

# NRA®

## BB GUN RULES



**Official Rules and Regulations  
to govern the conduct of all  
BB Gun Competitions**

**NATIONAL RIFLE ASSOCIATION  
OF AMERICA**

**11250 Waples Mill Road  
Fairfax, Virginia 22030**

**<http://competitions.nra.org/>**

**REVISED JANUARY 2023**

NOT OFFICIAL  
WITHOUT THIS SEAL



**OFFICIAL  
COMPETITION**

## **SAFETY IS SHOOTING'S MOST IMPORTANT RULE**

A BB gun or air gun is not a toy and must always be treated with the same respect and caution you would in handling any gun.

The fundamental NRA rules for safe gun handling are:

- Always keep the gun pointed in a safe direction.
- Always keep your finger off the trigger until ready to shoot.
- Always keep the gun unloaded until ready to use.

When using or storing a gun, always follow these NRA rules:

- Be sure the gun is safe to operate.
- Know how to safely use the gun.
- Use only the correct ammunition for your gun.
- Know your target and what is beyond.
- Wear eye and ear protection as appropriate.
- Never use alcohol or drugs before or while shooting.
- Store guns so they are not accessible to unauthorized persons.

Be aware that certain types of guns and many shooting activities require additional safety precautions.

To learn more about gun safety, enroll in an NRA safety training or basic marksmanship course, NRA hunter clinic or state hunter education class.

Safety practices in addition to rules:

1. Dry firing should be permitted on the firing line or in designated areas ONLY.
2. Protection of your sight and hearing is YOUR responsibility. Everyone on the firing line should wear adequate eye and ear protection.

### **Competitors Read:**

Cocking of BB Guns .....	10.1.1
Cease Firing .....	10.1.4 and 18.10

### **Range Operators Read:**

Sec. 9. . . . .	Competition Regulations and Range Operations
Sec.10 .....	.Range Control and Commands
Sec.11 .....	Tournament Officials

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## APPROVED AND REGISTERED TOURNAMENTS

Application forms for both types of Sanctioned Tournaments may be obtained from the NRA. Official application for approval to conduct an NRA Approved or Registered Tournament must be made to the Competitive Shooting Division. The deadline, in advance of firing date, for the receipt of the completed application forms and programs, is 30 days for Approved and 45 days for Registered Tournaments. In order to obtain publicity in Coming Events columns of Shooting Sports USA, (bi-monthly) dates must be received and authorized by NRA by at least the first of the month two (2) months before the month of issue.

A Registered Tournament is the more formal of the 2 types. Differences between the 2 types of competitive tournaments are:

	Approved	Registered	Rule
Scores used for classification	Yes	Yes	19.4
Scores used for National Records	No	Yes	17.5
NRA registration fee per competitor (remitted after the tournament is fired). This is explained in sponsor's packet	Yes	Yes	Gen'1 Reg. A7, B7
Competitors must be NRA members.	No	No	1.6(d)
Minimum number of shots required	No	Yes	Gen'1 Reg. A6, B6
NRA classification or category system must be used	Optional	Yes	Gen'1 Reg. A5, B5

**NRA ID Number** is required for classification purposes in all NRA Sanctioned Tournaments. Should a competitor not be an NRA member, he will be assigned a special number which allows his scores to be entered into the computer.

Fixed award schedule	No	Yes	Gen'1 Reg. A6, B6
Tournament Officials competing	No	No	Gen'1 Reg. A8, B8
Official Referee may be assigned by NRA	No	Yes, with exceptions	Gen'1 Reg B9
Sponsor required to furnish each competitor with Official Bulletin	No	Yes	Gen'1 Reg. B12
Program prepared and distributed by Sponsor	Yes	Yes	Gen'1 Reg. A1, B1

# NATIONAL RIFLE ASSOCIATION

## Official Rules for BB Gun Matches

These rules establish uniform standards for NRA sanctioned BB Gun competition. Where alternatives are shown, the least restrictive conditions apply unless the tournament program sets forth limitations. The rules do not apply to International Shooting Sports Federation type competition. These rules supersede all earlier editions and remain in effect until specifically superseded. Tournament sponsors may not alter these rules. If sponsors require additional rules for special conditions, the additions must be fully set forth in the program for the competition concerned. The arrangement and rule numbering systems are such that corresponding rules for other types of NRA competition are correspondingly located and numbered in the Rule Books for those competitions. Gaps in the sequence of rule numbers result from there being a rule in one or more of the other Rule Books that does not apply in this book.

Recommendations for rule changes may be forwarded to the Air Gun Committee in care of the National Rifle Association.

*NOTE: Rules in which major changes have been made since publication of the previous Rule Book are marked thus: • (1.1).*

### 1. NRA COMPETITIONS

**1.0 NRA Competition** - An NRA Competition is a competition which is authorized in advance of firing by the National Rifle Association. The program, range facilities, and officials must comply with standards established by the NRA. The types of tournaments which are Sanctioned are listed in Rule 1.6.

**1.1 Sanctioned Tournaments** - A Sanctioned Tournament is a series of matches covered by an Official Program. Such matches may be all individual matches, all team matches, or a combination of both. They may be all fired matches or a combination of fired and aggregate matches. A tournament may be conducted on one day, or successive days, or may provide for intervening days between portions of the tournament, such as tournaments programmed to be conducted over more than one weekend.

**1.2 Authorization** - Before being publicized in programs or otherwise, the sponsoring organization of each type of competition mentioned in Rule 1.6 shall have agreed to comply with the current regulations for such competition and shall have received notice from the NRA that the competition applied for has been authorized.

**1.3 Rules** - The local sponsor of each competition must agree to conduct the authorized competition according to NRA rules, except as these rules have been modified by the NRA in the General Regulations for that type of competition.

**1.4 General Regulations** - The local sponsor of each competition must agree to comply with the General Regulations published by the NRA for the competition concerned. The General Regulations may be found in the back of this Rule Book. (See Appendix in back of this Rule Book.)

**1.5 Refusal or Withdrawal of NRA Authorization** - The NRA may refuse to authorize or may withdraw its authorization for any competition which cannot, or does not, comply with the requirements for that competition.

**1.6 Types of Tournaments** - The types of tournaments listed below are those which are Sanctioned by NRA in its competitive shooting program.

- (a) National Championships - Organized by the NRA to form the National Matches. The officials thereof are appointed by the NRA. These tournaments will be Registered.

- (b) Sectional Championships - Arranged between the NRA and a local sponsoring organization. These tournaments will be Registered.
- (c) State Championships - Annual tournaments authorized and/or conducted by State Rifle and/or Pistol Associations, affiliated with the NRA. Such State Associations may, if desired, authorize local organizations to sponsor and conduct State Championships. In states where there is no NRA affiliated State Association the NRA may authorize a local organization to sponsor and conduct the State Championship. State Championships will be Registered Tournaments.
- (d) Registered Tournaments - May be authorized by the NRA after application has been filed by the organization which will act as the sponsor. Application forms are available from NRA on request. National Records may only be established in Registered Tournaments (Rule 17.1).
- (e) Approved Tournaments - May be authorized by the NRA after application has been filed by the local sponsor. Application forms are available from NRA on request. Match Sponsors may require all competitors to be NRA members if specified in the program.
- (f) Sanctioned Leagues - (shoulder-to-shoulder or postal) - May be authorized by the NRA after application has been filed by a local organization. Application forms are available from NRA on request. Sanctioned league scores are used for classification. A league need not be operated by an affiliated club or organization.
- (g) Postal Matches - Organized by the NRA and publicized to groups concerned through the Shooting Sports USA, announcements and/or special mailings.
- (h) Special Tournaments - May be sanctioned by NRA for types of shooting not otherwise a part of the NRA program.

### **1.7 Types of Matches**

- (a) Match - A complete event as indicated in the program for the awarding of certain specific prizes. A match may consist of one or several stages. It may, in some cases of aggregate matches, include scores in several subsidiary matches.
- (b) Stage - A portion of a match which consists of one or more strings fired in one position, distance, time allowance, or target.
- (c) Open Match - A match open to anyone, except that if so stated in the program an open match may be limited to one or any combination of the following.
  - (1) United States citizen;
  - (2) Members of the National Rifle Association of America
- (d) Restricted Match - A match in which competition is limited to specified groups, i.e. juniors, women, police, civilians, veterans, etc.; or to specified classes, i.e., Masters, Experts, Sharpshooter, Marksmen, etc.

- (e) **Classified Match** - A match in which awards are given to winners and to the highest competitors in several specified classes such as Masters, Experts, Sharpshooters, Marksmen. The classification of competitors may be accomplished by the National Classification System (Sec. 19) or by other means. The program for classified matches must specify the groups or classes in which the awards will be made.
- (f) **Invitational Match** - A match in which participation is limited to those who have been invited to compete.
- (g) **Squadded Individual Match** - A match in which each competitor is assigned a definite relay and target by the Statistical Office. Failure to report on the proper relay or firing point forfeits the right to fire. All entries must be made before firing commences in that match, except when otherwise stated in the tournament program.
- (h) **Unsquadded Individual Match** - A match in which the competitor is not assigned a definite relay or target by the Statistical Office. The competitor reports to the Range Officer within the time limits specified in the program and is then assigned to a target and a relay in which to fire.
- (i) **Re-Entry Match** - A match in which the competitor is permitted to fire more than one score for record; one or more of the highest scores being considered to decide the relative rank of competitors must be specified in the program. Scores fired in these matches shall not be used for classification purposes.
- (j) **Squadded Team Match** - A match in which the teams are assigned a definite time to fire. Teams may be assigned one or more adjacent targets. All entries must be made before firing commences in that match. The entire team must report and fire as a unit.
- (k) **Unsquadded Team Match** - A match in which the teams may report to the firing line at any time within the limits specified in the program, targets being assigned by the Range Officer. The entire team must report and fire as a unit, unless the program provides otherwise.
- (l) **Aggregate Match** - An aggregate of the scores from two or more matches. This may be an aggregate of match stages, individual matches, team matches, or any combination, provided the tournament program clearly states the matches which will comprise the aggregate. Entries in aggregate matches must be made before the competitor commences firing in any of the matches making up the aggregate match.
- (m) **Postal Match** - Postal Match or home range match is a competition in which competitors fire separately on their home ranges and exchange scores or submit their scores and/or targets to NRA Headquarters where scores are evaluated and ranked. The firing of Postal Match scores must be witnessed.

## **PUBLIC AFFAIRS**

All tournament sponsors are urged to give special consideration to the needs of news media personnel in order to achieve maximum publicity for the competition. Public news media personnel representing print and/or broadcast should be given every consideration and cooperation in keeping with the proper conduct of the competition.

## 2. ELIGIBILITY OF COMPETITORS

Eligibility of Competitors - The conditions of a match shall prescribe the eligibility of competitors, team or individuals, in accordance with Rules 1.6 and/or definitions contained in Section 2. Any limitations of eligibility to compete must be stated in the match program.

### INDIVIDUALS

**2.3 BB Gun Competitor** - Competitors may compete until their 16th Birthday. The eligibility of competitors is determined by the date of the first shot going down range.

### TEAMS

**2.10 Team Representation** - No individual may be a coach or firing member, or alternate firing member on more than one team in anyone match.

*Note: Entries will not be accepted from "Pickup" teams (teams whose members are selected without regard to club or other organization affiliation) unless the program specifically permits such teams. Pickup teams are not eligible for National Records.*

**2.11 Club Teams** - All team members, including team captain and coach, must have been active fully-paid members of the club which the team represents for a period of at least 30 days immediately prior to the competition. As specifically allowed by conditions of the program, a person who is not a club member may serve as a non firing coach of such a team. There are two types of teams allowed:

- (a) Local Club Teams - Local club teams must be composed of members who reside legally within the same state, territory or province or residents of other states who live within 50 miles of the local club.
- (b) Open Club Teams - Open Club Teams must be composed of club members all of whom are not necessarily legal residents in the same state, territory or province. More than one team from each club is acceptable.

