

## Press Release

### Ten new sport stars join Lausanne 2020

**Lausanne, March 19<sup>th</sup>, 2019** - The Lausanne 2020 Organising Committee is pleased to announce that ten new internationally renowned athletes have joined its group of ambassadors today. Over the next few months, they will share their extensive experience while explaining and promoting the Lausanne 2020 project to the general public.

The Youth Olympic Games are, first and foremost, formative in nature. Through sport, they aim to inspire, provide tools and develop skills, not only among the athletes who will take part in the event but also among the young public who will attend.

With their experience in the world of international sport, athletes are often the best spokespersons to convey these messages to the various audiences of an event like Lausanne 2020. Over the next few months, these big names will be involved on a voluntary basis in various interactions and incentives related to the preparation of Lausanne 2020.

The athletes announced today are:

Swiss Olympic champions and medallists **Timea Bacsinszky** (Tennis), **Peter de Cruz** (Curling), **Mathilde Gremaud** (Freestyle skiing) and **Fanny Smith** (Skicross), the new two-time winner of the overall world cup ranking of the discipline as well as three-time Paralympic champion **Théo Gmur** (Alpine Skiing).

Local Vaud World Cup skier **Charlotte Chable**, multiple world champion and Olympic Nordic Combined champion **Jason Lamy-Chappuis**, former French-Swiss goalkeeper of the LHC, NHL and the French Ice Hockey team **Cristobal Huet**, multiple Swiss champion and European Figure Skating medallist **Sarah Meier**, and multiple French world champion in Ski Mountaineering **Laetitia Roux**. They will be joined by other athletes in coming months, and join those already announced last year, Olympians **Pat Burgener** (Freestyle Skiing) and **Augustin Maillefer** (Rowing).

Timea Bacsinszky (SUI; Tennis): "The idea of seeing 1'880 athletes from more than 70 countries meet in Lausanne, my home city, is a fabulous prospect. I look forward to sharing my experiences with them and, until then, with the youth of Vaud and Switzerland. »

Cristobal Huet (SUI/FRA; Ice Hockey): "In 2020, with both the YOG and the IIHF World Championships, Lausanne will be the world capital of hockey. It's great for all of us and for the Olympic Capital. I look forward to sharing everything that sport has brought to me with young people here and abroad."

Virginie Faivre, President of the Lausanne 2020 Organising Committee: "It is a great joy for all of us to see these prestigious athletes joining the Lausanne 2020 family. It is also an opportunity for all the young people who will be able to benefit from their valuable advice in coming months. I would obviously like to thank them all warmly for their gracious involvement in our project. See you soon! »

## About Lausanne 2020

The Lausanne 2020 Youth Olympic Games will take place from 9 to 22 January 2020 with 1,880 athletes (15- 18 years old) from more than 80 countries. The competitions will take place in the cantons of Vaud (Lausanne, La Vallée de Joux, Leysin, les Diablerets, Villars), Valais (Champéry), Grisons (St. Moritz) and neighbouring France (Prémanon-Les Tuffes).

For more information on Lausanne 2020, please visit [www.lausanne2020.sport](http://www.lausanne2020.sport)

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