

# 2007

(as ratified at PAC on 27<sup>th</sup> Oct. 2007)

# **NSRA STANDARD THREE-POSITION AIR RIFLE RULES & SHOOTING CONDITIONS**

The NSRA Rules and shooting conditions are based on the US National Standard Three-Position Air Rifle Rules, as published by the National Three-Position Air Rifle Council.

These NSRA Rules & Shooting Conditions are intended to comply with the spirit of the US Rules but differ, both in content and presentation, to reflect the different situation and requirements in the United Kingdom.

The current US Rules are available from:

National Three-Position Air Rifle Council  
Camp Perry,  
P. O. Box 576  
Port Clinton,  
Ohio 43452

Web site (free download) at <http://www.odcmp.com/3P.htm>



# **SAFETY RULES FOR AIRGUN RANGES**

## **1. MUZZLE**

**Always keep rifle muzzles pointed in a safe direction.**

**Rifle muzzles must never be pointed at other persons under any circumstances.**

**On a range, the safest directions to point a rifle muzzle are usually up, or downrange towards the target.**

## **2. RIFLE ACTION**

**Always keep rifle actions open except when the rifle is on the firing line between the beginning of the “preparation period” and the end of the shooting period.**

**When shooting is finished or the rifle is laid down for any reason, the action must be open and the rifle unloaded.**

**The only exception to this rule is for spring-air rifles where the cocking lever cannot be left in the open position without damaging the mechanism.**

**Spring-air rifles must be left uncocked and unloaded.**

**The action may be closed when the air rifle is placed in a gun case, but the action must be opened immediately when it is removed from the case.**

## **3. TRIGGER**

**Keep your finger off of the trigger until after placing the rifle in the shooting position and you are actually ready to fire a shot.**

**It is especially important to keep the finger outside of the trigger guard when loading the rifle and when placing it in position.**

## **4. TARGET**

**Shoot only at the target designated for you.**

**Be sure the target is properly placed in front of a safe backstop.**

**Shooting at any object on a range besides your own target is strictly forbidden.**

## **5. RANGE OFFICER**

**A Range Officer is in charge of firing at every range.**

**The commands and instructions of the Range Officer or person in charge of firing must be obeyed.**

**Range Officers must check rifles brought to the range to be sure actions are open and unloaded.**

**When shooting is finished, Range Officers must check rifles to be sure actions are open and unloaded.**

## **6. RANGE COMMANDS**

**Be sure you know the range commands that are used on the range where you fire.**

**No shooter may load a rifle until after the command LOAD or START is given.**

**No shooting may begin until after the command START (COMMENCE FIRING) is given.**

**When the command STOP (CEASE FIRING) is given, no further attempt to fire a shot may be made; the rifle must be taken down immediately and the action must be opened. If a pellet remains in the rifle, or if the rifle is charged, ask the Range Officer for instructions.**

## **7. LOADING**

**Rifle muzzles must remain pointed downrange whenever the rifle is cocked and loaded.**

**Special care must be taken during cocking and loading to ensure that a rifle muzzle is never pointed at a neighbouring shooter or at any area behind the firing line.**

## **8. GOING DOWN RANGE**

**Whenever it is necessary for someone to go down range to hang or retrieve targets or for any other purpose, all rifle actions must be opened and rifles laid on the floor or shooting bench.**

**No one may go down range until authorized to do so by the range officer.**

## **9. EYE AND HEARING PROTECTION**

**Eye and hearing protection is recommended, even for air rifle shooting.**

**Eye and hearing protection may be required on some ranges.**

# **10. TREAT EVERY RIFLE AS IF IT WERE LOADED**

**Even if you are sure your rifle is unloaded and even if a range officer has checked to be sure your rifle is unloaded; treat your rifle at all times as if it were loaded.**

**Always be sure it is never pointed at another person.**

# **NSRA STANDARD THREE-POSITION AIR RIFLE RULES**

## **RULES**

This is the Second Edition of the NSRA Standard Three-Position Air Rifle Rules.

These Rules incorporate numerous recommendations from shooting coaches and competition officials, who have been involved with the USA programme and are designed to coordinate with the 2005-2008 International Shooting Sport Federation (ISSF) Rules.

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# 1. GENERAL REGULATIONS

## 1.1 Introduction

Three-Position Rifle shooting is the most demanding and rewarding form of competitive rifle shooting. For both men and women rifle shooters, winning the Olympic Three Positions Rifle event represents the pinnacle of shooting achievement.

In the Olympic Games, Three-Position Rifle is shot at 50 metres, using .22" rimfire (small bore) rifles.

In World and Continental Championships, there are events for smallbore and big bore rifles. The big bore rifle events are shot at 300 metres, using high-powered rifles.

Three-Position Air Rifle is based on the Olympic and International Three-Position rifle events so it has broad appeal, both to shooters who want an accessible recreational sport and to shooters who seek the supreme challenges of high-performance international competition.

Two different Three-Position Air Rifle equipment classes are available.

Precision Air Rifle is modelled after Olympic-style shooting and allows the use of the specialized target air rifles and equipment, designed for use in Olympic and International Air Rifle Competition.

Sporter Air Rifle is designed for new competitors or those who want to compete with a minimum of equipment and expense.

In both classes, competitors fire at a distance of 10 meters, at the Olympic Air Rifle target, in three different positions, prone, standing and kneeling.

Unlike small bore and big bore rifle shooting, which is only possible on specialist, and often remote, shooting ranges, Three-Position Air Rifle provides young competitors with shooting opportunities that can be offered on a wide variety of easily accessible ranges. Safe and attractive, temporary or permanent, airgun ranges can be quickly and cheaply set up in almost any sports hall, community hall, scout hut, large classroom, barn or similar building.

Shooters can make a start, and be competitive, in Sporter Class, with basic equipment, that is commonly available, at affordable costs.

Shooters can choose to remain in Sporter Class or to move up to Precision Class.

The equipment used in Sporter Class can also be used in Precision Class shooting, although shooters have the ability to upgrade.

Upgrading need not be expensive. Many Sporter Class rifles are now very nearly as accurate as specialist Precision Class rifles, costing well over £1000, and rifle manufacturers are now beginning to produce Sporter Class rifles, which can be upgraded to Precision Class.

The main difference between Sporter and Precision classes is in the clothing permitted.

Specialist, made to measure shooting clothing is allowed in the Precision class but is not required and very good results are possible without its use.

The main purpose of Three-Position Air Rifle competition is to foster good sportsmanship, the development of positive life skills and an enjoyable atmosphere for all participants. As a bonus, one or two may go on to achieve Olympic glory.

The main emphasis of Three-Position Air Rifle competition is on team match shooting, with teams of 4 shooters competing under the direction of an adult coach. In most events, there will also be prizes for the best individual competitors.

With several nations now promoting Three-Position Air Rifle, for young shooters, it was included for the first time in a junior international match at Bisley, for both Precision and Sporter Class Air Rifle, in August 2006, when a total of 47 competitors took part.



## ***1.2 Purpose of Rules***

The purpose of these Rules is to establish a single national standard rulebook for Three-Position Air Rifle competition in the United Kingdom.

All competitors, team leaders and competition officials must be familiar with these Rules and ensure that they are enforced.

These Rules may be used to govern any Three-Position Air Rifle competition, whether it is a major national event or a small event involving only two or three teams.

## ***1.3 Intent and Spirit of Rules***

The Rules are intended to ensure fair competition for all.

Anything that may give a competitor an advantage over others and which is not specifically authorized in these Rules, or which is contrary to the intent and spirit of these Rules, is prohibited.

Range Officers and Juries may decide cases not provided for in these Rules, but any such decisions must be based on the intent and spirit of these Rules.

No decision by a Range Officer or Jury may be made that is contrary to these Rules.

## ***1.4 Authority to Establish Rules***

The National Smallbore Rifle Association (NSRA) is the National Governing Body for Airgun shooting in the United Kingdom, with the power to make Rules governing the conduct of airgun shooting.

The Pistol Airgun and Crossbow Committee of the NSRA advises on Rules governing the conduct of airgun shooting and has the power to make conditions governing the conduct of airgun competitions run or approved by the Association.

These Rules are made by the Pistol Airgun and Crossbow Committee of the NSRA, to govern the conduct of all Three-Position Air Rifle competitions run or approved by the Association.

The clothing and equipment Rules for Three-Position Air Rifle are approved by Council and are incorporated in the NSRA Rulebook.

The remaining Rules are made by the Pistol Airgun and Crossbow Committee and have the formal status of competition conditions.

## **1.5 Application of Rules**

The NSRA agrees to use these Rules in all Three-Position Air Rifle competitions that they organize or authorize.

All organizations that promote youth shooting competitions are encouraged to use these Rules to govern Three-Position Air Rifle competitions that they conduct.

This ensures that all Three-Position Air Rifle competitors and coaches have the same rules govern all competitions in which they participate.

## **1.6 Amendments to Rules**

The Pistol Airgun and Crossbow Committee of the NSRA will meet at least annually to review the **NSRA Standard Three-Position Rifle Rules** and approve amendments for the next edition of the Rules.

In making any amendments, the Committee shall consider the need for, and benefits of, international harmonization of the Rules

The Committee will also consider the views of participating, and other interested youth organizations in the UK. To this end, observations are invited from such organizations.

Forming a National Three-Position Air Rifle Council, with representatives of major participating organizations, to advise on and/or establish these rules (as in the USA, for example) is an option for the future.

Anyone with recommendations for rule changes is urged to submit them to the NSRA at this address:

The Secretary,  
NSRA  
Lord Roberts Centre  
Bisley Camp, Brookwood  
Woking  
Surrey GU24 0NP

## **1.7 National Jury of Appeal**

The Pistol Airgun and Crossbow Committee of the NSRA may appoint a National Jury of Appeal consisting of three experienced, expert competition officials.

The National Jury (or, if one is not appointed, the NSRA Referees Committee) advises competition sponsors, coaches and competitors; answers questions about the Rules and resolves protests and disputes.

The National Jury (or Referees Committee) is authorized to decide protests appealed to it by participants in authorized competitions (see Rule 9.3).

Decisions by the National Jury on protests are final and cannot be appealed further.

The National Jury also issues rulings and interpretations regarding these Rules. Anyone needing additional information concerning the Rules, requesting rule interpretation or wishing to resolve a protest or dispute should contact the Council at the address above.

## **1.8 Authorised Competitions**

Any competition sponsor may use these Rules to conduct a three-position air rifle competition, with or without official authorization from a national shooting organization.

The NSRA, nevertheless, encourages all competition organizers to seek authorization for their competitions so that they can be listed in a national register of coming events, to make competitors in the competitions eligible for National Awards and so that outstanding scores fired in the competition can be recognized as National Records.

Any team, club or other organization may request authorization, regardless of whether they are formally affiliated to NSRA or another member of the Council.

To request authorization, complete a copy of the **Application for Authorization of a Three-Position Air Rifle Competition** in the Appendix 1 of this Rulebook.

Send your completed form, with a £5-00 authorization fee and a copy of your competition program to:

The Secretary,  
NSRA  
Lord Roberts Centre  
Bisley Camp  
Brookwood  
Woking  
Surrey GU24 0NP

Safety is the foremost concern in all shooting sports.

The safety of competitors, competition officials and spectators requires constant, disciplined attention to safe gun handling.

Applicable safety rules for three-position air rifle competitions include both this rule and the **SAFETY RULES FOR AIR RIFLE RANGES** printed at the front of this Rulebook.

Every competitor is responsible for following all established safety rules and safe rifle-handling procedures.

A competitor who handles a rifle in an unsafe manner or who violates safety rules may be disqualified.

## **2. SAFETY**

### **2.1 Handling Rifles**

All rifles must be handled with maximum care at all times.

When handling a rifle, care must be taken to keep the muzzle pointed in a safe direction and the rifle action open.

All rifles must be cleared and grounded and no one may touch or handle a rifle while there is someone downrange.

### **2.2 Load**

Rifles may be loaded only on the firing line.

The rifle barrel must be pointed up or downrange during the cocking and loading procedure.

Rifles may be loaded only after the command LOAD or START is given.

### **2.3 Start**

Competitors may begin to fire at their targets only after the Range Officer gives the command

#### **START.**

Any shot fired before the command START in a competition will be penalized two (2) points on the first competition target (see Rule 7.13.1).

The command "START" must only be used to signal the start of shooting time, never to begin a preparation period or other activity where live-fire shooting is not permitted.

### **2.4 Stop**

When the command STOP or STOP-UNLOAD is given, all shooting must stop immediately, rifles must be made safe by opening the cocking levers or loading ports and rifles must be placed on the firing point with the muzzles pointed down range.

Any shot fired after the command STOP in a competition must be scored as a miss (see Rule 7.13.2).

After the command STOP all rifles must be left in a safe, unloaded condition, with no pellet in the barrel and with the action open.

There is one exception to this rule.

If a competitor uses a spring-air rifle where the cocking lever cannot be left in the open position without damaging the mechanism; the rifle may be left uncocked and unloaded.

## **2.5 Loaded Air Rifle**

If a competitor has a loaded rifle after the command STOP is given, the competitor must inform the Range Officer immediately by raising his hand and declaring "Loaded Rifle."

The Range Officer will then direct the competitor to clear the rifle by firing it into a pellet discharge container or towards an area of the backstop where there are no targets (see also Rule 7.13.4).

Note: Many ranges utilize a metal can or similar container filled with paper or other soft material that has masking or duct tape over the open end and a handle that allows the Range Officer to hold the Pellet Discharge Container (PDC) in front of the muzzle of a loaded rifle.

## **2.6 Removing Rifle From Firing Line**

Every rifle must be made safe by opening the cocking lever, bolt or loading port before removing it from the firing line.

Any rifle that remains loaded must be unloaded before it can be removed from the firing line (see Rule 2.5).

No rifle may be removed from the firing line during or after a competition until it is cleared by a Range Officer.

## **2.7 Range Safety emergency**

Any person who observes an unsafe situation anywhere on the range must notify a Range Officer immediately.

If a Range Officer is not immediately available, any person may command STOP in a safety emergency, where there is not sufficient time to call a Range Officer.

## **2.8 Personal Safety**

### **2.8.1 Eye and Hearing Protection**

All competitors, team officials and competition officials who will be on or near the firing line are urged to wear eye and hearing protection, as appropriate, while on the range.

If special regulations for a competition or range require competitors or officials to wear eye or ear protection, that requirement must be published in the competition program.

### **2.8.2 Personal Hygiene**

All competitors and other personnel who handle lead pellets are urged to not handle food during shooting and to thoroughly wash their hands immediately after completing shooting.

## **3. ELIGIBILITY TO COMPETE**

### ***3.1 Individual Competitors***

#### **3.1.1 Junior**

Any person may compete in Junior Three-Position Air Rifle competitions until 31 December of the year in which their 20th birthday occurs. There is no minimum age limit.

#### **3.1.2 Special Age Groups**

Junior competitors may be subdivided into the following age groups:

Under 19 (SAG 1): Competitors who reach their 17<sup>th</sup> or 18<sup>th</sup> birthday in the calendar year of the competition

Under 17 (SAG 2): Competitors who reach their 15<sup>th</sup> or 16<sup>th</sup> birthday in the calendar year of the competition.

Under 15 (SAG3): Competitors who will not reach their 15<sup>th</sup> birthday in the calendar year of the competition.

#### **3.1.3 Student**

Any person who is eligible to compete in British University Sporting Association (BUSA) shooting competitions may compete in University Three-Position Air Rifle competitions organized in the United Kingdom, whether or not the University at which he is studying has a shooting club.

#### **3.1.4 Open**

Any person, regardless of age, may compete in Open Three-Position Air Rifle competitions.

#### **3.1.5. Other restrictions on participation**

Organizations that sponsor Open or Confined Three Position Air Rifle competitions also may decide to adopt specific age group requirements or to limit participation to certain categories of competitors.

(For example, an authorized meeting might be restricted to Scouts, or to Air Cadets, and/or have special age groups, reflecting the structure of the organizing body.)

Organizations that sponsor Open Three Position Air Rifle competitions also may decide to include special classes for specific age group requirements or to limit participation to certain categories of competitors.

(For example, an authorized open meeting might include classes restricted to Scouts, or to Air Cadets, and/or have special age groups, reflecting the structure of the organizing body.)

Any such requirements or limitations must be stated in the competition program.

## **3.2 Teams**

All teams consist of three competitors.

Each team member must meet the eligibility criteria for the club or organization that the team represents.

Except for Organization Teams (see Rule 3.2.5 below), all three team members must be named before the competition starts.

### **3.2.1 School Age Teams**

School Age Teams must represent a club, school, cadet unit or other similar organization.

All team members must be under 19.

