

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

ISSF • Bavariaring 21 • D-80336 München • Germany Phone: +49-89-5443550 • e-mail: munich@issf-sports.org Fax: +49-89-54435544 • internet: http://www.issf-sports.org

Guadalajara (MEX), 4 March 2018

ISSF Press Release N. 03/2018 Hungary and India take last-shot victories at the ISSF World Cup in Guadalajara

Guadalajara (MEX), 4 March 2018 - Two more finals took place today the ISSF World Cup Stage 1, currently taking place in Guadalajara.

10m Air Rifle Men

The 10m Air Rifle Men final went down to the last shot, and finally, it crowned the world number 1, giving an exciting show to the crowd that filled CODE Paradero.

In his 24th shot, indeed, Hungary's 21-year-old Istvan Peni fired a great 10.6, overtaking Austria's 28-year-old Alexander Schmirl and securing the first World Cup gold of his career in this event. Peni's final score was 249.5 points.

Schmirl closed his match with a disappointing 9.4, finishing with 248.7 points and pocketing silver: the first World Cup medal of his career.

The podium was completed by India's 28-year-old Ravi Kumar, who took Bronze with 226.4 points and secured the first World Cup medal of his career, also preceding his 30-year-old teammate Deepak Kumar, who concluded in 4th place with 205.8 points.

Kumar was followed by Israel's Sergey Richter (28), who placed in 5th position with 184.1 points, and Austria's 26-year-old Bernhard Pickl who finished 6th with 162.7.

In his first World Cup participation ever, 17-year-old Argentinian shooter Facundo Firmapaz finished in 7th place, besting the 49th place he nailed at last year's ISSF World Championship in Suhl (GER). Firmapaz — the youngest shooter among the eight finalists — concluded with 142.4 points.

After shot number 12 it was France's 23-year-old Brian Baudouin who left the match, taking 8th place with 118.0 points.

10m Air Pistol Women

In today's second final, India kept piling up medals, as 16-year-old Pistol shooter Manu Bhaker pocketed her country's second gold in two days, prevailing over hometown favorite Alejandra Zavala Vazquez in the women's 10m Air Pistol final.

Making her absolute debut in an ISSF competition, Bhaker confronted herself with a pack of experienced and multi-decorated shooters, eventually taking gold with an incredible comeback in her final two shots.

Despite sitting on a 1.9-point advantage, in fact, the Mexican shooter fired twice inside the 8th ring, while Bhaker first reduced the gap with an 8.5, and then secured the brightest medal with a fantastic 10.6.

Thanks to Bhaker's gold, India's tally in Guadalajara is now two golds — both won in the Air Pistol individual events — and three bronzes.

The third step of the podium was taken by France's Celine Goberville, winner of the ISSF crystal globe at last year's World Cup Final in New Delhi (IND). The 31-year-old shooter finished with 217.0 points, claiming her fourth World Cup medal in the Air Pistol event.

Bhaker's teammate Yashaswini Singh Deswal (20) signed the best World Cup placement of her career, scoring 196.1 points and finishing 4th in her first final appearance. She was followed by Anna Korakaki of Greece who scored 177.0 points and concluded in 5th place.

Two German first-time final participants followed the Greek shooter in 6th and 7th place: 33-year-old Sandra Reitz took 6th position with 155.8 points, while 30-year-old Julia Hochmuth placed 7th with 129.2.

Switzerland's experienced shooter Heidi Diethelm Gerber placed at the bottom of the table, taking 8th place with 110.4 points.

The ISSF World Cup in Guadalajara (MEX) will continue tomorrow with three more finals: the 10m Air Rifle Mixed Team, scheduled at 11:30 am (UTC+6:00), the 10m Air Pistol Mixed Team, scheduled at 1:15 pm, and the Trap Women final, taking place at 4:30 pm.

The Trap Women final will be streamed live on the <u>ISSF website</u>, on the Federation's <u>Livestream channel</u>, on its official <u>Facebook page</u> and on the <u>Olympic Channel</u>.

Live results of the 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 10m Air Rifle Men complete results click here.

For the 10m Air Pistol Women complete results 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.

ISSF Media Contact:

ISSF Communication Manager: marco@issf-sports.org.