

# 2014-2016 NATIONAL STANDARD THREE-POSITION AIR RIFLE RULES

*National Standard Three-Position Air Rifle Rules is published by the National Three-Position Air Rifle Council. Council members are The American Legion, Boy Scouts of America, Civilian Marksmanship Program, Daisy/U. S. Jaycees Shooter Education Program, National 4-H Shooting Sports, The U. S. Army Marksmanship Unit, USA Shooting and the Army, Marine Corps, Navy and Air Force JROTC Commands.*



## 10th Edition

*Effective 1 September 2014*

*For the 2014-2016 Competition Year*

# Safety Rules for Air Rifle Ranges

*The most important rules to follow in any range or target shooting activity are safety rules. This applies equally for air rifles as well as for all types of firearms. These air rifle safety rules must be enforced at all shooting ranges by competition officials and coaches and followed by all athletes. All athletes, coaches and competition officials are responsible for knowing and following these rules.*

1. **MUZZLE** – Always keep rifle muzzles pointed in safe directions. Rifle muzzles must never be pointed at other persons under any circumstances. On a range, the safest direction to point a rifle muzzle is usually up, or downrange towards the targets.
2. **CLEAR BARREL INDICATOR (CBI)** – Clear Barrel Indicators or CBIs are synthetic monofilament cords (0.065" – 0.095" dia.) in fluorescent orange or a similar bright color that are inserted into air rifle bores so that the ends of the CBI protrude out of both the muzzle and open breech. CBIs confirm that air rifles are unloaded. CBIs must be inserted in all air rifles when they are brought to a range or removed from a gun case on a range. CBIs may be removed only during preparation periods, changeover periods and sighting or record firing times. The use of CBIs is mandatory in all Three-Position Air Rifle competitions.
3. **RIFLE ACTION** – Always keep rifle actions open, with CBIs inserted, except when the rifle is on the firing line between the beginning of the "preparation period" and the end of the firing period. When firing is finished or the rifle is laid down for any reason, the action must be opened and a CBI inserted. The action may be closed when an air rifle is placed in a gun case, but the action must be opened and a CBI inserted when it is removed from the case.
4. **TRIGGER** – Keep your finger off of the trigger until after shouldering the rifle and beginning to aim at the target. It is especially important to keep the finger outside of the trigger guard when loading the rifle and when lifting it up into position.
5. **RANGE OFFICER** – A Range Officer is in charge of firing on every range. The commands and instructions of the Range Officer or person in charge of firing must be obeyed. Range Officers must check rifles brought to the range to be sure actions are open with CBIs inserted. When shooting is finished, range officers must check rifles to be sure actions are open with CBIs inserted.
6. **GROUNDING RIFLES** – Grounding a rifle means opening its action, inserting a CBI in it and placing it on the firing point. Grounded rifles may not be touched until a Range Officer authorizes you to handle your rifle. Then you may pick up your rifle and get into a firing position with it. You may not, however, remove the CBI, close the action or dry fire until the Preparation Period begins. When you finish firing, open the action, insert a CBI and ground your rifle on the firing line. Leave the rifle grounded on your firing point until the Range Officer instructs you to handle it again.

**CONTINUED ON INSIDE BACK COVER**

This is the Tenth Edition of the ***National Standard Three-Position Air Rifle Rules***. This edition is valid for two years, from September 2014 through August 2016. **All new rules or rules that were substantially changed from the Ninth (2012-2014) Edition are underlined.** Editorial or stylistic changes are not marked. These Rules incorporate numerous recommendations from junior shooting coaches and competition officials and have been coordinated with the 2013-2016 International Shooting Sport Federation (ISSF) Rules.

## RULES HOTLINE

The National Three Position Air Rifle Council operates a Rules Hotline to answer questions, offer advice on how to organize competitions or provide official rule interpretations on behalf of the Council. Any coach, athlete or competition official may request assistance from the **National Council Rules Hotline** by calling 419-635-2141, ext. 1102 or 1131, or via email at [3PAR@TheCMP.org](mailto:3PAR@TheCMP.org).

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# 1.0 GENERAL REGULATIONS

## 1.1 NATIONAL GOVERNING BODY

The National Three-Position Air Rifle Council is the primary National Governing Body for Three-Position Air Rifle shooting in the USA. The Council consists of representatives of major youth-serving organizations in the USA that are active in the promotion and development of Three-Position Air Rifle shooting. Council Members agree to participate in Council efforts to establish a national standard rulebook for all Three-Position Air Rifle competitions and to use these Rules in all Three-Position Air Rifle competitions that they organize, conduct or sanction. Council members are The American Legion, Boy Scouts of America, Civilian Marksmanship Program, Daisy/U. S. Jaycees Shooter Education Program, 4-H Shooting Sports, the Army, Marine Corps, Navy and Air Force Cadet Commands, the U. S. Army Marksmanship Unit and USA Shooting. Council membership is open to other national shooting sports or youth-serving organizations that promote Three-Position Air Rifle shooting.

## 1.2 INTRODUCTION

Three-Position Air Rifle shooting is a widely practiced shooting sports discipline for youth of high school age or younger. Three-Position Air Rifle events originated from Olympic and ISSF three-position and air rifle events and are designed to have broad appeal both to youth who want an accessible recreational sport and youth who aspire to participate in high-performance competition. There are two different Three-Position Air Rifle equipment classes. Precision Air Rifle is modeled after ISSF and Olympic-style shooting and allows the use of specialized target air rifles and equipment. Sporter Air Rifle is designed for organizations and athletes that want to compete with a minimum of equipment and expense. In both classes, athletes fire at targets at a distance of 10 meters in three positions, prone, standing and kneeling. Three-Position Air Rifle provides young athletes with competitive shooting opportunities that foster good sportsmanship, respect and positive life skills in a safe, enjoyable setting.

## 1.3 PURPOSE OF RULES

The purpose of these Rules is to establish a single national standard rulebook for Three-Position Air Rifle competitions in the United States. All athletes, team leaders and competition officials must be familiar with these Rules and ensure that they are followed and enforced.

## 1.4 INTENT AND SPIRIT OF RULES

The Rules are intended to ensure fair competition for all. Anything that may give an athlete an advantage over others and that is not specifically authorized in these Rules, or that is contrary to the intent and spirit of these Rules, is prohibited (Rule 4.1.5). Range Officers and Juries may decide cases not provided for in these Rules, but any such decisions must be based on the intent and spirit of these Rules. **A Match Director, Range Officer or Jury may not make any decision or ruling that is contrary to these Rules.**

## 1.5 APPLICATION OF RULES

These Rules shall govern the conduct of all Three-Position Air Rifle competitions that are organized, conducted or sanctioned by Council Members. Other organizations that promote youth shooting competitions are encouraged to use these Rules to govern their Three-Position Air Rifle competitions. These Rules may also be used to govern non-sanctioned Three-Position Air Rifle competitions.

## 1.6 AMENDMENTS TO THE RULES

The National Three-Position Air Rifle Council establishes these rules and has the sole authority to amend or modify them. The National Three-Position Air Rifle Council meets annually to review the **National Standard Three-Position Rifle Rules** and approve amendments to the Rules. In an emergency, the Council may meet electronically to decide an urgent rules matter. Recommendations for rule changes may be submitted to the National Three-Position Air Rifle Council at this address:

National Three-Position Air Rifle Council  
Camp Perry, P. O. Box 576  
Port Clinton, Ohio 43452  
[3PAR@TheCMP.org](mailto:3PAR@TheCMP.org)

Tel. 419-635-2141, ext. 1102 or 1131, Fax 419-635-2573

### **1.7 NATIONAL JURY OF APPEAL**

The National Three-Position Air Rifle Council annually elects a National Jury of Appeal consisting of three experienced, expert competition officials. The National Jury issues rule interpretations, decides team eligibility cases, resolves protests and makes Rule 5.1.4 rulings regarding athletes with physical impairments. The National Jury may decide protests appealed to it by participants in sanctioned competitions (see Rule 9.2). National Jury decisions on protests are final and cannot be appealed. Anyone who wants a rule interpretation or who wants to resolve a protest or dispute should contact the Council at the above address.

### **1.8 SANCTIONED COMPETITIONS**

Sanctioned competitions are competitions that are officially recognized by the National Three-Position Air Rifle Council. National Championship competitions conducted by organizations that are members of the Council are considered to be Council-sanctioned competitions without any further requirement to apply for sanctioning. Any team, club, JROTC unit or other group affiliated or enrolled with a Council Member may apply to have those matches sanctioned by the Council. All competitions sanctioned by the Council are listed in a national registry of upcoming events that is posted on the CMP website at <http://ct.thecmp.org/app/v1/index.php?do=matchRegistrationListUpcoming>. Athletes in sanctioned matches are eligible to earn National Council achievement awards and establish National Records. The Civilian Marksmanship Program administers the Council's competition sanctioning program. Types of matches that may be sanctioned are postal matches, leagues, regular shoulder-to-shoulder matches, CMP Cup Matches and State 3PAR Junior Olympic Championships. To submit a sanctioning application, complete a copy of the **Application to Conduct a Sanctioned Three-Position Air Rifle Match** that can be downloaded from the CMP web site at <http://www.TheCMP.org/3P/Forms/SanctApp.pdf>. Send completed applications, with sanctioning fees and a copy of the match program to:

CMP Competitions—3-P Air Rifle

P. O. Box 576

Port Clinton, Ohio 43452

Email: [3PAR@TheCMP.org](mailto:3PAR@TheCMP.org)

Tel. (419) 635-2141, ext. 1102 or 1131, Fax (419) 635-2573

Match applications, with a competition program and associated fees must be received at CMP at least one month prior to the competition. This ensures that there is enough time to process the application, ship requested materials and advertise the competition.

## **2.0 SAFETY**

Safety is the foremost priority in all shooting sports. The safety of athletes, competition officials and spectators requires constant, disciplined attention to safe gun handling. Applicable safety rules for Three-Position Air Rifle competitions include both this rule (Rule 2.0) and the **SAFETY RULES FOR AIR RIFLE RANGES** printed on the inside front and back covers of these Rules. Athletes, coaches and competition officials are responsible for following all established safety rules and safe rifle-handling procedures.

### **2.1 CARRYING AND HANDLING RIFLES**

All rifles must always be carried and handled with maximum care. Rifles may be carried to or from the ready area behind the firing line if rifle actions are open with CBIs inserted. While in the ready area, athletes may adjust their rifles in preparation for firing if rifle actions are open with CBIs inserted, but they may not remove CBIs, close rifle actions, point them or get into firing positions with them.

### **2.2 CLEAR BARREL INDICATORS**

The use of Clear Barrel Indicators (CBIs) made of fluorescent orange (recommended color) or a similar bright colored material and long enough to visibly protrude from both the breech and muzzle when inserted in rifle bores is mandatory in all Three-Position Air Rifle competitions. CBIs must be inserted before an air rifle is brought to the range or when it is removed from a gun case. CBIs may only be removed during Preparation and Sighting, Changeover, Sighting and Record Fire Stages. When a Record Fire Stage is completed, a CBI must be inserted and

the rifle must be grounded. CBIs must remain inserted after cleared rifles are removed from the firing line and as long as the rifle remains on the range. CBIs may be removed when air rifles are replaced in gun cases.

### **2.3 GROUNDING RIFLES**

A grounded rifle is a rifle with its action open and a CBI inserted that is placed on the shooting mat or bench. No one may handle a grounded rifle without a Range Officer's approval. When the Range Officer authorizes athletes to move their equipment and air rifles to the firing line (Rule 7.4), they may be instructed to ground their rifles on the firing point if it will be necessary to go downrange to hang targets. Rifles must always be grounded with CBIs inserted after a Record Fire Stage is completed (Rule 2.6) so that the Range Officer can check them.

### **2.4 LOAD**

Rifles may only be loaded on the firing line after the command **START** or **LOAD** is given. The rifle barrel must be pointed up or downrange during loading. In competition events with a separate Preparation and Sighting or Sighting Stage (Rule 5.3), the command **START** is given without the command **LOAD**. In this case, the command **START** authorizes athletes to begin loading and firing their rifles when they are ready to do so. If there is a Final, the command **LOAD** is used to initiate each Final Round record shot and is followed by a **START** command ten seconds later.

### **2.5 START**

Athletes may begin to fire at their targets only after the Range Officer gives the command **START**. The command "**START**" must only be used to signal the start of live-fire sighting or record fire stages, but not to begin a call to the line (pre-preparation) or Changeover Stage when live-fire shooting is not permitted.

### **2.6 COMPLETION OF FIRING**

After athletes fire the last shot in a record fire stage, they must open their rifle actions, insert CBIs and ground their rifles on the floor or bench. After grounding or benching their rifles, athletes may make sight, stock or accessory adjustments or changes on their rifle, but they may not handle their rifles after the commands **STOP** or **STOP-UNLOAD** are given and the line is cleared.

### **2.7 STOP**

When the command **STOP** or **STOP-UNLOAD** is given, shooting must stop immediately. After the command **STOP-UNLOAD**, all rifles must be in a safe, unloaded condition, with CBIs inserted and grounded or benched on the firing point. After the command **STOP**, no further firing is authorized until a **START** command is given.

### **2.8 LOADED RIFLE**

If an athlete has a loaded rifle after the command **STOP-UNLOAD**, the athlete must remain in position with the muzzle pointed down range and inform the Range Officer that he/she has a loaded rifle by raising his/her hand. The Range Officer will then direct the athlete to clear the rifle by firing into a pellet discharge container (PDC) or towards an area of the backstop where there are no targets (Rule 7.14.5).

### **2.9 GOING DOWN RANGE**

Whenever anyone goes downrange to change or retrieve targets or for any other purpose, all air rifles on the firing line must be grounded with actions open and CBIs inserted. No one may touch or handle air rifles while anyone is downrange.

### **2.10 REMOVING RIFLES FROM THE FIRING LINE**

Rifles may be removed from the firing line only after all rifles are grounded or benched with actions open and CBIs inserted, the firing line is cleared by the Range Officer and the Range Officer gives instructions to remove rifles from the firing line. Any rifle that remains loaded must be unloaded before it can be removed from the firing line (Rule 2.8). No rifle may be removed from the firing line during a competition until it is cleared by a Range Officer.

### **2.11 USING RIFLE CASES**

Rifles may be brought to the range in hard or soft rifle cases. The Range Officer will determine and announce in advance whether gun cases may be opened or closed in the ready area behind the firing line or whether rifles may only be removed from or replaced into rifle cases on the firing line. Regardless of where rifle cases are opened, rifle actions must be opened and CBIs inserted just as soon as cases are opened. When cases are opened on the firing line, cases must be oriented so the rifle muzzles point downrange when cases are opened. When a



rifle is returned to a case, the CBI may be removed, the action may be closed and the trigger released immediately prior to closing the case if this procedure is done on the firing line. Closing the action and releasing the trigger to discharge air or gas after the line has been cleared may only be done when authorized by the Range Officer who will instruct athletes to **DISCHARGE AIR OR GAS DOWNRANGE**.

### **2.12 RANGE SAFETY EMERGENCY**

Any person who observes an unsafe situation anywhere on the range must notify a Range Officer immediately. If a Range Officer is not immediately available, any person may command **STOP** in a safety emergency.

### **2.13 PERSONAL SAFETY**

#### **2.13.1 Eye and Hearing Protection**

All athletes, team coaches and competition officials who are on or near the firing line are urged to wear eye protection. The wearing of hearing protection is optional for air rifle shooting. If special regulations for a competition or range require athletes or officials to wear eye or ear protection, that requirement must be published in the Competition Program (Rule 5.6).

#### **2.13.2 Personal Hygiene**

All athletes and other personnel who handle lead pellets must not handle food during shooting and they must wash their hands immediately after completing shooting.

### **2.14 ENFORCEMENT**

Any athlete who handles a rifle in an unsafe manner or who violates safety rules may be given a warning or deduction of points in accordance with Rule 7.19. Any athlete who handles a rifle in an unsafe manner that endangers the safety of another person may be disqualified in accordance with 7.19.5.

## **3.0 ELIGIBILITY TO COMPETE**

### **3.1 INDIVIDUAL ATHLETES**

Any person may compete in School Age Three-Position Air Rifle competitions until 31 August of the year in which they graduate from high school or the equivalent. There is no minimum age limit. Athletes who represent schools must meet the eligibility requirements of their school or school's governing organization. Athletes who graduate from school at mid-semester or during the current school year continue to be eligible to compete until 31 August following that school year.

### **3.2 TEAMS**

Clubs or schools that enter team events are governed by strict eligibility requirements that are designed to promote the development of strong local shooting club and school teams and to prevent the formation of all-star teams that recruit the best athletes from other shooting programs, usually to the detriment of those programs. Teams must comply with these Rules:

#### **3.2.1 Team Composition**

All teams, except Best-Four-Count Teams (Rule 3.2.2), consist of four athletes. Teams must represent a club, school, JROTC unit or other similar organization. All team members must be members of or be enrolled in the club, team, school or other organization for at least 30 days prior to the date of the competition. Each team member must meet the eligibility criteria for the category in which a team is entered. All team members must be entered as members of that team before the first team member(s) starts record fire in the competition.

#### **3.2.2 Team Categories**

Competition programs may provide for team competitions in the following categories:

- **Scholastic Teams.** Scholastic Teams consist of eligible athletes that represent one school or one JROTC unit. All team members must be enrolled in or be a members of that school or JROTC unit. A single JROTC unit that enrolls students from more than one school may compete as a Scholastic Team.
- **Club Teams.** Club Teams consist of eligible athletes that represent a club or other eligible organization. All team members must be members of the club or organization.

- **Best-Four-Count Teams.** Best-Four-Count Teams are teams where more than four team members fire in a four-person team event with the four highest team member scores counting as the team score. The Competition Program must clearly state that Best-Four-Count Teams are allowed and specify whether teams are restricted to five or a limited number of team members or an unlimited number of team members. The team score of a Best-Four-Count Team is the total of the four best scores from among all athletes entered by that organization in the team event. Best-Four-Count Teams may not establish National Records.

### **3.2.3 Geographic Proximity**

All team members must reside in the geographic proximity of the city where the club, team, school or other organization is located. Teams with members who reside more than 75 miles from the club, team or school location must request a team eligibility ruling from the National Jury of Appeal. Note: The purpose of this rule is not to require that all team members live within 75 miles of the team's location, but rather to require that when team members live more than 75 miles from the team location there is a valid reason for including them on the team (i.e. no home club, home club does not shoot precision, etc.). The 75-mile limit simply requires teams with athletes who live outside of that limit to complete the **Team Eligibility Form** to request a National Jury review before the teams are eligible to enter competitions.

### **3.2.4 Regular Participation**

All team members must participate regularly in club or team activities such as training sessions or club meetings. An athlete who attempts to join a team only to participate in selected competitions is not eligible to shoot with that team.

### **3.2.5 Determining Team Eligibility**

A Jury appointed in accordance with Rule 6.3 may make an eligibility determination at a competition. The National Jury of Appeal (1.7, 9.2) is authorized to make binding eligibility rulings after evaluating each eligibility determination request for compliance with this rule (3.2). If a Jury at a competition ruled that a team has an ineligible member, this must be reported to the National Jury of Appeal so that a binding eligibility ruling may be made. In other cases where doubt exists regarding the eligibility of a team or individual members of a team or where one or more team members live more than 75 miles from the team's location, teams are urged to request an eligibility ruling from the National Jury of Appeal in advance. To request a National Jury ruling, open and complete the **Team Eligibility Form** (a fillable online form) on the CMP website at [www.thecmp.org/3P/Forms.htm](http://www.thecmp.org/3P/Forms.htm).

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

A person may belong to two or more clubs, schools and/or a JROTC unit or other similar organization and may compete as a member of different teams in different competitions. However, no one may compete as a member of more than one team in one competition. *Note: An athlete cannot fire on a school sporter team and a club precision team in the same competition.*

### **3.2.7 Team Member Substitutions**

If an illness or disciplinary issue arises over the course of a two or multi-day competition, the coach may replace an athlete with an alternate with the approval of the Competition Director or Jury. *Note: Firing a low score on the first day of a competition is not considered an illness or disciplinary issue.*

## **3.3 EQUIPMENT CLASSES**

Three-Position Air Rifle competitions usually have two equipment classes, Sporter and Precision. If a Sporter Class is offered, all rifles and equipment in that class must comply with Sporter Class equipment rules. If a Precision Class is offered, all rifles and equipment in that class must comply with Precision Class equipment rules. If both Sporter and Precision Class events are offered in the same competition, individual athletes or teams may not enter in both the Sporter and Precision individual or team events in the same competition. A club, school or other organization may, however, enter individuals and one or more teams in Sporter Class competition and different individuals and one or more teams of different athletes in Precision Class competition.