Exceptionally, and with the agreement of the competition organizers, a team may field not more than one shooter who is disqualified by age provided he or she qualifies as a Junior (Rule 3.1.1) and is a bona fide scholar, regularly attending secondary school in the United Kingdom.

All team members must be members of or enrolled in the club, team, school or other organization.

All team members must reside in the geographic proximity of the city or town where the club, team, school or other organization is based and participate regularly in its activities.

Teams that enter competitions are subject to an eligibility determination by the Jury (Rule 6.3).

Such determinations must be based on this rule.

Jury decisions on team eligibility may be appealed to the National Jury of Appeal (Rules 1.7 and 9.3).

In cases where doubt exists regarding the eligibility of a team or individual members of a team to compete, or to avoid the possibility of disqualification at a competition, teams with a member who lives outside of the immediate geographic area of the club, school or organization may request an eligibility ruling from the National Jury of Appeal in advance.

Note: It is the intent of this rule to foster competitions between legitimate club and school teams and to preclude the entry of all-star teams where the best competitors from different clubs are assembled to enter a specific competition.

#### **School Teams**

Teams of School Age competitors that represent one school

All team members must be scholars of that school.

#### **Club Teams-**

Teams of School Age competitors that represent a club or other eligible organization.

All team members must be members of the club or organization who reside in the geographic proximity of the city where the club or other organization is based and participate regularly in its activities in accordance with this rule.

#### **Cadet Unit Teams:**

Teams of School Age competitors that represent a single Army Cadet Force, Air Training Corps, Sea Cadet or Combined Cadet Force Unit.

All team members must be enrolled in the Unit.

### **3.2.2 Open Junior Teams**

Open Junior Teams consist of Junior competitors (Under 21) who are eligible according to Rule 3.1.1.

Open Junior Teams may enter a competition only if the Competition Program specifically permits participation by Open Junior Teams.

### **3.2.3 University Teams**

University Teams consist of competitors who meet student eligibility criteria (see Rule 3.1.3).

All team members must represent the same college or university.

### **3.2.4 Open Teams**

Open Teams consist of competitors who meet senior eligibility criteria (see Rule 3.1.4).

### **3.2.5 Organization Teams**

Competition programs may alternatively specify that organization teams may enter a competition.

When organization teams are eligible to participate, each club, team, school or other organization may enter as many individuals who are members of or enrolled in that organization.

The team score is the total of the top three individual scores from among all competitors entered by that organization.

### **3.2.6 Membership of More than One Team**

A person may belong to two or more clubs, schools and/or a cadet unit or other similar organization and may compete as a member of different teams in different competitions.

However, no one may compete as a member of more than one team in the same competition

(i.e., a shooter cannot fire on a school sporter team and a club precision team in the same competition).



### **3.3 Equipment Classes**

Three-Position Air Rifle competitions usually have two equipment classes, Sporter and Precision.

If a Sporter Air Rifle Class is offered, all rifles and equipment in that class must comply with the equipment rules for that class.

If a Precision Air Rifle Class is offered, all rifles and equipment in that class must comply with the equipment rules for that class.

(Note: It is possible for rifles and equipment, which qualify for Sporter Air Rifle Class, also to qualify for the Precision Air Rifle Class.)

If both Sporter and Precision Class events are offered in the same competition, individual competitors or teams may not enter in both the Sporter and Precision individual or team events in the same competition.

A club, school or other organization may, however, enter individuals and one or more teams in Sporter Class competition and different individuals and one or more teams of different shooters in Precision Class competition.

### **3.4 Special Categories and Classifications**

Competition sponsors are not required to use special categories or classifications in Three-Position Air Rifle competitions. Competition sponsors may, however, at their option, use any of the special categories listed here to establish separate competitor ranking lists and offer awards based on those categories.

Categories that may be used include, but are not limited to:

#### **3.4.1 Sex**

Competitors may be divided into male and female categories.

#### **3.4.2 Organizations**

Competitors may be divided into groups of competitors who represent different types of organizations such as cadet units, scout groups, schools or other identifiable groups.

#### **3.4.3 Skill-Level Classifications**

Competitors may be divided into groups based on average scores in previous competitions.

Such classifications may also be based on levels of accomplishment such as qualification program levels earned or previous awards won.

#### **3.4.5 New Shooters**

Competitors who have limited experience in organized target shooting may be designated as “New Shooters” and special awards may be given to members of this category.

“New Shooters” must be defined by the match programme. New Shooters typically are competitors who began competition shooting within the past six, nine or 12 months or who have not previously competed in a particular competition.

New shooters may be required to be under a specified maximum age.

## **4. AIR RIFLES and EQUIPMENT**

### **4.1 Equipment Classes**

Competition sponsors may conduct competition events in any of the following equipment classes.

Each is based on the type(s) or class(es) of equipment that competitors are permitted to use.

The Competition Program must state which types of competition are offered.

If both Sporter and Precision Class events are offered in the same competition, the same individual competitors or teams may not enter in both the Sporter and Precision individual or team events (See Rule 3.3).

#### **4.1.1 Sporter Class**

In a Sporter Class event, all rifles and equipment in that event must comply with the Sporter Air Rifle Equipment Rules (Rules 4.2, 4.3 and 4.7).

#### **4.1.2 Pneumatic Sporter Sub-Class**

A competition sponsor may, as an option, offer special awards for Sporter Class competitors who use pneumatic air rifles.

Competition sponsors may not exclude other legal sporter air rifles from the Sporter Class in that competition if they offer special awards for pneumatic air rifles.

#### **4.1.3 Precision Class Competition**

In a Precision Class event, all rifles and equipment in that event must comply with the Precision Air Rifle Equipment Rules (Rules 4.4, 4.5, 4.6 and 4.7).

If no Sporter Class event is offered in the competition, competitors may fire Sporter Class rifles in a Precision Class event and they may wear clothing and use equipment permitted in the Precision Class.

#### **4.1.4. Open Class Competition**

In an Open Class event, all competitors compete in the same class or event and all rifles and equipment must comply with the Precision Air Rifle Equipment Rules. Sporter Air Rifles may be used in open events, but they do not have to comply with the Sporter Class Rules when used in Open Class competition.

#### **4.1.5 Use of Special Equipment**

Any rifles, devices, equipment, accessories or apparel that could give a competitor an advantage over others, that are not mentioned in these Rules or that are contrary to the spirit of these Rules are prohibited.

The use of any special devices, means or garments that immobilize, provide artificial support or unduly reduce the flexibility of the competitor's legs, body or arms is prohibited.

The competitor is responsible for submitting equipment to competition officials for inspection in cases where doubt exists.

Competition Officials have the right to examine the competitor's equipment at any time to be sure it complies with these Rules.

## **4.2 Sporter Air Rifle**

The Sporter Air Rifle is intended to be a low cost, entry-level rifle without specialized modifications.

Sporter Air rifles must be .177 calibre (4.5 mm) pneumatic, spring air, compressed air or CO2 rifles with a conventional appearance and that comply with the following requirements:

### **4.2.1 Approved Rifles**

#### **Rifles must conform to NSRA Rule 8.3.4:**

**8.3.4 Sporter Air Rifle (SAR)** Any type of compressed air or CO2 rifle which complies with the following restrictions:

**8.3.4.1.** The rifle shall be of a production type, of conventional appearance, freely and readily available in Great Britain. It shall be used without modification except:

**8.3.4.1.1** Sights must conform to rule 4.2.8 (see following pages)

**8.3.4.1.2** The addition of a fore-end accessory rail is permitted, if not supplied with the rifle, as original equipment;

**8.3.4.1.3** Lengthening or shortening of the stock is permitted, to allow fitting of the rifle to the shooter; &

**8.3.4.1.4** The addition of a sight raising block(s) is permitted, to allow fitting of the rifle to the shooter;

**8.3.4.2** Max weight: 3.5 kg  
Note – 4.2.2.1 (see next page) allows a concession for some competitions for rifles weighing over 3.5 kg, up to 3.75 kg (8.267 lb), as manufactured and initially sold prior to 1<sup>st</sup> Jan.2008 only. Accessory weights, serving no other purpose, are not allowed within this exemption.

**8.3.4.3** Min trigger pull: 500 grams

**8.3.4.4** Calibre: 4.5 mm (0.177")

**8.3.4.5** Sights must conform to rule 4.2.8 (see following pages)

**8.3.4.6** Sight apertures Non adjustable – but may be changeable

**8.3.4.7** Butt plate may be adjustable in the vertical plane, for height only, 30mm up or down from the neutral position. The buttplate may be adjusted between positions in 3P events.

**8.3.4.8** Max dimensions: As ISSF Air Rifle

**8.3.4.9** Max power: 16 Joules (12 ft lbs)

### **4.2.2 Weight of the Rifle**

The total weight of the rifle with sights and attachments (sling not included) may not be more than 3.5 kg.

Weight may be added to the rifle internally or externally as long as the total weight of the rifle does not exceed 3.5 kg.

Barrel weights, if fitted, must be within a radius of 30mm (1.2 in.) from the centre of the barrel.

#### **4.2.2.1 Use of Over-Weight Rifle for Some Competitions**

Except for open, international competitions, and other competitions where the organizer has given notice that this Rule does not apply, an over-weight rifle may be used provided:

The rifle is of a type, which is normally heavier than 3.5kg, as supplied by the manufacturer;

The rifle is not fitted with any attachments or accessories which serve only as internal or external weights; and

The total weight of the rifle, with sights and attachments is not more than 3.75 kg

#### **4.2.3 Trigger Weight**

The minimum trigger pull weight for the Sporter air rifle is 500 grams.

The cocked trigger must be capable of lifting a weight of 500 grams.

Trigger pull weights must be checked with a fixed, hanging weight.

When trigger pull weights are tested, the test weight must be lifted so that its entire weight is clear of its support surface.

If a rifle does not lift the weight on the first attempt, a maximum of three total attempts may be made. The weight must be lifted on at least one of the three attempts.

The competitor or competitor's coach may make one of the three attempts.

#### **4.2.4 Stock**

The stock must have a conventional design and be symmetrically shaped (or nearly so) so that either a right or left-handed competitor can use it.

The stock may be adjustable in length and the cheek-piece may be adjustable in height.

The stock may have a vertically adjustable butt plate.

These adjustments (length of stock, vertical position of butt plate, height of cheek -piece) may be changed between positions within a competition.

The cheek-piece of a rifle that does not have an adjustable cheek-piece may be altered in height or thickness by the addition of wood, cardboard, tape or other material or the cheek-piece may be cut and a replacement cheek piece installed.

The cheek-piece surface may not be curved or anatomically formed.

The butt of the stock may be rough, chequered or scored to provide a non-slip surface, or covered with a non-slip material such as rubber or similar material or a rubber slip-on recoil pad.

Wood, plastic wood or other material may be added to the lower, forward surface of the pistol grip, but this surface may not be built up to exceed the maximum permitted dimensions of that surface on a Sporter air rifle.

The stock may be refinished or painted.

No other external modifications to the stock are permitted.

#### **4.2.5 Internal Modifications**

The functioning of internal parts may be smoothed or improved, but only factory manufactured parts designed for that specific model rifle and functioning as they were originally intended to function may be used.

#### **4.2.6 Other Prohibited Modifications**

Any alteration or modification of the external or internal dimensions or factory-manufactured parts of approved Sporter air rifles, or the substitution of factory-manufactured parts from other air rifles, not specifically authorized by these rules is prohibited.

Except for the butt of the stock (see Rule 4.2.4), adhesive sprays or other non-slip material may not be used on the rifle or competitor's clothing.

#### **4.2.7 Sling Swivel/Hand Stop**

A sling swivel or hand stop that is attached to a rail in the fore-end may be used.

The depth of the sling swivel or hand stop, with the sling swivel folded flat, may not exceed 25mm.

The sling swivel may remain on the Sporter Rifle in the standing position, but it may not contact the left hand or glove when it remains on the rifle in that position.

#### **4.2.8 Sights**

Any type or make of iron sights, open or aperture, are permitted providing;

Sights may have vertical and horizontal adjustments only.

Simple non-adjustable interchangeable front sight apertures or inserts may be used in Sporter Air Rifle front sights. These may be of any shape.

An adjustable iris or adjustable aperture may not be used in the front or rear sight.

Telescopic sight systems, sights with corrective lenses, spirit levels, lenses, light filters and other accessories fitted to sights are prohibited.

Corrective lenses may be worn by the competitor, but may not be placed in the sights.

No part of the front sight may extend beyond the apparent end of the barrel or barrel weight.

A longer barrel or barrel weight may not be used to extend the sight radius beyond the original sight radius of the rifle as provided by the manufacturer.

## **4.3 Sporter Clothing and Accessories**

### **4.3.1 Clothing**

**Clothing and equipment for Sporter Air Rifle must comply with NSRA Rule 8.8:**

#### **8.8 CLOTHING**

##### **8.8.4 Clothing and equipment for Sporter Air Rifle**

**8.8.4.1** Shooting jackets and special shooting trousers are not permitted.

**8.8.4.2** A maximum of one loose fitting jacket and one sweatshirt or one loose fitting pullover and one sweatshirt or two loose fitting shirts or sweatshirts may be worn

**8.8.4.3** A light T-shirt or undershirt may be worn under the jacket, pullover and/or sweatshirts.

**8.8.4.4** Jackets, pullovers, shirts or sweatshirts may not be twisted or rolled or otherwise configured to provide additional layers of clothing thickness or to provide additional support for a position.

**8.8.4.5** Jackets, pullovers shirts or sweatshirts may not be tucked into the trousers (does not apply to the T-shirt or undershirt).

**8.8.4.6** Hooded sweatshirts may be worn, but the hood must be down

**8.8.4.7** A safety pin or button attached to the sling arm or shoulder is allowed to keep the sling from slipping down the arm. [ see 4.3.2 following ]

**8.8.4.8** Special shooting sweaters with additional or special pads are not permitted. (Military issue or similar pullovers, with shoulder and elbow reinforcement are permitted.)

##### **8.8.4.9 Shooting Mats / Elbow Pads**

**8.8.4.9.1** Shooters are encouraged to use a shooting mat in the prone and kneeling positions

**8.8.4.9.2** Where mats are provided by the event organizer then identical mats must be provided for all competitors and shooters may only use the mats provided

**8.8.4.9.3** If no mats are provided by the event organizer, shooters may provide their own mats, which must comply with NSRA Rule 8.10.

**8.8.4.9.4** If no mats are available then, subject to the agreement of the event organizer, one pair of elbow pads, worn over the outer garment (but not attached to it), is permitted in the prone and kneeling positions.

**8.8.4.9.5** Elbow pads, if worn, must not exceed 20 mm in thickness (uncompressed) or 200 mm in any other dimension

**8.8.4.10** One pair of ordinary sport or casual trousers or jeans or shorts is allowed.

**8.8.4.11** Trousers must not fit so tightly as to provide additional support.

**8.8.4.12** If a skirt is worn, instead of trousers, it must fall loosely over the legs so that it does not support the legs or restrict their movement in the standing or kneeling positions.

**8.8.4.13** Knee pads, worn over the trousers (or directly on the knees, if a skirt or shorts are worn, are permitted in the kneeling position only.

##### **8.8.5 Shoes**

**8.8.5.1** Only normal low-cut, street-type or light athletic shoes are permitted.

**8.8.5.2** Shoes may not extend above the ankle and must have a flexible sole.

**8.8.5.3** Only one pair of shoes may be used and they must be a matched pair.

**8.8.5.4** Shooters may elect not to wear shoes in one or more positions.

**8.8.5.5** All types of high-top boots, including military issue or “combat” boots, commercial shooting boots or commercial low-cut shooting shoes are prohibited.

**8.8.6 Sling:**

**8.8.6.1** A shooting sling, which complies with, and is used in accordance with NSRA / ISSF Rules is allowed in Sporter air rifle events in the prone and kneeling positions. When the rifle exemption rule 4.2.2.1 is deemed to apply then slings may be up to 50mm or 2” wide.

**8.8.6.2** The sling swivel may be adjusted between positions, but it may not be adjusted so that it contacts the hand or glove in the standing position.

**8.8.7 Glove**

**8.8.7.1** Any ordinary glove or shooting glove, which does not extend more than 50mm above the wrist, is permitted.

**8.8.7.2** There is no thickness limitation for Sporter class gloves.

**8.8.7.3** The glove may not be so stiff or tight that it artificially supports or binds the wrist so that it cannot bend.

