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Suhl (GER), 27 June 2017

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**China keeps dominating the ISSF Junior World Championship in Suhl,  
claims three medals on Day 4**

Suhl (GER), 27 June 2017 - Two more events took place today at the ISSF Junior World Championship Rifle/Pistol, who will officially conclude tomorrow with two mixed test events in Air Rifle and Air Pistol.

After missing the Air Rifle Gold by just one-tenth of a point less than 24 hours before, Liu Yukun of the People's Republic of China finally grabbed his first junior world title in Suhl, prevailing over Czech Republic's Filip Nepejchal in a thrilling finale.

The Chinese 20-year-old, who was sitting in 6th place after the kneeling series and in 2nd at the end of the prone ones, saw Nepejchal come back with some great shooting in the standing position, and found him just 0.3 points behind at the 40th shot mark.

Since then, the two youngsters shot neck-to-neck all along the standing series, with the Czech 17-year-old matching Liu's score of 456.4 points with a great 10.5 in his 45th shot. In the following and decisive tiebreaker, Liu once again hit the 10th ring, nailing a 10.3 that Nepejchal failed to beat and climbing atop the Junior World Championship podium.

Norway's 19-year-old Henrik Larsen, who was leading the final at the end of the prone shooting, concluded in 3rd place, claiming the Bronze medal with 445.4 points.

Failing to match the 3rd place he obtained in yesterday's 10m Air Rifle Men, Croatia's Borna Petanjek placed just outside of the podium, taking 4th place and scoring 433.7 points.

Two Hungarian athletes followed Petanjek, as 19-year-old first-time finalist Peter Vas slid down one position after firing a disappointing 7.4 in his 42nd shot, finishing in 5th place with 422.6 points, while his teammate and current number 17 in the World Ranking, 20-year-old Istvan Peni, finished in 6th with 412.4 points.

Italy's Riccardo Armiraglio (20) and Hungary's third final participant, Zalan Pekler (17), didn't match the high pace of the final, being eliminated after shot number 40: the Italian shooter placed 7th, scoring 399.3 points, while Pekler took 8th position with 396.7.

In today's second final, 19-year-old Cao Lijia of the People's Republic of China claimed the Gold medal at in the 25m Pistol Women Junior, overtaking Bulgaria's Miroslava Mincheva with a perfect 5-hit last series to finish atop of the podium with a total of 36.

17-year-old Mincheva, who led the match from the 6th to the 9th series, lost her chances as she closed the match with a disappointing 2-hits last series, finishing in second with 35 hits.

No surprises tough: Cao was indeed one of the most experienced shooters of the pack, having already competed in five ISSF World Cup stages and one World Cup Final between 2015 and 2016.

She was joined on the podium by her 19-year-old teammate Chen Yan, who was in joint lead with Mincheva after the 6th series, but then shot three 3-hit series in a row sliding down in 3rd place collecting the Bronze with a total of 29 hits.

India's Muskan Muskan (16) took the 4th place with 24 hits, ahead of Hungary's 20-year-old Veronika Major — a three-time 10m Running Target Junior World Champion that started shooting Pistol this year — who closed the match in 5th position with 18 hits.

Mathilde Lamolle of France (20) one of the favorites before the match, followed them in 6th place with 15 hits, after surviving a shoot-off against the third Chinese finalist Zhou Ying, 7th with 14 hits. The 2015 Asian Champion Hanieyeh Rostamiyan of the Islamic Republic of Iran (18) finished in 8th place with 10 hits.

The 25m Pistol Junior Women closed the official program of the first-ever ISSF Junior World Championship. The People's Republic of China finished atop of the overall medal standings, winning a stunning total of 21 medals, including 11 individual ones: six Golds, two Silvers and one Bronze; and eight team ones: four Golds, two Silvers and two Bronzes.

Tomorrow, junior athletes from all over the world will get a chance to test the new 10m Air Rifle and 10m Air Pistol Mixed Team events that have recently been included in the Tokyo 2020 Olympic Program.

Live results of the competitions, news and updates will be available on [www.issf-sports.org](http://www.issf-sports.org) and on all ISSF social media platforms: [Facebook](#), [Twitter](#), [Instagram](#), [YouTube](#), [Weibo](#) and [Youku](#).

For the complete 50m Rifle 3 Positions Men results [click here](#).

For the complete 25m Pistol Women results [click here](#).

For the final medal standings [click here](#).

For editorial photos [click here](#).

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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 [www.issf-sports.org](http://www.issf-sports.org).

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