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Story script and Shot log

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STORY HEADLINE: Matej Svancer of Czech Republic recovers from slopestyle frustration to win men's freeski big air gold on final day of Winter Youth Olympic Games

LOCATION: Leysin Park & Pipe, Switzerland

DATE: January 22, 2020

LANGUAGE: English, Czech

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

STORY SCRIPT:

Matej Svancer of the Czech Republic won gold in the final freestyle skiing event of the Winter Youth Olympic Games (YOG) with victory in the men's big air to deny American Kiernan Fagan a second gold of Lausanne 2020.

15-year-old Svancer, who is from Kaprun, had narrowly missed out on a place on the podium in the slopestyle, which was won by Fagan. Svancer scored 94.50 on his final run - the highest score of the day - to snatch gold from Fagan, who had to settle for silver.

Svancer scored a total from the judges of 186.00 to Fagan's 183.00, while the bronze went to the Ukraine's Orest Kovalenko with 179.50.

The big air competition is a judged sport. The competitors perform tricks on the big air jump by taking off from a kicker and aiming to attain sizable airtime and well executed tricks, all while securing a clean solid landing. The two best different jumps out of three runs count in the finals.

Lausanne 2020 is the third edition of the Winter YOG, bringing together the world's best young athletes between the ages of 15 and 18. For the first time in Winter Olympic history the Games have had gender equality, with equal numbers of male and female competitors in the 81 medal events. The Closing Ceremony is this evening (January 22).

1,872 athletes from 79 National Olympic Committees (NOCs) were in action in Lausanne, 12 of those NOCs for the first time at a Youth Olympic Games - Albania, Azerbaijan, Ecuador, Haiti, Hong Kong, Kosovo, Pakistan, Qatar, Singapore, Thailand, Turkmenistan and Trinidad & Tobago.

As well as the brand new sport of Ski Mountaineering, Lausanne 2020 featured five new events, Women's Nordic Combined, Individual Normal Hill/4km, Women's Doubles Luge, Mixed NOC 3x3 Ice Hockey, Freeski Big Air, Snowboard Big Air.



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The first Winter Youth Olympic Games took place in Innsbruck, Austria, in 2012. The second edition was held in the Norwegian city of Lillehammer in 2016. The fourth edition will be in the Republic of Korea in 2024.

SHOTLIST:

00:05 Action of Matej Svancer from the men's freeski big air final run.

00:17 Matej Svancer celebrates his score.

00:30 Various shots of Matej Svancer receiving his gold medal at the medal ceremony.

01:07 **SOUNDBITE: Matej Svancer, Czech Republic. Gold Medallist, Men's Freeski Big Air (Czech Language).**

"I am so hyped for this one I am so stoked I put the sweet sixteen down because I never do it - this was my second try in my life so I'm so stoked to be here and it was a fun competition."

01:21 Slow motion shot of Matej Svancer in action.

01:31 **SOUNDBITE: Matej Svancer, Czech Republic. Gold Medallist, Men's Freeski Big Air (Czech Language).**

"I never realised that I was so hyped down there and I wasn't sure if I was going to be first or fourth again or something like that!"

01:40 The medallists on the podium

01:43 **SOUNDBITE: Matej Svancer, Czech Republic. Gold Medallist, Men's Freeski Big Air (English Language).**

"Yeah it is also about mental and it's also about having fun with it. If I didn't have fun doing freeski then I wouldn't do it. So I would probably not do the tricks. So it's great to ski and concentrate on your skiing but still have fun with it."

-- ENDS --

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