**8.8.8 Kneeling Roll**

**8.8.8.1** One kneeling roll which complies with, and is used in accordance with NSRA / ISSF Rules is allowed in Sporter air rifle events in the kneeling position

**8.8.9 Corrective Lenses and Eyeglasses**

**8.8.9.1** Corrective lenses may be worn by the competitor, but may not be placed in the sights.

**8.8.9.2** Competitors may wear normal prescription eyeglasses or contact lenses.

**8.8.9.3** Competitors may also wear normal protective eyewear.

**8.8.9.4** Special shooting glasses made solely for use in target rifle or pistol shooting are not permitted in Sporter Class competition.

**8.8.10 Grip Material:**

**8.8.10.1** Adhesive sprays or other non-slip material may not be used on the rifle or competitor’s clothing.

**8.8.11 Special Devices:**

**8.8.11.1** No pads or elastic bandages or other devices are allowed unless they are prescribed and authorized for medical reasons

**8.8.11.2** All pads, elastic bandages and other devices worn for medical reasons must be declared by the shooter, and must be authorized by the organizer, before the start of any competition, or part of a competition in which they are used.

**8.8.11.3** Competition organizers shall permit the use of any pads, bandages or other devices, prescribed for medical purposes, provided they are satisfied the use of such devices does not confer any special advantage to the shooter.

**4.3.2 Attachments to Sling Arm of Outer Garment**

NSRA Rule 8.8.4.7 states “A safety pin or button attached to the sling arm or shoulder is allowed to keep the sling from slipping down the arm.”

The rule derives from ISSF Rule **7.4.7.8.7.3** “Only one hook, loop, button or similar device may be fastened to the outside of the sleeve or shoulder seam on the sling arm to prevent the sling from sliding.”

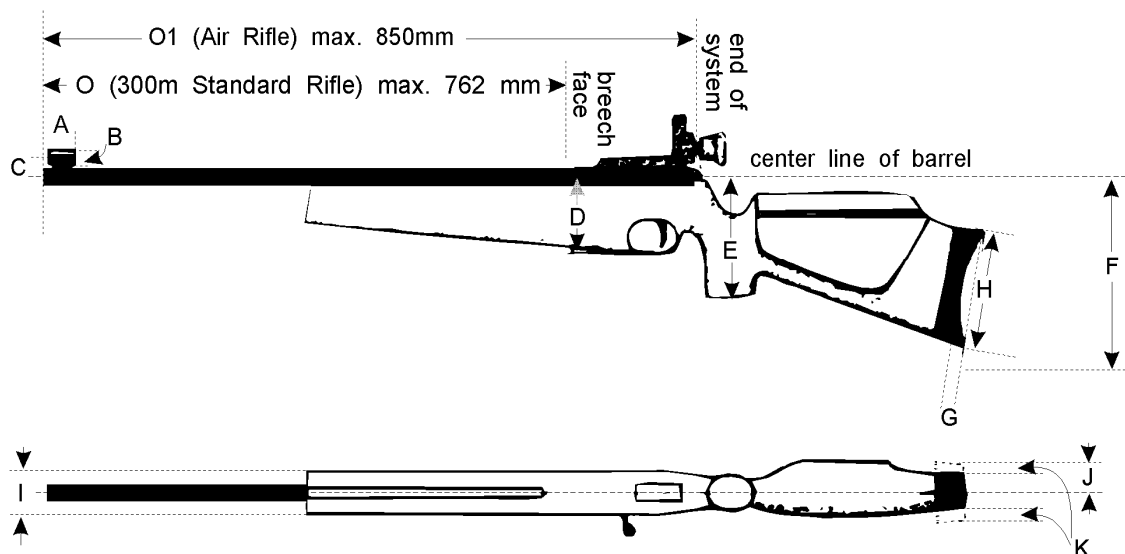
The rule should be interpreted to allow flexibility in the form of an addition to the outer garment to meet with the spirit of “to prevent the sling from sliding”. Specifically a cloth loop, epaulette, or Cadet force brassard are acceptable.

#### 4.4 Precision Air Rifle

Any type of 4.5mm (.177 calibre) pneumatic, spring air, compressed air or CO2 rifle that conforms to the ISSF specifications may be used.

#### Air Rifle Measurement Table and Diagram

Front sight not to extend beyond the apparent muzzle



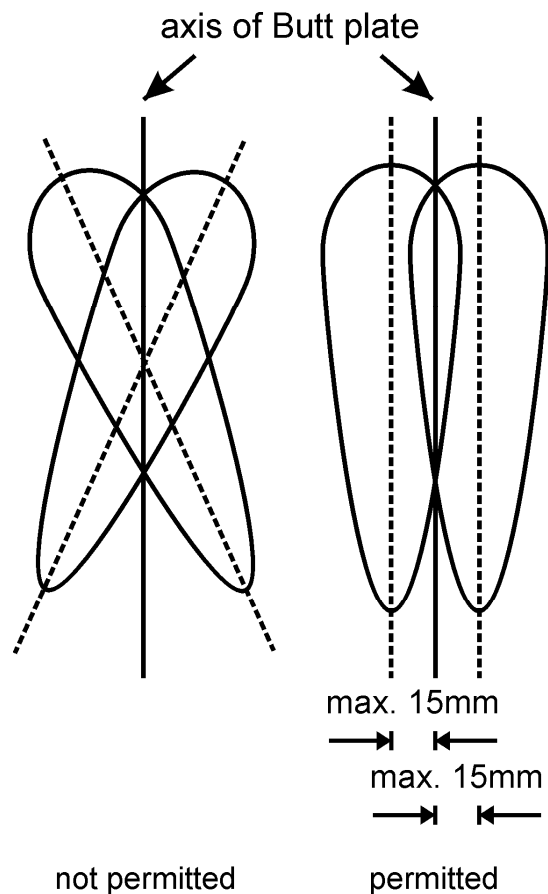
A	Length of front sight tunnel	50 mm
B	Diameter of front sight tunnel	25 mm
C	Distance from centre of the front sight ring or top of post to centre of bore either directly above or offset	60 mm
D	Depth of fore-end	90 mm
E	Lowest point of pistol grip	160 mm
F	Lowest point of stock or toe of butt plate with the butt plate in its maximum downward position	220 mm
G	Depth of curve of butt plate (no hook butt plate permitted)	20 mm
H	Heel to toe length of butt plate	153 mm
I	Maximum thickness (breadth) of fore-end	60 mm
J	Maximum distance (horizontal) of cheek piece from centre line of barrel	40 mm
K	Offset of butt plate parallel to the centre line of the normal end of the butt left or right – see next page	15 mm
L	Trigger weight – (No Set Trigger permitted)	Free
M	Weight with sights (and hand stop 300 m)	5.5 kg
N	The front sight may not extend beyond the muzzle of the rifle or of any extension to the muzzle (barrel weight, sight extension).	Must not extend
O1	Air Rifle: Total length of the Air Rifle system (from end of barrel or extension to rear end of the action or system)	850 mm



The butt plate may be adjustable up or down. The lowest point of the stock or toe of the butt plate, with the butt plate in its maximum downward position must not exceed 220mm from the centre line of the barrel.

It may be offset parallel to the centre line of the normal end of the butt plate left or right a maximum 15mm OR the complete butt plate (not part) may be turned on the vertical axis.

Turning the butt plate on the horizontal axis is NOT permitted.



#### 4.4.1 Exterior Weights

Weights can be added to the rifle as long as the total weight of the rifle, sights, and attachments, including the sling swivel or hand stop, does not exceed 5.5 kg (12.2 lbs.).

Only barrel weights that are within a radius of 30mm (1.2 in.) from the centre of the barrel are permitted.

Barrel weights may be placed at any point along the barrel.

#### 4.4.2 Hand Stop/Sling Swivel

The hand stop/sling swivel may not be attached to the rifle in the standing position.

#### 4.4.3 Grip Material

Material that gives increased grip may not be added to the fore-end, pistol grip, butt plate, or lower part of the stock. Adhesive sprays may not be used on the rifle or competitor's

#### **4.4.4 Barrel Extension Tubes**

The total length of the air rifle system measured from the back end of the mechanism to the end of the barrel, including any extension to the barrel, may not exceed 850mm (34 in.). Barrels and extension tubes must not be perforated in any way.

Any construction or devices inside the barrel or tubes other than rifling and chambering for pellets are prohibited.

The use of compensators or muzzle brakes is prohibited.

#### **4.4.5 Pistol Grip and Stock Fore-end**

The pistol grip cannot be anatomically formed.

Any additions to the pistol grip or stock fore-end must conform to the existing form and cannot be anatomically formed.

Any protrusion, extension or depression on the front or side of the pistol grip designed to prevent the hand from slipping (such as a hand or heel rest) is not allowed. Fore-end raiser blocks and that do not exceed dimension D in Rule 4.4 (90mm maximum depth) when attached to the fore end may be used in one or more positions or removed in one or more positions.

#### **4.4.6 Adjusting the Rifle**

The butt plate and cheek-piece can be adjusted between positions as long as the rifle continues to comply with the specifications given in the Air Rifle Measurement Diagram and Chart above.

#### **4.4.7 Special Features**

A thumbhole, thumb rest, palm rest, heel rest (Rule 4.4.5) and spirit level are prohibited. Material may be added to the stock as long as it does not exceed maximum dimensions. Any addition must conform to the existing form and may not be anatomically formed.

### ***4.5 Precision Rifle Sights***

Any sight not containing lenses and meeting the following specifications/restrictions may be used:

#### **4.5.1 Corrective Lenses and Telescopic Sights**

Corrective lenses and telescopes may not be attached to the rifle.

Any corrective lenses must be worn by the competitor.

Corrective lenses may not be placed in the front or rear sights.

#### **4.5.2 Light Filters**

Light filters may be fitted to the front and/or rear sight.

#### **4.5.3 Cant Indicators**

Only cant indicating devices inside the front sight are permitted.

Spirit levels ("bubbles") are not permitted.

## 4.6 Precision Clothing and Accessories

Only one (1) shooting jacket, only one (1) pair of shooting trousers and only one (1) pair of shooting shoes may be used in any competition.

(This does not prevent the shooter using normal athletic type training clothes or shoes, or shooting barefoot, in any event or position.)

The jacket must be capable of being used in all three positions (prone, standing and kneeling) and must meet all other specifications in order to be approved for the competition.

All shooting jackets, shooting trousers and shooting gloves must be made of flexible material that does not change its physical characteristics, that is become stiffer, thicker, or harder, under commonly accepted shooting conditions.

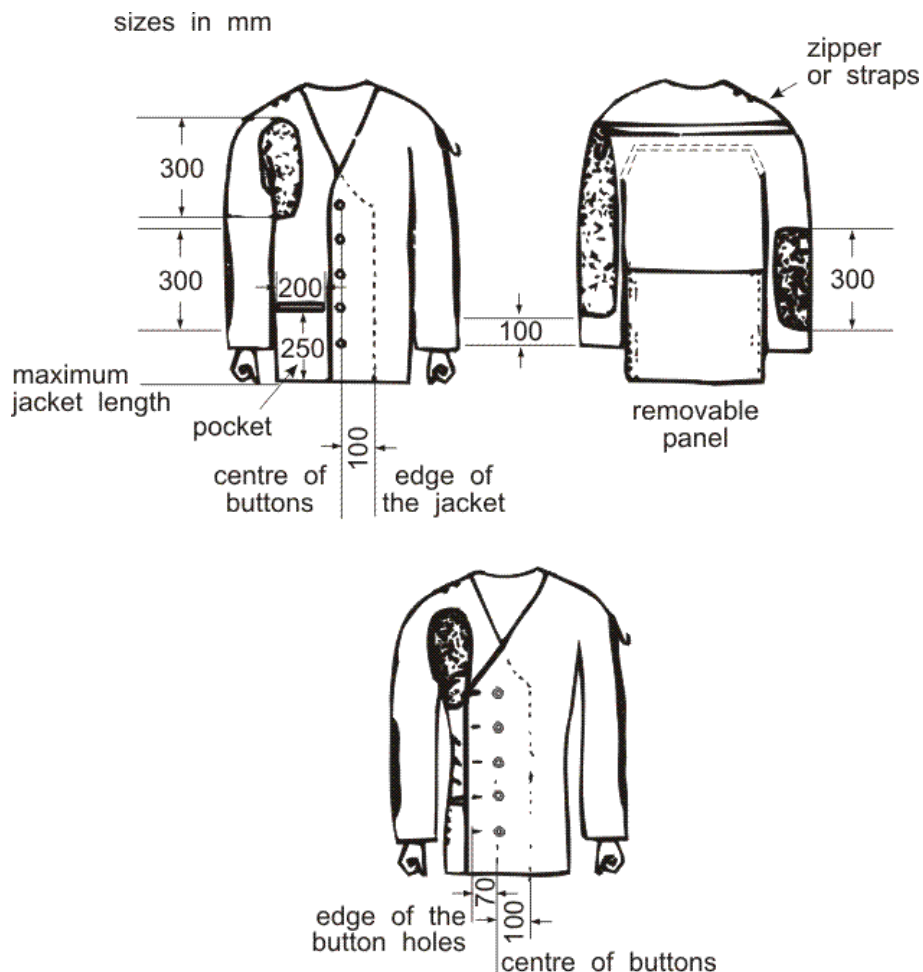
All lining, padding and reinforcements must meet the same specifications.

Any lining, padding or reinforcement patches must not be quilted, cross-stitched, glued or otherwise affixed to the outer clothing layer other than at normal tailoring points.

All lining or padding must be measured as part of the clothing.

### 4.6.1 Shooting Jacket

A shooting jacket meeting the standards of Rule 4.6 and the following specifications/restrictions is permitted.



### **Thickness**

The body and sleeves of the jacket, including the lining, must not exceed 2.5mm (0.1 in.) in single thickness and 5mm (0.2 in.) in double thickness at any point where flat surfaces may be measured.

### **Length of Jacket**

The jacket must not be longer than the bottom of the balled fist.

In the prone and kneeling positions, the sleeve of the shooting jacket must not extend beyond the wrist of the arm on which the sling is attached.

The sleeve must not be placed between the hand or glove and the fore-end of the stock when the competitor is in the shooting position.

### **Jacket Closure**

Closure of the jacket must be only by non-adjustable means (e.g., buttons or zippers).

The jacket must not overlap more than 100mm (4 in.) at closure.

The jacket must hang loosely on the wearer. To determine this, the jacket must be capable of being overlapped beyond the normal closure by at least 70mm (2.8 in.), measured from the centre of the button to the outside edge of the buttonhole.

### **Straps, Laces, Bindings, Seams, Stitching or Other Devices for Support**

All straps, laces, bindings, seams, stitching or other devices that may be considered artificial support are prohibited.

However, it is permitted to have one zipper or not more than two straps to take up loose material in the area of the shoulder pad.

No other zipper or other closing or tightening device is permitted other than those specified in these rules and diagrams.

### **Back Panel**

The construction of the back panel may include more than one piece of material including a band or strip if this construction does not stiffen or reduce the flexibility of the jacket.

All parts of the back panel must comply with the thickness and stiffness restrictions.

### **Pockets**

One external pocket is permitted on the right front side of the jacket.

All inside pockets are prohibited.

### **Padding**

Reinforcement or padding may be added on both sleeves to one half the circumference of the sleeve, and to the shoulder where the butt plate rests.

On the sling arm, the pad may extend from the upper arm to a point 100mm (4 in.) from the end of the sleeve.

The other pads may have a maximum length of 300mm (12 in.).

The maximum thickness of any reinforced or padded area, including the jacket material and all linings, is 10mm (0.4 in.) single thickness or 20mm (0.8 in.) double thickness.

### **Sling Keeper**

Only one hook, loop, button or similar device may be fastened to the outside of the sleeve or shoulder seam on the sling arm to prevent the sling from sliding.

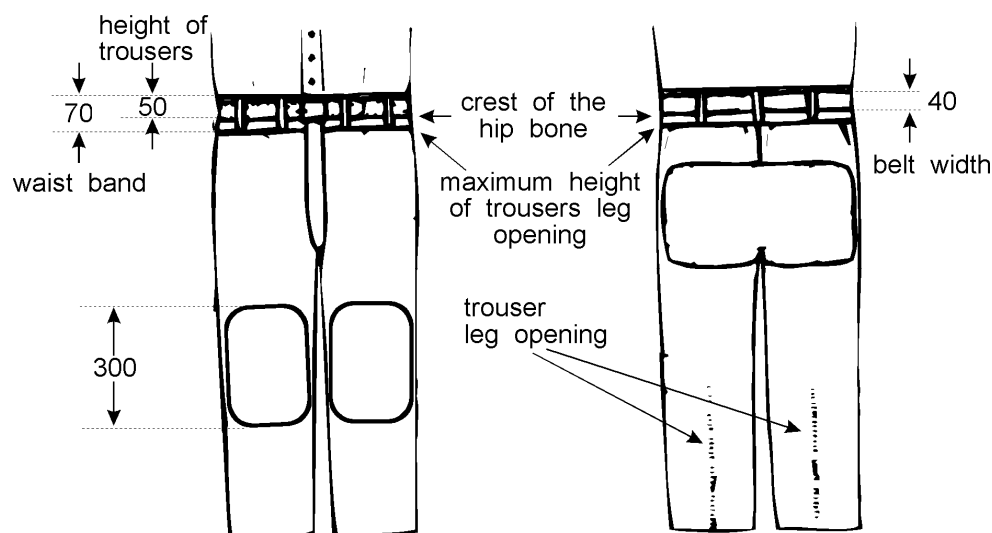
### Velcro and Sticky Substances

No Velcro, sticky substances, liquid or spray may be applied to the outside or inside of the jacket, pads or equipment.

