

DAY

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5
THE GAMES

**XXXII FISU GAMES TORINO 2025
OPEN TO LEARN! HAPPY TO TEACH!**



EDIT ORIAL

Open to Learn! Happy to Teach!

When these 32nd World University Games Winter come to an end in a few days, we will look back at what has happened in Torino and Piemonte during the last weeks and months, but we will also look forward to the next competitions that the student-athletes will take part in and to the next organisers of the FISU Games.

Yesterday, Monday, a multi-day "Observer Programme" started. Organisers of future World University Games, or potentially interested parties, are meeting to hear from the current organisers about what is going well and not so well, what the planning has achieved and where there have been challenges.

Knowledge transfer, during and after an event, is a big and important thing because, to put it simply: Why make mistakes when you can learn from others? Transfer of Knowledge requires the current organiser to be open-minded and willing to share their knowledge, and it requires future organisers to be willing to learn and not stubbornly believe that

they know better.

The fact that the World University Games are not only about sport and athletic performance, but also about education and knowledge, makes this concept particularly important in Torino and Piemonte during these days.

And if you look closely, knowledge transfer can be seen everywhere - when department directors of the Organising Committee share their decades of experience within the institution they are working for, or when older volunteers tell younger ones about past events.

Knowledge transfer is what makes the world go round.

Let's live it every day - teaching and learning enriches us all equally!

Daily Magazine

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SPORT INDOOR REVIEW JANUARY 20th



Thrilling triumph for Czech Republic in women's ice hockey against Canada. Bronze Medal for Japan

Caterina Carradori, Marco Papetti

It took extra time, after a **hard-fought and exciting game**, but after four periods of play, the verdict is only one: the **Czech Republic women's ice hockey team** is the **gold medallist** at the Fisur Games 2025, thanks to a **2-1 victory** last night against **Canada** in overtime in the final of the women's tournament.

Everything is louder at finals: the music, the energy,

the beating hearts, the shouts from the sidelines. And so it was yesterday's for the gold at **PalaTazzoli** in Turin, where a beautiful match was played, which held the almost **1,200 spectators** in the stadium in suspense, amid the wild cheering of the fans of the two teams. The only ones to rejoice in the end, however, were the Czechs, thanks to the feat of their athletes who played a game of great intensity, in which the



Canadians created more shots on goal (52 to 16), but were not able to take advantage of the opportunities they had: the Czech players resisted, exploiting at speed every space left on the ice by their adversaries.

After the first two periods ended goalless, the Czech Republic took the lead in the third period, thanks to **Barbora Bartakova's goal**. The Canadian equaliser came a few seconds later, through Sydney Mercier. The teams fought in every action, but at the end of the third period it was still tied. It goes into **extra time**, where the winner of the gold medal will be decided by the **golden goal**: whoever scores first wins.

A point immediately after the start of the overtime period gives Canada the illusion of victory, but is cancelled due to an irregularity. After continuous changes of front between the two halves of the court and dangerous actions that followed one another, in the end it was **the Czech Republic who found the goal of glory**: the hero of the evening was **Anna Vanickova**, who sent the Czech Republic fans into ecstasy by scoring after a sprinting action. For the Czech women's hockey team, which had won **bronze at the 2023 Universiade in Lake Placid**, last night's gold medal was a well-deserved triumph after a fine tournament, with five wins out of five:



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in addition to Canada, the Czech Republic also beat the USA, Kazakhstan, Japan and Slovakia. "I was very nervous because so far we won every game here and we know that Canada will be the toughest game to play, but before their first game against Usa, we said the everyone is playable and we can play against everyone. We just give everything to it all of our hearts and everything we had left. I'm really glad that I could be here with the team: we had very good time", the team **captain, Anna Kotounova**, said.

Honour, however, also goes to **Canada - silver medalist** - who put on a show during the tournament (scoring 38 goals) and played a great final, pushing forward until the end. The Canadian athletes did not manage to win gold again, after their success in the last Fisu Games: 'It is not the result we hoped for, it broke our hearts, but I am proud of these girls, we are a beautiful group: I think we represented hockey and Canada very well,' the words of Canada's **captain, Scout Watkins Southward** at the end of the game.

In the **competition for third place**, played at 4pm at Pala Tazzoli, **Japan won** the bronze medal, beating Slovakia 2-1. Scoring for the Japanese were Rao Suzuko and Yuka Chuco, for the Slovaks Livia Kubekova. After a 1-1 draw in the first period, Japan managed to finish the second one point ahead, then held on until the end of the match. 'We are very happy with this result, our goal in this tournament was to win a medal and we are very happy to have achieved it,' said Japan's **captain Kyoka Tsutsumi**. We had

a couple of players injured in previous matches, but they wanted to stay with us and support us. We are happy that we won for them as well. For Japan, it is the second consecutive medal in ice hockey at the Fisu Games, following the silver medal won at the 2023 University Winter Games in Lake Placid. At the end, after the prize-giving ceremony, the players of the three podium teams posed together for the concluding photograph: a symbol of respect and fair-play, as in the spirit of the University Games.

