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Story Script and Shot log

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STORY HEADLINE: Myrthe De Boer overcomes disappointment to win Speed Skating Gold for Netherlands in Women's 1500m at Lausanne 2020

LOCATION: St Moritz, Switzerland

DATE: January 13, 2020

LANGUAGE: Dutch

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

STORY SCRIPT:

A perfectly judged exhibition of Speed Skating from Myrthe De Boer brought her gold medal success in the Women's 1500m at the Winter Youth Olympic Games (YOG) Lausanne 2020.

Skating on the frozen lake at the Alpine resort of St Moritz, 17-year-old De Boer was in the final pairing with China's Binyu Yang. The Dutch athlete from Scharsterburg soon raced clear posting the fastest time at every single split.

She was pleased with her comeback from what she saw as a disappointing 7th place in the 500m the day before, Sunday January 12: "I am really happy, especially after my bad 500 metres yesterday. I think that says something about myself and that I made the best of the occasion. I really had to focus and that really worked, I think that the focus was missing yesterday, but it was there 100% today and that I managed that really well. That was the key for success."

Despite tiring over the final 400m, she held on for victory by 0.14 seconds, winning in 2 minutes 10.58 seconds from silver medallist Yuka Takahashi of Japan.

DeBoer's racing companion, Yang, in the time-trial format did enough to win 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 Myrthe De Boer wins heat to claim Gold medal in Women's 1500m Speed Skating

00:49 Myrthe De Boer climbs on podium at Mascot Ceremony

00:56 SOUNDBITE: Myrthe De Boer, Netherlands. Gold Medallist Women's 1500M Speed Skating (Dutch Language).

"Yes, I knew right away where things were heading and that was really great. Of course you know what times had been achieved. 2.10 is not a fast time, but you never know what time you will be able to run. It was really tough to deal with the circumstances, but it worked out well and I am really happy, especially after my bad 500 metres yesterday. I think that says something about myself and that I made the best of the occasion."

01:39 Close up Myrthe De Boer on podium

01:45 SOUNDBITE: Myrthe De Boer, Netherlands. Gold Medallist Women's 1500M Speed Skating (Dutch Language).

"The wind was really strong, especially when you had to cross and then in the curve you had once wind from ahead and then in the back. So you had to relax a bit when you had the wind in the back and then go full on when you ran against it. I was lucky with the interior track...Maybe the Chinese athlete from the third place could have gone through. I had a bit of luck with the draw, but I think I handled everything quite well."

02:21 Close up of Mascot Yodli moving up to Myrthe De Boer

02:28 SOUNDBITE: Myrthe De Boer, Netherlands. Gold Medallist Women's 1500M Speed Skating (Dutch Language).

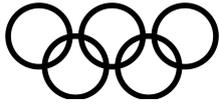
"I really had to focus and that really worked, I think that the focus was missing yesterday, but it was there 100% today and that I managed that really well. That was the key for success."

02:48 All medallists on the podium

02:54 Various medal ceremony at St Moritz Medal Plaza

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