



25

YEARS

ISSF WORLD CUP

ANNIVERSARY

2010 WILL BE A SPECIAL YEAR FOR ISSF, CELEBRATING THE 25TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE ISSF WORLD CUP SERIES, LAUNCHED IN 1986. THE SERIES WAS LAUNCHED BY THE ISSF TWENTY-FIVE YEARS AGO, IN ORDER TO INCREASE THE NUMBER OF OPPORTUNITIES THAT SHOOTERS HAD TO COMPETE FOR AND EARN OLYMPIC QUOTAS FOR THEIR COUNTRIES. THE ISSF FURTHER STRENGTHENED THE NEW WORLD CUP SYSTEM BY DECIDING, AT THE 1986 GENERAL ASSEMBLY, TO RECOGNIZE SCORES FIRED IN WORLD CUPS AS WORLD RECORDS. **THE FIRST ISSF WORLD CUP** TOOK PLACE TWENTY-FIVE YEARS AGO, THE 10TH OF MARCH 1986, IN MEXICO CITY, AND INCLUDED ALL THE OLYMPIC SHOOTING EVENTS. **NOWADAYS**, FOUR RIFLE, PISTOL AND SHOTGUN WORLD CUPS ARE DESIGNATED BY THE ISSF EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE EVERY YEAR.

The ISSF World Cup: so young and so successful! Since its launch in 1986, the 25-year old ISSF World Cup Series has registered an incredible success, with a great number of participants increasing year after year. Throughout the last twenty-four years, 4689 medals were assigned, 1254 athletes (437 women and 817

ISSF WORLD CUP IN NUMBERS

| | |
|-------------|--|
| 1986 | the World Cup Series was launched |
| 2010 | the World Cup Series celebrates 25 years |
| 4689 | Medals were assigned |
| 1563 | Gold medals were assigned |
| 1254 | Medallists finished on the podium |
| 704 | Multi-Medallists |
| 620 | Winners of World Cup |
| 486 | World Records were set or matched |
| 277 | Gold Multi-Medallists |
| 194 | World Cups took place |
| 142 | Nations participated |
| 58 | -year old, the oldest winner |
| 56 | Cities hosted a World Cup |
| 36 | Countries in 5 continents hosted a World Cup |
| 15 | -year old, the youngest winner |

men) finished on the podium, earning awards and Olympic Quota places for their countries, and 620 shooters from 65 countries have sported an ISSF World Cup Gold medal at list once in their career. The numbers of this competition are impressive. Since 1986, 194 World Cup stages have been conducted, and more than 140 countries entered their athletes to participate. As the World Cup Series became more and more popular, it turned out to be a stage for memorable performances and records. 486 World Records were set or matched during World Cups, not counting the ISSF World Cup Finals, which were launched later on, in 1988.

SHOOTERS, with their performances, were the real stars of the 25-year long World Cup history. Following their Olympic dreams, and the quest for perfection, athletes lifted the sport to its highest level. Some of them became living icons of shooting, like Slovenia's star Rifle shooter **RAJMOND DEBEVEC** of Slovenia, the most awarded athlete, who can proudly display sixty-six World Cup medals, or **JASNA SEKARIC**, the Serbian pistol shooter who finished 58-times on the podium since 1986. But the ISSF World Cup Series has been a factory of champions and personalities, disregarding the number of medals they earned. Germany's **RALF SCHUMANN** has probably become the **MOST POPULAR PISTOL** shooter of the world, thanks to his 39 ISSF World Cup Gold medals and to his record series of victories between

MOST MEDALS



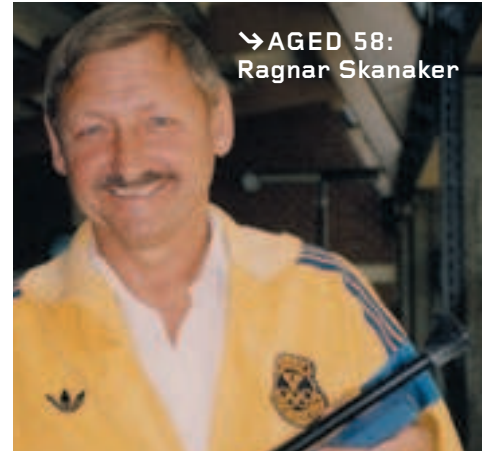
→ 66 MEDALS:
Rajmond Debevec

YOUNGEST SHOOTERS



→ AGED 16:
Vincent Hancock

OLDEST SHOOTERS



→ AGED 58:
Ragnar Skanaker



→ 58 MEDALS:
Jasna Sekaric



→ AGED 15:
Marija Mladenovic



→ AGED 48:
Svetlana Demina

1987 and 1988 (six Golds back to back). At the same time, Egypt's **MOHAMED KHORCHED** wrote his name in the ISSF history by winning just one medal, a Bronze, the **ONLY WORLD CUP MEDAL EVER WON BY A SHOOTER FROM THE AFRICAN CONTINENT**.

The Series offered a unique chance to shooters of all ages to compete at the highest level of the sport, overcoming the differences of nationality and age. Young shooters met on the World Cup's lines, and turned the Series into an international stage to showcase themselves. Some true champions debuted thanks to this competition. The 2008 Skeet Olympic Champion, USA's **VINCENT HANCOCK**, started his international career in 2005 by winning the World Cup in Changwon and, at the age of sixteen, he became the **YOUNGEST MAN** ever to win an ISSF Gold medal (with 124 hits plus 25 targets in the final). In 1995, **MARIJA MLADENOVIC** did even better, becoming the **ABSOLUTE YOUNGEST WORLD CUP GOLD MEDALLIST** at the age of fifteen by winning the Air Pistol Women event at the ISSF World Cup in Milan (with 391+94,9 points). Older champions were not left aside, and they continued to compete successfully within the frame of the ISSF World Cup Series. Star pistol shooter **RAGNAR SKANAKER**, for example, topped his long and successful career at the 1993 ISSF World Cup in Los Angeles, winning a Air Pistol Men Gold

medal (with 582+99,8 points), thus becoming the **OLDEST WORLD CUP WINNER**, just one month before turning fifty-nine. Russian Skeet shooter **SVETLANA DEMINA**, who is still shooting and competing for a spot in the 2012 Olympic team, became the **OLDEST WOMAN** to win an ISSF World Cup Gold just a few months ago, when she finished on the highest step of the podium in Minsk (with 71 hits plus 25 targets in the final), at the age of forty-eight.

