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INTERNATIONAL FEDERATION OF **SPORT CLIMBING**

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OFFICIAL PRESS RELEASE

2018

THURSDAY  
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## IFSC CLIMBING YOUTH WORLD CHAMPIONSHIPS MOSCOW 2018 JAPAN TOPS MEDAL TABLE IN MOSCOW

Bouldering leader Japan continued to excel in Lead, the final Sport Climbing discipline at IFSC Youth World Championships Moscow. 4 nations won first medals and the United States rose in the medal table.

### Three Medals for Japan

Camille Pouget (FRA) kicked-off the traditional resistance climbing on the progressively overhanging Lead wall in Youth A, reaching the headwall where the angle eases for 5<sup>th</sup> place. Youth Olympic Games Buenos Aires 2018 qualified athlete Sandra Lettner (AUT) made one more move to take the bronze medal over Eliska Adamovska (CZE) on countback to semi-finals. Runner-up in 2017, American Brooke Raboutou followed their performances by setting a high point none could equal. She fought past the tiny screw-ons and slippery pinches curling to the top hold, falling just short of the chains for the United States' first victory. Bouldering medalist Futaba Ito reached the screw-on holds for 2<sup>nd</sup> place and Japan's 8<sup>th</sup> medal.

On the final route for male athletes, Bouldering youth world champion and YOG qualified athlete Sam Avezou set a new high point at the elongated volume before the final hold. French teammate Alistair Duval stuck the move to place 4<sup>th</sup>, and Katsura Konishi of Japan made positive movement to match on the volume for 3<sup>rd</sup> place. Two finalists mastered all the Bouldering-style moves, completing the first tops of the day. Runner-up Luka Potocar of Slovenia found the sweet spot of the volume to continued onward and clip the chains. Hidemasa Nishida fought the pump to join him atop the route and stand atop the podium on countback to semi-finals, increasing Japan's medal count to 10. YOG qualified athlete Peter Kuric (SVK) finished in 7<sup>th</sup> place.

### Narasaki Double Champion

In the Juniors Lead finals, France and Japan added two medals and Bouldering youth world champion Meichi

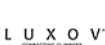
Narasaki (JPN) and YOG qualified athlete Vita Lukan (SLO) won their second medals in Moscow. Bronze medalist Nina Arthaud of France started the high climbing, reaching the series of pinches on the headwall before falling. YOG qualified athletes Elena Krasovskaia (RUS) fell lower on the route, leaving only YOG qualified athletes Nolwenn Arc (FRA) and Lukan to test their endurance. Arc secured the penultimate hold for France's 2<sup>nd</sup> medal of the day and 5<sup>th</sup> total. Last to climb, Lukan obtained her 2<sup>nd</sup> medal in Moscow after placing 3<sup>rd</sup> in Bouldering by falling at the very last hold for gold, Slovenia's first of the competition.

Among male finalists, YOG qualified athletes Pietro Biagini and Filip Schenk of Italy fell just after reaching the headwall to place 8<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup>. On the Bouldering podium, Kai Harada (JPN) earned another bronze medal in Lead by battling to the final volume before the top. Runner-up Jakub Konecny refused to fall on the route, clipping the chains to enter the Czech Republic in the medal table. Narasaki matched Konecny with a top of his own and won on countback to semi-finals, becoming the Bouldering and Lead youth world champion of 2018 and claiming Japan's 12<sup>th</sup> medal.

### Magical Finish in Moscow

Colin Duffy of the United States and Natsuki Tanii of Japan closed out the 2018 IFSC Youth World Championships in Moscow with applause, topping the final routes of Youth B Lead finals. Speed youth world champion Jimin Jeong of Korea took a provisional lead among female finalists by falling at the first volume of the headwall. Runner-up Nika Potapova was first to catch the screw-on and continue a few crimps further

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for Ukraine's first medal in Moscow. YueTong Zhang also completed the move and dropped just shy of Potapova's high point for China's first medal. Last to climb, Bouldering youth world champion Natsuki Tanii concluded the climbing for female youth stars in Moscow by jumping for the top hold and latching it with one hand to become Lead youth world champion too.

Tanii's compatriot Kentaro Maeda excelled on the final route for male Youth B athletes, balancing across the slopers on the headwall for the bronze medal. 2<sup>nd</sup> in Bouldering, Thomas Podolan of Austria matched the performance in Lead, hugging the penultimate feature and leaping out right for the first top. Champion in 2017 after a crowd-pleasing dynamic finish, Duffy replicated the feat in Moscow. Under pressure as the last climber of the eight-day competition, he stuck the concluding dyno for another magical finish, defending the Lead title on countback to semi-finals where he achieved the

sole top. Duffy and Youth A champion Nishida were the only athletes in Moscow to never fall on the Lead wall.

## Japan, Russia, USA Defend Top of Medal Table

Thanks to Duffy's final top, the United States rose from 6<sup>th</sup> place to 3<sup>rd</sup> in the team medal table with two victories and six medals. As in 2017, Japan, Russia and the United States occupied the top three places in 2018. After dominating in Speed the first half of the competition, the host nation of Russia maintained an edge by one bronze medal for 2<sup>nd</sup> place. Champions in 2017, Japan defended first place in Moscow, bringing home a leading six gold medals and 14 medals in total.

The complete medal table can be found by clicking [here](#), and visit the [Moscow event page](#) for full results, videos, pictures and summaries of the competition.

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## LEAD RESULTS OF IFSC YOUTH WORLD CHAMPIONSHIPS MOSCOW 2018

### Female Juniors

#	NAME		NAT.	SCORE
1	LUKAN	Vita	SLO	39+
2	ARC	Nolwenn	FRA	39
3	ARTHAUD	Nina	FRA	35

### Male Juniors

#	NAME		NAT.	SCORE
1	NARASAKI	Meichi	JPN	Top
2	KONECNY	Jakub	CZE	Top
3	HARADA	Kai	JPN	36+

### Female Youth A

#	NAME		NAT.	SCORE
1	RABOUTOU	Brooke	USA	37+
2	ITO	Futaba	JPN	31+
3	LETTNER	Sandra	AUT	30+

### Male Youth A

#	NAME		NAT.	SCORE
1	NISHIDA	Hidemasa	JPN	Top
2	POTOCAR	Luka	SLO	Top
3	KONISHI	Katsura	JPN	36+

### Female Youth B

#	NAME		NAT.	SCORE
1	TANII	Natsuki	JPN	Top
2	POTAPOVA	Nika	UKR	34+
3	ZHANG	YueTong	CHN	31+

### Male Youth B

#	NAME		NAT.	SCORE
1	DUFFY	Colin	USA	Top
2	PODOLAN	Thomas	AUT	Top
3	MAEDA	Kentaro	JPN	34+

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