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Changwon (KOR), 10 September 2018

ISSF Press Release N. 56/2018
Medals, records and quotas: China steals the show in Changwon

Changwon (KOR), 10 September 2018 - Out of the three Olympics shooting events contested, the Chinese National Team won five individual medals: two golds, one silver and two bronzes, also securing two Olympic slots in the Rapid Fire Pistol senior event.

The People's Republic of China dominated the stage at the 52nd ISSF World Championship in Changwon, pocketing five individual medals out of three events, securing two Olympic quotas and signing a couple of new records.

50m Rifle 3 Positions Men Junior

Amir Mohammad Nekounam (20) of the Islamic Republic of Iran won the gold medal in the 50m Rifle 3 Positions Men Junior event. For the young Iranian shooter is the second medal of the competition, as he previously took silver in the 10m Air Rifle Men Junior event.

Nekounam battled fiercely with Hungary's 18-year-old Zalan Pekler — holder of the highest qualification score with 1169 points and leader of the final at the end of the prone position — moving into the 1st place with two fantastic 5-shot series in the standing position and then maintaining the lead with five strong shots.

Nekounam's final score of 455.5 points gave him the gold medal, while Pekler's 455.0 delivered him the silver.

The bronze medal was awarded to People's Republic of China's 19-year-old Cao Bo — who made his World Cup debut at this year's competition in Munich (GER) placing 28th in this event. Cao shot consistently above the 50.0-point mark, but failed to undermine the gold and silver medal positions, finishing in 3rd place with 442.9 points.

25m Rapid Fire Pistol Men

The People's Republic of China achieved a gold-silver combo in the 25m Rapid Fire Pistol Men final: world ranking leader Lin Junmin met the high expectations that surrounded him, securing

the title with 32 hits and a 1-hit advantage on his friend and teammate Zhang Jian (33), who bagged the silver medal with 31 hits.

Lin was the undisputed favorite: after landing at the Changwon International Shooting Rangewith two of this year's World Cup gold medals around his neck. Before this championship, the 21-year-old shooter also claimed a silver medal at the Asian Games, collecting extra points to climb atop the world ranking.

The two Chinese shooters beat the 2016 Olympic silver medalist and 2014 Junior World Champion Jean Quiquampoix (22) of France, who claimed the bronze medal with 24 hits.

The three medalists, as well as the 4th placed competitor — 2010 World Champion Alexei Klimov of the Russian Federation — gained an Olympic quota place for Tokyo 2020.

Missing out on the Olympic quotas, Republic of Korea's title defender Kim Junhong, who is also the current World Record holder, closed the final in 6th and last place with 12 hits, preceded by Germany's Oliver Geis, 5th with 12 hits.

25m Rapid Fire Pistol Men Junior

After dominating the senior match, the People's Republic of China also dominated the 25m Rapid Fire Pistol Men Junior final, placing two shooter on the podium and writing two new World Records.

Indeed, making his first appearance in an ISSF competition, 16-year-old Zhu Haojie ruled the final with four perfect rounds, three 4-hit series and only scoring 3 hits in the very last one, when he was already sure he was going to take gold. His final score of 35 hits raise the bar of the World Record, besting the 32 signed by France's Jean Quiquampoix in Munich (GER) in 2015.

Competing on his home turf, Republic of Korea's 20-year-old Lee Jaekyon grabbed the silver medal with 29 hits, while Zhu's teammate Cheng Zhipeng (19) completed the podium in 3rd place with 24.

The ISSF World Championship in Changwon (KOR) will continue tomorrow with three more finals: the 50m Rifle 3 Positions Women Junior, scheduled at 12:45 pm (UTC+9:00), the Skeet Men Junior, taking place at 2:45 pm, and the Skeet Women, scheduled at 4:00 pm.

Footage of the Olympic events will be distributed worldwide via EBU and broadcasted live on the [ISSF website](#), on the Federation's [Livestream channel](#), on its official [Facebook page](#) and on the [Olympic Channel](#).

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 complete individual and team 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.

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