### **3.4 SPECIAL CATEGORIES AND CLASSIFICATIONS**

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

#### **3.4.1 Sex**

Athletes may be divided into male and female categories.

#### **3.4.2 Organizations**

Athletes may be divided into special categories for different types of organizations such as JROTC units, 4-H clubs, American Legion clubs, Boy Scout troops, BSA Venturing crews or other defined groups.

#### **3.4.3 Special Age Categories**

Athletes in the School Age category may be subdivided into the following age categories:

**Age Group 1:** Athletes who reach their 17th or 18th birthday in the calendar year of the competition or who are older than 18 and still meet the eligibility criteria for School Age athletes (see Rule 3.1).

**Age Group 2:** Athletes who reach their 15th or 16th birthday in the calendar year of the competition.

**Age Group 3:** Athletes who will not reach their 15th birthday in the calendar year of the competition.

#### **3.4.4 Skill-Level Classifications**

Athletes may be divided into classifications based on average scores in previous competitions.

#### **3.4.5 New Shooter Category**

Athletes who have limited experience in organized target shooting may be designated as "New Shooters" and special awards may be given to members of this category. The match program must define New Shooters. *Note: New Shooters typically are athletes who began competition shooting within the past six, nine or 12 months and who are below a specified maximum age. The Council recommends defining a "New Shooter" as an eligible athlete who has not participated in a competition prior to the most recent 1st of April.*

## **4.0 AIR RIFLES AND EQUIPMENT**

### **4.1 EQUIPMENT CLASSES**

Competition sponsors may conduct competition events in any of the following equipment classes. Each is based on the type of air rifles that athletes are permitted to use. The Competition Program must state which equipment classes are offered. If both Sporter and Precision Class events are offered in the same competition, the same individual athletes or teams may not enter in both the Sporter and Precision individual or team events (Rule 3.3).

#### **4.1.1 Sporter Class**

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

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

A competition sponsor may, as an option, offer special awards for Sporter Class athletes who use pneumatic air rifles. Competition sponsors may not exclude other legal sporter air rifles from the Sporter Class in that competition if they offer special awards for pneumatic air rifles.

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

In a Precision Class event, all rifles and equipment in that event must comply with the Precision Air Rifle Equipment Rules (Rules 4.4, 4.5, 4.6 and 4.7). If no Sporter Class event is offered in the competition, athletes may fire Sporter Class rifles in a Precision Class event. Precision Class teams may include one, two or three athletes who fire Sporter Class rifles. An athlete who uses a legal Sporter Class rifle and clothing while firing as a member of a Precision Class team may be ranked in the individual rankings as a sporter class athlete if there are Sporter and Precision Class events in the same competition.

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

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

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

Any rifles, devices, equipment, accessories or apparel that could give an athlete an advantage over others, that are not specifically approved in these Rules or that are contrary to the spirit of these Rules are prohibited. The use of any special devices, means or garments that immobilize, provide artificial support or unduly reduce the flexibility of the athlete's legs, body or arms is prohibited. The athlete is responsible for submitting equipment to competition officials for inspection in cases where doubt exists. Competition Officials have the right to examine the athlete's equipment at any time to be sure it complies with these Rules.

#### **4.1.6 One Rifle Per Athlete**

No athlete in a Sporter or Precision Class event may use more than one rifle in a competition unless that rifle has a malfunction that cannot be repaired and is replaced with another rifle in accordance with Rule 7.16.1.

#### **4.1.7 600 FPS Velocity Restriction**

The 600 fps muzzle velocity restriction given for both Sporter and Precision air rifles is a guideline to preclude the use or proposed use of high velocity air rifles in the Precision Class because high velocity pellets could damage pellet traps and cause safety problems on many air rifle ranges. Competition Directors do not need to check velocities, but they may do so if the alteration of an approved rifle is suspected. *Note: It is possible that air rifles producing velocities below 600 fps with lead pellets may produce velocities slightly above 600 fps when lighter, non-lead pellets are fired.*

### **4.2 SPORTER AIR RIFLE**

The Sporter Air Rifle is intended to be a low cost, entry-level rifle without specialized modifications that add to the cost of the rifle. Sporter air rifles must be .177 caliber (4.5 mm) pneumatic, spring air, compressed air or CO<sub>2</sub> rifles with a muzzle velocity of 600 fps or less that comply with these requirements:

#### **4.2.1 Approved Rifles**

- ⊙ Air Rifles officially approved for Sporter Class air rifle competitions are the AirForce Air Guns Edge, Crosman CH2000 (CO<sub>2</sub>), Crosman CH2009 (CO<sub>2</sub> or compressed air), Daisy M853/753/953/853CM (pneumatic), Daisy 888/887 (CO<sub>2</sub>), Daisy XSV40 Valiant (compressed air), Air Arms T200 (compressed air, with non-adjustable cheek-piece and butt-plate) and the Champions Choice T200 (CZ 200T, compressed air, with adjustable cheek-piece and butt-plate). Daisy 887/888 rifles may have 2010 model replacement stocks.
- ⊙ Rule 4.2.1 approval of an air rifle as a legal Sporter Class air rifle confirms that a specific air rifle fulfills National Standard Rule 4.0 requirements for velocity, function, cost, weight, trigger pull and general configuration. Any air rifle not included in the list of approved Sporter air rifles that complies with this rule must be submitted to the National Three-Position Air Rifle Council for approval before it can be added to the list of approved rifles.
- ⊙ Any currently approved Sporter Class air rifle that is not currently available to junior clubs or teams at a cost of \$525.00 or less will lose its Sporter Class approval. Air rifles of that model that were purchased at a cost of less than \$525.00 may continue to be used in Sporter Class competitions. The price ceiling specified in this rule may be a price that is available to junior shooting clubs or team through a manufacturer's special marketing program. *Note: Special marketing prices for junior shooting programs are available for Champions Choice, Crosman and Daisy Sporter Class air rifles and are pending for Air Force Air Guns. For detailed information regarding special marketing programs, contact [3PAR@TheCMP.org](mailto:3PAR@TheCMP.org) or call 419-635-2141, ext. 1102 or 1131.*

- ⊙ At competitions below the national championship level, competition directors may authorize the use of other lighter, lower-cost air rifles provided that only .177 cal. pellets are fired in them at velocities of less than 600 fps.

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

The total weight of the rifle with sights and attachments (sling not included) may not be more than 7.5 pounds (3.402 kg). If a compressed air or CO<sub>2</sub> rifle is used, the cylinder (full or empty) must be weighed with the rifle. Weight may be added to the rifle as long as the total weight of the rifle does not exceed 7.5 pounds. Weights may be added in any internal location. Any external weights (visible from outside the rifle) must be placed on the barrel or on the fore-end. Barrel weights must be within a radius of 30mm (1.2 in.) from the center of the barrel. Weights on the fore-end may not extend more than 50mm (2.0") from the fore-end. *Note: Weights attached to the barrel may extend no more than 30mm in any direction from the center-line of the bore. Weights may be attached to the fore-end rail as long as they protrude no more than 50mm from any surface of the fore-end.*

#### **4.2.3 Trigger Weight**

The minimum trigger pull for a Sporter air rifle is 1.5 pounds (680.4 grams). The cocked trigger must be capable of lifting a weight of 1.5 pounds. Trigger pull weights must be checked with a fixed, hanging weight. When triggers are tested, the test weight must be lifted so that its entire weight is clear of its support surface. *Note: Merely shifting the weight on the support surface is not sufficient; the entire trigger weight must be lifted so that it is suspended above the support surface.* If a rifle does not lift the weight on the first attempt, a maximum of three total attempts may be made. The weight must be lifted on at least one of the three attempts. The athlete or athlete's coach may make one of the three attempts. If a trigger is weighed before a competition as part of an equipment inspection and it does not pass, the trigger may be adjusted and resubmitted for additional trigger weight tests. Competition officials may check trigger pull weights before a competition (during equipment control), during a competition or immediately after a competition. If a trigger is tested and fails to lift a 1.5 pound trigger weight during or after a competition, all scores fired with that rifle up to that time in that competition must be disqualified. Electronic trigger testing devices may be used to check rifles, but any decisions regarding whether the trigger passes must be confirmed with a 1.5-pound trigger weight.

#### **4.2.4 Stock**

- ⊙ Sporter air rifle stocks must be symmetrically shaped so that either a right or left-handed athlete can use them. The stock may be refinished or painted any color. The cheek-piece or pistol grip may not be anatomically formed (special shaping to fit or hold the hand or fingers). Except for modifications to the stock length, cheek-piece or pistol grip that are authorized by this rule, no other external modifications to the stock are permitted.
- ⊙ The length of pull of any Sporter Class stock may be adjusted by the use of spacers or other means. Stocks may be shortened so that they are shorter than the original factory minimum length of pull.
- ⊙ If the stock has an adjustable cheek-piece, the cheek-piece may be adjusted during the competition. The cheek-piece of any Sporter Class rifle may be altered in height or thickness by the addition of wood, cardboard, tape or other material or the cheek-piece may be cut and a higher replacement cheek-piece installed. Altered cheek-pieces must remain symmetrical and may not be anatomically formed.
- ⊙ The butt of the stock may be rough, checkered or scored to provide a non-slip surface, or covered with a non-slip material such as rubber or similar material or a rubber slip-on recoil pad, but the butt-plate of one approved air rifle may not be substituted for the butt-plate of another approved air rifle. The original butt-plate may also be removed.
- ⊙ If the stock has an adjustable butt-plate with vertical or length of pull adjustments, the butt-plate may be adjusted during the competition. The lowest point of the butt-plate in its maximum downward position may not be lower than 8.5 in. (216 mm) below the centerline of the bore. The butt-plate must remain vertical and may not be rotated on its horizontal axis.

- ⊙ Wood, plastic wood or other material may be added to the lower, forward surface of the pistol grip, but the dimensions of a modified pistol grip may not exceed the maximum dimensions of the factory pistol grip on any approved Sporter air rifle and the pistol grip may not be anatomically formed.
- ⊙ The moveable fore-end attachment on the AFAG Edge may be moved between positions (because of its short length).
- ⊙ Metal barrel supports may be substituted for plastic Daisy XSV40/AA T200 barrel supports provided the replacement supports have the same dimensions as the original barrel support.

#### **4.2.5 Internal Modifications**

The functioning of internal parts may be smoothened or improved, but only factory manufactured parts designed for that specific model rifle and functioning as they were originally intended to function may be used. It is permitted to polish, file or otherwise reduce the dimensions of the hammer rim or sear or to install a setscrew in the trigger guard of Daisy 853/753/953/887/888 air rifles as a means of reducing sear engagement. It is permitted to shorten the factory trigger spring as a means of adjusting trigger tension provided the trigger complies with Rule 4.2.3. *Note: The authorization to install a setscrew in Daisy air rifle does not permit the installation of a setscrew to limit trigger movement or over-travel after the trigger is released.*

#### **4.2.6 Prohibited Modifications**

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

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

A sling swivel or hand stop that is attached to a rail in the fore-end may be used. The sling swivel or hand stop, with the sling swivel folded flat, may not exceed 25 mm in depth, except that the adjustable hand stop provided with the Daisy 853CM is permitted. The sling swivel must be removed in the standing position, except that on sporter rifles where it cannot readily be removed, the sling swivel must be adjusted so that it does not contact the hand or glove in the standing position.

#### **4.2.8 Sights**

- ⊙ Corrective lenses may be worn by the athlete, but may not be placed in the sights. Telescopic sight systems, sights with corrective lenses or light filters in the rear sights are not permitted. Spirit levels on any part of the rifle are prohibited.
- ⊙ Only sights manufactured for and sold with that particular Sporter air rifle are permitted, except when sight exchanges are specifically authorized in this rule. Sights not manufactured for and sold with a specific, approved Sporter air rifle (see Rule 4.2.1) are not permitted.
- ⊙ Sights for the Daisy 753/887 air rifle (El Gamo-type sights) may be used on any Daisy 853/953/888 air rifles.
- ⊙ Modifications may be made to the El Gamo-type sight to reduce the play or movement of the rear aperture holder.
- ⊙ Riser blocks manufactured for the initial series of Daisy XSV40 air rifles may be used with the front and rear sights of those rifles, however, any XSV40 air rifle sold in 2003 or later that has a serial number with the letter "X" may not be used with riser blocks. Riser blocks may not be used on any other sporter air rifles.
- ⊙ No part of the front sight may extend beyond the apparent end of the barrel or barrel weight. A longer barrel or barrel weight may not be used to extend the sight radius beyond the rifle's original sight radius as provided by the manufacturer. Any non-adjustable interchangeable front sight apertures or inserts, metallic, synthetic or colored, may be used in approved Sporter air rifle front sights; different sized apertures may be used in different positions.
- ⊙ An adjustable iris or adjustable aperture may not be used in the front or rear sight.

- ⊙ Metal front sight bases may be substituted for plastic Daisy XSV40/AA T200 front sight bases, provided they have the same dimensions as the original sight base.

### **4.3 SPORTER CLOTHING AND ACCESSORIES**

#### **4.3.1 Clothing**

- ⊙ A maximum of two loose fitting shirts or sweatshirts may be worn. A light, loose-fitting T-shirt or undershirt may be worn under the two shirts or sweatshirts. Hooded sweatshirts may be worn, but the hood must be down. A sweatshirt with a zipper or button closure may be worn. Tight fitting undergarments such as Under Armour™ are not permitted because they vary in thickness and strength and do in some cases provide support.
- ⊙ One pair of ordinary, sport or casual trousers or jeans is allowed. Trousers must not fit so tightly as to provide additional support. If a skirt is worn, it must fall loosely over the legs so that it does not support the legs or restrict their movement in the standing or kneeling positions.
- ⊙ Shooting jackets and special shooting pants are not permitted. Special shooting sweaters, shirts or jackets with additional or special pads are not permitted.
- ⊙ Shirts or sweatshirts may not be twisted, rolled or otherwise configured to provide additional layers of clothing thickness or to provide additional support for a position. Note: This prohibits the rolling or shaping of clothing to provide additional layers of support for the support arm in standing. Shirts or sweatshirts may not be tucked into the trousers (does not apply to the T-shirt or undershirt). Pockets or double layers of material are not permitted on shirts, sweatshirts or trousers in any of the normal rifle or position contact areas (shoulder, sling location, under standing support arm, knee).
- ⊙ A normal waist belt that is not more than 40 mm wide and 3.0 mm thick may be worn with the trousers. The belt buckle or fastener or doubled extension of the belt must not be used to support the left arm or elbow in the standing position.
- ⊙ A hook, safety pin or button attached to the sling arm or shoulder is allowed to prevent the sling from slipping.

#### **4.3.2 Shoes**

Normal low-cut, street-type or light athletic shoes must be worn in all positions. Shoes may not extend above the mid-point of the ankle and must have a flexible sole. Only one pair of shoes may be used and they must be a matched pair. Athletes may not wear sandals or socks or shoot without footwear (i.e. bare footed). All types of high-top boots, including military issue or “combat” boots, commercial shooting boots or special low-cut commercial shooting shoes are prohibited.

#### **4.3.3 Sling and Sling Swivel**

A shooting sling is permitted in Sporter air rifle events in the prone and kneeling positions, provided it is no more than 1 1/4 inches (32 mm) in width. The sling must be a simple web, leather or synthetic strap, with no padding or special (asymmetrical) shaping. The arm loop may have a thin non-slip lining. “GunShot” or “Mongoose” slings are approved for Sporter Class competition. Top Grip or a similar material may be stitched to the inside of the arm loop, but the lining may not be so thick as to provide padding. The sling may have a means of adjusting its length and a means of tightening the sling around the upper arm. Sling closure may be accomplished with a buckle, Velcro™ or other similar means. The sling must be worn only around the upper left arm and from there be connected to the fore-end of the rifle stock. The sling must pass along one side of the hand or wrist only. No part of the rifle may touch the sling except at the sling swivel/hand stop. The sling swivel may be adjusted between positions, but it may not be adjusted so that it contacts the hand or glove in the standing position.

#### **4.3.4 Glove**

One ordinary glove or shooting glove may be worn on the left hand only. There is no thickness limitation for Sporter Class gloves. The glove may not be so stiff or tight that it artificially supports or binds the wrist so that it cannot bend.

#### **4.3.5 Corrective Lenses and Eyeglasses**

Corrective lenses may be worn by the athlete, but may not be placed in the sights. Athletes may wear normal prescription eyeglasses or contact lenses. Athletes may also

wear protective eyewear. Special shooting glasses made solely for use in target rifle or pistol shooting are not permitted in Sporter Class competition.

#### 4.3.6 Adhesive Sprays and Non-Slip Grip Materials

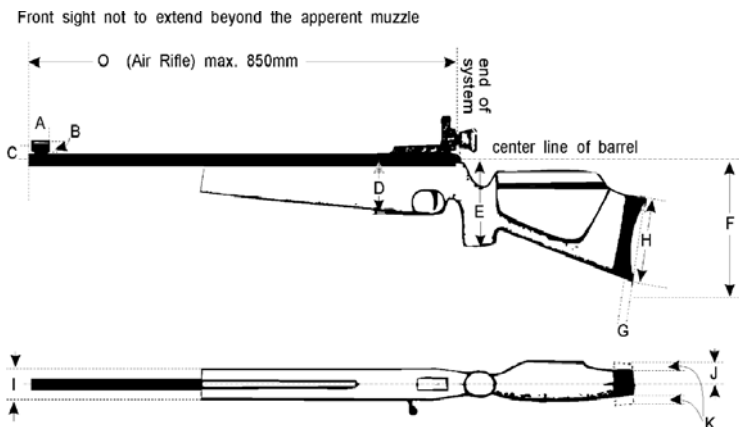
Adhesive sprays or similar sticky substances may not be used on the rifle, accessories or athlete's clothing. Except for the butt of the stock (see Rule 4.2.4) or the lining of the sling arm loop (Rule 4.3.3), non-slip grip materials may not be used on the rifle.

#### 4.3.7 Special Devices

No pads, elastic bandages, Kinesio Taping or other medical or similar taping (Rule 4.1.5) are allowed unless they are authorized for medical reasons under Rule 5.1.4.

#### 4.4 PRECISION AIR RIFLE

Any type of 4.5mm (.177 caliber) pneumatic, spring air, compressed air or CO<sub>2</sub> rifle with a muzzle velocity of 600 fps or less that conforms to the following specifications may be used.



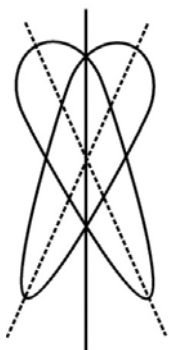
	Item	Specification/Restriction
A	Length of front sight tunnel	50mm/2 in.
B	Diameter of front sight tunnel	25mm/1 in.
C	Distance from center of the front sight ring or top of post to center of bore either directly above or offset.	60mm/2.4 in.
D	Depth of fore-end	90mm/3.6 in.
E	Lowest point of pistol grip	160mm/6.4 in.
F	Lowest point of stock or toe of butt-plate with the butt-plate in its maximum downward position	220mm/8.8 in.
G	Depth of curve of butt-plate (no hook butt-plate permitted)	20mm/0.8 in.
H	Heel to toe length of butt-plate	153mm/6.1 in.



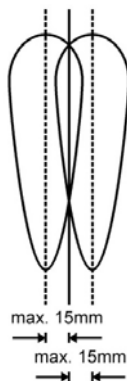
<b>I</b>	Total thickness of fore-end	60mm/2.4 in.
<b>J1</b>	Maximum distance (horizontal) of cheek piece from centerline of barrel	40mm/1.6 in.
<b>J2</b>	Maximum distance of the pistol grip from a vertical line perpendicular to the center line of the barrel	60mm
<b>K</b>	Offset of butt-plate parallel to the centerline of the normal end of the butt, left or right	15mm/0.6 in.
<b>L</b>	Trigger weight (no set trigger permitted)	Free
<b>M</b>	Weight with sights (as configured for the position where it is the heaviest)	5.5kg/12.125 lbs.
<b>N</b>	The front sight may not extend beyond the muzzle of the rifle or of any extension to the muzzle (barrel weight, sight extension)	
<b>O</b>	Total length of the Air Rifle system (from end of barrel or extension to rear end of the action or system)	850mm/33.46 in.

