

Adam Ondra takes silver in Lead at the IFSC Climbing World Championships

Prague/Innsbruck, September 9, 2018 – Adam Ondra wins the silver medal in Lead climbing at the the IFSC Climbing World Championships in Innsbruck. He won gold in the past two WCH in 2014 and 2016. Altogether he has six medals in lead from the WCH. He will compete in other disciplines in the upcoming days.

Ondra entered the finals with mixed feelings after he excelled in qualification on Friday while the semi-finals did not go as planned due to the problems with very dry hand skin.

However, he was very focused and calm in the final climb. He reached the same spot as the winner Jakub Schubert so the final results were decided by the results from the semi-finals where Schubert did better.

„Silver at the World Championships is a good result. However, I felt really strong in the finals and I was really angry when when I fell because I did not feel very tired at that moment. But there was suddenly this move that just seemed almost impossible. At that point I doubted that I can even make it to the medals because I knew others will fall in this move as well,“ says Ondra right after the competition.

Ondra topped both routes in the qualification on Friday and went into the semi-finals from the first place. He sees qualification as a test of his form, and was happy with the result: *„The qualification went surprisingly really well. I was a bit nervous at the beginning but the longer I climbed the more I got into the right state of mind. Qualification is like a test of how well prepared you are for the upcoming competition, and I am feeling really good, strong and I am looking forward to the next round,“* commented Ondra on his results right after the qualification on Friday.

He took fifth place together with several other climbers in the semi-finals on Sunday and admitted he had hard time in the route. *“It was a difficult route and I had been having issues with really dry skin from the very beginning which was quite a problem especially with those specific holds that have very little friction. I felt uncomfortable from the moment I started climbing and unfortunately I had to control the climb too much the whole time. I made it to the crux too tired and I just did not have it in me to do more there,“* said Ondra after the semi-finals.

And he also adds: *„The semi-final route was actually the most important route of this competition which unfortunately I messed up a bit. I did not warm up my hands properly, and I also did not read the route properly just before I fell.“*

„Anyway, silver is a fine result and I am looking forward to other disciplines. Bouldering will be very important. Especially to get through the qualification which will not be easy at all,“ says Ondra, who competes in all disciplines this year.

ADAM ONDRA

Adam Ondra (25) is a professional rock climber from the Czech Republic and one of the best climbers in the world. At 12, he ranked amongst the top world climbers and he has been there ever since. In 2009 he entered the adult competitions and since then has won many significant competitions such as medals from the World Championships and World Cup for lead climbing and bouldering.

Apart from competitions, Adam Ondra also focuses on outdoor rock climbing. In the last few years he has been known for climbing difficult routes with the highest climbing grades. Among these are: Change (9b+) in Flatanger, Norway which he climbed in 2012 and which was the first route ever to receive a proposed grade of 9b+. Then La Dura Dura (9b+) in Spain, Vasil Vasil (9b+) in the Czech Republic, La Capella (9b) in Spanish Siruana, and Chaxiraxi in Oliana (9b). For all these routes Adam did first ascent. Last but not least, in September 2017, Adam Ondra finished his project in Norway of Silence, the world's first 9c.

In 2016 Adam repeated the legendary Dawn Wall in a very short time of 8 days. So far, Adam has climbed thousands of routes, 140 at the grade of 9a and higher.

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ADAM ONDRA & MEDALS FROM WCH

DISCIPLINE	2009	2011	2012	2014	2016
LEAD	silver (WCH Si-ning)	bronze (WCH Arco)	bronze (WCH Paris)	gold (WCH Gijón)	gold (WCH Paris)
BOULDERING	-	silver (WCH Arco)	-	gold (WCH Munich)	silver (WCH Paris)