IFSC WORLD CHAMPIONSHIPS PARIS 2016
DAY THREE: FIRST MEDALS AWARDED

The spotlight was on and the crowd was loud for the third day of the 2016 IFSC World Championships.

Paraclimbing: Silence and Applause

Only when the Men B2 finalists stepped up to the Finals wall did the crowd hush, out of respect for the communication between Athletes and their coaches who direct from the ground. Mathieu Barbe of France was the first Athlete to Top and placed second, but Sho Aita of Japan donned Gold after pausing to solve the final move. Korbinian Franck and Nils Helisper won two medals for Germany in RP1, and Nive Porat earned Gold for Israel as the only Man to Top in the RP2 category. In RP3, teammates Romain Pagnoux and Mathieu Besnard finished first and second and brought home more hardware for France.

For the Women, eight countries were represented on the podiums. From Belgium, Elodie Orbaen defended her place atop the RP3 category in the final round. When both Athletes were tied after three rounds, Maureen Beck of the USA edged Melinda Vígh of Hungary in AU-2 by climbing the Finals route in less time. Three French women wore medals, including Luci Jarrige, who remained unbeaten all week in AL-2. All finalists offered a spectacular show and very emotional awards ceremony to a packed audience.

Speed: 101 Starters, 32 Finalists

Reigning world champion Danyil Boldyrev of Ukraine energized the crowd by scaling fifteen meters in six seconds, but the Speed World Record holder’s time atop the results was short-lived. Reza Alipoursenazandifar of Iran, Bronze medallist at the 2014 IFSC World Championships, posted a time of 5.96 in his second heat. Not far behind them was Libor Hroza of the Czech Republic, runner-up at the IFSC World Championships in Paris four years ago.

Anna Tsyganova placed 31st at that competition, but the Russian is on pace for a better placement this year. Her time of 7.88 in Qualifications bested 45 of the fastest Speed Athletes in the world. Also racing was Anouck Jaubert of France, winner of the three most recent IFSC Speed World Cups, and Speed World Record holder Iuliia Kaplina of Russia.

Men Bouldering: French Steal the Show

Two Tops earned a ticket to Finals, and three Frenchmen will be making the journey: Jeremy Bonder, Manuel Cornu and Mickael Mawem, who received plenty of support from the Paris crowd. The other story of the night was Tomoa Narasaki’s bid for Finals. The 2016 Bouldering World Cup champion kept the crowd on the edge of their seats, keeping his balance on the fourth and final Semi-Finals problem long enough to sneak past Alexey Rubtsov of Russia by bonus hold attempts.

Women Lead: Slovenia the Team to Beat

The six Women who topped all four Lead Qualifications routes on Wednesday advanced to Finals tonight. Seventeen-year-old Janja Garnbret set the high point, slipping off the penultimate Semi-Finals hold. Her Slovenian teammate, Mina Markovic, fell one hold lower on the top panel. Jain Kim of Korea also increased the volume in the AccorHotels Arena and finished third.

Day Four: Crowning World Champions

A marathon of LIVE Streaming commences tomorrow, with two Semi-Finals and four Finals events scheduled to air. Multiple cameras views will again be available for Semi-Finals. See how the
medals will be distributed by tuning in to the IFSC website. Find Schedules, Starters, Results and more on the Climbing and Paraclimbing event pages.

More pictures will be added to the Flickr albums for Paris shortly and can be found here:
http://www.flickr.com/photos/ifscclimbing/albums

The Highlights video summarizing Day Three will soon be available on our YouTube channel:
https://www.youtube.com/user/ifscchannel

Don’t forget to interact with us on Twitter during the LIVE Streaming with the hashtag #IFSCwch!

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