Roughening the material of the jacket is permitted.

### 4.6.2 Shooting Trousers

Shooting trousers meeting the standards of Rule 4.6 and the following specifications are permitted.



### Thickness

The shooting trousers, including the lining, must not exceed 2.5mm (0.1 in.) in single thickness and 5mm (0.2 in.) in double thickness at any point where flat surfaces may be measured.

The maximum thickness of any reinforced or padded area, including the trousers' material and all linings, is 10mm (0.4 in.) single thickness or 20mm (0.8 in.) double thickness.

### Fit

The top of the shooting trousers must not fit or be worn higher on the body than 50mm (2 in.) above the crest of the hipbone.

The trousers must be loose around the legs.

All drawstrings, zippers or fasteners designed to excessively tighten the shooting trousers around the legs or hips are prohibited.

The competitor must be capable of sitting on a chair with the trousers on and with all fasteners or closures in the closed position.

### Waist Band and Its Closures

The waist band may not be more than 70mm (2.8 in.) wide and may be closed by one hook and up to 5 eyes, up to 5 adjustable snap fasteners, a similar closure or Velcro.

Only one type of closure is permitted.

A Velcro closure combined with any other closure is prohibited.

### **Waist Belt**

To support the shooting trousers, only a normal waist belt not more than 40mm (1.6 in.) wide and 3mm (0.12 in.) thick, or elastic suspenders may be worn.

The belt buckle or fastener must not be used to support the left arm or elbow in the standing position.

### **Other Fasteners and Closures**

Zippers, buttons, Velcro or other similar non-adjustable fasteners or closures may be used in the shooting trousers only in the following places:

Only one other fastener or closure is permitted in the front to open and close the fly.

The fly must not be lower than the level of the crotch.

Only one other fastener is permitted in each trouser leg.

The opening (fastener) must not start closer than 70mm (2.8 in.) from the top edge of the trousers. It may, however, extend to the bottom of the trouser leg.

One fastener is permitted either in the front of the upper leg or the back of the leg, but not in both places on one leg.

### **Padding**

Reinforcement or padding may be added to the seat and both knees of the shooting trousers.

The seat pad must not exceed the width of the hips and not be longer than to cover the normal wear points on the seat of the wearer.

The kneepads must not be wider than half the circumference of the leg and can have a maximum length of 300mm.

### **4.6.3 Undergarments and Training Clothing**

Clothing worn under the shooting jacket and under the shooting pants must not be thicker than 2.5mm (0.1 in.) single thickness or 5mm (0.2 in.) double thickness.

Only normal personal undergarments and/or training clothing that does not stabilize may be worn under the shooting jacket and shooting trousers.

Jeans and ordinary trousers may not be worn under the shooting trousers.

If shooting trousers are not worn, jeans or ordinary trousers may be worn providing they do not give artificial support to any part of the body.

#### 4.6.4 Shoes

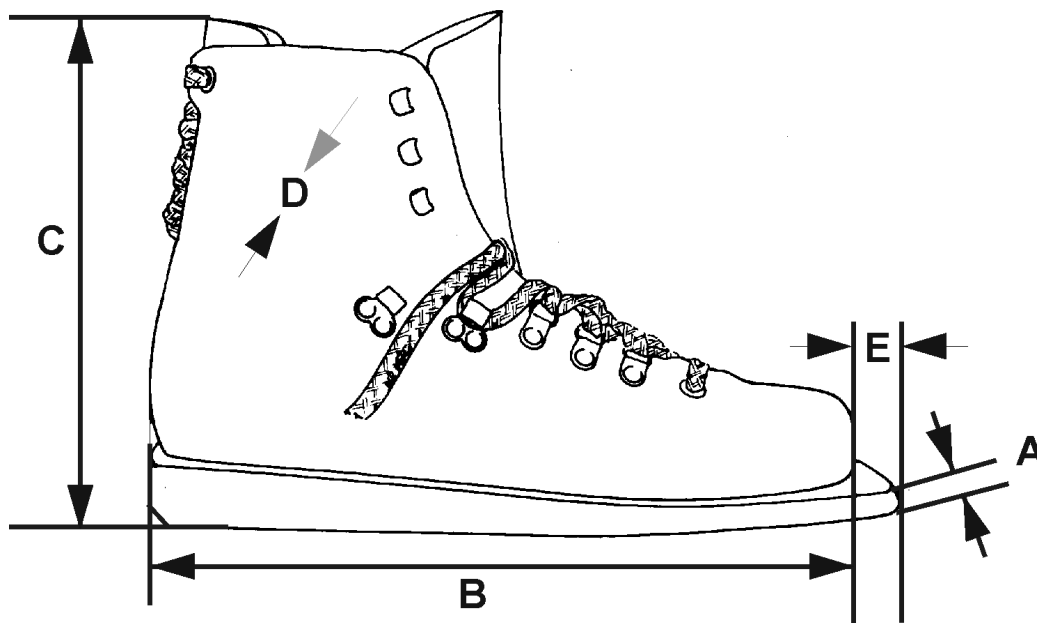
Normal street or athletic shoes or no shoes or special shooting shoes may be worn in any position.

The shoes worn must be a matched pair.

The sole must be flexible at the ball of the foot.

Orthopaedic inserts are allowed.

All shoes must comply with these requirements –



A.	Maximum thickness of sole at the toe: 10 mm.
B.	Overall length of shoe: According to size of wearer's foot.
C.	Maximum height of shoe: Not to exceed two-thirds (2/3) length of B+10 mm.
D.	Upper part of shoe material maximum thickness 4 mm.
E.	The extension of the toe of the sole must be not more than 10 mm in the front of the shoe and may be cut at an angle on the soles of either or both shoes. No other extension of the sole in length and width is permitted.

#### 4.6.5 Sling

A shooting sling with a maximum width of 40mm (1.6 in.) is allowed in the prone and kneeling positions.

The sling must be worn only over the upper part of the left arm (right arm for a left-handed competitor) and from there connected to the fore-end of the rifle stock.

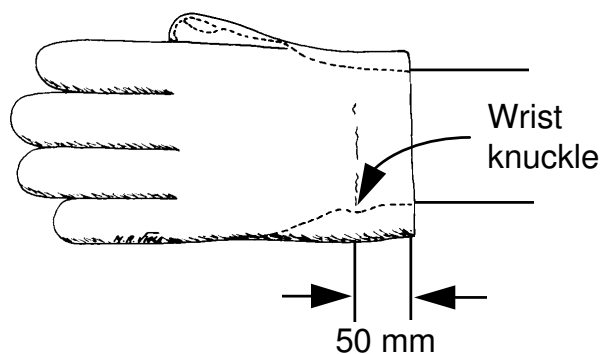
The sling must pass along one side of the hand and wrist only.

No part of the rifle may touch the sling or any of its attachments except at the sling swivel and hand stop.

The sling is not allowed in the standing position.

#### 4.6.6 Glove

Any shooting glove meeting the following specifications/restrictions is permitted:



##### Thickness

Total thickness must not exceed 12mm (0.48 in), measuring front and back materials together at any point other than on seams and joints.

Any shooting glove meeting the following specifications/restrictions is permitted:

##### Thickness

Total thickness must not exceed 12mm (0.48 in), measuring front and back materials together at any point other than on seams and joints.

##### Glove Measurement

The glove must not extend more than 50mm (2 in.) above the wrist measured from the centre of the wrist knuckle.

Any strap or other closure device at the wrist is prohibited. However, a portion of the wrist may be elasticized to enable the glove to be put on, but it must leave the glove loose around the wrist.



## **4.7 General Equipment Rules for all Classes**

The rules regarding general shooting equipment apply to all three-position air rifle competitors, whether they are competing in the Sporter Class, the Precision Class or in Open competition.

### **4.7.1 Pellets**

Only .177 calibre (4.5mm), flat-headed pellets made of lead or other soft material are permitted in NSRA competition.

### **4.7.2 Kneeling Roll**

One cylindrical roll, placed under the instep of the right foot (left foot for a left-handed competitor), in the kneeling position is allowed.

The roll cannot exceed a maximum of 25cm (10 in.) long and 18cm (7.2 in.) in diameter.

The roll must be made of soft and flexible material.

Binding other devices to shape the roll are not permitted.

Note: The use of tape on a kneeling roll is permitted as long as the kneeling roll is cylindrical and not bound into a special, non cylindrical shape.

The use of a kneeling roll is optional.

### **4.7.3 Spotting Scope**

The use of an individual spotting telescope, with stand, to visually observe shots on the target is permitted in both Sporter and Precision classes.

The telescope and stand must be placed so as not as to interfere with other competitors.

### **4.7.4 Shooting Kit and Shooting Stand**

A shooting kit, table, chair or stand may be used as a rifle rest between shots in the standing or kneeling positions.

The shooting kit, table or stand may not be of such size or construction or positioned as to interfere with other competitors.

When used as a rifle rest, the kit, table, chair or stand may be placed forward of the firing line to keep the muzzle of the rifle pointing down range and to facilitate safety.

When using a rifle stand, competitors must take special care to be sure the muzzle of the rifle, when resting on the stand, is not pointed towards or near another competitor.

When not used as a rifle rest, the kit, table or stand may not be placed forward of the firing line.

### **4.7.5 Shooting Mat**

A ground cloth or mat of compressible material, with a maximum thickness of 5cm (2 in.), can be used for prone and kneeling positions, provided it is not constructed or used to provide artificial support.

Placement of the mat must not interfere with other competitors.

A ground cloth may be used in standing if necessary to prevent the feet from slipping (see Rule 5.1.2).

#### 4.7.6 Sound Producing and Communicating Systems

Radios, tape recorders, Walkmans, cellular phones or any other type of sound producing (timers that beep) or communicating systems are prohibited during a competition.

These systems may be used during the preparation period.

#### 4.7.7 Headgear and Blinders

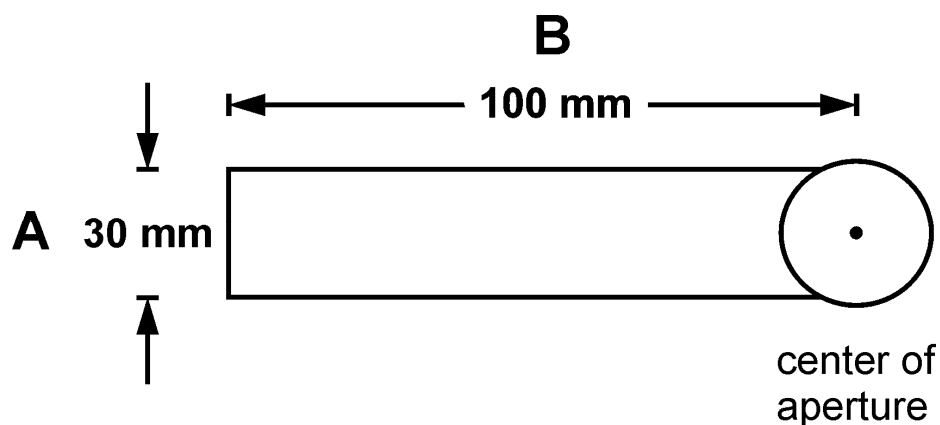
It is permitted to wear a cap, hat or visor or to use blinders that comply with Rules 4.7.8 and 4.7.9.

#### 4.7.8 Rear Sight Blinder

A blinder may be attached to the rifle or to the rear sight of a Sporter or Precision Class air rifle.

The blinder must be no more than 30 mm deep (A) and extend no more than 100 mm from the centre of the rear sight aperture (B) on the side of the non-aiming eye.

A blinder must not be used on the side of the aiming eye.



#### 4.7.9 Head Blinders

It is permitted to use side blinders attached to the hat, cap, shooting glasses, or to a head band.

Side blinders may not be more than 40 mm deep (A) and must not extend further forward than a line from the centre of the forehead.

It is permitted to use a blinder that is not more than 30 mm wide (B) over the non-aiming eye.

#### 4.7.10 Bipod or Rifle Rest

A bipod or rifle rest may not be attached to the rifle (Sporter or Precision class) while shooting, but a bipod may be attached to the rifle to support it between stages of firing.

#### 4.7.11 Start Numbers

Competition sponsors may prepare and issue start numbers to competitors to make it easier for range officers, spectators and media to identify competitors.

Start numbers should display the name of the competitor, the school or club the competitor represents and the competitor's number.

If a competition sponsor provides start numbers, all competitors must wear them during the competition.

## **5. COMPETITION CONDITIONS**

### **5.1 Shooting Positions**

Competitors in three-position air rifle events fire in three different shooting positions, prone, standing and kneeling. In each position, no part of the body may touch the firing line.

In the prone position, the left elbows must be behind the rear edge of the firing line.

In the standing and kneeling positions, the entire both feet must be behind the firing line.

The rifle and other parts of the body may extend beyond the firing line as long as no part of the body contacting the floor is on or in front of the firing line.

#### **5.1.1 Prone Position**

The competitor may lie on the bare surface of the firing point or on the shooting mat.

The body is extended on the firing point with the head toward the target.

The rifle must be held by both hands and one shoulder only.

While aiming, the cheek may be placed against the rifle stock.

The rifle may be supported by a sling, but the fore-end behind the left hand must not touch the shooting jacket.

No part of the rifle may touch the sling or its attachments.

The rifle must not touch or rest against any other point or object.

The competitor's left (sling arm) forearm must form an angle of not less than 30 degrees from the horizontal, measured from the axis of the forearm.

#### **5.1.2 Standing Position**

The competitor must stand free with both feet on the firing point surface or on a ground cloth (if used, see Rule 4.7.5) without any other support.

The rifle must be held with both hands and the shoulder (upper right chest) or the upper arm near the shoulder, the cheek and the part of the chest next to the right shoulder.

The rifle must not be supported by the clothing or the chest beyond the area of the right shoulder and right chest.

The left upper arm and elbow may be supported on the chest or on the hip. If a belt is worn, the buckle or fastening must not be used to support the left arm or elbow.

The rifle must not rest against any other point or object.

The use of the sling, handstop or palm rest is not allowed.

The sling swivel may remain on a Sporter air rifle, but the left hand or glove may not contact the sling swivel.

In Sporter air rifle, a sling may remain attached to the arm as long as it is not attached to the rifle or used to support the rifle in any way.

### **5.1.3 Kneeling Position**

The competitor may touch the firing point surface with the toe of the right foot, the right knee and the left foot.

The rifle may be held with both hands and the right shoulder; the cheek may be placed against the stock.

The left elbow must be supported on the left knee.

The point of the elbow cannot be more than 100mm (4 in.) over or 150mm (6 in.) behind the point of the knee.

The rifle may be supported by a sling, but the fore-end behind the left hand must not touch the shooting jacket.

No part of the rifle may touch the sling or any of its attachments.

The rifle must not touch or rest against any other point or object.

If the kneeling roll is placed under the instep of the right foot, the foot may not be turned at an angle of more than 45 degrees.

If the kneeling roll is not used, the foot may be placed at any angle. This may include placing the side of the foot and lower leg in contact with the surface of the firing point.

No portion of the upper leg or buttocks may touch the firing point surface.

If the competitor uses the shooting mat, he may kneel completely on the shooting mat or may have one or two or three points of contact.

Only the trousers and underclothing may be worn between the competitor's seat and heel. The jacket or other articles must not be placed between these two points or under the right knee.

(All descriptions of positions in these Rules describe right-handed competitors. For left-handed competitors, reverse "right" and "left.")

### **5.1.4 Physical Disabilities, Substituting Positions**

Every effort should be made to encourage and facilitate participation by physically disabled persons, whether the disability is temporary or permanent, as long as the disabled person is not given an unfair advantage over other competitors.

If a competitor has a physical disability, whether temporary or permanent, that prevents shooting in a position defined by the shooting position Rules (Rules 5.1.1, 5.1.2, 5.1.3), he may substitute the next more difficult position. Kneeling may be substituted for prone, or standing may be substituted for kneeling.

Any substitute position must conform to the Rule for that position.

