

ESC GENERAL REGULATIONS

(with changes approved by the XXIX ESC General Assembly on October 21st, 2023 and the Presidium meeting on November 16th, 2023.)

1.0 PURPOSE

- 1.1 The General Regulations of the European Shooting Confederation (ESC) govern all official European Championships and other major shooting competitions in Europe.
- 1.2 The organizational, technical and administrative conditions as well as the program of the European Championships must be based on these General Regulations.

2.0 CONDITIONS

- 2.1 Only ESC Member Federations are entitled to participate in the European Championships and compete for the medals and ranking points.
Other Member Federations of the International Shooting Sport Federation (ISSF) may participate in European Championships with a special permission given by the ESC Presidium, if the range capacity and the schedule allow it. Those additional participants must be entered by their National Federations and have ISSF ID numbers. They will not compete for the medals and ranking points. Their results will be listed separately in the official Result books.
- 2.2 All National Federations participating in the European Championships or other competitions acknowledged or supervised by the ESC must observe these rules.

3.0 ORGANIZING, FREQUENCY AND HOST OBLIGATIONS OF OFFICIAL ESC COMPETITIONS

- 3.1 The hosts of the European Championships must be approved by the ESC General Assembly (GA), from among applications submitted by the Member Federations, on the basis of proposals and recommendations of the ESC Presidium.

3.2 The following European Championships must be held:

- 3.2.1 **Every year** in all 10m Air Rifle/Air Pistol and Running Target Individual, Mixed Team and Team events for Men, Women, Men Junior and Women Junior.
 - 3.2.2 **Every two years, one year and three years after the Olympic Games**, in 50m/300m Rifle, 25m/50m Pistol, 50m Running Target and Shotgun Individual, Mixed Teams and Team events for Men, Women, Men Junior and Women Junior
 - 3.2.3 **Every two years, in the year of the Olympic Games and two years after the Olympic Games**, in Shotgun individual, Mixed Team and Team events Men, Women, Men Junior and Women Junior.
 - 3.2.4 **Every two years, in the year of the Olympic Games and two years after the Olympic Games**, in 50m Rifle and 25m/50m Pistol Individual, Mixed Teams and Team events for Men, Women, Men Junior and Women Junior.
 - 3.2.5 **All European Championships can be held as one competition for Men, Women, Men Junior and Women Junior or as separate competitions for Men/Women and Men Junior/Women Junior.**
- 3.3 A Member Federation desiring to organize a European Championship must submit an application to the ESC Secretariat at least three months in advance of the General Assembly at which the organizing Federation will be chosen. The ESC Presidium must inform the Member Federations of the applicant(s) two months in advance of the General Assembly.

HOST APPLICATION must include the following:

- 3.3.1 An official statement from the appropriate governmental authority or National Olympic Committee, indicating the support to be given to the organization of the Championship.
- 3.3.2 A statement that all the requirements of the ESC Statutes, there General Regulations, the Host Federation Agreement as well as the ISSF Technical Rules and Guidelines for Organizers of the ISSF Championships will be strictly observed.
- 3.3.3 A statement that all ESC Member Federations will be invited and that all participants and officials will obtain a visa to the host country if necessary.
- 3.3.4 A description of the existing or proposed shooting ranges and other necessary facilities, which must meet all ISSF technical requirements, including the requirement of the Final Hall for Rifle/Pistol events and the Final range for Shotgun events.
For shotgun, information must be given whether the ranges are certified as approved for shooting with lead pellets only or for pellets of any alternative material, like steel. The detailed information must be submitted in respect to collection of lead and to procedures adopted for protection of the environment.
- 3.3.5 Information regarding the proposed organization of the Championship, range capacity, range facilities, transportation to and from the ranges, the availability of travel concession and any other relevant information. The bus transportation schedule must provide a possibility for the athletes and technical staff to commute easily, and several times a day between the official hotels and the shooting range.
- 3.3.6 A statement listing the events the organizers propose to include in the program.
- 3.3.7 A statement that the prices offered for board and lodging will be a maximum price which will not be exceeded.
- 3.3.8 The hotels being offered by the Organizing Committee should normally, but not necessarily, be accepted by the participating Federations.
The Organizing Committee is not obliged to organize transfers to and from hotels, which are not offered in the program.
- 3.4 If for any reason a chosen host is not able to organize the Championship or part(s) of the proposed events, another host or hosts may be approved by the ESC Presidium as the organizer(s) of the whole Championship or part(s) of it.
 - 3.4.1 Withdrawal is only possible with the approval of the ESC Presidium. Withdrawal is subject to assessment of a fine or the suspension of ESC membership, or the suspension of participation at ESC/ISSF supervised competitions/championships for a certain time decided by the ESC Presidium.
 - 3.4.2 If no host application is received, or if the Member Federation selected to organize the Championship withdraws, the ESC Presidium may select as Organizer any other Member Federation with the necessary infrastructure, knowhow and experience in holding ESC Championships. Or, if no single Member Federation can be found, the Presidium may select Member Federations that offer to organize the Championship in separate groups of events. If this is not possible, the ESC General Assembly or - in the middle of the time between ESC General Assemblies - the ESC Presidium will be authorized to cancel this particular Championship.