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INDOOR SPORT REVIEW: HOCKEY AND CURLING SHORT REVIEW

CURLING:

Curling's round robin sessions have ended today, with only a few days to go until the end of Torino 2025 FISU Games. **Women's** Norway, United Kingdom, United States and Japan won the matches in session 8. Later, the ninth session was won by Sweden, Republic of Korea, Italy, Canada and Norway. Men's session 9 was finally won by: United States, Norway, United Kingdom, Switzerland and Ukraine. Today's matches have determined the teams who will play the semi-finals tomorrow, January 21st. Stay tuned to find out tomorrow's medallist.



Ice Hockey: Sweden, Poland happy to be at FISU Games

PINEROLO, 20 January 2025 - Last day of competition at the Olympic Ice Stadium in Pinerolo: the venue calendar of the Torino 2025 FISU Games is completed today with the **9th/10th place final** between **Sweden** and **Poland** and the 7th/8th place final between Japan and South Korea. The start at 16.30 for Sweden and Poland, last placed respectively in Group A and Group B, gave life to a very balanced match with neither of the two able to impose themselves in regulation time, nor in the overtime: it took the shootouts (to the bitter end) to give Sweden the first victory (4:3) of its path in front of a public that even today, with just under 400 spectators, did not fail to support them. Patryk Napiorkowski (Poland): "Despite the last

place, this was a very important experience for us where we faced high-level teams, also thanks to some teammates who were already used to such demanding competitions. Being part of these FISU Games was fantastic, I think I will remember this experience for the rest of my life. Also, because it was my first time in Italy, a really crazy opportunity!" **William Wohnerow (Sweden):** "Finally today we managed to win thanks to a good performance, this is a great joy for us! The level we found at these FISU Games was very high: some teams struggled like us, but we also saw teams like Canada that were really strong and difficult to deal with. I am thrilled to have been able to live this incredible experience together with this group."

SPORT INDOOR REVIEW JANUARY 20th

“FISU Games incredible experience”

After Sweden's victory over Poland in the final for 9th/10th place, the last competition of these Torino 2025 FISU Games at the Olympic Ice Stadium in Pinerolo saw Japan and South Korea facing each other in the final valid for 7th and 8th place in the men's tournament.

The 'oriental' challenge was won by Japan, who after a balanced first drittel, in the last two-thirds of the match increased the pressure and effectiveness in attack, closing with a wide 6-1: this last match was also well attended by the public, with almost 1,000 people in the stands.

Kai Kojima (Japan): 'We wanted to close our calendar with a victory and we succeeded, this evening could not have gone better: here we found a crazy tifo, even from the Italians. Against Canada we were losing by a wide margin and yet from the stands they never stopped supporting us. We really loved this crowd and we showed the world that the Japanese

never give up. In general, then, everyone here was very nice to us: these FISU Games were an incredible experience, also because it was the first time for me in Italy.'

Rin Takada (Japan): 'For us it was a great success first of all to qualify for the quarter-finals and to face a strong opponent like Canada. And also to end on a high note, with a victory as clear-cut as tonight's, is for us a source of great joy. One word to describe what these FISU Games were for me? A dream'

Taewoong Yoo (South Korea): 'We participated in a very high-level tournament at these FISU Games, playing against teams like Canada and the United States was really tough, but at the same time also very challenging. The most exciting moment of this experience? The opening ceremony, shared with so many athletes from all over the world. It will always have a special place in my heart.'



Kazakhstan Claims Fifth Place

Day 8 of the 2025 FISU Winter Games and last games' day in Torre Pellice. In the fight for **fifth place**, Kazakhstan beat Czechia 5:2. They said afterwards:

BOIKO Oleg (KAZ C)

About the challenges he faced during the match. The most challenging moment was when we were three against five on the ice rink but thanks to the team we did it!

About what he learned from international student-athletes. We are very young and this is our firsttime in

such an international event. We're gaining experience. About the goals after FISU games. We'll be back to our teams and the new focus is on new trophies.

ZEMAN Tomas (CZE)

About the challenges he faced during at FISU. Yesterday it was a tough game and I don't know what to say. Not a good performance today. I'm just sad.



SPORT OUTDOOR REVIEW

JANUARY 20th

Poland and Ukraine triumphed in Biathlon



Pragelato Ruà, 20 January. In a snowy and enchanted landscape, adverse weather conditions were overcome with strong team support. Ukraine dominated the men's 12.5 km biathlon pursuit, securing both gold and silver medals. **Bohdan Borkovskiy** took the gold with a time of 37:48.9, while **Serhii Suprun** claimed silver with 38:17.8. France's **Paul Fontaine** finished in third place with a time of 38:22.2. Another team celebrating tonight is Poland, which earned two medals in the women's 10 km pursuit. **Barbara Skrobiszewka** claimed her second gold medal with a stunning performance, leading from start

to finish. The silver medal also went to Poland, with **Amelia Liszka** taking second place. Ukraine also achieved a strong result in the women's race, thanks to the determined performance of **Daryna Chalyk** that won a bronze medal.