Medals, champions, records... The ISSF World Cup Series has been more than a mere sport competition. Throughout the years, it has become a showcase to display our shooting sport around the globe, attracting fans and athletes who had the chance to meet the most successful shooters of the world. Within its intense twenty-five year history, the World Cup Series has visited thirty-six different countries spread throughout five continents, touching fifty-six cities. And there is more to come. The ISSF World Cup Series will celebrate its 25th anniversary by going back where it took its first steps: Mexico. The first stage of the 2010 World Cup Series will be hosted in Acapulco (MEX), from March 1. From there on, the World Cup will start exciting shooting fans once again, on the path leading to the 2012 Olympic Games.

See you there!



25

YEARS OF

ISSF WORLD CUP

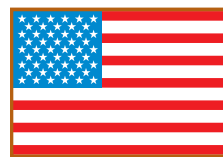
MEDALS

The twenty-fifth ISSF World Cup series anniversary offers us a chance to look back at numbers, and to dig into the ISSF archives for statistics. The first question we are often asked is “*which country has won the highest number of medals?*” Numbers indicate that the **PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF CHINA** has been **THE MOST SUCCESSFUL WORLD CUP PARTICIPATING COUNTRY** so far. The Chinese team obtained an incredible number of 501 medals (more than the 10% of all medals awarded in these years), earning 199 Gold, 163 Silver and 139 Bronzes from 1986 through 2009. The **US TEAM** places in second, with a total of 407 medals earned throughout the last twenty-four years, with 135 Gold, 132 Silver and 140 Bronze medals. **ITALY** makes it to the podium with 328 medals, mostly won in Shotgun events, and places in third with 128 Gold, 96 Silver and 104 Bronze medals.

Historical data might help in drawing a ranking, but numbers can be tricky. The political changes that occurred in Europe between the end of the eighties and the beginning of the nineties, makes it quite difficult to draw a precise medal ranking by nation. The **GERMAN TEAM**, for example, ranks in fourth place with a total of 309 medals: 122 Gold, 82 Silver and 105 Bronze. But the German team was split into GDR and FRG while the country was divided, until 1990. If we added all the medals won by German athletes under the flags of GDR and FRG to those won from 1991 with the GER team, Germany would move up to second place, with 169 Gold medals, and an astonishing total of 432 medals. Furthermore, the **RUSSIAN TEAM** was founded in 1993 and ranks in fifth place with a total of 351 medals. Following in sixth place, URSS's team competed right up to the 1991 season, winning a total of 250 medals in five years. And in the meantime, between 1991 and 1993, the “United team of former Soviet Union”

LEADING NATIONS
MEDALS OVERALL

↘ 1:
PEOPLE'S
REPUBLIC OF
CHINA



↘ 2:
UNITED STATES
OF AMERICA



↘ 3:
ITALY

won 17 medals. So, counting the medals won by shooters competing under the flag of the URSS team, of the EUN (Unified Team of former Soviet Union) and Russia, we obtain a total of 618 medals with 215 Gold, 220 Silver and 183 Bronze. At the same time, Czechoslovakia, which was later split into **SLOVAKIA** and **CZECH REPUBLIC**, would have a total of 228 medals including 75 Gold. History plays an important role in drawing historical statistics: the Yugoslavian team, the “IOP” – Independent Olympic Participants – team, and later on the team of Serbia and Montenegro, the team of the Republic of Serbia, Croatia and Slovenia totalized 187 medals, including 76 gold medals. Therefore, we should look carefully at these tables, putting them into an historical prospective.

TOTAL MEDALS BY NATION

| RK | NOC | YEARS | G | S | B | TOTAL |
|----|-----|-----------|-----|-----|-----|-------|
| 1 | CHN | 1986-2009 | 199 | 163 | 139 | 501 |
| 2 | USA | 1986-2009 | 135 | 132 | 140 | 407 |
| 3 | ITA | 1986-2009 | 128 | 96 | 104 | 328 |
| 4 | GER | 1991-2009 | 122 | 82 | 105 | 309 |
| 5 | RUS | 1993-2009 | 113 | 132 | 106 | 351 |
| 6 | URS | 1986-1991 | 97 | 83 | 70 | 250 |
| 7 | BUL | 1986-2008 | 68 | 63 | 47 | 178 |
| 8 | FRA | 1986-2009 | 52 | 36 | 49 | 137 |
| 9 | YUG | 1986-2000 | 46 | 27 | 23 | 96 |
| 10 | HUN | 1986-2009 | 38 | 51 | 45 | 134 |

ITALY LEADS THE SHOTGUN RANK

Looking only at Shotgun events, the **ITALIAN TEAM** ranks in first, fearing no opponents thanks to its long tradition in shotgun competitions. The overall performances of the Italian team's top shooters throughout the last twenty-four years are impressive: Albano Pera (currently Italy's trap coach),

Skeet Olympic Champion **ENNIO FALCO** and **ANDREA BENELLI**, Trap star **GIOVANNI PELLIELO** and Double Trap male record holder **DANIELE DI SPIGNO** won 77 medals in total since 1986. Taking into consideration the whole team, and the valuable medals won by women like **DEBORAH GELISIO** and **CHIARA CAINERO**, Italy leads the shotgun medal ranking with a total of 241 medals, including 100 Gold, 68 Silver and 73 Bronze. The Italians placed in first with 83 medals of advantage over the **UNITED STATES OF AMERICA**, following in second place. Since the ISSF World Cup series was launched in 1986, the American team has obtained 59 Gold, 53 Silver and 46 Bronze medals, outperforming China and Russia. The **PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF CHINA** ranks in third place with a total of 98 medals (34 Gold, 37 Silver and 27 Bronze) mostly won in Women events, while the **RUSSIAN TEAM** finished in fourth place with 58 medals (25 Gold, 16 Silver, 17 Bronze). Trap and Double Trap experts like **MICHAEL DIAMOND**, **ADAM VELLA** and **RUSSELL MARK** took **AUSTRALIA** to the Top-5 with a total of 65 medals, finishing behind Russia by just one Gold (24 Gold, 21 Silver, 20 Bronze), but they will have a chance to move up in the rankings next March, at the first ISSF Shotgun World Cup in Acapulco, Mexico.