4.0 PREFERABLE ORGANIZATION TIME AND DURATION OF CHAMPIONSHIPS

- 4.1 For separate events of the European Championships in 300m Rifle and Running Target the ESC Presidium determines the time and duration in cooperation with the host country.
- 4.2 European Championships for all events, except for 10m events, should preferably take place between May 1st and September 30th.
- 4.3 European Championships in the years of Olympic Games, except for 10m events, should preferably take place between May 1st and July 15th.
- 4.4 European Championships in 10m events should preferably take place between February 15th and March 15th.

4.5 European Championships Shotgun should take place between March 15th and October 15th.

4.6 The dates of any European Championship must be coordinated with the ISSF.

5.0 SHOOTING SPORT EVENTS

5.1 Events recognized by the ESC in Rifle, Pistol and Shotgun disciplines are:

Name of Event
10m Air Rifle
50m Rifle 3 Positions
50m Rifle Prone
300m Rifle 3 Positions
300m Rifle Prone
300m Standard Rifle
10m Air Pistol
25m Pistol
25m Rapid Fire Pistol
25m Center Fire Pistol
25m Standard Pistol
50m Pistol
Trap
Double Trap
Skeet
10m Running Target
10m Running Target Mixed
50m Running Target
50m Running Target Mixed
Target Sprint
ESC Challenge

5.2 The ESC recognizes Individual, Mixed Team, Team and Open events.

5.2.1 Individual events are events in which individual athletes of the same gender compete against each other.

5.2.2 Mixed Team events are for Teams with two members, one of each gender.

5.2.3 Team events are for Teams with three (3) members of the same gender.

5.2.4 Open events are individual events with athletes of both genders competing together in one event, with one Ranking only.

- 5.3 Formats of the existing ESC recognized events must correspond to the formats of the same ISSF recognized events.
- 5.4 New events can be added to the list of ESC recognized events after one of the following conditions have been met:

- 5.4.1 A new event is recognized by the ISSF.

- 5.4.2 A new event is recognized by the ESC Presidium.

6.0 PROGRAM OF THE ESC CHAMPIONSHIPS

- 6.1 The program of the ESC Championships is composed of the ESC recognized events and must be approved by the Presidium.

- 6.2 The mandatory events of the respective ESC Championship program are determined by the Presidium and additional events may be included upon proposal by the Organizers.

- 6.3 If 300m Rifle events cannot be included, the Presidium should choose a Member Federation to organize a separate 300m Rifle European Championship in the same year as the European Championship in 25/50 Rifle/Pistol/RT events.

- 6.4 If Running Target events cannot be included in the European Championship of 25/50m Rifle/Pistol events, then the Presidium should choose a Member Federation to organize in the same year a separate Running Target European Championship.

7.0 RANKING SYSTEM

- 7.1 The ESC establishes official Rankings that determine the placing of athletes according to the yearly ISSF World Ranking.

- 7.2 The ESC Ranking system is established by the Presidium.

