



International Shooting Sport Federation
Internationaler Schiess-Sportverband e.V.
Fédération Internationale de Tir Sportif
Federación Internacional de Tiro Deportivo
ISSF • Bavariaring 21 • D-80336 München • Germany
Phone: +49-89-5443550 • e-mail: munich@issf-sports.org
Fax: +49-89-54435544 • internet: <http://www.issf-sports.org>

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Sweden's Nilsson beats record-man Cassandro to win the last Gold of the ISSF World Cup in San Marino

The Swedish athlete went through three shoot-offs, to beat the Italian finalist Cassandro, who had equaled the world record with a perfect qualification score of 125 out of 125 hits.

Today's Skeet Men final won by Sweden's Stefan Nilsson closed the ISSF Shotgun World Cup in San Marino, the third shotgun world cup stage of the season, which saw the participation of over 380 athletes coming from 71 countries. The United States of America finished atop of the table, with 1 Gold, 1 Silver and 1 Bronze medal, the last one won by the two-time Olympic champion Vincent Hancock, at today's Skeet final. Australia, the Czech Republic, Sweden and Thailand finished all in second place with 1 Gold medal each.

Sweden's Stefan Nilsson pocketed the last Gold medal of the stage at today's Skeet Men Final, after passing through three different shoot-offs.

The 25-year old athlete qualified for the match with 122 hits, making it into the semi-final by winning an eight-way tiebreaker. He finished again in a shoot-off at the end of a semi-final - which he cleared with a perfect score of 16 hits out of 16 targets, finishing in a tie with Italy's Tammaro Cassandro and Denmark's Jesper Hansen.

With four shoot-off's hits, he moved on to the Gold medal match together with Cassandro. The two finalists shot neck and neck, both hitting 14 out of 16 targets, to finish tied again. The Gold medal was then decided in the third and last shoot-off of the day: Nilsson hit 6 clays, beating Cassandro's 5 to secure the brightest medal.

Cassandro (23) - who had equaled the current world record of 125 out of 125 targets during the qualifications - finished in second claiming Silver, his second world cup medal in a row after Rio de Janeiro's Bronze.

"My day was perfect. I went through a big shoot-off after the qualifications, and it was surprisingly short. After three doubles I was in. I passed again through another shoot-off to get into the gold medal match, but I was in a good mood after a perfect 16 in the semi-final, and I was pretty stable right to the end." Said Nilsson, commenting on his final.

"The next big things are the European Championship in July, and then the Olympics. I am preparing with trainings and competitions, trying to get good feelings that I hope to carry on into Rio. I feel I am on the right way."

Today's Bronze went to the two-time Olympic Gold medalist and reigning Champion Vincent Hancock of USA. The 27-year old shooter beat Denmark's Jesper Hansen in the medal match by 16 to 14 hits, after scoring 15 targets in the semi-final and 123 in the qualifications.

"This is my last international match before the Games. I am going in training mode now, trying to make sure that I can peak on the 12 and the 13 of August, to be at my best when I will be in Rio," said Hancock, who's in the Olympics' spotlights, after winning two titles back to back in 2008 and 2012.

The ISSF World Cup Series will now move on to Baku, Azerbaijan, for its last stage: there, a combined Rifle, Pistol and Shotgun competition will be held between June 20 and June 29.

Skeet Men results: <http://goo.gl/uq3PT3>

Event's photos: <https://flic.kr/s/aHskBqhrS5>

Event's video: <https://goo.gl/Gp77Gw>

Event's medals, records and rankings: <http://goo.gl/Ro0VLw>

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.

ISSF Media Contact:

Marco DALLA DEA, ISSF Communication Manager, marco@issf-sports.org