THE USA IS UNBEATABLE IN RIFLE EVENTS

Three nations, the **UNITED STATES OF AMERICA**, the **PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF CHINA** and **GERMANY** obtained thirty percent of the Rifle medals assigned throughout the last twenty-four ISSF World Cups. Also taking into consideration the **RUSSIAN TEAM** and the extinct URS team, we discover that about fifty percent of the Rifle medals have been earned by these countries that have a long tradition in the discipline of Rifle. The USA has been the most successful Rifle team, and ranks in first place with an impressive total of 180 medals (59 Gold, 61 Silver and 60 Bronze), leaving the People's Republic of China far behind in second place with 138 medals. Shooters like the Olympic multi-medallists **MATTHEW EMMONS** (18 World Cup medals), World Champion **JASON PARKER** (7 World Cup medals) and rifle expert **LAUNI MEILI** (16 World Cup medals) took the USA to the lead with an exceptional advantage over their followers.

Looking at our "Rifle Medals by Nation" table, the German team ranks in third place with 134 awards (48 Gold, 41 Silver and 45 Bronze), an excellent place. But numbers can also reveal a different truth: if we would consider the former division of the country until 1990, and also take into consideration the medals of the former GDR and FRG, the German team would move up to second place, contending for the leadership with a total of 175 medals, just five medals less than the USA.

CHINA VS. RUSSIA FOR THE LEADERSHIP IN PISTOL

The **PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF CHINA** has won about the twenty percent of all the Pistol medals assigned in the history of the ISSF World Cup series. Since the eighties, Chinese shooters have lead the World Ranking, earning a consistent share of medals at every world-level competition. Shooters like **WANG YIFU** (who won 33 World Cup medals), **TAN ZONGLIAN** (20 World Cup medals) and **XU HALFENG** (12 medals), took China to the top of the Pistol medals ranking with an impressive total of 247 awards, including 101 Gold, 79 Silver and 67 Bronze. But the fight for the leadership in this event has been tough throughout these twenty-four years, with great shooters from Russia and from the former Soviet Union challenging the Chinese champions match after match. The Soviet Union follows in second, with a total of 117 medals won within five years, between 1986 and 1991. The Russian team, founded in 1993 after the dissolution of the Soviet Union, ranks in third place, with a consistent total of 160 medals, missing two Golds for the second place. Germany conquers a spot in the "Top-5" especially thanks to **RALF SCHUMANN**, the best 25m Rapid Fire Pistol shooter of the world. Schumann earned 53 medals out of Germany's 89 awards. And, by the way, Schumann and his 53 medals would make it into the "Top-10" of the "Pistol Medals by Nation" rank, leaving behind countries like **SWITZERLAND**, **HUNGARY** or **FRANCE**. Arriving in fifth place, with a total of 104 medal, **BULGARIA** has obtained 34 Gold, 44 Silver and 26 Bronze medal. **MARIA GROZDEVA's** and **TANYU KIRIAKOV's** contribution turned out to be decisive, as the two shooters obtained 35 and 32 World Cup medals, respectively. The two Pistol masters are still competing in World Cup events, and they will probably celebrate the ISSF World Cup 25-year anniversary on the shooting lines of Sydney's shooting range, where the first 2010 ISSF World Cup stage will take place next March.

SHOTGUN - MEDALS BY NATION

| RK | NOC | G | S | B | TOTAL |
|----|-----|-----|----|----|-------|
| 1 | ITA | 100 | 68 | 73 | 241 |
| 2 | USA | 59 | 53 | 46 | 158 |
| 3 | CHN | 34 | 37 | 27 | 98 |
| 4 | RUS | 25 | 16 | 17 | 58 |
| 5 | AUS | 24 | 21 | 20 | 65 |

RIFLE - MEDALS BY NATION

| RK | NOC | G | S | B | TOTAL |
|----|-----|----|----|----|-------|
| 1 | USA | 59 | 61 | 60 | 180 |
| 2 | CHN | 56 | 43 | 39 | 138 |
| 3 | GER | 48 | 41 | 45 | 134 |
| 4 | URS | 36 | 28 | 29 | 93 |
| 5 | RUS | 35 | 44 | 32 | 111 |

PISTOL - MEDALS BY NATION

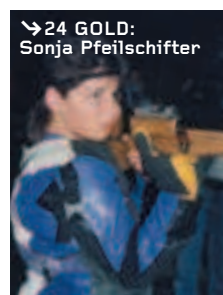
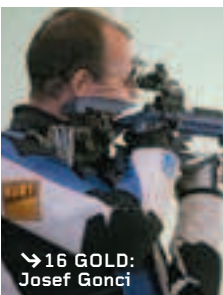
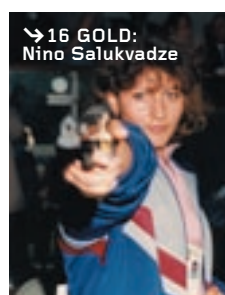
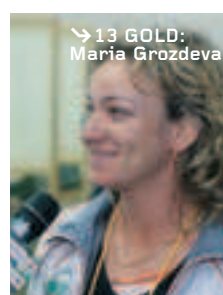
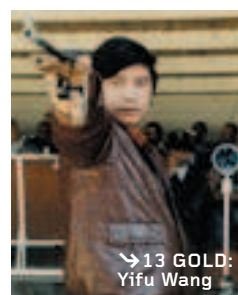
| RK | NOC | G | S | B | TOTAL |
|----|-----|-----|----|----|-------|
| 1 | CHN | 101 | 79 | 67 | 247 |
| 2 | URS | 49 | 39 | 29 | 117 |
| 3 | RUS | 47 | 62 | 51 | 160 |
| 4 | GER | 43 | 15 | 31 | 89 |
| 5 | BUL | 34 | 44 | 26 | 104 |



25

YEARS OF
CHAMPIONS

MULTI MEDALISTS

→ 39 GOLD:
Ralf Schumann→ 31 GOLD:
Vesela Letcheva→ 24 GOLD:
Sonja Pfeilschifter→ 19 GOLD:
Roberto Di Donna→ 16 GOLD:
Josef Gonci→ 16 GOLD:
Nino Salukvadze→ 13 GOLD:
Maria Grozdeva→ 13 GOLD:
Yifu Wang

Champions: the dictionary says a champion is somebody who has defeated or surpassed all rivals in a competition, and this is exactly the case of some of the best shooters of the world, who displayed their enviable skills throughout the ISSF World Cup series during the last decades. Athletes like **RALF SCHUMANN**, the man who has won more Gold than many countries, or **RAJMOND DEBEVEC**, the Rifle shooter who earned the absolute highest number of World Cup medals. Or like **ROBERTO DI DONNA**, the 1996 Olympic Champion who dominated the 10m and 50m Pistol events for about twenty years. Names like **SEKARIC**, **LETCEVA**, **GELISIO**, **GAO** and **WEI**, took women to the highest podiums of the world, and shooters like **FALCO**, **PELLIELO** and **DI SPIGNO** reached the results that a true shotgun champion can only achieve through years of endless training. These are the ISSF World Cup champions, disregarding the fact that sometimes they did manage to earn the gold. They are the most consistent shooters of the world, those who won the highest number of medals in "their events", role models for the younger generations, and fearless fighters to be defeated by their opponents. While celebrating the 25th ISSF World Cup anniversary, we tried to draw a "top of the top" ranking, to display the numbers of these champions. Who has won the highest number of medals? Who led which event, in the last twenty-four years? These are the questions we tried to answer with our tables.

