

DAY

12

WE
LIVE
THE GAMES

XXXII FISU GAMES TORINO 2025
WE MISS YOU ALREADY



EDIT ORIAL

Just one word

Grazie Torino,

for showing us what sport on snow and ice is all about, how demanding the disciplines of the Torino 2025 FISU Games are, at the same time as noble and beautiful as paintings by Italian masters;

for giving us the opportunity to live inclusion on the slopes and trails of Bardonecchia and Pragelato;

for challenging us to give our best: as athletes, as organisers, as staff, as volunteers.

Grazie Torino,

for showing us your treasures, like the Mole, like Superga, like Colle della Maddalena, like the Conservatory, like the Archivio di Stato, like Piazzale Regina Margherita;

for giving us goose bumps as we walked through your historic centre, which is second to none; for inviting us to live and breathe the atmosphere of a university city on your corsi and in your alleys.

Grazie Torino,

for proving how imaginative, inventive and consistent you can be when it counts;

for spoiling us with your cuisine and proving that Italian food is still the best in the world;

for always having a coffee and another coffee and another coffee for us when we needed it.

Grazie Torino,

for teaching us what real values are;

for reuniting us with old friends and making new ones for the rest of our lives;

for making us laugh and cry.

Grazie Torino,

there is no need to wait for the plane to take off from Caselle or for the train to leave Porta Susa;

there is no need to wait for the last handshake, the last embrace, the last kiss;

and it doesn't help to look back with joy or to look ahead with thoughtlessness;

Torino,
we miss you already.

Daily Magazine

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TORINO 2025 FISU GAMES: CULTURE & ENVIRONMENT

TORINO 2025 FISU WORLD UNIVERSITY GAMES CLOSING PRESS CONFERENCE

A preliminary overview of the XXXII Edition of the 2025 Universiade

After 10 intense days of adrenaline and sports, the Torino 2025 FISU World University Games concluded on January 23, 2025.

The event's closing press conference was held on Thursday morning at the State Archives in the presence of FISU President **Leonz Eder**, Organizing Committee President **Alessandro Ciro Sciretti**, FISU Secretary General and CEO **Matthias Remund**, Italian Delegation Head of FederCUSI **Pompeo Leone**, Undersecretary to the Presidency of the Piedmont Region **Claudia Porchietto**, Vice Major of the Metropolitan City **Jacopo Suppo**, and City of Torino Councilor for Sport and Major Events **Domenico Carretta**.

The meeting was moderated by Organizing Committee Deputy Director **Silvia Carrera**.

The initial summary of this 32nd edition of the Games focused on the first statistics collected during the event.

More than **10,000** people have travelled from all over the world over the past two weeks to converge on Piemonte and take part in this marvellous festival of university sport, the Torino 2025 FISU World University Games.

In particular, the 6 competition venues where the 13 disciplines were held - Torino, Pinerolo, Pragelato, Torre Pellice, Bardonecchia and Sestriere - were literally invaded by the more than **2,500 athletes and staff** from 54 different countries, with **26,500 hotel nights** occupied, divided between Pinerolo, Bardonecchia, Fenestrelle, Pragelato Riva, Borgata Sestriere, Sestriere, Cesana, Bardonecchia and Torino.

The number of people accredited for the competitions was over **15,000**, while total ticket sales exceeded **100,000**.

The Opening and Closing Ceremonies, the Exhibition Gala at the Palavela and the semi-finals and finals competitions all sold out.

As for the Italian medals, **15 were won by the 89 athletes** competing: **four gold medals** - two won by **Martina Vozza with Ylenia Sabidussi** (Guide Athlete) for Para Alpine Skiing Super-G Vision Impaired, one by **Elisa Fava** in Giant Parallel Snowboarding and one by **Nathalie Bernard** in Women's Free-style Ski Cross; **five silver medals** - **Maria Eugenia Boccardi** for Women's Individual 10km Cross-Country Skiing, **Daniel Grassl** for Figure Skating Single Skating, **Elisa Fava** for Parallel Giant



Snowboarding, **Simon Dorfmann** in Men's Parallel Giant, and finally **Stefano Pizzato** in Alpine Skiing Special Slalom. Lastly, there were **six Italian bronze medals**: one for **Marika Savoldelli** in Snowboard Cross, one for **Andrea Tuba** and **Giulia Isabella Palolino** in Figure Skating Ice Dance (Free Dance), two for **Margherita Cecere** in Alpine Skiing Giant Slalom and Special Slalom, one for **Noemi Junod** in Ski Mountaineering Vertical Race and one for **Fabian Lantschner** in Snowboard Parallel Giant Slalom. The athletic results of these Games surpassed those of the previous Universiade in Lake Placid 2023, which concluded with a total of 10 medals: 3 golds, 3 silvers, and 4 bronzes.

