

Mie Hamada: Excellence in Figure Skating Coaching

Celebrated Japanese figure skating coach Mie Hamada has revolutionized the sport through disciplined training and mentorship. Her exceptional methods earned her the prestigious 2024 ISU "Best Coach" Award.

For decades, she has developed world-class athletes across generations, shaping champions while transforming Japanese figure skating on the global stage.



Early Life and Background

Birth

Born in Kyoto, Japan on October 29, 1959

2 — Education

Graduated from Doshisha University in 1983

3 — Competitive Career

Achieved 10th place at Japanese National Championships

Transition to Coaching



International Inspiration

Traveled to study American training methods in the early 1980s



Return to Japan

Brought back international techniques to transform Japanese skating



Career Launch

Established her coaching practice in Kyoto in 1982



Coaching Philosophy



Leadership at Kinoshita Academy

Head Coach Leads technical development and training programs **General Manager** Oversees operations and strategic direction **Facility Relocation** Guided 2020 move for academy growth and modernization

National Recognition and Influence

Association Leadership

Active member of Japan Figure Skating Instructor Association

Perception Shift

Changed views on domestic training capabilities

Talent Development

Created pathways for identifying and nurturing future champions

Standards Elevation

Raised national coaching and performance benchmarks

International Accolades

ISU Skating Awards 2024

Received the prestigious "Best Coach" honor at figure skating's premier awards ceremony

Global Recognition

Acclaimed for exceptional athlete development spanning multiple generations

Coaching Style

Internationally respected for distinctive training methodology balancing discipline and nurturing



First Major Breakthrough: Yukina Ota

2003

Junior World Championship

Year Yukina Ota won gold under Hamada's guidance 1st

Major Title

Hamada's first international championship as coach

16

Skater's Age

Ota's young age highlighted Hamada's junior development skills



Producing Champions: Key Athletes



Mao Shimada

2023 World Junior Champion who exemplifies Hamada's technical precision



Rika Kihira

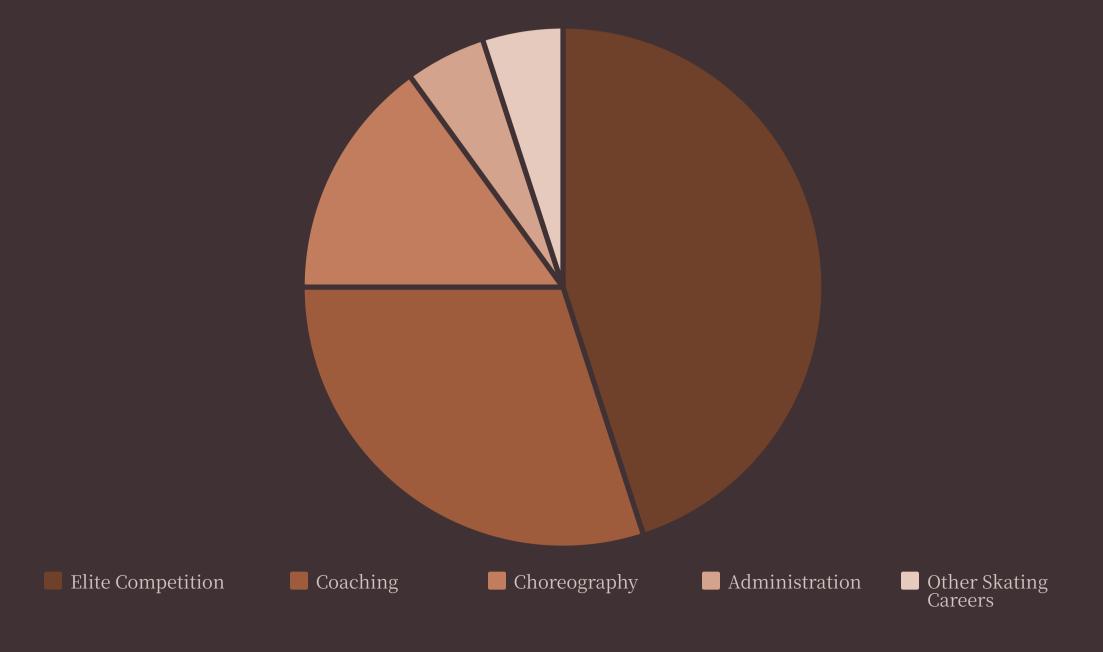
Two-time Four Continents and Grand Prix champion known for triple axels



Tomoki Hiwatashi

2019 World Junior Champion who relocated to train with Hamada

Alumni and Broader Impact



Method and Discipline in Practice

Structure

Implements methodical training plans with clear progression. Every minute of practice is purposeful and organized.

Repetition

Emphasizes consistent drilling of fundamentals. Technical perfection comes through thousands of attempts.

Balance

Combines tough expectations with motherly support. Her approach nurtures both technical skills and emotional resilience.

Embracing Global Perspectives



International Techniques

Incorporates training methods from American, Russian, and European schools



Competition Readiness

Prepares athletes for both domestic and international judging standards



Collaborative Approach

Partners with international choreographers and specialists



Continuous Learning

Regularly attends global seminars to update knowledge and techniques



Legacy and Contribution to Japanese Figure Skating

Foundation Building

Established systematic approach to developing young talent. Created pathways for skaters to progress from juniors to elite competition.

Technical Innovation

Introduced advanced jumping techniques to Japanese skating. Emphasized artistic elements alongside technical difficulty.

Global Influence

Positioned Japan as a premier training destination. Elevated Japanese coaching reputation internationally.





Conclusion: Hallmark of Excellence



Competitive Success

Multiple champions across generations



Methodical Approach

Systematic training developing complete athletes



Future Legacy

Continues
developing next
generation of
champions



Passion for Teaching

Lifetime dedication to figure skating excellence