MULTI-MEDALLISTS MEN

| RK | NAME | NOC | G | S | B | TOTAL | DISCIPLINE |
|----|------------------|-----|----|----|----|-------|------------|
| 1 | SCHUMANN Ralf | GER | 39 | 6 | 8 | 53 | Pistol |
| 2 | DEBEVEC Rajmond | SLO | 27 | 21 | 18 | 66 | Rifle |
| 3 | DI DONNA Roberto | ITA | 19 | 7 | 7 | 33 | Pistol |
| 4 | GONCI Jozef | SVK | 16 | 9 | 10 | 35 | Rifle |
| 5 | WANG Yifu | CHN | 13 | 13 | 7 | 33 | Pistol |
| 6 | MARTYNOV Sergei | BLR | 13 | 6 | 6 | 25 | Rifle |
| 7 | STENVAAG Harald | NOR | 12 | 13 | 13 | 38 | Rifle |
| 8 | DUMOULIN Franck | FRA | 11 | 6 | 5 | 22 | Pistol |
| 9 | BASINSKI Igor | BLR | 11 | 4 | 6 | 21 | Pistol |
| 10 | FALCO Ennio | ITA | 10 | 7 | 6 | 23 | Shotgun |

MULTI-MEDALLISTS WOMEN

| RK | NAME | NOC | G | S | B | TOTAL | DISCIPLINE |
|----|---------------------|-----|----|----|----|-------|------------|
| 1 | SEKARIC Jasna | SRB | 36 | 14 | 8 | 58 | Pistol |
| 2 | LETCEVA Vesela | BUL | 31 | 13 | 11 | 55 | Rifle |
| 3 | PFEILSCHIFTER Sonja | GER | 24 | 8 | 7 | 39 | Rifle |
| 4 | SALUKVADZE Nino | GEO | 16 | 15 | 12 | 43 | Pistol |
| 5 | GROZDEVA Maria | BUL | 13 | 16 | 6 | 35 | Pistol |
| 6 | LOGVINENKO Marina | RUS | 13 | 8 | 6 | 27 | Pistol |
| 7 | TAO Luna | CHN | 10 | 3 | 6 | 19 | Pistol |
| 8 | SMIRNOVA Svetlana | RUS | 8 | 10 | 8 | 26 | Pistol |
| 9 | CHEN Ying | CHN | 7 | 6 | 0 | 13 | Pistol |
| 10 | ZHAO Yinghui | CHN | 7 | 4 | 2 | 13 | Rifle |

MOST SUCCESSFUL WORLD CUP SHOOTERS BY EVENT

| RK | NAME | NOC | G | S | B | TOTAL |
|----------------------------------|-----------------|-----|----|----|---|-------|
| 50M RIFLE 3 POSITIONS MEN | | | | | | |
| 1 | DEBEVEC Rajmond | SLO | 14 | 11 | 6 | 31 |
| 2 | GONCI Jozef | SVK | 10 | 7 | 3 | 20 |
| 3 | FARNIK Thomas | AUT | 6 | 1 | | 7 |

| RK | NAME | NOC | G | S | B | TOTAL |
|----------------------------|-----------------|-----|----|---|---|-------|
| 50M RIFLE PRONE MEN | | | | | | |
| 1 | MARTYNOV Sergei | BLR | 10 | 5 | 4 | 19 |
| 2 | STENVAAG Harald | NOR | 7 | 4 | 1 | 12 |
| 3 | POTENT Warren | AUS | 6 | | 2 | 8 |

| RK | NAME | NOC | G | S | B | TOTAL |
|--------------------------|-----------------|-----|----|---|---|-------|
| 10M AIR RIFLE MEN | | | | | | |
| 1 | DEBEVEC Rajmond | SLO | 13 | 6 | 7 | 26 |
| 2 | ZHU Qinan | CHN | 9 | 3 | 2 | 14 |
| 3 | GONCI Jozef | SVK | 5 | 2 | 5 | 12 |

| RK | NAME | NOC | G | S | B | TOTAL |
|-----------------------|------------------|-----|---|---|---|-------|
| 50M PISTOL MEN | | | | | | |
| 1 | DI DONNA Roberto | ITA | 7 | 4 | 2 | 13 |
| 2 | KOKOREV Boris | RUS | 6 | 6 | 3 | 15 |
| 3 | TENK Martin | CZE | 6 | 5 | 3 | 14 |

| RK | NAME | NOC | G | S | B | TOTAL |
|----------------------------------|----------------------|-----|----|---|---|-------|
| 25M RAPID FIRE PISTOL MEN | | | | | | |
| 1 | SCHUMANN Ralf | GER | 39 | 6 | 8 | 53 |
| 2 | KUCHARCZYK Krzysztof | POL | 5 | 7 | 2 | 14 |
| 3 | MILEV Emil | BUL | 5 | 6 | 2 | 13 |

| RK | NAME | NOC | G | S | B | TOTAL |
|---------------------------|------------------|-----|----|---|---|-------|
| 10M AIR PISTOL MEN | | | | | | |
| 1 | DI DONNA Roberto | ITA | 12 | 3 | 5 | 20 |
| 2 | WANG Yifu | CHN | 8 | 7 | 4 | 19 |
| 3 | DUMOULIN Franck | FRA | 7 | 5 | 3 | 15 |

| RK | NAME | NOC | G | S | B | TOTAL |
|-----------------|-------------------|-----|----|---|---|-------|
| TRAP MEN | | | | | | |
| 1 | PELLIELO Giovanni | ITA | 10 | | 3 | 13 |
| 2 | DIAMOND Michael | AUS | 7 | 8 | 3 | 18 |
| 3 | ALIPOV Alexey | RUS | 5 | 2 | 4 | 11 |

