	USA	2.4	6			
13	Andrei DOBROKHODOV	AZE	2.8	7			
13	Florian JUST	GER	2.8		7		
15	Cyril BRUN	FRA	3.2		8		
15	Filip STILLER	SWE	3.2	8			
17	Kazumi KISHIMOTO	JPN	3.6	9			
17	Gregor URBAS	SLO	3.6		9		

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19	Vladimir BELOMOIN	UZB	4.0	10			
19	Kevin van der PERREN	BEL	4.0		10		
21	Ari-Pekka NURMENKARI	FIN	4.4	11			
21	Andrej PRIMAK	GER	4.4		11		
23	Anton KOVALEVSKY	UKR	4.8		12		
23	Bradley SANTER	AUS	4.8	12			
25	Yang AN	CHN	5.2	13			
25	Alexander SHUBIN	RUS	5.2		13		
27	Aleksei SAKS	EST	5.6		14		
27	Konstantin TUPIKOV	UKR	5.6	14			
29	Christian HORVATH	AUT	6.0		15		
29	Stanimir TODOROV	BUL	6.0	15			
31	Jamal OTHMAN	SUI	6.4		16		
31	Soshi TANAKA	JPN	6.4	16			
33	Michael LUBOJANSKI	GER	6.8	17			
33	Balint MIKLOS	ROM	6.8		17		
35	Vadim AKOLZIN	ISR	7.2		18		
35	Krzysztof KOMOSA	POL	7.2	18			
37	Dmitri KASS	LAT	7.6		19		
37	Ivan KINCIK	SVK	7.6	19			
39	Karlo POZGAJCIC	CRO	8.0		20		
39	Bertalan ZAKANY	HUN	8.0	20			
41	Tomas KATUKEVICIUS	LTU	8.4	21			
41	Manuel SEGURA	MEX	8.4		21		
43	Miguel BALLESTEROS	ESP	8.8		22		
43	Alper UCAR	TUR	8.8	22			
45	Milos MILANOVIC	YUG	9.2	23			

## Pairs

FPL.	Name	Nat.	Points	SP	FS
1	Dan ZHANG / Hao ZHANG	CHN	0.5	1	
2	Yuko KAWAGUCHI / Alexander MARKUNTSOV	JPN	1.0	2	
3	Kristen ROTH / Michael McPHERSON	USA	1.5	3	
4	Julia KARBOVSKAYA / Sergei SLAVNOV	RUS	2.0	4	
5	Svetlana NIKOLAEVA / Pavel LEBEDEV	RUS	2.5	5	
6	Claudia RAUSCHENBACH / Robin SZOLKOWY	GER	3.0	6	
7	Deborah BLINDER / Jeremy ALLEN	USA	3.5	7	
8	Elena RIABCHUK / Stanislav ZAKHAROV	RUS	4.0	8	
9	Yang DING / Zongfei REN	CHN	4.5	9	
10	Tatiana CHUVAEVA / Dmitri PALAMARCHUK	UKR	5.0	10	

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11	Carla MONTGOMERY / Jarvis HETU	CAN	5.5	11	
12	Tatiana VOLOSOZHAR / Petro KHARCHENKO	UKR	6.0	12	
13	Aljona KOKHANEVICH / Denis PETROV	UKR	6.5	13	
14	Diana RISKOVA / Vladimir FUTAS	SVK	7.0	14	
15	Johanna PURDY / Kevin MAGUIRE	CAN	7.5	15	
16	Aneta KOWALSKA / Artur SZELISKI	POL	8.0	16	
17	Rebecca CORNE / Richard ROWLANDS	GBR	8.5	17	
18	Marina AGANINA / Artem KNYAZEV	UZB	9.0	18	
19	Ivana DURIN / Andrei MAXIMOV	YUG	9.5	19	

**For further information please contact:**

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