

INTERNATIONAL SKATING UNION

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

The 2001 ISU Junior World Championships continued in Sofia, Bulgaria with the Ladies' Qualifying Round and the Pairs' Free Program.

Ladies

An American and a Russian won the Ladies' Qualifying Rounds. Ann-Patrice McDonough (USA) took the lead in group B ahead of Russia's Svetlana Chernysheva and her teammate Sara Wheat. McDonough hit a triple lutz-double toeloop combination at the beginning of her program and went on to produce four more triples. The winner of the ISU Junior Grand Prix Final only doubled the loop and stepped out on her triple flip, but she successfully repeated this jump later on. "I just had to get through, and I'm glad that I did", the 15-year-old said. "It wasn't my best. After my rough practices and my rough warm up, I just had to think about my program and what I had to do."

Skating to "Phantom on Ice", Chernysheva delivered a solid program that featured four clean triples, but lacked speed overall. The 16-year-old Muscovite fell on her triple Salchow which she repeated later on in the performance. Wheat also had four triple jumps, but ran out of steam towards the end, popping the Salchow and doubling the loop.

In group A, Kristina Oblasova of Russia finished first with Finland's Susanna Pökyiö placing second and Katharina Häcker (GER) in third. Oblasova opened her program with a double Axel, followed by a wobbly triple Lutz-double toeloop combination. The 16-year-old faced some difficulty when she doubled the flip in her flip-half loop-triple Salchow combination. "I really wanted to land that triple flip", the Russian said. She repeated the flip successfully, but then her program went downhill, as she wasn't able to land any other jumps. "She reconstructed the program and forgot which elements come in which place", coach Elena Tchaikovskaya explained. "I'm happy to finish first, but I have to skate much better in the short and the free skating", Oblasova added. Pökyiö completed three clean triples and a double Axel. "The end of the program was good", she said. "I've been bothered by pain in my right foot." 14-year-old Häcker, one of the youngest competitors here in Sofia, produced a solid program that contained five triples. "Coming here, I just wanted to skate well. I didn't expect to be so high up after the first part of the competition", the German commented.

All top six ranked skaters of the Qualifying rounds are competing at the Junior Worlds for their first time.

Pairs

The first champions of the 2001 Junior Worlds were crowned in the Pairs' event. First to skate in the final flight were Yuko Kawaguchi/Alexander Markuntsov of Japan, who sat in second after the Short Program. They opened their "Spartacus" program with a death spiral, but then Kawaguchi fell on the side-by-side triple toeloop. The pair recovered to land a triple throw loop, triple throw

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Salchow, triple twist and another side-by-side triple toe. They also showed strong spiral sequences. Their marks went up to 5.4 for technique and to 5.6 for presentation. Next up were the overnight leaders, China's Dan Zhang/Hao Zhang. They, too, opted for a death spiral as their first element, and then reeled off a spectacular, almost lateral, quadruple twist, followed by side-by-side triple toe loops, a triple throw Salchow and triple throw loop. Dan Zhang only doubled the side-by-side triple Salchow in the routine set to Delibes' ballet "Coppelia", and their side-by-side spin was out of sync. This was the performance of the night. The Chinese scored marks ranging from 5.5 to 5.7 for technique and from 5.2 to 5.6 for presentation. They collected first place ordinals from all nine Judges. They are the first Chinese pair team ever to win an ISU Championships and it is the first pairs' medal for China at a Junior World Figure Skating Championship.

The Chinese pair was followed by Kristen Roth/Michael McPhearson (USA), who stood in third after the Short Program. The Americans produced a solid skate that included a double twist, two side-by-side double Axels, a triple throw Salchow and double throw Axel. They remained in third while the Japanese couple claimed the silver medal. It is the first medal for Japan in pair skating at an ISU Championships.

"The audience was very good and supported us all the way through", Hao Zhang said. "We did a clean quadruple twist for the first time this season, and we are very glad to be Junior World Champions."

"We made mistakes and we want to do better the next time", commented Kawaguchi. "It is very good for us to train with Elena Berezhnaya/Anton Sikharulidze. Their elements are excellent to me, and we still can learn a lot from them." Kawaguchi/Markuntsov train with Tamara Moskvina, who also coaches the two-time World Champions from Russia.

"I don't think we really could have skated any better than we did. We skated perfectly clean, there were no real flaws", McPhearson commented. "We just didn't have quite enough technical content to get second, but there is nothing wrong with third."

Both the Japanese and the American pairs stood on the podium at their first Junior Worlds.

The second Chinese pair, Yang Ding/Zhongfei Ren, attempted a quad twist and a quadruple throw toe loop, but the twist was not clean and Ding fell on the throw toe loop.