K - See diagram below. The butt-plate may be adjustable up or down. The lowest point of the stock or toe of the butt-plate, with the butt-plate in its maximum downward position, must not exceed 220 mm from the centerline of the barrel. It may be offset parallel to the centerline of the normal end of the butt-plate left or right a maximum 15 mm or the complete butt-plate (not part) may be turned on the vertical axis. Turning the butt-plate on the horizontal axis is not permitted.

### AXIS OF BUTT-PLATE



**NOT PERMITTED**



**PERMITTED**

M - If the rifle is used in one or more positions with a removable fore-end and hand stop, it must be weighed as configured for the position where it weighs the most.

#### **4.4.1 Exterior Weights**

Weights can be added to the rifle as long as the total weight of the rifle, sights, and attachments, including the sling swivel or hand stop, does not exceed 5.5 kg (12.125 lbs.), as configured for any position. Only barrel weights that are within a radius of 30mm (See B above) from the center of the barrel are permitted. Barrel weights may be placed at any point along the barrel. Any other weights must be within the dimensions of the stock (see dimension J1 on page 12). Weights on the butt-stock may not extend further from a vertical plane perpendicular to the centerline of the barrel than 1.6 in. (40 mm) and may not extend further to the rear than a vertical plane perpendicular to the deepest part of the butt-plate. Devices or weights projecting forward or laterally from the lower part of the butt-plate are prohibited.

#### **4.4.2 Hand Stop/Sling Swivel**

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

#### **4.4.3 Grip Material**

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

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

The total length of the air rifle system measured from the back end of the action or system to the end of the barrel, including any extension to the barrel, may not exceed 850mm. Barrels and extension tubes must not be perforated in any way. Any construction or devices inside the barrel or tubes other than rifling and chambering for pellets are prohibited. The use of compensators or muzzle brakes is prohibited.

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

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

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

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

#### **4.4.7 Special Features**

A thumbhole, thumb rest, palm rest, heel rest (Rule 4.4.5) and spirit level are prohibited. Detachable fore-end risers are not regarded as palm rests provided the dimension limit for the depth of the fore-end is not exceeded when they are in place (Rule 4.4 D) and the weight limit for the rifle is not exceeded (Rule 4.4 M). A detachable fore-end may be removed for one or two positions. Material may be added to the stock as long as it does not exceed maximum dimensions. Any addition must conform to the existing form and may not be anatomically formed. Any device, mechanism or system that artificially reduces, slows or minimizes rifle oscillations or movements before the shot is released is prohibited.

### **4.5 PRECISION RIFLE SIGHTS**

Any sight not containing a lens or system of lenses and meeting the following specifications/restrictions may be used:

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

Corrective lenses and telescopes must not be attached to the rifle or sights. The athlete may wear corrective lenses and filters.

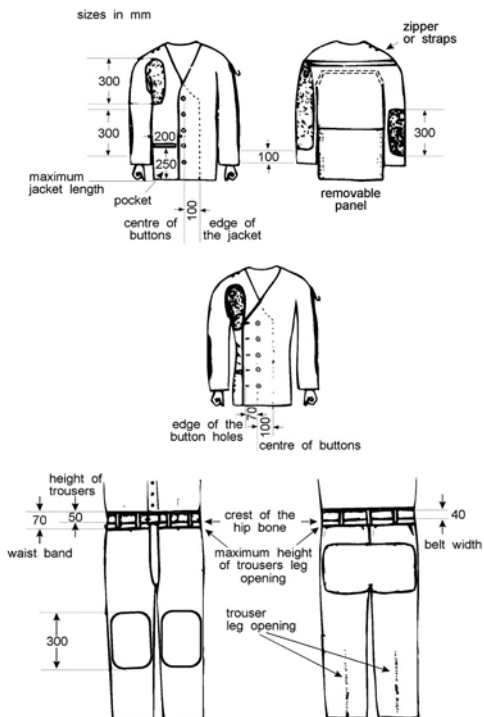
#### **4.5.2 Light Filters**

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

### **4.6 PRECISION CLOTHING AND ACCESSORIES**

Only one (1) shooting jacket, only one (1) pair of shooting trousers and only one (1) pair of shooting shoes may be used in any competition. This does not preclude the athlete from using normal athletic type training clothes or shoes in any event or position. The jacket must be capable of being used in all three positions (prone, standing and kneeling) and must meet all other specifications in order to be approved for the competition. All shooting jackets, shooting

pants and shooting gloves must be made of flexible material that does not change its physical characteristics, that is become stiffer, thicker, or harder, under commonly accepted shooting conditions. All lining, padding and reinforcements must meet the same specifications. Any lining, padding or reinforcement patches must not be quilted, cross-stitched, glued or otherwise affixed to the outer clothing layer other than at normal tailoring points. All lining or padding must be measured as part of the clothing.



#### 4.6.1 Shooting Jacket

A shooting jacket meeting the standards of Rule 4.6 and the following specifications/restrictions is permitted (also see drawing of jacket above):

- **Thickness** – The body and sleeves of the jacket, including the lining, must not exceed 2.5mm in single thickness and 5mm in double thickness at any point where flat surfaces may be measured. No thickness measurement greater than 2.5mm single thickness or 5mm double thickness may be approved (zero tolerance).
- **Stiffness** – The body of the jacket must be sufficiently flexible to meet ISSF stiffness test requirements (minimum of a 3.0 mm depression when using an ISSF-approved stiffness testing device). No measurement below the minimum measurement of 3.0 mm may be approved. Every part of the jacket must be capable of being measured with the 60 mm measuring cylinder. If a jacket part is too small for normal testing, measuring must be done over the seams.
- **Length of Jacket** – The jacket must not be longer than the bottom of the balled fist. In the prone and kneeling positions, the sleeve of the shooting jacket must not extend beyond the wrist of the arm on which the sling is attached. The sleeve must not be

placed between the hand or glove and the fore-end of the stock when the athlete is in the shooting position.

- ⊙ **Jacket Closure** – Closure of the jacket must be only by non-adjustable means (e.g., buttons or zippers). The jacket must not overlap more than 100mm at closure. The jacket must hang loosely on the wearer. To determine this, the jacket must be capable of being overlapped beyond the normal closure by at least 70mm, measured from the center of the button to the outside edge of the buttonhole. If an otherwise legal jacket has adjustable strap closures, this jacket may be used if the adjustable straps are adjusted and taped to provide for the required 70mm overlap.
- ⊙ **Straps, Laces, Bindings, Seams, Stitching or Other Devices for Support** - All straps, laces, bindings, seams, stitching or other devices that may be considered artificial support are prohibited. However, it is permitted to have one zipper or not more than two straps to take up loose material in the area of the shoulder pad. No other zipper or other closing or tightening device is permitted other than those specified in these rules and diagrams.
- ⊙ **Back Panel** – The construction of the back panel may include more than one piece of material including a band or strip if this construction does not stiffen or reduce the flexibility of the jacket. All parts of the back panel must comply with the thickness and stiffness restrictions.
- ⊙ **Sleeves** – The athlete must be capable of fully extending both arms (straighten sleeves) while wearing his/her buttoned jacket.
- ⊙ **Pockets** – One external pocket is permitted on the right front side of the jacket. All inside pockets are prohibited.
- ⊙ **Padding** – Reinforcements or padding may be added on both sleeves to one half the circumference of the sleeve, and to the shoulder where the butt-plate rests. On the sling arm, the pad may extend from the upper arm to a point 100mm from the end of the sleeve. The other pads may have a maximum length of 300mm. The maximum thickness of any reinforced or padded area, including the jacket material and all linings, is 10mm single thickness or 20mm double thickness.
- ⊙ **Sling Keeper** – Only one hook, loop, button or similar device may be fastened to the outside of the sleeve or shoulder seam on the sling arm to prevent the sling from sliding.
- ⊙ **Velcro and Sticky Substances** – No Velcro, sticky substances, liquid or spray may be applied to the outside or inside of the jacket, pads or equipment. Roughening the material of the jacket is permitted.
- ⊙ **Old Leather or Canvas Coats** – In order to facilitate participation in local and regional competitions, Competition Directors may continue to permit athletes to wear old leather or canvas quilted (highpower) coats, provided that no special shooting trousers may be worn with them, and the strap closures are taped so as to provide a loose fitting closure.

#### **4.6.2 Shooting Trousers**

Shooting trousers meeting the standards of Rule 4.6 and the following specifications are permitted (see trousers drawing on previous page):

- ⊙ **Thickness** – The shooting pants, including the lining, must not exceed 2.5 mm in single thickness and 5.0 mm in double thickness at any point where flat surfaces may be measured. The maximum thickness of any reinforced or padded area, including the pants material and all linings, is 10mm single thickness or 20mm double thickness. No thickness measurement greater than these maximum thicknesses may be approved (zero tolerance).
- ⊙ **Stiffness** – The body of the trousers must be sufficiently flexible to meet ISSF stiffness test requirements (minimum of a 3 mm depression when using an ISSF-approved stiffness testing device). This requirement will only be tested and enforced at national-level competitions. No measurement below the minimum measurement of 3.0 mm may be approved. Every part of the trousers must be capable of being

measured with the 60 mm measuring cylinder. If a jacket part is too small for normal testing, measuring must be done over the seams.

- ⊙ **Fit** - The top of the shooting pants must not fit or be worn higher on the body than 50mm above the crest of the hipbone. The trousers must be loose around the legs.
- ⊙ **Waist Band and Its Closures** - The waistband may not be more than 70mm wide and may be closed by one hook and up to 5 eyes, up to 5 adjustable snap fasteners, a similar closure or Velcro. Only one type of closure is permitted. A Velcro closure combined with any other closure is prohibited. If the thickness of the waistband exceeds 2.5mm, a belt is not permitted. If a belt is not worn, the thickness of the waistband may not exceed 3.5mm. There may be a maximum of seven belt loops, not more than 20 mm in width, with at least 80 mm between belt loops.
- ⊙ **Waist Belt** - To support the shooting pants only a normal waist belt not more than 40mm wide and 3mm thick or elastic suspenders may be worn if the waistband thickness does not exceed 2.5mm. The belt buckle or fastener or doubled extension of the belt must not be used to support the left arm or elbow in the standing position.
- ⊙ **Other Fasteners and Closures** - Zippers, buttons, Velcro or other similar non-adjustable fasteners or closures may be used in the shooting pants only in the following places:
  - ⊙ Only one other fastener or closure is permitted in the front to open and close the fly. The fly must not be lower than the level of the crotch.
  - ⊙ Only one other fastener is permitted in each trouser leg. The opening (fastener) must not start closer than 70mm from the top edge of the trousers. It may, however, extend to the bottom of the trouser leg. One fastener is permitted either in the front of the upper leg or the back of the leg, but not in both places on one leg.
- ⊙ **Padding** – Reinforcements or padding may be added to both knees of the shooting trousers. The kneepads must not be wider than half the circumference of the leg and can have a maximum length of 300mm. Seat pads are not permitted on shooting trousers.

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

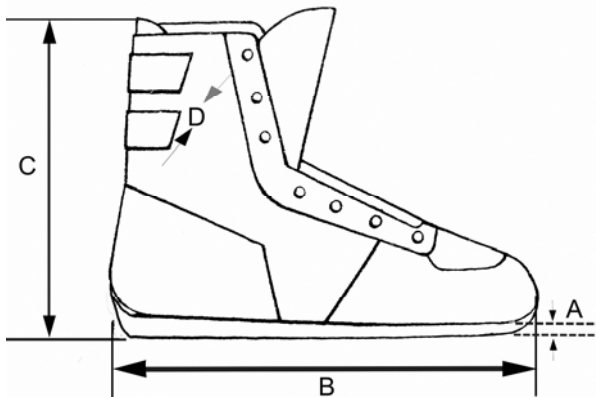
Clothing worn under the shooting jacket and under the shooting pants must not be thicker than 2.5mm single thickness or 5mm double thickness. Only normal personal undergarments and/or training clothing that does not stabilize may be worn under the shooting jacket and shooting pants. No thickness measurement greater than these maximum thicknesses may be approved (zero tolerance). Jeans and ordinary trousers may not be worn under the shooting pants. If shooting pants are not worn, jeans or ordinary trousers may be worn providing they do not give artificial support to any part of the body. Kinesio, medical or body taping are not permitted unless a temporary exception is approved in accordance with Rule 5.1.4.

#### **4.6.4 Shoes**

Normal street or athletic shoes or special shooting shoes must be worn in all positions. Athletes may not wear sandals or socks or shoot without footwear (i.e. bare footed). The shoes worn must be a matched pair. All shoes worn during competitions must comply with the specifications shown in the chart. The sole must be flexible at the ball of the foot. As a means of demonstrating the flexibility of the soles on their shooting shoes, athletes must walk normally with the shoes fully laced at all times while on the range (Normal walking requires a heel down-heel up-toe up sequence with the knees bending.). Orthopedic inserts or inner soles are allowed, provided they are flexible at the balls of the feet. All shoes must comply with the requirements in the chart and the shoe diagram on the next page.

	Item	Specification/Restriction
A	Maximum thickness of sole at the toe	10mm/0.4 in.
B	Overall length of shoe	According to size of wearer's foot
C	Maximum height of shoe	Not to exceed two-thirds (2/3) of total length of shoe (B+10mm)
D	Upper Shoe Material	The material of the upper part (above the line of the sole) must be of soft, flexible, pliable material, not thicker than 4mm/0.16 in., including all lining, when measured on any flat surfaces.

The shoe sole must follow the external curvature of the shoe and may not extend more than 5.0 mm beyond the external dimensions of the shoe. The toe or heel may not be cut square or flat, but must be rounded according to the external curvature of the shoe.



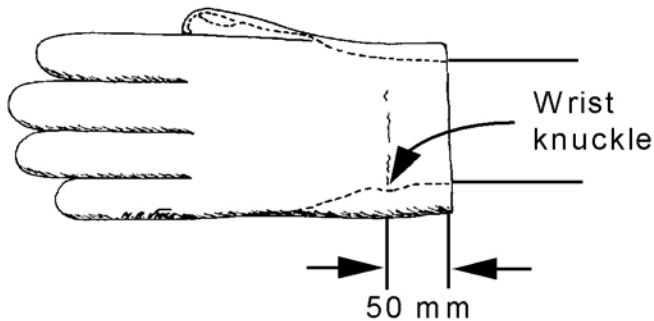
#### 4.6.5 Sling

A shooting sling with a maximum width of 40mm is allowed in the prone and kneeling positions. The sling must be worn only over the upper part of the left arm (right arm for a left-handed athlete) and from there connected to the fore-end of the rifle stock. The sling must pass along one side of the hand and wrist only. No part of the rifle may touch the sling or any of its attachments except at the sling swivel and hand stop. The sling is not allowed in the standing position.

#### 4.6.6 Glove

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

- ⊙ **Thickness** – Total thickness must not exceed 12mm, measuring front and back materials together at any point other than on seams and joints.
- ⊙ **Glove Measurement** - The glove must not extend more than 50mm above the wrist measured from the center of the wrist knuckle. Any strap or other closure device at the wrist is prohibited. However, a portion of the wrist may be elasticized to enable the glove to be put on, but it must leave the glove loose around the wrist.



#### **4.6.7 Kneeling Heel Pad**

A separate piece of flexible, compressible material with maximum dimensions of 20 cm x 20 cm may be placed on the heel in the kneeling position. The kneeling heel pad may be no thicker than 10 mm when compressed with the measuring device used to measure rifle clothing thickness.

#### **4.6.8 Clothing Controls**

Competition sponsors or organizers may examine athletes' jackets, trousers and other clothing for thickness, stiffness and dimensions by using ISSF-approved testing equipment. If clothing testing is done, the approval and disapproval of clothing items and the possible disqualification of athletes shall be done by applying ISSF testing standards and procedures (See Rule 6.7 in the ISSF Rules).

### **4.7 GENERAL EQUIPMENT RULES FOR SPORTER AND PRECISION CLASSES**

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

#### **4.7.1 Pellets**

Only .177 caliber (4.5mm) pellets of any shape made of lead or similar soft material are permitted.

#### **4.7.2 Kneeling Roll**

One cylindrical roll, placed under the right foot or ankle of the right foot (left foot for a left-handed athlete), in the kneeling position is allowed. The roll cannot exceed a maximum of 25cm (10 in.) long and 18cm (7 in.) in diameter. The roll must be made of soft and flexible material. The use of binding or other devices to shape the roll is not permitted. The use of a kneeling roll is optional.

#### **4.7.3 Spotting Scope**

The use of an individual spotting telescope, with stand, to visually observe shots on the target is permitted in both Sporter and Precision classes. Spotting scopes are not permitted if the range is equipped with electronic targets.

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

A shooting kit, chair or rifle stand may be used as a rifle rest between shots in the standing position, providing no part of the stand is taller than the athlete's shoulders when in the standing position. The shooting kit, chair or rifle stand may not be of such size or construction as to interfere with other athletes. When used as a rifle rest or pellet holder (kneeling position), the kit, chair or stand may be placed forward of the firing line. When using a rifle stand, athletes must take special care to be sure the muzzle of the rifle, when the rifle rests on the stand, is not pointed towards or near another athlete. If a rifle cradle is attached to a rifle stand, it should be placed no higher than one-third of the distance between the floor and the athlete's shoulders (to prevent stands from easily tipping over and damaging rifles). The athlete must hold any rifle placed on top of the shooting stand; a rifle may not be allowed to rest freely on top of a shooting stand. When not used as a rifle rest or pellet holder (kneeling), the kit, or stand may not be placed forward of the firing line.

#### 4.7.5 Shooting Mat

One ground cloth or mat of compressible material, with a maximum thickness of 5cm (2 in.), can be used for prone and kneeling positions, provided it is not constructed or used to provide artificial support. A folded mat may be placed under an athlete's position provided the thickness of any folded portion of the mat does not exceed 5cm (2 in.). Additional pads may not be used with shooting mats, whether the shooting mats are provided by athletes or provided by the range for all athletes. Placement of the mat must not interfere with other athletes.

#### 4.7.6 Sound Producing and Communications Systems

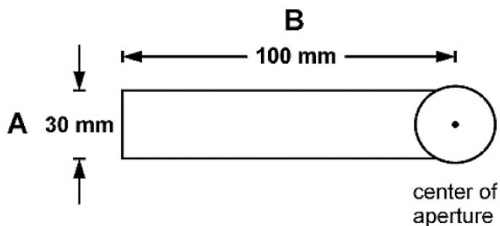
Only sound reducing devices may be used on the firing points and the area immediately behind the firing points during preparation and competition periods. iPods™, cellular phones or other types of sound producing or communications systems, including timers that beep or make audible sounds, may not be used in these areas during preparation and competition periods. Sound producing and communications systems may be used in the spectator and ready areas if they do not disturb athletes on the line. *Notes: Audible cell phone sounds must be turned off in all areas of the range during competitions because of their potential for disturbing athletes. Athletes' chairs are considered to be part of the area immediately behind the firing points. Athletes who are preparing to fire must be able to hear the commands and instructions of the Range Officers.*

#### 4.7.7 Headgear and Blinders

It is permitted to wear a cap, hat or visor or to use blinders that comply with Rules 4.7.8 or 4.7.9. The cap or visor must be worn so that the area on the center of the forehead between the eyebrows may be seen when the athlete is viewed from the side. The cap or visor must be worn in such a way that it does not touch the rear sight of the rifle or any other object.

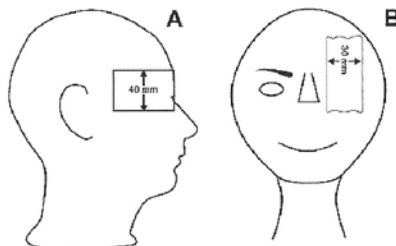
#### 4.7.8 Rear Sight Blinder

A blinder may be attached to the rifle or to the rear sight of a Sporter or Precision Class air rifle. The blinder must be no more than 30 mm deep (A) and extend no more than 100 mm from the center of the rear sight aperture (B) on the side of the non-aiming eye. A blinder must not be used on the side of the aiming eye.



#### 4.7.9 Head Blinders

It is permitted to use side blinders attached to the hat, cap, shooting glasses, or to a head band. Side blinders may not be more than 40 mm deep (A) and must not extend further forward than the front center of the forehead. It is permitted to use a blinder that is not more than 30 mm wide (B) over the non-aiming eye.





#### **4.7.10 Bipod or Rifle Rest**

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

#### **4.7.11 Start Numbers**

Competition sponsors may prepare and issue start numbers to athletes to make it easier for range officers, spectators and media to identify athletes. Start numbers should display the name of the athlete, the school or club the athlete represents and the athlete's competition or start number. If a competition sponsor provides start numbers, all athletes must wear them unaltered during pre-event training and the competition. Start numbers must be worn on the back and above the waist.