Bohdan Borkovskiy: "I feel great, we wanted to win a medal and my colleague Serhij Suprun came second. We are very happy that the Ukrainian flag flies high over Turin. I worked hard for this result. It was my first time here, but I really enjoyed it. My race today shows that I am ready for the next season." **Serhii Suprun:** "I am very happy to have won a dou-

ble medal with Bogdan Barkovsky. He and I had a bet: if we had both made it to the podium, our coach would have shaved his hair. Joking aside, we both put in a lot of effort. Training in Ukraine is more and more difficult because of the war, we had to move to Austria, Switzerland and Slovenia. We go abroad to find better conditions."

Paul Fontaine: "It was a race made quite complicated by the snowfall, but I think we had a good feeling. I am happy to be on the podium. The competition here is pretty tough, as I knew it would be. This is the first time I am competing in a Fisuv event: I have participated in the IBU Cup and the Junior Cup, so this is a new international circuit for me. There is a good atmosphere in the French team, but also among other nations it is very relaxed."

Barbara Skrobiszewka: "I'm very proud and happy

of course. This race was harder than the Sprint one, for the weather, but also because I am tired and not in my best shape. I am proud of myself and of my friend Amelia for her second place, sharing the podium with her is beautiful."

Amelia Liszka: "I had second place, but it's incredible, unbelievable for me, because it's my third time winning a silver medal, so this time it's like a dream. I expected maybe top 8, but not top 3, and it's amazing for me. I had to train all summer and in the winter camps, so I feel that my hard work paid off. Racing with the snowfall was very difficult for everyone. It's a great competition. I can meet a lot of interesting students, so it's great"

Daryna Chalyk: "I'm thrilled with this result, the race went well. I want to thank my coaches and the volunteers. I dedicate this medal to my son".



SPORT OUTDOOR REVIEW

JANUARY 20th



Mixed team parallel, Swedish photo-finish triumph

By Simone Bianchetta and Pietro Menzani

On the slopes of Bardonecchia Snow Park, the spectators held their breath until the last turn. The support of the Swiss fans, who composed the soundtrack of the race by the sound of their cowbells, was not enough. In the grand final, Sweden and Switzerland were head-to-head, but the Scandinavians came out on top thanks to a last-gasp comeback. Down 2-0, **Stella Rodling Swanberg** and **Axel Lindqvist** turned the tables and won the last two runs in extremis: 2-2, but the Swedish team led due to their best times added up. It's a gold medal, also for **Regina Falk** and **Emil Nyberg**. Excellent overall perfor-

mance by the Swiss, led by **Sue Piller**, triumphant in the women's giant slalom, and **Loic Chable**, gold medallist in the combined slalom. France finished third, beating Japan in a neck-and-neck duel, after being knocked out in the semi-finals, by Switzerland. Despite the victory, there was also bad news for the Swedish delegation: gold medallist Emil Nyberg had a nasty fall and hit his head badly. A possible concussion is under investigation, as his teammates said. Sweden's **Stella Rodling Swanberg**, who displayed a great performance in the final, finishing the race 99 seconds before her Swiss contestant Mathilde Phil-

lips, is truly happy about her achievement. "It was amazing that we won this sprint together, it was so fun", she declared. She also praised the quality of the slopes and facilities set up by the organizers. Swanberg, who is 21 and studies law, hopes to ski well in Tuesday's slalom too, and to conclude these FisU Games attaining a spot on the podium once again. "It's really cool that we won the silver medal, but it was so, so close, therefore it's a bit annoying", The first words of the Swiss **Sue Piller** after the grand final. However, she didn't lose her smile, not even for a second, and immediately added: "The whole team gave their all, and we tried to fire each other up during all the races, it's been amazing also for the support of our compatriots: they cheered so loud for us". Besides, the 19-year-old skier told us about

her favourite athletes: "My boyfriend also skies, he's my sport hero. But when I was little, it was **Lindsay Yvonne**".

Moving on to the bronze medallists, after the race France's **Marjolaine Ollier** declared that she is really content with her performance and that running with her team was amazing. 21 years old Ollier finished the race in 28.48 seconds, skiing much faster than her opponent, Kirikubo Kizuna, from Japan. The French skier studies entrepreneurship at the University of Grenoble and, like every student-athlete, she struggles with balancing school and training, but she believes her university does everything it can to make it easier for her and her teammates, and she is grateful for that.



SPORT OUTDOOR REVIEW

JANUARY 20th



COMPETITION REVIEW: FREESTYLE SKIING SKI CROSS SEEDING (M/W)

BARDONNECHIA, 20 January 2025 – The first of the 3 days of Ski Cross took place today, as it had yesterday, in snow that gave the racers very poor visibility. 13 young women and 20 men set off one by one to set the reference times that will be used to establish

the round-robin groups for the second phase of the competition, which takes place tomorrow. The aim of these round-robins is for all the competitors to meet each other. The winner of each round is awarded 4 points, the second, 3 points and

the third, 1 point. DNF receives 1 point. All other results receive 0 point. The top 8 women and men will qualify for the semi-finals which will be held on Wednesday. The weather will be a decisive factor tomorrow.

Let's hope that the changes in the weather preserve the chances of all the competitors.

