

SKATE CANADA 2006 VICTORIA, CANADA

Day 1 - 03 Nov 2006

The Compulsory Dance at the 2006 HomeSense Skate Canada International is the Golden Waltz.

Canada's Marie-France Dubreuil/Patrice Lauzon easily waltzed into first place followed by Federica Faiella/Massimo Scali (ITA) and Tessa Virtue/Scott Moir (CAN).

Faiella/Scali produced a solid Golden Waltz as well, but seemed to lose speed in some places. The Italian Champions earned 33.19 points (16.54/16.65). *"We felt really good on the ice and I think we did a good job today. It was a clean performance. We enjoyed the dance, and we heard some positive comments. Now we can't wait to compete in the Original and Free Dance. We're very happy with our programs this season"*, Scali explained. *"We did the Golden Waltz two years ago, and we just worked on the choreography, the knee, the legs"*, Faiella said.

Day 2 - 04 Nov 2006

Canada's Marie-France Dubreuil/Patrice Lauzon strengthened their overnight lead, while their teammates Tessa Virtue/Scott Moir moved up to second place. Federica Faiella/Massimo Scali (ITA) slipped to third.

Faiella/Scali completed two level-four lifts, but Faiella suddenly fell at the very end of the diagonal step sequence. The Italians scored 49.15 (23.60/26.55) and were ranked fifth in this segment. They are currently in third at 82.34 points overall. *"We started very good and skated with passion. The fall was unexpected. I lost my balance"*, Faiella said. *"It was a very stupid mistake"*, her partner added. *"But I think the feeling for the rest of the Tango was good. We need to check what happened. Of course, the mistake happened, but it wasn't the biggest part of our original dance."*

Day 4 - 05 Nov 2006

To the delight of the home crowd, Marie-France Dubreuil/Patrice Lauzon of Canada danced to the gold medal with their young teammates Tessa Virtue/Scott Moir taking the silver. The bronze medal went to Italy's Federica Faiella/Massimo Scali. It was an interesting competition at a high level.

The Italian Champions turned in a dynamic Latin Hip Hop performance to "Pantera en Liberta" by Monica Naranjo. Their routine featured a stunning reverse lift where she lifts him and he is in an upside-down position. Their step sequences were fast paced and rated a level three. Faiella/Scali earned 88.39 points (45.20/43.19) in the Free Dance and were second in this segment, but remained in third place at a total of 170.73 points.

"We're very happy today, because the Original Dance wasn't so good for us. Today we showed how we can skate and perform. The reverse lift is amazing. We fell a lot when we practiced it, because it's very hard to find the balance", Scali explained. *"Of course, we didn't come here to get the bronze medal, but we will keep working for achieving higher levels (in our elements). We're in Paris in two weeks and hope to win there."*