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World Junior Champions Crowned in Indianapolis *Russia Claims Gold in Solo and Combo Finals*

Indianapolis, Ind. – The 2010 World Junior Champions in the solo and combination events were crowned in Indianapolis today, as competition wrapped up at the 12th FINA/eSynchro World Junior Synchronised Swimming Championships.*

In the solo event, Russia's Vlada Chigireva earned the gold medal followed by Lolita Anasova of Ukraine and Canada's Emilia Kopicik. Team USA was represented by Alexa Tchekmarev who finished the day in 10th place. Russia also claimed gold in the combination event and was joined by Ukraine and Canada on the medal stand. Team USA finished in the 7th place position.

The world's most elite junior synchronized swimmers have been competing in Indianapolis since Wednesday, at the IU Natatorium on the campus of IUPUI. Scores from the solo event were combined with the figure scores which were earned by each swimmer individually on Friday. The internationally-sanctioned competition features the team and duet events, which are also Olympic disciplines. The team event consists of eight athletes while the duet consists of two synchronized swimmers. The competition will also include the solo and the free combination routine event. The solo requires a swimmer to synchronize a routine to music, while the free combination routine is considered a fan-favorite and incorporates a variety of different routines into one four and a half minute program.

The biennial event is open to Junior National Teams world-wide and marks the second time the competition has been held in the United States. Team USA is represented by the U.S. Junior National Team which was named in May of 2010 and has been training together for nine weeks.

SOLO RESULTS (12 Finalists)

1. Russia 171.548; 2. Ukraine 166.708; 3. Canada 165.277; 4. Japan 161.030; 5. Greece 160.789; 6. China 160.669; 7. Spain 158.694; 8. Italy 158.408; 9. France 158.079; 10. United States; 156.376 11. Belarus 152.580; 12. Switzerland 150.572

COMBINATION RESULTS (12 Finalists)

1. Russia 91.840; 2. Ukraine 90.250; 3. China 89.710; 4. Canada 89.410; 5. Spain 86.600; 6. Japan 86.360; 7. United States 85.640; 8. Italy 85.190; 9. Greece 85.020 10. Switzerland 81.250; 11. Brazil 76.770; 12. Columbia 76.430

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***Please note that the European spelling for “synchronized” is used per FINA’s request.**

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