*Note: The Internet website "Mapquest" will be used to determine the distance between the local club's NRA address of record and the competitor's NRA address of record.*

**2.11.1 Affiliated Other Organizations (Article 3 Sec. 4(b)) NRA Bylaws** - All members of such teams must have been fully paid members of the organization the team represents, for a period of at least 30 days immediately prior to the competition.

**2.20 Residence** - In those matches that are limited to residents of any specified geographical area, a resident is defined as a person who presents photo identification, issued by a government entity, which shows a residential address within a specified geographical area.



### 3. EQUIPMENT AND AMMUNITION

**3.1 BB Gun** - Any shoulder held smoothbore BB gun with metallic sights, in which the propelling force is developed through the use of a compressed spring, gas or compressed air. No alterations of factory manufactured BB guns may be made except as provided in these rules.

**3.2 Internal Modifications** - Only factory manufactured parts designed for the specific model gun being fired may be used. Parts in the gun may not be removed and all parts must be in their correct position and functioning in their designed manner. Electronic triggers are not allowed. Internal parts may be honed or polished to improve their intended function, but such improvements may not alter their intended function. Guns must operate safely.

**3.22 Audible Timing Devices** - Audible timing devices are not allowed.

**3.3 External Modifications** - A single layer of tape or non-glare paint may be placed on the barrel for the purpose of reducing glare. No other external modifications are permitted except as provided in these rules.

**3.4 Stocks** - Factory installed stocks may be altered in length. When shortening or lengthening a stock, the butt must be identical to the original equipment. The butt of the stock may be roughed, checkered, or scored to provide a non-slip surface. No further modification to the stock is allowed. Material such as sandpaper, emery paper, adhesives, rubber or rosin may not be added to any portion of the stock or forearm. Stocks may be repainted or left unfinished. Hook butt plates or thumbhole stocks are not permitted.

**3.7 Sights** - Sight modifications may be made only as follows:

- (a) Metallic receiver sights, from any manufacturer may be substituted for factory sights and mounted on the receiver of the gun.
- (b) Adjustable rear-apertures and eye cups are not permitted. A blinder for the non-shooting eye may be attached to the rear sight.
- (c) A hooded front sight with interchangeable inserts may be used, however, no portion of the front sight may extend past the end of the barrel.

**3.10 Ground Cloths** - Ground cloths or mats with maximum dimensions of 1.25 x 2 meters (49.2 x 78.7 inches) in size and a maximum total thickness of 5 cm (1.9 inches) may be used provided it is not constructed or used in a manner to provide artificial rest or support. Ground cloths shall not be used in standing.

**3.11 Clothing Regulations** - All clothing must be made of loose fitting, non-binding material. All linings, padding and reinforcements must be the same specifications. Lining and padding must not be quilted, cross-stitched, glued, or otherwise affixed to the outer layer other than at normal tailoring points. The use of any special devices, means or garments which support or immobilize the shooter's legs, body, or arms is prohibited. A button or safety pin may be used on the sleeve to

aid in holding the sling in place. The button or safety pin should be used on the upper arm part of the shirt.

### **3.11.2 Clothing - Specifications**

- (a) Shooting jackets - No jackets are permitted.
- (b) Shooting trousers - Trousers designed for shooting are not permitted. Only loose fitting trousers, loose fitting sweat pants, or loose fitting jeans are permitted.
- (c) Gloves - Gloves may not be worn.
- (d) Sweatshirt - A maximum of two unaltered sweatshirts may be worn during firing. Special shooting sweaters are not permitted. One loose-fitting t-shirt is allowed. Compression garments are not allowed.
- (e) Shoes - Normal street type or light athletic shoes are permitted so long as they do not exceed the top of the ankle. Shooting boots/shoes are not permitted. Shoes must be a matched pair.
- (f) Pads - No pads, braces, or elastic bandages will be allowed.
- (g) Eye Patches - Eye patches are allowed.

**3.12 Weight Limit** - Weights may be added internally to either the fore-end or to the butt of the stock. No weights may be added to the shot tube or barrel. The total weight of an unloaded BB gun may not exceed 6 lbs., excluding the sling.

**3.13 Slings** - Slings not exceeding 1 1/4 inches in width, with movable keepers are permitted in the prone, sitting, and kneeling positions. Sling cuffs and pads are prohibited. Sling keepers or fasteners used as sling keepers that can be tightened by mechanical means are permitted. Slings are to be attached to the BB gun at a fixed attachment point on the forearm. The forearm may have up to four holes that will accept a screw for the sling attachment. No other type of adjustable sling attachment is permitted.

**3.14.1 Kneeling Roll** - Only one cylindrical roll for shooting in the kneeling position is allowed. It may be a maximum of 25cm (9.84 inches) long and 18cm (7.08 inches) in diameter, and made of soft and flexible material. Binding or using other devices that change the shape of the roll from a cylinder is not permitted. The use of the kneeling roll is optional and not required.

**3.17 BBs** - Only round .177 (4.5mm) lead or steel BBs are permitted.

**3.18 General** - All devices or equipment which may facilitate shooting and which are not mentioned in these rules, or which are contrary to the spirit of these rules are prohibited. The Match Director, Official Referee, Jury Chairman has the right to examine a competitor's equipment and apparel. It is the competitor's responsibility to submit questionable equipment and apparel for official inspection and approval prior to the beginning of the match.

**3.19 Eye Protection** - All competitors and other personnel in the immediate vicinity of the range complex are urged to wear eye protection devices.

**3.19.1 Eye Glasses** - Specially made shooting glasses with adjustable lens for target shooting are prohibited.

**3.22 Audible Timing Devices-** Audible timing devices are not allowed.

## 4. TARGETS

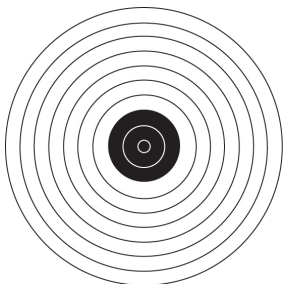
**4.1 Official Targets -** In Registered and Approved matches only targets bearing the words, “Official National Rifle Association” and the eagle and shield insignia of the Association will be used. All NRA Official Competition Targets are printed by NRA licensed Manufacturers only. They may not be modified by the user or the Manufacturer, except with specific written permission from NRA Competitive Shooting Division. NRA Target masters are made using Computer Assisted Design and must be used in production of all NRA Targets.

### 4.2 Targets

- (a) Official NRA Targets AR-4/1 (single bullseye), AR-4/5 (5 bullseye), AR-4/10 (12 bullseye). Eight, nine, and ten rings are black.
- (b) The TQ40 Experimental Target is encouraged for initial BB Gun training and skill development.

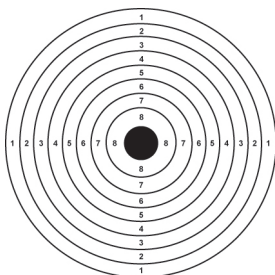
### TARGET DIMENSIONS

- (a) Target - Eight, nine, and ten rings are black. Target Nos. will be: single bullseye AR-4/1; 5 bullseye AR-4/5; and 10 bullseye AR-4/10.



- (b) TQ 40 Experimental Target (not actual size) is recommended for beginning competitors and initial skill development.

10 ring . . . . .	.0.125 inches	4 ring . . . . .	.1.925 inches
9 ring . . . . .	.0.425 inches	3 ring . . . . .	.2.225 inches
8 ring . . . . .	.0.725 inches	2 ring . . . . .	.2.525 inches
7 ring . . . . .	.1.025 inches	1 ring . . . . .	.2.825 inches
6 ring . . . . .	.1.325 inches		
Ring Thickness .	.0.0006 inches		
5 ring . . . . .	.1.625 inches		



## 5. POSITIONS

**Positions** - The positions used in the match shall be stated in the program under conditions of the match and must be in accord with the definitions of positions prescribed in this section.

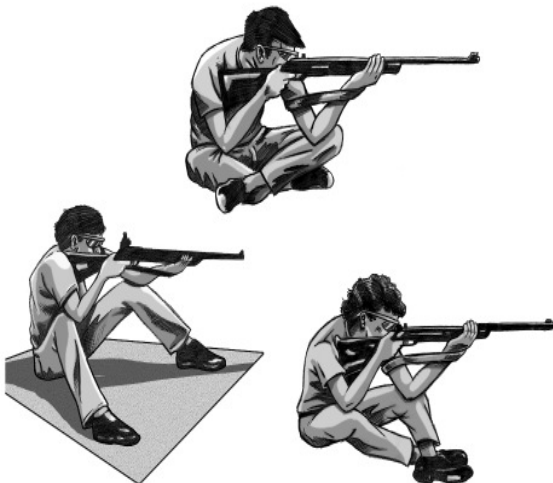
**5.1 Ground** - All reference to 'the ground' in the following position rules are to be construed as the surface of the firing point, floor, or shooting mats. No portion of the competitor's body may contact the ground ahead of the firing line (see also Rule 6.1), although those portions of the competitor's body or rifle which do not contact the ground may extend ahead of the firing line.

**5.2 Artificial Support** - The use of any supporting surface except the ground and not specifically authorized in these rules is prohibited. The digging or use of holes for the elbows, arms, legs, or heels is prohibited. The use of artificial support is prohibited except as authorized for a physically disabled competitor (see Rule 13.1).

**5.6 Prone** - Competitors may lie on the bare surface of the firing point or they may use a mat. The body will be extended on the firing point with the head toward the target. The BB gun will be supported by both hands and one shoulder only. The cheek may be placed against the rifle stock in the sighting position. The BB gun may be held by means of a sling. The BB gun may not touch or rest against any other point or object. Competitors' forearms must be clearly and visibly raised from the surface of the firing point. Competitors' forward forearm may not form an angle less than 30 degrees from the horizontal (floor or mat), on which the elbows rest (measured through the axis of the forearm). (Left handed competitors reverse these descriptions.)



**5.8 Sitting** - Weight of the body supported on the buttocks and the feet or ankles, no other portion of the body touching the ground. The BB gun will be supported by both hands and one shoulder only. Elbows may rest on the legs at any point above the ankles. (The elbow is defined as 4 inches from the point of the arm when bent.) No portion of a competitor's foot may cross the firing line.



**5.10 Kneeling** - The competitor shall touch the ground with the right foot, the right knee and the left foot. The BB gun shall be held in the same way as when shooting in the prone position, i.e., with both hands and the right shoulder. The left elbow shall be supported on the left knee. The point of the elbow may not be more than 10 cms (3.9 inches) from the point of the knee. The BB gun may be held by means of the sling. 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 positioned at any angle, to include placing the side of the foot and the lower leg in contact with the ground. No portion of the upper leg or buttocks may touch the ground at any point. Competitors may kneel completely on the ground cloth (Rule 3.10) or they may only have one or two of the three points of contact (toe, knee, foot) on the ground cloth. (Left handed competitors reverse these descriptions.) No portion of a competitor's foot may cross the firing line



**5.12 Standing** - The competitor shall stand free with both feet completely on the ground. The BB gun shall be held with both hands and the shoulder, or the upper half of the upper arm closest to the shoulder, the cheek and the part of the chest next to the shoulder. The upper left arm and elbow may be supported on the chest or on the hip. The sling cannot be used. (Left handed competitors reverse these descriptions.)



## 6. RANGE STANDARDS

**6.1 Firing Line** - The firing line is immediately in front of the firing point, and must be marked so that it can be clearly seen by coaches and competitors. The shooting distance is measured from the firing line edge closest to the competitor to face of the targets.

**6.2 Firing Points** - That part of the range provided for the competitor immediately to the rear of the firing line. Each firing point should have a minimum width of four feet.

**6.2.1 Target Height** - For all positions, no portion of the target shall extend above 5 feet or below 6 inches from the ground.

