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ISSF World Cup Final in New Delhi closes on a high note,
as Spain's Fernandez sets a new Trap Men record

New Delhi (IND), 29 October 2017 - The last competition of the 2017 ISSF Season folded at the Dr. Karni Singh Shooting Range: Italy claimed the top position on the final medal table, followed by the People's Republic of China and France. Spotlights on the international shooting sport scene will turn back on in March 2018.

Three medal events took place on the closing day of the 2017 ISSF World Cup Final, the last competition of the season: the men's 25m Rapid Fire Pistol, the men's 50m Rifle 3 Positions and the men's Trap.

25m Rapid Fire Pistol Men

Ten years after participating in his first ISSF World Cup Final, and capping his seventh start in this competition in New Delhi (IND), United States' Keith Sanderson finally climbed atop the podium, claiming his first ISSF crystal globe in the 25m Rapid Fire Pistol Men Gold.

Carrying the second highest qualification score, 42-year-old Sanderson shot consistently through the whole final match, nailing two perfect 5-hit series and taking the lead at the end of the fifth one, when he placed 1st alongside his Korean rival Song. Firing two consecutive 4-hit series, then, the experienced American finally managed to put some distance between himself and his closest opponent, France's 26-year-old Clement Bessaguet, sealing the victory with 3 hits in the final one.

Sanderson's finished with 33 hits, only one away from the current World Record, while after nailing the best qualification score, Bessaguet took Silver with 29.

Competing in his first career World Cup Final, Republic of Korea's 27-year-old Song Jong Ho took Bronze with 24 hits.

Azerbaijan's Ruslan Lunev took 4th place after losing a shoot-off against Song, finishing with 22 hits. Previously, the 28-year-old Azerbaijani shooter survived another tie-breaking shoot-off to

avoid elimination in 5th place, besting Lao Jiajie of the People's Republic of China. The Chinese 27-year-old concluded his final with 17 hits.

Rio 2016 Olympic Gold medalist and World Cup Final title holder Christian Reitz of Germany was the first to leave the match, finishing 6th with 12 hits.

50m Rifle 3 Positions Men

The 50m Rifle 3 Positions Men final sealed the Rifle/Pistol schedule at the ISSF World Cup Final in New Delhi (IND), awarding Rio 2016 Silver medalist Alexis Raynaud of France with his first ISSF crystal globe.

The 23-year-old led the table for the whole final match, but failed to build a comfortable lead and distance his closes opponents: Czech Republic's Istvan Peni and Hungary's Istvan Peni.

Inching closer to the Elimination phase, Raynaud remained focused and extended the gap to 1.8-point at the end of the second standing series. There, the French shot four consistent shot, maintaining his lead and eventually capping the match with a fantastic 10.8 on his 45th and final one.

The tight battle between 18-year-old Nepejchal and 20-year-old Peni finally crowned the Czech athlete, who took Silver with 458.5 points, while the Hungarian followed his younger rival in 3rd place with 449.1, adding a Bronze to the men's 10m Air Rifle Gold he won four days earlier.

Placed just outside of the medal positions, Croatian 29-year-old Petar Gorsa took 4th place with 439.2 points, while Poland's Tomasz Bartnik left after shot number 42 and finished 5th in his first World Cup Final participation, scoring 428.0 points.

The Polish 27-year-old preceded 45-year-old experienced Serbian shooter Stevan Pletikusic, who finished in 6th place and scored 414.3 points.

Two Chinese shooters left the match at the 40th-shot mark: the 2017 Junior World Champion Liu Yukun took 8th place with 404.3 points, while Hui Zicheng finishing in 7th with 405.6.

Trap Men

A tremendous shooting performance capped off the 2017 ISSF World Cup Final, as Trap Men shooter Alberto Fernandez of Spain set a new World Record on his way to the ISSF crystal globe.

The Spanish 34-year-old hit 48 of his 50 targets, dominating his rivals with great self-confidence and only missing clay number 32 and number 50. Once the match was over, Fernandez was immediately greeted by his girlfriend Beatriz Martinez, also a Trap shooter, who previously won the ISSF World Cup Final title in the Trap Mixed Team event.

With only ten targets left to hit, Fernandez defended himself from the potential comeback of Italy's 31-year-old Daniele Resca, who also shot greatly and pocketed the Silver medal with 46 hits, missing the chance to add another title to the World Championship Gold he won in Moscow (RUS) last month.

The Bronze medal was awarded to Croatia's Giovanni Cernogoraz: the Croatian 34-year-old, Olympic Gold medalist at London 2012, pocketed the Bronze with 37 crushed targets out of 40.

33-year-old Antonio Bailon of Spain, holder of the previous World Record, concluded his match at the foot of the podium, placing in 4th position with 31 hits out of 35 clays.

Bailon was followed by the second Italian finalist, 47-year-old and four-time Olympic medalist Giovanni Pellielo, who took 5th place with 26 target hits out of 30, and by British 30-year-old Aaron Heading, who was the first shooter to leave the match and placed 6th with 22 hits out of 25 targets.

Medals and records

Five new World Records were set during the competition:

- Riccardo Filippelli of Italy and Ben Llewelin of Great Britain both marked 59 hits in the Skeet Men final;
- Tomoyuki Matsuda of Japan scored 241.8 points in the 10m Air Pistol Men final;
- Hu Binyuan of the People's Republic of China hit 79 clays in the Double Trap Men event;
- Torben Grimmel of Denmark scored 250.6 points in the 50m Rifle Prone Men final;
- Alberto Fernandez crushed 48 of his 50 targets in the Trap Men event.

Diana Bacosi and Kimberly Rhode also set an Equaled World Record in the Skeet Women final by hitting 56 out of 60 targets.

Among junior shooters, Pavlo Korostylov of Ukraine equaled the World Record in the 10m Air Pistol Men event with 241.1 points, while Istvan Peni of Hungary equaled the 10m Air Rifle Men one by scoring 249.8 points.

Sadeghian Armina of the Islamic Republic of Iran set a new Junior Qualification World Record in the 10m Air Rifle Women event with 422.3 points, and finally Istvan Peni matched the 50m Rifle 3 Positions Men World Record with 1185 points.

At the end of a pretty balanced competition, the final medal table was ruled by Italy with six total medals: 2 Golds, 3 Silvers and 1 Bronze, all won in the Shotgun discipline. The People's Republic of China followed in 2nd with two Golds, two Silvers and five Bronzes, while France took 3rd place with two Golds and two Silvers.

Serbia, Spain and the United States of America also won two Gold medals apiece, while Denmark, India, Germany, Hungary, Japan and Republic of Korea took one each.

The 2018 ISSF Season will resume on March 2nd, 2018 in Guadalajara (MEX) for the first stage of the 2018 ISSF World Cup Series.

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

For the 25m Rapid Fire Pistol Men complete results [click here](#).

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

For the Trap Men complete results [click here](#).

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

For editorial photos [click here](#).

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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