

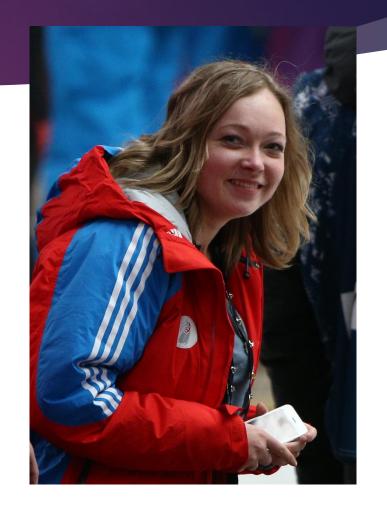
# On the Verge of Death: IRINA SKVORTSOVA

#### Presentation plan

- General information about Irina Skvortsova
- ► A fatal error
- Irina's recovery
- ► The Unbreakable

## General information

- Born on July 17, 1988 (29 y.o.)
- Professional bobsledder from Russia
- ► TV presenter
- Graduated from MSU
- Known for recovery from catastrophic bobsleigh accident



## A fatal error

- November 23, 2009
- European Cup training session
- Judge's error led to two bobs colliding
- Irina was severely injured
- 11 months in hospital
- "Injuries incompatible with life"
- ► 1 chance in a 100, yet she survived...



#### Irina's recovery



- Main difficulty accepting the need to give up sport
- Physical suffering which painkillers could not alleviate
- Friends' support cheered Irina up
- Doing sport became impossible
- A new goal getting out the wheelchair

#### The Unbreakable

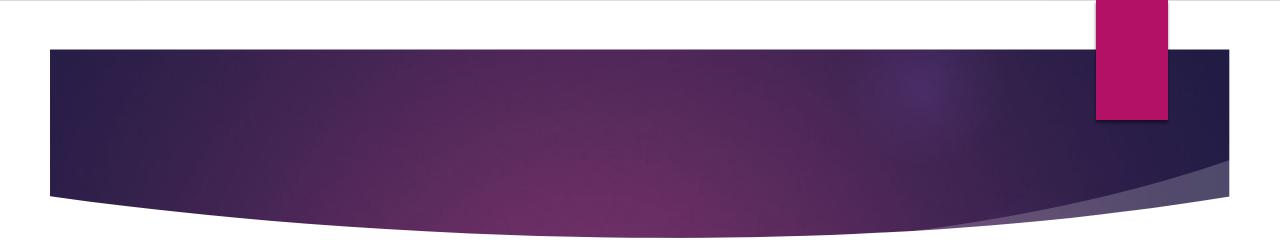


- Went to Prague after rehab
- Learnt to drive a car



- Works as a TV journalist
- Torchbearer at the Sochi 2014 Olympic Torch Relay
- Irina's story impressed Vladimir Putin greatly
- They stood together during the Sochi Winter Olympics opening ceremony





# "Nothing is impossible!"