

13TH ASIAN YOUTH TRAINING CAMP (AIR PISTOL, TRAP)
21-28 JUN 2025, ALMATY - KAZAKHSTAN

INTRODUCTION OF COACHES:

TRAP COACH
MR. DIEGO GASPERINI

Born in Rome, Italy in 1975. Mr. Gasperini's career in shooting sports began as a professional athlete in the Italian Army. Competing at the highest levels, Mr. Gasperini developed a deep understanding of the sport, which later led him to specialize as a Coach. Over the time, Mr. Gasperini transitioned from an athlete to a military shooting instructor, gaining extensive experience in training and performance optimization.



Mr. Gasperini holds an ISSF A Coach License, served as ISSF Shotgun Head Tutor from 2020-2024, national coach of Italy, Turkey, Croatia, Morocco and Russia, leading athletes to Olympic and World Cup victories. Mr. Gasperini's coaching philosophy is based on precision, discipline and a relentless pursuit of excellence.

Mr. Gasperini is committed to developing young talent and preparing them for international success.

PISTOL COACH
MR. GENNADY SOLODOVNIKOV

Mr. Gennady Solodovnikov is 64 years old pistol coach with extensive international experience. Mr. Solodovnikov started pistol shooting at the age of 13 and collected many awards as an athlete and coach. Mr. Solodovnikov believes that the pistol is the most interesting shooting discipline and only indispensable talents in pistol shooting are motivation and workability.



Asian Shooting Confederation (ASC) in cooperation with Kazakhstan Sports Shooting Federation is organizing the 13th Asian Youth Training Camp in Pistol & Trap events from 21-28 Jun 2025 in Almaty, Kazakhstan. It is obvious that these camps are considered to be successful. It just can be judged by their number. What is the essence of their success?

The purpose of these training camps is to help athletes who are looking for ways to improve their shooting, to find the most effective direction for their efforts. The time available for this training camp is too short to focus on individual preparation for specific competitions.

This is too large aim to reach it in a week or two. But we can refresh athletes' knowledge, re-evaluate their understanding of the classic basics, find new ideas, and suggest the most effective training methods.

The components of success in sports are well known. These are hard work, determination, and the ability to devote most of your life to striving for success in sports. However, there are also technical components. All athletes know the basics of shooting technique, but they understand and perform them differently. Finding the right application of the basics for each individual athlete is very important, and this is what we try to do at the Youth Camps.

The success of Asian Youth Training Camps cannot be measured in medals and results. We cannot say that we have prepared an athlete for certain achievements. Any achievement is primarily the merit of the athlete himself or herself. Also, it is the achievement of the technical and supportive staff who have been with athletes all this time. But we are pleased to see how the athletes who have attended Asian Youth Training Camps have performed successfully throughout the season. From our point of view, this is success.

Promoting youth sports on the continent is a great mission and requires comprehensive assistance and broad support. Conduct of the 13th Youth Training Camp, first and foremost, is goodwill of the Kazakhstan Sports Shooting Federation and we are grateful to them for kindly providing their sports facilities for the camp. The successes at the last Olympics have inspired Kazakhstan team – they returned from France with silver Olympic medal, and they are eager to host various sporting events, including the Asian Camps. We hope that their team gets the most out of this event.

The ASC Youth Training Camps have been conducted since 2010. Until recent times, they were combined with theoretical courses for coaches. So, coaches of the participating athletes can see practical implementation of lectured theory keeping the general line of preparation under control. The strong bonds between coaches and athletes were not in danger. However, last year it was decided to separate courses for coaches and camps for athletes. Now coaches can take the Asian Confederation Academy course and simultaneously obtain the ISSF coaching license. This is undoubtedly a significant improvement in education for coaches. However, inviting an athlete to a training camp without a national coach may appear to be an attempt to interfere with the planned training process. Preparation of young athletes for national teams is a daily concern and persistent work of the national coaches. Can a foreign coach really do more in a week than they can?

Of course, existing plans of preparation are not in danger. We offer ideas and methods for improvement for those who need it. And we offer this not to athletes but to national federations. The national federation has the right to decide whether their athletes need such a course, and if they are interested, they can send not athletes only but their coaches as well. The list of participants for the upcoming camp includes both athletes and coaches. If federations decide that they have enough of own resources to run preparation of athletes – that is their right, and we sincerely wish them good luck in the upcoming season. Most federations on the continent are like this. But at the same time, there are those who want to visit our camp, which means that our efforts will not be in vain.

For the coaches who are going to run the forthcoming Camp, it will be challenging work. The participants have different skill levels, and a single approach will not work for everyone. They have to find ways to approach them during the event. The number of athletes exceeds their personal capabilities, so help from the participating national coaches will be needed.

And last but not least – we need the athletes to arrive to the camp physically and technically prepared. If you want to reach the next level, you must be able to show the best results you are capable of. The approach of “no need to train now, I'll train during the camp” means that achieving of the goals is almost impossible. We need the athletes to be ready for the Camp and have a strong desire for improvement.