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STORY HEADLINE: Double Gold medal success for Russia in Individual Biathlon at Lausanne 2020

LOCATION: Les Tuffes Nordic Centre, France
DATE: January 11, 2020
LANGUAGE: English, Russian

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

STORY SCRIPT:

Russian athletes won gold in both Biathlon men’s and women’s competitions of the Winter Youth Olympic Games (YOG), Lausanne 2020.

Les Tuffes Nordic Centre in the French Alps staged the events with Alena Mokhova dominating in the Women’s 10km Individual Biathlon. The 17-year-old won by more than a minute from silver medallist Jeanne Richard of France. Yuliya Kavaleuskaya of Belarus won Bronze.

The men’s Individual Biathlon over a 12.5km course turned out to be more competitive with Russia’s Oleg Domichek seeing off his nearest rival Luka Haslinger of Austria by 13.6 seconds to win gold. Both men were near faultless in the shooting discipline but the 17-year-old Russian athlete was stronger over the Cross Country Skiing course.

The bronze medal went to Mathieu Garcia of France.

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 Youth Olympic Games (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 (China), 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 Tournament, Freeski Big Air, Snowboard Big Air.

The first Winter Youth Olympic Games took place in Innsbruck in 2012. The second edition was held in the Norwegian city of Lillehammer in 2016.

SHOTLIST:

00:05 Russian athlete Alena Mokhova finishes Biathlon course to claim Olympic title
00:21 Alena Mokhova receives gold medal and various on podium
00:52 Russian athlete Oleg Domichek after finishing Biathlon course to claim Olympic title
01:06 Oleg Domichek presented with mascot to celebrate win
01:11 Oleg Domichek receives gold medal at Lausanne Medal Plaza
01:29 Flags raised during Russian anthem

01:32 SOUNDBYTE: Oleg Domichek Men’s Biathlon 12.5km Champion (Russian Language).
“After I crossed the finish line I didn’t have any though in my head. I just felt tired after the race. That’s it.”
01:41 Oleg Domichek with silver medallist Luka Haslinger and bronze medallist Mathie Garcia on podium

01:48 SOUNDBYTE: Oleg Domichek Men’s Biathlon 12.5km Champion (Russian Language).
“After I left the last position of shooting the coaches were shouting to me that it was possible to fight for the first place.”
01:57 Medal winners show off medals

02:04 SOUNDBYTE: Oleg Domichek Men’s Biathlon 12.5km Champion (Russian Language).
“The psychological training is very important, too. After I failed twice to hit I managed to deal with that. I just stopped thinking about it and started to do what I was doing at the training.”

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