## **5.0 COMPETITIONS CONDITIONS**

### **5.1 SHOOTING POSITIONS**

Athletes fire in three different shooting positions, prone, standing and kneeling. In each position, no part of the body may touch the floor ahead of the firing line. *Note: The rear edge of the marked firing line is the actual firing line.* In the prone position, the left elbow must be behind the firing line. In the standing and kneeling positions, the entire left foot must be behind the firing line. The rifle and other parts of the body may extend over and beyond the firing line as long as no part of the body contacting the floor is on or in front of the firing line.

#### **5.1.1 Prone Position**

- ⊙ The athlete may lie on the bare surface of the firing point or on the shooting mat.
- ⊙ The body is extended on the firing point with the head toward the target.
- ⊙ The rifle must be held by both hands and one shoulder only.
- ⊙ While aiming, the cheek may be placed against the rifle stock.
- ⊙ A sling may be used to support the rifle, but the fore-end behind the left hand must not touch the shooting jacket.
- ⊙ No part of the rifle may touch the sling or its attachments.
- ⊙ The rifle must not touch or rest against any other point or object.
- ⊙ The athlete's left (sling arm) forearm must form an angle of not less than 30 degrees from the horizontal, measured from the axis of the forearm.
- ⊙ The right hand or arm may not touch the left arm, shooting jacket or sling.

#### **5.1.2 Standing Position**

- ⊙ The athlete must stand free, without any artificial or other support, with both feet on the firing point surface.
- ⊙ The rifle must be held with both hands and the shoulder or the upper arm near the shoulder, the cheek and the part of the chest immediately adjacent to the right shoulder.
- ⊙ The rifle must not touch the jacket or chest beyond the area of the right shoulder.
- ⊙ The left upper arm and elbow may be supported on the chest or on the hip. If a belt is worn, the buckle or fastening must not be used to support the left arm or elbow.
- ⊙ The rifle must not rest against any other point or object.
- ⊙ The right hand, as it grasps the pistol grip, may not touch the shooting jacket, left hand or arm.
- ⊙ The use of the sling, hand-stop or palm rest is not allowed. Detachable fore-end risers may be used on Precision Class rifles only (see Rule 4.4.7). The sling swivel may remain on a Sporter air rifle if it cannot be removed, but the left hand or glove may not contact the sling swivel. In Sporter air rifle, a sling may remain attached to the arm as long as it is not attached to the rifle or used to support the rifle in any way.

#### **5.1.3 Kneeling Position**

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

- ⊙ The rifle may be held with both hands and the right shoulder; the cheek may be placed against the stock.
- ⊙ The left elbow must be supported on the left knee.
- ⊙ The point of the elbow cannot be more than 100mm (4 in.) over or 150mm (6 in.) behind the point of the knee (middle of the knee-cap).
- ⊙ A sling may be used to support the rifle, but the fore-end behind the left hand must not touch the shooting jacket.
- ⊙ No part of the rifle may touch the sling or any of its attachments.
- ⊙ The rifle must not touch or rest against any other point or object.
- ⊙ If the kneeling roll is placed under the right foot or ankle, the foot may not be turned at an angle of more than 45 degrees.
- ⊙ If the kneeling roll is not used, the foot may be placed at any angle. This may include placing the side of the foot and lower leg in contact with the surface of the firing point.
- ⊙ No portion of the upper leg or buttocks may touch the firing point surface.
- ⊙ If the athlete uses the shooting mat, he/she may kneel completely on the shooting mat or may have one or two or three points of contact (toe, knee, foot) on the mat. Other articles or padding may not be placed under the right knee.
- ⊙ Only the trousers and underclothing may be worn between the athlete's seat and heel, except that a kneeling heel pad may be used in Precision Class competition (Rule 4.6.7). The jacket or other articles must not be placed between these two points.
- ⊙ The right hand or arm may not touch the left arm, shooting jacket or sling.

#### **5.1.4 Athletes with Physical Impairments (temporary or permanent)**

Every effort must be made to encourage and facilitate full participation by athletes with physical impairments, whether the impairment is temporary or permanent, provided an athlete with an impairment is not given an unfair advantage over other athletes through the use of special accommodations and adaptive firing positions. *Note: For information regarding International Paralympic Committee (IPC) SH1 or SH2 competition rules, contact the USA Shooting National Paralympic Coach at [Bob.Foth@usashooting.org](mailto:Bob.Foth@usashooting.org). Additional information regarding IPC SH1 or SH2 competition rules is available from the IPC at <http://www.paralympic.org/Shooting/RulesandRegulations/Rules>.*

- ⊙ If an athlete has a physical impairment, whether temporary or permanent, that prevents shooting in a position defined by the shooting position Rules (Rules 5.1.1, 5.1.2, 5.1.3), he/she may substitute the next more difficult position. Kneeling may be substituted for prone, or standing may be substituted for kneeling. Any substitute position must conform to the rules for that position. When a substitute position is used, the time limit for the current stage of fire applies, not the time limit for the substitute position. The Competition Director must approve the substitute position. An athlete who cannot sit on his/her right foot in the kneeling position may substitute a kneeling position in which he/she sits on his/her left foot and still fires from the right shoulder (Rule 5.1.3 requires that the athlete sit on the right foot).
- ⊙ An athlete who has a cast or temporary medical appliance or medical taping may shoot while wearing that appliance or taping if, in the opinion of the Competition Director, it does not provide artificial support or any special advantage. Medical taping in the case of an injury is permitted if it does not provide artificial support, but any medical taping that provides artificial support is prohibited (Rule 4.6.3).
- ⊙ If an athlete with a permanent physical impairment is able to compete by complying with IPC rules for SH1 classified athletes by using IPC recognized accommodations (wheel chair, prosthesis, etc.) and adaptive prone, standing and kneeling positions, he/she will be allowed to compete in Three-Position Air Rifle competitions for awards after receiving National Jury of Appeal approval. These athletes must apply to the National Jury of Appeal for approval of the accommodations and firing positions they will use. The Council considers that the difficulty of SH1 competition conditions is relatively equal to the regular prone, standing and kneeling positions and that equal competition is possible.

- ⊙ If an athlete with a permanent physical impairment is able to compete by complying with IPC rules for SH2 classified athletes by using IPC recognized adaptive equipment (rifle stand, loader, etc.), he/she may compete in Three-Position Air Rifle competitions for awards after receiving National Jury of Appeal approval and if a National Jury-approved compensating factor is applied to his/her scores. *Note: Applying a compensating factor to SH2 scores is necessary because scores fired with SH2 adaptive equipment and positions are disproportionately higher. A different compensating factor must be developed for each athlete and likely will change as his or her skills increase.* These athletes must apply to the National Jury of Appeal for approval of the adaptive equipment and firing positions they need to use. Athletes using SH2-type adaptive equipment and positions must fire IPC-approved prone, standing and standing positions. Established time limits for each position must be followed. Special adaptations to their rifles may be authorized. SH2 adaptive equipment and adaptive firing positions may not be used to set National Records, but the Council may keep a separate list of SH2 records. *Note: This rule is provisional and subject to change as more experience is gained in making Three-Position Air Rifle competitions more inclusive. Any club or school with an athlete that may have SH2-type impairments is urged to contact the CMP for more information.*
- ⊙ Athletes who receive letters of approval to use SH1 or SH2 adaptive equipment and positions must bring a copy of the letter of approval with them to all competitions that they attend.

## **5.2 COACHING**

Coaching or assisting an athlete during a competition is only permitted under these conditions:

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

Coaching athletes on the firing line is permitted in Sporter Air Rifle events during the Preparation and Sighting or Changeover Stages. When the Preparation and Sighting or Changeover Stages end (**STOP** command), coaching must stop and the coach must move to the rear of the firing point. During any Record Fire Stage, an athlete, while on the firing line, may only communicate with a Range Officer or Jury Member. If mixed Sport and Precision Class relays are squadded, the Sporter and Precision class athletes should be squadded on separate areas of the firing line so that Sporter Class athletes may receive coaching assistance without disturbing Precision Class athletes.

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

Coaching or communications of any kind, such as talking, hand signals, head nods or any other gestures or sounds, between an athlete and coach while the athlete is on a firing point is prohibited. While on the firing line, an athlete may only communicate with a Range Officer or Jury Member.

### **5.2.3 Coaching During Competitions**

With the exception of the coaching on the firing line permitted in Rule 5.2.1, all coaches must remain behind the firing point from the start of the preparation period until the firing line is cleared after the kneeling position. During the Preparation and Sighting, Changeover and Record Fire Stages, an athlete who wishes to speak with a coach behind the firing line must a) leave his/her rifle grounded on the firing line with the action open and a CBI inserted, b) notify the Range Officer and c) leave the firing line so as not to disturb other athletes. A coach may communicate with a team member during the competition by obtaining permission from the Range Officer. The Range Officer will notify the athlete who must leave his/her rifle grounded on the firing line with the action open and a CBI inserted and leave the firing point to speak with the coach.

### **5.2.4 Coaching During Finals**

Coaching while athletes are on the firing line during finals for Sporter or Precision Class events is not permitted. During a final, an athlete may only communicate with a Range Officer or Jury Member.

## **5.3 COMPETITION EVENTS AND TIME LIMITS**

Each Three-Position Air Rifle competition must include one or more of the events defined in this section. Rules 5.3.2, 5.3.3, 5.3.4 describe the courses of fire and time limits for each event recognized by the National Three-Position Air Rifle Council.

### 5.3.1 Special Rules for Three-Position Air Rifle Events

The following rules apply in selecting courses of fire for a competition program:

- ⊙ Each position must be timed separately. This ensures that all athletes can compete under relatively equal conditions and that athletes who finish early do not disturb athletes who use their full time limits. This also makes it possible to score targets more quickly.
- ⊙ Athletes must be called to the line before the first Preparation and Sighting Stage and given a minimum five minutes of time to set up their equipment and begin to prepare their prone positions before the Preparation and Sighting Stage starts (see Rule 7.4).
- ⊙ All events begin with a combined Preparation and Sighting Stage. For each subsequent position (standing and kneeling), there must be a Changeover Stage when athletes can handle their rifles and prepare them for the next position. A separate Sighting Stage follows each Changeover Stage.
- ⊙ Sighting Stages that follow Changeover Stages are five (5) minutes. The five-minute Sighting Stage between positions may, at the competition sponsor's option, be extended to 10 minutes for the standing and kneeling positions in Precision Class relays if this extended sighting stage time is described in the Competition Program. If a competition has mixed relays and this option is used, all relays must be given 10-minute Sighting Stages.
- ⊙ A Final may be included with each event (Rule 10.0, Finals).
- ⊙ For 3x10 events where a majority of athletes are inexperienced and do not have spotting scopes, the initial Preparation and Sighting Stage may be extended by the Competition Director to 15 or 20 minutes to give team coaches additional time to confirm that all team members have sighted in their rifles before the first Record Fire Stage begins.
- ⊙ 3x10 and 3x20 three-position and 40 or 60 shot standing position events are normally scored in whole ring values. Finals are scored in decimal ring values, except when electronic targets or electronic scoring is not available. Match sponsors may, on a provisional basis, elect to score 3x10, 3x20 and 40 or 60 shot standing position events in decimal ring values, if this is announced in advance in the match program.

### 5.3.2 Individual Event, 3x10 or 3x10 Plus Final

The individual 3x10 course of fire consists of 10 shots each in the prone, standing, and kneeling positions, fired in that order. A Final may be added to the individual event (3X10 plus Final, see Rule 10.0, Finals).

3x10 COURSE OF FIRE		
STAGE	POSITION	TIME LIMIT
PREPARATION AND SIGHTING	PRONE (Unlimited sighting shots)	10 minutes
RECORD FIRE	PRONE, 10 record shots	10 minutes
CHANGEOVER	PRONE to STANDING	5 minutes
SIGHTING	STANDING (Unlimited sighting shots)	5 minutes (or 10 minutes, see Rule 5.3.1)
RECORD FIRE	STANDING, 10 record shots	15 minutes
CHANGEOVER	STANDING to KNEELING	5 minutes
SIGHTING	KNEELING (Unlimited sighting shots)	5 minutes (or 10 minutes, see Rule 5.3.1)
RECORD FIRE	KNEELING, 10 record shots	10 minutes

### 5.3.3 Individual Event, 3x20 or 3x20 Plus Final

The individual 3x20 course of fire consists of 20 shots each in the prone, standing, and kneeling positions, fired in that order. A Final may be added to the individual event (3X20 plus Final, see Rule 10.0, Finals).

<b>3x20 COURSE OF FIRE</b>		
<b>STAGE</b>	<b>POSITION</b>	<b>TIME LIMIT</b>
PREPARATION AND SIGHTING	PRONE Unlimited sighting shots	10 minutes
<b>RECORD FIRE</b>	<b>PRONE, 20 record shots</b>	<b>20 minutes</b>
CHANGEOVER	PRONE to STANDING	5 minutes
SIGHTING	STANDING Unlimited sighting shots	5 minutes (or 10 minutes, see Rule 5.3.1)
<b>RECORD FIRE</b>	<b>STANDING, 20 record shots</b>	<b>25 minutes</b>
CHANGEOVER	STANDING to KNEELING	5 minutes
SIGHTING	KNEELING Unlimited sighting shots	5 minutes (or 10 minutes, see Rule 5.3.1)
<b>RECORD FIRE</b>	<b>KNEELING, 20 record shots</b>	<b>20 minutes</b>

### 5.3.4 Individual Standing Event, 2x20 or 3x20 Plus Final

The individual standing position course of fire consists of two or three 20 shot record stages. If electronic targets are used, the 40 or 60 shot events may be fired without a changeover period. A Final may be added to the individual event (3X20 plus Final, also see Rule 10.0, Finals).

<b>STANDING EVENT -- 2x20 or 3X20 SHOTS</b>		
<b>STAGE</b>	<b>POSITION</b>	<b>TIME LIMIT</b>
PREPARATION AND SIGHTING	STANDING Unlimited sighting shots	15 minutes
<b>RECORD FIRE</b>	<b>STANDING, 20 record shots</b>	<b>25 minutes</b>
Target Change		
SIGHTING	STANDING Unlimited sighting shots	5 minutes (or 10 minutes, see Rule 5.3.1)
<b>RECORD FIRE</b>	<b>STANDING, 20 record shots</b>	<b>25 minutes</b>
Target Change if 3x20 Shot Event is Used		
SIGHTING	STANDING Unlimited sighting shots	5 minutes (or 10 minutes, see Rule 5.3.1)
<b>RECORD FIRE</b>	<b>STANDING, 20 record shots</b>	<b>25 minutes</b>

<b>STANDING EVENT -- 60 SHOTS</b>		
<b>STAGE</b>	<b>POSITION</b>	<b>TIME LIMIT</b>
PREPARATION AND SIGHTING	STANDING Unlimited sighting shots	15 minutes
RECORD FIRE	STANDING, 60 record shots	75 minutes

<b>STANDING EVENT -- 40 SHOTS</b>		
<b>STAGE</b>	<b>POSITION</b>	<b>TIME LIMIT</b>
PREPARATION AND SIGHTING	STANDING Unlimited sighting shots	15 minutes
RECORD FIRE	STANDING, 40 record shots	50 minutes

### **5.3.5 Multiple Course Championships**

A Competition Program may provide for a multi-event competition that consists of a total or aggregate of two or more events or courses of fire that are described in Rules 5.3.2, 5.3.3 or 5.3.4. Multiple-course championships may last one, two or more days.

### **5.3.6 Team Events (4 X 3X10, 4 X 3X20, 4x40/60 Standing or Best-Four-Count Teams)**

Any competition may also include team events. Team events are conducted for four-person teams where each team member fires one of the individual courses of fire defined in Rules 5.3.2, 5.3.3 or 5.3.4 that do not include a Final. Team events may also be conducted for Best-Four-Count Teams (Rule 3.2.2). Final round scores do not count in team scores.

- ⊙ **Team Members** - A Team consists of four (4) athletes. Each team should have an adult leader who is the Team Coach. Male and female athletes may compete on the same team. No athlete may fire on more than one team in any team event. All team members must be named before the first team member begins to fire in the competition.
- ⊙ **Team Score** - Team and individual events may be fired concurrently or they may be scheduled and fired separately. When team and individual events are fired concurrently, the scores fired by each member of a team count for both individual rankings and team rankings. Team scores are calculated by adding the individual scores of the four team members.

## **5.4 TARGETS**

Competitions may be conducted using either paper targets or electronic targets. Only official 10-meter air rifle paper targets with scoring ring dimensions established by the International Shooting Sport Federation (ISSF) may be used. Authorized targets bear approved designations of the National Three-Position Air Rifle Council (designated as NC-AR10 or Orion Scoring System) or the ISSF (with ISSF logo). NRA targets printed in 2003 or later (designated as AR5/1 or AR5/10) may also be used. Paper targets may be either single bulls-eye or 10-bulls-eye targets. 10-bulls-eye targets have ten record bulls-eyes and two sighter bulls-eyes.

### **5.4.1 Sighting Targets**

Sighting targets or bulls must be clearly identified. When single bulls-eye targets are used, sighter targets should be identified with a black stripe or triangle in the upper right corner that can be clearly seen from the firing point. Athletes must be given two (2) sighting targets for each position. When 10-bulls-eye targets are used, two sighting targets are printed in the center of the target card and are identified by a guard ring printed around the sighting targets.

### **5.4.2 Record Targets**

Record targets on 10-bulls-eye targets are numbered in consecutive order. On 10-bulls-eye targets, the athlete may shoot the record targets in any order, but the targets will be scored as if the athlete fired the targets in the numbered order printed on the target card. When two 10-bulls-eye targets are hung for a 20-shot series, the targets must be marked to identify which target is fired first.

### **5.4.3 Changing Targets**

The Range Officer will determine whether coaches, athletes or range officials will change targets. The athlete is responsible for ensuring that the correct targets are hung. If possible, athletes should not be permitted to handle fired targets.

### **5.4.4 Electronic Target Monitors**

When electronic scoring targets are used, the entire screen of the firing line monitors must be uncovered and visible to Range Officers.

## **5.5 RANGE SPECIFICATIONS**

### **5.5.1 Distance**

The shooting distance measured from the target to the edge of the firing line closest to the athlete is 10 meters (32 feet, 9.7 inches).

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

The firing line delineates the front of the firing points. The firing line must be clearly marked so that Range Officers and Athletes can see it. *Note: A red stripe 50-60 mm wide is recommended; the actual firing line is the rear edge of the firing line stripe.* A firing point is the area immediately to the rear of the firing line designated for one athlete. The recommended minimum width of each firing point is 1.0 meter (39.4 in.). The recommended minimum length is 2.2 meters (86.6 in.). There must be one firing point for each target. There must be ample room behind the firing points for Range Officers to move freely.

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

Targets and target holders must be centered on a line that is perpendicular to the center of the firing point. Target or target holders must be identified with numbers that are placed above or below the targets and that are large enough to be seen from the firing point. Targets are numbered consecutively, starting with target number one on the left. *Note: It is recommended that the numbers be on alternating backgrounds or contrasting colors (black on white, white on black, etc.).*

### **5.5.4 Target Heights**

Target holders on the range must facilitate the placement of the targets at the correct height. Correct target heights, when measured from the level of the firing point to the center of the target are:

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

When 10-bulls-eye targets are used, the center of the target is the point between the two sighting targets. All targets on a range must be hung at the same height. The tolerances allowed here are intended to accommodate variations from range to range; they do not permit target height variations for individual athletes on the same range. Ranges where paper targets are used may provide for hanging two 10-bull targets at the same height for one position. On ranges where the physical construction of the range or backstop prevents hanging targets at the correct height, the targets must be hung at the height that is as close as possible to the correct height. The Competition Program must inform athletes of the height that the targets will be hung if the correct target heights are not possible.

### **5.5.5 Shooting Tables**

On ranges with fixed target heights (with targets or target carriers mounted at standing position height), tables must be provided to raise the athletes in the prone and kneeling positions to the height of the targets. The Competition Program must inform athletes when tables will be used for prone or kneeling. If tables are used, athletes are not required to

keep all parts of their bodies on top of the table in prone, but they must have all parts of their bodies on top of the table in kneeling.

#### **5.5.6 Lighting**

Indoor ranges should have artificial illumination that provides adequate light on the targets and firing points. While light levels are not regulated, it is strongly recommended that both the target and firing line be well illuminated; with a minimum illumination of 1000 Lux on all targets (*1500 to 2000 lux is preferred*) and a minimum of 800 Lux in the firing line area. Targets must be illuminated evenly, with no glare or shadows on the targets. All targets in a range must have similar lighting.

