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COMMITTEE

## Story Script and Shot log

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**STORY HEADLINE:** Athletes from Japan, Finland, Russia and Austria win Gold medals in Speed Skating Mixed Team Sprint Final at Lausanne 2020

**LOCATION:** St Moritz, Switzerland

**DATE:** January 15, 2020

**LANGUAGE:** English

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

### STORY SCRIPT:

Yukino Yoshida from Japan, Finland's Sini Siro, Russia's Alexander Sergeev, and Austria's Ignaz Gschwentner combined on the frozen lake of St Moritz to win the Mixed National Olympic Committee (NOC) Team Sprint Final at the Winter Youth Olympic Games (YOG) Lausanne 2020.

Nominated as Team 3, 16-year old Yoshida from Iwate in Japan, the 17-year old Finnish athlete, Russia's Sergeev, who is 17, and Austria's 17-year old skater, Gschwentner, won in 2 minutes, 4.10 seconds.

Team 16 formed by athletes from Poland, Finland, Japan and Great Britain took the silver medal. Bronze went to Team 14, composed of skaters from Russia, Romania, the United States and Finland.

The event is organised in a single race format. Fourteen teams are expected to take part in the event and each team consists of two men and two women from different NOCs.

Two teams per heat compete against each other. The overall distance is four laps, the first skater of the team leading the first lap before leaving the race, the second skater of the team leading the second lap before leaving the race, the third skater of the team leading the third lap before leaving the race and the fourth skater finishing the race for the team.

Only one competition lane (corresponding to the inner lane for individual races) is used. The two teams in each race start and finish in the middle of the finishing and the crossing straights respectively.

The team with the best time wins the competition. There is no elimination phase.

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 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 Team 3 consisting of Japan's Yukino Yoshida, Austria's Ignaz Gschwentner and Russia's Alexander Sergeev led by Finland's Sini Siro on first lap

00:11 Shots of Austria's Ignaz Gschwentner and Russia's Alexander Sergeev led by Japan's Yukino Yoshida on second lap

00:23 Austria's Ignaz Gschwentner and Russia's Alexander Sergeev on third lap

00:33 Russia's Alexander Sergeev on fourth lap

**00:43 SOUNDBITE: Ignaz Gschwentner, Austrian athlete, Gold medallist of Team 3 (English Language).**

*"It's an incredible feeling. Yeah, I'm just really happy. And I'm going to enjoy this moment for a long time."*

00:53 Team 3 on the podium during Mascot Ceremony

**01:00 SOUNDBITE: Ignaz Gschwentner, Austrian athlete, Gold medallist of Team 3 (English Language).**

*"In the third, it's most important to pick up speed again for the last man and yes, we did it. Yes, it was a really unexpected win for us."*

01:10 Finland's Sini Siro, Japan's Yukino Yoshida, Austria's Ignaz Gschwentner and Russia's Alexander Sergeev at Mascot Ceremony

**01:23 SOUNDBITE: Ignaz Gschwentner, Austrian athlete, Gold medallist of Team 3 (English Language).**

*"I thought that Team 1 think it was 13 is going to win because they had one of the best sprinters and the best long distance skater, but somehow we did it."*

01:34 Russia's Alexander Sergeev, Austria's Ignaz Gschwentner, Japan's Yukino Yoshida and Finland's Sini Siro at Mascot Ceremony

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