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Denmark's Grimmel claims his second rifle prone world cup gold of the season in Munich

The 2000 Olympic Silver medalist won today's 50m Rifle Prone Men final at the ISSF World Cup in Munich, Germany, beating home hero Junghaenel. Zhang of the People's Republic of China secured Gold at the following 25m Rapid Fire Pistol Men final.

The ISSF Rifle and Pistol World Cup in Munich, Germany, continued today with the men's 50m Rifle Prone and 25m Rapid Fire finals.

The 50m Rifle Prone final saw a thrilling duel between the Sydney 2000's Olympic silver medalist Torben Grimmel of Denmark (40) and world rank's #2 Henri Junghaenel (28) from Germany, competing on his home turf here in Munich.

Junghaenel, who had won the pre-Olympic test event in Rio de Janeiro last month, moved in the lead after the seventh shot. But soon Grimmel reached him, and the two finalists shot neck and neck right to the end of the round, exchanging position in first and second place several times.

Nailing two 10.8 out of his last four shots, it was Grimmel who finally claimed the brightest medal, with a score of 210.6 points to Junghaenel's 209.6.

"It has been hard for me, as I had a bit of difficulties in getting into my optimal position, that's why I had a couple of shots going out to the right. But I figured it out, and got it to work." Grimmel said. "The pressure of the match was big. I knew that we were close, but I was trying to focus just on my shots, that's all I can do, and luckily I was the best today."

Grimmel had won also the first world cup stage of the season, in Bangkok, last March, and he's now in the spotlights on the road to Rio.

"In the lead-up to the Olympics I am trying to do what I normally do, staying focused on my technique. Because at the end it's a competition like any other competition, the guys are the same, more and less, the pressure is higher of course, but I am trying to keep it simple!"

The 2004 Olympic Champion Matthew Emmons of USA, 35, an experienced 30-time world cup medalist, finished in third place today, pocketing the Bronze medal with 187.2 points.

The winner of the first world cup stage of the season in Bangkok, Zhang Fusheng of the People's Republic of China, 22, ranked 5th in the world, secured Gold at the following 25m Rapid Fire Pistol Men event at the ISSF World Cup in Munich.

The young Chinese shooter beat the current world cup title-holder Jean Quiquampoix of France (20), with a score of 29 to 28 hits.

Quiquampoix arrived here in Munich after winning a Bronze at the pre-Olympic world cup in Rio de Janeiro, one month ago, and he's currently ranked sixth in the world in this event, and is considered one of the favorites on the road to Rio 2016.

Today he beat Germany's top-ranked rapid fire shooter, Beijing 2008's Olympic Bronze medalist Christian Reitz, 29, who claimed Bronze with 24 hits. The German shooter had to pass through three different shoot-offs to climb up on the podium, surviving one elimination after the other. On his way to the medals, Reitz left behind him Kim Jun Hong of the Republic of Korea (4th with 20 hits), Spain's Jorge Llames (5th with 17 hits) and the reigning Olympic Champion Leuris Pupo of Cuba (6th with 12 hits).

After six out of eight events conducted, the People's Republic of China solidly leads the overall medal standings of the world cup stage, with 3 Gold, 2 Silver and 1 Bronze medals. Denmark, Spain and Serbia follow in second place, with 1 Gold medal each.

The ISSF Rifle and Pistol World Cup in Munich, Germany, keeps on rolling. Day-4 of the competition will see the women's 50m Rifle 3 Positions final taking place at 11.30 (GMT+1), and the men's 10m Air Pistol Final at 13:15. The finals will be broadcasted live on www.issf-sports.org

Notes for the editors:

The International Shooting Sport Federation is the governing body of the Olympic Shooting events, and it has over 160 affiliated National Federations worldwide. Shooting is an Olympic sport since the very first edition of the modern Olympic Games, Athens 1896. Find out more about the International Shooting Sport Federation at www.issf-sports.org.

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