8.0 ADMINISTRATION AND CONTROL OF THE ISSF CHAMPIONSHIPS

8.1 General

- 8.1.1 After the host of the ESC Championship is chosen by the General Assembly, the ESC and the respective National Federation must sign the Host Federation Agreement (HFA) within 30 days after the General Assembly.

- 8.1.2 Every National Federation that earns the right to host the ESC Championship must create an Organizing Committee responsible for administrating and delivering the Championship according to the ESC General Regulations, the HFA and the Guidelines for Organizing ISSF Championships.

- 8.1.3 The National Federation and the Organizing Committee must work in close cooperation with the ESC Headquarters and the Technical Delegate/s.

- 8.2 To coordinate the cooperation with the Organizers of the ESC Championships and to control the fulfillment of all the obligations for the preparations of the competitions by the hosts, the Presidium appoints one (1) or two (2) Technical Delegates.

- 8.2.1 In order that the Technical Delegates can carry out these responsibilities, they may be invited at the expense of the Organizer to the site of the Championships at least once, 10 to 12 months before the Championship, and again, not less than three (3) days before the official arrival day.
- 8.2.2 Technical Delegates must have experience of officiating at major ISSF/ESC Championships and cannot be members of the federation(s) hosting the respective ESC Championship.
- 8.3 To control the fulfillment of the ISSF/ESC General Technical Rules during the competitions and to guarantee the objective outcome of official results and rankings, a Competition Jury must be appointed for all ESC Championships.
- 8.3.1 The members of the Competition Jury must be approved by the Presidium.
- 8.3.2 The Competition Jury must include judges with experience of officiating at major ISSF/ESC Championships in respective disciplines, result production and equipment control.
- 8.3.3 The exact number of the Competition Jury members depends upon the program of the ESC Championship, the competition schedule, and the existence of sufficient numbers of experienced range officers, supporting officials and referees provided by the Organizers.
- 8.3.4 All members of the Competition Jury must have a valid respective ISSF Judges license.
- 8.3.5 The Chief of the Competition Jury is personally responsible for the objective outcome of all results and rankings at the ESC Championship.
- 8.3.6 Technical Delegates are authorized to create a Jury of Appeal, if necessary. This Jury must consist of three (3) to five (5) members, including a chairman. One (1) member should be from the national federation organizing the Championship.
- 8.4 The travel expenses as well as the costs for accommodation and local transportation of the Technical Delegates and the Jury members are borne by the Organizer.

RANGES AND OTHER FACILITIES

9.0 MINIMUM NUMBER OF RANGES AND INSTALLATIONS REQUIRED

- 9.1 300 m range: 30 firing points
50 m range (also for Juniors only): 70 firing points
25 m range: 6 groups
if for Juniors: only 4 groups
10 m indoor range: 90 firing points
50 m running target range: 2 firing points
10 m running target range: 4 firing points
Trap: 5 ranges
Skeet: 5 ranges
Double Trap: 2 ranges

The Shotgun ranges may be combined and one of them must be specially arranged to be used as the Final range.

For European Championships a separate Final Range for Shotgun finals and/or a Final Hall for 10/25/50m Rifle/Pistol finals must be available.

9.1.1. Upon proposal of the Organizers and approval of the Presidium the number of 10m and 50m targets in the Qualification hall can be lower than indicated in 9.1, dependent on the expected number of participants, the format of the events and the preliminary competition schedule.

9.1.2. Upon any proposal of the Organizers and approval of the Presidium the number of Trap and Skeet ranges for Qualification can be lower than indicated in 9.1.

9.2 **Result Production**

9.2.1. The competitions venue must be equipped in accordance with the official ISSF General Technical Rules.

9.2.2. Electronic target systems, of manufacturers and models approved by the ISSF must be used for Rifle and Pistol events Qualification and Final stages at all ESC Championships.

9.2.3. The ESC Technical Delegates are responsible for examining the ranges and other facilities to ensure that they meet ISSF/ESC standards and are suitable for conducting Championships. The ISSF Technical Committee will provide checklists in accordance with the ISSF Rules and Regulations for use by the Technical Delegates in examining the ranges and facilities (available from ISSF Headquarters).