**6.3 Shelter** - The firing point of outdoor ranges may be covered and enclosed in three sides, open toward the targets. There must be ample room for Range Officers and witnesses to move freely at the rear of the competitors.

**6.4 Shooting Distance** - 5 meters (16 feet 4 3/4 inches)

**6.5 Illumination** - Artificial illumination of outdoor and indoor ranges is permitted. An illumination level of 1500 lux throughout the range is recommended.

**6.6 Safety Backstop** - A safety backstop of canvas or other material through which a BB cannot penetrate shall be erected in back of the target line extending the length of the firing line designed to contain errant shots.

**6.7 Adult Firing Line Personnel** - One adult team coach or other person so designated shall be assigned to each firing point to coach, assist in cocking rifles and to see that safety measures are carried out. Competitors may cock their own BB gun if they so desire.

## 7. COURSES OF FIRE

### 7.1 BB Gun Courses of Fire

- (a) Prone Position - 10 shots, AR-4/1, AR-4/5 AR-4/10 targets.
- (b) Standing Position - 10 shots, AR-4/1, AR-4/5, AR-4/10 targets.
- (c) Sitting Position - 10 shots, AR-4/1, AR-4/5, AR-4/10 targets.
- (d) Kneeling Position - 10 shots, AR-4/1, AR-4/5, AR-4/10 targets.
- (e) 40 shots, four positions - 10 shots each position. Order of firing shall be prone, standing, sitting and kneeling.

### 7.2 Three Position Course of Fire

- (a) Prone Position - 10 shots, AR-4/1, AR-4/5 AR-4/10 targets.
- (b) Standing Position - 10 shots, AR-4/1, AR-4/5, AR-4/10 targets.
- (c) Kneeling Position - 10 shots, AR-4/1, AR-4/5, AR-4/10 targets.

- (d) 30 shots, three positions - 10 shots each position. Order of firing shall be prone, standing, and kneeling.

**7.10 “Finals” Procedure** - The “Finals” is part of all major International (ISSF) competition shooting events, such as in the Olympics, World Championships, and National Championships. They are used in Air Rifle, Air Pistol, and Smallbore shooting events. A Final is not required, but is a great learning activity. Finals allow the top competitors in the match a chance to “show-off” their shooting ability.

If fired, finals will be fired under these conditions:

- (a) All finals to be 10 shots fired from standing position.
- (b) Finalists to consist of top 8 competitors and all ties within the top 8.
- (c) Competitors must report to the range officer 15 minutes before the scheduled beginning of the finals event.
- (d) Any finalist not reporting to the assigned position at the beginning of the preparation period will automatically be placed last in the final results.
- (e) There will be an announced three minute preparation period for finals competition.
- (f) The starting time for each finals event may be published in the match program or announced by match director’s bulletin.
- (g) The competitors who qualify for the finals will be assigned the following start positions according to ranking of the order of merit finish of the qualification round, beginning with 1 and going through 8.

Starting Point	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
Firing Point	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8

- (h) Three minutes are allowed for firing of sighter shots. Unlimited sighting shots may be fired at the sighter bulls of the finals target. (Range officer will give a warning announcement 30 seconds before the expiration of sighter time.)
- (i) After expiration of sighter time there will be a 30 second pause.
- (j) The finals will consist of 10 shots fired from the standing position and will be conducted single shot for shot with the following commands for each shot:

**LOAD** - After this command competitor loads the BB gun.  
**ATTENTION - 321 START**- Each competitor has 60 seconds for one shot.

**STOP** - This command is given after the last competitor has fired or immediately after termination of the shooting time of 60 seconds.

- (k) One record shot per record bull.
  - (1) After each record shot, the shots will be scored and the value will be announced for each firing point.
  - (2) After the target has been scored and the value announced the next record shot will be fired. This exact sequence is repeated until the finals are completed.

- (l) All results in the finals competition will be added to the individual results of the qualification score. All final results will be printed in the results bulletin.
- (m) If a competitor fired more than one shot during the single shot time, it will be scored as a miss.
- (n) Decision in the event of tied scores: Scores of both qualification and finals for each individual will be added. The following procedure will be used for tie breaking for the first three places:
  - (1) The high score in the finals.
  - (2) If still tied, those tied will continue to shoot single shot for shot, using the procedure described above, until the tie is broken.
    - a) Competitors tied for any of the first three places will remain on the firing line at their firing points.
    - b) All other competitors leave the firing line and secure their BB guns.

## **8. TIME LIMITS**

**8.1 BB Gun Time Allowance** - One minute per record shot, (10 shots in 10 minutes.) (See Rule 9.7)

**8.2 Additional Time** - It is the responsibility of the coach and competitor to finish shooting within the time allowed. Additional time will not be given except as otherwise provided in these rules. Any extension of time which is allowed by Jury, Referee, or Range Officers will be clearly noted with the Chief Range Officer with the reason stated and the competitor involved will be informed.

*Note: Shots that are fired before or after the end of the official shooting time, or which are not fired at all, shall be registered as misses, unless the Jury, Referee, or the Range Officers have authorized extra time for the competitor.*

**8.4 Passage of Time** - Range Officers will not ordinarily announce the time remaining, but if requested will give the competitor and coach information as to the time remaining.

## **9. COMPETITION REGULATIONS AND RANGE OPERATIONS**

**9.1 Changing BB Guns** - A competitor may change a BB gun during the firing of any match, however, no extra time will be allowed and the Range Officer must be notified that a change is being made so all safety precautions can be followed. If a BB gun has become disabled and has been so designated by the Chief Range Officer, the BB gun may be changed according to Rule 9.7.

### **9.2 Blank**

**9.2.1 Marking of Sighting Target** - The sighting target must be clearly marked, normally, by means of a black stripe in the upper right corner which can be clearly seen with the naked eye. During competitions where double target frames are used, a broad black band will be hung over the face of the target which is not in use to the target not in use must be removed. If a 12-bull AR 4/10 target is used, the sighting targets are located in the center of the target and enclosed with a guard ring.

**9.2.2 Misplaced Sighting Shots** - When a multiple bull target (with sighting bulls) is used, and the competitor, in the first fired shot of



the target (sighting bulls), misses the scoring area of the sighting bull or ring when printed on targets, the competitor shall: halt firing, call a Range Official or Referee, have the official verify that the shot is not in the sighting bull. The official shall record this fact and the competitor shall commence firing at the sighting bull again. The Range Official will continue to observe until the competitor's shots hit the sighting bulls. At this point the official will verify all previous shots (they will not be scored as misses) and the shooter will continue firing the match under the rules of the match. No extra time will be allowed for the procedure above. Additional shots outside the scoring rings will be scored as record shots. All penalties used in scoring shall be in force after the first shot that strikes the sighting bull.

**9.3 Sighting Shots** - Unlimited sighting shots may be fired in any position provided all sighting shots and record shots are fired during the time allowed. When the official target provides a guard ring around the sighting bullseye, all sighting shots must touch or fall within the guard ring around the sighting bullseye on the target.

**9.3.1 Misplaced Sighting Shots** - When the official target provides a sighting bullseye with a guard ring (AR-4/10) and the first sighting shot hits outside of the guard ring and not touching it, the shot will be scored as a miss unless reported to the Range Officer. No such claim will be allowed after the competitor has fired more than one shot on a target. Any additional misplaced sighting shots will be scored as record shots.

**9.5 Misfire** - A misfire is a shot in which the BB is not expelled from the gun. If the competitor is shooting a multi-loading BB gun and the competitor and coach are not sure a BB has been fired, the Range Officer must be notified of possible misfire before the next shot is fired. When firing has ceased, the Range Officer will check the bull for which the misfire was claimed. If no shot appears, the competitor will be given one additional minute to fire each misfire allowed.

**9.6 Doubles** - A double occurs when two BBs are fired at once. No doubles can be claimed when a single shot BB gun is used. If the competitor is shooting a multi-loading BB gun and the competitor and coach feel a double has been fired, the Range Officer must be notified of the possible double before the next shot is fired. When firing has ceased, the Range Officer will check the bull for which the double was claimed. If a double was fired, the Range Officer will make a signed notation on the target indicating which shots are to be disregarded and the competitor will be given one additional minute to refire each double allowed. As an alternate procedure, the Range Officer may visually confirm doubles and permit a refire during the normal time limit for the match being fired, provided the double shots are marked and signed by the Range Officer when firing ceases.

**9.7 Disabled BB Gun** - Any BB gun which cannot be safely aimed or fired, or has suffered damage to the sights rendering it impossible to properly aim or which has a broken seal or cannot be fired because of mechanical failure. (Note: There must be evidence of physical damage to sights. The fact that sights are improperly adjusted does not constitute disablement.) If the BB gun fails to function, the competitor or coach must notify the Range Officer. A gun declared disabled by the Range Officer shall not be used again for firing until the defect has been corrected and the gun has been ruled safe by the Chief Range Officer. When a gun has been declared disabled, the competitor will be given a reasonable period of time to repair the gun or continue firing with a substitute. When the competitor resumes firing, the competitor will be given one minute shooting time for each record shot which remained to be fired at the time the gun became disabled.

**9.12 Coaching in Individual and Team Matches** - See Rules 6.7 and 12.6.

**9.13 Matches Not Complete** - When a match is not completed in accordance with the tournament schedule, the match may be re-scheduled or cancelled. Any stage which has been completed by all competitors will not be re-fired. Only scores of a match which has been completed by all competitors will be included in an aggregate event of counted for National Record purposes.

**9.15 Interference** - No competitor or coach shall deliberately interfere with the actions of match and range personnel in the conduct of their duties or with other competitors while they are shooting. Coaches and competitors will not be permitted to interfere with the handling of targets by range personnel.

**9.16 Competitor's Position** - Competitors must take their position at their numbered firing point in a manner that does not interfere with competitors on either side.

**9.19 Cross-Fire** - No competitor will deliberately fire on another competitor's target.

**9.20 Bribery** - No person will offer a bribe of any kind to any of the range, statistical or match personnel nor be an accessory thereto.

**9.21.1 Willful Destruction of Range Equipment** - No competitor shall cause any range equipment to become damaged through a deliberate act, and anyone guilty of same will be expelled without a warning from the range. Expelled competitors will be disqualified from the competition with no return of entry fees.

**9.22 Refusal to Obey** - No person will refuse to obey instructions of the Match Director, Official Referee, Jury or Range Officer, or any other officer of the tournament, if instructions are given in the proper conduct of that office.

**9.23 Evasion of Rules** - No competitor or coach will evade, nor attempt to evade or be an accessory to the evasion of any of the conditions of a match as prescribed in the program or in these rules. Refusal of a competitor or coach to give testimony regarding facts known concerning violations or attempted violations of these rules will constitute being an accessory to the violation or attempted violation.

**9.24 Disqualification** - The Match Director, Official Referee or Jury upon proper presentation of evidence may disqualify any competitor and/or order his or her expulsion from the range for violation of these rules or for other conduct they consider discreditable or unsafe. In the event of disagreement between Match Officials, the Official Referee or Jury shall prevail at the match with recourse only to the Protest Committee.

**9.25 Suspension** - The Executive Committee or Protest Committee of the National Rifle Association upon presentation of evidence and hearings as provided in the Association's Bylaws may suspend or expel any member for violation of these rules.

**9.27 Disorderly Conduct** - Disorderly conduct or intoxication is strictly prohibited on the range and anyone guilty of same will be expelled from the range. Expelled competitors will be disqualified from the competition with no return of entry fees.