The Competition Director or Jury must approve the substitute position.

A competitor with a cast or other temporary medical appliance may shoot while wearing that appliance if, in the opinion of the Competition Director or Jury, it does not provide any special advantage.

A competitor who cannot sit on his right foot in the kneeling position may substitute a kneeling position in which he sits on his left foot and still fires from the right shoulder (Rule 5.1.3 requires that the competitor sit on the right foot) if an authorization to use this position is received from the National Three-Position Air Rifle Council.

## **5.2 Coaching**

Coaching or assisting a competitor is permitted under these conditions:

### **5.2.1 Coaching In Sporter Air Rifle**

Coaching shooters on the firing line is permitted in Sporter Air Rifle events during the preparation or changeover periods and while the competitor fires sighting shots in any of the three positions.

When the competitor fires his first record shot, coaching must stop and the coach must move to the rear of the firing line.

After the first record shot, the competitor, while on the firing line, may only speak to the Range Officer.

If the firing line is so crowded that coaching will disturb other competitors, a competition sponsor may prohibit coaching on the firing line, but this should be done only if absolutely necessary.

If coaching on the line in Sporter class is not permitted, this must be stated in the competition program.

If mixed Sport and Precision class relays are squaddled, the Sporter and Precision class competitors should be squaddled on separate areas of the firing line so that Sporter Class competitors may receive coaching assistance.

### **5.2.2 Coaching In Precision Air Rifle**

Coaching while competitors are on the firing line in Precision class events is prohibited. While on the firing line, a competitor may speak only with the Range Officer.

### **5.2.3 Coaching During Competitions**

With the exception of the coaching on the firing line permitted in Rule 5.2.1, all coaches must remain behind the firing line from the start of the preparation period until the firing line is cleared after the kneeling position.

During the preparation, changeover and competition periods, a competitor who wishes to speak with a coach must

- a) leave his rifle in a safe condition on the firing line,
- b) notify the Range Officer and
- c) leave the firing line so as not to disturb other competitors.

A coach may speak with a team member during the competition by obtaining permission from the Range Officer.

The Range Officer will notify the competitor who must leave his rifle in a safe condition and leave the firing line to speak with the coach.

### **5.3 Competition Events and Time Limits**

In Three-Position Air Rifle events, each position must be timed separately. This assures that all competitors can compete under relatively equal conditions and that competitors who use their full time limits are not disturbed by competitors who finish early.

It also makes it possible to score targets more quickly.

For each firing position:

All competitors must have a preparation or changeover period for each position.

#### **5.3.1 Individual Event, 3x10 or 3x10 Plus Final**

The individual 3x10 course of fire consists of 10 shots each in the prone, standing, and kneeling positions, fired in that order.

A Final may be added to the individual event (3X10 plus Final, also see Rule 10.0, Finals).

#### **5.3.2 Individual Event, 3x20 or 3x20 Plus Final**

The individual 3x20 course of fire consists of 20 shots each in the prone, standing, and kneeling positions, fired in that order.

A Final may be added to the individual event (3X20 plus Final, also see Rule 10.0, Finals).

#### **5.3.3 Individual Standing Event, 2x20 or 3x20 Plus Final**

The individual standing position course of fire consists of two or three 20 shot series in the standing position.

If electronic targets or electric target changers are used, the 40 or 60 shot event may be fired without a change-over period.

A Final may be added to the individual event (3X20 plus Final, also see Rule 10.0, Finals)

#### **Individual 3x10 Event Time Limit**

Preparation period 10 minutes  
10 shots prone 20 minutes  
Change-over period 5 minutes  
10 shots standing 20 minutes  
Change-over period 5 minutes  
10 shots kneeling 15 minutes

#### **Individual 3x20 Event Time Limit**

Preparation period 10 minutes  
20 shots prone 30 minutes  
Change-over period 5 minutes  
20 shots standing 40 minutes  
Change-over period 5 minutes  
20 shots kneeling 30 minutes

#### **5.3.4. Multiple- Course Aggregate Championships**

A Competition Program may provide for a multi-event competition that consists of a total or aggregate of two or more events or courses of fire that are described in Rules 5.3.1, 5.3.2 or 5.3.3. Multiple-course aggregate championships may last one, two or more days.

#### **5.3.5 Team Events, 3 x 3X10, 3 x 3X20 or 3 x 40/60 Standing**

Any competition may also include team events. Team events are conducted for four-person teams where each team member fires one of the individual courses of fire specified in Rules 5.3.1, 5.3.2 and 5.3.3 that do not include final round scores.

Final round scores do not count in team scores.

##### **Team Members**

A Team consists of four (4) competitors.

Each team should have an adult leader who is the Team Coach.

Men and women may compete on the same team.

No competitor may fire on more than one team in any team event.

All team members must be named before the first team member begins to fire in the competition.

##### **Team Score**

Team and individual events may be fired concurrently or they may be scheduled and fired separately.

When team and individual events are fired concurrently, the scores fired by each member of a team count for both individual rankings and team rankings.

Team scores are calculated by adding the individual scores of the four team members.

## **5.4 Targets**

Competitions may be conducted using either paper targets or electronic targets.

Paper targets may be used with any type of target changer or fixed to the butts.

In an open competition or meeting, all competitors must use the same targets and target system.

Only official 10-meter air rifle targets with scoring ring dimensions specified by the International Shooting Sport Federation and of a type supplied or authorized NSRA may be used.

Paper targets may be of any approved single target, 5 target or 10 target design.

### **5.4.1 Sighting Targets**

Sighting targets or sighting bulls must be clearly identified.

When single bull's-eye targets are used, sighter targets should be identified with a black stripe in the upper right corner that can be clearly seen from the firing point.

Competitors must be given two (2) sighting targets for each position.

### **5.4.2 Record Targets**

If single targets are used, each target, in each set must be serially numbered, for identification purposes, and targets must be shot in numerical order.

Targets with 5 or 10 aiming marks must be marked, to identify the shooter and shooting position.

If there is more than one target per shooting position, these must be numbered sequentially and shot in numerical order.

### **5.4.3 Changing Targets**

Either competitors or range officials may change targets.

If target changers are used:

Every shooter who is able to do so must change their own targets;

Any shooter is unable to change targets and/or operate the target changer, without disturbing their shooting position, that shooter may have an assistant, to change their targets;

Shooters are responsible for providing their own assistant;

Competition organizers must make reasonable provision for shooter's assistants, so that they can operate without disturbing other competitors;

Shooters assistants must be seated, when not actually changing targets; must not speak to or touch or assist the shooter in any way; and must not disturb other shooters.

In all cases, the competitor is responsible for ensuring that the correct targets are hung.



## **5.5 Range Specifications**

### **5.5.1 Distance**

The shooting distance measured from the target to the edge of the firing line closest to the competitor is 10 meters (33 feet).

### **5.5.2 The Firing Line and Firing Point**

The firing line is the front edge of the firing point.

It must be marked so that Range Officers and Competitors can see it.

A firing point is the area immediately to the rear of the firing line that is designated for one competitor.

The recommended minimum width of each firing point is 1.0 meters (39.4 in.).

The recommended minimum length is 2.2 (86.6 in.) meters.

There must be one firing point for each target.

There must be ample room behind the firing points for Range Officers and other officials to move freely.

### **5.5.3 Target Location and Numbering**

Targets and target holders must be centred on a line that is perpendicular from the centre of the firing point.

Target or target holders must be identified with numbers that are placed above or below the targets and that are large enough to be seen from the firing point.

Targets are numbered consecutively, with target number one being on the left.

It is recommended that the numbers be on alternating backgrounds or contrasting colours.

### **5.5.4 Target Heights**

Target holders on the range must facilitate the placement of the targets at the correct height.

Correct target heights, when measured from the level of the firing point to the centre of the target

are:

- Prone position 0.5 meters (19.7 in.) ( $\pm$  10 cm. or 4 in.)
- Standing position 1.4 meter (55 in.) ( $\pm$  5 cm. or 2 in.)
- Kneeling position 0.8 meters (31.5 in.) ( $\pm$  10 cm. or 4 in.)

All targets on a range must be hung at the same height.

The tolerances allowed here are intended to accommodate variations from range to range; they do not permit target height variations for individual shooters on the same range.

Ranges where paper targets are used may provide for hanging two 5-bull targets and sighters at the same height for one position.

On ranges where the physical construction of the range or backstop prevents hanging targets at the correct height, the targets must be hung at the height that is as close as possible to the correct height.

The Competition Program must inform competitors of the height that the targets will be hung if the correct target heights are not possible.

### **5.5.5 Shooting Tables**

On ranges with fixed target heights (with targets or target carriers mounted at standing position height), tables or platforms may be provided to raise the competitors in the prone and kneeling positions to the height of the targets.

Shooting tables and platforms must be of robust construction, safe to use, and must not flex or move under normal conditions of use.

The Competition Program must inform competitors when shooting tables will be used.

If tables are used, competitors are not required to keep all parts of their bodies on top of the table in prone, but must have all parts of their bodies on top of the table or platform in kneeling.

Tables and platforms which are moveable, and which are smaller than the firing point, may be placed anywhere within the firing point but no part of any table or platform may be in front of the firing line or extend into any other firing point, whether that firing point is occupied or not.

The recommended minimum dimensions for tables, for prone shooting, are 0.9 metres wide by 1.8 metres long. The height of the table should be the same (plus or minus about 5 cm) as the fixed bench, supporting the target changers, usually about 0.9 metres.

The recommended minimum dimensions for kneeling platforms are 0.9 metres square by 0.6 metres (plus or minus about 5 cm) high.

### **5.5.6 Lighting**

Indoor ranges must have artificial illumination that provide the necessary amount of light without glare or distracting shadows on the targets or firing points.

A minimum illumination of 1000 lux on the targets is recommended.

Targets must be illuminated evenly, with direct light on the target being highly recommended.

It is recommended that the firing line area also be well illuminated.

### **5.5.7 Official Bulletin Board**

An area easily accessible to competitors and coaches must be designated as the Official Bulletin Board.

All official information bulletins and results bulletins must be posted at this location.

## ***5.6 Competition Programme***

A written document should be prepared to describe the conditions of the competition.

This Competition Program or "official program" identifies the name of the competition, date(s), location, course of fire (events), time schedule, awards and any special conditions that will apply.

The Competition Program may not contravene any of these Rules.

The Competition Program is a supplement to the Rules and conditions specified in the program also govern the conduct of the competition.

Range Officers and Jury Members may use the Competition Program in deciding protests, however, if there is a conflict between the Competition Program and the Rules, the Rules will prevail.

## **6. COMPETITION OFFICIALS AND THEIR DUTIES**

### ***6.1 Competition Director***

The Competition Director (Match Director) has primary responsibility for the safe, efficient conduct of a competition.

In a major championship, an Organizing Committee with overall responsibility for the conduct of the competition may appoint the Competition Director.

In a small competition, the Competition Director may also serve as a Range Officer or Scoring Officer.

The Organizing Committee and Competition Director establish the conditions of a competition that are published in a Competition Program (Rule 5.6).

The Competition Director appoints other competition officials.

If any conditions of the competition must be changed, a Competition Director's Bulletin announcing the change must be prepared and posted on the Official Bulletin Board so all competitors and coaches can be informed.

Competition Programs and Competition Director Bulletins may not contradict or establish any conditions that are contrary to these Rules.

The Competition Director must use his best judgment at all times and his behaviour and decisions must be characterized by absolute impartiality, firmness, courtesy and consistent vigilance.

In the application of these Rules, the Competition Director may confer with the Jury or may consult with the National Jury of Appeal.

### ***6.2 Range Officers***

The Chief Range Officer is in charge of the range and is responsible for range safety and range operations.

His duties include giving range commands, ensuring competitors' equipment and positions conform to the Rules, correcting any technical range faults, receiving protests, and resolving all irregularities such as disturbances, penalties, malfunctions, irregular shots, extra time allowed, etc.

In larger competitions, Assistant Range Officers are appointed to assist the Chief Range Officer.

Range Officers have the right to examine the competitor's positions and equipment at any time.

During a competition,

Range Officers should not approach a competitor while he is firing a shot. Immediate action must, nevertheless, be taken when a matter of safety is involved.

### **6.3 Jury**

A three-member Jury may be appointed by the Competition Director to interpret and apply the Rules and resolve protests.

One member of the Jury is designated as the Jury Chairman.

Jury members should be persons who are familiar with these Rules and have experience in competitions.

They may be Competition Officials, Team Officials, parents or competitors in that competition.

Jury members may not rule on any matter in which they or their team are personally involved or have an interest.

The Competition Director will name a replacement for a Jury member who must excuse himself.

Decisions by the Jury must be based on applicable Rules or, in cases not specifically covered by the Rules, must be governed by the intent and spirit of the Rules.

Protests are decided by a majority of the Jury.

Decisions of the Jury may be appealed to the National Jury of Appeal.

### **6.4 Equipment Control Chief**

Equipment control examinations are not mandatory.

However, the Competition Director may appoint an Equipment Control Chief and require competitors to have their equipment inspected prior to a competition.

Equipment also may be spot-checked or checked by Range Officers on the line prior to the start of a competition.

Team Officials and competitors must be informed in sufficient time before the competition regarding where and when they may have their equipment inspected.

### **6.5 Statistical Officer**

The Statistical Officer is responsible for all phases of results production during a competition.

The Statistical Officer is directly responsible to the Competition Director.

The Statistical Officer must retain all fired targets until the expiration of the time allowed for challenges and protests.

The Competition Director and Statistical Officer must appoint and train sufficient scorers to score all targets in a timely manner, according to these Rules.

In a small competition, the Statistical Officer may also be a target scorer.

The Statistical Officer must ensure that preliminary results are posted on the Official Bulletin

Board in a timely manner and that a Final Results Bulletin is provided to team officials and competitors.

## **6.6 Scorers**

Scorers appointed by the Competition Director or Statistical Officer are responsible for fairly and impartially scoring targets.

Scorers can be other competition officials, team officials or parents, but cannot be competitors.

No one may knowingly score a target for a competitor in whom they have a personal interest.

Scorers should operate in pairs so that two scorers initially examine all targets and gauge doubtful shots.

In case of disagreement between the two scorers, the Statistical Officer or a Scoring Supervisor or other person designated by the Competition Director or Statistical Officer must make the final decision.

## **6.7 Team Coach**

Each team must have a designated Team Coach.

The Team Coach may be a coach, cadet force officer or instructor, scout leader, youth leader, parent or other responsible adult.

The Team Coach is responsible for all team members and for maintaining discipline within the team.

Team coaches must cooperate with competition officials to assure safety, the proper conduct of the competition and good sportsmanship.

Team Coaches must be familiar with the program, make entries and have team members report to the proper firing points on time and with approved equipment.

Team Coaches may check scores, make challenges and register protests for all team members.

## **7. COMPETITION PROCEDURES**

### **7.1 Entries**

Individual and Team entries must be completed before the start of the competition or before any competitor or team member begins competition firing.

The competitor or team coach is responsible for properly filling out entry forms.

### **7.2 Firing Point Assignments (Squadding)**

All competitors entered in a competition must be squadded or assigned to firing points through a random draw.

Members of a team may be assigned to adjacent firing points on the same relay if those blocs of firing points are determined by the drawing of lots.

If there is more than one relay in one day of competition, the Competition Director must normally assign the members of each team to two or more relays.

Exceptions may be made when a team must fire together to accommodate travel schedule requirements or when different relays are scheduled on different days.

When there are team events, any relay scheduled must have competitors from two or more teams.

### **7.3 Equipment Control**

Competition officials may require competitors to have their equipment checked prior to or after a competition to assure that it complies with these rules.

### **7.4 Moving Equipment To/From Firing Line**

The Range Officer must call competitors to the firing line and give them a short period of time before the preparation period begins to place their equipment on the firing line.

If competitors complete firing before the shooting time ends, they may leave the firing line, with the permission of the Range Officer, but they may not remove their equipment from the firing line until the command **STOP** is given at the end of the shooting time and the Range Officer has checked their rifles to be sure they are safe to be removed.

Equipment may be removed from the firing line only after the command **STOP**.

Note: This is to prevent disturbing competitors who are still firing.

## **7.5 Preparation Period**

Competitors must be given a ten (10) minute preparation period before the start of shooting in the prone position.

The preparation period begins with the command

***YOUR TEN-MINUTE PREPARATION PERIOD BEGINS NOW.***

The Range Officer may not start the preparation period until competitors have been permitted to bring their equipment to their firing points (see Rule 7.4).

Targets must be hung before the preparation period begins.

The preparation period may not begin while anyone is down range.

Competitors may handle their rifles, dry fire, and do holding and aiming exercises on the firing line during the preparation period.