As far as the **Torch of Knowledge Tour** is concerned, a total of 16,870 km were covered, of which 14,859 km in the international phase (4 stages), 1,256 km in the national route (3 stages), and 61 km in the Piemonte Tour (13 stages).

This extensive relay involved **692 torchbearers**, including Organizing Committee President Alessandro Ciro Sciretti, who was consistently present throughout the relay.

On the media front, the FISU network broadcasted approximately **1,000 hours on linear TV worldwide** and **140 hours of live coverage on Eurosport**, while the Opening Ceremony drew an estimated **85 million views globally**. Additionally, over **10,000 online**

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publications were tracked. Social media platforms managed by the Organizing Committee recorded **694,404 unique users** viewing the content during the Games, with **33,093 interactions** and **10,957 accounts** engaging through comments, tags, shares, and likes.

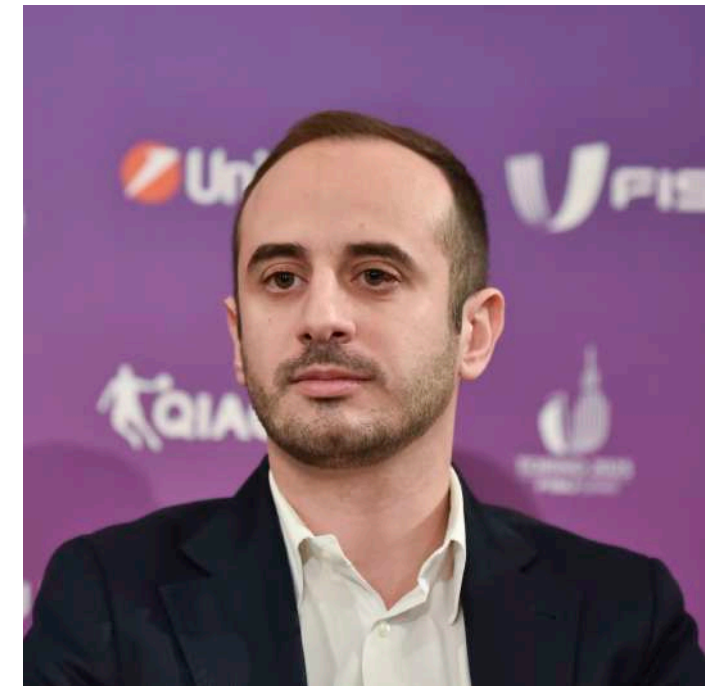
The volunteers numbered **2,099**, ranging from the youngest, aged 18, to the oldest, aged 87, covering more than **16,000 shifts**. Among these, **78 international volunteers** from 20 different countries participated: one volunteer travelled from South Africa to work in Bardonecchia, while a mother from Alaska volunteered in Pragelato to support her athlete son. Other non-EU countries represented included Ca-

nada, the United States, Brazil, Kazakhstan, Tunisia, South Korea, Russia, and India. Among Italian volunteers, 61 came from regions outside Piedmont.

INSTITUTIONAL STATEMENTS

Alessandro Ciro Sciretti, President of the Organizing Committee

“We are extremely proud of this incredible event that we had the honour to organize. The Torino 2025 FISU World University Games have undoubtedly been a record-breaking edition, especially in terms of sustainability, both environmental and social. For the first time in the history of the Universiade, in this 32nd edition, able-bodied student-athletes and pa-



ra-student-athletes competed on the same slopes in Alpine and Cross-Country Skiing disciplines (Standing, Sitting, and Visually Impaired categories), reaffirming the value of sports as a tool for change, education, growth, integration, and inclusion. In this sense, the collaboration with Lions International, which provided assistance to para-athletes, was particularly important. The FISU World University Games Winter stood out for their reuse of sports facilities from the Torino 2006 Winter Olympics, giving new meaning to circular economy principles in sports. Additionally, the choice of Green Pea as the Media Center location reflects this vision: combining major international events with environmental respect, offering media operators a space that fully embodies values of innovation and responsibility. In terms of sustainability and legacy, the Committee can boast significant successes in educational and school-related projects. The BoscoTO 25 project, carried out in collaboration with the Command of the Forest

Carabinieri Regiment “Piemonte,” the Environment and Territory Office of the Piedmont Region, the Forest and Parks Protection Command, and the Public Green and Educational Policy Departments of the City of Torino, involved over 360 students aged 5 to 10 years old. The project resulted in the planting of 123 trees, with an estimated absorption of about 198 tons of CO2 equivalent over 20 years. The TO Art In Motion project, created in collaboration with the Regional School Office, engaged nearly 250 students from schools in the competition venues, promoting and celebrating the history, culture, and identity of these historic locations while educating about urban regeneration. As a concrete legacy of the Games, the project contributed to the revitalization of the facilities themselves. Tourism undoubtedly benefits from the global media and television exposure of our cities and natural landscapes. Local communities also gain, as they have the opportunity to develop skills and build on their strengths. Final-