9.2.4. Ranges to be used for European Championships should be completed one (1) year in advance. If the range is not completed, the detailed plans, construction schedule and financial plan must be submitted to the Secretary General one (1) year in advance, and the range must be completed at least three (3) months in advance.

10.0 **PARTICIPATION AND ATHLETES**

10.1 **Athletes**

10.1.1 To participate in any of the ESC Championships all athletes must obtain an ISSF ID Number and sign an "Athlete's Declaration".

10.1.2 Any athlete must be a national of the country he/she represents.

10.1.3 All disputes relating to the determination of the country which an athlete may represent shall be resolved by the ISSF Executive Committee.

10.1.4 An athlete who is a national of two (2) or more countries at the same time may represent either one (1) of them, as he/she may select. However, after having represented one (1) country in the Olympic Games or in any ISSF Championships, including the European Championships and the European Games, he/she may not represent another country unless he/she meets the conditions set forth in paragraphs below that apply to persons who have changed their nationality or acquired a new nationality.

10.1.5 An athlete who has represented one (1) country in the Olympic Games or in any ISSF Championship, including the European Championships and the European Games, and who has changed his/her nationality or acquired a new nationality, may participate in ISSF Championships, including the European Championships and the European Games, to represent his/her new country provided that at least three (3) years have passed since the athlete last represented his/her former country. This period may be reduced or even cancelled, with the agreement of the National Federations concerned and the final approval of the ISSF Executive Committee, which takes into account the circumstances of each case.

10.1.6 If an associated State, province or overseas department, a country or colony acquires independence, if a country becomes incorporated within another country by reason of change of border, if a country merges with another country, or if a new NOC is recognized by the IOC, an athlete may continue to represent the country

to which he/she belongs or belonged. However, he/she may, if he/she prefers, elect to represent his/her country or be entered in the ISSF Championships, including the European Championships and the European Games, by his/her new Federation when recognized by the ISSF. This particular choice may be made only once.

10.1.7 Furthermore, in all cases in which an athlete would be eligible to participate in ISSF Championships, including the European Championships and the European Games, either by representing another country than his/her or by having the choice as to the country which such athlete intends to represent, the ISSF Executive Committee may take all decisions of a general or individual nature with regard to issues resulting from nationality, citizenship, domicile or residence of any athlete, including the duration of any waiting period.

10.1.8 After naturalization and change of nationality an athlete must obtain a new ISSF ID number reflecting the new nationality.

10.1.9 An official declaration of eligibility for each athlete will be required from the Member Federation.

10.1.10 Age of the Athletes

There is no age limit for participation in ESC Championships.

10.1.11 Juniors

Athletes will remain as Juniors until the 31st December of the year in which they become 21 years of age. Any athlete born between the 1st January and the 31st December, will cease to be a Junior on the 31st December of that year.

10.1.12 Events for Juniors should be chosen from the recognized ESC events, or be events designed to support the development of junior athletes.

10.2 **The number of participants in the ESC Championships**

10.2.1 The number of participants from each nation is determined by the ESC Presidium.

10.2.2 In the European Championships for Men and Women each Member Federation can enter a maximum of five (5) athletes in individual events, two (2) Mixed Teams in the respective Mixed Team events and one (1) Team in the respective Team events. A maximum of three (3) athletes of one nation entered in individual events can be registered to compete in the Final for the medals. Two (2) other athletes entered in individual events can compete for the ranking points only.

10.2.3 In the European Championships Juniors each Member Federation can enter a maximum of six (6) athletes in the Individual events. Two (2) of those athletes must be under the age of eighteen (18) years on the day of the official arrival day of the Championship concerned. A maximum of three (3) athletes of one nation (the three top-ranked after Qualification) may proceed to the Final.

10.2.4 Any of the athletes entered in an ESC Championship can be registered for the Mixed Team and the Team events provided that the maximum number of Mixed Teams and Teams allowed to be entered by one nation is followed.

10.2.5 Replacements of the athletes may be made only in the Team events, but only from those already registered for this Championship.

10.2.6 When events for Juniors are scheduled in the European Championships, the number of athletes allowed per event is the same as in the European Championship Juniors.

