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**ISSF Press Release N. 54/2017**  
**ISSF RULES CHANGES FOR 2018-2020 APPROVED**

Munich (GER), 18 December 2017 - The ISSF Administrative Council has just approved rules changes that will go into effect on January 1<sup>st</sup>, 2018. A new Second Print 01/2018 version of the **ISSF Official Statutes, Rules and Regulations** will govern all ISSF Championships for 2018 through the 2020 Tokyo Olympics. The **ISSF Constitution** designates the Administrative Council, a 35-person body elected by the General Assembly or appointed by Continental Confederations, as the ISSF body that is responsible for “approval of technical rules for shooting events.” Rules changes include technical rules for the new Mixed Team events that were needed to implement International Olympic Committee (IOC) decisions regarding the Olympic Shooting Program for Tokyo 2020 and the June 25<sup>th</sup> 2017 Extraordinary General Assembly decision to accept those changes. One significant rule change adopted by the Council is an increase in the numbers of shots in women’s shooting events so they will now be the same as the men’s events. This decision reflects the ISSF’s commitment to the IOC Agenda 2020 goal of gender equality in sports. Rules changes also include many, mostly minor changes to resolve interpretation issues or to address questions received by the ISSF concerning the rules.

The complete **ISSF Official Statutes, Rules and Regulations**, Second Print 01/2018 can be downloaded from the ISSF website at <http://www.issf-sports.org/theissf/rules.ashx>. Here is a summary of important changes found in this revised edition:

**10m Air Rifle and 10m Air Pistol Mixed Team Rules.** A new section 6.18 was added to the General Technical Rules to provide technical rules for these events. National federations will be allowed to enter a maximum of two Mixed Teams, each with one male athlete and one female athlete. In the Qualification, each team member will shoot 40 shots in a 50-minute time limit. The top five teams will advance to the Final. The Final begins with each team member shooting three 5-shot series. The Final continues with each team member shooting single shots. During both the 5-shot series and single shots, team members must alternate firing shots. Eliminations take place after both team members have fired 17, 19 and 21 shots. The remaining two teams continue until each team member has fired 24 shots and the gold and silver medal winners are determined. The detailed rules are published in the Rule Book.

**Trap Mixed Team Rules.** A new section 9.19 was added to the Shotgun Rules to provide technical rules for this event. In the Qualification, each member of two-person (one men and one women) national teams will shoot at 75 targets (3 25-target rounds, 150 total targets). The top six

teams will advance to the Final. In the Final, team members, in the order designated by the team coach, will alternate in shooting series of five targets. After all teams have fired at 25 targets, the 6<sup>th</sup> place team is eliminated. Eliminations will continue after 30, 35 and 40 targets. The remaining two teams will shoot two additional five-target sequences for a total of 50 targets to decide the gold and silver medal winners. The detailed rules are published in the Rule Book.

**Equal Numbers of Shots for Women and Men.** Starting on January 1<sup>st</sup> 2018, all shooting events will have the same numbers of shots for men and women. The new rules provide that:

- Women's 10m Air Rifle and Air Pistol events will increase from 40 shots to 60 shots.
- Women's 50m and 300m Rifle 3 Positions events will increase from 3x20 shots to 3x40 shots (60 to 120 shots).
- Women's Trap and Skeet events will increase from 75 targets to 125 targets.
- The Women's Running Target event will increase from 40 shots to 60 shots.
- All Women's Junior events will have the same increases as women.
- The 25m Pistol Women (and Women Junior) event will continue as a 60 shot event (30 + 30 shots).

These changes will be in effect at all 2018 ISSF Championships including World Cups, Junior World Cups, Continental Championships and the World Championship in Changwon, Korea.

**ISSF Recognized Shooting Events.** New tables with detailed information about ISSF recognized events were added to section 6.0 of the General Technical Rules.

**Shotgun Shotshell Inspection.** The rules were clarified to ensure that the use of colored wads would result in a warning while the use of overweight shot charges (<24.5 g) will continue to result in disqualification.

**Skeet Marker Tape Checking.** A new method of checking skeet marker tape locations was adopted.

**Side Blinders for Shotgun Athletes.** Shotgun athletes only are authorized to use side blinders because of safety concerns in those events. Side blinders may now extend up to 30 mm forward of the "center point of the forehead."

**Interpretations and Corrections.** The newly approved rules changes include many amendments to address issues or clarify intent, but that do not change the original intent of the rules.

National Federation officials, competition officials, coaches and athletes are urged to download the new rules so they can work with the most recent ISSF Rules edition. National Federations that publish rules in their language should contact ISSF Headquarters to request a special version of the rules where all changes are marked. Anyone with questions or comments about the new rules should also contact ISSF Headquarters.

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**Notes for the editors:**

The International Shooting Sport Federation is the governing body of the Olympic Shooting events, and it has over 161 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](http://www.issf-sports.org).

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