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Story Script and Shot log

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STORY HEADLINE: Japan's Women make history as first ever Asian winners of Olympic Ice Hockey Gold with victory over Sweden at Lausanne 2020

LOCATION: Vaudoise Arena, Lausanne, Switzerland

DATE: January 21, 2020

LANGUAGE: Japanese

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

STORY SCRIPT:

Japan's Women's Ice Hockey team won Gold at the Winter Youth Olympic Games (YOG) thanks to a 4-1 victory over Sweden, that earned them a place in the history books as the first ever Asian team to win an Olympic Ice Hockey title.

Sweden took the lead in the first period. 15-year-old Nicole Hall unleashed a vicious strike into the net, but they couldn't add to that advantage despite dominating the opening period.

Japan levelled in the second period. 15-year-old Hina Shimomukai rammed the ball into the net, after being set up by another 15-year-old Makoto Ito.

There was some Swedish fight in the third period. But the Japanese were too strong, Rio Noro putting them into the lead for the first time. Just three minutes later Makoto Ito gave Japan a two-goal lead assisted by her Kawasemi Daishin Ladies clubmate, Hina Shimomukai.

As Sweden gambled taking their goaltender out of the game, Shimomukai took advantage to make it 4-1 and put the result beyond doubt.

On the final hooter, the Japanese celebrated wildly on the ice, swamping their goaltender Yuzuyu Fujii. She had kept them in the game early on. It was a tremendous gold medal win for the outsiders, most of whom are just 15 years old.

In the Bronze Medal Game earlier there was disappointment for the home side Switzerland. They lost 2-1 to Slovakia.

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 will have gender equality, with equal numbers of male and female competitors in the 81 medal events.

1,872 athletes from 79 National Olympic Committees (NOCs) will be 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 features 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.

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.

SHOTLIST:

00:05 Various shots both teams preparing for the final

00:10 Final starts

00:17 1-0 Sweden - Nicole Hall

00:28 1-1 Japan - Hina Shimomukai

00:37 2-1 Japan - Rio Noro

00:53 3-1 Japan - Makoto Ito

01:00 4-1 Japan - Hina Shimomukai

01:17 End of match celebrations

01:52 **SOUNDBITE: Hina Shimomukai, Japan. Gold Medallist, Women's Ice Hockey (Japanese Language).**

"In the first period the score was not good, the Swedish were better. But after we scored the equalising goal we were in a good place."

02:02 Slow motion shot of Japan goal

02:09 **SOUNDBITE: Hina Shimomukai, Japan. Gold Medallist, Women's Ice Hockey (Japanese Language).**

"At the beginning the team was really nervous but we gradually communicated more and finally we woke up so the atmosphere was really good. "

02:25 Slow motion shot of Japan goal

02:29 **SOUNDBITE: Rio Noro, Japan. Gold Medallist, Women's Ice Hockey (Japanese Language). (On becoming the first ever Asian team to win Ice Hockey Gold)**

"I am so proud, the outcome was possible thanks to a team work. I am so proud and pleased."

02:40 Shots from the medal ceremony of the women's ice hockey.

-- ENDS --



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