

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

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Changwon (KOR), 04 September 2018

ISSF Press Release N. 50/2018 Anna Korakaki claims Air Pistol World Title and Tokyo 2020 Quota Place

Changwon (KOR), 04 September 2018 - Rio 2016 Gold and Bronze medalist Anna Koraka-ki of Greece is the new women's 10m Air Pistol world champion. The 22-year old athlete beat Serbia's Zorana Arunovic, 31, with a total tally of 241.1 points. 2010 world champion Arunovic secured silver with 239.8 points,

Following them, South Korea's Kim Boni took bronze with 218.8 points. The home shooter led throughout most of the match, sliding then down the scoreboard as she fired two frustrating last shots - 8.7 and 9.5. The medalists - as well as the fourth ranked shooter Wang Qian of the People's Republic of China (198.1 points) - received a Tokyo 2020 Olympic quota places for their countries.

Korakaki said: "This is massive, I am speechless. This is a great day for me."

The Greek athlete, at the age of 22, has already won almost everything to be won in this sport: an Olympic gold (in the 25m pistol event) and bronze in Rio de Janeiro, an ISSF World Cup Final in 2016, as well as three world cup stages and several junior titles.

"I won this title at my first try. In 2014, at the last ISSF world championship, I was still competing among junior athletes."

"Winning a quota place feels amazing," she commented. "This means I can now take a long break before starting my preparation for the Games. There are still two years to go, and I will need to recharge the batteries after this championship."

"I started-off today's final in a nice way, then I had some troubles. I was able to recover in the second part of the match. The Korean shooter was far ahead of me, but she made some mistakes, allowing me to get closer and finally to overtake her."

The last two shots were a duel again Serbia's Arunovic, a current world record holder, ranked second in the world.

"Being in a neck and neck fight with Zorana is a bit weird for me. She's one of my best friends, in and out the range. During the final we were smiling at each other, and joking about being in that situation. But I was of course a bit nervous, being the athlete in the lead."

The People's Republic of China climbed atop of the teams podium (Jiang Raxin, Wang Qian, Ji Xiaojing) and established a new world record score of 1739 points.

The host country South Korea (Kim Minjung, Kim Bomi, Junghye Kwak) followed in second place with 1734 points, finishing 14 points ahead of the Russian Federation (Vitalina Batsarashkina, Margarita Lomova, Svetlana Medvedeva), third with 1720 points.

Later today, Team South Korea 1 and Team South Korea 2 won gold and silver at the 10m Air Pistol Mixed Team event, ahead of Team India 1.

The 52nd ISSF World Championship in all events will continue tomorrow with the 10m Air Rifle Mixed Team Junior and the 10m Air Plstol Women Junior Finals.

Follow the events live on www.issf-sports.org

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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