#### **5.5.7 Outdoor Ranges**

Three-Position Air Rifle competitions may be fired on outdoor ranges. Outdoor ranges should be built with overhead covers to protect athletes from the weather. Outdoor ranges should have wind flags visible to the athletes if pellets are exposed to wind during flight. Personal wind flags, wind gauges or similar devices are not permitted. *Note: Wind flags should be 5cm/2 in. x 40cm/16 in. strips of cotton cloth that are placed 2-3 feet high, 5 meters from the firing line, between every two firing points.*

#### **5.5.8 Official Bulletin Board**

An area easily accessible to athletes and coaches must be designated as the Official Bulletin Board. All official information bulletins and results lists must be posted at this location. An electronic bulletin board or LCD panel display may also be used.

### **5.6 COMPETITION PROGRAM**

A written document should be prepared to describe the conditions of the competition. This Competition Program or "official program" identifies the name of the competition, date(s), location, course of fire (events), time schedule, awards and any special conditions that will apply. The Competition Program is a supplement to the Rules. Conditions specified in the Competition Program also govern the conduct of the competition, however, nothing in a Competition Program may contravene any of these Rules. Range Officers and Jury Members may use the Competition Program to decide protests, however, if there is a conflict between the Competition Program and these Rules, the Rules will prevail.

## **6.0 COMPETITION OFFICIALS AND THEIR DUTIES**

### **6.1 COMPETITION DIRECTOR**

The Competition Director (Match Director or Competition Manager) has primary responsibility for the overall safe and efficient conduct of a competition. In a major championship, an Organizing Committee with overall responsibility for the conduct of the competition may appoint the Competition Director. In a small competition, the Competition Director may also serve as a Range Officer or Scoring Officer. The Organizing Committee and Competition Director establish the conditions of a competition that are published in a Competition Program (Rule 5.6). The Competition Director appoints other competition officials. If any conditions of the competition must be changed, a Competition Director's Bulletin announcing the change must be prepared and posted on the Official Bulletin Board so all athletes and coaches can be informed. Competition Director Bulletins may not contradict or establish any conditions that are contrary to these Rules. The Competition Director must use his/her best judgment at all times and his/her behavior and decisions must be characterized by absolute impartiality, firmness, courtesy and consistent vigilance. In the application of these Rules, the Competition Director may confer with the Jury or may consult with the National Jury of Appeal.

### **6.2 RANGE OFFICERS**

The Chief Range Officer is in charge of the conduct of range firing and is responsible for range safety and range operations. His/her duties include giving range commands, ensuring athletes' equipment and positions conform to the Rules, correcting any technical range faults, receiving protests, and resolving all irregularities such as disturbances, penalties, malfunctions, irregular shots, extra time allowed, etc. In larger competitions, Assistant Range Officers are appointed to assist the Chief Range Officer. Range Officers have the right to examine the athlete's positions and equipment at any time. During a competition, Range Officers should not approach an athlete while he/she is firing a shot. Immediate action must, nevertheless, be taken when a matter of safety is involved.



### **6.3 JURY**

A three-member Jury may be appointed by the Competition Director to interpret and apply the Rules and resolve protests. One member of the Jury is designated as the Jury Chairman. Jury members should be persons who are familiar with these Rules and have experience in competitions. They may be Competition Officials, Team Officials, parents or athletes in that competition. Jury members may not rule on a matter in which they or their team are personally involved. The Competition Director will name a replacement for a Jury member who must excuse himself. Decisions by the Jury must be based on applicable Rules or, in cases not specifically covered by the Rules, must be governed by the intent and spirit of the Rules. No Jury decision may be made that is contrary to these Rules. Written Competition Protests must be decided by a majority of the Jury. Decisions by the Jury may be appealed to the National Jury of Appeal.

### **6.4 EQUIPMENT CONTROL CHIEF**

The Equipment Control Chief is responsible for checking the rifles, accessories and clothing of both Sporter and Precision Class athletes before, during or after (post-competition testing) a competition to assure that the athletes' equipment complies with the rules. Equipment control examinations are not mandatory. However, the Competition Director may appoint an Equipment Control Chief and require athletes to have their equipment inspected prior to or after a competition.

### **6.5 STATISTICAL OFFICER**

The Statistical Officer is responsible for all phases of results production during a competition. The Statistical Officer is directly responsible to the Competition Director. The Statistical Officer must retain all fired targets until the expiration of the time allowed for challenges and protests. The Competition Director and Statistical Officer must appoint and train sufficient scorers to score all targets in a timely manner, according to these Rules. In a small competition, the Statistical Officer may also be a target scorer. The Statistical Officer must ensure that preliminary results are posted on the Official Bulletin Board in a timely manner and that a Final Results Bulletin is provided for team officials and athletes.

### **6.6 SCORERS**

Scorers appointed by the Competition Director or Statistical Officer are responsible for fairly and impartially scoring targets. Scorers can be other competition officials, team officials or parents, but cannot be athletes. Scorers must be trained in the method of scoring used at that competition (manual, VIS or EST).

### **6.7 TEAM COACH**

Each team must have a designated Team Coach. The Team Coach may be a coach, JROTC instructor, parent or other responsible adult. The Team Coach is responsible for all team members and for maintaining discipline within the team. Team coaches must cooperate with competition officials to assure safety, the proper conduct of the competition and good sportsmanship. Team Coaches must be familiar with the program, make entries and have team members report to the proper firing points on time and with approved equipment.

## **7.0 COMPETITION PROCEDURES**

### **7.1 ENTRIES**

Individual and Team entries must be completed before the start of the competition or before any athlete or team member begins competition firing. The athlete or team coach is responsible for properly completing entry forms.

### **7.2 FIRING POINT ASSIGNMENTS (SQUADDING)**

All athletes entered in a competition must be squadded or assigned to firing points through a random draw. Members of a team may be assigned to adjacent firing points on the same relay if those blocs of firing points are determined by the drawing of lots. If there is more than one relay in one day of competition, the Competition Director must normally assign the members of each team to two or more relays. Exceptions may be made when a team must fire together to accommodate travel schedule requirements or when different relays are scheduled on different days. When there are team events, any relay scheduled must have athletes from two or more teams.

## **7.3 EQUIPMENT CONTROL**

### **7.3.1 Pre-Competition Testing**

Competition officials may require athletes to have their equipment and clothing checked prior to a competition to ensure that it complies with these rules. Range Officers may also spot-check or check equipment or clothing on the line prior to the start of a competition. Team Officials and athletes must be informed in sufficient time before the competition regarding where and when they may have their equipment inspected.

### **7.3.2 Athlete Responsibility**

If a competition has an equipment inspection, all athletes must report to the equipment control location prior to the start of the competition wearing their shooting clothing and with all equipment they will use.

### **7.3.3 Inspection Verification**

When equipment inspections are conducted, athletes and the equipment control staff must complete an equipment control card or checklist. The athlete must retain this equipment control card with his/her equipment during the competition. A distinctive seal should be placed on major equipment items after they pass inspection.

### **7.3.4 Post-Competition Testing**

Competition officials may also conduct post-competition tests for randomly selected athletes after a three-position course of fire is finished.

## **7.4 MOVING EQUIPMENT TO THE FIRING LINE**

After targets are hung or prepared, the Range Officer must call athletes to the firing line a minimum of five (5) minutes prior to the start time for the Preparation and Sighting Stage with the command **TAKE YOUR POSITIONS**. After this call to the firing line, athletes may place their equipment on their firing points and begin their preparations for firing sighting shots. During this time, athletes may handle their rifles, get into their prone positions and do holding or aiming exercises, but they may not remove CBIs, close rifle actions or dry fire.

## **7.5 PREPARATION AND SIGHTING STAGE**

A minimum of five minutes after Athletes are instructed to **TAKE YOUR POSITIONS**, they must be given a ten (10) minute Preparation and Sighting Stage before the start of Record Firing in the prone position. This stage begins with the command **PREPARATION AND SIGHTING STAGE...TIME LIMIT 10 MINUTES...START**. Athletes may continue to prepare their prone positions, remove CBIs, dry fire and fire unlimited sighting shots. When the command **START** is given, athletes are authorized to load and fire when they are ready to begin sighting shots. The Range Officer must inform athletes when 30 seconds remain in the Preparation and Sighting Stage by announcing **THIRTY SECONDS**. At the end of 10 minutes, the Range Officer will command **STOP**. After the command **STOP** between the Sighting and Record Stages, rifles may remain loaded and in position ready for the **RECORD FIRE START** command. If electronic targets are used, a pause to change the targets to Record Fire is necessary.

## **7.6 RECORD FIRE STAGES**

When the targets are ready for record fire, the Range Officer will command **PRONE (or STANDING, or KNEELING) RECORD FIRE...20 SHOTS IN A TIME LIMIT OF 20 MINUTES (25 minutes for standing)...START**. See Rule 5.3.2 for 3x10 time limits. The record fire time begins with the command **START** and ends with the command **STOP**. No sighting shots may be fired during this stage. After athletes fire the last shot in each Record Fire Stage, they must open their rifle actions, insert CBIs and ground their rifles on the floor or bench. After grounding or benching their rifles, athletes may make sight, stock or accessory adjustments or changes on their rifle, but they may not handle their rifles after the command **STOP-UNLOAD** is given. The Range Officer may command **STOP-UNLOAD** before the shooting time expires if all athletes finish firing before the end of the time limit.

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

The Range Officer must inform athletes of the time remaining at five (5) minutes before the end of the shooting time with the command **FIVE MINUTES REMAINING**.

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

The Range Officer must inform athletes of the time remaining at two (2) minutes before the end of the shooting time with the command **TWO MINUTES REMAINING**. The five and two minute warnings are advisory. Athletes are responsible for finishing within the official time limit whether or not the time warnings are given. The Range Officer may give

additional time to an athlete if that athlete has an interruption that is not his/her fault, but he/she may not give extra time for a malfunction (Rule 7.16).

### **7.7 POSITION CHANGEOVER STAGES**

After the prone and standing Record Fire Stages, athletes must be given a five (5) minute Changeover Stage before the start of the Sighting Stage for the standing or kneeling position. If targets are changed after each position, the Changeover Stage may not begin until target changing is complete and Range Officers or other personnel have returned from downrange. The Changeover Stage begins when the Range Officer commands **YOUR FIVE-MINUTE CHANGEOVER STAGE BEGINS NOW**. During Changeover Stages, athletes may set up their equipment for the next position, handle their rifles, get into position, remove CBIs, dry fire and do holding and aiming exercises.

### **7.8 SIGHTING STAGES FOR STANDING AND KNEELING**

The Sighting Stages before the standing and kneeling positions are five (5) minutes unless the Sighting Stage is extended to 10 minutes in accordance with Rule 5.3.1. At the end of the Changeover Stage, the Range Officer will command, **STANDING (or KNEELING) SIGHTING STAGE...TIME LIMIT 5 (or 10) MINUTES...START**. During this stage, athletes may load their rifles and fire unlimited Sighting shots. The Range Officer must inform athletes when 30 seconds remain in the Sighting Stage by announcing **THIRTY SECONDS**. At the end of 5/10 minutes, the Range Officer will command **STOP**. After the command **STOP** between the Sighting and Record stages, rifles may remain loaded and in position ready for the **RECORD FIRE START** command. If electronic targets are used, a pause to change the targets to Record Fire is necessary. When the targets are ready, the Range Officer will proceed with the commands for the Record Fire Stage (Rule 7.6).

### **7.9 LEAVING THE FIRING LINE OR REMOVING EQUIPMENT**

During any Preparation and Sighting, Changeover or Record Firing Stage, an athlete who wishes to leave the firing line for any purpose must a) leave his/her rifle grounded on the on the firing line with the action open and a CBI inserted, b) notify the Range Officer and c) leave the firing line so as not to disturb other athletes. If athletes complete firing before the time for Record Fire ends, they may leave the firing line, but they may not remove their equipment from the firing line until the command **STOP** is given at the end of the shooting time and the Range Officer has checked their rifles to be sure they are safe to be removed. Rifles and equipment may be removed from the firing line only after firing is complete and the Range Officer has given instructions to athletes to remove their equipment, except that a cleared rifle may be removed to refill a cylinder or repair a malfunction with the permission of the Range Officer (see Rule 7.16). *Note: This is to prevent disturbing athletes who are still firing.*

### **7.10 DRY FIRING**

Dry firing is releasing the trigger mechanism on a cocked rifle without releasing a propelling charge (air or CO<sub>2</sub>). Athletes may dry fire during Changeover, Sighting and Record Fire Stages as long as a propelling charge is not released. *Note: Not all air rifles are capable of dry firing when air or CO<sub>2</sub> cylinders are attached.*

### **7.11 RELEASE OF PROPELLING CHARGE**

- Any propelling charge released during a Record Fire Stage must be scored as a miss.
- If a propelling charge is released without loading a pellet during a Changeover Stage, the athlete must be given a warning for the first offense. For a second or any subsequent offences, two points must be deducted from the first competition shot.
- An athlete may discharge air or gas without loading a pellet during any Preparation and Sighting or Sighting Stage because sighting shots do not count in an athletes score. *Note: Athletes often release propelling gas without loading a pellet during sighting shots as a means of stabilizing the firing mechanism.*

### **7.12 SIGHTING AND RECORD SHOTS**

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

#### **7.12.1 Sighting Shots**

Sighting Shots are practice or warm-up shots that do not count in the athlete's score. Unlimited sighting shots may be fired only during the Preparation and Sighting or Sighting Stage for each position (Rule 5.3). No sighting shots may be fired during any Record Fire Stage unless the Range Officer authorizes them. The Range Officer may authorize

sighting shots to be fired during a Record Fire Stage if there is a malfunction, interruption or the athlete must be moved to another target. Any shots fired on any of the sighting bulls on either 10-bull target after record fire starts that were not authorized by the Range Officer shall be scored as misses. If counting illegal sighting shots as misses yields more than 10 record shots on a target, the last shots (by bull number) on that target must be nullified.

#### **7.12.2 Record Fire Shots**

Record Fire shots are shots that count in the athlete's score. Only one record shot may be fired at any single record bull. Any shot fired after the command **START** is given for the Record Fire Stage, including any discharge of propelling gas or accidental discharge, must be scored as a record shot whether it hits the target or not.

### **7.13 FIRING PROCEDURES AND RANGE OFFICER COMMANDS**

The Range Officer must conduct all stages of firing by using commands and procedures as specified in the section (Rule 7.0) for all regular three-position or standing position events. Events with Final Rounds must use commands and procedures for Finals (Rule 10). Range Officer scripts with these procedures and commands are found on pages 53-61.

### **7.14 IRREGULAR SHOTS**

An irregular shot is any shot that is not fired in accordance with these Rules. Any athlete who has an irregular shot must immediately report this to the Range Officer. The Range Officer must make a written record of any irregular shots that occur during the match so that this record can be used by the Statistical Officer to properly score the targets. When paper targets are used, the written record should be made on the target itself.

#### **7.14.1 Shots Fired Before the Command START**

A shot fired before the command **START** for a Preparation and Sighting or Sighting Stage must be scored as a miss on the first competition shot.

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

A shot fired after the command **STOP** at the end of a Preparation and Sighting or Sighting Stage and before the command **START** for a Record Fire Stage must receive a penalty of two (2) points on the first competition target (bulls-eye). A shot fired after the command **STOP** at the end of a Record Fire Stage must be scored as a miss on the last competition target (bulls-eye).

#### **7.14.3 Shots Fired After an Emergency STOP Command**

If an emergency **STOP** command must be given during a Sighting or Record Fire Stage and an athlete inadvertently fires a shot after an unexpected **STOP** command, a warning must be given, but any record shot fired must be counted. Any additional shots fired after the emergency **STOP** command must be scored as misses or may result in disqualification if safety is involved (Rule 7.19.3).

#### **7.14.4 Sighting Shots Outside of the Sighter Guard Ring**

If a sighting shot on a 10-bulls-eye target is outside of the sighter bull guard ring, the athlete must immediately call the Range Officer. The Range Officer must note the location of this and any subsequent sighting shots that are outside of the guard ring. The Range Officer must mark these shots as sighter shots after the target is returned. These marked shots will not be scored.

#### **7.14.5 Loaded Rifle After STOP-UNLOAD Command**

If a pellet is still in the rifle after the command **STOP-UNLOAD** command is given, the athlete must remain in position with the muzzle pointing downrange and immediately inform the Range Officer by raising his/her hand. The Range Officer must then direct the athlete to unload the rifle by firing it into the backstop or a special pellet container. This shot must not be fired at a record target and may not count as a record shot. (See Rule 2.8)

#### **7.14.6 Shots Not Fired**

Record shots that are not fired within the time limit must be scored as a misses on the last competition targets (bulls-eyes) equal to the number of record shots that are not fired.

#### **7.14.7 More Than One Shot on a Target (bulls-eye)**

When an athlete fires more than one shot on one target (bulls-eye) in a three-position event he/she will not be penalized for the first two (2) such occurrences. The athlete must be given a two (2)-point penalty for the third and all succeeding misplaced shots. When an

athlete fires more than one shot on a single target (bulls-eye) he/she must not fire a shot on one subsequent target. The lowest scoring shot must be assigned to the target without a shot. Penalties for the third or subsequent occurrence must be assigned to the lower value shot that is transferred. *Note: If an athlete fires in a three-position event, the penalty must be applied when there are three or more targets (individual record bulls-eyes) in all three positions with more than one shot.*

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

If an athlete fires too many shots in a position (11 or more shots on one series or target card in a 3X10 event, (21 or more shots on two series or target cards in a 3X20 event), the extra shots must be annulled and a two (2) point penalty must be given for each excessive shot.

- If single-bull paper targets or electronic targets are used, the last shot(s) fired in that position must be annulled and a two-point penalty for each excessive shot must be deducted from the lowest value shot(s) or the lowest value shot(s) in the first series (target card).
- If one 10-bull target is fired, score the ten (10) lowest value shots (annul the highest value shots) and assign a two-point penalty for each excessive shot to the lowest value shot(s).
- If two 10-bull targets are fired, score the twenty (20) lowest value shots (annul the highest value shots on either target) and assign a two-point penalty for each excessive shot to the lowest value shot(s) in the first series (target card).

#### **7.14.9 Crossfires**

A crossfire occurs when an athlete fires a shot on the target of another athlete. If an athlete crossfires a sighting shot onto a sighting target of another athlete during a Preparation and Sighting or Sighting Stage, he/she must not be penalized. If an athlete crossfires a record shot on the target of another athlete, the shot must be scored as a miss. If an athlete receives a crossfired shot, and it is impossible to determine which shot is his/hers, he/she will receive the value of the highest undetermined shot.

#### **7.14.10 Misfire**

If a shot is fired and the pellet does not leave the barrel, the athlete must immediately notify the Range Officer. The Range Officer will assist the athlete in safely removing the pellet from the barrel. This shot will not be counted as a record shot and the athlete will be allowed to refire the shot.

#### **7.14.11 Double Loading**

If an athlete loads two pellets and fires both at the same time, the Range Officer must be notified. If the Range Officer determines that two shots on the target (*both are usually low*) are the result of a double loading, the highest value shot will be scored and the lowest value shot will be nullified. The Range Officer must note the location of the nullified shot and mark this on the target after the line is cleared. If an athlete loads and fires two pellets while firing sighters and one or both shots hit outside of the sighter guard ring, he/she must notify the Range Officer immediately so the shot can be marked according to Rule 7.14.4.

#### **7.14.12 Disputed Shot**

If an athlete disclaims a shot on their target, they must immediately notify the Range Officer. If the Range Officer can confirm, beyond a reasonable doubt, that the athlete did not fire the shot, (*for example, when an adjacent athlete reports or has a missing shot*) the shot will not be credited to the athlete. If the Range Officer cannot confirm that the athlete did not fire the disputed shot, that shot must be credited to the athlete.

### **7.15 INTERRUPTIONS WHILE SHOOTING**

When an athlete is interrupted, moved to another firing point or must stop shooting during the competition **through no fault of his/her own** and the interruption is not due to a rifle or equipment malfunction, he/she must be allowed to complete that stage of fire on the current relay or on another relay within the amount of time remaining when the interruption occurred. Additional time and sighting shots shall be allowed in accordance with this Rule.

#### **7.15.1 Interruptions of Less than Five Minutes**

If the interruption lasts more than one (1) and less than five (5) minutes, the athlete must be given additional time to complete the stage of fire equal to the amount of time lost, but no additional sighting shots will be permitted, unless the athlete is moved to another target.