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ly, I am pleased to announce that during this year, a study will be published on the ecological impact of the Games on the territory and the resulting global social visibility. With the Torino 2025 FISU Games, we aim to serve as a catalyst for future events, ensuring continued in-terest in sports and commitment to sustainable and innovative practices in our beautiful Piedmont region.”

Jacopo Suppo, Vice President of the Metropolitan City

“The organizational success, which we reflect on this morning, but above all the achievements of our athletes, demonstrates that despite the challenges and difficulties we faced in recent months, the Torino 2025 FISU World Uni-versity Winter Games have further raised the international profile of our terri-to-ry. The Metropolitan City of Torino is particularly proud of the medals won by two athletes who epitomize a thriving sports movement. The gold and silver medals won by Elisa Fava from Valsusa in alpine



snowboarding and the two bronze medals by Margherita Cecere from Torino in alpine skiing are the re-sults of passion, sacrifices, and dedication to bal-ancing study and sports—a model for all the youth in our region. This territory continues to strengthen its international reputation as a hub for sports, from major soccer events to the Giro d’Italia, the Tour de France, ATP Finals, the Universiade, and the Tour de l’Avenir. We support sport, both grassroots and top-level, because we are aware of its irreplaceable educational and social function.’

Stefano Lo Russo, Mayor of Torino

‘This concludes a great international initiative that

has put the spotlight back on Torino and the Olym-pic mountains and on the very important values of sport and inclusion. Delegations of young people arrived in our city from all over the world, helping to strengthen the sporting and university vocation that we have in mind. Special thanks go to the thousands of volunteers of all ages who con-tributed to the suc-cess of these Winter Universiade. These were days of great sport and we are preparing to experience more emotions soon, in March, when we will host the Spe-cial Olympics World Winter Games.’

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Inclusion and Infrastructure: How Did the FISU Games Go?

For the first time ever, 27 para-athletes participated in the FISU Games in Turin 2025, competing in the Visually Impaired, Standing, and Sitting categories.

Coming from 13 delegations, including Italy, they gave it their all to win medals on the Olympic 23 slope in Melezet, Bardonecchia, for Para Alpine Skiing, and at Pragelato Plan for Para Cross-Country Skiing. These moments represented a new chapter in sports integration but also a call to action to remove barriers - both physical and social - once and for all. “We’ve worked on breaking down architectural

barriers with the PEBA Plan, even beyond the Universiade,” said **Chiara Rossetti**, the mayor of Bardonecchia. “We’ve hosted two national editions of the Special Olympics, and this March, we’ll be welcoming the World Championships.” PEBA Plans, which stand for Architectural Barrier Elimination Plans, are vital tools for assessing, designing, and planning interventions to ensure that public buildings and urban spaces are accessible to all. Bardonecchia and Sestriere have been chosen as the two host locations for Paralympic athletes with permanent limb impairments and visual disabilities.

Their proximity to the competition venues for Alpine Skiing and Cross-Country Skiing makes them ideal.

In Bardonecchia, the Olympic Village has been designated as the accommodation for athletes and delegations. Originally designed and renovated for the 2006 Turin Winter Olympics, it’s located just a few steps from the Campo Smith ski lift. Now operating as a three-star hotel, it’s fully equipped with all the necessary services to ensure accessibility for everyone. This is part of a broader effort Bardonecchia has undertaken to remove all barriers.

“The Piedmont region helped us draft the plan and identify the interventions we could implement,” explained Mayor Rossetti. “Both public and private sectors will be encouraged to make the city more sustainable, especially in terms of eliminating architectural barriers.”

Vincenzo Genovese, the Games Service Director, assured that “accessibility is guaranteed, as all hospitality structures—from hotels to restaurants—prepared for the Universiade are ready to welcome people with disabilities.” He also emphasized the availability of “a support system to assist with all mobility needs.” The transportation of athletes has been made possible thanks to the invaluable contribution of Lions Club International, the world’s largest service organization with 1.4 million members and community projects in over 200 countries. True to their motto, “We Serve,” the Lions stepped up to support those requiring wheelchair transportation, particularly for sit-skiing. “All sports facilities are barrier-free, ensuring partial accessibility for everyone,” concluded Genovese.

What do the athletes think? There’s a clear sense of satisfaction with how the facilities have been renovated, as well as an awareness that, being the first truly inclusive edition, this is just the starting point.

