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Story Script and Shot log

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STORY HEADLINE: World Champion Kelly Sidaru of Estonia wins Women's Freeski Slopestyle at Youth Olympic Games Lausanne 2020

LOCATION: Leysin Park & Pipe, Switzerland

DATE: January 18, 2020

LANGUAGE: Estonian

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

STORY SCRIPT:

Turning up at a Winter Youth Olympic Games (YOG) and facing the prospect of competing against the World Champion at senior level appears an impossible ask.

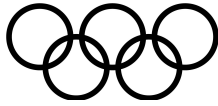
So it proved to be the case in Leysin Park and Pipe as the overwhelming favourite, Kelly Sidaru of Estonia, added Youth Olympic gold to her senior World Championships title. She had been hotly tipped to win gold at the Olympic Winter Games PyeongChang 2018 but missed out due to injury.

Indeed, Sidaru ranks her victory at Lausanne 2020 alongside her triumph in the senior World Championships, if not better. She commented prior to competition: "I think the Youth Olympic Games is a bigger event [than the World Championships] and everything is organised a bit better," she said. "It is maybe more important, or maybe it is just different. But it is big, for sure. Getting a medal here would rank just the same as the World Championships. And the World Champs are a really big event."

Sidaru, as expected, dominated the Slopestyle competition of freestyle skiing, but China's Ailing Eileen Gu came close to pulling off a shock. The 17-year old Estonian's best of her 3 runs was her second with judges awarding a score of 93.75.

Gu came close on her 3rd run with a score of 93.25 but settle for the silver medal. Jennie Lee Burmansson of Sweden won bronze.

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 Kelly Sidaru starts run

00:12 Various shots from gold medal winning run

00:36 Kelly Sidaru says "Hi" to camera

00:40 Three medallists at podium for mascot ceremony

00:47 Kelly Sidaru receives mascot

00:53 Three medallists on podium together

00:59 SOUNDBITE: Kelly Sidaru (Estonia) Gold Medallist Women's Freeski Slopestyle (Estonian Language).

NO TRANSLATION AVAILABLE

01:10 Action from Sidaru's gold medal winning run

01:12 SOUNDBITE: Kelly Sidaru (Estonia) Gold Medallist Women's Freeski Slopestyle (Estonian Language).

NO TRANSLATION AVAILABLE

01:19 Slo-mo action from Sidaru's gold medal winning run

01:26 SOUNDBITE: Kelly Sidaru (Estonia) Gold Medallist Women's Freeski Slopestyle (Estonian Language).

NO TRANSLATION AVAILABLE

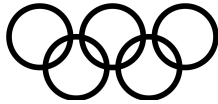
01:33 Slo-mo action from Sidaru's gold medal winning run

01:39 SOUNDBITE: Kelly Sidaru (Estonia) Gold Medallist Women's Freeski Slopestyle (Estonian Language).

NO TRANSLATION AVAILABLE

01:46 Various shots from the medal ceremony

-- ENDS --



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