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To:

- 1) European Metallic Silhouette Shooting Association (AETSM)
- 2) International Metallic Silhouette Shooting Association (IMSSU)

AN INFORMATION LETTER OF THE AETSM EUROPEAN CHAMPIONSHIPS AND WORLD CUP IN THE SHOOTING CENTER RUUTIKANGAS IN YEAR 2025

The Finnish Shooting Sport Federation (FSSF), Ruutikangas Ltd and Municipality of Liminka and Lumijoki will organise AETSM European Silhouette Championships and Silhouette World Cup in August 2025. According to the agreement between the Finnish Shooting Sport Federation and Ruutikangas Ltd all competition activities are taken care by the Ruutikangas Ltd and co-operation partners.

The Shooting Center Ruutikangas is one of the major European shooting centers in near future with its 35 different shooting ranges and 300 single shooting lanes. The construction of the premises has been initiated and will be mainly finished in year 2024 and the shooting center will reach full operational capability in summer 2025.

The estimated time frame to organise the AETSM European Championships and Silhouette World Cup is 11.-22.8.2025.

Simultaneously with the silhouette competitions ERABSF European Benchrest Championships will be organised during 6.-16.8.2025 by the same organising committee.

Liminka .1.2024

Timo Haataja
CEO of the Ruutikangas Ltd

Mikko Taussi
Championships Director

Annex An information letter of the AETSM European Silhouette Championships and the Silhouette World Cup in the Shooting Center Ruutikangas in 2025

THE AETSM EUROPEAN SILHOUETTE CHAMPIONSHIPS AND THE SILHOUETTE WORLD CUP IN THE SHOOTING CENTER RUUTIKANGAS IN 2025

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Introduction

The Finnish Shooting Sport Federation, Shooting Center Ruutikangas and the cities of Liminka and Lumijoki will organise the AETSM European Silhouette Championships and the Silhouette World Cup 11 - 22 August 2025.

The Local Organising Committee (LOC) will handle the administrative procedures of the championships with AETSM. The official language of the championships is English.

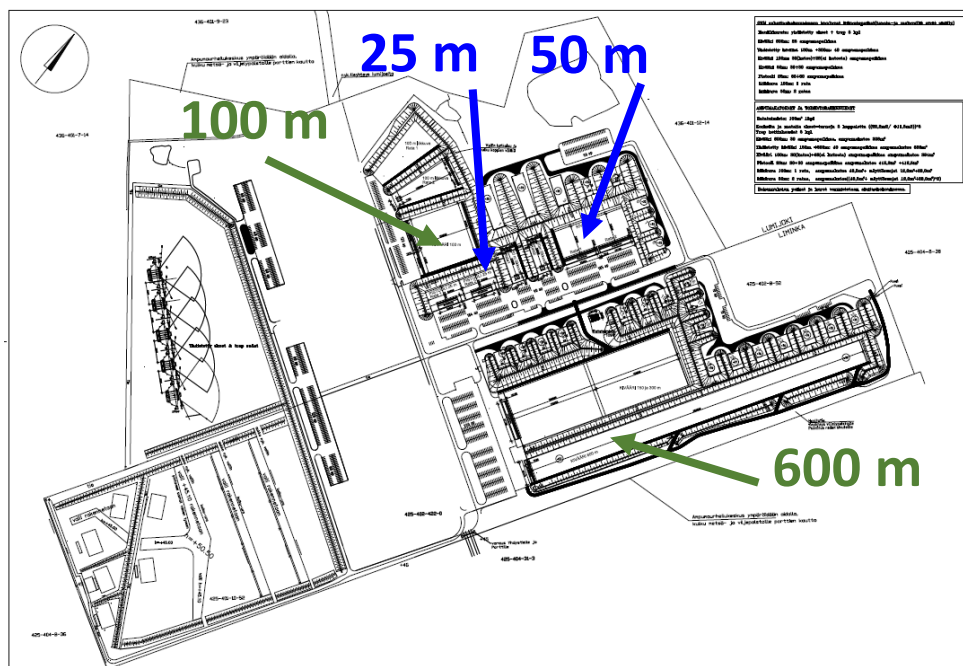
The contact info of the LOC

- Mikko Taussi
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 - o telephone +358 400 436 416
 - o Lapintie 7 A 21, 33100 Tampere, Finland.

Competition Venue, Range and Relay Arrangements

Competitions and matches will be organised according to the IMSSU Official Sporting Rules 2023 and according to the guidance of the international federations.

Silhouette events will be organised in the 100 metre (totally 40 lanes) and 600 metre (20 lanes) with AETSM and IMSSU accepted targets. A sufficient number of wind flags will be provided in the range.



Picture 1. An overall lay-up of the Shooting Center Ruutikangas. 25 m and 50 m ranges are for benchrest shooting. 100 m and 600 m ranges are for silhouette shooting championships.

Silhouette competitions will take place simultaneously in 100 metre and 600 metre ranges according to the number of competitors. The daily program starts at 09:00 o'clock. In the **annex 1** a draft schedule is presented.