**9.30 Penalties/Disqualifications** - In cases of infringement and contravention of the regulations or of the instructions of Range Officers, the following penalties may be imposed upon the competitor by the Match Director, Referee or Jury:

- Warning
- Deduction of points from the score
- Disqualification

In case of infringement of the regulations:

- (a) A warning may be given so that the competitor may have the opportunity to correct the fault. In case of a serious violation of safety rules, the Jury or Referee has the authority to impose immediate disqualification.
- (b) If the competitor does not correct the fault before the next shot, 10 points shall be deducted from the score.
- (c) For a repeated infringement, the competitor may be disqualified.
- (d) A warning to the competitor must be expressed in such terms as will leave no doubt that it is an official warning. A warning to the competitor, whenever it is possible, should be given so as not to disturb him while firing a shot, unless the infringement concerns safety, in which case the competitor shall be warned immediately.
- (e) If a competitor continues to handle the BB gun in a dangerous manner, or continues to violate any of the safety regulations, the competitor may be disqualified.
- (f) If the Range Officer, Referee or Jury is of the opinion that the competitor has attempted to intentionally circumvent the rules or disturb other competitors in an unsportsmanlike manner, the competitor may be warned, then penalized by the deduction of 10 points from the over all score, or the competitor may be disqualified.
- (g) If the Range Officer, Referee or Jury considers that the competitor is holding up the procedure unnecessarily, with the intention of gaining unfair advantage, the competitor may be warned, then for every similar fault thereafter, 10 points may be deducted from the score.
- (h) The discharge of any BB gun any place other than the firing line, or the firing line prior to the competitor being placed in the preparation period, will result in disqualification and expulsion from the tournament with no refund of fees. If a BB gun is discharged while the competitors are in the preparation period prior to the command **LOAD**, it may result in the competitor being disqualified from that fired match.
- (i) Any competitor placing a BB in the barrel before the command: **LOAD** or **COMMENCE FIRING**, will be warned on the first violation, disqualified from that stage for the second violation, disqualified from the match for the third violation, and expelled from the tournament on the fourth violation, with no refund of fees.

All irregularities, penalties, misses, malfunctions, extra time allowed, repeated shots or repeated series, annulment of shots, etc., must be clearly marked and recorded in the Range Register, and on both the target and score card, by the Target Control Officer or by the responsible official on the range.

Penalty points will be deducted from the stage or match in which the infraction has occurred, starting from the last bull fired in the stage or match.

## 10. RANGE CONTROL AND COMMANDS

**10.1 Discipline** - The safety of competitors, range personnel and spectators requires continuous attention by all to the careful handling of firearms and caution in moving about the range. Self-discipline is necessary on the part of all. Where such self-discipline is lacking, it

is the duty of the range personnel to enforce discipline and the duty of competitors to assist in such enforcement.

Under no circumstances shall firing commence or continue on a range where an unsafe condition exists.

**10.1.1 Cocking of BB Guns** - No BB gun may be cocked until the competitor is called to the firing line and the preparation period has begun. BB guns may be cocked and dry-fired during the preparation period but no shots may be fired.

**10.1.4 Cease Firing** - Upon the command **CEASE FIRE**, all BB guns will be grounded and the coach (or Range Official) will check the BB gun to see that it is not cocked. If the gun is loaded or cocked when the command **CEASE FIRE** is given, the competitor must inform the Range Officer who will then direct the competitor to fire it into the safety backstop. (Note: On lever-action guns, the gun can be checked to see that it has not been cocked by drawing the cocking lever forward to check spring pressure, and then leaving the gun in the quarter cocked position to indicate it has been checked.)

**10.1.5 Not Ready** - It is the duty of competitors to properly notify the Range Officer if not ready to fire at the time the command **IS THE LINE READY?** is given. The Chief Range Officer will then decide whether to delay until the competitor is ready, to resquad the competitor or to commence firing immediately.

**10.1.6 Loading** - A BB will be inserted into the BB gun only at the firing point and after the command, **COMMENCE FIRE**. The muzzle of the BB gun will be pointed in the direction of the targets until the BB gun is discharged or unloaded. Even if the gun has a magazine, only one BB may be loaded.

**10.2 Loud Language** - Loud or abusive language will not be permitted. Competitors, coaches, and range personnel will limit their conversation directly behind the firing line to official business.

**10.3 Delaying A Match** - No competitor may delay the start of a match through tardiness in reporting or undue delay in preparing to fire.

**10.3.1 Preparation Period** - Competitors will be allowed not less than one (1) minute nor more than three (3) minutes, at the discretion of the tournament sponsor, to take their places at their firing points and prepare to fire after the firing points have been cleared by the preceding competitors. Competitors may dry-fire BB guns during the preparation period, but any shot fired during this period will be scored as a miss on the first or successive record bulls.

**10.4 Policing Range** - It is the duty of competitors and coaches to police their firing points after the completion of each stage.

**10.6 Repeating Commands** - A Range Officer will repeat the Chief Range Officer's commands only when those commands cannot be clearly heard by competitors and coaches under his/her supervision.

**10.7 Firing Line Commands** - When ready to start the firing of a match, the Chief Range Officer, commands:

**COMPETITORS ON RELAY NO. 1 AND COACHES MOVE TO THE FIRING LINE, YOUR PREPARATION PERIOD STARTS NOW.** During this period, the competitor should get into position and prepare to shoot. Competitors may dry-fire the gun, but no shooting of BBs is permitted (see Rule 10.3.1). The Chief Range Officer may advise the competitors of their correct position and course of fire and caution them about shooting at the correct target and keeping the gun pointed down range at all times.

At the end of the preparation period the Chief Range Officer states, **THE PREPARATION PERIOD HAS ENDED.** After confirming that the range is clear the Chief Range Officer proceeds with the range firing commands. The Chief Range Officer then asks, **IS THE LINE READY?** When a competitor is not ready, the competitor or coach will immediately raise his/ her arm and call **NOT READY ON TARGET...**

The Chief Range Officer will immediately state, **THE LINE IS NOT READY,** and the Range Officer will immediately investigate the difficulty and assist in correcting it. When this has been corrected, the Chief Range Officer calls, **THE LINE IS READY. READY ON THE RIGHT. READY ON THE LEFT. READY ON THE FIRING LINE. COMMENCE FIRING.**

*Note: Commands controlling the start of firing sequence commencing with **READY ON THE RIGHT** should have approximately a 3 second interval between firing line commands.*

After this command, BB guns shall be loaded, firing commences and sighters and shots for record are fired without further command for that particular relay. At the end of the allotted time, the Chief Range Officer commands:

**CEASE FIRING**

**CLEAR ALL GUNS**

**ARE ALL GUNS CLEAR?**

Any unfired rounds must be discharged into the backstop at the command of the Range Officer. The guns are grounded and the cocking lever checked to see that the gun is not cocked. The next command:

**THE LINE IS SAFE.** or **THE LINE IS NOT SAFE.**

**RELAY NO. 1 BACK TO THE READY LINE.”**

**AS YOU WERE** means to disregard the command just given.

**CARRY ON** means to proceed with whatever was being done before an interruption occurred. Range Officers will immediately command, **CEASE FIRING,** if any incident occurs which could cause possible injury to some living thing should firing continue. In all other cases commands will originate with the Chief Range Officer.

**10.7.1 Firing Sequence** - Only one shot shall be fired and scored on each of the bulls without penalty. It is the responsibility of the competitor to keep track of his/her shots and to fire only one shot at each bull. In case more than one shot strikes in one bull, scoring rules in Section 14 shall govern.

**10.7.2 Refiring** - No competitor will fire more than one score for the same award except as provided in the program.

**10.10.6 Calibration of Electronic Scoring Devices** - Electronic scoring devices which score paper targets must be calibrated before the start of the match. If recalibration is necessary during the match, all prior targets must be rescored using the new calibration.

**10.10.6.1 Challenge of Paper Targets Scored by Electronic Devices** - If a challenge to the score is made, the individual bull must be challenged. The shot will be evaluated using the electronic scoring system by the referee/jury and a chief statistical officer and adjusted or rescored as necessary. No person with an interest in the outcome of the match may evaluate targets. The decision of the referee or jury is final.

**10.13 Procedure in Case of Loose or Fallen Target** - If a target falls or is blown from its target holder or blows loose so that the competitor can no longer fire at it, the competitor or coach must notify the Range Officer who will notify the Chief Range Officer. The Chief Range Officer at his/her discretion, may cease firing to replace the target, have the competitor wait until firing has ceased to replace the target and continue firing, or resquad the competitor. If the competitor is allowed to continue firing or is resquadded, that competitor will be given one minute for each record shot that remained to be fired at the time the loose or fallen target was reported. All record shots fired prior to that time count.

## **11. TOURNAMENT OFFICIALS**

**11.1 Match Director** - The Match Director is directly responsible for the efficient conduct of the entire tournament. Match Directors may change the match and firing conditions as shown by the program provided a bulletin is posted for the information of all competitors and coaches, and that such changes are not contrary to current NRA Rules. They are directly responsible for the safety and proper discipline of all tournament operating personnel, competitors, coaches, and spectators. Instructions from Match Directors for the operation of the tournament will be complied with by all persons on the range. Match Directors will use their best judgment at all times and their behavior and decisions must be characterized by absolute impartiality, firmness, courtesy and constant vigilance. In the application of these rules the Match Director will confer with the NRA Official Referee or Jury on any doubtful point and will be guided by the Official Referee's decision.

**11.1.1 Deputy Match Director** - The Deputy Match Director, when appointed, is responsible to the Match Director for the efficient conduct of the entire tournament, and acts for the Match Director in all matters listed in Rule 11.1. A Deputy Match Director is appointed at the discretion of the Sponsor.

**11.2 Official Referee** - An official referee will be assigned to all NRA National Championships and may be assigned to State Championships. Assignments are made from Headquarters of the National Rifle Association. NRA Official Referees are not an administrative or operating official and are not responsible for the behavior or efficiency of either range or Statistical Office personnel. Referees are responsible for seeing that all National Rifle Association rules are properly interpreted and applied. Referees decisions will be final in scoring of challenged targets. Referees will not score except when called on to rule on challenges. It is the Referee's duty to rule on all protests and challenges. Except in an emergency involving the safety of personnel or property the Referee will not give instructions directly to tournament operating personnel but will give such instructions through the Match Director. The NRA Official Referee may not change the NRA rules as printed herein and as officially amended. It is the duty of the Referee to render a complete report to the National Rifle Association covering all phases of the tournament. The Referee may recommend that all or any portion of the scores be disregarded if, in the Referee's opinion, conditions warrant such action. The Referee will report any tournament official who refuses to accept proper instruction from the Official Referee. After a full hearing is held by the Protest Committee on such a report, the Association may:

- (a) Warn, suspend, or disbar anyone from serving or competing in NRA competitions.
- (b) Warn, suspend, or cancel Certificate of the Official Referee. 17
- (c) Refuse to accept for registration or approval any further tournament conducted on the same range or by the same organiza-

tion until the unsatisfactory condition reported by the Official Referee has been corrected.

An NRA Official Referee may not compete in any match fired in conjunction with any tournament where that person is officiating as the Official Referee.

**11.2.1 Jury** - In all registered tournaments other than national championships, a 3-person Jury will be formed by the match sponsor to function as described in Rule 11.2. One member of the Jury must be a member of the sponsoring organization and complete the reports required by the NRA. All members of the Jury may or may not be competitors in that tournament. Under no circumstances may any match official be a member of the Jury.

**11.4 Range Director** - When appointed, the Range Director and Deputy Director are responsible to the Match Director, and have supervisory responsibility for the Chief Range Officers and for the efficient and safe operation of the ranges. Appointment of a Range Director and Deputy Range Directors is authorized when multiple ranges are in operation.

**11.4.1 Chief Range Officer** - Will have full charge of the range and will conduct the matches on the schedule approved by the Match Director. He is responsible for range safety, and for enforcing all rules.