10.2.7 In the European Championships with events for Men/Women and Men Junior/Women Junior in the program, Juniors may compete in Team events for Men/Women in case they are not participating in Team events for Men Junior/Women Junior. In individual and Mixed Team events Juniors may also participate in the men's and the women's competitions but in one (1) category only at the same Championships (place and dates).

10.2.8 If there is no particular junior event in a Championship, juniors may participate in this event as a member of the Men/Women national team, even if they participate in another junior event in the same Championship.

10.2.9 The participating federation is responsible for the travel and living expenses of team members. The Organizing Committee must provide transportation from the local airport or railway station to the official hotels and from the official hotels to the range. The cost for transfer from the airport(s) to the official hotels and back may be charged when approved by the ESC Presidium.

11.0 COMPETITION PROCEDURES

11.1 The ESC General Regulations and the applicable current ISSF General Technical Rules and respective rules for the disciplines will govern the conduct of events in all ESC Championships.

11.2 Programs

11.2.1 The Preliminary Program prepared by the Organizing Committee must be submitted by the Technical Delegate to the ESC Secretary General for examination at least eight (8) months prior to the Championship. After examination the Preliminary program must be approved by the Presidium at least six (6) months prior to the Championship. The Organizing Committee must distribute the approved Preliminary Program together with the General Information and the Preliminary Entry Forms to all Member Federations at least five (5) months prior to the Championship.

11.2.2 The schedule for the mandatory events of the European Championships for 25/50/300m/RT/Shotgun should not exceed sixteen (16) days, of the European Championship Shotgun – twelve (12) days and of the European Championship for 10m events – ten (10) days. At the option of the Organizing Committee, the ranges may be opened for additional training before official training begins.

11.2.3 The General Information letter prepared by the Organizing Committee must be distributed among the Member Federations upon approval by the Technical Delegate at least 5 months prior to the Championship.

11.3 Entries

11.3.1 Preliminary Entries

Each Member Federation entering the Championship must submit a preliminary entry in the ISSF on-line registration system forwarded directly to the ISSF and to the Organizing Committee. In exceptional cases where the on-line registration is not possible, the Preliminary Entries can be forwarded to the ISSF and the Organizing Committee by fax or e-mail. The preliminary entry must list all individual, Mixed Team and Team events in which the Member Federation will participate. The preliminary entry process will be closed thirty (30) days before the official arrival day.

11.3.2 Final Entries

Final Entries must be made via the ISSF on-line registration system before midnight (Munich time) of the 30th day before the Official Arrival day. In exceptional cases where the on-line registration is not possible, the Final Entries can be forwarded to the ISSF by fax or e-mail. The Final entry must list the names and ISSF ID numbers of all athletes and also the names and dates of birth of all participating officials with their function.

11.3.3. In case the maximum number of starts is reached during the Final Entry process, the ESC/Organizing Committee reserves the right to reject and/or establish a waiting list of any late entries.

11.3.4 Any late entry accepted after the 30-day final entry deadline will incur an additional late entry fee for each athlete, each Mixed Team or Team entered in each event, as per article 11.4.5 below.

11.3.5 Any late entry received after the deadline of three (3) days before the official arrival day will be rejected.

11.3.6 Replacement of a registered athlete by another already registered athlete for that Championship is permitted. This change can only be made before 12:00 pm (noon) on the day before the Pre-Event Training for that event.

11.4 Fees

11.4.1 Entry fees must be paid to the Organizing Committee upon request.

11.4.2 The following Entry fees are applicable (amounts in Euro) for the European Championships:

- Individual entry – 170;
- Mixed Team – 135;
- Team – 135;
- Official – 50.

11.4.3 The Organizing Committee must forward a fee of Euro 35.00 for each athlete entered in each individual event to the ESC within 30 days after the Championship is ended.

11.4.4 A reasonable fee for training that is not part of the Championship's schedule may be charged when approved by the ESC Presidium.

11.4.5 Any Member Federation reducing the number of athletes and / or officials after the Final Entry deadline is obligated to pay all applicable fees and costs including entry fees according to the number of athletes and entries on the Final Entry Forms originally received. If the applicable fees and costs are not paid no athlete of that Member Federation may participate.

