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COMMITTEE

## Story Script and Shot log

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**STORY HEADLINE:** Norway's Winter Youth Olympics Curling Gold at Lausanne 2020 is the product of the Lillehammer 2016 legacy

**LOCATION:** Champéry Curling Arena, Switzerland

**DATE:** January 16, 2020

**LANGUAGE:** English

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

### STORY SCRIPT:

Norway triumphed in a dramatic Curling Mixed Team Final to win gold at the Winter Youth Olympic Games (YOG) Lausanne 2020, beating Japan in extra ends 5-4.

The victory is rooted back in Lillehammer, the home town of two of the team Grunde Buraas and Lukas Hoestmaelingen, and the host city for the second edition of the Winter Youth Olympic Games in 2016.

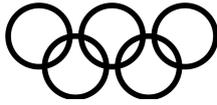
The Curling Rink that was built for Lillehammer 2016 is now where Buraas and Hoestmaelingen train all year round, and Hoestmaelingen says he hopes a youngster watching this dramatic final will be inspired in the same way he was four years ago.

The Norwegian team were two up after four ends but were pegged back by their rivals, leaving the scores level at 2-2 after the sixth. In the seventh, it looked as though Norway had taken a crucial 4-2 advantage. But in the eighth Japan levelled the scores to the delight of their legion of travelling fans.

Going into the extra end, Norway had the advantage of the 'hammer'; able to slide home the final stone into the target area. They used that advantage to perfection, taking out the early Japanese markers before setting up their final and winning stone.

The 24 qualified teams competed in four groups of round robin play. The top two teams from each group will advance to the quarterfinals, where the teams played a single knockout tournament to determine the winner.

The teams were composed of two male and two female players from the same country. Male and female players must deliver Curling stones alternately (M, W, M, W or W, M, W, M). With 8 stones per team, each player delivers two stones, while alternating deliveries with their opponents.



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 Shots from the Curling mixed team final

00:44 Team Norway celebrate their win

00:48 Team Norway step onto the podium to collect their Gold medals

01:22 The flag ceremony for the Curling Mixed team final

01:26 Close up of the Curling Mixed team podium

### **01:36 SOUNDBITE: Lukas Hoestmaeligen, Gold medallist, Curling Mixed team (Norwegian Language).**

*"The best advice I've got is really from my dad, who says that one should just do the same thing all the time, again and again, and to not think about changing anything, so that it will be exactly the same each time, so when you're going to do something, it will be something you have practiced many times."*

01:56 Lukas Hoestmaeligen in action

### **01:59 SOUNDBITE: Grunde Buraas, Gold medallist, Curling Mixed team (Norwegian Language).**

*"At first, I was quite tired; it was a very long day yesterday, and then, the excitement woke me up, and I started looking forward to the game, I felt prepared and ready, and just really looked forward to the game."*

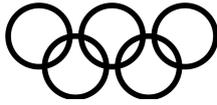
02:15 Grunde Buraas in action

### **02:19 SOUNDBITE: Nora Oestgaard, Gold medallist, Curling Mixed team (Norwegian Language).**

*"When I stood there, I was happy, and it felt fantastic."*

02:25 Team Norway in action

### **02:29 SOUNDBITE: Ingeborg Forbregd, Gold medallist, Curling Mixed team (Norwegian Language).**



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*"I realised we had won the medal when Grunde nailed his last stone, and we celebrated with joy, and it's the best feeling I've ever had."*

-- ENDS --

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