

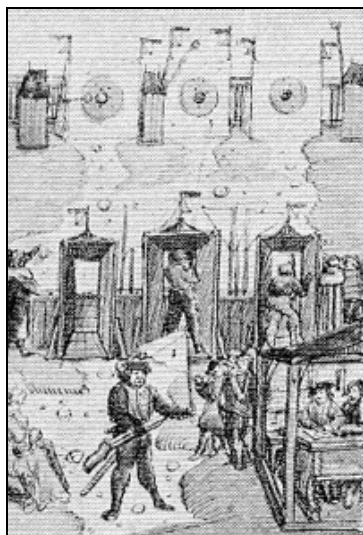


# Shooting Sport

## HISTORY

Shooting with the rifle, pistol and shotgun has been practiced in many countries since the middle Ages. During the 19<sup>th</sup> Century, however, shooting also developed into a sport: Associations, federations, councils, confederations, unions or organizations were formed in some countries, using different words to describe the alliance of shooters in clubs or the alliance of clubs in local, regional or national organizations.

History books report of shooting competitions in some European countries as early as the 11<sup>th</sup> Century, but the modern concept of our sport began in the 19<sup>th</sup> Century with the development of shooting equipment, and several of the present day national federations were formed.



16<sup>th</sup> Century painting



"Modern" shotgun installation from the late 50's

At the first Olympic Games of the modern times in the year 1896 in Athens, nine different sports were placed on the program by the International Olympic Committee, and the shooting sport had the highest number of participants in these first Olympic Games.

The concept of an international federation for the shooting sport was first discussed during a six-nation shooting competition in Milan, Italy in June of 1906. There, it was agreed to draft a constitution and shooting regulations. These regulations were intended to define the specification of arms, targets, clothing, firing positions and standardized rules of conduct and organization for the competitions.

Today, the International Shooting Union is recognized by the International Olympic Committee – IOC – as the sole supervising body of the international amateur shooting sport for all international competitions. It is presently composed of 157 national federations from 137 affiliated countries.

Major goals of the International Shooting Union are to promote and manage the development of amateur sport shooting in the world and to organize and supervise the shooting competitions.

In 1989, the electronic scoring system was introduced for score displays, which did away with the traditional paper targets at the final competitions of the large sporting events. The sport shooting competitions could be witnessed by spectators, and the winners, immediately celebrated. With this development, sport shooting was seen on television for the first time at the Olympic Games in Barcelona in 1992. A new era in sport shooting had begun.

## **DISZIPLINES**

The ISSF recognizes shooting sport events in four disciplines- rifle, pistol, running target and shotgun: All events are conducted as individual and team events – three member teams – for men, women, junior men and junior women.

### **Rifle**

In the rifle events, competitors earn points with their shots at a 10-ring target, and the shooter with the most points at the end of the competition wins. Shooters fire from standing, kneeling and prone positions.

In the finals, the 10 rings on the target are sub-divided into ten score zones, making the highest score for a shot 10.9. The final round score is added to the qualification-round score to determine the winner. Normally, scores range from one point for hitting the outside zone to 10 for a hit in the 10 ring. The higher score is awarded when a shot hits the line between two zones.

In the standing position for all rifle events, the rifle is held with both hands and rests on the shoulder, and the left arm may be supported on the chest or hip.



When kneeling, the right-handed shooter may touch the ground with the toe of the right foot, the right knee and the left foot. The left knee may support the left elbow, but the point of the elbow must be no more than 10 centimetres past or 15 centimetres behind the point of the knee. Rifle shooters may use a soft, cylindrical roll to support the instep when kneeling.

The maximum changeover time between positions is 10 minutes for 50m- rifle events. In the prone position, a shooter may not let the rifle rest against, or touch, any object. The right-handed shooter's left forearm must form an angle of at least 30 degrees from the horizontal.

### **Rifle sights**

Only "metallic" sights are permitted, which have no lenses or systems of lenses. An aperture is used at the rear with a diameter in the region of 1.1 mm and at the front either an aperture or a post or blade front sight. Coloured filters are permitted and the rear sight has fine adjustments for windage and elevation.

### **Pistol**

Pistol events are scored the same as rifle events, with competitors aiming at a 10-ring target. Pistol shooters use a standing position and must hold and fire the gun with one hand, with the wrist clearly free of support.

### **Pistol sights**

Only "open" sights consisting of a post or blade sight at the front and the notch at the rear; optical, mirror, telescope, laser beam or electronically projected dot, sights are prohibited. The rear sight usually has fine adjustments for windage and elevation.



## Running target

In the men's running target event, competitors shoot at a moving paper target from a distance of 10 metres. The event involves a "slow run" and a "fast run". The shooter stand unsupported and shoots in a standing position, starting with his rifle at hip level and raising it only after the target appears.



## Shotgun

In all shotgun events (Trap, Skeet and Double Trap) shooters stand in shooting stations and fire at the clay targets, shaped like flying saucers, as they are released on the shooters' signals. In each event, the targets are propelled at high speed, and the person who hits the most wins.



In the trap and double-trap events, if a target isn't released immediately after a shooter's signal, the shooter may refuse to shoot by lowering the gun. The skeet event involves up to a three-second delay after the shooter's call for the target. If the target is not released within that time frame, the shooter again may refuse the target by lowering the firearm. In all shotgun events, a target is declared "hit" when it is shot according to the rules and at least one visible piece is broken from it.

### The shotgun

Shotguns are smooth bored, invariably over-under (one barrel above the other) and fire cartridges loaded with pellets their weight of which must not exceed 24.5g.

The effective range of a shotgun against a clay target is about 50m.

## Juniors

Juniors are shooters who will be under the age of 21 on December 31<sup>st</sup> in the year of competition. Juniors may participate in all ISSF Championships or Olympic Games as members of their national team.

## How to break ties

In the qualification rounds of rifle and pistol events ties are broken by comparing the last 10 shots. If the score remains level, the count-back is applied to the previous ten (10) shots, and so on according to the rules.

In the qualification rounds of shotgun and running target and certain other pistol events shoot-offs decide the ties to enter the final round. In all finals, shoot-offs decide the ties.

## Scoring format

For rifle, pistol and running target events, shooters fire at round black aiming areas displayed on white backgrounds. The targets are divided into 10 concentric scoring zones or rings. Targets are electronic with computer system to instantly score each shot. Television monitors will enable spectators to see the impact point of each shot fired.

For shotgun events, each time the shooter fires and hits the target so that at least one visible piece is broken, it is scored a hit and counts one point.

## Rules

“Modern” shotgun installation from the late 50’s

### 50 Meter Rifle Target

Scoring ring values 1 – 8 are printed in the scoring zones in vertical and horizontal lines, at right angles to each other.

The 9 and 10 point zones are not marked with a number.

### 10 Meter Air Pistol Target

The scoring ring values 1 to 8 are printed in the scoring zones in vertical and horizontal lines, at right angles to each other. The ten and the nine zones are not marked with a number. The zone numbers shall be not more than 2 mm high.

Protection against rain, sun and wind must be provided. This protection shall be such that no obvious advantage is given to any firing point or part of the range.

### Competition area

There must be sufficient space behind the firing points for the range officials and the Jury to perform their duties.

Space must be provided for spectators. This area must be separated from the area for shooters and officials by a suitable barrier located at least 5 m behind the firing line.

Target frames or mechanisms must be marked with numbers corresponding to their firing point number. The numbers must be large enough to be seen easily under normal shooting conditions with normal vision at the appropriate distance. The numbers must be of alternating and contrasting colours and be clearly visible throughout the competition, whether the targets are exposed or concealed.