#### **7.15.2 Interruptions of More than Five Minutes**

If the interruption lasts more than five (5) minutes and the athlete is not moved to another target or firing point, he/she must be given additional unlimited sighting shots and additional time equal to the amount of time lost to complete the stage of fire on the current relay. Additional sighting shots must be fired within the amount of time that remained when the interruption occurred except that when the interruption occurs after the five-minute warning, additional time equal to the amount of time lost plus two (2) additional minutes of extra time shall be given to complete any sighters and unfired record shots.

#### **7.15.3 Interruptions Requiring the Athlete to be Moved or Resquadded**

If the athlete is moved to another target or resquadded to complete the stage of fire on another relay, the athlete must be given additional time equal to the amount of time remaining when the interruption occurred plus two (2) minutes of extra time to fire unlimited sighters and complete the stage of fire.

#### **7.15.3 Interruptions of Entire Range**

If shooting on an entire range or section of a range is interrupted, all athletes must be given that amount of additional time when firing resumes, if the interruption lasts longer than one (1) minute. If shooting is interrupted for more than five (5) minutes, all athletes must be given additional unlimited sighting shots and an additional two (2) minutes to complete the stage of fire.

### **7.16 MALFUNCTIONS**

A malfunction occurs when an athlete's rifle or equipment does not function correctly. Any athlete who has a malfunction must notify the Range Officer immediately. Additional sighting shots or a replacement will not be allowed if the athlete fails to notify the Range Officer before repairing or correcting a malfunction.

#### **7.16.1 Malfunction Procedures**

The athlete or his/her coach may repair the malfunction after notifying the Range Officer. If the rifle or equipment cannot be repaired, or if the rifle cannot be safely aimed or fired, it may be replaced with the approval of the Range Officer. After a malfunction repair or rifle replacement, an athlete may at his/her request be authorized to shoot additional sighting shots, but all sighting shots and any unfired record shots must be completed within the authorized time limit. No additional time may be authorized for a malfunction repair or replacement, except when the malfunction occurs after the five minute warning, two (2) additional minutes of extra time shall be given to complete any sighters and unfired record shots.

#### **7.16.2 Low Gas Pressure**

No additional time or sighting shots will be allowed to compensate for time lost to change or fill a compressed air or CO<sub>2</sub> cylinder. It is the responsibility of the athlete to arrive at the firing line with a properly charged gas cylinder.

#### **7.16.3 Improper Loading**

If an athlete loads two or more pellets at one time, inserts a pellet backwards or fails to properly charge a pneumatic air rifle (i.e. short stroke), any shots fired during a Record Fire Stage must be scored as record shots, except that when two shots are fired at one time, the lowest value shot will be nullified (see Rule 7.14.11). An athlete who thinks he/she may have loaded two pellets or may have forgotten to load a pellet may call a Range Officer and ask permission to discharge that shot into a Pellet Discharge Container or the backstop or have the Range Officer use a cleaning rod to clear the barrel. A Range Officer must be present with the athlete and supervise the clearing of the barrel. No extra time is allowed for this.

#### **7.16.4 Shots Fired When a Malfunction Occurs**

Any shot fired with low gas pressure that was caused by the athlete's failure to properly charge the rifle or have sufficient gas in the rifle's air or CO<sub>2</sub> cylinder must be scored as a record shot. A shot fired with low gas pressure that was caused by a rifle malfunction such

as a broken seal or gas leak may be nullified and refired. A shot fired when a malfunction occurs (*i.e.*, a *shot fires when the action is closed due to a trigger malfunction*) may be nullified and refired if the Range Officer concludes that the shot discharge was not the fault of the athlete. To nullify such a shot the Range Officer or an Armorer must examine the rifle and determine that the trigger mechanism was properly adjusted (Sporter rifle triggers may be weighed) and that it was not caused by accidentally hitting the trigger while closing the action or handling the rifle. Such a shot cannot be nullified if the Range Officer determines that the trigger adjustment was too light (Sporter rifles) or had too little engagement. If a Sporter rifle trigger is weighed and does not lift 1.5 pounds, disqualification may be imposed according to rules 4.2.3 and 7.19.2. Any second or subsequent occurrences of such a malfunction must be scored as record shots.

#### **7.16.5 Replacing Cylinders**

If an athlete has to replace an air or CO<sub>2</sub> cylinder because it was not properly filled before the competition, this may be done with the approval of the Range Officer, but no additional time may be allowed. An athlete who must replace a cylinder must insert a CBI in his/her rifle, have the Range Officer clear the rifle and then remove it from the firing line to replace the cylinder.

### **7.17 LATE ARRIVALS**

An athlete who arrives late for a scheduled relay on which he/she was squadded will be permitted to start, but no extra time will be allowed. If an athlete arrives after record fire has begun, he/she will be permitted to start, but no extra time will be allowed and no sighting shots will be permitted. If an athlete can demonstrate that his/her delayed arrival was due to circumstances beyond his/her control, he/she may be resquadded on another relay or permitted to start at a later time if this does not delay the scheduled start of a Final.

### **7.18 SPECTATORS AND MEDIA**

Competition sponsors should encourage and assist spectators and media at their competitions. Spectators must remain behind the firing points and may not communicate with athletes except when a Range Officer gives permission for an athlete to speak with someone behind the firing line. A Ready Line may be designated to restrict the forward movement of persons who are not firing or officiating. The Range Officer may give photographers special access or permission to photograph athletes from the area immediately behind the firing line. Spectators and media must be allowed to speak in normal tones. Spectators should also be allowed to cheer during competitions. Spectators or photographers may not use flash photography during competitions. Cell phones and other communication devices must be turned off while competitions take place.

### **7.19 PENALTIES FOR RULES VIOLATIONS**

In case of a violation of the Rules or instructions given by Range Officers or the Jury, the Range Officer or Jury may impose penalties. Penalties can include a warning, a deduction of points or disqualification from the competition. Any decision to disqualify an athlete must be made by at least two Competition Officials such as a Range Officer and the Competition Director.

#### **7.19.1 Open Violations**

In the case of open violations of the Rules (rifles, clothing, position, etc.), where there is no clear evidence that the athlete gained or sought to gain an unfair advantage, the Range Officer must first give a warning so that the athlete has an opportunity to correct the fault. Whenever possible, the warning should be given during the preparation period or sighting shots. The athlete must correct the fault or illegal equipment before continuing the competition. No additional sighting shots or extra time will be allowed. If the athlete continues to fire without correcting the fault, two points must be deducted from the score. If the athlete still does not correct the fault after the deduction of points, he/she must be disqualified. Open violations, where Rule 7.19.2 does not apply, discovered after an athlete completes firing, may not be penalized, but the athlete must be advised of the fault so it can be corrected.

#### **7.19.2 Concealed Violations**

In the case of deliberately concealed violations of the Rules where an athlete gained or sought to gain an unfair advantage over other athletes, the athlete must be disqualified. Concealed violations include any instance where an athlete alters equipment from a legal to an illegal configuration after Equipment Control or the Range Officers checked it before

or during the competition. Athletes may be disqualified for concealed violations discovered after the athlete completes firing if the concealed violation was used during the competition to gain an unfair advantage. Disqualifications may only be imposed by the decision of at least two persons such as a Range Officer and the Competition Director after the violation is explained to the athlete and he/she is given an opportunity to defend their actions. The Jury may also impose disqualifications.

#### **7.19.3 Safety Violations**

In the case of a serious, blatant or dangerous rifle-handling violation where the safety of another person is endangered, the athlete may be disqualified by the decision of at least two persons such as a Range Officer and the Competition Director or by a decision of the Jury.

#### **7.19.4 Coaching Violations**

In the case of unauthorized coaching violations while the athlete is on the firing line, both the coach and athlete must first be given a warning. After the second coaching violation, two points must be deducted from the athlete's score on his/her last shot in the event and the coach must be directed to leave the vicinity of the firing line.

#### **7.19.5 Unsportsmanlike Conduct**

In the case of unsportsmanlike conduct (i. e., cheating, disobeying instructions of competition officials, disturbing other athletes, altering targets, falsifying scores, purposely damaging range equipment, disorderly conduct, dishonesty, inappropriate behavior or language, etc.) the Competition Director or Jury may impose penalties including a warning, deduction of points or disqualification, depending on the severity of the violation. Any coaches or spectators who violate this rule may be directed to leave the vicinity of the firing line.

## **8.0 SCORING TARGETS**

### **8.1 VALUES OF SHOTS**

The values of all record shots fired in a competition must be determined, totaled and ranked in accordance with these rules.

#### **8.1.1 Shot Values**

Shots may be scored in full ring values or, if electronic targets or electronic scoring (visual image electronic scoring) are used, shots may be scored in decimal ring values, if elected by the match sponsor and announced in advance in the match program.

#### **8.1.2 Scoring Methods**

Shot values may be determined by the manual scoring of paper targets, the use of ISSF-certified electronic targets or the use of a visual image electronic scoring system approved by the National Three-Position Air Rifle Council. *Note: Current ISSF-certified 10m targets are produced by Disag, Megalink, Meyton and SIUS AG. The only National Council-approved electronic scoring system is the Orion Scoring System.* All shots fired in one competition must be scored with only one method of scoring.

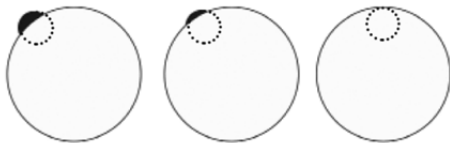
#### **8.1.3 Determining Shot Values**

In paper target scoring, a shot is given the score of the highest value scoring ring that is hit or touched by that shot. In electronic target or visual image scoring, a shot is given the score that corresponds to the distance the center of the shot hole is from the center of the target.

#### **8.1.4 Scoring Inner Tens**

Inner tens are used to break ties when full ring scoring is used. An inner ten is a shot where the shot hole completely covers the 10-ring dot (paper targets) or where the center of the shot hole is located somewhere on the 0.5mm ten ring (electronic scoring).





To score an Inner Ten with an **INWARD** gauge, the ten dot must be completely covered. If the dot is not covered (upper left), the shot is not an Inner Ten. If the edge of the dot just barely protrudes (upper center), the shot is not an Inner Ten. If the dot is completely covered (upper right), the shot is scored as an Inner Ten.

#### **Scoring Inner Tens with an 11.5mm OUTWARD Gauge**

When using an 11.5mm **OUTWARD** air pistol gauge, read the outside edge of the gauge on the seven (7) ring using the **OUTWARD** scoring gauge method described and illustrated in Rule 8.3.2 on page 36. If the outside edge of the gauge is tangent to or inside of the outside edge of the seven (7) ring, the shot is scored as an Inner Ten. If the outside edge of the gauge is outside of the outside edge of the seven (7) ring, the shot is not an Inner Ten.

#### **8.1.5 Misses**

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

#### **8.1.6 Irregular Shots**

Irregular shots must be reported to the Statistical Officer by the Range Officer and scored in accordance with these Rules.

#### **8.1.7 Scoring Integrity**

Competition Directors must make special efforts to ensure that scoring is done with absolute fairness and impartiality. If possible in manual paper target scoring, scorers should not know which athletes' targets they are scoring (use athlete numbers, place names on target backs, etc.). Coaches or team officials should not score the targets of their own team members.

#### **8.1.8 Score Posting**

As soon as targets are scored, the scores of all targets must be totaled and posted on the Official Bulletin Board and, if possible, posted electronically or in other areas of the range so that all scores are available to all participating athletes and coaches.

### **8.2 SCORE PROTESTS**

After scores are posted on the Official Bulletin Board, a scoring protest period must be provided when athletes and coaches have an opportunity to see their scored paper targets and to protest any shot values or scores they believe were scored, recorded or added incorrectly. The purpose of scoring protests is to correct errors, not to rescure scores that have already been scored with an approved means of scoring (Rule 8.1.2). If electronic targets are used, the scoring protest period ends 10 minutes after scores are posted. When manual scoring is used, the scored paper targets must be made available for viewing in such a way that athletes or team officials do not handle their own targets. The scoring protest period for paper targets must give athletes sufficient time to see their targets, but should not be longer than 30 minutes after scored targets are available for inspection. The expiration time of the scoring protest period must be posted when scores are posted. Scoring protests must be submitted during the protest period. At the end of the protest period, scores become final.

#### **8.2.1 Who May Protest Scores**

Athletes must submit scoring protests for their own targets. If special circumstances prevent athletes from making score protests, the statistical officer may allow team coaches to make score protests.

#### **8.2.2 Protests of Shot Values During Finals**

Protests of the value of a shot in a final must be made before the next final round shot is fired or immediately after scores on paper targets are announced.

#### **8.2.3 Protests of Other Team or Individual Scores**

Athletes and team coaches may not protest the scores or targets of other athletes or teams unless there is a recording, tabulation or other obvious error.

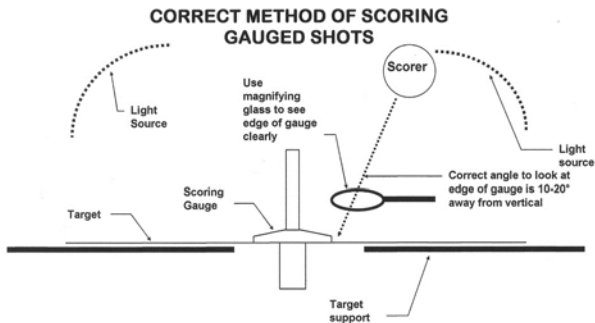
### 8.2.4 Score Protest Fees

The Competition Director may establish a scoring protest fee of not more than \$3.00 per shot. The protest fee must be returned if the protest is upheld.

### 8.3 MANUAL PAPER TARGET SCORING

When paper targets are scored manually, two scorers must score each target. No one may knowingly score a target for an athlete in whom they have a personal interest. Scorers should operate in pairs so that two scorers initially examine all targets and gauge doubtful shots. In case of disagreement between the two scorers, the Statistical Officer or a Scoring Supervisor or other person designated by the Competition Director or Statistical Officer must make the final decision.

The value of each shot scored and the fact that the shot was gauged (plugged) must be recorded on the target. The target serves as an official scorecard. The following rules apply when paper targets are scored manually.



Correct scoring with a scoring gauge includes 1) placing the target horizontally on a support, 2) having the target well-lighted, 3) looking at the edge of the gauge from a slight angle and 4) using a magnifying glass when necessary.

#### 8.3.1 Using a Scoring Gauge

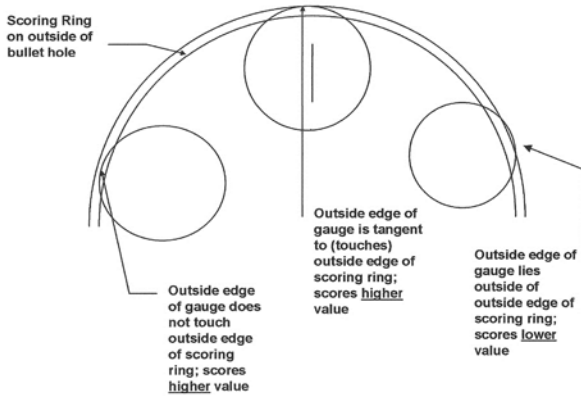
A shot whose value is doubtful must be scored with a scoring gauge ("plug" gauge). The scoring gauge may be inserted only once to determine the value of the shot, except when a possible National Record target is rescored in accordance with Rule 11.4. The scorer must view the gauge from an angle to clearly see where the edge of the gauge's flange and target meet. Shots that have been gauged must be marked with a plus (+) if that shot is scored as the higher value or with a minus (-) if that shot is scored as the lower value. Both scorers must mark and initial the gauged shot. If a third opinion is required, that person must also mark and initial the shot. The decision of the scorers on the value of a gauged shot is final. Any gauged shot may not be protested. See the diagram above. An "Eagle Eye" magnifying scoring template may be used as a magnifying glass to view inserted scoring gauges, but it may not be used as a substitute for a scoring gauge. An "Eagle Eye" template may only be used to score torn shot holes (see Rule 8.3.4).

#### 8.3.2 Using the Outward Scoring Gauge

An outward scoring gauge, with a flange diameter of 5.45-5.50mm (0.218-0.222 in.), must be used to score shots in the 3 to 10 rings. If the outer edge of the flange breaks the outside edge of the white scoring ring, the lower value is assigned to the shot. If the outer edge of the flange is tangent to or lies inside of the outside edge of the white scoring ring, the shot must be scored the higher value. See diagram on next page.

## SCORING WITH OUTWARD SCORING GAUGES

Use to score shot values ten (10) through three (3)

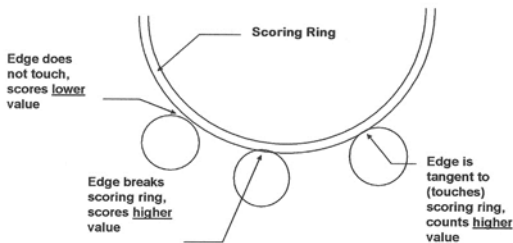


### 8.3.3 Using the Inward Scoring Gauge

The inward scoring gauge, with a flange diameter of 4.50-4.55mm (0.178-0.182 in.), must be used to score shots in the 1 and 2 rings, and to score inner tens. The shot is scored as the highest value ring that the flange of the inward plug gauge touches. When using the inward scoring gauge, if you can see even a faint black gap between the edge of the scoring gauge and the outside edge of the scoring ring, the shot receives the lower value. If you do not see a gap and the edge touches or breaks into the outside edge of the scoring ring, the shot receives the higher value. See the diagram below.

## SCORING WITH INWARD SCORING GAUGES

Use to score shot values one (1) and two (2) and inner tens



If you can see even a faint black gap between the edge of the scoring gauge and the outside edge of the white scoring ring, the shot receives the lower value. If you cannot see a gap and the gauge is tangent to or touches the outside edge of the scoring ring, the shot receives the higher value.

### 8.3.4 Scoring Torn Shot Holes

When the outside edge of a shot hole is torn, the shot must be scored according to the location where the pellet actually struck the target. A shot hole that is torn so badly that an inserted scoring gauge will not remain in that location may not be scored with a scoring gauge. Torn shot holes must be scored with a template or overlay gauge or by using some other means of determining an accurate outline of the actual pellet hole. *Note: An "Eagle Eye" magnifying scoring template may be used for this purpose.*

### **8.3.5 Protests of Manually Scored Targets**

Shot value protests may only be made on shots whose values were decided without using a scoring gauge (Rule 8.3.1) or scoring template or overlay gauge (Rule 8.3.4). Decisions made regarding the value of shots by using a scoring gauge or overlay cannot be protested, unless there is a recording, tabulation or other obvious error.

## **8.4 ELECTRONIC TARGETS (EST)**

### **8.4.1 Electronic Target Scores**

Scores indicated by electronic targets are final unless protested in accordance with these Rules.

### **8.4.2 Protests or Complaints Regarding Electronic Target Scores**

When electronic targets are used, an athlete who believes a shot has not registered or who believes a shot or series of shots was scored incorrectly must immediately notify a Range Officer to protest the value of the shot(s). The value of an individual shot must be protested before the next shot is fired or within three (3) minutes after the last shot, except for failure of the paper band to advance.

- ⊙ **Shot Does Not Register.** When a shot fails to register and the paper band is advancing, the Range Officer will direct the firing of an additional shot. If this additional shot fails to register, the athlete must be moved to another firing position, be given additional sighting shots and be permitted to refire the shots that failed to register before continuing with the remaining record shots. If the additional shot registers, the athlete must continue firing on that target. At the end of the competition, the missing shot (shot that failed to register) must be found on the paper strip in the correct target. If it is not found, the missing shot must be scored as a miss (0) and the additional shot at the end must be nullified. If it is found and cannot be scored accurately, the additional shot at the end must be counted.
- ⊙ **Erroneous Scoring; Paper Band Not Advancing.** If the paper band is not advancing, the target must be repaired or the athlete must be moved to another firing position, be given additional sighting shots and be permitted to refire all shots that were fired after the paper strip stopped advancing before continuing with the remaining record shots. After firing is complete, the Range Officer and Statistical Officer will determine the exact number of refired shots to be counted (starting with the first shot fired after the paper strip stopped advancing) according to ISSF Rules 6.7.11 and 6.13.5.
- ⊙ **Protested Shot Value.** If a protest is made concerning the value of a shot, the athlete will be directed to fire an extra shot so that this shot may be counted if the protest is upheld and the correct value of the shot cannot be determined. After firing is complete, the Range Officer and Statistical Officer will determine the value of any shot that failed to register or whether the value of a protested shot that registered was scored correctly by following ISSF Rules for electronic scoring targets. If a protest concerning a shot value, other than zero or failure to register, is not upheld, a two-point penalty must be applied.
- ⊙ **Protest/Complaint Decision.** Decisions by the Range and Statistical Officer(s) regarding protested shots on electronic targets are final and may not be appealed.
- ⊙ **Scoring Complaint During Sighters.** An athlete may protest that a target is scoring inaccurately during sighting shots only and may be given an opportunity to move to another target, but if the Range and Statistical Officer(s) subsequently determine that the sighting shots were scored accurately after applying ISSF Rule 6.7.11, a two-point penalty must be assigned to the lowest value shot on the first competition series.