YESTERDAY'S MEDALIST

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



ALPINE SKIING MIXED TEAM PARALLEL
Athletes from left to right: CHABEL, PHILLIPS, PILLER, STUCKI (SUI); FALK, LINDQVIST, NYBERG, RODLING SWANBERG (SWE); ACCAMBRAY, OLLIER, SILVESTRE, SKABAR (FRA)



BIATHLON MEN'S 12,5KM PURSUIT
Athletes from left to right: Serhii SUPPURUN (UKR), Bohdan BORKOVSKI (UKR), Paul FONTAINE (FRA)



BIATHLON WOMEN'S 10KM PURSUIT
Athletes from left to right: Amelia LISZKA (POL), Barbara SKROBISZEWSKA (POL), Daryna CHALYK (UKR)



ICE HOCKEY WOMEN
1st: CZECH REPUBLIC(*); 2nd: CANADA(**); 3rd: JAPAN (***)

(*)Czech Republic (W)

- 1 DVORAKOVA KATERINA
- 4 VACLAVKOVA ANNA
- 5 EIGNEROVA LUCIE
- 6 VANICKOVA ANNA
- 9 HALOUNOVA SANDRA
- 11 HALOUNOVA ALEXANDRA
- 16 MAZANCOVA MARKETA
- 17 MALICKA DOMINIKA
- 18 CHLADOVA VIKTORIE
- 23 KOTOUNOVA ANNA
- 24 WOJNAROVA ADELA
- 28 PETREKOVA KATERINA
- 30 DALECKA BARBORA
- 31 HRACOVA ANEZKA
- 32 PEJSOVA JULIE
- 49 HABARTOVA DENISA
- 66 BRICHOVA NATALIE
- 71 VANECKOVA ELISKA
- 73 HAASOVA HANA
- 84 BARTAKOVA BARBORA
- 88 SKORPIKOVA PATRICIE
- 99 MAZANCOVA TEREZA

()Canada (W)**

- 1 VERBEEK JORDYN
- 2 SANTERRE GABRIELLE
- 3 MACKENZIE ABIGAIL
- 4 MAGOFFIN JAIME
- 13 WATKINS SOUTHWARD SCOUT
- 14 LUSSIER EMILIE
- 17 KEENAN MACKENZIE
- 20 HERRFORT LEAH
- 22 GASKELL SOPHIA
- 23 MERCIER SYDNEY
- 24 PELOWICH EKATERINA
- 25 JOMHA ALIYA
- 26 PLOURDE ERICA
- 27 DESMARAIS MADISON
- 28 SPENCE ALEXANDRIA
- 30 ROSS KAITLYN
- 35 BEER GRACE
- 36 LAVOIE EMILIE
- 38 DOMINICO MALORY
- 42 POTTER EMMA
- 43 BOYER ALEXANDRA-ANNE

(*)Japan (W)**

- 1 ITO SAKURA
- 2 NOMURA HARUNA
- 3 KISHIBE SARASA
- 4 YAMAMOTO MOMOKA
- 5 YOSHIKAWA AIKO
- 6 CHUJO YUKA
- 7 TOMIUCHI AYAKA
- 8 KITAMURA SAKURA
- 10 ITO KOMOMO
- 11 HAYAKAWA ANJU
- 12 MATSUMOTO RIKO
- 13 TSUTSUMI KYOKA
- 14 NORO RIRI
- 15 KAMADA MINAMI
- 16 HIGUCHI SHIERU
- 17 NAGAOKA MARIN
- 20 KITAJIMA HANA
- 21 KIYOKAWA RUKA
- 22 SUZUKI KAHU
- 23 HATADE YU
- 24 TANABE MASAKI
- 25 SASAKI AMI
- 30 KOBAYASHI KIKU

Medal Table

					Tot
FRA		17	8	11	36
GER		6	9	7	22
POL		6	3	4	13
FIN		5	3	2	10
ESP		4	7	2	13
JPN		4	3	2	9
SLO		4	1	1	6
KAZ		3	4	4	11
SUI		3	3	3	9
UKR		3	3	3	9
ITA		2	2	4	8
NOR		2	1	0	3
SWE		1	5	0	6
GBR		1	2	0	3
CZE		1	1	3	5
CHI		1	1	0	2
CAN		0	2	4	6
EST		0	2	0	2
NED		0	1	0	1
ARG		0	0	1	1
ARM		0	0	1	1
AUT		0	0	1	1
BUL		0	0	1	1
CRO		0	0	1	1
KOR		0	0	1	1
USA		0	0	1	1

TORINO

DAY 9

DAY'S PROGRAM

DAY 9: TORINO 2025 IT AIN'T OVER TIL IT'S OVER

The snowy landscape of the Piedmont mountains harmoniously accompanied the two competitions held in Bardonecchia Melezet and Pragelato Rua. Rain instead awaited the hockey athletes outside Torino Pala Tazzoli. Yesterday, the alpine skiing parallel mixed team finals were held after a set of semi-finals that started at 10am. Bardonecchia triumphed for the Swedish, the Swiss and the French teams, after they won the medals. Biathlon awarded Bohdan Borkovskiy (UKR) and Barbara Skrobiszewka (POL), for their outstanding performances in the men's biathlon 12.5km pursuit and the women's biathlon 10km pursuit. Yesterday, the first medals were also awarded in women's hockey, where Canada's team was proclaimed as the winner. Curling is also approaching the podium. Today, January 21st, two men's semi-finals

and two women's semi-finals will be played in Torino Pala Tazzoli to determine who will advance to play the matches for the podium. Freestyle & freeskiing continues in Bardonecchia Sellette, where the cross group heats will take place at 11 a.m. The semi-finals of the men's hockey play-offs will finally be played in Torre Pellice. There the Ukrainians will take on Slovakia at 4pm, while at 8pm the public of the ice rink will witness the challenge between United States and Canada. We are coming to the conclusion of this edition of FISU Games but the surprises are not over yet. Ten finals will be played today in five different disciplines, find out which ones below.