## **7.6 BEGINNING AND END OF THE COMPETITION**

The competition begins with the command **START** and ends with the command **STOP**.

All sighting and record shots must be fired between these commands.

The Range Officer may command **STOP** before the shooting time expires if all competitors finish shooting before the end of the time limit.

All competitors on one relay must complete the prone position before starting standing and all competitors on one relay must complete standing before starting kneeling.

## **7.7 FIVE (5) MINUTE WARNING**

The Range Officer must inform the competitors of the time remaining at five (5) minutes before the end of the shooting time with the command

***FIVE MINUTES REMAINING.***

## **7.8 TWO (2) MINUTE WARNING**

The Range Officer must inform the competitors of the time remaining at two (2) minutes before the end of the shooting time with the command

***TWO MINUTES REMAINING.***

The five and two minute warnings are advisory.

Competitors are still responsible for finishing within the official time limit whether or not the time warnings are given.

Additional time may only be given to competitors if there is an interruption or malfunction (see Rules 7.14 and 7.15).

## **7.9 POSITION CHANGEOVER PERIODS**

Competitors must be given a five (5) minute changeover period before the start of the standing position and a five (5) minute changeover period before the start of the kneeling position.

If targets are changed after each position, the changeover period may not begin until target changing is complete and Range Officers or other personnel are not downrange.

During the changeover periods, competitors may set up their equipment for the next position, handle their rifles, dry fire and do holding and aiming exercises.

## **7.10 DRY FIRING**

Dry firing means releasing the trigger mechanism without releasing the propelling charge (air or CO2).

The competitor may dry fire during the preparation period and competition as long as the propelling charge is not released.

If a propelling charge is released during the preparation or changeover period, the competitor will be given a warning for the first offence and a two-point penalty for the second and subsequent offences.

Note: Not all air rifles are capable of dry firing.

## **7.11 SIGHTING AND RECORD SHOTS**

Only one pellet may be loaded at a time, regardless of whether the rifle has a clip or magazine.

A "shot" is the release of the propelling charge (air or CO2), even if no pellet is fired.

The release of propelling gas without loading a pellet may be done during sighting shots (sighting shots do not count in the competitor's score), but any release of propelling gas after record shots begin, whether a pellet was loaded or not, must be counted and scored as a record shot.

### **7.11.1 Sighting Shots**

Sighting shots, unlimited in number, may be fired only before the first competition shot in each position.

Sighting shots fired after the first competition shot, unless authorized by the range officer, must be scored as misses.

Sighting shots must be fired within the time limit for that position, unless the Range Officer allows the competitor additional time because of a rifle or target malfunction.

### **7.11.2 Record Shots**

Only one record shot may be fired at any single record target (bull's-eye).

Any shot fired after the first record shot is fired, including any discharge of propelling gas or an accidental discharge, must be scored as a record shot whether it hits the target or not.



## **7.12 Range Commands**

### **THE (CHIEF) RANGE OFFICER MUST CONDUCT COMPETITION FIRING BY USING THESE COMMANDS AND PROCEDURES.**

(special range commands for final round competition are found in Rule 10.3.8).

#### **Command Action**

Before the competition:

##### **Step 1:**

Before a competition, the Range Officers must prepare the range for firing and, if competition officials hang targets, supervise the hanging of targets.

Competitors should not move their equipment to the firing line until they are called to the firing point by the (Chief) Range Officer.

Competitors and officials must not uncase, handle or move firearms, whilst Range Officers and Officials are forward of the shooting line.

##### **Step 2:**

Competitors must be given an opportunity to move their equipment to the firing line before the Preparation Period begins.

Sufficient time for competitors to place their equipment on the firing line, but not more than five minutes, should normally be allowed for this.

When the range is prepared, the (Chief) Range Officer calls the competitors to the firing line by giving the order:

#### ***RELAY NUMBER 1, YOU MAY MOVE YOUR EQUIPMENT TO THE FIRING LINE***

This should be done approximately at least 5 minutes before the scheduled start time for that relay.

As competitors move to the firing line, check to be sure each competitor is present and on the correct firing point.

##### **Step 3, if required:**

After competitors move their equipment to the firing line and, if competitors are responsible for hanging their own targets, the (Chief) Range Officer instructs competitors to go down range and hang targets, with the order:

#### ***RELAY NUMBER 1, GO FORWARD AND HANG YOUR TARGETS***

##### **Step 4:**

When all competitors have placed their equipment on the firing line or have returned from down range, the (Chief) Range Officer starts the Preparation Period by announcing:

#### ***YOUR TEN MINUTE PREPARATION PERIOD BEGINS NOW***

During this period, competitors may handle their rifles, assume their positions and dry fire.

##### **Step 5:**

At the end of the 10-minute preparation period, the (Chief) Range Officer announces the event to be fired and gives the commands to allow competitors to load and begin firing. For example:

***THIS IS THE (PRONE) STAGE OF THE THREE-POSITION EVENT.  
THE COURSE OF FIRE IS 20 SHOTS IN THE (PRONE\*) POSITION.  
THE TIME ALLOWED IS (30\*) MINUTES***

(or the appropriate stage, event, position, number of shots and time),

***LOAD***

***START***

The time limit begins when the command START is given.

***During the shooting time:***

**Step 6a:**

While competitors are firing, the Range Officers must constantly observe them to assist, answer questions, deal with malfunctions and resolve irregular shots.

**Step 6b:**

When competitors finish firing, they must open their rifle actions and lay their rifles on the floor or firing line.

Competitors who have finished firing, and wish to leave the firing point, must raise an arm, to attract the attention of a Range Officer, who must check the rifle actions to be sure they are clear and may then give competitors consent to leave.

Competitors who need or wish to leave the range before they have finished firing must follow the same procedures and may only return to the shooting line with the consent of a Range Officer.

Competitors leaving or returning to the firing line must do so quickly and quietly, without disturbing other competitors.

Competitors may not remove their equipment from the firing point until the detail is ended and they are instructed to do so by a Range Officer.

Competitors may prepare for the next position if they do this quietly, behind the firing line.

**Step 6c:**

If at any time during the competition, a competitor asks how much time remains, the Range

Officer must inform that competitor of the exact amount of time remaining.

When 5 minutes remain in the shooting time, the (CHIEF) RANGE OFFICER must announce the remaining time.

***FIVE MINUTES REMAINING***

**Step 6d:**

When 2 minutes remain in the shooting time, the (CHIEF) RANGE OFFICER must announce the remaining time.

***TWO MINUTES REMAINING***

**Step 7:**

When the shooting time is ended, the (CHIEF) RANGE OFFICER must announce

***STOP***

***UNLOAD***

Each competitor must stop immediately, open the loading port so it is clearly visible to the Range Officer, and set the rifle down with the muzzle pointing down range.

The Range Officer must check the actions to be sure they are clear.

**Step 8:**

***If there is still a loaded air rifle:***

If a competitor has loaded air rifle with a pellet that is still in the barrel, the competitor must inform the Range Officer immediately by raising his/her hand and declaring:

***“Loaded Rifle”***

The Range Officer will then direct the competitor to discharge the rifle into a Pellet Discharge Container or direct the competitor to fire the rifle at an area of the backstop where there are no targets.

**Step 9:**

When the Range Officer(s) has confirmed that all air rifles are unloaded, the (Chief) Range Officer instructs the competitors or target handlers to change targets with the command:

***THE LINE IS SAFE, GO FORWARD AND REPLACE (or REMOVE) YOUR TARGETS  
or  
THE LINE IS SAFE. TARGET HANDLERS, REPLACE (or REMOVE) THE TARGETS***

If the last position has been completed, go directly to Step 11.

**Step 10:**

When targets for the next position are hung and the Range Officers confirm that the line is safe, the (Chief) Range Officer begins the changeover period by announcing.

***COMPETITORS, YOUR FIVE MINUTE CHANGEOVER PERIOD BEGINS NOW***

All competitors or target handlers must be back behind the firing line before this can begin.

Competitors may not handle rifles, or make any adjustments to rifles, until this order has been given by the Range Officer.

Competitors may make other preparations for the next position, before the change-over period is announced, provided they do not disturb other competitors.

When the changeover period ends, the (Chief) Range Officer must announce:

***COMPETITORS, YOUR FIVE MINUTE CHANGEOVER PERIOD IS ENDED***

Then return to Step 5 and repeat Steps 5 to 9 for the next position.

**Step 11:**

When all firing is complete, the Range Officers must confirm that all rifles are unloaded with actions open.

The (Chief) Range Officer will then direct competitors to remove their equipment from the firing line:

***COMPETITORS, PLEASE REMOVE YOUR EQUIPMENT FROM THE FIRING LINE***

Competitors must then remove all their equipment immediately from the firing point, so as not to inconvenience other competitors.

### **7.13 Irregular Shots and Occurrences**

An irregular shot is any shot that is not fired in accordance with these Rules.

Any competitor who has an irregular shot must immediately report this to the Range Officer.

The Range Officer must make a written record of any irregular shots that occur during the match so that this record can be used by the Statistical Officer to properly score the targets.

When paper targets are used, the written record should be made on the target itself.

#### **7.13.1 Shots Fired Before the command *START***

A shot fired before the command ***START*** must receive a penalty of two (2) points on the first competition target.

#### **7.13.2 Shots Fired After the Command *STOP***

A shot fired after the command ***STOP*** must be scored as a miss on the last competition target(s).

#### **7.13.3 First Sighting Shot is a Miss**

If the first sighting shot is a miss, the competitor must immediately call the Range Officer.

The Range Officer must verify that the first shot is not on the sighting target and, if possible, verify where the shot has struck.

The competitor may then resume shooting under the supervision of a Range Officer.

The Range Officer will observe and plot the competitor's shots until the scoring rings of the sighting target are hit.

The Range Officer must mark these any of these shots, which have struck a competition target, as sighter shots after the target is returned. These marked shots will be ignored by the scorer.

All subsequent shots, including sighting shots, striking the competition target, will be treated and scored as if fired in the competition.

Once the sighting target has been hit, the competitor may fire further sighting shots, in accordance with these rules.

No additional time is allowed for this procedure.

#### **7.13.4 Loaded Rifle After “STOP”**

If a pellet is still in the rifle after the command ***STOP*** is given, or if the rifle is charged, but not loaded, the competitor must immediately inform the Range Officer by raising his hand and declaring,

***“Loaded Rifle.”***

The Range Officer must then direct the competitor to unload the rifle by firing it into the backstop or a special pellet container.

This shot must not be fired at a record target and may not count as a record shot. (See Rule 2.5)

This procedure must be supervised by the Range Officer.

#### **7.13.5 Shots Not Fired**

Record shots that are not fired at all must be scored as a misses on the last competition targets equal to the number of record shots that are not fired.

### **7.13.6 More Than One Shot on a Target (Bull's-eye)**

When a competitor fires more than one shot on one target (bull's-eye) in a three-position event he will not be penalized for the first two (2) such occurrences.

The competitor must be given a two (2)-point penalty for the third and all succeeding misplaced shots.

When a competitor fires more than one shot on a single target (bull's-eye) he must not fire a shot on one subsequent target.

Note: If a competitor fires in a three-position event, the penalty is applied when there are three or more targets (individual record bull's-eyes) in all three positions with more than one shot.

For example, if one target in prone has two shots (one is left blank), one target in standing has two shots (one is left blank) and one target in kneeling has two shots (one is left blank), a two point penalty must be applied to the kneeling score.

### **7.13.7 Too Many Shots in a Position**

If a competitor fires too many shots in a position (11 or more shots in one position in a 3X10 event, 21 or more shots in one position in a 3X20 event), the extra (last) shots must be annulled.

If too many shots are fired, and it is impossible to determine which of two or more disputed shots were the last shot(s) fired (for example, if 11 shots are fired in a 10 shot series, and 2 shots are found on the last target in the series) then the highest value shot(s), of those in dispute, must be annulled.)

The competitor must also be penalized two (2) points for each excessive shot fired, deducted from the lowest value shot(s) in the first series.

### **7.13.8 Crossfire's**

A crossfire occurs when a competitor fires a shot on the target of another competitor.

A competitor who crossfires deliberately or persistently, so as to disadvantage or annoy another competitor, is liable to disqualification from the competition.

If a competitor accidentally crossfires a sighting shot onto a sighting target of another competitor, he must not be penalized.

If a competitor fires a sighting shot onto a record target of another competitor, he must be given a two point penalty for each shot so fired.

If a competitor crossfires a record shot on the target of another competitor, the shot must be scored as a miss.

If a competitor receives a crossfired shot, and it is impossible to determine which shot is his, he will receive the value of the highest undetermined shot.

### **7.13.9 Misfire**

If a shot is fired and the pellet does not leave the barrel, the competitor must immediately notify a Range Officer.

The Range Officer will assist the competitor in safely removing the pellet from the barrel.

This shot will not be counted as a record shot and the competitor will be allowed to re-take the shot.

If a second shot fails to leave the barrel, the rifle must be declared broken and may not be used again until the fault has been repaired and the rifle declared safe by a range officer.

### **7.13.10 Disputed Shot**

If a competitor disclaims a shot on his target, he must immediately notify the Range Officer.

If the Range Officer can confirm, beyond a reasonable doubt, that the competitor did not fire the shot, (for example, when an adjacent competitor reports or has a missing shot) the shot will not be credited to the competitor. #

If the Range Officer cannot confirm that the competitor did not fire the shot, the shot must be credited to the competitor.

### **7.14 Interruptions in Shooting**

When a competitor is interrupted, moved to another firing point, must repair a malfunction or must stop shooting during the match through no fault of his own, he may request additional time and sighting shots.

It is the responsibility of the competitor to arrive at the firing line with a properly charged gas cylinder.

No additional time or sighting shots will be allowed to compensate for time lost to change or fill a compressed air or CO2 cylinder.

#### **7.14.1 Additional Time Required**

If the interruption is not the fault of the shooter, and is not due to a rifle malfunction, the competitor must be given additional time equal to the amount of time lost.

A maximum of 15 minutes is allowed to repair a rifle malfunction. If the interruption is due to an allowable rifle malfunction, the competitor must be given additional time equal to the amount of time lost, or 15 minutes, whichever is the less.

Wherever possible, and convenient, extra time given will be added to the end of the competitor's detail.

If the extra time allowed exceeds 5 minutes, the (Chief) Range Officer. Competition Jury or Match

Director may direct a competitor to complete an interrupted shoot another time, to avoid disruption of the competition. In this event, the competitor will also be allowed a (minimum) 5 minute preparation period, before completing the shoot.

Competitors entitled to additional sighting shots may be allowed extra time, not exceeding 5 minutes, for sighting, at the (Chief) Range Officer. Competition Jury or Match Director's discretion.

#### **7.14.2 Additional Sighting Shots Required**

If the interruption lasts more than five (5) minutes, or if the competitor is moved to another target, additional unlimited sighting shots must be permitted.

#### **7.14.3 Interruptions of Entire Range**

If shooting on an entire range or section of a range is interrupted, all competitors must be given that amount of additional time when firing resumes.

If shooting is interrupted for more than five (5) minutes, all competitors must be given additional unlimited sighting shots.

## **7.15 Malfunctions**

If a competitor has an allowable rifle or other equipment malfunction, or if the rifle cannot be safely aimed or fired, he may have it repaired or replaced with the permission of the Range Officer.

Any competitor who has a malfunction must notify the Range Officer immediately. The Range Officer will give directions, which the competitor and must obey.

Competitors must obtain the Range Officer's permission to leave, or remove their equipment from, the firing point during the competition.

The Range Officer's permission is also required to return to, and to replace equipment on, the firing point during the competition.

Rifles and equipment needing repair, adjustment or recharging must be removed from the firing point and may only be worked on in designated areas, so as not to disturb or endanger other competitors, spectators and officials.

Additional time or sighting shots will not be allowed if the competitor fails to notify the Range Officer before repairing or correcting a malfunction.

### **7.15.1 Allowable and Non-Allowable Malfunctions**

An allowable malfunction is a malfunction that occurs because the rifle does not function correctly.

A non-allowable malfunction is a malfunction that is the fault of the competitor.

If the malfunction is allowable and takes longer than one (1) minute to correct, extra time must be allowed up to a maximum of 15 additional minutes.

If the malfunction is allowable and takes more than five (5) minutes to correct, the competitor must be allowed additional unlimited sighting shots when he resumes firing.

(Having to replace an air or CO2 cylinder because it was not properly filled (either under or over charged) before the competition is a non-allowable malfunction.)

Wherever possible and convenient, extra time should be added to the end of the detail, in which the malfunction occurred.

If this is not possible, the competitor must complete the shoot at a time (and on a firing point) determined by the competition organizer. A competitor who is required to complete a shoot in

this way must be allowed 5 minutes, for additional, unlimited sighting shots, in addition to the time allowed to complete the shoot.