Tie-breakings will be managed according to the General Technical Rules (2017). Shoot-offs will only be organised for ranks 1, 2 and 3 in individual categories (events) to govern the championships schedule (and help the streaming of the events). In shoot-offs targets of a mixed size composition will be used. For other ties, aggregates and teams, the reverse animal count will be used.

Scoring, Result and Ranking Service

Targets will be made of Hardox 400 (or equivalent) produced in Finland. Adequate number of each targets will be available for pre-inspection in June 2025.

The scoring will be made in co-operation between spotters and range officials. Result and ranking service will be done by a computer aided system. The official result team will be formed by experienced silhouette officials.

Scoring of a relay and standing results will be published on the internet with a minimum delay and on the range score board with targets.

Official results will be published daily on internet and on the official score board. The official result book will be produced and addressed to the AETSM, the IMSSU and the FSSF.

National and international technical Officers

The LOC will be in responsible to form a technical jury of experienced international participants to advice, assist and supervise the conduct of matches. The technical jury will consist of 3 – 5 persons from participating countries.

The LOC will be in responsible to form a protest jury (jury of appeal) of experienced international participants to handle all the protests made during the championships. The composition of the protest jury is the championship director and 4 member of the member federations.

Ceremonies and Prizes

A brief opening ceremony will be held before the first competition in the shooting range area.

Awards will be given according to the rule book. The LOC will produce a championships medal for three best individuals and teams. Extra prizes are in consideration specially for aggregate winners.

All participating countries are responsible to provide a national flag (approximately 1 x 1,5 m2) and a short (max 60 sec) version of the national anthem to be played for winners in the award ceremonies.

Award ceremonies for disciplines and aggregates will be held in the closing ceremony (dinner) in an official championship hotel. The closing dinner will be with excessive fee.

Anti-Doping

The LOC will prepare to support the Finnish Anti-doping Agency (FINCIS ~ FINADA, SUEK in Finnish) for doping tests.

Range Area Facilities

The Shooting Center Ruutikangas is a permanent shooting sport area with fixed estates which will be supplemented by temporary installations if necessary.

In the range area next services are produced

- range score board and official score board
- cafeteria
- sanitary facilities
- first-aid station
- rest area (power and wireless communications)
- media and internet area
- firearm storage
- gunsmith service
- car parking area
- limited tourist car parking area.

The LOC will also provide prerequisites for retailers and other commercial agents.

All support measures will be noticed in the invitation of the championships.

The Participation of the Member Federations

No restrictions for the number of the participants of the member federations will be set before the entry-by-number (preliminary entry) deadline ends. If necessary, AETSM will allocate the number of participants from each country according to the range resources to guarantee a fair treatment of all member federations.

Visa

Participants of the EU or Schengen country does not need a visa to Finland. Visa may be needed especially those participating the world cup competition.

National federations are responsible for obtaining a visa if necessary. They can find information about visas between Finland and other countries here: <https://um.fi/visa-to-visit-finland>.

For those who need an invitation letter for visa, the LOC will provide an invitation letter by request.

Point-of-Entry/Exit to the Championships

The Oulu municipality has an own international airport about 15 kilometer from the city of Oulu, which is the point-of-entry/exit for international teams. The airport is about 35 kilometer from the Shooting Center Ruutikangas.

The main air carrier to Oulu is Finnair being a member of the OneWorld Airlines which have six flights daily (November 2023) from the Helsinki airport. The flight from Helsinki takes an hour. The Helsinki airport is the main hub in Finland where all the major international air carriers operate.

In November 2023 there is also a direct flight service between Oulu and Munich, GER (Franz Joseph International Airport (about 3 h 15 min) by Lufthansa. Depending on the flight business state of affairs in summer 2025 you may find a straight flights to Oulu also from Riga International Airport (LAT).

Optionally you can fly to Rovaniemi (FIN), which is about 250 km north from Oulu, to sense the atmosphere of Finnish Lapland. The LOC will not provide a transportation service between Rovaniemi and Oulu.

Oulu region may be reached quite easily also via Sweden. The city of Luleå has its own airport from which it is 270 km drive to Oulu region. Furthermore, all the road network of Norway and Sweden can be utilized to entry to Finland. The border control is located between the cities of Haparanda (SWE) and Tornio (FIN).



Picture 2. Easiest way to reach Oulu is via Helsinki airport from all member countries.

The LOC will provide entry/exit assistant when teams or athletes are arriving or departing Oulu region 4.-22.8.2025. One major part of the assist is the firearm service.

Import and Storage of Firearms and Ammunition

The travelling with European Firearm Pass or Nordic firearm permit is the easiest way to entry in Finland with firearms and ammunition. Athletes without those permits has to go through a detailed authority process. The LOC will assist the participants to get permissions for their firearms and ammunition.

In Finland an athlete does not need a firearm license for an air rifle in calibre less than 6.35 mm.

The LOC will provide a storage service for firearms, air guns and ammunitions in co-operation with local firearm retailers and range operators. An air filling service will be provided in the storage service. The range area is secured by camera and/or human surveillance 24/7.

Detailed instructions for import and storing will be provided in the invitation letter.