DAILY Programme

FISU TV Curling M SF 1 08:00 Torino Palatazzoli	FISU TV Short Track Speed Skating 1500m - Mixed Team Relay QF/SF 14:00 Torino Palavela
FISU TV Cross Country Skiing Realy 4 x 7,5 km W (CCFF) 09:30 Pragelato Plan	FISU TV Snowboard Finals Parallel Giant Slalom W/M 14:00 - 15:30 Bardonecchia
FISU TV Snowboard W/M Parallel Giant Slalom -Qualific 09:30 10:30 Bardonecchia	FISU TV Ski Orienteering Sprint Relay 14:30 Pragelato Plan
FISU TV Alpine Skiing Slalom W - 1st Run 09:30 - 11:00 Bardonecchia	FISU TV Ice Hockey M SF 1 (28) 16:00 Torino Palatazzoli
FISU TV Freestyle & Freeski Ski Cross W/M - Round Robin 11:00 - 13:30 Bardonecchia	FISU TV Curling W SF 1 16:00 Torino Palatazzoli
FISU TV Cross Country Skiing Realy 4 x 7,5 km M (CCFF) 11:30 Pragelato Plan	FISU TV Ice Hockey M SF 2 (29) 20:00 Torino Palatazzoli
FISU TV Curling M SF 2 12:00 Torino Palatazzoli	FISU TV Curling W SF 2 20:00 Torino Palatazzoli
FISU TV Alpine Skiing Slalom W - 2nd Run 13:00 - 14:30 Bardonecchia	