## **8.5 VISUAL IMAGE SCORING SYSTEMS**

### **8.5.1 Definition**

A Visual Imaging Scoring (VIS) system is any system that uses computer vision techniques (i.e. scanning, digitizing, etc.) to score targets. VIS systems must include a quantified metric that evaluates the accuracy of each scored shot.

### **8.5.2 Approved systems**

The Orion Scoring system is approved as a VIS system in National Council sanctioned competitions.

### 8.5.3 Scoring rings on VIS Targets

When paper targets are scored with a VIS system, the scoring rings printed on those targets are only to be used for the athletes' reference. Those scoring rings may not be used with any manual scoring method to check or rescore the value of a shot that was scored with a VIS system. *Note: This is because the VIS and manual scoring systems use different methods to determine scores. The VIS system calculates distances from the center of the target to the center of the shot hole while manual scoring compares the edge of a shot hole with the edge of a scoring ring.*

### 8.5.4 Visual Image Electronic Scores

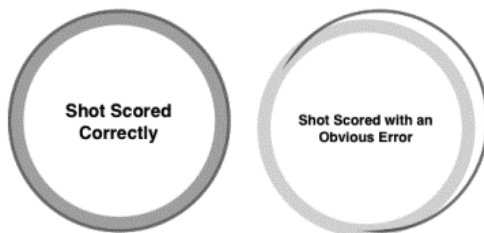
Scores determined by approved VIS systems are final unless protested in accordance with Rules 8.2 and 8.5.5. During VIS scoring, the Statistical Officer or Scorer may correct obvious scoring errors, such as failure to locate a shot, multiple shots on a bull, paper tears, etc.).

### 8.5.5 Protests of Visual Image Electronic Scores

The score of an individual shot on a 10-bull target may be protested. An athlete must designate the specific shot(s) to be protested.

- ⊙ The Statistical Officer will evaluate the protested shot by examining the original scan to determine if the shot hole was correctly identified or if there is an obvious error where the scoring system did not make a reasonable interpretation of actual shot hole location. An obvious error is one where the actual shot hole does not reasonably correspond with the scored shot as displayed by the VIS system (see diagram on next page). If the Statistical Officer concludes that there is an obvious error, he/she may make a manual correction of the score for that shot without requiring the athlete to protest that shot.
- ⊙ If an athlete wishes to protest the value of a shot where the Statistical Officer did not find an obvious error, the athlete must pay a protest fee in accordance with Rule 8.2.4. The Statistical Officer will then rescore the protested shot by using the VIS system "Protest Shot" feature. If the score protest is upheld, the score will be changed and the protest fee returned. If the original score is not changed, a two-point penalty will be deducted from the score of the protested shot. Decisions regarding protested shots that were rescored by the VIS system are final and may not be appealed.

#### Shot Score Verification –VIS Scoring System



On rare occasions, a badly torn or irregular shot hole will cause the VIS scoring system to misread the shot hole location. The diagram depicts a shot hole that is scored correctly with the VIS system and a shot hole with an obvious error. As a guiding principle, if the VIS system scoring ring is more than two scoring ring widths away from the apparent shot hole, the Statistical Officer may rule that this is an obvious error and make a manual correction to the scoring ring location and score.

## 8.6 BREAKING TIES

Ties must be broken for all places in individual and team events. Ties will be broken as follows:

### 8.6.1 Ties in Events or Positions with No Finals (or before Finals)

- ⊙ Ties are broken in favor of the athlete with the highest number of inner tens.
- ⊙ If ties are not broken by inner tens, the tie must be broken according to the highest score in the last 10- shot series fired, then the next to the last 10-shot series, etc.

- ⊙ If the tie is not broken by a series-by-series countback, scores will be compared on a shot-by-shot basis, beginning with the last shot, then the next to the last shot, etc. In a shot-by-shot countback, inners tens are considered to be a higher value than a ten.
- ⊙ If any ties remain, duplicate awards may be given.

### **8.6.2 Ties in Events with Finals**

- ⊙ During a Final with electronic targets, ties for any of the first three places must be broken by a shoot-off (Rule 10.3.7).
- ⊙ In a Final with electronic targets, ties for athletes in places 4 through 7 will be decided by the higher Final score (10 shots).
- ⊙ During a Final with paper targets, ties for athletes in places 1 through 7 will be decided by the higher Final score (10 shots).
- ⊙ If the tie is not broken by the higher Final score, shots fired in the Final will be compared on a shot-by-shot basis, beginning with the last shot, then the next to the last shot, etc. If electronic targets or Orion VIS scoring is used, shots will be compared according to their decimal ring value.
- ⊙ If tie is not broken, the tie will be decided by the ranking before the Final that was decided according to Rule 8.6.1.

### **8.6.3 Multiple Course Individual Aggregates**

When a competition consists of two or more courses of fire, tie-breaking will use the same rules that are used for single 3X10 or 3X20 events (Rule 8.6.1 above). If there is a final or last final, the final and final tie-breaking procedures (Rule 8.6.1, #1) apply. Where there is no final, ties will be broken by using the highest number of inner tens, then the highest score in the last 10-shot series fired, then by using the next to the last 10-shot series score, etc.

### **8.6.4 Team Events**

Ties in team events must be decided by totaling the scores from all members of the tied teams and then applying the tie-breaking rules for individual events listed above (Rule 8.6.1). *Note: This means that the first step in breaking team ties in a three-position event is to total the inner tens fired by the four team members.*

## **8.7 RESULTS LISTS**

Targets must be scored as quickly as possible after they are fired. After targets are scored, results must be posted on the Official Bulletin Board (Rule 5.5.8) so that team coaches and athletes can see them and the scoring protest period can begin (see Rule 8.2). After all scoring protests are decided and all ties are broken, the Statistical Officer must produce an Official Results List or bulletin. The Official Results List should list all individual and team athletes in order of their rank or place finish. Copies of the Official Results List should be distributed to participating teams and individuals electronically or through printed results. An electronic results list may be used as the Official Results List.

# **9.0 PROTESTS AND APPEALS**

## **9.1 PROTESTS OF COMPETITION CONDITIONS**

Any athlete or team coach has the right to protest a condition of the competition. Protests can be submitted to any competition official either verbally or in writing. The competition official who receives the protest can rule on the protest. If the protest is denied, the athlete or team coach may appeal in writing to the Jury. Protests to the Jury must be submitted to the Competition Director within 30 minutes after the decision or action being protested. If the competition official that ruled on the protest is also on the Jury, or if a coach or parent who is on the Jury is directly concerned with the protest, the Competition Director must replace that Jury Member. The decision by a majority of the Jury is final, unless the Jury or the person filing the protest requests a ruling from the National Jury of Appeal. The decision of the Jury must also be in writing.

### **9.1.1 Protest Fees**

The Competition Director may establish a protest fee of not more than \$10.00. If a protest fee is required, it must be paid when the protest is submitted. The protest fee must be

returned if the protest is upheld or retained by the Competition Sponsor if the protest is denied.

### **9.1.2 Competition Protests**

Any athlete or team coach can protest irregularities in the conditions or conduct of the competition and Rules violations by other athletes or competition officials. The protest must be filed within 30 minutes of the occurrence of the protested incident. Oral protests may be decided by the Range Officer or Competition Director. Written Competitions Protests must be decided by a majority of the Jury (Rule 6.3). Written protests must give the following information:

- ⊙ Name of person filing the protest.
- ⊙ Date and time when the protest is filed.
- ⊙ Description of the incident, condition or decision being protested.
- ⊙ The specific rule(s) that the protesting person believes was violated by the incident, condition or decision.

The decision on the protest by the Jury must be noted in writing on the protest or an attached document. The person filing the protest must be informed of the decision.

### **9.1.3 Forwarding Protests to the National Council**

Any protest submitted to and decided by a Competition Jury is subject to review by the National Jury of Appeal. Copies of the written protest and Jury decision (in writing) must be forwarded to the National Jury of Appeal together with the Competition Director's sanctioned competition report. The National Jury of Appeal may affirm or reverse the protest decision or use the protest to clarify rules issues or make recommendations for future rules changes.

## **9.2 APPEALS OF PROTEST DECISIONS**

If a written protest to a Competition Jury is denied, the person submitting the protest may appeal that decision to the National Jury of Appeal by submitting a written request for a review (see Rule 1.7). The appeal of the Jury decision must be submitted to the National Jury of Appeal by fax, 419-635-2573 or email, [vdonoho@TheCMP.org](mailto:vdonoho@TheCMP.org), within 72 hours after the end of the competition. A copy of the written request for a review by the National Jury of Appeal must also be given to the Competition Director so that he/she may also submit comments on the protest to the Jury of Appeal. Any decision by the National Jury of Appeal on a protest appealed to it from a competition is final.

# **10.0 FINALS**

A Final is part of all major shooting championships such as the Olympics, World Championships, World Cups and National Championships. A Final is not required in individual Three-Position Air Rifle events, but is highly recommended. When a Final is include with events that are in a Competition Program, Final Round scores are added to the three-position score to determine individual place winners. The final consists of 10 shots from the standing position, fired one shot at a time, with separate commands for each shot.

## **10.1 FINAL ROUND PROCEDURES**

The top eight (8) athletes in the individual 3x10, 3x20 or standing position courses of fire advance to the Final Round. Finals may be conducted by using electronic targets or paper targets. The Final consists of unlimited sighting shots fired in an eight (8) minute combined Preparation and Sighting Stage and a Record Fire Stage consisting of ten (10) record shots, each fired on command within a 50 second time limit. All Finals for Three-Position or Standing events are fired in the standing position.

### **10.1.1 Determining Final Round Start Positions**

The top eight athletes must be ranked according to their scores. Ties involving the top eight athletes, including any ties for the last position(s) to start in the Final must be broken according to the tie breaking procedures in Rule 8.6.1.

### **10.1.2 Scoring Final Round Targets**

Final Round record shots are scored in decimal (tenth) ring values. Scoring may be done with electronic targets or the Orion VIS system. If such systems are not available, Final

Round targets may, exceptionally, be scored manually in whole ring values (Rule 8.3). If possible, targets should be scored immediately after each shot and the score of each athlete announced before starting the next shot. If the target system precludes immediate scoring, the Range Officer or scorers may announce estimated scores (by estimating shot values with the aid of a spotting scope) and the targets will be scored officially after the ten final round shots. Final Round scores are added to the 3x10, 3x20 or 40 or 60 shot standing course of fire scores to produce a total score and to determine the place finish of the top eight athletes.

#### **10.1.3 Special Finals for All Athletes**

In competitions with multiple relays or that take place over two or more days, where it is not possible to have the top eight athletes remain for a single eight-person final at the end of the competition, the Competition Program may provide that the top athletes in each relay or that all athletes in a relay will complete a ten-shot Final Round as part of the individual event. If this is done, a Final must be conducted at the end of each relay. The same procedures that are given in this Rule must be used, except that it may not be practical to announce individual scores after each shot if there are more than eight athletes. *Note: An excellent way to announce scores if a large number of athletes are in a Final is to announce only the firing points where a ten has been fired on that shot.* If this special Final Round procedure is used, Final Round scores will be added only to the scores of the athletes who had the eight highest 3x10 or 3x20 scores to determine the final ranking of those eight athletes. The Final Round scores of the other athletes may be published in the results bulletin for information purposes only, but their scores will not count in the final ranking.

#### **10.1.4 Multiple Finals for Multi-Day Events**

In competitions with multiple relays that take place over two or more days, where it is not possible to have the top eight athletes remain for a single eight-person final at the end of the competition, the Competition Program may, alternatively, provide that the athletes with the eight highest scores for that day will complete a ten-shot final round at the end of each day. The same finals procedures that are given in this Rule must be used. If this special finals procedure is used, the final round scores will be added only to the scores of the athletes who had the eight highest 3x10 or 3x20 scores overall to determine the final ranking of those eight athletes. The Final Round scores of the other athletes may be published in the results bulletin for information purposes only, but their scores will not count in the final ranking.

### **10.2 PREPARING FOR THE FINAL**

The start time of the Final is the time when commands for the first record shot begin. The start time of the Final must be announced in advance. Finalists should report to the Range Officer at least 20 minutes before the start of the Final to have time to prepare and complete their Preparation and Sighting Stage.

#### **10.2.1 Assigning Firing Points**

Finalists must fire together on eight adjacent firing points. Finalists are assigned firing points with the highest-ranked athlete on the first point (left), the next highest-ranked athlete on the second point, etc. If an athlete does not appear for a Final by the time the presentation of athletes begins, he/she will be given the last place in the Final and will not be allowed to start late. If more than one athlete fails to appear, their final rankings will be decided according to Rule 8.6.1.

#### **10.2.2 Targets**

If 10-bull targets are used, the two sighter bulls in the center of the target card are used for sighting shots.

#### **10.2.3 Officials**

The Range Officer is responsible for conducting the Final and giving all commands. The Range Officer or an Announcer is responsible for introducing the finalists and giving score announcements and commentary. When paper targets are used, there should be eight spotters or Assistant Range Officers behind the finalists who are responsible for confirming that record shots are fired and for estimating record shot values.



#### **10.2.4 Presentation of Athletes**

The eight finalists should be introduced and recognized after they are called to the line and before the Preparation and Sighting Stage starts. Finalists must be presented to spectators in inverse order of their current ranking, starting with the athlete in eighth place. Introductions should include the athlete's current ranking, score, name, and club, school or other affiliation. No finalist may begin to set up equipment until all eight finalists are introduced.

#### **10.2.5 Presentation for Spectators**

A primary objective of Finals is to present the conclusion of competitions to the public in distinguished and exciting ways that showcase the talents and training of the best athletes in the competition. Spectators, parents, coaches and other athletes should be encouraged to attend Finals. Seating should be provided for spectators who should be encouraged to applaud and cheer during Finals. A scoreboard displaying scores and current rankings that is visible to spectators should be on the range. The announcer should give scores and commentary about current rankings after each Final Round shot.

### **10.3 CONDUCTING THE FINAL**

The Final must begin at its scheduled or announced time, but not before the scoring protest time ends (Rule 9.1). The Final must be conducted by following these procedures.

#### **10.3.1 Call to the Line and Introduction of Finalists**

Finalists should report to an assembly area, with their rifles and equipment approximately 30 minutes before the scheduled or announced start time for Final Round record shots. 15 minutes before the start time, the Range Officer must call finalists to the firing line with the command **ATHLETES TO THE LINE, GROUND YOUR RIFLES**. After grounding their rifles, all finalists must turn to the rear towards spectators for their introduction. The finalists must be introduced at this time. Introductions should give the name, club or school represented or hometown and qualification score. After the presentation, the Range Officer will instruct finalists to **TAKE YOUR POSITIONS**. Athletes will then have a two (2) minute period when they may handle their rifles and get into the standing position. After they get into the standing position, they may carry out holding and aiming exercises, but they may not remove CBIs from their rifles.

#### **10.3.2 Eight Minute Preparation and Sighting Stage**

- ⊙ After two (2) minutes, the Range Officer will command **PREPARATION AND SIGHTING...TIME LIMIT EIGHT MINUTES...START**. Athletes may complete their preparations for the Final, load and fire unlimited sighters during this time.
- ⊙ The discharge of air or gas before the Preparation and Sighting Stage is not permitted. Two (2) points will be deducted from the first final round record shot for each occurrence (see Rule 7.11).
- ⊙ The Range Officer must give athletes a verbal warning when thirty seconds remain in the Preparation and Sighting Stage with the command **THIRTY SECONDS**.
- ⊙ The sighting period ends with the command **STOP--UNLOAD**. Athletes must stop firing. If a rifle is still loaded, the athlete must notify the Range Officer who will direct the athlete to clear his/her rifle (Rule 7.14.5).

#### **10.3.3 Changing from Sighting to Record Shots**

There should be a 30 second pause after the **STOP** command and before the commands for the first Final Round record shot. This gives technicians operating electronic targets time to switch from sighting to record scoring. The announcer may use this time to explain that record firing is about to begin.

#### **10.3.4 Final Round Competition Shot Commands and Announcements**

The Range Officer must conduct the Final by using the commands and procedures specified in this section (Rule 10.0). A Range Officer script with these procedures and commands is found on pages 60-64.

- ⊙ For each Final Round record shot, the Range Officer will command **FOR THE FIRST/NEXT COMPETITION SHOT...LOAD**.
- ⊙ After a 5 second delay to give Finalists time to load and get into their firing positions, the Range Officer will command **START**.

- 40 seconds after the **START** command, there should be a verbal (“ten”) or audible signal warning the athletes that ten (10) seconds remain in the firing time. *Note: The Range Officer should announce or demonstrate the audible signal that will be used before the start of the Final.*
- 50 seconds after the **START** command, or after all athletes have fired their shots, the Range Officer will command **STOP**.
- After the **STOP** command, the Range Officer or Announcer will announce the scores and give brief commentary about the current rankings. Score announcements must give the family name of the athlete and the score (i.e. RIVERA, 10.2; JONES, 9.6, etc.).

### 10.3.5 Special Rules for Record Shots

- **Loading Before LOAD Command.** Athletes may not place a pellet in the barrel before the command **LOAD**. The first violation results in a warning. The second violation results in a two (2) point deduction.
- **Firing Before START Command.** Any shot *fired* before the commands **LOAD** or **START** must be scored as a miss for that shot.
- **Firing After STOP Command.** Any shot fired after the command **STOP** must be scored as a miss for that shot.
- **Aiming Exercises.** Aiming or holding exercises between record shots are allowed. Dry firing between record shots is not allowed. A two-point penalty must be deducted from the score of the next shot for each instance of dry firing.
- **Early Stop Command.** If the command **STOP** is given before the 50 second time limit expires, and an athlete has not fired his/her shot, the athlete must be given a new 50-second time to fire that shot. The Range Officer will command: **THE FOLLOWING COMMANDS ARE FOR FIRING POINT (firing point number) ONLY...THE COMMAND LOAD HAS BEEN GIVEN...(10 second pause)...START.** The other finalists must wait until this shot is completed before results for all shots are announced and the Final is continued.
- **Malfunctions.** If an athlete has correctly loaded his/her rifle and has a malfunction that is not his/her fault, the athlete will be given a maximum of two (2) minutes to repair the malfunction or replace the rifle. As soon as the malfunction is repaired or the rifle is replaced, the Range Officer will give a new 50-second time for the athlete to fire the malfunction shot, starting with the command: **THE FOLLOWING COMMANDS ARE FOR FIRING POINT (firing point number) ONLY...LOAD...(5 second pause)...START.** If the malfunction is not repaired or the rifle replaced within two (2) minutes, the athlete must withdraw from the Final and the Range Officer must continue the Final for the remaining athletes. The other finalists must wait until the malfunction shot is completed or the athlete withdraws before results for all shots are announced and the Final is continued. Only one malfunction per athlete may be claimed in a Final.

### 10.3.6 Ending the Final, Paper Targets

- If ten bulls-eye paper targets are used, athletes must open their rifle actions, insert CBIs and ground their rifles after the last shot (10th record shot). As soon as the line is cleared, targets must be retrieved and scored. Scores for the last shot are not announced. Athletes should not remove their rifles and equipment until after final scores are announced and the medal winners are recognized.
- As soon as Final Round scores are available, the Range Officer or Announcer will announce the Final Round scores for all eight finalists. Finalists will have two minutes to protest Final Round scores.
- Ties after Finals shot on 10-bull paper targets will not be shot off, but will be decided in accordance with Rule 8.6.2 (Final Round scores are compared first).
- If there are no protests or after any protest is decided, the Range Officer or Announcer will announce **RESULTS ARE FINAL** and immediately recognize the top three athletes by announcing **THE GOLD MEDAL WINNER, WITH A SCORE OF (final score), REPRESENTING (club or school), IS (ATHLETE’S NAME); THE**

**SILVER MEDAL WINNER, WITH A SCORE OF (final score), REPRESENTING (club or school), IS (ATHLETE'S NAME) and THE BRONZE MEDAL WINNER, WITH A SCORE OF (final score), REPRESENTING (club or school), IS (ATHLETE'S NAME).**

- ⊙ After the top three athletes are recognized, the Range Officer will clear the line and authorize all athletes to remove their rifles and equipment from the firing line.