“They’ve definitely done a good job with the slopes because we can connect directly and very easily, and even the bar is accessible. As for the hotel in Bardonecchia, I know it’s been adapted. I get around with a prosthesis, so I feel the challenges a bit less. For a structure of its age, even though it’s been updated, there’s always room for improvement, but it’s not bad,” commented Giorgio Napoli (Standing category).

In Pragelato, Filippo Uber (Standing category) appreciated the convenience of being able to park close to the track. Martina Vozza (Visually Impaired category), accompanied by her guide Ylenia Sabidussi, shared a slightly different perspective: “Martina has vision problems, but she’s always with me, so we adapt to everything. For those in wheelchairs, there are elevators, ramps, and the facilities are suitable. Of course, there’s always more to be done, but first, we need to make ourselves known. Once we’re more visible, I’m sure we’ll have a stronger voice to push for change. For now, it’s good enough,” she said.

Vittoria Brighenti e Matteo Revellino

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United through sports: stories of inclusion and passion

Same place, same slope and same instant but different stories. Sport destroys the barriers of diversity: Turin's FisU World University Games will be remembered as the competition where all athletes, olympic or paralympic, have proved their worth without distinction. The differences of their paths are obliterated in front of the starting gates. The stories of **Martina Vozza**, **Giorgio Napoli**, **Alessia Vaglio** and **Sebastiano Cipriano**, the skiers who competed on the Olympic slope 23 of Melezet in Bardonecchia are the perfect example of this.

Vozza, winner of two gold medals in the Super-G and the G-slalom in the Visually Impaired category, is a Sports student. She had already been on the podium in two World championships with her guide, Ylenia Sabidussi. Whilst the Friulian was already experienced, this was **Napoli's first time** in a competition like the FisU Games. Freshly graduated in Communications, the athlete, who was born in 1998, had his right leg amputated following a car crash. He competed in the Standing Para-Alpine Skiing category. **Vaglio and Cipriano**, who are studying respectively Economics and Energetic engineering, took part in the Alpine skiing competitions: she competed in the G-slalom, he competed in the combined and in the Super-G.

Paralympic sports are represented at the FisU Games for the first time. What do you think about it?
MARTINA: "I never would have thought I was

going to participate. I'm really happy that this kind of competition is finally open to the paralympic specialties. We need more visibility and more chances like this to show the world how we ski and what we're capable of".

GIORGIO: "Inclusion is the word to sum this really beautiful message. To have one event and to see the matches alternating is great. It's one village, those are the vibes. That's inclusion. The overall feeling is great".

ALESSIA: "I think it's wonderful to allow people who are facing certain struggles, like us, to be involved in an event like this. It's a great message of inclusion".

SEBASTIANO: "It's my first time competing alongside them. I think it's really difficult, so bravo! It's great because you can really see how everybody is cooperating so that no one is excluded".

How did you get passionate about sport?

MARTINA: "I've always been passionate about sport in general, since my parents have always been sporty. Since I was little, they had me trying all kinds of sports as they are strong believers of sports values. As far as skiing is concerned, I started with my parents on a ski trip. Then, I discovered a ski club, Sport4All - I'm still a member of to this day - which gets on the slopes kids and young adults with disabilities".

GIORGIO: "I am a sports enthusiast. Before the incident, I wasn't doing sports regularly. Five years ago,

my mindset shifted: I understood that I could get great results if I dedicated myself more to what I was doing. I started playing tennis and mountain hiking".

ALESSIA: "I began skiing when I was little, around two and a half. My family has always been passionate about mountains, they got me going on the slopes and I liked it".

SEBASTIANO: "My passion for sports originated when I was little, since my father is a skiing instructor in Cortina: he got me skiing when I was three".

Talk us through the process that brought you to the FisU Games

MARTINA: "At first, I didn't want to compete. The skiing instructors were pushing me because they saw I had something to give to this sport. When I was 13 more or less, I started getting more serious about it. Six years ago, more or less, I met Ylenia (Sabidussi,

ndr) and we started skiing together. We then competed in the World Championship, where we earned our first bronze medal. In 2022 Beijing hosted the Paralympics, and I think it was one of the best experiences I could have lived. So, here we are now, one year away from our goal, the Milano-Cortina Olympics".

GIORGIO: "Two years ago I saw my friends skiing and I thought I should do that too. I started with prosthetics, but it's a lot of work. After that, I met my instructor, Nicola Busata, who has 20 years long experience with people wearing prosthetics or on the wheelchair. He was the one that suggested I tried skiing without the prosthetics and that really sparked me".