DAY 9

January 21, 2025

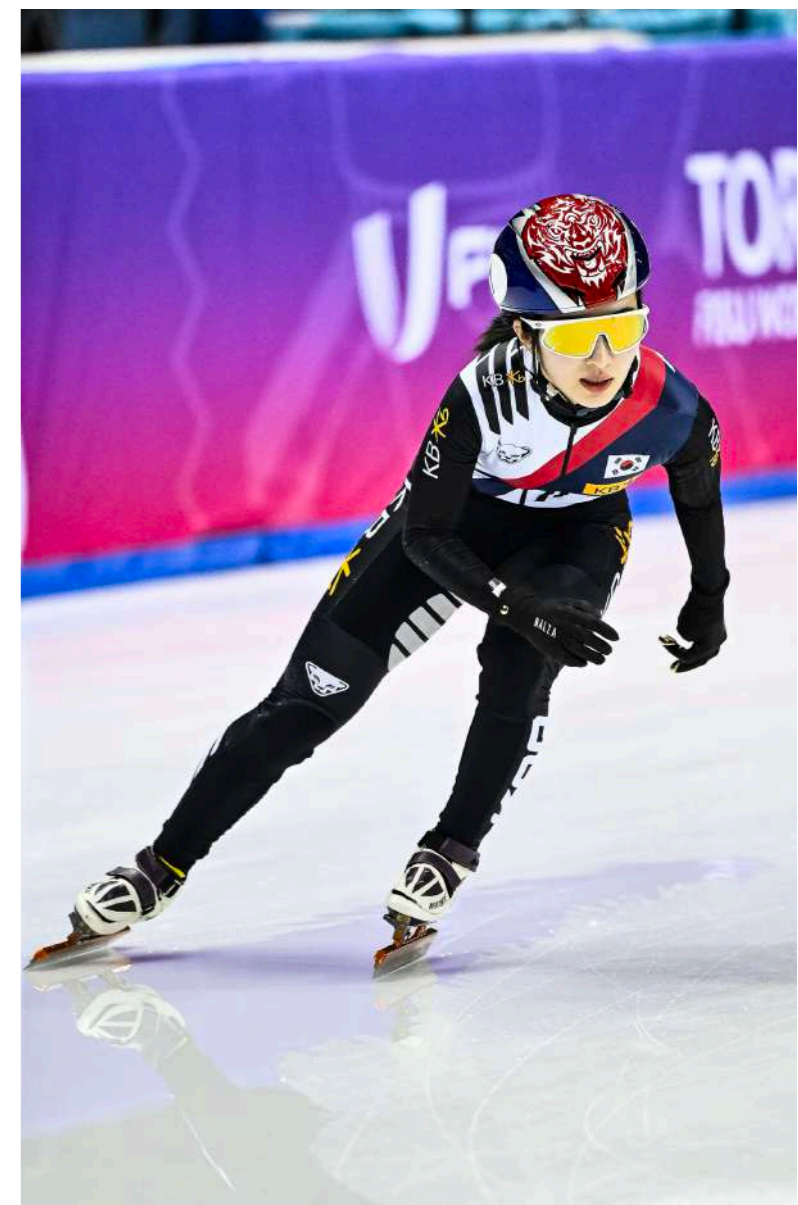


SCAN FOR RESULTS



MUST-SEE

A day full of exciting events awaits us today. **Outdoor sports** occupy a prominent place in today's programme, four out of five disciplines will be contested in our mountain venues. The medal table of Torino 2025 FISU World University Games will increase further after this Monday. Today, Bardonecchia will host two competitions: the **women's alpine skiing slalom** at 1pm; and four **snowboard parallel giant slalom** finals from 3pm, a small final for the third place and a big final for gold and silver medals, for both men's and women's categories. The **men's and women's cross-country 4 x 7.5 km relay** will be held in Pragelato Plan, together with the **ski orienteering mixed sprint relay final**. A new beginning in this Torino 2025 FISU Games for men's and women's athletes who will compete today in short track speed skating 1500 m finals. We can't wait to discover the winners. Can you?



MAKING OF THE GAMES

TORINO 2025 FISU GAMES: CULTURE & ENVIRONMENT

Women in Sports Leadership: FISU's Actions and the Path Forward



The topic of reducing the gender gap in sports has been at the center of attention for a long time now. But the debate should not focus only on women athletes. The world of sports is also about leadership: organizations, governing bodies, team managers and coaches all play key roles in shaping not only the performance but also the culture and values within the sports ecosystem.

FISU is well aware of this and has been at the forefront for years to bring about positive change. In 2012, the Gender Equality Committee became a per-

manent organ of the federation. Its aim is to give the FISU Executive Committee advice on how to tackle the gender problem both on and off the field. Things have changed even more in recent years. In 2019, sport advocate Penninah Aligawesa Kabenge became FISU's first female Vice-President, and in 2023 a record number of seven female candidates were elected to the FISU Executive Committee. Furthermore, three of them became Vice-Presidents.

Also in the current Executive Committee, women are occupying seven out of the 23 positions. This



means that they make up about 30% of the leadership roles in FISU: while this is a step forward, there is still work to do. According to a 2013 study conducted by Dr. Jasmin Joecks and Prof. Kerstin Pull of the University of Tübingen, a decision making group in which the minority representation ranges between 20% and 40% is a “tilted group”, where the underrepresented identity is able to change the culture only slightly. The ideal situation is a “balanced group”, in which the representatives of the minority are at least 40%, enabling them to build a network and express their opinions freely.

So, what can FISU do bring about even greater change? According to a 2020 research by Anna Semenova, in which three male and two female leaders at FISU were interviewed, there are two main paths. The first

one is the implementation of gender quotas. Setting a fixed number of women needed on the Committee would be the automatic step to give them more space in decision making. The second is focusing directly on the National University Sport Federations (NUSFs) that make up the FISU General Assembly, which elects the Executive Committee.

Even if FISU is striving to change its internal culture, addressing the foundation of university sports would mean working on the issue at its roots.

The number of women athletes at Winter World University Games since 1960 up until the 2023 edition has corresponded to 34% of the total. Increasing this percentage means giving women greater opportunities to establish themselves in the sports world: this process begins with improving the leadership.

MAKING OF THE GAMES

TORINO 2025 FISU GAMES: CULTURE & ENVIRONMENT

The long-standing Olympic spirit in Turin: meet the volunteers at the FisU Games.

Lorenzo Borghero, Anna Mulassano

“The life-long companionships and the sense of being part of a community are what makes being a volunteer worth it” says Alessandra Aires, member of the Volo 2006 Association. Alessandra was chosen to be one of the torch bearers in the parade held on Monday January 13th, culminated with the opening ceremony, and she walked through the city, joined by

thousands of sports loving people. Alessandra first got a glimpse of what volunteering entails during the 1992 Olympics in Barcelona, where she was doing a summer internship while being an Architecture student at Politecnico di Torino. One of Alessandra’s colleagues was a volunteer in the Olympics, and her tales sparked Alessandra’s curiosity.



Her first approach to the 2006 winter Olympics was through her job: as an architect, she worked alongside with her team on the application the city needed to submit in order to enter the lists. “When Turin was chosen to host the Olympics, the decision to apply and become a volunteer was a no brainer to me”. Alessandra tells us that being involved at the core

of such a big sports event is one of her most cherished memories: “Showing the world what Turin was capable of and how resourceful of a city it is was truly priceless”. Luca Rolandi, journalist, former TOROC media officer and author of *Quelli che costruirono i giochi* (Those who built the Games), shared with us his take on the topic. “Turin has a long-standing

history – says Rolandi – of volunteering, unrelated to sports events and stemming from the 18th century’s sense of social solidarity. The 2006 winter Olympics, though, were a breakthrough and brought it to another level: people were applying to be a part of something huge, they were eager to make memories and to represent their city at their best”.



more into volunteering and here I am, 19 years later, volunteering as driver in the 2025 FisU Games”. In 2006 he served as Ofa to Kelly Fairweather, Sports Director of the International Olympic Committee. They remain friends to this day. He remembers the long working hours, the tiredness but also, and foremost, the feeling of making the difference, of being part of something bigger. At that time, Alessandra was the Noc Assistant for the American delegation. Her job was to be there for the athletes, to help them in each of their needs. Alessandra then went on to be a volunteer at the 2007 FisU Games, once again held in Turin, and at the London 2012 Olympics. During the 2007 FisU Games, she served as attaché for the Taiwanese delegation. To this day, she still maintains contact with the Taiwanese representatives, and she even visited them in their home country during one of her recent trips. She is also volunteering in the 2025 Turin FisU Games, again as attaché for the Rein-Ruhr delegation.

