

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. 48/2018 China and Russia pocket the first Olympic quotas at stake in Changwon

Changwon (KOR), 02 September 2018- With only one shot left in the final of the 10m Air Rifle Mixed Team event, 22-year-old Yang Haoran and 20-year-old Zhao Ruozhu of the People's Republic of China overtook the second Chinese team in the final (Song Buhan and Wu Mingyang) securing the first title of the 52nd ISSF World Championship in Changwon (KOR) with 500.9 points.

"It's not our first time in this event," said Yang Haoran. "We also won gold in this event at this year's World Cup stage here in Changwon."

"I think this World Championship is going to be a good chance to train ourselves and get more experience in the mixed team event," added his teammate Zhao Ruozhu.

Wu and Song eventually took silver with 500.6 points.

Yang Haoran and Zhao Ruozhu also secured one of the two Olympic quota places up for grabs in this event. The second was awarded to the Russian Federation, as Anastasiia Galashina and Vladimir Maslennikov won bronze with 434.2 points.

Later today, team Russian Federation (Vitalina Batsarashkina and Artem Chernousov) won the 10m Air Pistol Mixed Team event a record score of 488.1 points.

"This shooting range is technically perfect. This is the perfect place to score high results and beat world record." Artem Chernousov said.

"Our plan? Win, win, win. This is just a starting point. The quota place goes to the country, not the athletes. We will have to go through selection matches, back home, in Russia, to qualify for the Games."

The winning team finished atop of the podium with a huge margin of 7.9 points on silver medalists Wang Qian and Wang Meng Yi of the People's Republic of China, who took the second place with 480.2 points, winning their first medal in this event.

Team Russia and team China secured the four Tokyo 2020 quota places up for grabs (one per each team members, for the first two teams). The other teams competing in Tokyo will be formed by double-starter athletes qualified in individual events.

Today's Bronze medal went to Ukraine, thanks to the 2004 Olympic Champion Olena Kostevych and to the 2008 World Cup winner Oleh Omelchuk, who scored 416.7 points today. They were followed by team Serbia (Zorana Arunovic, Damir Mikec, 376.6 points) and by team Spain (Sonia Franquet, Pablo Carrera, 331.6 points).

The ISSF World Championship will continue tomorrow, with several events and four medal matches on the schedule: the men's and women's 10m Air Rifle finals at 12.15 and 14.15 (GMT+9), the women's Trap Junior final at 15.30, and the men's Trap final at 16.50.

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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