SCHALCK FIRST GOLD IS EPIC! GROSSMAN-RABOUTOU SIGN A GOLD-SILVER COMBO

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The first of three International Federation of Sport Climbing (IFSC) events scheduled in Salt Lake City, Utah, USA, came to an end tonight, at Pioneer Park, in front of a roaring crowd.

The opening act of the night saw France's young talent <u>Mejdi Schalck</u> finally climb on the highest step of an IFSC World Cup podium.

The 18-year-old from Chambery crushed the competition with a fantastic performance, solving a full range of four, challenging and diverse problems. Schalck is also the first non-Japanese climber to win a men's Boulder World Cup since Sean Bailey of the United States of America took gold in Salt Lake City in May 2021.

Ogata Yoshiyuki of Japan also finished with four tops and four zones, but placed second behind Schalck because of a higher number of attempts to top. Ogata won silver and placed on the Boulder World Cup podium for the third time in 2022. A second Japanese climber, Kawamata Rei, completed the podium in third place, winning bronze with three tops and four zones.

Austria's Nicolai Uznik, Germany's Yannick Flohé, and Austria's Jakob Schubert respectively finished in fourth, fifth, and sixth position.

For the men's Boulder event full results click here.

In the women's event, home favourite <u>Natalia Grossman</u> secured her second consecutive Boulder World Cup gold with another fantastic round. On her way to the podium, Grossman flashed two of the four boulders she had to face, and eventually closed the round being the only finalists with four tops and as many zones.

Team USA also won silver with <u>Brooke Raboutou</u>, who finished in second place with three tops and four zones. Tokyo 2020 Olympic silver medallist <u>Nonaka Miho</u> also placed on the podium, winning bronze with 3 tops and four zones.

Two Austrian athletes placed just outside of the podium: Jessica Pilz finished in fourth position, while Franziska Sterrer placed fifth after closing the semi-final round tied at the top of the ranking with Raboutou. Camilla Moroni of Italy closed sixth, at the bottom of the table.

For the women's Boulder event full results click here.











The first IFSC Paraclimbing World Cup of the season will commence on Tuesday, 24 May, at The Front Climbing gym in Salt Lake City; a second IFSC Boulder and Speed World Cup will then close the program from 27 to 29 May.

For information about broadcasting and live streaming of the IFSC Climbing and Paraclimbing World Cups in Salt Lake City <u>click here</u>. News and updates about the event will also be available on the <u>IFSC website</u>, and on the Federation's social media channels: <u>Facebook</u>, <u>Instagram</u>, and <u>Twitter</u>.

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