| RK | NAME | NOC | G | S | B | TOTAL |
|------------------------|-------------------|-----|---|---|---|-------|
| DOUBLE TRAP MEN | | | | | | |
| 1 | DI SPIGNO Daniele | ITA | 7 | 3 | 2 | 12 |
| 2 | ELLER Walton | USA | 5 | 1 | 1 | 7 |
| 3 | ALMAKTOUM Ahmed | UAE | 4 | | 2 | 6 |

| RK | NAME | NOC | G | S | B | TOTAL |
|------------------|------------------|-----|----|---|---|-------|
| SKEET MEN | | | | | | |
| 1 | FALCO Ennio | ITA | 10 | 7 | 6 | 23 |
| 2 | DOMPELING Hennie | NED | 5 | 3 | 1 | 9 |
| 3 | BENELLI Andrea | ITA | 4 | 6 | 4 | 14 |

| RK | NAME | NOC | G | S | B | TOTAL |
|------------------------------------|---------------------|-----|----|---|---|-------|
| 50M RIFLE 3 POSITIONS WOMEN | | | | | | |
| 1 | LETCEVA Vesela | BUL | 19 | 7 | 6 | 32 |
| 2 | PFEILSCHIFTER Sonja | GER | 12 | 3 | 3 | 18 |
| 3 | GOLDOBINA Tatiana | RUS | 5 | 1 | 3 | 9 |

| RK | NAME | NOC | G | S | B | TOTAL |
|----------------------------|---------------------|-----|----|---|---|-------|
| 10M AIR RIFLE WOMEN | | | | | | |
| 1 | LETCEVA Vesela | BUL | 12 | 6 | 5 | 23 |
| 2 | PFEILSCHIFTER Sonja | GER | 12 | 5 | 4 | 21 |
| 3 | ZHAO Yinghui | CHN | 7 | 3 | 2 | 12 |

| RK | NAME | NOC | G | S | B | TOTAL |
|-------------------------|-----------------|-----|----|----|---|-------|
| 25M PISTOL WOMEN | | | | | | |
| 1 | SEKARIC Jasna | SRB | 15 | 2 | 1 | 18 |
| 2 | GROZDEVA Maria | BUL | 10 | 10 | 3 | 23 |
| 3 | SALUKVADZE Nino | GEO | 9 | 8 | 6 | 23 |

| RK | NAME | NOC | G | S | B | TOTAL |
|-----------------------------|-------------------|-----|----|----|---|-------|
| 10M AIR PISTOL WOMEN | | | | | | |
| 1 | SEKARIC Jasna | SRB | 21 | 12 | 7 | 40 |
| 2 | SMIRNOVA Svetlana | RUS | 8 | 4 | 6 | 18 |
| 3 | SALUKVADZE Nino | GEO | 7 | 7 | 6 | 20 |

| RK | NAME | NOC | G | S | B | TOTAL |
|-------------------|---------------------|-----|---|---|---|-------|
| TRAP WOMEN | | | | | | |
| 1 | GAO E | CHN | 3 | 2 | | 5 |
| 2 | STEFECHEKOVA Zuzana | SVK | 3 | | 2 | 5 |
| 3 | LARICHEVA Irina | RUS | 2 | 2 | 2 | 6 |

| RK | NAME | NOC | G | S | B | TOTAL |
|--------------------|-----------------|-----|---|---|---|-------|
| SKEET WOMEN | | | | | | |
| 1 | WEI Ning | CHN | 6 | 1 | 4 | 11 |
| 2 | DEMINA Svetlana | RUS | 3 | 6 | 1 | 10 |
| 3 | SMOTEK Connie | USA | 3 | | 2 | 5 |

DISCONTINUED EVENTS

| RK | NAME | NOC | G | S | B | TOTAL |
|--------------------------|-----------------|-----|---|---|---|-------|
| DOUBLE TRAP WOMEN | | | | | | |
| 1 | GELISIO Deborah | ITA | 5 | 3 | 1 | 9 |
| 2 | RHODE Kimberly | USA | 5 | 1 | 3 | 9 |
| 3 | WANG Jing Lin | CHN | 3 | | | 3 |

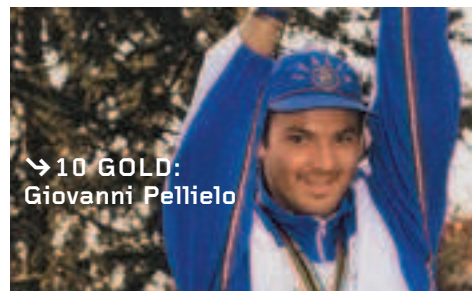
| RK | NAME | NOC | G | S | B | TOTAL |
|-------------------------------|-------------------|-----|---|---|---|-------|
| 50M RUNNING TARGET MEN | | | | | | |
| 1 | LUZOV Sergei | URS | 3 | | | 3 |
| 2 | SOLTI Attila* | HUN | 1 | 3 | | 4 |
| 3 | AVRAMENKO Gennadi | URS | 1 | 1 | 1 | 3 |

| RK | NAME | NOC | G | S | B | TOTAL |
|-------------------------------|------------------|-----|----|---|---|-------|
| 10M RUNNING TARGET MEN | | | | | | |
| 1 | JAKOSITS Michael | GER | 10 | 4 | 5 | 19 |
| 2 | KURZER Manfred | GER | 10 | 2 | 5 | 17 |
| 3 | SOLTI Attila* | GUA | 9 | 4 | 5 | 18 |

* SOLTI Attila has won medals for Hungary in 50m running target and for Hungary and Guatemala in 10m running target.



25

YEARS OF
CHAMPIONSTHE ITALIAN DUEL
FOR SHOTGUN→ 10 GOLD:
Ennio Falco→ 10 GOLD:
Giovanni Pellielo→ 7 GOLD:
Deborah Gelisto→ 6 GOLD:
Kimberly Rhode

Italians battle at the top of the Shotgun multi-medallists rankings. The athletes of this historical team often battled against each other to reach the highest step of World Cup podiums, shooting breathtaking matches that contributed to enhance the levels of shotgun shooting. Numbers prove how this nation has led the World Cup shotgun rankings since 1986. **ENNIO FALCO** and **GIOVANNI PELLIELO** earned the first and the second place in the "Shotgun multi-medallist men" chart, while **DEBORAH GELISIO** made it to the top of the "Shotgun multi-medallist women" table. At the same time, **DANIELE DI SPIGNO** turned out to be the most awarded Double-

Trap shooter of the World Cup history. The Olympic Gold medallist of the 1996 Olympic Games of Atlanta, Ennio Falco, is the man who has won the highest number of Shotgun medals throughout the last twenty-four ISSF World Cup editions. The 42-year old Italian Skeet shooter started competing in 1983, and won his first World Cup medal in 1988, earning Gold at the ISSF World Cup stage held in Osijek (YUG). Falco, who continues to compete and win (he earned a Silver medal in Cairo last year), has obtained an impressive total of 23 medals, outperforming his team-mate Giovanni Pellielo, second with 13 awards. Pellielo, an Olympic Trap multi-medallist, totaled 10 Gold medals and 3 Bronzes

(not counting World Cup Finals), but he will probably try to catch up with Falco in the next years, as he declared: *"I will continue competing until the 2012 Olympics, and probably further on."* Australian star **MICHAEL DIAMOND** places in third. The Olympic Champion of Atlanta and Sydney has won an outstanding total of 21 ISSF World Cup medals, and places in third behind Pellielo simply due to his lower number of Golds (8 Gold medal, 9 Silver, 4 Bronze).

