Story Script and Shot log

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STORY HEADLINE: Gold for host Switzerland’s Ski Mountaineering Mixed Relay team at Lausanne 2020
LOCATION: Villars Winter Park, Switzerland
DATE: January 14, 2020

LANGUAGE: French

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

STORY SCRIPT:

Switzerland enjoyed gold medal success in the opening event of day 5 of the Winter Youth Olympic Games (YOG) in the Ski Mountaineering Mixed Relay at Lausanne 2020.

The Swiss were overwhelmingly favourites for the event. Their team was made up of the gold and silver medallists in both the men's and women's individual events.

Caroline Ulrich, the 17-year-old winner of the Women’s Individual Ski Mountaineering gold, gave her team the early lead, an advantage they never relinquished.

She handed over to the gold medallist of the Men’s Individual Ski Mountaineering, Thomas Bussard. The 17-year-old from Albeuve ensured a healthy lead for women’s individual silver medallist Thibe Deseyn, who kept up the pressure on the rest of the field.

Despite valiant efforts of his rivals to overhaul him, Robin Bussard, twin of Thomas and silver medallist from the men’s individual race, anchored his team to victory.

Each of the four team members completed a lap of the 2400m circuit at the Villars Winter Park, and the Swiss finished over two minutes ahead of the French team, who took silver, just two seconds ahead of the Spanish in third.

The race was classified as a Mixed National Olympic Committee (NOC) event, as some of the teams were made up of members of different NOC’s to allow them to compete in the race. It meant that all three flags raised at the medal ceremony were the Olympic flag even though the three teams of medallists were all from their own NOCs.

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 Start of Ski Mountaineering Mixed Relay
00:11 Aerial shot of Ski Mountaineering Mixed Relay first leg
00:16 Caroline Ulrich during climbing section
00:25 Caroline Ulrich on ski descent
00:30 Caroline Ulrich hands over to Thomas Bussard
00:35 Thomas Bussard on ski descent
00:39 Thomas Bussard hands over to Thibe Deseyn
00:46 Thibe Deseyn on ski descent
00:51 Thibe Deseyn hands over to Robin Bussard
00:56 Robin Bussard crosses the finish line to claim gold for Switzerland and celebrates with teammates
01:07 Switzerland team pose for pictures
01:15 Various shots of the Swiss team on the podium at the Mascot ceremony

01:47 SOUNDBITE Robin Bussard, Thibe Deseyn, Caroline Ulrich, Switzerland. Gold medallists, Ski Mountaineering Mixed Relay. (French Language)
ROBIN: “A feeling of revenge, today we were really keen on taking our revenge compared to yesterday because yesterday really didn’t go well for anyone....”
THIBE: “…and to show we were capable of doing something great.”
CAROLINE: “We did what we had to do, we showed that we were present, that we were the strongest and this felt like a job well done.”
ROBIN: “Yesterday we couldn’t really show our worth so last night we were sad but today we really had a fighting spirit so we told ourselves we go strong from the start, we were all eager to win and it went exactly as we planned for, we’re just so happy.”

02:27 Switzerland team celebrating victory

02:34 SOUNDBITE Thibe Deseyn and Thomas Bussard, Switzerland. Gold medallists, Ski Mountaineering Mixed Relay. (French Language)
THIBE: “Motivation…”
THOMAS: “Motivation…”
THIBE: “Especially mentally…”
THOMAS: “and to be a unified team and to have the fighting spirit as we had today so that’s what it requires, and to be passionate.”
02:47 Various shots of Ski Mountaineering Mixed Relay medal ceremony in Lausanne Medal Ceremony Plaza

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