### **7.15.2 Improper Loading**

If a competitor loads two or more pellets at one time, inserts a pellet backwards or fails to properly charge a pneumatic air rifle (i.e. short stroke), any shots fired must be scored as fired and a malfunction cannot be allowed, except when two or more shots are fired at one time.

When two or more shots are fired at one time, a Range Officer must be notified before the next shot is fired. The Range Officer will note the occurrence and only the highest value shot will be scored.

If a Range Officer is not notified before the next shot is fired, all shots on the target must count, as if fired in the competition.

If a competitor thinks he may have loaded two pellets or may have forgotten to load a pellet he may call a Range Officer and ask permission to discharge that shot into a Pellet Discharge Container or the backstop. This may only be done when a Range Officer is present with the shooter. No extra time may be allowed for doing this.

If a shot is fired and the pellet remains in the barrel, a Range Officer must be notified and will oversee the removal of the pellet from the barrel. The competitor must be allowed to repeat the shot, without penalty.

If a second shot is fired and the pellet remains in the barrel, a Range Officer must be notified. In this case, the rifle must be declared unserviceable and removed from the firing point, for inspection and satisfactory repair, before it may be used again in the competition. The competitor may replace a rifle which cannot be repaired and, in any event, must be allowed to repeat the shot, without penalty.

### **7.15.3 Shots Fired with Low Gas Pressure**

Any shot fired with low gas pressure that was caused by the competitor's failure to properly charge the rifle or have sufficient gas in the rifle's air or CO2 cylinder must be scored as a record shot.

Any shot fired with low gas pressure that was caused by a rifle malfunction such as a broken seal or gas leak may be nullified and the shot refired.

### **7.15.4 Replacing Cylinders**

Having to replace an air or CO2 cylinder because it was not properly filled before the competition is a non-allowable malfunction and no additional time may be allowed.

Competitors who must replace cylinders must have the Range Officer clear their rifle and then remove the rifle from the firing line to replace the cylinder.

Replacing and re-filling of cylinders may only be done in a special safe area, designated by the competition organizer.

Note: This is to assure that this procedure does not disturb or endanger other competitors, range officials and spectators.

## ***7.16 Spectators and Media***

Competition sponsors should encourage and assist spectators and media at their competitions.

Spectators must remain behind the firing line and may not communicate with competitors except when a Range Officer gives permission for a competitor to speak with someone behind the firing line.

The (Chief) Range Officer may give media photographers permission to photograph competitors from the area immediately behind the firing line.

Spectators and media may speak in normal tones, but should not speak so loudly as to disturb the competitors.

Spectators or media photographers may not use flash photography during competitions.

All cell phones and other communication devices must be turned off.



## **7.17 Penalties for Rule Violations**

In case of a violation of the Rules or instructions given by Range Officers or the Jury, the (Chief) Range Officer or Jury may impose penalties.

Penalties can include a warning, a deduction of points or disqualification from the competition.

Any decision to disqualify a competitor must be made by at least two Competition Officials such as a Range Officer and the Competition Director or the Competition Director and Jury.

### **7.17.1 Open Violations**

In the case of open violations of the Rules (rifles, clothing, position, etc.) the Range Officer must first give a warning so that the competitor has an opportunity to correct the fault.

Whenever possible, the warning should be given during the preparation period or sighting shots.

The competitor must correct the fault or replace the equipment before continuing the competition.

No additional sighting shots or extra time will be allowed. If the competitor continues to fire without correcting the fault, two points must be deducted from the score.

If the competitor still does not correct the fault after the deduction of points, he must be disqualified.

Open violations, where Rule 7.17.2 does not apply, discovered after a competitor completes firing, may not be penalized, but the competitor must be advised of the fault so it can be corrected.

### **7.17.2 Concealed Violations**

In the case of deliberately concealed violations of the Rules, the competitor must be immediately disqualified.

Concealed violations include any instance where a competitor alters equipment from a legal to an illegal configuration after it was checked by Equipment Control or the Range Officers before or during the competition.

Competitors may be disqualified for concealed violations discovered after the competitor completes firing if the concealed violation was used during the competition.

### **7.17.3 Safety Violations**

In the case of a serious, blatant or dangerous rifle-handling violation where the safety of other persons is endangered, the competitor may be immediately disqualified.

### **7.17.4 Coaching Violations**

In the case of unauthorized coaching violations while the competitor is on the firing line, both the coach and competitor must first be given a warning.

After the second coaching violation, two points must be deducted from the competitor's score and the coach must be directed to leave the vicinity of the firing line.

### **7.17.5 Unsportsmanlike Conduct**

Unsportsmanlike conduct includes cheating, disobeying instructions of competition officials, disturbing other competitors, deliberate time-wasting, altering targets, falsifying scores, purposely damaging range equipment, disorderly conduct, dishonesty, inappropriate threatening and/or abusive behaviour or language.

In the case of unsportsmanlike conduct, the Competition Director or Jury may impose penalties including a warning, deduction of points or disqualification, depending on the severity of the violation.

Any coaches or spectators who violate this rule may be directed to leave the vicinity of the firing line.

## **8. SCORING TARGETS**

### ***8.1 Value of Shots***

A shot is given the score of highest value scoring ring that is touched by that shot hole.

#### **8.1.1 Misses**

Any competition shot that fails to hit the scoring rings of the competitor's target must be scored as a miss.

#### **8.1.2 Irregular Shots**

Irregular shots must be reported to the Statistical Officer by the Range Officer and scored in accordance with these Rules.

### ***8.2 Paper Target Scoring***

Paper targets may be scored manually or with an electronic scoring machine.

If scored manually, two scorers must score each shot.

If the value of a shot is in dispute, a third scorer or scoring supervisor must resolve the disagreement.

The value of each shot scored and the fact that the shot was gauged (plugged) must be recorded on the target.

The target acts as an official scorecard.

#### **8.2.1 Using a Scoring Gauge**

A shot whose value is not clear, and agreed by two scorers, must be scored with a scoring gauge ("plug" gauge).

The scoring gauge may be inserted only once to determine the value of the shot.

The scorer must view the gauge from an angle to clearly see where the edge of the gauge's flange and target meet.

Shots that have been gauged must be marked with a plus (+) if that shot is scored as the higher value or with a minus (-) if that shot is scored as the lower value.

Both scorers must mark and initial the gauged shot.

If a third opinion is required, that person must also mark and initial the shot.

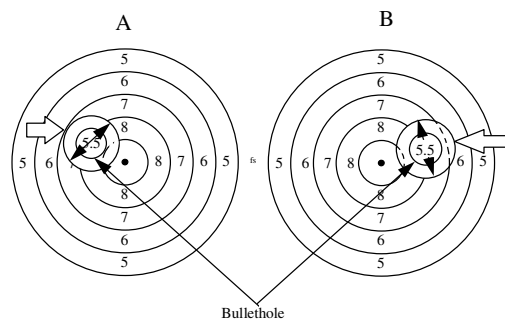
The decision of the scorers on the value of a gauged shot is final. The value of a gauged shot may not be protested.

## 8.2.2 Using the Outward Scoring Gauge

An outward scoring gauge, with a flange diameter of 5.45-5.50mm (0.218-0.222 in.), must be used to score shots in the 3 to 10 rings.

If the outer edge of the flange breaks the outside edge of the white scoring ring, the lower value is assigned to the shot.

If the outer edge of the flange is tangent to (touching) or lies inside of the outside edge of the white scoring ring, the shot must be scored the higher value.



The "A" illustration depicts a doubtful shot hole. The outward scoring gauge shows the outside edge of the flange lying within the 7 ring; therefore the shot is scored a 9.

The "B" illustration depicts a doubtful shot hole. The outward scoring gauge shows the outside edge of the flange lying over the 7 ring and into the 6 zone; therefore the shot is an 8.

## 8.2.3 Using the Inward Scoring Gauge

The inward scoring gauge, with a flange diameter of 4.50-4.55mm (0.178-0.182 in.), must be used to score shots in the 1 and 2 rings, and to score inner tens.

The shot is scored as the highest value ring that the flange of the inward plug gauge touches.

When using the inward scoring gauge, if you can see even a faint black gap between the edge of the scoring gauge and the outside edge of the scoring ring, the shot receives the lower value. If you do not see a gap and the edge touches or breaks into the outside edge of the scoring ring, the shot receives the higher value.

Remember, the inward gauge is used only to score shot values 1 and 2 and inner tens (used in tiebreaking only).

## 8.2.4 Scoring Inner Tens

An inner ten is a shot that completely removes the 10-ring (dot).

An inner ten that is doubtful is determined by using an inward plug gauge.

Inner tens must only be scored on the targets of competitors involved in ties that cannot be broken by using other tie-breaking rules.

## 8.2.5 Scoring Torn Shot Holes

When the outside edge of a shot hole is torn, the shot must be scored according to the location where the pellet actually struck the target.

A shot hole that is torn so badly that an inserted scoring gauge will not remain in that location must not be scored with the scoring gauge and must be scored with a template or overlay gauge or by using some other means of determining an accurate outline of the actual pellet hole.

Note: An "Eagle Eye" gauge may be used for this purpose.

## **8.3 Electronic Targets**

### **8.3.1 Electronic Target Scores**

Scores indicated by electronic targets are final unless protested in accordance with these Rules.

### **8.3.2 Electronic Target Scoring Protests**

When electronic targets are used, a competitor who believes a shot has not registered or who believes a shot or series of shots was scored incorrectly must immediately notify a Range Officer to protest the value of the shot(s).

The value of an individual shot must be protested before the next shot is fired or within three (3) minutes after the last shot, except for failure of the paper band to advance or when the scoring accuracy of the target is protested.

The Range Officer will direct the firing of an additional shot(s), and/or move the competitor to another firing position, and will record all of his findings, decisions and actions on the range log and/or an incident report.

A competitor may not be penalized for firing extra shots, as directed by a Range Officer or other official.

(A competitor may still be penalized for firing extra shots which have not been authorized.)

After firing is complete, the Range Officer and Jury will determine whether the original, protested shot(s) was scored correctly or if the protest shot(s) should be scored and counted.

If a protest concerning a shot value other than zero or failure to register is not upheld, a two-point penalty is applied.

Decisions by the Range Officer and Jury are final and may not be appealed.

## **8.4 Breaking Ties**

Ties must be broken for all places in individual and team events.

Ties will be broken as follows:

### **8.4.1 Individual Events, Three-Positions**

1. During a FINAL, all ties between any of the top eight competitors must be broken by firing additional shots, one at a time, until the tie is broken.
2. All other ties must be broken in favour of the competitor with the highest score in the last 10- shot series fired, then the next to the last 10-shot series, etc.
3. If the tie is not broken, the tie must be broken in favour of the competitor with the greater number of 10s, then 9s, then 8s, etc. in all three positions.
4. If the tie is not broken, the tie must be broken in favour of the competitor with the greater number of inner tens in all three positions.
5. If any ties remain, duplicate awards, or awards of equal value will (normally) be given.

#### **8.4.2 Individual Events, One Position**

1. By scores in the last 10- shot series fired, then the next to the last 10-shot series, etc.
2. By the greater number of 10s, then 9s, then 8s, etc.
3. By the greater number of inner tens.
4. If any ties remain, duplicate awards, or awards of equal value will (normally) be given.

#### **8.4.3 Multiple Course Individual Aggregates**

If there is a Final or last Final, the Final and Final tie-breaking procedures (Rule 8.4.1, #1) will be used.

Where there is no Final, ties will be broken by using the last three-position score, then by using the next to the last three-position score (if applicable), then by applying the tie-breaking rules for individual events listed above.

If any ties remain, duplicate awards, or awards of equal value will (normally) be given.

#### **8.4.4 Team Events**

Ties in team events must be decided by totalling the scores from all members of the tied teams and then applying the tie-breaking rules for individual events listed above.

If any ties remain, duplicate awards, or awards of equal value will (normally) be given.

FINALS are not used to break Team ties.

Note: This means that the first step in breaking team ties in a three-position event is to total the scores fired in the last 10 shots kneeling by all four team members of both teams and to compare those scores.

#### 8.4.4 Unbroken ties

Tied teams and individuals will be listed in alphabetical order and ranked equally on the scoresheet e.g.

North Birmingham	1=
South London	1=
Edinburgh	3=
Glasgow	3=

If any ties remain, duplicate awards, or awards of equal value will (normally) be given.

If prizes are in the form of medals, a duplicate medal (or set of medals) must be provided for (each of) the tied teams.

All individuals or teams involved in a tie will receive medals appropriate for the place tied for.

e.g. in the example above, teams would receive

North Birmingham	1= Gold medals
South London	1= Gold Medals
Edinburgh	3= Bronze medals
Glasgow	3= Bronze medals

(With no silver medals awarded, because there is no second place.)

If the awards for tied places are (wholly or partly) in the form of cash or vouchers, the value of the prizes for the tied places must be added together and the total divided equally between the teams or individuals concerned:

e.g. if, in the example above, prizes were:

1st place £100, 2nd place £50, 3rd place £30, 4th place & below, nothing, teams would receive

North Birmingham	1= Gold medals + £75
South London	1= Gold Medals + £75
Edinburgh	3= Bronze medals + £15
Glasgow	3= Bronze medals + £15

If the awards for tied places are (wholly or partly) in the form of goods, and it is not possible or convenient for the organiser to exchange those goods, or to divide the goods equally between the tied competitors or teams, then lots must be drawn to determine which of the tied competitors or teams receives which prize.

This would apply if, say, first prize was a portable TV and second prize a DVD player.

(If first prize, in a team event, were 4 portable TVs and second prize 4 DVD players, each team would be awarded 2 of each.)

#### 8.5 RESULTS LISTS

Targets must be scored as quickly as possible after they are fired.

After the targets are scored, the results must be posted on the Official Bulletin Board (Rule 5.5.7) so that team coaches and competitors can see them and the scoring protest period can begin (see Rule 9.1 below).

After all scoring protests are decided and all ties are broken, the Statistical Officer must produce an Official Results List or final bulletin.

The Official Results List should list all individual and team competitors in order of their rank or place finish.

Copies of the Results List should be distributed to participating teams and individuals.

## **9. PROTESTS AND APPEALS**

### ***9.1 Scoring Protests***

After scores are posted on the Official Bulletin Board a scoring protest period must be provided.

If electronic targets are used, the scoring protest period ends 20 minutes after scores are posted.

If paper targets are used, scoring protest procedures must give competitors and coaches an opportunity to see their scored targets and to protest any shot values or score totals they believe were scored, recorded or added incorrectly.

Only the competitor in person, his coach or team captain may inspect a competitor's scored targets.

The scoring protest period for paper targets must give competitors sufficient time to see their targets. It may not be less than 20 minutes, but should not be longer than 60 minutes after scored targets are available for inspection.

Where there is more than relay in a competition or meeting, scores may be posted for each relay.

In this case, the scoring protest time for each relay will run from the time scores for that relay are posted.

The expiration time of the scoring protest period must be posted when scores are posted.

During the protest period, competitors only can protest.

Scoring protests must be made within the Protest Period.

At the end of the scoring protest period, scores become final.

#### **9.1.1 Who May Protest Scores**

Competitors must submit scoring protests for their own targets, in person, unless unusual circumstances prevent facilitating score protests by competitors.

Team coaches may advise competitors regarding score protests.

#### **9.1.2 Values of Gauged Shots May Not Be Protested**

Shot value protests may only be made on shots whose values were decided without using a scoring gauge (Rule 8.2.1).

Decisions made regarding the value of shots by using a scoring gauge cannot be protested, unless there is a recording, tabulation or other obvious error.

#### **9.1.3 Protests of Shot Values During Finals**

Protests of the value of a shot in the Final must be made before the next Final shot is fired or immediately after scores are announced.

#### **9.1.4 Protests of Other Team or Individual Scores**

Competitors and Team Officials may not protest the scores or targets of other competitors or teams unless there is a recording, tabulation or other obvious error.

#### **9.1.5 Score Protest Fees**

The Competition Director may establish a scoring protest fee of not more than £2.00.

The protest fee must be returned if the protest is upheld.

## **9.2 Protests of Competition Conditions**

Any competitor or team official has the right to protest a condition of the competition.

Protests can be submitted to any competition official either verbally or in writing.

The competition official who receives the protest can rule on the protest.

If the protest is denied, the competitor or team official may appeal verbally or in writing to the Jury.

If the competition official that ruled on the protest is also on the Jury, the Competition Director must replace him on the Jury during the resolution of the protest.

The decisions of the majority of the Jury are final, unless the Jury or the person filing the protest requests a ruling from the National Jury of Appeal.