Among the women, it was again an Italian shooter who finished at the top of the Shotgun multi-medallist table. Deborah Gelisio, who competed in Double Trap events and the switched to Trap as the double was discontinued, ranks in first with 11 medals (7 Gold, 3 Silver and 1 Bronze). Arriving in second, **KIMBERLY RHODE** of the USA is ready to catch up with her, with 6 Gold medals, 3 Silver and 4 Bronzes won in Skeet and Double Trap events. **WEI NING** follows them, taking China to the Shotgun Top-3 with eleven medals. The twenty-eight year old Chinese Skeet shooter started winning when she was nineteen in Lonato, and earned her last medal at the 2009 World Cup in Munich, scoring a matched World Record. She is probably one of the favorites to move up to the Top-3 ranking, as she has accumulated six Gold medals throughout these years, and one more Gold would take her to first place. The Games are on, and tables could turn in a few days, when the first 2010 Shotgun World Cup stage will be held in Mexico.

SHOTGUN - MULTI-MEDALLISTS MEN

| RK | NAME | NOC | G | S | B | TOTAL | EVENTS |
|----|-------------------|-----|----|---|---|-------|------------------|
| 1 | FALCO Ennio | ITA | 10 | 7 | 6 | 23 | SK; SK125 |
| 2 | PELLIELO Giovanni | ITA | 10 | 0 | 3 | 13 | TR; TR125 |
| 3 | DIAMOND Michael | AUS | 8 | 9 | 4 | 21 | DT150; TR; TR125 |

SHOTGUN - MULTI-MEDALLISTS WOMEN

| RK | NAME | NOC | G | S | B | TOTAL | EVENTS |
|----|-----------------|-----|---|---|---|-------|-------------|
| 1 | GELISIO Deborah | ITA | 7 | 3 | 1 | 11 | DT120; TR75 |
| 2 | RHODE Kimberly | USA | 6 | 3 | 4 | 13 | DT120; SK75 |
| 3 | WEI Ning | CHN | 6 | 1 | 4 | 11 | SK75 |



25

YEARS OF

CHAMPIONS

DEBEVEC REIGNS OVER THE RIFLES

→ 27 MEDALS:
Rajmond Debevec→ 31 GOLD:
Vesela Letcheva

Nobody has won as many Rifle medals as **RAJMOND DEBEVEC**, the Slovenian Olympic multi-medallist who has earned the incredible amount of sixty-six ISSF World Cup medals throughout twenty-four years. The 46-year old shooter holds a number of records: he finished on the podium for the first time in 1986, during the first ISSF World Cup edition, and continued winning right to the last one, in 2009. Debevec is also the absolute leader by medals: he has won more than anyone else in the world, and only the German Rapid Fire shooter **RALF SCHUMANN** can compete with him, as a result of his 39 Golds. Furthermore, Debevec is the athlete who has won

the highest number of medals within a single season (nine medals) in 1990. Not satisfied with this, he did it again two years later, winning nine World Cup medals once more in 1993. Debevec obtained a consistent share of medals in the 50m Rifle Three Position event, and he is considered one of the best kneeling shooters of the world "the best of the World Cup Series", as the "2009 Shooter of the Year **PETER SIDI**" described him. The Rifle master is still active, and renewed his intention to run for the 2012 Olympic Games after finishing on the podium at the last Olympics in Beijing. Debevec competes to win, and we will probably see him in action at the first 2010

Rifle and Pistol World Cup stage, in Sydney, where he will try to celebrate the ISSF World Cup 25th anniversary with the 67th medal of his career.

Following Debevec, about thirty medals behind him, **JOSEF GONCI** of Slovakia arrived in second with 16 Gold, 9 Silver and 10 Bronze, preceding Rifle Prone master **SERGEI MARTYNOV**, third with a total of 25.

Bulgaria's **VESELA LETCHEVA** leads among the women, with a total of fifty-five medals, including an outstanding number of 31 Golds. The five-time World Champion and two-time Olympic Silver medallist stopped competing about ten years ago (she won her last World Cup medal in 1999), but her position on the "Rifle multi-medallists women" list is still unbeatable, with a huge advantage over her followers. German champion **SONJA PFEILSCHIFTER** arrives in second with 24 Gold, 8 Silver and 7 Bronze medals, for a total of 39 awards, a number that will probably grow in the future, as the 39-year old German athlete is still competing at the highest levels and winning on the most prestigious Rifle and Pistol lines of the world (she earned two Golds in Milan, during the 2009 World Cup Series).

The first 2010 appointment with Rifle shooters is scheduled in March, when the first ISSF Rifle and Pistol World Cup will be held in Sydney, Australia, at the 2000 Olympic shooting range, where most of these champions have already competed and won.

RIFLE - MULTI-MEDALLISTS MEN

| RK | NAME | NOC | G | S | B | TOTAL | EVENTS |
|----|-----------------|-----|----|----|----|-------|----------------------|
| 1 | DEBEVEC Rajmond | SLO | 27 | 21 | 18 | 66 | AR60; FR3X40; FR60PR |
| 2 | GONCI Jozef | SVK | 16 | 9 | 10 | 35 | AR60; FR3X40; FR60PR |
| 3 | MARTYNOV Sergei | BLR | 13 | 6 | 6 | 25 | AR60; FR3X40; FR60PR |

RIFLE - MULTI-MEDALLISTS WOMEN

| RK | NAME | NOC | G | S | B | TOTAL | EVENTS |
|----|---------------------|-----|----|----|----|-------|--------------|
| 1 | LETCHVA Vesela | BUL | 31 | 13 | 11 | 55 | AR40;STR3X20 |
| 2 | PFEILSCHIFTER Sonja | GER | 24 | 8 | 7 | 39 | AR40;STR3X20 |
| 3 | ZHAO Yinghui | CHN | 7 | 4 | 2 | 13 | AR40;STR3X20 |

