



INTERNATIONAL SHOOTING SPORT FEDERATION
INTERNATIONALER SCHIESS-SPORTVERBAND e.V.
FÉDÉRATION INTERNATIONALE DE TIR SPORTIF
FEDERACION INTERNACIONAL DE TIRO DEPORTIVO

ISSF, Bavariaring 21, D-80336 München, Germany

**To all
ISSF Member Federations!
To all Members of the
ISSF Executive Committee!
To all Members of the
ISSF Administrative Council!
To all Members of the ISSF
Section Committees!
To all shooters, coaches and
officials of the shooting sport!**

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München, 10.11.2010/ F

Dear Friends,

We are sending this special communication to inform you of some important ISSF rule changes that will be implemented on 1st January 2011. These changes concern the presentation of finalists before Finals begin and the Rapid-Fire Pistol Men event. Most of you may already have seen our ISSF Newsletter announcement of these changes (27.10.10). You may also have had an opportunity to look at the ISSF-TV final round videos from the 2010 World Cup Final in Munich in October 2010 (<http://www.issf-sports.org/tvplayer.aspx>) where these changes were tested. These changes were developed in cooperation with the IOC Olympic Broadcast System (OBS) staff that cooperated with the ISSF to evaluate OBS television productions during the 2008 Olympic Games. The OBS Director, Mr. Manolo Romero, invited ISSF Officials to participate in a special workshop with his staff in Madrid in November 2009. During this meeting the ISSF identified several changes that the shooting sport needs to make in order to address challenges in the conduct of our Finals.

In addition, the ISSF received several comments from IOC members, Member Federation Officials and ISSF Officials during the World Championships in Munich and the Youth Olympic Games in Singapore urging the ISSF to improve the Rapid-Fire Pistol Final because the present system is neither very attractive nor media friendly. It is very important for the shooting sport and especially for the future of the Rapid-Fire Pistol Event to cooperate with the IOC in developing improved final round presentations and events. Olympic sports today are dynamic and changing; the sports that will advance and grow are the sports that are best adapted to the modern media and electronic age; it is important for shooting to also adopt changes to improve its presentation and image and to make its events more media and spectator friendly. We of course know that any change means hard work and intensive training for our shooters and coaches, but we know that we can count on their cooperation in implementing these changes for the benefit of our shooting sport.

The final round presentation and Rapid-Fire Pistol final round changes that were developed after our meetings with the IOC OBS were then discussed with many shooters and coaches from member federations and major tests were conducted in February and August 2010. A revised version was presented to participants in the World Cup Final in Munich. This important test received many positive reactions as well as some proposals for changes. The ISSF took these proposals seriously and incorporated several of them in the final version of the rules that were presented for approval to the ISSF Executive Committee and Administrative Council that met in Acapulco, Mexico on 7-8 November 2010. Both bodies discussed these proposed changes in great detail. The Executive Committee unanimously approved them and the Administrative Council accepted them with only one dissenting vote. These new rules will become effective on 1 January 2011 and will govern the conduct of the 2011 and 2012 ISSF Championships and of course the 2012 Olympic Games.

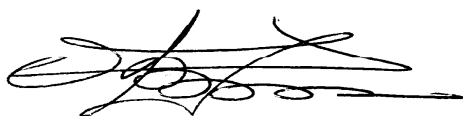
Finally, we would like to express our concern about a circular letter and survey expressing opposition to these changes that was distributed to all ISSF Member Federations without the knowledge or approval of either the ISSF President, Executive Committee or Administrative Council. This letter unfortunately asked ISSF Members Federations to respond without giving them any information about the changes and it asked that replies be sent to a non-ISSF email address. The ISSF has, however, discussed these changes with many federations and they all expressed very positive views regarding the changes in final round presentations and the Rapid-Fire Pistol Final.

To give you a full explanation of the changes, we are attaching a document titled ***Summary of ISSF Rules Changes Approved by the ISSF Administrative Council, To be Valid from 1 January 2011***. You will receive complete official rules and regulations very soon.

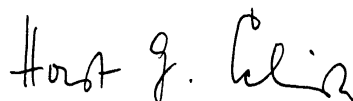
In addition, the ISSF is planning to organize a demonstration competition for the new Rapid-Fire Pistol Final that will help athletes, coaches, Range Officers and Judges prepare for the new final before the 2011 World Cups begin. You will receive an invitation soon. Further, the ISSF is offering our Continental Shooting Confederations any support they may require to organize further demonstration competitions.

The ISSF looks forward to having more exciting Finals next year as a result of these changes. We are very confident that these changes will enhance the image of a very active and innovative shooting sport and that these changes will aid in the promotion of our sport worldwide.