**11.5 Range Officers** - Each Range Officer is an assistant to the Chief Range Officer. Competitors or coaches may be assigned this duty. The Range Officer is responsible for the safety and discipline of range personnel, competitors, coaches, and spectators, in the sector of the range to which that person has been assigned. The Range Officer shall make a signed notation on a target which has a crossfire, and an allowed double hit, or any circumstance in which a notation would be of assistance to the Statistical Office. The Range Officer is responsible for seeing that the competitor's equipment and position are as authorized for the particular match being fired. It is the Range Officer's duty to be completely familiar with the program and with the rules. Range Officers are to comply to the best of their ability with all instructions issued by the Match Director or Chief Range Officer and will render all possible cooperation to other officials. Range Officers must be constantly alert, impartial in their handling of competitors and courteous though firm.

**11.6 Statistical Officer** - The Chief Statistical Officer is in charge of the scoring of all targets and statistical work in connection with the match. The Statistical Officer is directly responsible to the Match Director. He may be assisted by Assistant Statistical Officers.

**11.6.1 Duties of Office** - It is the duty of the Statistical Office to:

- (a) Register competitors, and check their eligibility and classifications.
- (b) Accept match entries.
- (c) Prepare, post and keep current a list of competitors showing name, number, and classification.
- (d) Squad competitors and prepare range assignment cards where such cards are used.
- (e) Prepare official score cards.
- (f) Check addition on score cards and correct totals.
- (g) Score targets and tabulate scores in order of merit.

- (h) Prepare Preliminary and Official Bulletins.
- (i) Maintain an Official Bulletin Board.
- (j) Determine award winners and distribute awards.
- (k) Report to Match Director, NRA Official Referee or Jury Chairman for appropriate disciplinary action any irregularities in firing or scoring which may be indicated by squadding records or score cards.
- (l) Make required reports to NRA within specified time

**11.6.2 Retention of Records** - All fired targets must be retained until the end of the challenge period for that match. When targets are used as scorecards and the score is transferred into a computer, the computer record becomes the official scorecard at the end of the posted challenge period for that match.

*Note: Targets for the National Record consideration shall be retained and sent with documentation to the National Rifle Association.*

**11.6.3 Preliminary Bulletins** - Preliminary Bulletins on all matches will be posted promptly on the Official Bulletin Board and remain a reasonable length of time to allow competitors or coaches to notify the Statistical Office of apparent errors. The challenge closing time will be stated on each bulletin. However, where a bulletin board is used and all scores of competitors are copied thereon, such will be accepted in lieu of the above, provided a notice appears as to the close of challenge time.

**11.6.4 Official Bulletins** - Official Bulletins will be posted on the Official Bulletin Board.

**11.6.5 Correction of Bulletin Errors** - The Statistical Office will correct errors which come to the attention of the office prior to publication of the Official Bulletin.

**11.6.6 Changing Official Bulletins** - No Official Bulletin shall be changed except on authority of Match Director, Official Referee or Jury granted before the time has expired for challenging the last of Preliminary Bulletins required to cover all the scheduled events. Subsequent changes from the Executive Officer, Official Referee or Jury requesting a change, are limited to correction of:

- (a) Typographical errors.
- (b) Aggregate bulletins on which total score does not agree with scores shown on the Official Bulletins for the matches constituting the aggregate.
- (c) Where an error has been made by not following the program schedule of awards.
- (d) Errors in classification of competitors, the competitor having been previously advised of such error and of correct classification.
- (e) Disqualification of competitors as provided by Rule 9.35.

**11.8 National Championship Protest Committee** - A National Championship Protest Committee may be appointed by the Match Director of any NRA National Championship (see Rule 16.2.1.). When such a Championship Protest Committee is appointed, decisions on Protest by that Committee at that Championship are final, without appeal to the NRA Protest Committee. When possible cases of suspen-



sion from competition arise from an incident in a Championship, the Championship Protest Committee may not act, but must forward a recommendation to the NRA Protest Committee for action. No member of the National Championship Protest Committee may be a competitor in that tournament. A protest procedure must begin no later than one hour after the completion of firing for the day. In the case of awards, the protest must begin no later than one half hour after the completion of the awards ceremony.

**11.9 Duty to Competitors** - It shall be the duty of all operating officials and personnel to properly conduct themselves by being fair and impartial to all carrying out their various duties. No official shall, without cause, disturb or interfere with a competitor or coach nor allow such practice by another official or other competitors or coaches. Should a competitor's equipment or demeanor warrant disqualification for an individual match or tournament, it should be done in such a manner as to cause the least inconvenience to all concerned. In so doing, the official should state to the competitor the rule or section of rules under which the disqualification is being made.

## **12. TEAM OFFICERS' DUTIES AND POSITION**

**12.1 Team Coach** - Each team must have a designated adult Team Coach. Team Coaches are responsible for maintaining discipline within their teams. Coaches will at all times cooperate with the officials of the tournament in the interests of safety, efficiency, and good sportsmanship. Team Coaches are responsible for all of the actions of the members of their teams. It is their responsibility to:

- (a) Be familiar with the program.
- (b) Make proper entries.
- (c) Have team members report at the proper firing point at the right time, ready to fire.
- (d) Perform usual coaching duties.
- (e) Check scores, sign score cards and make challenges.
- (f) Check Preliminary and Official Bulletin and Match Director's Bulletins.
- (g) Make protests.
- (h) Collect awards.

**12.3 Team Entries** - In team matches the Team Coach, all firing members of the team, and alternate firing members if allowed by the match conditions and provided by the team, must be named on the entry form before the first shot of the match is fired.

**12.4 Substitution of Alternates** - If alternates are allowed and have been named on the entry form, the Team Coach may substitute an alternate for a firing member at any time before the firing member concerned has fired his/her first shot of the match (sighting or record), notifying a Range Officer accordingly. After a team member has fired the first shot he/she may be substituted for only in case of disabling emergencies such as accident or illness, and then only if approved by the Chief Range Officer. All shots fired by the replaced competitor count; the replacement fires only the uncompleted portion of the replaced competitor's course of fire.

**12.6 Coaching in Team Matches** - Coaching on the firing line is permitted in individual and team BB gun matches within the team only. Coaches may assist the competitor by calling shots, checking times,

loading, cocking the gun or by making sight changes. Coaches must control their voices and actions so as not to disturb other competitors.

### **13. PHYSICALLY DISABLED COMPETITORS**

**13.1 Physically Disabled Competitors** - A shooter who because of physical disability cannot fire from one or more of the prescribed shooting positions outlined in these Rules, or who must use special equipment when firing, is privileged to petition the NRA Protest Committee for permission to assume a special position or to use modified equipment, or both. The petition shall consist of a form provided by the NRA and shall specify in detail the reasons why the special position must be assumed or the special equipment must be used. The petition will be accompanied by pictures of the shooter in the position he desires approved and, if special equipment is required, the picture will show how this equipment is used. The petition and all pictures must be furnished in exact duplicate. The petition must be accompanied by a medical doctor's statement if the physical disability is not completely evident in the pictures submitted.

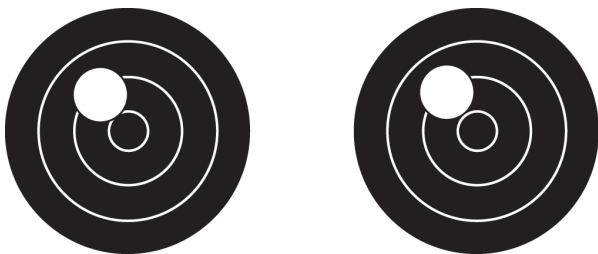
- (a) Each petition will be reviewed by the NRA Protest Committee. The Committee may require additional or supplementary statements, medical information or pictures. Upon approval, the NRA Secretary will issue a special authorization certificate to individual concerned. Such certificates will have necessary pictures attached.
- (b) Competitors who have received special authorization certificates are required to carry them when competing in tournaments governed by the NRA rules, and to present the certificates when requested by officials of the tournament or by the NRA Official Referees, or Supervisors.
- (c) In the event of a protest involving the position or the equipment used by such competitor, the Official Referee or Jury (or Executive Officer in non-sanctioned matches) will compare the position or equipment in question with the certificate and photographs presented by the competitor. If the competitor's position or equipment does not conform to that authorized by the NRA Protest Committee, or if the competitor has no authorization certificate or pictures, the protest shall be allowed and the competitor will be required to change immediately to the position or equipment which has been approved or to an otherwise legal position or equipment.
- (d) Should a protest be carried beyond the Official Referee or Jury the original protest must be endorsed by the Referee or Jury to show the action taken and forwarded to the National Rifle Association.
- (e) National Records may not be established with scores fired in positions or equipment authorized according to this rule.
- (f) Two types of authorization are issued: temporary, and permanent. Permanent authorizations are issued only to competitors who are permanently disabled.

**13.2 Temporary Disability: Substitute Positions** - Any persons who have a temporary physical disability, as sustained by a current written medical opinion which prevents them from using a specified position as defined in this rule, may assume the next more difficult position in lieu of that position. In this manner, sitting may be used for prone, kneeling may be used for sitting, and standing may be used for kneeling. Any substitute position must conform to the rule which defines it. The Match

Director must be informed of the substitute, and may require that the substitute position be demonstrated so the Match Director may be certain that it meets the definition of the appropriate rule.

## 14. SCORING AND MARKING

**14.1 Score** - The total value of all the required shots fired by a competitor in anyone match.



**The Correct Method of Scoring**

The shot on the left bullseye is a ten. The one on the right is a nine.

**14.2.1 Targets Are Score Cards** - Targets must be retained in good order until the time allowed for filing challenges and protests has expired.

**14.3 How to Score** - A shot hole, the leading edge of which comes in contact with the outside of the bullseye or scoring rings of the target, is given the higher value. If a competitor fails to hit any target (shots outside the scoring ring) that shot will be scored as a miss (zero). A scoring gauge will be used to determine the value of close shots. The higher value will be allowed in those cases where the flange of the gauge touches the scoring ring, except when the BB Gun “outward” scoring plug gauge is used, the higher value is awarded when the flanges fail to touch the outside edge of the next scoring ring out. All shot holes with an estimated value greater than two (2) shall be scored with an outward gauge (a) described below. No scoring gauge will be used unless the diameter of the scoring flange is within these limits:

- (a) BB Gun gauge for outside scoring, 0.421 - 0.423 inches
- (b) Air Rifle/BB Gun, 0.177 - 0.179 (4.5 - 4.55 mm). (Used only for shot values of 1 & 2 for center shots.)

**14.3.1 Use of Plug Type Scoring Gauges** - Doubtful shots shall be scored with the aid of a “plug” type gauge. When the accurate use of the plug is made difficult by the close proximity of another shot hole or the condition of the target paper, the shot value shall be determined by the means of an engraved gauge of some flat, transparent material, to aid in reconstructing the position of the scoring ring or the number of shot holes which may develop.

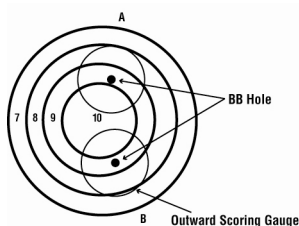
**14.3.3 Electronic Scoring** - Electronic scoring machines are authorized.

(A 0.177 air gun plastic scoring aid from the NRA is available or a magnifying device may be used.)

- (a) Except as provided herein, the plug gauge may be inserted only once in a BB hole.
- (b) When two initial scorers disagree, a decision from the Chief Statistical Officer shall be requested immediately and before

the plug is removed. After inspecting the plugged shot hole, the statistical officer will indicate a decision by writing “+” or “-” on the target to indicate whether the shot scores the higher or lower value. All three scoring officials shall initial the target.

- (c) When two scorers agree, they shall indicate their decision by writing “+” or “-” on the target. Both scoring officials shall initial the target.
- (d) No challenge may be made against a shot value which has been determined with the aid of a plug gauge except:
  - (1) In competition where two scoring officials are not used to evaluate plugged shots.
  - (2) Targets which do not bear the appropriate “+” or “-” markings and initials may be challenged and replugged.
  - (3) The value of the shot is incorrectly noted based on the “+” or “-” decision.