TWO CHAMPIONS RULE PISTOL EVENTS



Two shooters, **RALF SCHUMANN** of Germany and Jasna Sekaric of Serbia, share the highest step of our ideal pistol podium. A few medals separate them on our charts, but we think that they equally deserved the right to be in first place as a result of their twenty-five year long career constituted by success and World Cup records. Schumann is the man who has won the highest number of World Cup Gold medals (39), but **JASNA SEKARIC** is the woman who was able to obtain 58 medals within 24 years, ruling every pistol event since 1986 and becoming the most titled woman shooter of the world. Ralf Schumann, undoubtedly the best Rapid Fire shooter of the world, a three-time

Olympic Champion and a thirteen-time World Cup Final winner, has earned more shooting Gold medals than anybody else, even more than the entire teams of some titled countries! Starting to compete in 1977, he took part in and finished on the podium of every World Cup as of 1986 for a time span of more than 10 years, obtaining, to this date, a total of 53 awards. Schumann is a natural record-setter, and besides the outstanding points he scored during the competitions, he entered into the shooter-hall of Fame thanks to several extraordinary performances. Sometimes he really seemed unbeatable, specially between 1987 and 1988, when he set the record of Gold medals won in

a single season (1987 – five Gold), and when he recorded the longest series of victories (6 Gold medals back to back between 1987 and 1988).

Two of the best Pistol shooters of the world follow Schumann in the Pistol multi-medallist men ranking. Italy's **ROBERTO DI DONNA**, the Olympic Champion of Atlanta 1996, and his rival **WANG YIFU** of China, place in second and third with 33 medals each. Di Donna and Wang battle on our medal chart as they have battled along the ISSF World Cup Series for years. Their duels for leadership in pistol events caused excitement in the World Cup Series for a decade, right up to the unforgettable 1996 Olympic Final, where Wang fainted on the last shot of their endless competition. Just a few Gold medals in favor of Di Donna now separate the two shooters, with the Italian placing in second in the overall pistol medal count, and in first both in the 10m Air Pistol and in the 50m Pistol Men events.

Jasna Sekaric, the absolute leader of Pistol Women events both by total number of medals and by Gold medals, is followed by two of her strongest opponents. **NINO SALUKVADZE** of Georgia and **MARIA GROZDEVA** of Bulgaria have been challenging Sekaric for years, contending for the leadership in Pistol events. The three shooters are still active and still winning, as proved by the results of the 2008 and 2009 World Cup Series. They will probably meet again in Sydney, at the first stage of the 2010 ISSF World Cup Series, which is predicted to be a must-see match.

PISTOL - MULTI-MEDALLISTS MEN

| RK | NAME | NOC | G | S | B | TOTAL | EVENTS |
|----|------------------|-----|----|----|---|-------|----------|
| 1 | SCHUMANN Ralf | GER | 39 | 6 | 8 | 53 | RFP |
| 2 | DI DONNA Roberto | ITA | 19 | 7 | 7 | 33 | AP60; FP |
| 3 | WANG Yifu | CHN | 13 | 13 | 7 | 33 | AP60; FP |

PISTOL - MULTI-MEDALLISTS WOMEN

| RK | NAME | NOC | G | S | B | TOTAL | EVENTS |
|----|-----------------|-----|----|----|----|-------|----------|
| 1 | SEKARIC Jasna | SRB | 36 | 14 | 8 | 58 | AP40; SP |
| 2 | SALUKVADZE Nino | GEO | 16 | 15 | 12 | 43 | AP40; SP |
| 3 | GROZDEVA Maria | BUL | 13 | 16 | 6 | 35 | AP40; SP |



25

YEARS OF
CHAMPIONS50M AND 10M
RUNNING TARGET→ 22 MEDALS:
Attila Solti→ 19 MEDALS:
Michael Jakosits→ 17 MEDALS:
Manfred Kurzer

Running Target events are no longer part of the regular ISSF World Cup program, but both the 50m Running Target Men and the 10m Running Target Men events played an important role in the ISSF World Cup Series history.

The 50m Running Target event was included in World Cup programs from 1986 to 1988, as it was discontinued from the

Olympic program after the 1988 Olympic Games of Seoul. Most of the athletes continued competing in the 10m Running Target event, which was part of the schedule right up until the 2004 Olympic Games of Athens. Five-time Olympian **ATTILA SOLTI**, who shot for Hungary until 1993 and then competed under the flag of Guatemala as of 1995, was the most successful protagonist of this event

during the twenty-four year long World Cup history, as he finished ahead of the multi-medallist rank with a total of 22 medals and an impressive amount of 10 Gold medals. Two German shooters wrote their names in the World Cup history, finishing in the Running Target multi-medallist Top-3. **MICHAEL JAKOSITS** was one of the strong contenders, with 19 medals including 10 Gold, all won in 10m Running Target competitions. His teammate **MANFRED KURZER** joined him at the top of World Cup podiums more than once, as he obtained 17 medals (including 10 Gold) in the same years.

Nowadays, Running Target's most important international stage is the ISSF Separate Running Target World Championship, which takes place every year and includes Men, Women and Junior events.

RUNNING TARGET - MULTI-MEDALLISTS MEN

| RK | NAME | NOC | G | S | B | TOTAL | EVENTS |
|----|------------------|-----|----|---|---|-------|------------|
| 1 | SOLTI Attila* | GUA | 10 | 7 | 5 | 22 | 10RT; 50RT |
| 2 | JAKOSITS Michael | GER | 10 | 4 | 5 | 19 | 10RT |
| 3 | KURZER Manfred | GER | 10 | 2 | 5 | 17 | 10RT |

* SOLTI Attila has won medals for Hungary in 50m running target and for Hungary and Guatemala in 10m running target

25 YEARS OF RECORDS

Throughout the last twenty-four years, the ISSF World Cup series has been a stage of records. Some of the best scores ever shot in Olympic events were registered during ISSF World Cup stages, where the limits of the shooting sport were elevated more than once. Just to mention some numbers, 486 **WORLD RECORDS** were set or matched during 194 World Cup stages, not considering World Cup Finals. Eighty-seven **NEW WORLD RECORDS** were set during official ISSF World Cup matches, and 144 **WORLD RECORD** were **MATCHED**. The number of **FINAL WORLD RECORDS** registered is even more impressive: 128 new Final World Records were set, and 34 were matched in the last twenty-four years. Junior shooters finished in the spotlight more than once, setting sixty-four new and matching 29 **JUNIOR WORLD RECORDS** while competing against their older opponents.