With kind regards,
Sincerely yours,



Olegario Vázquez Raña
ISSF President



Horst G. Schreiber
ISSF Secretary General

Summary of ISSF Rules Changes

Approved by the ISSF Administrative Council

To be Valid from 1 January 2011

This document was prepared to inform you of some ISSF rule changes that will be used in 2011 and 2012 ISSF World Cups and Continental Championships as well as in the 2012 Olympic Games in London. These rule changes were developed in cooperation with the IOC Olympic Broadcast System (OBS) staff after we studied OBS television productions during the 2008 Olympic Games. We developed several changes that shooting needed to make to address challenges in the conduct of our finals tested them during 2010. They were approved by the ISSF Administrative Council on 8 November 2010. Here is a summary of these rule changes:

ORDER FOR PREPARATION, TEST SHOTS AND ATHLETE PRESENTATION FOR SHOTGUN. The order of presentation for shotgun has been changed so that finalists will now report 20 minutes before the Start Time. They will immediately be instructed to complete their warm-up and dry firing and fire test shots. Targets will also be shown before the presentation of Finalists, which will occur four minutes before the Start Time. Immediately after the presentation of Finalists, the athletes will go to their shooting stations and begin the final round competition. This change for the Shotgun presentation was already successfully implemented during the 2010 World Championship in Munich and the 2010 World Cup Final in Ismir, Turkey.

The 20 second scoreboard pause in Trap and Double Trap that has taken place after five shooters have fired will now take place after each of the six finalists have fired the same number of targets.

Tie-breaking shoot-offs will only be conducted on the finals field for first, second and third places.

ORDER FOR PREPARATION, SIGHTING SHOTS AND ATHLETE PRESENTATION FOR RIFLE AND PISTOL. Previous ISSF Rules called for the presentation (introduction) of finalists BEFORE the preparation period, sighting shots and the pause to reset the targets for the first record shot. This created a big problem for television because they want to cover the athlete presentations, but they are not interested in the 8 ½ minutes of warm-up activities between the presentations and first record shot. After analyzing this problem, we decided to reverse the final round procedure so that athlete presentations will now take place AFTER the warm-up activities. The new rifle-pistol presentation order is as follows:

Time before Start Time of Final	
30:00 minutes before	Finalists Report, Juries complete equipment checks, finalists change clothing.
20:00 minutes before	Finalists move equipment to firing points.
14:30 minutes before	Eight (8:00) minutes combined preparation and sighting period—will be announced and controlled by the Range Officer.
06:30 minutes before	Sighting period ends. All rifles or pistols must be unloaded, checked and placed on the shooting mats or benches. Finalists must stand (includes 50m prone finalists) turn to the rear to face spectators and be introduced.
05:30 minutes before	Announcer introduces finalists.
02:30 minutes before	Finalists are instructed to return to their shooting positions and will have two minutes to resume their positions, prepare and fire sighting or warming shots before the first Final Round shot.
00:30 seconds before	Pause to reset targets.
00:00	Range Officer commands, FOR YOUR FIRST COMPETITION SHOT, LOAD...ATTENTION, 3-2-1, START.

The announcement of scores after each final round shot will be followed by a short commentary about the current rankings. Television needs a delay of approximately 30 seconds after each shot to be able to show the scoreboard and current rankings. A ranking monitor will be placed in front of each finalist so that all shooters will know their current rankings even if they do not understand the language of the commentator.

After the Finals, tie-breaking shoot-offs will be conducted only for the first, second and third places. Other ties will be broken by the final round score and then by the Qualification ranking.

RAPID-FIRE PISTOL FINAL ROUND FORMAT. The new Rapid-Fire Pistol Final is much faster moving, easier for spectators to understand and offers many moments of action and drama throughout the final. Here is a summary of the new rapid-fire final (complete details are in the rules):

1. Three 5-target units are used. Six finalists are assigned to the targets with two finalists on each 5-target group. There will be a 1.5m space between the two finalists' firing points on each 5-target group.
2. 6 competitors will advance from the Qualification to the Final.
3. All competitors will start at zero (0) in the Final. Note: the final is designed so that to win a gold medal a competitor must fire eight 4-second series; that is two times more 4-second series than competitors fire in the Qualification round.
4. Hits are scored on the basis of hits and misses (similar to biathlon, easy for spectators to understand). The hit zone encompasses shots scoring 9.7 or higher.
5. The preparation period and sighting series are completed before the presentation of finalists.
6. Presentation of finalists—this will begin the television production.
7. Immediately after the presentation, all shooters are instructed to take their positions and load.
8. The Range Officer then calls the first shooter by name and after 15 seconds announces ATTENTION. The red lights come on immediately and change to green after 7 seconds to start the 4-second firing period.
9. Within 10-14 seconds after one shooter has fired his 4-second series, the Range Officer calls the next shooter by name, waits 15 seconds and announces ATTENTION. This continues until all six shooters have fired one 5-shot series.
10. There is a one-point deduction for each over-time shot. One Allowable Malfunction during the Final is permitted; the original score is cancelled and the series will be repeated immediately after the malfunction is confirmed. There is a two-point penalty for a non-allowable malfunction.
11. In the Final, eliminations will start after all shooters have fired four 5-shot series. The 6th place shooter is eliminated after the 4th series, the 5th place shooter is eliminated after 5th series and the 4th place shooter is eliminated after the 6th series. Ties will be broken immediately by 5-shot shoot-offs.
12. The bronze medalist is eliminated after the 7th series. The 8th series is the gold medal series where the gold and silver medalists are determined.