The 2001 World Junior Figure Skating Championships continue on Thursday with the Original Dance and Men's Free Program.

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2001 World Junior Figure Skating Championships Day Three

Results

Ladies

FPL.	Name	Nat.	Points	QB	QA	SP	FS
1	Ann Patrice MCDONOUGH	USA	0.4	1			
1	Kristina OBLASOVA	RUS	0.4		1		
3	Svetlana CHERNYSHOVA	RUS	0.8	2			
3	Susanna PÖYKIÖ	FIN	0.8		2		
5	Katharina HÄCKER	GER	1.2		3		
5	Sara WHEAT	USA	1.2	3			
7	Dan FANG	CHN	1.6		4		
7	Akiko SUZUKI	JPN	1.6	4			
9	Tamara DOROFJEV	HUN	2.0		5		
9	Yukari NAKANO	JPN	2.0	5			
11	Chu-Hong LEE	KOR	2.4	6			
11	Stephanie ZHANG	AUS	2.4		6		
13	Lucie KRAUSOVA	CZE	2.8		7		
13	Joannie ROCHETTE	CAN	2.8	7			
15	Kimena BROG-MEIER	SUI	3.2		8		
15	Svetlana PILIPENKO	UKR	3.2	8			
17	Taru KARVOSNOJA	FIN	3.6	9			
17	Carolina KOSTNER	ITA	3.6		9		
19	Ye Bin MOK	USA	4.0		10		
19	Viktoria PAVUK	HUN	4.0	10			
21	Quinn WILMANS	RSA	4.4	11			
21	Martine ZUIDERWIJK	NED	4.4		11		
23	Lucia STAROVICOVA	SVK	4.8	12			
23	Hristina VASSILEVA	BUL	4.8		12		
25	Viviane KAESER	SUI	5.2	13			
25	Gintare VOSTRECOVAITE	LTU	5.2		13		
27	Christiane BERGER	GER	5.6	14			
27	Anja BRATEC	SLO	5.6		14		
29	Sara FALOTICO	BEL	6.0	15			
29	Roxana LUCA	ROM	6.0		15		
31	Rebecca GARCIA	ESP	6.4		16		
31	Anna JURKIEWICZ	POL	6.4	16			
33	Diana CHEN	TPE	6.8		17		
33	Jennifer HOLMES	GBR	6.8	17			
35	Johanna GÖTESSON	SWE	7.2	18			
35	Kristina MICHAILOVA	BLR	7.2		18		
37	Helena GARCIA	MEX	7.6	19			
37	Kaori POON	HKG	7.6		19		

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39	Giovanna ALMEIDA LETO	POR	8.0		20		
39	Ines PAVLEKOVIC	CRO	8.0		20		
41	Papatya DOKMECI	TUR	8.4		21		
41	Kathrin FREUDELSPERGER	AUT	8.4		21		
43	Ksenia JASTSENJSKI	YUG	8.8		22		

Pairs

FPL.	Name	Nat.	Points	SP	FS
1	Dan ZHANG / Hao ZHANG	CHN	1.5	1	1
2	Yuko KAWAGUCHI / Alexander MARKUNTSOV	JPN	3.0	2	2
3	Kristen ROTH / Michael McPHERSON	USA	4.5	3	3
4	Julia KARBOVSKAYA / Sergei SLAVNOV	RUS	7.0	4	5
5	Deborah BLINDER / Jeremy ALLEN	USA	7.5	7	4
6	Yang DING / Zongfei REN	CHN	10.5	9	6
7	Svetlana NIKOLAEVA / Pavel LEBEDEV	RUS	10.5	5	8
8	Elena RIABCHUK / Stanislav ZAKHAROV	RUS	13.0	8	9
9	Claudia RAUSCHENBACH / Robin SZOLKOWY	GER	14.0	6	11
10	Johanna PURDY / Kevin MAGUIRE	CAN	14.5	15	7
11	Carla MONTGOMERY / Jarvis HETU	CAN	15.5	11	10
12	Tatiana CHUVAEVA / Dmitri PALAMARCHUK	UKR	17.0	10	12
13	Tatiana VOLOSOZHAR / Petro KHARCHENKO	UKR	19.0	12	13
14	Aljona KOKHANEVICH / Denis PETROV	UKR	20.5	13	14
15	Diana RISKOVA / Vladimir FUTAS	SVK	22.0	14	15
16	Marina AGANINA / Artem KNYAZEY	UZB	25.0	18	16
17	Aneta KOWALSKA / Artur SZELISKI	POL	25.0	16	17
18	Rebecca CORNE / Richard ROWLANDS	GBR	26.5	17	18
19	Ivana DURIN / Andrei MAXIMOV	YUG	28.5	19	19

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