



The European Shooting Confederation
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ESC Member Federations

June 3rd, 2024

Dear Presidents,
Dear Secretaries General,
Dear Colleagues,

Following discussions with coaches, team leaders and Member Federations' officials at different European competitions, on May 27th, 2024 the ESC Presidium unanimously took several decisions aiming to further develop the shooting sport on our continent with paying special attention to the young athletes. In particular:

1. To introduce two new age categories for Junior athletes: Under 16 (U-16) and Under 18(U-18) years of age.
2. To establish new European Championships for U-16 and U-18 age categories in 10m Air Rifle/Air Pistol.
3. To divide the existing European Championships in 10m Air Rifle/Air Pistol events in two separate Championships: European Championships Juniors and European Championships.
4. To establish new European Championships for U-18 age category in Shotgun.
5. To approve respective amendments to the ESC General Regulations.

It is important to clarify that the introduction of the U-16 and U-18 age categories does not affect the existing age limit for Juniors nor a possibility of U-16 and U-18 athletes in taking part in the European Championships for Juniors. At the same time, it gives an opportunity for the Member Federations to involve a bigger number of young athletes in the competitions of the European Championships level and to the most talented of them to give them the opportunity to compete at three European Championships within the year. On the other hand, athletes of the U-21 age category will obtain an additional possibility to take part not only in the events for Men Junior/Women Junior but also in the events of Men and Women.

It is my pleasure to inform you that the Estonian Shooting Sport Federation has already proposed to hold the first European Championship 10m for U-16/U-18 age categories in Tallinn on February 8th-14th, 2025. The schedule of this Championship and formats of the events will be published on the ESC website in the nearest future.

This Championship will be a Qualifying event for the European Youth Olympic Festival (EYOF) to be held in Skopje, North Macedonia, in July of 2025. Only those young athletes who will take part in the 2025 European Championships in 10m AR/AP events (U-16/U-18, Juniors, Men/Women) will be eligible to compete in Skopje.

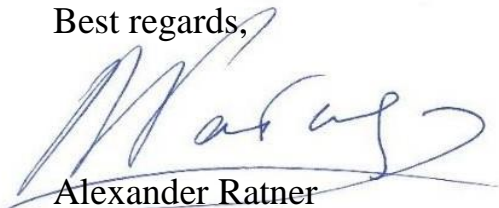
It is also important to point out that the 2025 European Championship 10m in Osijek, Croatia, will consist of two separate parts: European Championship Juniors and European Championship Seniors (Men and Women). The first one will take place from March 1st (arrival day) to March 7th (departure day), the second – from March 7th (arrival day) to March 13th (departure day). Each of them will have four competition days. A new individual event of hit/miss will be added to the standard program of the 10m European Championships. The schedule of both Championships and the description of the formats and the competition rules of the new event will be published on the ESC website shortly.

The ESC is working now on the formats and competition rules for the European Championship U-18 in Shotgun with a clear goal to hold the first one in 2025.

Please be informed that [on the ESC website](#) you can find two versions of the General Regulations. One of them shows the approved amendments (they are in red color), and the other one is the clean new version.

Please, do not hesitate to contact the ESC Secretariat if any additional clarification is needed.

Best regards,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Alexander Ratner', written over a horizontal line.

Alexander Ratner
President