Michele Calleri, president of the Volo 2006 Association, works in ICT and first became a volunteer during the Turin 2006 Olympics. “I was skeptical at first, I was pressured by my friends who already were volunteers. I must admit I completely changed my mind: after the Olympics, I started getting more and

After the 2006 Turin Olympics, the volunteers felt like they had a legacy to embrace so they became founders of the Volo 2006 Association, now counting 230 members. The 2006 Volo Association’s most senior member is Emilia Morelli who’s 83 and still serving as a volunteer in the FisU Games. According to Alessandro Ciro Sciretti, president of the FisU Organizing Committee, 2000 volunteers are at work these days.

Michele has hundreds of competitions as volunteer under his belt and he shared with us some of the biggest changes that occurred in the past 19 years. The organizing committee, he says, has become more and more skilled, partially because of the increasing technologies available such as WhatsApp, Apps and the widespread use of emails. “Being on the organizing side of such a big competition - he explains – made me realize how difficult it is and made more understanding when it comes to unforeseen circumstances. It happens, you just have to push through it”.

AROUND THE GAMES

TERRITORY AND PARTNERSHIP

“PIEMONTE LAND OF SPORT” DISCOVER OUR VENUES

Torre Pellice “La Tour”

Torre Pellice “La Tour”, 4633 inhabitants, an important municipality in the Waldensian valleys, described by Edmondo De Amicis as “the Italian Geneva”, owes its name to the tower built on the hill, today known as the Forte, around the year 1000. Rich in museums, libraries, historical archives and modern art galleries, it has always been a destination for historical, religious and cultural tourism. An ideal place for hikers and mountain enthusiasts, who can reach the alpine refuges and surrounding peaks in a short time, it also boasts a varied and appreciated gastronomic tradition.

The **history** of Torre Pellice is closely linked to the history of the valley and the Waldensian people. Already at the beginning of the 13th century, we have evidence of the existence in the valley of numerous families adhering to the movement that arose in France in the 12th century at the hands of Pietro Valdo.

With the adhesion of the Waldensians to the Protestant Reformation (1532), the territory became a place of religious and cultural exchange on a European level. The 19th century saw the consolidation of industrialisation in Torre, with a marked demographic increase: from 2343 inhabitants in 1819, to 6000 at the beginning of 1900. The town expanded, commercial activities also grew, and in 1882 the Pinerolo-Torre Pellice railway link was built.

Today the town is a **dynamic reality** of great tourist

interest that excels for its natural, historical, cultural, artistic, culinary and sports attractions.

The pedestrian area begins in Piazza S. Martino where we find the Catholic Church complex (neoclassical façade, single nave, very high dome) and the annexed Priorato Mauriziano (priorate), opposite the “Carlo Alberto Fountain”, designed by the architect Mellano at the behest of the king, as inscribed “Il Re Carlo Alberto al popolo che lo accoglieva con tanto affetto” (King Carlo Alberto to the people who welcomed him with such affection).

It continues through the village, where it is possible to find tourist and commercial activities typical of the area, and ends in the “Waldensian quarter”, which includes, in addition to the Temple (in Romanesque style, with three naves, apse, gallery and façade characterised by two side bell towers), a series of historic buildings: the Casa Valdese (Waldensian House) with the Synod Hall on the ground floor where the Synod meets every year, the Casa Pastorale (Pastoral House), the former Case dei Professori (Teachers’ Houses) (residences of the teachers of the Waldensian College), the Casa Unionista (Unionist House), the Museo storico-etnografico (ethnographic-historical museum), the Collegio Valdese (Waldensian College), now the European High School, and the Foresteria Valdese (Waldensian Guesthouse), an important accommodation facility for tourists visiting the town. The weekly market is held on Friday mornings in



the streets of the centre. On the second Saturday of each month, the pedestrian area hosts the **market for organic and handcraft products**.

At certain times of the year, important tourist-commercial fairs are organised in Torre Pellice, and in summer cultural events and gastronomic-musical evenings attract many people.

Throughout the year at the **Civic Gallery of Contemporary Art “Filippo Scroppo”** and the **Centro Culturale Valdese** (Waldensian Cultural Centre) it is possible to visit thematic exhibitions and attend

meetings and conferences.

From the town centre, it is possible to reach suggestive places surrounded by greenery in a short time via a rich network of paths.

In the **Ice Hockey Stadium**, built for the 2006 Winter Olympics in Turin, the first hockey club in Piedmont founded in 1934, the Valpellice Bulldogs, play ice hockey, which is followed by a very large number of supporters.

