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## Story Script and Shot log

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**STORY HEADLINE:** Gold on home soil for France in Biathlon Single Mixed Relay at Winter Youth Olympic Games Lausanne 2020

**LOCATION:** Les Tuffes Nordic Centre, France

**DATE:** January 12th, 2020

**LANGUAGE:** French

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

### STORY SCRIPT:

The French Biathlon Single Mixed Relay benefitted from participating in the first edition of the Winter Youth Olympic Games (YOG) to be held in two countries and enjoyed gold medal success on home soil.

Competing on a course at Les Tuffes Nordic Centre, the only venue of Lausanne 2020 located in France, Jeanne Richard and Mathieu Garcia led for most of the race, only briefly being threatened by Switzerland after the second stage of the four stage relay.

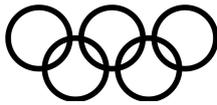
Both of the French team had already enjoyed medal success at Lausanne 2020. Richard, who is 17, was silver medallist in the Biathlon Women's 10km Individual event, while 17-year-old Garcia was the bronze medalist in the Biathlon Men's 12.5km Individual event.

Finishing in 42:03.5, they beat the silver medallists Switzerland by 19.5 seconds, with bronze medallists Sweden 26.8 seconds behind the winners.

Biathlon combines the power and aggression of cross-country skiing with the precision and calm of marksmanship.

The word biathlon stems from the Greek word for two contests, and is today seen as the joining of two sports, skiing and shooting. Biathlon has its roots in survival skills practised in the snow-covered forests of Scandinavia, where people hunted on skis with rifles slung over their shoulders.

Lausanne 2020 is the third edition of the Winter YOG, held in Switzerland and France and 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, Ice Hockey Mixed NOC 3x3, 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 Celebrations on the finish line of the Biathlon Mixed Relay

**00:34 SOUNDBITE: Jeanne Richard, France. Gold Medallist, Biathlon Mixed Relay (French Language).**

*"When he crossed the finish line at the last shot, it was very stressful for the both of us, and he managed the stress, it was just great when he put the last bullet in, I didn't know what to do and at the end we hugged each other."*

00:52 Mathieu Garcia and Jeanne Richard pose for pictures on the finish line

**01:04 SOUNDBITE: Mathieu Garcia, France. Gold Medallist, Biathlon Mixed Relay (French Language).**

*"There's not really a secret to win a gold medal because we're never in full control of the situation, especially because we do an individual sport, it depends also on others' performances, but I think if you really want a medal you have to focus your mind but not too much on the medal itself, you must have in mind everything that comes first. The medal is a treat that you receive after your performance, and the performance is about doing every shot in the same way, so all the bullets are on target."*

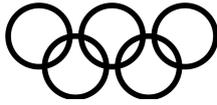
01:34 Garcia and Richard pose with the French flag

**01:48 SOUNDBITE: Mathieu Garcia, France. Gold Medallist, Biathlon Mixed Relay (French Language).**

*"In biathlon, managing the mind is very important. It's way easier to manage the mind when you're at home, on your own course, in front of you home crowd, and your targets, and so we both managed to keep our focus on the shooting part, on what we know we can do, what we have done all year long and that we will continue to do in the next few years and the mind management has been very good for the both of us."*

02:16 Various medal ceremony shots as Garcia and Richard receive gold medal

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