11.4.6 Any entry requested and accepted after the final entry deadline will incur an additional late entry fee of 50 Euro for each athlete entered in each individual event and 100 Euro for each Mixed Team or Team.

11.5 Doping Control

Doping control at all ESC Championships must be done in all events and categories as specified in the ISSF Anti-Doping Rules.

12.0 PROTOCOL AND AWARDS

12.1 The European Championship must be inaugurated-on either the first day of competition or on the day before. A closing may be held on the last day of competition. Arrangements of the opening and closing must be approved by the Technical Delegate.

12.2 A victory ceremony must be held for each Championship event following these conditions:

12.2.1 The flag of the countries of the three individual or team winners must be raised while the national anthem of the winner's country is played.

12.2.2 The program for the victory ceremony must be approved by the Technical Delegate. At the European

Championships with many events, the Organizing Committee must arrange victory ceremonies every day of competition.

12.2.3 The time of the victory ceremony(ies) must be established by the Organizing Committee with the approval of the Technical Delegate.

12.3 In European Championships the Organizing Committee must award:

12.3.1 Medals in gold, silver and bronze to the first three places in individual events. No medals must be awarded if the number of participants, entered at the final entry date is less than fifteen (15) in the events for Men and Women, less than ten (10) in the events for Men Junior and Women Junior.

12.3.2 Championship medals in gold, silver and bronze colors to each member of the first three (3) Mixed Team events winners. A minimum of five (5) Member Federation must enter Mixed Teams in each of the events in order that Mixed Team medals shall be awarded

12.3.3 Championship medals in gold, silver and bronze colors to each member of the first three (3) Team events winners. A minimum of three (3) Member Federations must enter Teams in each event in order that Team medals shall be awarded.

12.3.4 If these minimums are not reached, the event will be declared as an “International Championship” of the nation which is organizing the Championship.

12.3.5 If due to too few entries no individual, Mixed Team or Team medals can be awarded, the Organizing Committee must inform those Member Federation(s) who have entered by e-mail in order that they may withdraw.

12.3.6 Gold, silver and bronze refers to the color, not to the metal content.

12.3.7 The design of all official awards and the official symbol must be submitted to the Secretary General for approval by the ESC Presidium at least two (2) months in advance.

13.0 RECORDS

13.1 Records may be established in all recognized ESC events.

13.2 ESC recognizes Historical European records and current European records

13.2.1 Historical records are the European records established before December 31, 2020 in all recognized ESC Men's, Women's, and juniors' events in Olympic Games and World Championships, World Cups, World Cup Finals, European Championships and European Games conducted according to the ISSF/ESC Rules and Regulations.

13.2.2 The current European records may be established in all recognized ESC events for Men, Women, Men Junior and Women Junior in the European Championships and European Games, as well as in Finals of European Cup 300m according to the ISSF/ESC Rules and Regulations.

13.3 The ESC will issue a European Record diploma to athletes, Mixed Team or Team members who establish European Records.

14.0 MEDIA RELATIONS and ESC RIGHTS

14.1 The Media coverage, Broadcasting and Advertising rights of all European Championships and other ESC official events (General Assemblies, Congresses etc) are the property of the European Shooting Confederation.

- 14.2 Press, radio and television services must be given all cooperation and assistance to ensure the free flow of public information and communication. Necessary facilities including Internet connections, telecommunications, telephone, etc. must be available prior to and during the Championship.
- 14.3 Provisions for interviews, photography and other media requirements will be made by the Organizing Committee to ensure that media personnel have access to competitors and team leaders; provided that such arrangements do not cause inconvenience to individual(s) concerned.

15.0 GENERAL

- 15.1 Alterations of the General Regulations can be made in accordance to the ESC Statutes.
- 15.2 Upon approval, alterations become effective as soon as they are officially published by the Secretariat on the ESC website.
- 15.3 The General Regulations may be extended by annexes:
The annexes to the General Regulations must not contravene the Statutes and the General Regulations of the ESC and ISSF and must be approved by the ESC Presidium.