Hotel, Meals and Local Transportation Service

Sufficient number of hotels (3 - 4 stars) of the Oulu Region will be pre-reserved for competitors and officials. Preliminary reservations are done for 200 rooms. Majority of accommodation capacity is in the city of Oulu. The locations of hotels are presented in the next picture.



Picture 3. A map describing the range, Oulu region and official hotels reserved.

The hotels will be allocated by the demands of teams. The preliminary hotel allocation list will be sent to the teams for final approval before the deadline of the payments.

Normally a breakfast is included in hotel services. On the shooting range there will be a restaurant where warm meals and snacks can be purchased. The tap water in Finland is potable. The LOC will provide a list of different kind of restaurants for leisure time.

The LOC will arrange transportation from/to the point-of-entry/exit to hotels and between official hotels to the shooting range. The transport service will be at excessive costs.

The LOC will provide a list of rental car services of the Oulu region in the invitation letter.

Medical Services and Insurances

The LOC will provide a first-aid station in the shooting range area. It will also guide participants for further care if necessary. In the Oulu region there is good public and private health care.

Each member federation and/or participants is responsible for the appropriate insurances for accidents, health and property of their team. The LOC is not liable for any cases.

Conference Facilities

The technical meetings will be organised one day before the first competition day in the shooting range area conducted by the championship director and the representative of the international federation.

AETSM annual meeting will be organised in an official championships' hotel assisted by the LOC.

Championships Communication Service

The LOC will produce an invitation letter and a competition guide where teams can find all relevant information concerning the championships and the Oulu region. Furthermore, a help desk will provide instant support during the championships.

The LOC will produce a championships webpage where all important information will be delivered by the championship's media team.

More information about Ruutikangas Shooting Center can be found

- www.ruutishooting.com
- <https://ruutikangas.fi/> (in Finnish only)
- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=aqOmJsveLdA>
- <https://www.facebook.com/Ruutikangas>

Relevant Weather Information

The temperature in Oulu in August is approximately between 14 – 18 °C. The sun raises in August about 5:00 o'clock and goes down at about 22:00 which makes the daylight as long as 17 hours a day. The average number of rainy days is 12.

The Planning, Registration and Accreditation Processes

The preparation and the entry process of the championships will be as follows

- an information letter of the championships not later than (NLT) 1st January 2024 (this paper)
- a detailed plan to organise the championships not later than (NLT) 1st July 2024
- an invitation letter will be published NLT the 1st of August 2024
- an entry procedure will be opened NLT the 1st of January 2025
- **an entry by number (preliminary entry) must be done NLT the 31st of January 2025**
 - this includes number of athletes by disciplines, hotel reservations and transportation services
 - the LOC will confirm entries done for member federations and AETSM to reallocate places
- a possible allocation of places by AETSM/IMSSU NLT the 1st of March 2025
- **an entry by names (final entry) must be done NLT the 30th of May 2025**

- this includes also detailed list for firearms, needs for firearms permissions, firearm storage (dates), rented shooting supports, closing ceremony, possible physical impairments, need for official invitation letter for visas etc
- **all fees and services ordered from the LOC must be paid NLT the 4th of June 2025**
 - unpaid fees and services will be cancelled
- travelling data to official point-of-entry (airport of Oulu) NLT 1st of July 2025
- a storage service for firearms and ammunition will be opened 30th of August 2025
- an on-site accreditation and late-entry service will be opened 4th of August 2025
- an equipment control will start 10th of August 2025
- the championships will take place 11 – 22 August 2025
- the storage service for firearms and ammunition will be closed 22nd of August 2025.

Estimated Entry Fees and other Costs

Entry fees for the European championships and the World Cup include the registration and one discipline payment. Aggregates is free-of-charge. Other payments are on demands of the participant.

Entry fee, individual per discipline	50 €
Entry fee, team per discipline	100 €
Gun storing fee per person	20 €
Team gun license, according to authority costs	40 € (2023)
- not for those having FIN national permit, EU firearm pass or Nordic firearm permit	
Transportation fee per championships	100 €
- airport – official hotels – venue	
Hotels, single/double room (level 2 – 4)	100 – 200 €
Venue camping facilities, per stay	100 €
Meals on the range (according to the meal producer)	10 – 20 €
Closing ceremony dinner (3-course)	70 €

Local Organising Committee

The LOC has been formed of the personnel of the Association of the Shooting Center Ruutikangas, the Silhouette section of the Finnish Shooting Sport Federation and regional municipalities.

The championship director is Mikko Taussi (mikko.taussi@ruutikangas.fi, tel +358 400 436 416).

Other key persons of the local organising committee are

- Timo Haataja, Shooting Center Ruutikangas (timo.haataja@ruutikangas.fi)
- Jarkko Koskela, Municipality of Liminka (jarkko.koskela@liminka.fi)
- Sami Mäkelä, AETSM president, IMSSU Vice president (sami.makela@pemco.fi)
- Hanna Lempola, AETSM & IMSSU General secretary (lempola@hotmail.com)
- Veikko Huotari, Raahen Ampujat (veikko.huotari@kajaani.net)