"**PERFECT SCORES**" were often recorded as well. The **50M RIFLE PRONE MEN WORLD RECORD** of 600 points was set for the first time on the "old target" in 1981 by Alister Allan of Great Britain at the European Championship in Titograd. During the following years until 1989, when the rules were changed and a new target was used, five shooters matched this maximum of 600 points during the ISSF World Cup series. **VIATCHESLAV BOTCHKAREV** of URS was the first shooter to once again score the maximum amount of 600 points in the 50m prone match on the new target at the European Championships in Zagreb. The new record has been matched eleven additional times in World Cup competitions since then. Belarus' **SERGEI MARTYNOV** turned out to be one of the best prone rifle shooters of the last years, matching the record four different times. The **TRAP MEN RECORD** of 125 targets was scored for the first time during a World Cup stage, shot by Italy's **GIOVANNI PELLIELO** in Nicosia in 1994. His teammate **MASSIMO FABBRIZI** was the last to match it, while testing the new shotgun range at the 2009 World Cup in Munich. Also the **10M AIR RIFLE WOMEN** 400-point record was scored during a World Cup stage, by **SUN HWA SEO** of Korea in Sydney, in 2002, and then matched eight times in the following years. Looking at the statistics, it would seem like there is no better place to break a World Record than the ISSF World Cup Series!

WORLD CUP RECORDS

| | |
|-----------------------------|-----|
| World Records | 87 |
| Matched World Records | 144 |
| Final World Records | 128 |
| Matched Final World Records | 34 |
| World Record Junior | 64 |
| Matched World Record Junior | 29 |

PERFECT SCORES

| EVENT | RESULT | TIMES |
|--------|--------|-------|
| FR60PR | 600 | 16 |
| SK125 | 125 | 11 |
| AR40 | 400 | 9 |
| TR125 | 125 | 5 |
| SK | 200 | 2 |
| SK75 | 75 | 1 |

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25

YEARS OF

ON THE ROAD



Since its launch in 1986 in Mexico, the ISSF World Cup Series has been traveling all around the world, touching the five continents. Numbers reveal its success, and prove once more how top shooting facilities are spread everywhere around the world. Thirty-six countries, and a total of fifty-six cities, were visited by the ISSF World Cup Series. Germany and Italy share the first place in the “top-ten countries” rank, with thirty-four ISSF World Cup Stages each.

Germany, a country that can proudly display a long tradition of shooting competitions, probably hosted the highest number of rifle and pistol World Cups. Twenty-one ISSF World Cup stages were held at the 1972 Olympic Shooting Range of Munich, which ranks in first place in the “top-ten cities”. Several Olympic Champions have described Munich’s range as the “best rifle and pistol venue of the world”, and it has been recently renewed to host the 50th ISSF World Championship in all events next July. With a brand-new shotgun range, and modern shooting lines, Munich is ready to welcome more than 2000 shooters at the next World Championship, which is predicted to be one of the biggest shooting competitions ever. And aside from Munich, we should not forget Suhl, one of the most frequented shooting venues in the ISSF World Cup history. The city places in third in the top-ten cities rank, having hosted thirteen different shooting competitions, both in rifle and pistol and shotgun events.

Italy ties Germany as the most visited country: thirty-four ISSF World Cup Stage took place in the European country, between the Rifle and Pistol shooting range in Milan (seventeen World Cups were conducted there), the shotgun shoot-

| TOP 10 CITIES | | | |
|---------------|----------------|-----|-----|
| RK | CITY | NOC | WCS |
| 1 | MUNICH | GER | 21 |
| 2 | MILAN | ITA | 17 |
| 3 | SUHL | GER | 13 |
| 4 | LONATO | ITA | 10 |
| 5 | CAIRO | EGY | 9 |
| 6 | GUATEMALA CITY | GUA | 8 |
| 6 | SEOUL | KOR | 8 |
| 8 | MEXICO CITY | MEX | 7 |
| 9 | ATLANTA | USA | 6 |
| 10 | HAVANA | CUB | 5 |
| 10 | NICOSIA | CYP | 5 |
| 10 | ZURICH | SUI | 5 |

ing range of Lonato, near Garda lake, where ten different stages were held since 1986, and several other historical venues used in the past like Bologna, Fagnano, Rome and Montecatini.

The United States of America arrive in third following Germany and Italy, having hosted a total of sixteen ISSF World Cups. Six of those were conducted in Atlanta, the host city of the 1996 Olympic Games. Another Olympic City, Los Angeles, hosted four ISSF World Cups, and four stages were held at the rifle and pistol range of Fort Benning, Georgia, where the World Cup Series will return later this year.

Twelve ISSF World Cups took place in Korea, a “shooting sport loving country”, as the Korean organizers often say. Once again, an Olympic city leads the rank, as eight World Cups were hosted in Seoul, the 1988 Olympic city. Following with four competitions, the shooting range of Changwon was visited by international athletes who participated both in shotgun as well as rifle and pistol competitions.

| TOP 10 COUNTRIES | | |
|------------------|-------------|-----|
| RK | NOC | WCS |
| 1 | GER/FRG/GDR | 34 |
| 1 | ITA | 34 |
| 3 | USA | 16 |
| 4 | KOR | 12 |
| 5 | BRA | 9 |
| 5 | EGY | 9 |
| 7 | GUA | 8 |
| 8 | MEX | 7 |
| 9 | AUS | 6 |
| 9 | CHN | 6 |
| 9 | YUG/SRB/SCG | 6 |

Egypt makes it into the Top-Five, with nine World Cup stages, all held in Cairo. Throughout the years, clay-shooting and target competitions have moved from the city centre to the shadow of the Giza’s Pyramids, and then to the recently built Dokki Club range, in the outskirts of the city, where a World Cup stage was held in 2009. Brazil also makes it into the Top-Five countries, with nine World Cups hosted at the shooting ranges located in Rio de Janeiro, Americana, Belo Horizonte and Resende. Looking at the Top-Ten locations, we also have to mention Guatemala, where eight World Cups were held, Mexico, visited seven times, Australia, China, and Serbia with six World Cup each.

In 2010, the ISSF World Cup Series will celebrate its anniversary by returning to the country where it all started: Mexico. The first stage will take place in Acapulco, a new range, and a new step in the 25-year long ISSF World Cup journey.

W. Schreiber, G. Nekhaev, M. Dalla Dea