In the figure, “A” shot depicts a doubtful shot hole to the scorer. With the BB Gun outward scoring gauge in place, if the outward scoring flange is within or tangent with the 8 ring, then the shot is scored a 10. The “B” shot depicts a doubtful shot hole to the scorer. The outward scoring gauge shows the outside edge of the flange lying over the 8 scoring line and into the 7 ring, thereby giving a result of 9.

14.4 Misses - Hits outside the scoring rings are scored as misses.

14.5 Early or Late Shots - If any shots are fired at the target before the command to Commence Firing, or after the command signal to Cease Firing, the shots of highest value equal to the number fired in error will be scored as misses.

**14.6 All Hits Count** - All shots fired by the competitor which strike the target (hits outside the sighting bull) after having taken a position at the firing point will be counted in the score, even if the BB gun is accidentally discharged. If a competitor and coach feels there are two BBs in the barrel it may be fired into the backstop off the target card after notifying the Range Officer.

**14.7 Hits on Wrong Target or Bullseye** - Hits on the wrong target are scored as misses. Hits on wrong bullseye when there are more than the required number of hits on one bullseye and a fewer number than required on another bullseye on the same target card, so that not more than the required total number of hits are on the target card, competitors will be given the actual value of their score, minus a penalty of one point for each hit on the wrong bullseye. Penalty points shall be deducted from the hit or hits of highest value on the bullseye bearing more than the required number of hits and the net value (actual value of hits less penalty) shall be allocated to the bullseye on which there are less than the required number of hits and shall thereafter be scored as the actual value of that shot. A 10 so penalized becomes a 9.

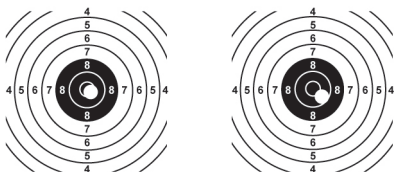
**14.10 Excessive Hits** - If more than the required number of hits appear on the target, any shot which can be identified as having been

fired by a competitor, other than the competitor assigned to that target, or as having been fired in a previous string, will not be scored. If more than the required number of hits then remain on the target:

- (a) If competitors, through a mistake of their own, fires more than the required number of shots, they will be scored the required number of hits of lowest value less one penalty point per extra shot fired.
- (b) If competitors fire less than the prescribed number of shots through their own fault, each missing shot will be scored as a “miss”.

**14.11 Scoring Center Shots** - Center shots are to be scored only to decide ties.

- (a) Any shot hole touching the ten ring but not touching the inside edge of the nine ring will be scored as a center shot and will be considered of higher value than a ten for tie breaking purposes.



The target on the left is a center shot. The target on the right is not.

- (b) Center shots will not be used for establishing National Records.

## 15. DECISION OF TIES

**15.1 Match** - The term match, as used in this section, refers to all individual, team, and aggregate matches.

**15.3 Breaking Tie Scores – Match scores will be ranked as follows:**

- (a) By the greatest number of center shots (Note 14.11), then
- (b) By the greatest number of shots of the second highest value, etc., tens, nines, etc.
- (c) If still a tie, by the highest score on the last bullseye, including center shots, then
- (d) By the highest score on the next to the last bullseye, including center shots, etc.
- (e) If still a tie, by the highest ranking score in the standing position, then kneeling, then sitting, and then prone.
- (f) Ties for the 4th through all remaining award placing will be broken as in Rule 15.3 except that if the tie still cannot be broken in this manner, the competitors will be listed with equal rank, in alphabetical order using the competitor’s surname. An appropriate number of spaces will be left vacant below the tied position before the next ranking is listed.

- (g) Ties occurring below the final award winning place will be listed with equal rank in alphabetical order using the competitor's surname. An appropriate number of spaces will be left vacant below the tied position before the next rank is listed.

**15.7 Team Matches** - Ties in team matches will be ranked in the order shown below:

- a) If an aggregate team score includes a score achieved on a written test, tied teams will be ranked by fired scores only, and by considering a team score as though it were a single score fired by an individual.
- b) By the greatest number of the team's total center shots (Note Rule 14.11)
- c) By the highest individual aggregate score, then second highest, etc.
- d) If still a tie, apply Rule 15.3(f).

## 16. CHALLENGES AND PROTESTS

*Note: The following procedures apply to NRA-sanctioned competitions. For other competitions challenges and protests will be decided by the officials sponsoring the competitions, whose decision shall be final.*

**16.1 Challenges** - When a competitor or coach feels that a match fired where he/she is competing has been improperly evaluated or scored, the competitor, coach or designated adult official may challenge the score. A challenge must be made within the challenge time. It shall be the challenging person's privilege to inspect the target during or following the re-scoring.

- (a) A challenge fee of not more than \$3.00 may be charged to all persons making challenges. The challenge fee will be collected before the first re-check of the challenged score. If the competitor's challenge is sustained the challenge fee will be returned. If the challenge is lost, the challenge fee will be included in the general revenue of the tournament. In NRA competition to which the NRA assigns a Referee, Jury, or Supervisor, the decision of the Official Referee or Jury will be final.
- (b) It shall be the responsibility of the tournament sponsor to state in the program or by Special Bulletin Board notice the time limits within which a challenge may be made.
- (c) When targets are scored in the Statistical Office or on display racks, the re-checks will be made by the Chief Statistical Officer (provided the Chief Statistical Officer has not previously scored or checked the target) and the Official Referee or Jury in that order.
- (d) Decisions on the value of shot holes, made by means of scoring gauges, in accordance with Rule 14.3.1, are final and cannot be appealed.

**16.2 Protests** - A competitor, coach or designated adult may formally protest:

- (a) Any injustice which the competitor or coach feels has been done except the evaluation of a target, which he/she may challenge as outlined in Rule 16.1.

- (b) The conditions under which another competitor has been permitted to fire.
- (c) The equipment which another competitor has been permitted to use.

**16.2.1 Authority of Protest Committee** - National Championships Protest Committees may be established at National Championships to rule on protests arising from activities at those sites. (See Rule 11.8.) However, the decisions of these special protest committees shall not contravene prior interpretations of the NRA rules and/or precedents established by the NRA Protest Committee.

**16.3 How to Protest** - A protest must be initiated immediately upon the occurrence of protested incident. Failure to comply with the following procedure will automatically void the protest:

- (a) State the complaint orally to the Chief Range or Chief Statistical Officer. If not satisfied then,
- (b) State the complaint orally to the Official Referee or Jury Chairman. If not satisfied then,
- (c) File a formal protest in writing with the Official Referee or Jury stating all the facts in the case. Such written protest must be filed with 12 hours of the occurrence of the protested incident.
- (d) At National Championships, a competitor must state the complaint orally to the Chief Range Officer or Chief Statistical Officer and if not satisfied with the officer's decision, the competitor must file a written protest with the Match Director. If the competitor is not satisfied with the Match Director's decision on the matter, the Match Director will forward the protest to the Protest Committee along with a written statement of the decision. The decision of the Protest Committee at the National Championships is final.

**16.4 Challenges and Protests in Team Matches** - Must be made by the Coach. Team members who believe they have reason to challenge or protest will state the facts to their Coach who will make the official challenge or protest if he/she feels such action is justified.

## 17. NATIONAL RECORDS

*Note: In order for records to be recognized promptly, National Record Reporting forms must be submitted NRA by the Statistical Officer of the Tournament after being certified by the Jury accompanied by the targets and Tournament Result Bulletin. National Record Reporting forms are mailed to sponsors of NRA Registered Tournaments by NRA Headquarters.*

**17.1 Where Scores for National Records Can Be Fired** - To be recognized as National Records, scores must be fired in an NRA Registered Tournament. National Records must be approved by the NRA before being declared official.

**17.2 Scores Used** - Scores must be complete scores for an entire scheduled match. Stage scores or scores for only part of a match will not be used for records.

**17.3 Scores for National Individual Records** - Scores may be fired in team or individual matches. National Records will be recognized only when the competitor concerned has entered such match.

**17.3.1 Continue to Fire** - In individual matches, competitors who fire a perfect score (see Rule 14.11b) may continue to fire for the

purpose of establishing National Records or breaking ties. The competitor may continue shooting until a hit is made outside the scoring ring of highest value to provide a means of breaking ties and establishing National Records over courses for which National Records are recognized. On multiple bullseye targets scoring will be conducted on targets in the order they are numbered. In four position matches, the competitor will continue to fire in the standing position.

**17.4 Scores for National Team Records** - Such scores must be fired in matches where teams fire as a unit. National Records will be recognized only when the team concerned entered such match. National Records will not be recognized for “pickup” teams (teams made up of competitors who do not all represent one of the groups outlined in Rule 2.11).

*Note: Team records may be shot using designated firing members only. Alternates may be used per Rule 12.4 only.*

### **17.5 Courses of Fire for Which National Records Are Recognized**

*Note: National Records are maintained only for scores fired over the following BB gun courses.*

#### Event - BB Gun Individual and Team

Prone: . . . . . 10 shots  
Standing: . . . . . 10 shots  
Sitting: . . . . . 10 shots  
Kneeling: . . . . . 10 shots  
Aggregate: . . . . 40 shots  
Aggregate: . . . . 30 shots  
Aggregate: . . . . 5 members x 40 shots  
Aggregate: . . . . 5 members x 30 shots

## **18. COMPETITORS' AND COACHES' DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES**

**18.1 Discipline** - It is the duty of each competitor and coach to sincerely cooperate with tournament officials in the effort to conduct a safe, efficient tournament. Competitors and coaches are expected to promptly call the attention of proper officials to any infraction of rules of safety or good sportsmanship. Failure of a competitor or coach to cooperate in such matters or to give testimony when called upon to do so in any case arising out of infractions of these rules may result in said competitor or coach being considered as an accessory to the offense.

**18.2 Knowledge of Program** - It is the competitor's and coach's responsibility to be familiar with the program. Officials cannot be held responsible for their failure to obtain and familiarize themselves with the program. When targets are hung by the competitor, it is the competitor's responsibility to hang the correct target for the range and position being fired.

**18.3 Eligibility** - It is the competitor's duty to enter only those events for which he/she is eligible and to enter in the proper classification.

**18.4 Classification** - It is the competitor's duty to have a current Classification Card in his/her possession when competing in competition using a classification system. Unclassified competitors must obtain their Temporary Score Record from the Official Referee, Supervisor, or tournament officials.



**18.5 Individual Entries** - In individual matches it is the duty of the competitor to make his or her own entries on the forms and in the manner prescribed for that tournament.

**18.7 Reporting at Firing Point** - Competitors and coaches must report at their assigned firing point immediately when the relay is called by the Range Officer. The proper gun and equipment for that particular match must be ready and in safe firing condition. Time will not be allowed for repairs, sight adjustments or to search for missing equipment after a relay has been called to the firing line and the preparation period has expired.

**18.9 Loading** - No competitor or coach will load or cock BB guns except at the firing line, and only after the proper commands are given.

**18.10 Cease Firing** - Competitors must immediately obey this command whether or not they have finished firing. Even though pressure has been applied to trigger, pressure must be released so that the shot will not be fired, and the gun should be grounded. If the competitor's gun is loaded and or cocked, the competitor must inform the Range Officer and then proceed as directed.

**18.11 Checking Scores** - It is the duty of competitors and coaches to promptly check their scores in the Preliminary Bulletin and call attention to errors within the time specified at that tournament. Failure to check scores within the challenge time limit forfeits the right to challenge.

**18.12 Clearing the Firing Point** - It is the competitor's duty to leave firing point promptly at the conclusion of his/her relay. When leaving the firing point, BB guns must be unloaded.

**18.13 Checking Bulletin Board** - It is the duty of all competitors and coaches to check the Bulletin Board between matches. The Statistical Officer must be immediately notified of apparent errors. Official Bulletin must be checked and the Statistical Officer notified of any discrepancies between the Preliminary and Official Bulletin. Match Director's Bulletins on the Bulletin Board have the same effect as conditions printed in a program. It is the duty of competitors and coaches to familiarize themselves with all such Bulletins.

