SUNDAY 12<sup>TH</sup>

JŪNE

## IFSC WORLD CUP VAIL 2016

# MASCARENAS DEFENDS HOME TURF

Megan Mascarenas of the United States and Kokoro Fujii of Japan claimed Gold at the penultimate sixth competition of the 2016 Bouldering World Cup season.

A large crowd trampled the grassy viewing space on Saturday to cheer on the finalists of the Bouldering World Cup in Vail, USA. Once again, the world's best bouldering athletes wowed fans of sport climbing with their unique strength and climbing prowess.

## **Competition Highlights**

Reigning Vail champion Mascarenas earned Gold in Colorado again by sending all four of the finals problems. After topping the last semi-finals problem in the exact number of attempts needed to qualify, Shauna Coxsey of Great Britain secured her top spot in the Overall Bouldering World Cup standings by completing three finals problems for Silver. Despite having two tops apiece, Melissa Le Neve of France missed out on a medal by three bonus attempts to veteran athlete Anna Stöhr of Austria.

Japan and Russia dominated the semi-finals for the men. Kokoro Fujii of Japan jumped into first place in the Bouldering World Cup standings with his victory in Vail. He was the only athlete to top two of the men's finals problems. Japan teammate Tomoa Narasaki finished second after requiring three less attempts to snag his four bonus holds than Alexey Rubtsov of Russia who won Bronze. Yoshiyuki Ogata of Japan took fourth in his first World Cup finals.

## **Finals Recap**

The first women's problem (W1) featured challenging movement on large spherical grey volumes. Every finalist topped the problem, except for American climbing hero Alex Puccio. The slopers of W2 required much precision. and the extended moves were certainly crowd pleasing.

While many climbers were pushed to their limits, the problem still saw four tops. Mascarenas separated herself from the pack as the only climber to solve the W3 slab riddle, and she claimed victory by flashing an overhung W4. Coxsey also found the final hold on W4 for second, as well as Stöhr who kept it together on her second attempt to oust Le Neve from the podium.

Most of the men slipped off the final hold on the first men's problem (M1), but Fuiii made the slab problem look easy with a flash. No climber pieced together the technical moves on the half-moons of M2, nor the powerful moves on the bean-shaped volumes of M4. Still, these bonus holds proved to be the difference maker in podium placement. M3 was arguably the most popular climb of the day, but nearly all climbers at least touched the final hold. Narasaki, Ogata and Rubtsov flashed the offwidth-style climbing which faced many of the finalists out towards the cheering crowd, but Narasaki and Rubtsov's efforts on M4 kept Ogata at bay.

## **Next: Lead Climbing Returns**

The final Bouldering World Cup will take place in Munich, Germany on August 12th-13th. In the meantime, the 2016 Lead World Cup kicks off on July 11th-12th in Chamonix, France. The best Speed climbers in the world will also be present for the third Speed World Cup of the season. Stay tuned to the IFSC website for live streaming information:

## http://www.ifsc-climbing.org

Further event information can be found on the dedicated Chamonix event page.

You can again reach out on Twitter during the competition with the hashtag #IFSCwc.

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## **RESULTS OF IFSC WORLD CUP VAIL 2016**

## **Women Bouldering**

### # NAME NAT. **SCORE MASCARENAS** USA Megan 4/54/5 2 COXSEY Shauna **GBR** 3/44/7 STÖHR 3 Anna **AUT** 2/53/4 **LE NEVE** Melissa FRA 2/53/7 NONAKA Miho JPN 1/12/4 **PUCCIO** Alex USA 1/31/3

## **Men Bouldering**

#	NAME		NAT.	SCORE
1	FUJII	Kokoro	JPN	2/43/5
2	NARASAKI	Tomoa	JPN	1/14/7
3	RUBTSOV	Alexey	RUS	1/14/10
4	OGATA	Yoshiyuki	JPN	1/13/3
5	GELMANOV	Rustam	RUS	1/33/5
6	MCCOLL	Sean	CAN	0/03/5

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2016 SUNDAY 12<sup>th</sup> June

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