### **9.2.1 Protest Fees**

The Competition Director may establish a protest fee of not more than £10.00.

If a protest fee is required, it must be paid when the protest is submitted.

The protest fee must be returned if the protest is upheld or retained by the Competition Sponsor if the protest is denied.

### **9.2.2 Competition Protests**

Any competitor or Team Official can protest irregularities in the conditions or conduct of the competition and Rules violations by other competitors or competition officials.

The protest must be filed within 30 minutes of the occurrence of the protested incident.

Written protests must give the following information:

- Name of person filing the protest.
- Date and time when the protest is filed.
- Description of the incident, condition or decision being protested.
- The specific rule(s) that the protesting person believes was violated by the incident, condition or decision.

The decision on the protest by the Competition Director or Jury must be noted in writing on the protest or an attached document.

The person filing the protest must be informed of the decision.

### **9.2.3 Forwarding Protests to the National Council**

Even if a protest is not appealed, Competition Directors are requested to forward reports or copies of protests to the NSRA National Jury of Appeal (see Rule 1.7). so that any Rules issues involved in the protest may be considered in future editions of the Rules.

## **9.3 Appeals of Protest Decisions**

If a Competition Jury (Rule 6.3) cannot resolve a protest, dispute or question, the matter may be appealed to the NSRA National Jury of Appeal (see Rule 1.7).

The protest or question may be submitted to the National Jury of Appeal via telephone, fax, or email, within 72 hours after the end of the competition.

Any decision by the National Jury of Appeal on a protest appealed to it from a competition is final.



## **10. FINALS**

A Final is part of all major competition shooting events, including the Olympics, World Championships, World Cups and National Championships.

A Final is not required in individual Three-Position Air Rifle events, but is highly recommended.

When the Final is part of the Competition Program, Final scores are added to the three-position score to determine individual place winners.

The Final consists of 10 shots from the standing position, fired one shot at a time, with separate commands for each shot.

### **10.1 Final Round Procedures**

The top eight (8) competitors in the individual 3x10, 3x20 or standing position course of fire (the qualification round) advance to the final round.

Where the qualification round is shot on paper targets, finals may be conducted by using electronic targets or paper targets.

Where the qualification round is shot on electronic targets, finals are also shot on electronic targets.

#### **10.1.1 Determining Final Round Start Positions**

The top eight competitors must be ranked according to their scores.

All ties involving the top eight competitors must be broken according to the highest scores on the last ten shot series in the qualification round, then the next to the last ten shot series, etc. (See Rule 8.4.1).

This rule must also be used to break any ties involving the eighth or last position in the final.

#### **10.1.2 Scoring Finals Targets**

Finals scoring may be done with electronic targets, target reading machines or manual devices that classify each ring into 10ths (such as 1.1, 1.2, up to 10.9).

(Exceptionally) If such systems are not available, finals targets may be scored in whole numbers by conventional means.

If possible, targets should be scored immediately after each shot and the score of each competitor announced before starting the next shot.

If the target system precludes immediate scoring, the Range Officer or scorers may announce estimated scores (by looking at the shots through a spotting telescope) and the targets can be scored officially after the final is over.

To add spectator interest, there should be a large scoreboard showing the finalists' names, their qualification round scores, the scores of each final shot and cumulative totals.

Finals scores are added to the qualification round score to produce a total score and determine the place finish of all competitors in the final.

### **10.1.3 Conducting Finals with Electronic Targets**

If finals are conducted by using electronic targets, the procedures described in Rules 10.2-10.4 must be followed and all final round shots must be scored in tenth ring (i.e. 10.3, 9.7, 10.8, etc.) values.

### **10.1.4 Conducting Finals with Paper Targets and Target Carriers**

If finals are conducted by using single-bull paper targets with target carriers, the procedures described in Rules 10.2-10.4 must be followed.

All final round shots must be scored in tenth ring (i.e. 10.3, 9.7, 10.8, etc.) values, if suitable scoring gauges are available. Otherwise, they may be scored in whole ring (i.e. 10, 9, 8, etc.) values.

### **10.1.5 Conducting Finals with Fixed Paper Targets**

If finals are conducted on fixed paper targets and target carriers are not available, the procedures described in Rules 10.2-10.4 must be changed to accommodate the alternative scoring procedure.

All final round shots must be scored in tenth ring (i.e. 10.3, 9.7, 10.8, etc.) values if suitable scoring gauges are available. Otherwise, they may be scored in whole ring (i.e. 10, 9, 8, etc.) values.

If it is safe and convenient to do so, the targets may be scored, after each record shot, at the butts.

(If this is done, finalists may not handle their rifles, whilst the scorers are down range.)

Otherwise, a spotter, with a spotting telescope, must be located behind each of the eight finalists.

After each final round shot, the spotter must estimate as closely as possible the value of that shot and display this shot value for the Range Officer and spectators.

### **10.1.6 Special Finals for All Competitors**

In competitions that have multiple relays or that take place over two or more days, where it is not possible to have the top eight competitors remain for an eight-person final at the end of the competition, the Competition Program may provide that all competitors will complete a ten-shot final round as part of the individual event.

If this is done, a final should be conducted at the end of each relay.

The same finals procedures that are given in this Rule must be used, except that it may not be practical to announce individual scores after each shot if there are more than eight or ten competitors.

(An excellent way to announce scores if a large number of competitors are in a final is to announce only the firing points where a ten has been fired on that shot).

If this special finals procedure is used, the final round scores will be added only to the scores of the shooters who had the eight highest 3x10 or 3x20 scores to determine the final ranking of those eight competitors.

The final round scores of the other competitors may be published in the results bulletin for information purposes.

## **10.2 Preparing for the Final**

The start time of the final is the time when the commands for the first shot for record begin.

The start time of the final must be announced in advance.

Finalists must report to the Range Officer, with all their equipment and ready to shoot, at least 20 minutes before the start of the Final, to have time to prepare and to complete their preparation and sighting periods.

### **10.2.1 Assigning Firing Points**

Finalists fire together on eight adjacent firing points.

Finalists are assigned firing points with the highest-ranked competitor on the first point (left), the next ranked competitor on the 2nd point, etc.

### **10.2.2 Targets**

If single bull targets are used, competitors must be given two (2) sighting targets and ten (10) record targets.

If fixed targets are used, and scoring is done on-range, two sighter bulls may be fixed down range, with the 10 targets for record shots hung, for each shot, by the scorers.

Otherwise, the two sighter bulls and targets with 10-bulls for record shots must all be hung or placed down range before the preparation period begins.

### **10.2.3 Introduction of Competitors**

Before the preparation period begins, finalists should be introduced to other competitors and spectators in the order of their current ranking, starting with the competitor in 8th place.

Introductions should include the competitor's current ranking, score, name, and club, school or other affiliation.

### **10.3 Conducting the Final**

The final must begin at, or as soon as possible after, its scheduled or announced time, but not before the scoring protest time has ended (Rule 9.1).

Competitors must have sufficient time before the final begins to place their rifle and equipment on their firing points and to begin their preparations for the Final.

#### **10.3.1 Three Minute Preparation Period**

Finalists are given a three (3) minute preparation that is initiated with the command

**THE THREE MINUTE PREPARATION PERIOD BEGINS NOW.**

Competitors may handle their rifles, dry fire, and carry out holding and aiming exercises on the firing line during the preparation period.

The discharge of gas or air is not permitted and violations receive a warning for the first occurrence and a penalty of two (2) points if repeated (see Rule 7.10).

#### **10.3.2 Seven Minute Sighting Period**

Immediately after the preparation period, competitors are given a seven (7) minute sighting period that is initiated with the command,

**SEVEN-MINUTE SIGHTING PERIOD, START.**

Competitors may shoot unlimited sighters during the sighting time.

The Range Officer must give competitors a verbal warning when thirty seconds remain in the sighting period with the command

**THIRTY SECONDS.**

The sighting period ends with the command

**STOP.**

Competitors must stop firing.

If a rifle is still loaded, the competitor must notify the Range Officer who will direct the competitor to clear his rifle into a special shot container or the backstop (Rule 2.5).

#### **10.3.3 Changing from Sighting to Record Shots**

After the command **STOP** ends the sighting period, the competitors or Competition Officials must change from sighting targets to the first record target. The Range Officer may give the order:

**PUT UP YOUR FIRST COMPETITION TARGET**

The Range Officer must allow enough time for competitors to put up targets, and not less than 30 seconds between the command **STOP** and starting the procedure for the first competition shot.

### 10.3.4 Loading the Shot

When the record targets are in place, the Range Officer gives the command

**FOR THE FIRST(NEXT) COMPETITION SHOT - LOAD.**

Competitors may not place a pellet in the barrel before the command **LOAD.**

The first violation results in a warning. The second violation results in a two (2) point deduction.

(Note: There is no set time allowed for loading. As a guide, 10 to 12 seconds is usually about right for air rifles. 20 to 30 seconds is a long time.)

### 10.3.5 Firing the Shot

When all competitors have loaded their rifles, the Range Officer begins the count down for the shot, without further delay, with the command.

**ATTENTION-3-2-1-START.**

Competitors have 75 seconds to shoot one record shot.

At the end of 75 seconds, or after the last competitor has fired, whichever comes first, the shot time is ended with the command **STOP.**

(Note: Unless the 75 second period has ended, the Range Officer should wait 3 or 4 seconds after the last shot is fired, before giving the command **STOP.** This is to avoid pressurizing slower shooters, who are regularly the last to fire.)

### 10.3.6 Aiming Exercises Between Shots

Aiming exercises are allowed only between the commands **STOP** and the following command **LOAD.**

Dry firing in any form is prohibited. Competitors may not load their rifles until the command **LOAD** is given for the next shot.

If the targets are scored, after each record shot, at the butts, finalists must not handle their rifles, whilst the scorers are down range

In this case, the Range Officer must give the command **PUT DOWN YOUR RIFLES,** before allowing the scorers go down range.

When scoring is finished, and the range is clear, the Range Officer must give the command **YOU MAY PICK UP YOUR RIFLES** and allow at least 10 seconds before proceeding with the next shot.)

### 10.3.7 Retrieving Targets

If a target carrier system is used, the targets may only be retrieved after the commands **STOP** and **CHANGE TARGETS** have been given, to avoid disturbing other competitors.

After the command **CHANGE TARGETS,** the fired target is retrieved and given to the Range Officer or scorers and the next record target is sent down range.

If fixed targets are used, they can be left down range where Competition Officials may score them after each shot or until they are scored at the end of the Final.

### 10.3.8 Remaining Shots in Final

Repeat the Commands for Finals Competition Shots until all ten (10) shots are completed.

### **10.3.9 Ending the Final**

All competitors must remain on the firing line after the last shots have been scored and are announced.

If fixed paper targets and spotters are used, the Range Officer must clear and ground/bench all air rifles to retrieve the targets for scoring.

The targets must then be scored officially to determine whether there are any ties.

All competitors may leave the line when the Range Officer announces that there are no ties.

If there are tied scores, competitors who are tied must remain at their firing points.

All other competitors must immediately step back from the firing line, leaving their rifles and equipment on the firing line.

### **10.3.10 Breaking Ties after 10 Shots**

Any tied scores after the ten (10) shot final score is added to the qualification round total must be broken by a shot-for-shot shoot-off.

Final tie breaking must begin without delay and without additional sighting shots, except that a two-minute sighting period must be given after official scoring of fixed paper targets, when competitors must get out of position and ground their rifles for target retrieval.

The Range Officer must give a "30 second" warning before the end of this sighting period.

The Range Officer uses the same commands as are used for Finals competition shots, but for the tied competitors only.

If the competitors shoot the same score on the 1st tie-breaking shot, the shoot-off continues until the tie is broken.

If there is more than one tie, a separate shoot-off must be conducted for each tie, with the tie(s) for the lowest place(s) being conducted first.

### **10.3.11 Final Rankings**

All finalists are ranked after the final by adding the score of the ten (10) shot final to their qualification round scores.

This total score determines the competitors' final ranking and must be listed in the **results?**

## **10.4 Special Finals Procedures**

### **10.4.1 Competitor's Time Cut Short**

If the command **STOP** is given before the 75 seconds expires, and a competitor has not fired his shot, the competitor must be given a new 75-second period to shoot the shot, starting with the command:

The following commands are for the shooter in position X only.

The command to load has already been given.

#### **ATTENTION-3-2-1-START.**

The other Finalists must wait until this shot is completed before continuing the Final.

### **10.4.2 Malfunctions in Finals**

#### **Rifle Malfunction**

In case of an allowable malfunction (Rule 7.15), the competitor may complete the unfired shot, if he can repair or replace his rifle within three (3) minutes.

As soon as the malfunction is repaired, the Range Officer must give a new set of commands with a full 75-second time limit for that competitor only.

The other finalists must wait until the competitor with the malfunction shoots (in the allowed time) before continuing the final.

Only two malfunctions may be allowed for one competitor during a final and any tie-breaking shoot-off.

#### **Single Target Malfunction**

If an electronic target fails to function, the competitor must be moved to a new target.

He will be allowed an additional two (2) minute period for sighting shots before he completes the missing shot.

The other Finalists must wait until this shot is completed before continuing the Final.

#### **Malfunction of All Targets**

If all electronic targets malfunction during the final and can be repaired within one (1) hour, the remaining final round shots will be completed after an additional five (5) minute sighting time.

If the targets cannot be repaired within one (1) hour, the completed final round shots will be totalled and used as the official score.

### **10.4.3 Early and Late Shots**

Each shot fired before the command **START** and after the command **STOP** must be scored as misses.

#### **10.4.4 Protests**

A finalist who wishes to protest the value of a final round shot must do so immediately after the value of the shot is announced or officially scored (paper targets) and before the commands for the next final shot commence.

The competitor may protest by raising his hand and announcing "Protest."

The scorers or Jury must check the shot immediately.

If the value changes, the finalist receives the new value.

If the competition has a scoring protest fee, the fee must be paid after the final, if the shot value remains the same.

Protests of shooting conditions in the final must be made immediately and before the final results are announced.



## 11. NATIONAL RECORDS

The National Smallbore Rifle Association will recognize:

National and National Age-Group Records for Three-Position Air Rifle events, for teams and individuals, in both Precision and Sporter classes.

National and National Age-Group Records for Standing Air Rifle events, for teams and individuals, in the Sporter classes, Precision records already being recorded by the NSRA.

National and National Age-Group Records shall be recognised for the following events:

Sporter Air Rifle, 40 shots standing, individual & teams of 3;

Sporter Air Rifle, 20 shots standing, teams of 3;

Sporter Air Rifle, 3 Position, 3 x 20 shots, individual and teams of 3;

Sporter Air Rifle, 3 Position, 3 x 10 shots, teams of 3;

Precision Air Rifle, 3 Position, 3 x 20 shots, individual and teams of 3;

Precision Air Rifle, 3 Position, 3 x 10 shots, teams of 3;

National and National Age-Group Records may only be established in NSRA organized or authorized, shoulder-to-shoulder competitions. (This may include scores achieved in the shoulder-to-shoulder (final) stage(s) of competitions with postal qualifying stages)

Scores made in qualifying competitions after 1<sup>st</sup> January 2006 may be recognized as National and National Age-Group Records.

The first National and National Age-Group Records, for each category of competition, to be recognized will be the highest scores made at by end of the first full year of competition; or the highest scores made after six (6) qualifying competitions have been held in that event, if that is later.

Where less than six qualifying competitions are held, for any event, during the first two (2) years when that event is available for competition then, provided not less than two qualifying competitions have been held in that event, the NSRA Pistol, Airgun & Crossbow Committee may recommend that the highest scores made to date be recognised as National and/or National Age-Group Records.

After the first National Record List is published, as above, any score equal to, or exceeding the current National Record Score shall be recognized as a National Record Score.

If two or more shooters or teams exceed the current National Record Score in the same event, and on the same relay, only the highest score(s) in that event shall count as a National Record Score.

If two or more individual shooters exceed the current National Record Score in different relays, of the qualification stages, of the same event; or if two or more shooters or teams exceed the current National Record Score in different events held on the same day, the times of shooting, and the order in which the scores were recorded, shall be taken into account and shall determine whether more than one National Record Score may be recognized.

If the order of shooting of potential National Record Scores, shot in the same event, or on the same day, cannot be established, only the highest score made in that event, or on that day, may be recognized as a National Record Score.

Claims for recognition of a National Record Score (or provisional National Record Score) ~~may~~ must be submitted to NSRA by the competitor, a team coach or the competition organizer, within 28 days of shooting. The shot targets or, if electronic targets were used, the original print-out(s) of the score(s) must accompany the claim.

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## **13. APPENDICES**

### **13.1 Application for Authorization of a Three-Position Air Rifle Competition**

**“Awaited”**