

## International Shooting Sport Federation Internationaler Schiess-Sportverband e.V. Fédération Internationale de Tir Sportif Federación Internacional de Tiro Deportivo

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## ISSF Press Release N. 24/2017 Pejcic and Korostylov bring Croatia and Ukraine atop the ISSF World Cup podium in Munich

Munich (GER), 22 May 2017 - Six-point-eight points was the final gap separating Croatia's Snjezana Pejcic, the winner of today's 50m Rifle 3 Positions Women event, from silver medalist Selina Gschwandtner of Germany, at the ISSF World Cup in Munich.

The 34-year old Croatian shooter built that huge advantage over the three positions, moving in the lead since the beginning of the final, the kneeling, and then increasing her lead over the prone and the standing positions, to win gold with 462.2 points.

Gschwandtner, 23, pocketed the silver with 455.5 points, and was joined on the podium by her teammate Jolyn Beer, 22, who claimed bronze with 444.6 points, leaving first-time finalist Rikke Maeng Ibsen of Denmark, 26, in 4th place with 432.9 points.

"Today's competition has been interesting, considering the fact that I shot an 8 at my last shot in the qualifications. I thought: that's it, no way to get into the final. But luckily I made it," said Pejcic after the final match.

"The final itself has been amazing. Everything came into place. At a certain point of the match, I was leading by more than 7 points. I thought: is everybody else shooting bad, or am I really shooting that good?"

The 2014 ISS World Cup champion could have reached and beaten the current world record of 464.7 points, set by Italy's Petra Zublasing in 2015. But by closing the match with three nines (9.6, 9.7, 9.2) she finished 2.5 points away from it.

"At a certain point I figured out that I was somewhere close to the world record," Pejcic commented. "I started thinking about it, I had the feeling it was already done, but then I nailed a couple of nines. It's something you are not supposed to think about when you're shooting a final, and I am a bit sad that indeed I didn't make it."

"After this competition I am taking some time off. I am not competing in the next world cup stage. My next aim is the European Championship, in July."

Russian Federation's Yulia Karimova, 23, took the 5th place with 422.5 points, followed by Italy's Sabrina Sena, 32, 6th with 409.3 points, and by Poland's Agnieszka Nagay, 36, 7th with 399.5 points, while the second Russian finalist - 25-year old Polina Khorosheva - finished in 8th with 394.7 points.

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In today's second final match, it was the 2014 Youth Olympic Games and Junior World Champion Pavlo Korostylov of Ukraine, 19, who triumphed at the ISSF World Cup in Munich, Germany, as he won the 10m Air Pistol Men final.

The young shooter set a new junior world record of 240.9 points (juniors can indeed establish junior world record also while competing in senior events), beating champions such as Japan's Matsuda Tomoyuki and Republic of Korea's Jin Jongoh.

Korostylov moved into the lead after the first twelve shots, to finish atop of the scoreboard with 2.2 points of advantage on his followers and his first world cup gold around the neck.

Japan's 41-year old Matsuda Tomoyuki, a 2010 ISSF World Champion, finished in second claiming silver with 238.7 points.

Four-time Olympic champion Jin Jongoh of the Republic of Korea, 37, secured bronze with 218.4 points, climbing up the scoreboard throughout the final after a rough start into the match.

"The qualification has been tough; I was a bit nervous..." said Korostylov, "but during the final match I calmed down. I did not feel stressed by shooting next to champions like Jin and Matsuda. For me we are all athletes, and first of all we are all competing against ourselves."

"I did not think about the record, I just shoot my competition, you have no time to think. And at the end it came. Next step is the ISSF Junior World Championship in Suhl, in June," concluded the Ukrainian athlete.

The ISSF World Cup Stage 4 will conclude tomorrow with the last two final matches: the 10m Air Pistol Men, scheduled at 12:30 pm (UTC+2:00), and the 50m Rifle 3 Positions Men, scheduled at 1:15 pm.

All final matches will be streamed live on the <u>ISSF website</u>, on the Federation's Livestream channel and on its official <u>Facebook</u> page. Live results of the competitions, news and updates will be available on www.issf-sports.org and on all ISSF social media platforms: <u>Facebook</u>, <u>Twitter</u>, <u>Instagram</u>, <u>YouTube</u>, <u>Weibo</u> and <u>Youku</u>.

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## 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 <a href="https://www.issf-sports.org">www.issf-sports.org</a>.

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