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STORY HEADLINE: AUSTRIA'S SANDRA LETTNER WINS THRILLING FIRST EVER SPORT CLIMBING COMPETITION AT YOUTH OLYMPIC GAMES BUENOS AIRES 2018

DATE: 9 October, 2018

LOCATION: Buenos Aires, Argentina

LANGUAGE: English

Broadcast quality footage available at the IOC Newsroom: <http://iocnewsroom.com>

STORY SCRIPT:

The first-ever sport climbing Olympic gold medal has been won by Austria's Sandra Lettner at this summer's Youth Olympic Games Buenos Aires 2018.

After qualifying for the final by finishing in the top six of the qualification round, the finalists once again completed the three disciplines of Speed, Bouldering and Lead to look for the lowest overall score.

17-year-old Lettner snatched gold by the narrowest of margins. She tied on 18 points with Slovenian Vita Lukan, 17, but won due to her superior performance in the Speed and Boulder disciplines.

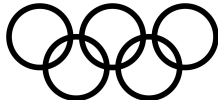
Lettner's Austrian compatriot Laura Lammer, also 17, completed the podium by finishing with a total of 20 points.

In the sports climbing competition at Buenos Aires 2018, competitors compete in three disciplines that are combined in a single ranking to decide the Women's Combined and Men's Combined medals.

The disciplines are:

Speed: The aim of speed is to be the fastest to reach the top of the 15m high wall. Men and women compete on identical routes, which are not modified between rounds.

Bouldering: The aim of bouldering is to solve the most problems in the least number of attempts over a given period of time. Men and women climb on 4.5m high structures equipped with safety mats. The bouldering ranking is decided by the number of problems solved.



Lead: In lead, the aim of the competition is to go as high as possible in an individual attempt on a route designed on a 15m wall. The competitors have a limited amount of time (6 minutes) for their attempt.

Buenos Aires 2018 is the third edition of the Summer Youth Olympic Games (YOG) to be held, bringing together the world's best young athletes between the ages of 15 and 18. For the first time in Olympic history the Games will have gender equality, with equal numbers of males and females competing in the 32-sport programme.

Almost 4,000 athletes from 206 National Olympic Committees will be competing for 1,250 medals. The Youth Olympic Games Buenos Aires 2018 feature new sports and many new disciplines and events, reflecting the passions of the 'Game Changers', a new generation of athletes and fans.

The event offers a glimpse into the future of the Games as the new programme will introduce several innovations that will be replicated at the Olympic Games Tokyo 2020.

The first Summer Youth Olympic Games took place in Singapore in 2010. The second edition was held in the Chinese city of Nanjing in 2014.

SHOTLIST:

00:02 Establishing shot of the climbing venue

00:04 Close up of Sandra Lettner climbing

00:10 Wide of Sandra Lettner climbing

00:13 Shot of the crowd applauding

00:16 Sequence of shots of Sandra Lettner completing the climb

00:28 Wide shot of Sandra Lettner scaling back down

00:31 SOUNDBITE: Sandra Lettner, Youth Olympic Champion, Sport Climbing (English Language)

"I can't describe it. I just cannot realise it and I am so happy"

00:35 Sandra Lettner receives her gold medal

00:45 SOUNDBITE: Sandra Lettner, Youth Olympic Champion, Sport Climbing (English Language)

"I felt pretty strong. The speed went pretty well. So I knew that I could do it"

00:53 Shot of the athletes with their medals

00:58 SOUNDBITE: Sandra Lettner, Youth Olympic Champion, Sport Climbing (English Language)

"First for me but my family and my friends and of course my coach. He trained me pretty well"

01:08 Shot of Sandra Lettner climbing



01:14 SOUNDBITE: Sandra Lettner, Youth Olympic Champion, Sport Climbing (English Language)

"Yeah, it gives me more self-confidence. So I am pretty happy and now I can relax and enjoy!"

01:22 Shot of Sandra Lettner during the Speed discipline

01:28 SOUNDBITE: Sandra Lettner, Youth Olympic Champion, Sport Climbing (English Language)

"It is a really cool sport and I like it, I love it. It is my passion"

01:34 Slow motion shots of Sandra Lettner climbing and reaching the top

-- ENDS --

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