ALESSIA: "When you're little, you ski to have fun. As you grow older, you get to the young categories. I've been in the Aosta Valley for five years, then I



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moved clubs and now I'm in Lecco for one more year as a senior".

SEBASTIANO: "My whole career was in the Cortina ski club. At first, I competed in a few competitions. Results get you far in this sport".

What challenges did you have to endure?

MARTINA: "I'm somebody who needs to have

everything under their control. In sports you have to push harder and go past having everything under control".

GIORGIO: "On the sports side, it's difficult to reach muscular resistance without getting hurt. Last year I had athletic pubalgia, during the summer my knee was hurting. On the emotional side, I'm somebody who really feels the competition".



ALESSIA: "Mostly the injuries. My knee and my shinbone were severely damaged. It's difficult to gain once more the confidence necessary to ski".

SEBASTIANO: "Up to this point, I haven't endured any challenges".

What are your future projects?

MARTINA: "I hope to take part in the World Championship in February. Let's say that this whole season is propaedeutic to the next one".

GIORGIO: "This season's next step is to qualify for the European cup. The Milano-Cortina Olympics are a distant dream".

ALESSIA: "I try my best day by day. My biggest goal now is graduating".

SEBASTIANO: "To still be going strong on the slopes in order to qualify for the National team and to keep up the good work with University".

Who's the sportsperson you look up to?

MARTINA: "Lucas Braathen, as he always stays true to himself, even when he's competing".

GIORGIO: "It's actually two sportspersons. On the ski side, I must say Sofia Goggia because of her mentality, her resilience. Furthermore, I would like to achieve Jannik Sinner's calmness: he never loses his calm, he looks like he has everything under control".

ALESSIA: "The Italian female skiers, such as Federica Brignone, for sure. We managed to train with her for a while: her force and her energy are highly inspirational".

SEBASTIANO: "Since I was little, it's always been Marcel Hirscher, the most successful of all times".

SPORT INDOOR REVIEW JANUARY 23rd

INDOOR SPORT REVIEW: WOMEN'S SHORT TRACK SPEED SKATING

The women's **1000 m final** was dominated by Republic of Korea, who won both the gold and the silver medal. **Gilli Kim** finished the race in 1:31.558, securing the gold medal with her outstanding performance. Her teammate **Whimin Seo** took the silver medal, while the bronze went to China's **Weiyang Hao**, +0.260 behind Kim.

Another **gold medal** went to **Republic of Korea** in **women's 3000m relay**, where the team – formed by Eun-seo Kim, Geonhee Kim, Gilli Kim, Jim Lee and Whimin Seo – accomplished to take the first place, finishing -1.066 before China. Finally the bronze medal went to France, who finished in 4:19.184.



SPORT INDOOR REVIEW JANUARY 23rd



SPEED SKATING: CHINA OVERTAKES SOUTH KOREA AND ATTAINS A GOLD MEDAL IN MEN'S 5000M RELAY

China has unexpectedly overtaken the South Korean team attaining a marvellous triumph in the last short track speed skating's event of these FisU Games, the Men's 5000m Relay. The Chinese finished the race in the impressive time of 6:57.044: after eight victories and for the first time at these Torino 2025 FISU Games the top step of the podium isn't Korean. The Ja-

panese team secured the second place on the podium after displaying a great performance, winning the nineteenth medal of these games for its country. Lastly, we find Kazakhstan on the third spot of the podium, a country that has once again lived up to its traditional competitiveness in winter sports. However, it was an unlucky race for the South Korean team, which

was considered the most likely candidate to win the gold medal. The Koreans ended up being fourth at the end of the race because of an unfortunate fall that slowed them down and for which the French team was deemed responsible and penalized. The men's 5000m relay final took place right after the men's 1000m final, which was literally dominated by Koreans. South Korea managed to place three of its athletes on the podium. 23-years-old Tae-sung Kim won the race followed by its teammates Seo-chan Bae and Dong-hyun Lee. Team spirit is key for Chinese skaters: "I believe in my teammates, it's my first gold medal and I'm very excited", said Guixu Song, one of the protagonists of their sporting achievement. Then, his compatriot

Kun Li talked about the turning point of the relay: "After the Korean fell, my first thought was to speed up, to break the gap between us". Moreover, Song and Li shared with our microphones their stories behind their love for speed skating. "When I was a kid there was a river near my house: seeing other people skating used to make me happy, so I started too", revealed Guixu, with a bit of nostalgia. On the other hand, Kun said with a smile: "When I was a kid, I was kind of naughty and in the north of China it was very cold in winter. So, my school teacher used to make me skate on the ice as a punishment, while my friends were skating elsewhere". In the end, they told us their common sports hero: "Our favourite skater is Viktor An".