**18.15 Responsibility** - It shall be the competitor's and coach's responsibility to assure that:

- (a) All equipment meets all rules and match specifications in any match in which that equipment is to be used.
- (b) The competitor's position conforms to the rules.
- (c) The competitor has full knowledge of the rules under which the match is fired.
- (d) To understand that after due warning of an infraction of existing rules, that a repetition thereof shall be the subject of disqualification for that match or tournament.

## **19. NATIONAL CLASSIFICATIONS**

**19.1 Classified Competitor** - All competitors who are officially classified by the NRA for BB gun competition.

**19.2 Unclassified Competitor** - Competitors who have not fired in NRA sanctioned BB gun competition during the previous 3 succes-

sive calendar years. Unclassified competitors shall fire through their first tournament as a Master.

**19.4 Matches Used For Individual Classification** - Scores to be used for classification and reclassification will be those fired in NRA sanctioned matches (Registered or Approved) as listed in Rule 7.1.

**19.5 Compilation of Scores for Classification Averages** - Scores fired in complete matches over the above courses will be combined and averaged to establish a competitor's BB gun classification.

**19.6 Assigned Classifications** - Assigned classifications are not allowed in NRA sanctioned BB gun competition.

**19.6.1 Score and Classification Falsification** - No competitor will falsify his/her score or classification, nor that of any other competitor, nor be an accessory thereto.

**19.7 Lack of Classification Evidence** - It is the competitor's responsibility to have his/her official NRA Classification Card and to present such card when required. Any competitor who cannot present such evidence will fire as Master. A competitor's classification will not change during a tournament. Should it be discovered during a tournament that a competitor has entered in a classification lower than his/her current rating, the tournament records will be corrected to show the correct classification for the entire tournament.

**19.9 Obsolete Classifications and Scores** - All classifications and scores shall become obsolete if the competitor does not fire in NRA sanctioned BB gun competition at least once during 3 successive calendar years.

**19.12 Team Classification** - Teams are classified by computing the "Team Average" based on the classification of each firing member of the team. To compute the team average the key in Table No. I will be used and the team total divided by the number of firing members of the team. Any fractional figure of one half or more places the team in the higher class. The team average will be established by classifications of the team members.

**TABLE NO. I - TEAM**

Class	Key
Master . . . . .	4
Expert . . . . .	3
Sharpshooter . . . . .	2
Marksman . . . . .	1

**19.13 Reporting Scores** - NRA Indoor and Outdoor Competition (see Section I). Sponsors will report to the NRA all individual and fired team match scores fired over the course stated in Rule 19.4. Scores will be reported as aggregate totals for all matches completed by a competitor. Scores will be reported by each sponsor no more than 30 days after the competition of the match and by each NRA Sanctioned League at the competition of the league schedule.

**19.14 Score Record Book (Temporary Classification)** - A Temporary Score Record Card will be obtained by each unclassified competitor from the Official Referee or Tournament Statistical Office at the time the competitor competes in his/her first tournament. Competitors will record all scores fired by themselves in all NRA competition (except postal matches) until such time as they receive their official NRA Classification Card. Competitors will total all scores and divide that total by the number of 10 shot strings represented. The average so obtained will determine the competitor's NRA Classification at that time (see Rule 19.15 for average score for each classification).

**19.15 Individual Class Average** - Competitors will be classified as follows and NRA Classification Cards issued accordingly:

## TABLE NO. II - INDIVIDUAL

Master . . . . .	92.00 and above
Expert . . . . .	84.00 to 91.99
Sharpshooter . . . . .	75.00 to 83.99
Marksman . . . . .	Below 75.00

**19.16 Establishing Classification** - A competitor will be officially classified by NRA when the total score for a minimum of 30 shots for BB gun has been reported for either indoor or outdoor. This average will be computed at the end of the tournament or NRA Registered League in which the minimum of 30 shots, or more, have been posted.

**19.17 Reclassification** - A competitor who has been classified by the NRA will be reclassified as follows:

- (a) A record of all complete NRA competition scores (except postal matches) fired by a classified competitor will be maintained at NRA Headquarters.
- (b) When the total scores for a minimum of 30 shots have been posted, the competitor's average will be established by dividing the total score by the number of 10 shot strings represented. This average will be computed as outlined in Rule 19.16 at the end of the tournament or NRA Registered League in which the minimum of 30 shots, or more, have been posted. When a competitor's new average exceeds the maximum of one class, he/she will be reclassified to the higher level.

## 20. NRA OFFICIAL REFEREE

**20.1 Eligibility** - Any member of the National Rifle Association 21 years of age or older who fulfills the requirements currently in effect may be certified as an Official Referee.

### 20.2 Certification

- (a) To be certified as an Official Referee, applicants must undertake such oral, written or practical examination as the Association may require. The Board of Directors of the Association will be the final judge as to applicant's fitness for certification. Certification may be refused without stating cause.
- (b) Certificates will remain in force for such periods as maybe indicated on the face thereof. Certificates may be surrendered by the holder or canceled by the Association at any time without stating cause.
- (c) Re-examination may be required at anytime to determine the Official Referee's current ability to meet the requirements.
- (d) Official Referees may be authorized to serve with certain limitations specified in their authorization. Such limitations may be:
  - (1) For a limited time only, or
  - (2) For a special tournament or tournaments, or
  - (3) Within specified territorial boundaries, or
  - (4) For specified types of competition or classes of tournaments.
- (e) Insignia remains the property of the Association and must be returned at the termination of the Official Referee's certification.

### **20.3 Duties - General**

- (a) It is the duty of Official Referees at all times to keep informed of NRA Bylaws, current competitive rules, and match administrative procedures. They must be equipped to act as guide and counselor to every official at a tournament both on the range and in the Statistical Office, but will not give direction except through the Match Director.
- (b) Referees must be familiar with the various NRA qualification courses and with National Classification rules.
- (c) Referees must know the requirements for individual membership in the Association and the general requirements for club affiliation.
- (d) It is the Referee's duty to report to National Headquarters any suggestions, criticisms, incidents or trends which, in his/her opinion, should be considered by the Association in order to promote the best interests of shooting.
- (e) Referees must at all times and under all circumstances remember that their value as an Official Referee is in direct ratio to their reputation for integrity, impartiality, broad knowledge of the game, courtesy, courage and sobriety. The use of alcoholic beverages while on duty cannot be condoned and their excessive use at any time will be sufficient cause for cancellation of the Official Referee's certificate.

### **20.4 Duties-Before Tournament**

Having accepted an assignment to serve, it is the duty of the Official Referee to:

- (a) Be familiar with the program.
- (b) Verify, by mail or in person, with the Match Director of the tournament to insure that range and statistical facilities are adequate and in good order and that ample range and statistical personnel have been employed or definitely arranged for.

### **20.5 Duties - During Tournament**

- (a) Observe the functioning of the Statistical Office when first opened to help establish proper registration and squadding procedure. Make sure the Statistical Office has arranged to check all competitors' current NRA number and proper classification before issuing competitor's first squadding ticket.
- (b) Inspect target equipment and range personnel in company with the Match Director to insure that range will function properly.
- (c) Consult with Match Director and arrange to have Official Bulletins posted immediately covering any changes or corrections which have been authorized.
- (d) Personally observe scoring and bulletin methods used when targets for the first relay are being scored and call attention to any errors before an erroneous method becomes established.
- (e) Remain constantly alert for infractions of safety or competition rules by moving over the range behind the firing line from flank to flank; observing activities of target runners, Range Officers, scorers, statistical clerks, and spectators; watching competitors handling their guns, etc.

- (f) Report immediately to the Match Director any errors in administration or infractions of rules by competitors or personnel, requesting that the Match Director have them corrected at once. If the matter is one requiring instant action, the Official Referee should direct whatever action is required and report the action and reason therefore to the Match Director as soon as that officer can be reached.
- (g) In tournaments where situations occur that are not specifically covered by an existing rule or rules, the Referee shall exercise good judgment in ruling for the best interest of the shooting sports and competitors.
- (h) Personally consult with Statistical Officer at the conclusion of tournament to make sure that all bulletins have been properly completed and awards issued in accordance with the tournament program.
- (i) Forward to NRA Headquarters whatever reports may be currently required of him, including National Record Reporting forms, copies of protests, decisions, appeals and all written statements bearing on the case.

**20.6 Handling of Challenges and Protests** - Challenges and protests will be handled in the manner provided for in these rules.

**20.7 Assignment to Tournaments** - Official Referees are assigned to tournaments by NRA Headquarters.

### **20.9 Status of the NRA Official Referee**

- (a) The Official Referee will not give directions to the tournament operating personnel except through the Match Director. In all emergency cases involving the safety of personnel or property, the Official Referee will act immediately and forcefully, taking full responsibility and reporting the action thereafter to the Match Director and to the National Rifle Association when making the tournament report. In the event of a disagreement between match officials, the Official Referee shall prevail at the match with recourse only to the Protest Committee.
- (b) The Official Referee is a representative of the National Rifle Association present at a tournament to interpret the rules and regulations for the benefit of both the tournament officials and the competitors. It is the Referee's duty to see that all such rules and regulations are properly and efficiently enforced. Referees are not responsible for the actual administration and conduct of the tournament except to enforce the rules and regulations. It is the Referee's duty to make such suggestions and recommendations as are necessary to enable the tournament staff to operate in the most satisfactory manner.

## **21. NRA COMPETITION TOURNAMENT PROGRAMS**

*Note: The program for tournaments must describe the conditions of the match, the positions, handguns, caliber of handguns, ammunition, targets range and should cover all the following points.*

### **TOURNAMENT NAME:**

Do not designate "State Championship" unless authorized by the State Association; "Sectional" or "Regional Championship" unless authorized by the NRA.

### **TOURNAMENTS DATE(S):**

Date or dates of tournament.

**SPONSORING ORGANIZATION:**

Name of Club or Association.

**FOR INFORMATION CONCERNING TOURNAMENT, WRITE TO:**

Give name and complete address as you want it listed in Coming Events Notice.

**DIRECTIONS TO RANGE:**

List directions clearly, add map sketch if possible.

**RULES:**

The statement that NRA BB Gun Rules shall “govern” will allow the most liberal conditions found in those rules.

**COMPETITION OPEN TO:**

Indicate eligibility requirements. See Rule 1.7 (Tournament sponsors may restrict competition residents of certain areas; members of certain groups; competitors in certain classification groups; etc., provided such restriction is plainly stated in program.)

**REGISTRATION FEE:**

List amount of tournament registration fee to be charged each competitor, what it entitles him to (brassard, competitor number badge, etc., and a copy of the Official Bulletin).

**ENTRY FEE:**

State amount per match (team and individuals)

**ENTRIES:**

List name and address of person to whom entries should be mailed.

**ENTRIES CLOSE:**

Show date and time.

**POST ENTRIES:**

Show that Post Entries will or will not be accepted, closing time and fee.

**ENTRY LIMIT:**

State number of entries that will be accepted.

**FIRING STARTS:**

State hour first relay of first match will begin each day.

**CLASSIFICATION OF COMPETITORS:**

See General Regulations. If NRA Classification System is not used or if classes are combined. List details.

**AWARDS:**

List schedule of awards for individual and team matches. Specify method, time and place of issuing awards.

**MATCH SCHEDULE AND CONDITIONS:**

Give complete details on course of fire, type of sights, rifle or pistol, type of gun, any special conditions approved for the tournament such as time limits less than maximum, etc.

**GENERAL INFORMATION:**

List eating facilities, housing facilities, etc.

## **APPENDIX: GENERAL REGULATIONS FOR NRA SANCTIONED TOURNAMENTS**

Tournament sponsors must follow these Regulations as directed by Rule 1.4. They provide standard procedures required for the sanctioning of NRA Tournaments, establishing of fee structures, awards, reporting, cancellation, NRA membership requirements, and other item involved with NRA Sanctioned Tournaments, both Registered and Approved.

