



## INTERNATIONAL SHOOTING SPORT FEDERATION

*The Sport Director*

***To all ISSF Member Federations***

Dear Friends,

You will all be aware of the rifle clothing rule changes being proposed for introduction with the new ISSF Rules in January 2026. The ISSF has already shared with you the findings of the rifle clothing workshop, held in Munich last June. Since then, we have received generally positive feedback from Federations and all our stakeholders, with only one letter expressing some disagreement. We all recognise the issues in hand and we are heartened by the encouraging reaction to these proposals and your cooperation. Please pass this information on to those affected and concerned within your Federation.

I thought it prudent to provide an update of the situation to date and perhaps a little more clarity over some technical detail for the rifle jackets and trousers. I know athletes and teams are all busy preparing for next year, so some certainty is required and the ISSF understands these challenges. Therefore, attached for your information is a short update report, kindly produced by David Goodfellow, Chairman of the ISSF Rifle Committee. The attached Report reflects the recommendations of the various ISSF discipline section committees involved, especially the ISSF Athlete and Technical Committees, which will go forward to the ISSF Council for approval later this year. Thus, they are unofficial at the moment, but they do reflect the new rules as they are presently being drafted. They can be taken as a strong indication of what the future holds for rifle athletes and the discipline.

Finally, I would kindly stress the rationale and reason why these new measures are necessary, which are well briefed and known to the whole shooting family. I will not reiterate them again here, but would only emphasise the following;

- a. These changes are demanded not only by the ISSF, who have been aware of the rifle clothing issues for some years, but also the IOC. The technical, economic and sport presentation aspects of the rifle discipline and its clothing must be positively addressed, or we risk the discipline being dragged into disrepute, placing its Olympic future in jeopardy, especially where the 50m 3-Position Rifle events are concerned.

---

### **ISSF Headquarters**

Widenmayerstr. 16 - 80538 Munich, Germany  
T. +49 89 544 355 0 - E. [munich@issf-sports.org](mailto:munich@issf-sports.org)  
VAT: DE 129517043 - [www.issf-sports.org](http://www.issf-sports.org)





- b. The proposed changes do not constitute any additional costs to athletes or teams as they prepare for the 2026 season and beyond. As articulated in the attached report, if any alterations are required to existing clothing, this can be done by athletes or coaches themselves with relative ease. Any suggestions or rumours that these changes constitute additional costs to athletes are unfounded. As we are finding as we continue to explore these required changes, very little manipulation or adjustment is required and then only to a few manufacturers' products. Athletes are not required to buy new clothing to meet these new rule tolerances, unless of course they wish to do so. Rifle shooting shoes do not now need to be touched, their design and configuration will now remain unchanged and as for the current rules.
- c. The ISSF Equipment Control Guide is being updated to support these new rules and technical tolerances and will be promulgated in the near future.
- d. The rifle clothing in relation to athlete performance, costs and sport presentation will continue to be monitored. Therefore, if we do not see positive improvement in these areas then further remedial measures may be required in the future.

I hope this provides some technical reassurances and gives some more direction as to what the future holds. A similar letter and the attached update has gone to Industry and clothing manufacturers as they prepare their stock and material arrangements for the start of next season. In this way we hope to keep all informed and communicate the latest developments, reducing the risk of misinformation and wrong assumptions being made. We hope you find it useful as we strive to secure the future of the Rifle discipline within the Olympics.

Yours sincerely,

Munich, 12 September 2025

Peter Underhill