SPORT INDOOR REVIEW

JANUARY 23rd



NORWAY AND JAPAN SHINE IN CURLING FINALS

by Marco Papetti e Leonardo Becchi

On January 23rd, Norway claimed the gold medal in the men's tournament, beating the USA 8-4 in the final, which began at 14:00. The match was a high-level challenge, showcasing great skill from both teams: twice the Norwegians were down, before overtaking in the sixth end and winning the final. This is the second time Norway has beaten the USA in this tournament, after the challenge on 15 January in the Men's Round Robin Session 1, which the Scandinavians won 4-3. It was a great tournament for

the team of Lukas Hoestmaelingen, Grunde Buraas, Magnus Lunde Lilleboe and Tinius Haslev Nordbye with ten wins and only one defeat. The USA also had an excellent tournament, finishing with nine wins and two losses, again against Norway. The bronze medal went to Switzerland, who beat Canada 6-1 in the final for third place on 22 January. In the women's curling final, however, Japan wins against South Korea (7-5) in a heart-stopping match, clinching victory with the last stone in the extra end. The Japanese wo-

men's team – which consists of Yuina Miura, Kohane Tsuruga, Eri Ogihara, Rin Suzuki, and Ai Matsunaga – had only two defeats throughout the tournament, one of which was against South Korea, who were later beaten in the final. After Japan and South Korea, Canada secured third place on the podium by defeating Norway with a decisive score of 7-3.

QUOTES.

Women

Eri Ogihara (JPN): "I'm really excited about the whole game; it was so much fun. It was the first time for me at the Fisú Games, I was able to mix with other sports athletes of my age: it was fun to be friends and have a good time together"

Jaehee Jeong (KOR): "It was the second game in a row that we played in extra time, including the semi-final. In the sixth end, we were convinced we would take home two points and have a decisive lead, but we made a mistake, and it wasn't easy to recover. I'm still happy, it was like going to the Olympics for me"

Serena Gray-Withers (CAN): "I'm super honoured and proud to have achieved the bronze medal. Our team fought really hard this whole week to put on a good performance, so couldn't be happier. This is the second time we have played in the Fisú Games because our team played in Lake Placid two years ago. But this edition of Fisú Games is an incredible event, we're lucky to be a part of it. Now, our goal for the future is hopefully to win the Olympics. I think all of us want to continue to play professionally, so that's definitely a goal for the future"

Men

Lukas Hoestmaelingen (NOR): "I feel fantastic! We set ourselves this goal a year ago, so it's really nice to see that we have achieved it. This was my first time at a Fisú Games: I tried to qualify last time and we didn't, so it's really nice to finally be here. Hopefully, we'll make it to the Olympics one day and then we'll see what we can do. We'll try our best"

Caden Hebert (USA): "The competition was really great, losing is not fun but it was a great experience here and I'm very happy to be part of the tournament. I'm very excited to see what we can do in the next couple of years and hopefully come back to the World University Games again"

Jan Iseli (SUI): "We won the medal yesterday, it was just amazing, and the final was very interesting, it was a good level of curling. I really liked the experience here in Turin, I went to Fisú Games two years ago, but Turin was even better than Lake Placid, I liked it here"



SPORT OUTDOOR REVIEW JANUARY 23rd



COMPETITION REVIEW: CROSS COUNTRY SKIING 20 KM MASS START



COMPETITION REVIEW: MEN'S 20 KM MASS START

PRAGELATO PLAN, 23 January – The **Men's 20 km Mass Start** wrapped up the cross-country skiing events under tough conditions, with light rain soaking the course and making the track heavy and challenging for athletes. Despite the weather, Finland's **Markus Kasanen** claimed gold in **56:08.7**, delivering a brilliant performance in a closely contested race.

Markus Kasanen displayed remarkable strategy and pacing. While he wasn't in the lead during the early stages, trailing in 7th place at the 2.1 km mark, he always kept close to the top. By the 12 km split, he had claimed the lead and maintained his position with an exceptional final stretch. His calculated effort paid off, earning Finland gold in what proved to be a race of endurance and adaptability on a wet and heavy course.

Japan's **Daito Yamazaki** delivered a steady and determined performance to secure silver with a time of **56:17.7**, just **+9.0 seconds** behind Kasanen. Yamazaki faced a slower start, sitting in 9th place at the 5.4 km mark. However, his ability to climb steadily up the leaderboard, taking the lead briefly at the 15.3 km split, showcased his strong endurance. Although he couldn't hold off Kasanen's late charge, Yamazaki's effort in navigating the rain-soaked course earned him a well-deserved place on the podium.