### **A. GENERAL REGULATIONS GOVERNING NRA APPROVED TOURNAMENTS**

#### **1. SANCTION OF NRA APPROVED TOURNAMENT(S):**

To obtain approval of tournaments, the following steps must be taken by the sponsoring organization in advance of the tournament.

- (a) Sent NRA your completed application and draft copies of your completed programs a minimum of **30 days** in advance of the tournament date.
- (b) If the above is not done, NRA reserves the right to cancel its sanction of the tournament.
- (c) In order to be listed once in the Coming Events section of Shooting Sports USA, your application and programs must be sanctioned by the Competitive Shooting Division by the 15th of the month, 30 days before the month of issue. If you desire publicity in more than one issue an additional month's notice must be allowed for each monthly listing.

**2. GRANTING OF APPROVED SANCTION:** As soon as the tournament is granted Approved sanction, one copy of the signed application, an Official Sanction Poster, and a corrected (if necessary) copy of the draft program will be returned to the sponsor. These items provide the authority to the sponsor to conduct the tournament. All changes and information provided in the approved draft program must appear in the final printed program. No major changes in courses of fire, number of matches, etc., may be made unless NRA is notified. This may be done in writing if time permits, or by including a copy of the Match Director's Bulletin in which makes the changes with the final results of the tournament.

**3. TOURNAMENT CANCELLATION:** If a tournament is canceled, NRA must be notified immediately.

**4. CLASSIFICATION OF COMPETITORS:** The NRA Classification System may be used, but is not required.

**5. COURSES OF FIRE IN APPROVED TOURNAMENTS, FOR CLASSIFICATION USE:** Courses of fire which may be used for classifications are listed in Rule 19.4. It is not required that these specific courses of fire be used in Approved Tournaments, but, if the scores are to be used for classification, they must be used.

**6. AWARDS:** All awards are furnished by the sponsor. The minimum award schedule must include only the Tournament Winner, that person/team firing the highest score regardless of classification or category. The method, time and place of issuance of awards is at the option of the sponsor with due notice to the competitors in the Tournament Program.

#### **7. ENTRY FEES:**

- (a) NRA Registration Fee: A fee of **\$2.00** per competitor is charged by the NRA for Approved Tournaments.

- (b) **Sponsor Entry Fees:** The amount of these fees is determined by the sponsor, and must be stated in the program separately from the NRA Registration Fees.

**8. TOURNAMENT OFFICIALS AS COMPETITORS:** All Officials of an NRA Approved Tournament may compete in that tournament.

**10. NRA MEMBERSHIP:** NRA membership is encouraged but not required for participation in NRA Approved Tournaments. However, sponsors may elect to restrict those persons entering the tournament to NRA members only, if they wish to do so.

**11. REPORTS TO NRA:** The Match Director is responsible for making certain that the following reports are forwarded to NRA within 30 days of firing. See Rule 19.13:

- (a) An SR-1 (Conventional) card for each competitor showing the total number of shots fired in individual matches and a total score; the number of shots fired in Fired Team Matches, and the total score of the fired match(es). The NRA membership ID number must be indicated on each card for classified competitors and NRA members who are not yet classified. Score Reporting cards are available free of charge upon request in packs of 50.
- (b) A registration fee reporting form, and remittance of **\$2.00** per competitor.
- (c) A copy of any special Match Director's Bulletins.

## **B. GENERAL REGULATIONS GOVERNING NRA REGISTERED TOURNAMENTS**

The following Regulations are established to provide standard procedures for all Registered Tournaments except Regional, Sectional, and National Championships. State Championships **MUST** be approved and recognized by the State Association (Rule 1.6).

**1. SANCTION OF NRA REGISTERED TOURNAMENTS:** To obtain approval of tournaments, the following steps must be taken by the sponsoring organization in advance of the tournament date:

- (a) Send NRA your completed applications and draft copies of your completed programs a minimum of **45 days** in advance of the tournament date.
- (b) If the above is not done, the NRA reserves the right to cancel its sanction of the tournament.
- (c) In order to be listed once in the Coming Events section of Shooting Sports USA, your application and programs must be sanctioned by the Competitive Shooting Division by the 15th of the month, 30 days before the month of issue. If you desire publicity in more than one issue an additional month's notice must be allowed for each monthly listing.

**2. GRANTING OF REGISTERED SANCTION:** As soon as the tournament is granted Registered sanction, one copy of the signed application, program, and an Official Sanction Poster, will be returned to the sponsor. In cases where a Referee is assigned, the Official Poster will be mailed after the Referee assignment is made, and the sponsor will be notified of the identity of the Referee at the same time. All changes and information provided in the approved draft program must appear in the final printed program. No major changes such as courses of fire, number of match, etc., may be made unless NRA is notified. This may be done in writing if time permits, or by including a copy of



the Match Director's Bulletin which makes the changes with the final results of the tournament.

**3. TOURNAMENT CANCELLATION:** If a tournament is canceled, NRA must be notified immediately.

*NOTE: UPON CANCELLATION OF A TOURNAMENT, IT IS ENTIRELY POSSIBLE THAT THE Shooting Sports USA LISTING WILL CONTINUE FOR ONE MONTH. IT IS NOT POSSIBLE TO REMOVE A TOURNAMENT FROM THE LISTING AFTER IT HAS BEEN SUBMITTED TO THE PRINTER.*

**4. CLASSIFICATION OF COMPETITORS:** The NRA National Classification or Category System must be used in Registered Tournaments.

**5. COURSES OF FIRE IN REGISTERED TOURNAMENTS, NATIONAL RECORDS AND CLASSIFICATIONS:** National Records may be set only in Registered Tournaments using courses of fire in Rule 17.5. Courses of fire which are used for classification are specified in Rule 19.4.

**6. AWARDS:** All awards are furnished by the sponsor. The method, time and place of issuance of awards is at the option of the sponsor with due notice to the competitors in the Tournament Program. In Registered Tournaments, the minimum award schedule must consist of the following:

- (a) Individual Match Awards Required:
  - (1) **Winner** in each individual fired match and in each aggregate, awarded to the competitor with the highest total score. Match winners may not receive a class award, but must be counted in with other members of that class to determine the number of class awards.
  - (2) **High Scoring Competitor** in each class in each match. Classes may be combined because of low entry, but the manner in which such combinations are made must be clearly stated in the program.
- (b) Team Awards Required: (if there are team matches in the program). Winning Team of each team match - the team firing highest total score in the match.

## **7. ENTRY FEES:**

- (a) NRA Registration Fee: A fee of \$2.00 per competitor is charged by the NRA for Registered Tournaments.
- (b) Sponsor Entry Fees: The amount of these fees is determined by the sponsor, and must be stated in the program separately from the NRA Registration Fees.

**8. TOURNAMENT OFFICIALS AS COMPETITORS:** The Match Director, Deputy Match Director, Chief Range Officer, and Chief Statistical Officer, may NOT compete in a tournament at which they are officiating. Rule 11 covers specific duties of Tournament Officials.

**9. NRA REFEREE:** An NRA Official Referee will be assigned by NRA to all National Championships. Other Registered Tournaments will have a 3-member Jury appointed by the Match Director. See Rule 11.2.1.

**10. NRA MEMBERSHIP REQUIRED:** NRA membership is encouraged, but not required of all competitors in a Registered Tournament, except for Juniors, who may be either individual members of the NRA, or members of an NRA affiliated organization. Sponsors must check NRA membership cards when issuing entry packets. Sponsors may accept NRA membership applications and fees from non-members who wish to enter the tournament.

**11. REPORTS TO NRA:** The Match Director is responsible for making certain that the following reports are forwarded to NRA within 30 day of firing. See Rule 19.13:

- (a) An SR-1 (Conventional) card for each competitor, showing the total number of shots fired in individual matches and a total score; the total number of shots fired in Fired Team Matches, and the total score of the fired team match(es). The NRA membership ID number must be indicated on each card. Score Reporting Cards are available free of charge on request in packs of 50.
- (b) A registration fee reporting form, and remittance of **\$2.00** per competitor.
- (c) A copy of any special Match Director's Bulletins.
- (d) A completed National Record Reporting form, even if no National Records were set.
- (e) Two complete sets of "Official Final Results Bulletin of Standings" for the tournament.

**12. FINAL RESULTS BULLETIN:** A copy of the Official Final Results Bulletin must be sent to each competitor participating in the tournament within 30 days.

*Note: The requirement to get the Final Results Bulletin to competitors within 30 days may be met by posting the results on an internet web site, provided competitors can download and/or print a paper copy. Sponsors who post electronic results will provide the competitors with the web site address and must provide a paper copy to competitors upon request.*

## GLOSSARY

Rifle shooting, like other sports, has its own language –technical terms, slang, and idioms. Many of the words and expressions used in these Official Regulations are defined as a part of the rules. The following explanations are given for the benefit of beginners to help them understand the regulations.

**Bullseye** - An aiming point printed on a target card. The aiming point for shooting is usually circular and contains concentric numbered rings for scoring purposes.

**Classification** - The grouping of individuals by averaging a number of match scores. Classifications are designed to have individuals compete for awards against others of similar competitive skill levels.

**Entry** - The act of declaring intent to shoot in a match and the paying of the required fee to the proper official in accordance with the program for each match.

**Framing (Mounting) Targets** - A term used to describe the act of placing targets on the mounting ready for firing.

**Match** - A complete event as indicated in the program for the issuance of certain specific awards. A match may consist of one or of several stages. It may, in the care of aggregate matches, include the scores fired in several subsidiary matches.

**Members of the National Rifle Association** - Any NRA individual member and junior members (persons 15 years of age or under during the calendar year in which the tournament occurs), of an NRA affiliated Junior Club or Association.

**Non-U.S. Citizens** - Non-U.S. Citizens who are also non-Residents, who are not members of the National Rifle Association of America, but who are members in good standing of their own National Association, and have adequate proof of such membership in hand, may compete in any NRA Sanctioned Tournament, unless further restrictions are imposed by conditions stated in the program.

**Post Entry** - An entry made after the regular entry closing time. Because of the extra work placed on the Statistical Office as a result of late entries, an additional fee is charged (the “Post Entry Fee”). Sometimes no post entries are accepted. “Post Entries” have no connection with “Postal Matches.”

**Score** - The total value of all required shots fired by a competitor in any one match.

**Sighting Shots** - Shots fired at a target provided for that purpose and used to obtain desired information relative to adjustment of sights for the match which immediately follows.

**String** - A series of shots (usually 5 or 10 shots) forming a part of a “stage.”

**Stage** - In a match fired in more than one position or on more than one target per position, then each position or targets is referred to as a “stage” of the match.

**Target** - A surface, usually paper or tagboard, containing one or more aiming points which is frequently called a target card.

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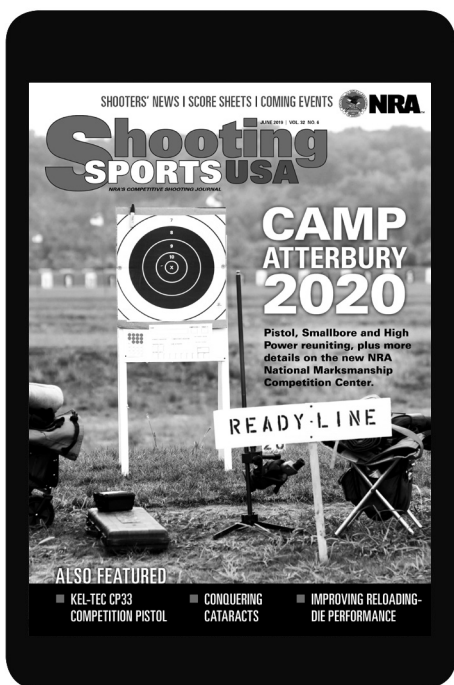
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