

Wildfires cancel European Championships

The European Championship in Dynamic Rifle Shooting that would be held in Karlskoga from August 5 to 11 has been cancelled. Due to the extensive forest fires and extreme weather conditions in Sweden, it has been found that for reasons of safety it is not possible to hold the competition. Instead, the ambition is to host the match in the same place next year.

The wildfires raging in many parts of Sweden, combined with the extreme weather, led to the conclusion that it was necessary for safety reasons to cancel the European Championship in Dynamic sport shooting that would have been held on the Villingsberg's shooting range.

Talks have been held today between all parties involved. After extensive consultation with the Armed Forces, Karlskoga Municipality, the International Practical Shooting Confederation and the match sponsors, it was clear that the best solution is to move the competition one year even though this is a deviation from the international championship program. Karlskoga Municipality immediately gave its full support for a 2019 competition, as did the international federation IPSC, now we are just waiting for a positive message from the Armed Forces so that the competition can really be carried out in 2019.

Roland Dahlman, President of the Swedish Dynamic Sport Shooting Association, says: "It is an extreme situation and, as far as we know, this is the first time ever a European Championship has been canceled because of wildfires. We know the 700 of competitors that would take part in the match will be extremely disappointed, and so is the organizing team. After having worked so hard for years towards a common goal, it is taken away from us at the finish line. Virtually everything was finished, there were only a few things left to do before the competitors, range officers and volunteers were due to arrive in late July. However, I am positive for 2019 and I have faith that the Armed Forces will commit for next year so that we can jointly finish the championship. We hope that the contestants, audiences and other stakeholders have an understanding of the critical situation"

"It is the right decision, it is important to take responsibility in such an extreme weather situation - we welcome the competition back in 2019", says Martin Lindström of Karlskoga municipality.

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Dynamic Sport Shooting

Dynamic Sport Shooting is a sport where the competitor shoots on multiple targets placed on multiple distances for time. The competitor who achieves the highest total score of time and points wins.