Finland's **Nico Bennert** on third got off to a blazing start, leading the field at both the 5.4 km and 8.7 km marks. However, as the race progressed, he lost the lead to Kasanen, who capitalized on the final climbs

and descents. Bennert finished in **56:21.4**, **+12.7 seconds** behind the winner, securing bronze. His ability to maintain a podium position despite the increasingly difficult conditions emphasized his resilience and skiing skill.

While the battle for the podium was intense, the perseverance of all athletes defined the race. Chilean skier Tomas Leon Rovira, crossed the finish line almost 28 minutes after the winner. His determination to complete the challenging 20 km course, despite the adverse conditions, was a testament to the spirit of sportsmanship and dedication.

FLASH QUOTES



SPORT OUTDOOR

REVIEW

JANUARY 23rd



Winner: Markus Kasanen (FIN)

Five races in total, so this morning I was definitely feeling tired, but somehow I managed to find my rhythm and ski really fast today. These Games have been even better than I expected. The races were great, and the whole experience was just incredible.

This was my first University Games, but also my last. To leave with three medals—especially finishing with a gold—is the perfect way to say goodbye. I didn't think this would be possible, but the reality has been so much better than I could have imagined. I'm very happy.

Second: Daito Yamazaki (JPN)

Today, it was really painful out there. Classical technique isn't my strongest suit, so I think it's a great accomplishment for me to perform this well in such a

challenging style. My results in the earlier individual race weren't as good as I hoped, so I'm especially glad to have achieved this medal today. It means a lot to me.

Third: Nico Bennert (FIN)

It's amazing—beyond all my expectations. To leave these Games with three medals is truly a dream

come true. It's been incredible to be part of this event. We were a bit concerned about the altitude, but everything worked out, and the atmosphere here has been so friendly and positive. I've really enjoyed every moment.

These were my first University Games, and also my last, as I'm 24 now. To younger Finnish athletes, my advice is simple: apply! It's absolutely worth it. The medal ceremonies are something I'll always remem-

ber—they're the moments I'll carry with me forever.

COMPETITION REVIEW: WOMEN'S 20 KM MASS START

PRAGELATO PLAN, 24 January – The final mountain event of the Torino 2025 Winter Games, the **Women's 20 km Mass Start**, was nothing short of extraordinary. Estonia's **Keidy Kaasiku** claimed gold in **1:03:49.4**, with her twin sister **Kaidy Kaasiku** taking silver, finishing just **+17.8 seconds** behind. Their spectacular one-two finish made for an emotional and historic conclusion to the Games.

The Kaasiku twins delivered a masterclass in endurance, strategy, and sibling synchronicity. Keidy Kaasiku took the lead early in the race and maintained a steady pace throughout the race before pulling ahead at km 17.9 even more to ski the victory home. Kaidy Kaasiku stayed close behind, pushing her sister and solidifying a dominant Estonian performance. Their incredible teamwork and shared moment on the podium will undoubtedly go down as one of the highlights of Torino 2025.

Izabela Marcisz (POL) fought hard to secure the bronze medal, finishing in **1:04:47.6**, **+58.2 seconds** behind Keidy Kaasiku. Despite the challenging conditions and tough competition, Marcisz demonstrated her resilience, delivering a strong finish to cap off an excellent performance.

A GRAND FINALE FOR TORINO 2025

The Women's 20 km Mass Start served as a fitting

conclusion to the Games, showcasing grit, determination, and a touch of history with the Kaasiku twins' incredible achievement.

FLASH QUOTES

Winner: Keidy Kaasiku (EST)

I am very happy that it worked out today and that I could share this podium with my sister. I had hope this morning, but still, it's very emotional right now. The whole organization and also the idea with the ambassadors was very good and I enjoyed these Games.

Second: Kaidy Kaasiku (EST)

It was a really tough race today. I didn't feel great, but I gave it my best. As sisters, we didn't have a specific plan—I just focused on myself and tried to listen to my body, even though it wasn't feeling its best. My main goal was simply to finish the race, and I'm glad I managed to do that.

I'm happy with how everything turned out. The atmosphere here has been amazing, and the races were so well-organized. It's been a great experience overall.

YESTERDAY'S MEDALIST

Check out podium's images from yesterday's medalling competitions.



