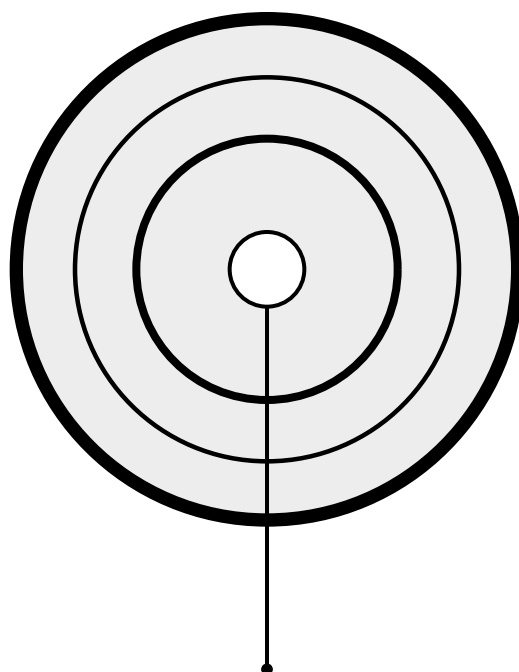


THE YOYO ARCHIVE

ZINE / VOL. 4 / SEPTEMBER 2026



WORLD YO-YO CONTEST 2026

HIMEJI, JAPAN / AUGUST 13-16, 2026

FOREWORD

Four years at the top.

A month after the World Yo-Yo Contest returned to Japan, the result that still jumps off the page is the same one everyone saw coming and still somehow could not take for granted: Mir Kim won 1A again.

That makes four consecutive World titles, from Osaka in 2023 through Himeji in 2026. The score was 98.1. The next two players finished almost five points back, separated from each other by a tenth.

But Worlds is never only one division or one name. This issue is a small paper record of the people, scores, formats and moments that made Himeji 2026 worth keeping.

- The Curator

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PRINT. FOLD. KEEP.

WHAT IS THE YOYO ARCHIVE?

The Yoyo Archive is an independent online archive of yo-yo history, nostalgia, objects, makers, players, contests and stories. It was founded by Aaron Warren in 2023 and has been curated by Rob Kalajian since June 2024.

The world met in Himeji.

The 2026 World Yo-Yo Contest ran August 13-16 at Arcrea HIMEJI in Himeji, Hyogo, Japan. The International Yo-Yo Federation listed five championship divisions - 1A through 5A - plus Art & Performance, with additional Junior, Over 40 and Women's freestyle events documented by the Archive.

4

STRAIGHT
1A TITLES
MIR KIM

98.1

WINNING
1A SCORE

5

WORLD
CHAMPIONSHIP
A-DIVISIONS

1A PODIUM

1ST	MIR KIM South Korea	98.1
2ND	JAKUB DOLEJS Czechia	93.1
3RD	HUNTER FEUERSTEIN United States	93.0

Venue/date: IYYF and JYYF. 1A results: The Yoyo Archive competition record.
Archive record: yoyoarchive.org/competitions/wyyc-2026

A fourth consecutive world title.

Mir Kim's run now spans four World Yo-Yo Contests: 2023, 2024, 2025 and 2026. That is a modern streak with a very simple archival value: the same name, four different host cities and years, preserved as a continuous competitive record.

The 2026 final was also a reminder that the rest of the field is not standing still. Jakub Dolejs finished second at 93.1, while Hunter Feuerstein took third at 93.0 - a one-tenth gap between silver and bronze.

FINAL STANDINGS

MIR KIM	
JAKUB DOLEJS	93.1
HUNTER FEUERSTEIN	93.0
THOMAS RAJAN	89.7
JAMES HEDER	85.5

Scores reproduced from The Yoyo Archive's WYYC 2026 competition record.

Five divisions. Five ways to win.

The championship divisions separate competitive yo-yo by equipment and play style. Each asks for a different kind of control, risk and performance.

1A**MIR KIM**

One long-spinning yo-yo / string trick

98.1**2A****CHUN HAY CHAN**

Two responsive looping yo-yos

88.6**3A****TOMOYA KURITA**

Two long-spinning yo-yos / string trick

CHAMPION**4A****KOYO HASHIMOTO**

Offstring yo-yo

CHAMPION**5A****JIHOO LEE**

Counterweight yo-yo

CHAMPION

ART & PERFORMANCE

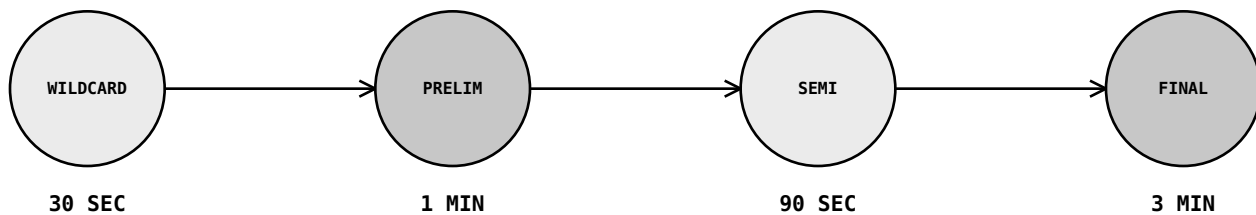
The Archive records Masakazu Yamasaki as the Artistic Award recipient and Yo-Yo Store REWIND TE as the Entertainment Award recipient for 2026. AP is judged differently from the A-divisions and can award artistic, entertainment, creativity or Grand-Prix honors.

A freestyle is more than a trick count.

Under the IYYF's 2026 rules, the main A-divisions move through seeded rounds before the final. Finalists perform a three-minute freestyle to music. Semi-finals run 90 seconds, preliminaries one minute, and wildcards 30 seconds.

Judges score both Technical Execution and Freestyle Evaluation. That matters historically. A result sheet is not just a list of who landed the most elements. It is a snapshot of what competitive yo-yo valued at that moment - execution, construction, control, performance and the rules that defined the field.

COMPETITION PATH



THE RULEBOOK IS PART OF THE RECORD.

Scores without rules lose context. Names without dates lose chronology. Videos without results lose the shape of the contest around them. Preserving all of it is what turns a pile of links into history.

Because the scene moves fast.

Yo-yo history has always lived in fragile places: forum threads, personal photo folders, dead storefronts, old contest sites, social posts and videos that can disappear without warning.

A world contest is unusually well documented while it is happening. That makes it easy to assume the information will always be there. It will not. Preserving the score, date, venue, divisions and placements now means somebody years from now can reconstruct what happened without depending on memory.

ARCHIVE A CONTEST

- 1 DATE + VENUE
- 2 DIVISIONS
- 3 PLACEMENTS
- 4 SCORES
- 5 RULES
- 6 VIDEO / MEDIA

2026 IN THE ARCHIVE

The Archive's competition section now includes World, U.S. National, regional and state-level records from 2026, alongside the product catalog, company histories, reviews and player stories. Contest results are one thread in a much larger record of what the community made and did.

BROWSE: [YOYOARCHIVE.ORG/COMPETITIONS](https://yoyoarchive.org/competitions)

Sources used in this issue: IYYF WYYC 2026 rules and event listing; JYYF event listing; The Yoyo Archive's World Yo-Yo Contest 2026 competition record.

THE ARCHIVE IS ONLY USEFUL IF WE KEEP ADDING TO IT.

Have an old catalog, contest flyer, rare yo-yo, player story, photo set, scan, correction or piece of history that should not disappear?

Send it in. The Yoyo Archive depends on the people who were there, the people who kept things, and the people who care enough to share them.

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YYA