AROUND THE GAMES

TERRITORY AND PARTNERSHIP

“PIEMONTE LAND OF SPORT” DISCOVER OUR VENUES

Pragelato: A Year of Events and Growth

Pragelato is one of the most dynamic hubs in the Via Lattea ski area, renowned for its Olympic cross-country skiing track, breathtaking landscapes, and the cultural and historical richness of its villages. This authenticity is reflected in its culinary traditions, unique local products, and a tourist offering that seamlessly combines nature and sports activities.

Thanks to its state-of-the-art facilities for Nordic disciplines, Pragelato hosts numerous national, European, and international sporting events. The Torino 2025 Winter World University Games in January will be an extraordinary opportunity to showcase the area and its community, followed by the Special Olympics World Winter Games in March and many other high-level competitions.

Our goal is to grow Pragelato as a high-quality tourist destination while ensuring it remains a vibrant place to live. The main challenge for mountain communities is to combat depopulation by building a sustainable future that prioritizes residents. To achieve this, it is essential to collaborate with higher-level institutions such as the Metropolitan City of Turin and the Piedmont Region, as well as neighboring municipalities, creating synergies to ensure essential services and opportunities. Major events represent an extraordinary driver for increasing the area's visibility and promoting behaviors that further enhance its welcoming and inclusive attitude, encouraging local operators and the community to offer increasingly

attractive experiences. Pragelato has always been synonymous with hospitality, but these events provide the opportunity to strengthen this vocation and turn it into a cornerstone of our development. We look to the future with the ambition of uniting culture, sports, and the region, confident that through collaboration and collective effort, Pragelato will continue to grow as a model of excellence among mountain territories, offering a balanced vision of tradition and innovation.



“PIEMONTE LAND OF SPORT” DISCOVER OUR VENUES

Sestriere: Italy's Highest Municipality Celebrates 90 Years of History, Skiing, and Tourism!

Perched at an altitude of 2035 meters between the Alta Val Susa and Alta Val Chisone, Sestriere holds the title of Italy's highest municipality. Established by royal decree in October 1934, it began its administrative functions in early 1935.

Ninety years of history have passed since the Colle, which, until the early 1900s, was a green high-altitude pasture covered in meters of snow for half the

year. The landscape began to change when Adolfo Kind and friends introduced skiing to the valleys near Turin at the dawn of the 1900s, with their “snow skates,” which seemed like a whimsical folly. Not for Sestriere, which, forty years later, became a unique global hub for skiing and tourism. This transformation was the result of the vision of Senator Giovanni Agnelli and his son Edoardo, who turned the Colle



AROUND THE GAMES

TERRITORY AND PARTNERSHIP



Università degli Studi di Scienze Gastronomiche: dynamism, flexibility and a global vision

The Università degli Studi di Scienze Gastronomiche founded and **promoted in 2004** by the **international Slow Food association** with the collaboration of Piedmont and Emilia Romagna regions, is a non-state university legally recognised by the Italian state. In its more than ten years of activity, the university has steadily increased its courses of study, and consequently the number of students, reaching the point of proposing a complete and unique didactic offer in Italy and abroad, establishing itself as a dynamic, flexible institution with a strongly international imprint.

The uniqueness of its courses attracts students from dozens of different countries, who are interested in the original training project that, by combining study, practice and educational trips around the world, allows them to work on developing future food scenarios.

This **methodological and didactic approach** provides students with a global vision of both past and present food production systems, allowing them to appreciate the richness of cultural diversity. The university trains gastronomes, new professionals who have interdisciplinary knowledge and skills in the science, culture, politics, economics and ecology of food and are able to develop values such as sustainability and sovereignty of global food systems, understanding all stages, from production to consumption.

The cornerstone of what can be called a gastronome is a deep understanding of food as a value and its important role in creating and shaping society. To date, **more than 4000 students** have attended and still attend the University of Gastronomic Sciences in Pollenzo.



into a major winter resort.

The exponential growth of Sestriere is closely tied to major events, starting with the “Sei Giorni Internazionale” on six different slopes, which later became “Tre Funivie.” The Colle became home to a cutting-edge ski school directed by Hans Nobl, the “Scuderia Edoardo Agnelli,” which educated about twenty young locals in general culture, skiing techniques, and languages, turning them into champions and excellent ski instructors.

The tradition of major races continued after the war, highlighted by the legendary 1951 Kandahar race when Zeno Colò triumphed in the downhill event on the Rio Nero slopes in nearby Oulx. The Alpine Ski World Cup made its debut in Sestriere in 1967, with Frenchman Jean-Claude Killy taking the victory.

The recent history of Sestriere is filled with sporting memories linked to Alberto Tomba's performances in giant slalom and slalom in 1987, which catapulted the athlete from Bologna to international fame. Tomba also won the first nighttime slalom in World Cup history at Sestriere in 1994. Sestriere further cemented its place in skiing history with the World Championships in February 1997 and the 2006 Turin Winter Olympics and Paralympics. These events significantly boosted the tourism of Sestriere and the Vialattea ski area, attracting visitors from all five continents. This tradition continues with events such as the 1966 Universiade and up to the present day with the Ski Mountaineering competitions of the FISU Winter Games Torino 2025.



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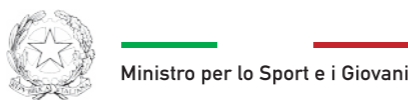


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