CROSS COUNTRY SKIING MEN'S 20 KM MASS START
Athletes from left to right: Daito YAMAZAKI (JPN); Markus KASANEN (FIN); Nico BENNERT (FIN)



CROSS COUNTRY SKIING WOMEN'S 20 KM MASS START
Athletes from left to right: Kaidy KAASIKU (EST); Keidy KAASIKU (EST); Izabela MARCISZ (POL)



CURLING WOMEN'S
TEAMS: KOR(**), JPN(*), CAN(***)



CURLING MEN'S
TEAMS: USA(**), NOR(*), SUI(***)



SHORT TRACK SPEED SKATING (M) 1000M
Athletes from left to right: Seochan BAE(KOR), Taesung KIM (KOR), Donghyun LEE(KOR)



SHORT TRACK SPEED SKATING MEN'S RELAY
TEAMS: (***)JPN; (*)CHN; (***) KAZ



SHORT TRACK SPEED SKATING (W) 1000M
Athletes from left to right: Whimin SEO(KOR), Gilli KIM (KOR), Weiying HAO(CHN)

CURLING
(*)JAPAN (W):
MIURA YUINA 4 S JPN - JAPAN
TSURUGA KOHANE
OGIHARA ERI
SUZUKI RIN
MATSUNAGA AI

(**) REPUBLIC OF KOREA (W):
KANG BOBAE
KIM JISOO
SHIM YUJEONG
KIM MINSEO
JEONG JAEHEE

(***) CANADA (W):
GRAY-WITHERS SERENA
CLIFFORD CATHERINE
CULLEN BRIANNA
CINNAMON ZOE
RICHARDS GRACELYN

(*)NORWAY (M):
HOESTMAELINGEN LUKAS
BURAAS GRUNDE
LILLEBOE MAGNUS LUNDE
NORDBYE TINIVUS HASLEV

(**) UNITED STATES OF AMERICA (M):
HEBERT CADEN
BESTLAND JACKSON
ARMSTRONG JACKSON
WENDTLAND JACK
KAUFFMAN CONNOR

(***) SWITZERLAND (M):
ISELI JAN
WINZ MAXIMILIAN
HUERLIMANN DEAN
FANCHINI SANDRO

SHORT TRACK SPEED SKATING
(*)REPUBLIC OF KOREA (W)
KIM EUNSEO
KIM GEONHEE
KIM GILLI
LEE JIA
SEO WHIMIN

(***)FRANCE (W)
COMBY BERENICE
GRENOUILLOUX EVA
LEVEQUE AURELIE
OLLIVIER CLOE

(**)PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF CHINA (W)
HAO WEIYING
LYU WANYU
SONG YIFEI
XING AILIN
ZHANG YAN

(*)PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF CHINA
LI KUN
LIU GUANYI
SONG GUIXU
ZHANG TIANYI
ZHU YIDING

(***)KAZAKHSTAN
ABULKATIMOV ALISHER
KLIMENKO VALERIY
TAZHIBAY DINMUKHAMEDALDIYAR
TEMIRKHAN AIBEK
ZHANISSOV SANZHAR





















(**)JAPAN INOUE MIKIHIRO
MIYATA SHOGO
OCHI DAITO
SHIMMURA KEI















SHORT TRACK SPEED SKATING WOMEN'S RELAY
TEAMS: (***)CHN; (*)KOR; (***) FRA

TORINO 2025 FISU GAMES MEDAL TABLE

CHECK OUT HOW
IT ENDED!

					TOT
1.	FRA 	18	8	14	40
2.	KOR 	8	6	6	20
3.	FIN 	8	3	4	15
4.	JPN 	7	8	4	19
5.	GER 	6	9	8	23
6.	POL 	6	3	5	14
7.	ESP 	4	7	2	13
8.	ITA 	4	5	6	15
9.	SUI 	4	5	5	14
10.	UKR 	4	4	4	12
11.	SLO 	4	1	1	6
12.	KAZ 	3	4	7	14
13.	NOR 	3	1	0	4
14.	SWE 	2	7	0	9
15.	AUT 	2	2	2	6
16.	CHN 	1	3	1	5
17.	EST 	1	3	0	4
18.	CAN 	1	2	6	9
19.	GBR 	1	2	0	3

					TOT
20.	CZE 	1	1	3	5
21.	CHI 	1	1	0	2
22.	BUL 	1	0	2	3
23.	USA 	0	1	1	2
24.	NED 	0	1	0	1
25.	SVK 	0	1	0	1
26.	ARG 	0	0	1	1
27.	ARM 	0	0	1	1
28.	CRO 	0	0	1	1

CONGRATULATION
TO ALL TEAMS!

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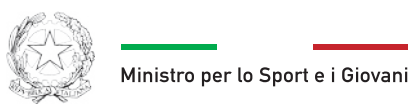


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FAIR PLAY

#TORINO 2025
FAIR PLAY AWARD



FISU and the International Fair Play Committee (CIFP) join efforts in promoting fair play, sportsmanship and ethical behaviour. SCAN THE QR and you'll be able to nominate a candidate from the TORINO 2025 FISU Games to receive the award.



DAY
12



**SEE YOU
NEXT TIME!**

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