### **10.3.7 Ending the Final, Electronic Targets**

- ⊙ All athletes must remain on the firing line after the last shot (10th shot). Scores for the last shot are not announced.
- ⊙ If there are no ties, the Range Officer or Announcer will announce **THERE ARE NO TIES, RESULTS ARE FINAL** and immediately recognize the top three athletes by announcing **THE GOLD MEDAL WINNER, WITH A SCORE OF (final score), REPRESENTING (club or school), IS (ATHLETE'S NAME); THE SILVER MEDAL WINNER, WITH A SCORE OF (final score), REPRESENTING (club or school), IS (ATHLETE'S NAME) and THE BRONZE MEDAL WINNER, WITH A SCORE OF (final score), REPRESENTING (club or school), IS (ATHLETE'S NAME).**
- ⊙ After the top three athletes are recognized, the Range Officer will clear the line and authorize all athletes to remove their rifles and equipment from the firing line.
- ⊙ If there are ties for any of the first three places, the Range Officer will identify the tied athletes and immediately begin the tie-breaking shoot-off. Athletes who are not in the tie-breaking shoot-off should leave their equipment in place and step back from the firing line. The Range Officer will command **FIRING POINTS (firing point numbers for the tied athletes), FOR YOUR TIE-BREAKING SHOT...LOAD...(5-second pause)...START.** The tied athletes will have 50 seconds to fire their shots. Tie-breaking shots continue on a shot-by-shot basis until one shot breaks the tie.
- ⊙ If there are ties for two places (first and third), the third place tie will be decided first.
- ⊙ After the tie(s) is broken, the Range Officer will announce **RESULTS ARE FINAL**, recognize the top three athletes and clear the line (see above).
- ⊙ Ties for places 4-7 are decided according to Rule 8.6.2 (Final score are compared first).

### **10.3.8 Final Rankings**

All finalists are ranked after the final by adding the score of the ten (10) shot Final to their scores for the 3x10, 3x20 or 40 or 60 shot standing courses of fire. This total score determines the athletes' final ranking and must be listed in the Official Results Bulletin. As soon as total scores are available, the Range Officer should announce the 3rd, 2nd and 1st place winners.

### **10.3.9 Target Malfunctions**

- ⊙ **Single Target Malfunction** - If an electronic target fails to function, the athlete must be moved to a new target. He/she will be allowed an additional two (2) minute period for sighting shots before he/she completes the missing shot. The other finalists must wait until this shot is completed before continuing the final. If a paper target falls and athletes must clear and ground their rifles so the target can be repaired or replaced, all athletes must be given a two-minute sighting period before the next final round record shot can begin.
- ⊙ **Malfunction of All Targets** - If all electronic targets malfunction during the final and can be repaired within one (1) hour, the remaining final round shots will be completed after an additional five (5) minute Preparation and Sighting Stage. If the targets cannot be repaired within one (1) hour, the completed final round shots will be totaled and used as the official score.

### **10.3.10 Protests**

- ⊙ If electronic targets are used, a finalist who wishes to protest the value of a Final shot must do so immediately after the shot value is announced and before the commands for the next final shot commence. The athlete may protest by raising his/her hand and announcing "Protest." The Statistical Officer or Range Officer must decide the protest according to Rule 8.4.2, either immediately, or at the end of the Final.

- ⊙ If paper targets are used, the 10-bull targets will be scored and results announced as soon as possible after the Final. There will be a two-minute protest time. If there is a protest, the Statistical Officer must decide the protest according to Rule 8.3.5.
- ⊙ If the competition has a scoring protest fee, the fee must be paid after the Final, if the value remains the same.
- ⊙ Protests of shooting conditions in the final must be made immediately and will immediately be decided by the Competition Director or Jury.

#### **PROVISIONAL USE OF 2013 ISSF FINALS**

While they are not recognized as official Three-Position Air Rifle courses of fire, match sponsors are authorized to conduct ISSF single position Finals (20 shots) or the ISSF 3-position Finals (45 shots) as part of their match programs on a provisional basis. Rules for these Finals are found in the 2013 Edition (2<sup>nd</sup> Print, 01/2014) **ISSF Rules**, pages 280-288. These rules can be downloaded from the ISSF website at [www.issf-sports.org/theissf/rules.ashx](http://www.issf-sports.org/theissf/rules.ashx). The new Finals require electronic targets or VIS scoring. As the top athletes emerge from Three-Position programs, these are the Finals Rules they will be required to follow.

## **11.0 NATIONAL RECORDS**

The National Three-Position Air Rifle Council recognizes Three-Position Air Rifle National Records. A current National Record List is published on the CMP web site at <http://www.TheCMP.org/3P/Records.htm>.

### **11.1 SCHOOL AGE NATIONAL RECORD EVENTS**

National Records are recognized in Sporter and Precision air rifle classes for these events or courses of fire. Inner tens are used to break ties involving National Record scores. Inner tens were not used to break ties involving equaled National Records that were established prior to 1 July 2009.

- ⊙ Individual, three-positions, 3x10
- ⊙ Individual, three-positions, 3x10, plus Final
- ⊙ Individual, three-positions, 3x20
- ⊙ Individual, three-positions, 3x20, plus Final
- ⊙ Individual, prone position, 20 shots (sporter class only)
- ⊙ Individual, standing position, 20 shots
- ⊙ Individual, kneeling position, 20 shots
- ⊙ Individual final, 10 shots, to count as an individual final record, the final must be scored electronically in tenth ring values (VIS or EST) and be fired in a final where the top eight athletes only are firing at the same time.
- ⊙ Teams, 4 members, 3x10 each
- ⊙ Teams, 4 members, 3x20 each

### **11.2 YOUTH SHOOTING PROGRAM RECORDS**

For each course of fire in which records are recognized, National Records also are recognized for athletes who are enrolled as members of the following youth programs:

- ⊙ American Legion, affiliated teams or clubs
- ⊙ Army JROTC
- ⊙ Marine Corps JROTC
- ⊙ Navy JROTC
- ⊙ Air Force JROTC

- ⊙ 4-H Shooting Sports
- ⊙ IPC SH2 Classified Athletes

### **11.3 AGE GROUP RECORDS**

For each course of fire in which records are recognized, National Records also are recognized for athletes who are members of these age groups (see Rule 3.4.3):

- ⊙ Age Group III, athletes who will reach 14th or younger birthday in the year of the competition.
- ⊙ Age Group II, athletes who will reach their 15th or 16th birthday in the year of the competition.

### **11.4 STANDARDS FOR ESTABLISHING RECORDS**

To qualify for a record, the competition must use these Rules and be sanctioned by the Council through the CMP (see Rule 1.8). National Record scores must be fired in sanctioned shoulder-to-shoulder competitions where athletes from two or more organizations compete; postal scores or postal league scores will not be recognized. Scores fired on ISSF-certified electronic targets will be accepted. The Form to submit National Records may be downloaded from the CMP website at <http://www.TheCMP.org/3P/Forms/NatApp.pdf>. The Competition Director or a shooting coach where a possible record was established must complete the form to submit the possible record to the National Three-Position Air Rifle Council. A National Record does not become official until the National Three-Position Air Rifle Council recognizes it. National Record applications must include:

- ⊙ Name of athlete. Team record applications must give the team name, coach's name and the names of all team members
- ⊙ Address and hometown of athlete(s).
- ⊙ Organization, club, school or team represented.
- ⊙ Date of birth of athlete(s).
- ⊙ Competition, location and date where score was fired.
- ⊙ Name of organization that sanctioned the competition (see Rule 1.8).
- ⊙ Score fired. A copy of the score sheet or results bulletin for the competition must be included.
- ⊙ If paper targets are used and were scored manually, the actual targets fired by the athlete(s) must be forwarded to the Council with the National Record application. Targets scored with the Orion Scoring System do not have to be submitted. All targets submitted will be checked for scoring accuracy and all shots may be rescored, including shots that were previously gauged, if there is clear evidence that the original scores were not correct.
- ⊙ Certification that the score was fired in a sanctioned, shoulder-to-shoulder competition where the **National Standard Three-Position Air Rifle Rules** governed the competition.

# APPENDIX - SECTION I

## NATIONAL THREE-POSITION AIR RIFLE COUNCIL PROGRAMS

The National Three-Position Air Rifle Council approves, publishes and administers the **National Standard Three-Position Air Rifle Rules**. The Council and its member organizations offer a full selection of programs to promote participation, encourage development and offer outstanding competitions in Three-Position Air Rifle shooting. This section provides information about those programs. Here is a summary of the Council's Three-Position Air Rifle programs:

✂ **Competition Sanctioning.** See Rule 1.8. A “sanctioned” competition is one that is recognized and approved by a national governing and sanctioning body. The Council establishes the rules and policy and the CMP administers competition sanctioning for the Council. A sanctioned competition guarantees participating teams that standard, nationally recognized rules will be followed. Sanctioned competitions are listed the Air Rifle “Upcoming Events” section of the CMP website at <http://ct.TheCMP.org>. Scores fired in sanctioned three-position matches can be recognized as National Records. To sanction your competition, obtain an **Application to Sanction a Three-Position Air Rifle Competition** from the CMP or download the form at <http://www.TheCMP.org/3P.htm>.



✂ **Junior EIC Award Program.** This popular incentive and recognition award program is modeled after the prestigious Distinguished Badge program initiated by the U. S. Department of War in 1884. The Junior EIC program is designed for school-age juniors who compete with sporter or precision class air rifles. Program regulations are on pages 49-52.

The Junior Distinguished Badge is earned by having a series of high place finishes in National Council Member state, regional and national championships.

✂ **National Records.** The National Council recognizes National Records in all recognized three-position air rifle events. Current records are posted on the CMP web site at <http://www.TheCMP.org/3P/Records.htm>. Scores fired in sanctioned competitions that exceed current records can be recognized as National Records if an application is submitted. A **National Record Application Form** can be downloaded from the CMP website at <http://www.TheCMP.org/3P/Forms/NatApp.pdf>.

✂ **Rules Hotline.** If you have a question concerning Three-Position Air Rifle Rules, want advice on the correct way to organize a competition or have a protest to resolve, the National Council Rules Hotline and the National Jury of appeal can assist you. Call 419-635-2141, ext. 1102 or 1131 or email [3PAR@TheCMP.org](mailto:3PAR@TheCMP.org) and you will get an answer from experts.

In addition to these joint National Council programs, each Council member offers training and competitions programs for position air rifle athletes. Here are summaries with contact information:

✂ **American Legion Junior Shooting Sports.** The American Legion sponsors an annual national postal and shoulder-to-shoulder competition. Contact <http://www.legion.org>. Check their web site for details on how to register and participate in a two-phase postal competition program where the top 15 sporter and top 15 precision class individual athletes earn trips to Colorado Springs to participate in The American Legion National Junior Championship.

✂ **Army Marksmanship Unit.** The U. S. Army sponsors an annual open junior postal that culminates with a National Championship competition hosted by the Army Marksmanship Unit at Fort Benning. Watch for program announcements at [www.usaac.army.mil/amu](http://www.usaac.army.mil/amu).

✂ **Civilian Marksmanship Program.** The CMP conducts an annual championship series, [www.TheCMP.org/3p.htm](http://www.TheCMP.org/3p.htm), that begins with postal, state and regional championship qualifying competitions. The CMP National Championship competition takes place at Camp Perry or Anniston in June. Sponsorship by MidwayUSA provides substantial cash and endowment prizes for team and individual winners.

- ✂ **Daisy-U.S. Jaycees Shooter Education Program.** An open national competition is conducted each year by the Daisy/US Jaycee Shooter Education Program, <http://www.daisy.com/education.html> with air rifle sporter and precision class three-position events.
- ✂ **4-H Shooting Sports.** The National 4-H Shooting Sports Committee organizes an annual 4-H Shooting Sports National Invitational with competitions in several shooting events including three-position and standing sporter class events. 4-H Shooting Sports also offers a huge grassroots oriented club program; check their web site at <http://www.4-hshootingsports.org>.
- ✂ **USA Shooting.** The national governing body for Olympic shooting in the USA sponsors annual National Junior Olympic Standing Air Rifle Championships, with state and national phases. Program information is available at <http://www.usashooting.com/index.php>. Junior Olympic state qualifiers and the national championship are shoulder-to-shoulder competitions.
- ✂ **Army, Marine Corps, Navy and Air Force JROTC Commands.** The JROTC Commands sponsor a series of JROTC Air Rifle Championships that are administered by the CMP. The program begins with postal qualifying matches in September-December, where every Army, Marine Corps, Navy and Air Force JROTC unit can participate. JROTC postal competitions are followed by JROTC Service Region Championships conducted in February. The top teams and at-large individuals from each Service's Region Championships are invited to the National JROTC Championship. This annual championship is conducted at Camp Perry or Anniston in March. For details, check this web site, <http://www.TheCMP.org/3P.htm>.
- ✂ **National 3PAR Junior Olympic Championship.** The CMP and USA Shooting cooperate to sponsor the state and national level championships each year. The championships are in late June-early July and rotate between CMP Marksmanship Centers in Anniston, Alabama and Camp Perry, Ohio. Program information is available at <http://www.TheCMP.org/3P/NationalChampionship.htm>.



Training programs sponsored by National Council member organizations now reach more than 250,000 youth each year. Competition programs sponsored by Council members give youth in those programs annual opportunities to excel in 1,500 competitions and seven prestigious national championships. A few juniors in Council member programs go on to represent the USA in ISSF World Cups, World Championships and the Olympic Games. Jamie Lynn Gray (center), who won a gold medal in the 2012 Olympic Games in the 50m 3-position rifle event, was a medal winner in the 1998 International BB Gun Championship and the 2000 National Junior Olympic Three-Position Air Rifle Championship.

# APPENDIX - SECTION II

## *National Three-Position Air Rifle Council*

### JUNIOR EIC AWARD PROGRAM

#### 1. National Three-Position Air Rifle Council Awards Program

1.1. The National Three-Position Air Rifle Council established the Junior Excellence-In-Competition Award Program to provide incentives for junior three-position air rifle athletes to improve and excel. This program awards badges of distinction to the most outstanding junior shooters.

1.2. All awards available through this program are for school-age junior athletes (see Rule 3.1) who compete in three-position air rifle competitions governed by the National Standard Three-Position Air Rifle Rules and sanctioned by CMP.

1.2.1. Junior Distinguished Badges and EIC Silver and Bronze medals are provided by the CMP and awarded to athletes who earn EIC credit points in designated competitions conducted by member organizations of the National Three-Position Air Rifle Council.

1.2.2. Gold, Silver and Bronze Achievement Award Pins are available for match sponsors to purchase for presentation to athletes in their matches who equal or exceed achievement award scores listed in paragraph 8.0 of this section.

#### 2. Excellence-in-Competition Credit Points

2.1. Junior athletes earn EIC credit points by placing in designated competitions in accordance with the requirements of this program. Athletes who compete in State 3PAR Junior Olympic Championships or CMP Cup Matches earn points by equaling or exceeding gold, silver or bronze qualifying scores. Athletes who compete in National Council Championships earn points according to how they place in those championships. EIC credit points that may be earned are listed in the ***EIC Credit Point Chart***.



The gold Junior Distinguished Badge (left), the Junior EIC Silver (center) and EIC Bronze (right) badges are awarded to school-age junior shooters through the Junior EIC Award Program.

<b>Credit Point Chart to Earn Junior Distinguished and EIC Badges</b>			
	<b>GOLD</b>	<b>SILVER</b>	<b>BRONZE</b>
<b>State JO Championship or CMP Cup Match</b>	Sporter 541 Precision 584	Sporter 532 Precision 579	Sporter 522 Precision 574
Competitions with 25 or fewer athletes	4	3	2
Competitions with 26-50 athletes	5	4	3
Competitions with 51 or more athletes	6	5	4
<b>National Council Championships</b>	Top 1/6th of EIC qualifiers	2nd 2/6ths of EIC qualifiers	2nd 1/2 of EIC qualifiers
National Council Member Championships (see no. 4 below)	8	7	6
CMP National Championship & National 3PAR Junior Olympic Championship (see no. 4.2.7 & 5 below)	5	4	3



2.2. Junior EIC credit points in State Junior Olympic or CMP Cup matches are awarded for qualifying scores fired by Non-Distinguished athletes that equal or exceed the EIC Award scores shown in the **EIC Credit Point Chart**. These scores are determined annually according to the EIC scores that were fired in the previous year's National Council Member and National Junior Olympic Championships.

2.3. Junior EIC credit points in National Council Championships are calculated by determining the total number of Non-Distinguished athletes in the competition and then by applying the established percentage of athletes who receive EIC credit points in that competition to that total (see 4.2 & 5.3 below). Procedures for calculating credit points earned and any required rounding to determine credit points earned will be resolved by CMP in accordance with **CMP Competition Rules**, Rule 10.2.6, "Determining EIC Credit Points." View the chart on the CMP website at [http://www.TheCMP.org/3P/Forms/EIC\\_Charts.pdf](http://www.TheCMP.org/3P/Forms/EIC_Charts.pdf).

2.4. The CMP maintains the official record of EIC credit points earned by eligible junior athletes. A list of junior athletes with credit points is posted on the CMP web site at <http://ct.thecmp.org/app/v1/index.php?do=reportShootersWithDistinguishedPoints>.

2.5 Score reports from all competitions where EIC points are awarded must be forwarded to the CMP within three weeks after the competition (21 calendar days). EIC points may not be awarded for score reports received after this deadline. *Note: Late score reports delay the crediting of EIC points for other competitions that are reported on time since all EIC competitions must be recorded in chronological order.*

### 3. CMP Cup Matches

3.1. CMP Cup Matches are large junior three-position air rifle competitions that must be approved and sanctioned in advance for the Council by the CMP. Junior athletes may earn EIC Credit Points in these matches. All CMP Cup Matches must meet these standards:

3.1.1. **National Standard Three-Position Air Rifle Rules** must govern and the CMP must sanction the competition.

3.1.2. The range used for the competition should have a minimum of 10 firing points, with adequate lighting and target stands.

3.1.3. The competition should host an expected minimum of 25 individual athletes representing at least 5 schools, teams or junior clubs.

3.1.4. The competition must have events for sporter and/or precision class athletes and a 3x20 course of fire. CMP Cup Matches should, if possible, also have finals for individual sporter and precision events. Finals, however, are not required.

3.1.5. The competition must meet minimum standards of quality by having qualified range officers and scorers, a printed program, pre-match publicity, adequate administrative staff and a final results bulletin.

3.1.6. Non-Distinguished athletes in CMP Cup Matches receive EIC credit points according to established EIC qualifying scores (see **EIC Credit Point Chart**).

3.2. State championship three-position air rifle competitions including state high school championships, State Games, state American Legion championships and state 4-H championships may be approved as CMP Cup Matches if **National Standard Three-Position Air Rifle Rules** are used, an application is submitted by the sponsoring organization in advance of the competition and the standards described in 3.1 above are met.

3.3. The end-of-camp competitions of all annual CMP Junior Rifle Camps are designated as CMP Cup Matches and scores fired may qualify for EIC awards in accordance with 3.1.6.

### 4. National Council Member Championships

4.1. National Council Member Championships are organized by members of the National Three-Position Air Rifle Council for clubs or teams enrolled in their programs and

governed by **National Standard Three-Position Air Rifle Rules**. Eligible Non-Distinguished athletes may earn EIC Credit Points in all National Council Championships.

4.2. Recognized National Council Member Championships are:

4.2.1. **Daisy Air Rifle Championship**. An open championship; the top 10% of all athletes in the three-position air rifle events receive EIC credit points.

4.2.2. **American Legion Junior Air Rifle Championship**. Restricted to qualifying individuals; 50% of the athletes who qualify for the national championship sporter and precision events receive EIC credit points.

4.2.3. **4-H National Invitational Championship**. An open 4-H Shooting Sports national competition where 4-H athletes are limited in the number of times they can participate; the top 25% of the athletes in the air rifle sporter 3X20 event receive EIC credit points.

4.2.4. **Army, Marine Corps, Navy and Air Force JROTC Championships**. Restricted to qualifying teams and individuals; the top 25% of the athletes receive EIC points. EIC credit points are calculated separately for each Service Championship.

4.2.5. **JROTC National Championship**. Restricted to qualifying teams from the Army, Marine Corps, Navy and Air Force JROTC Championships; the top 50% of the athletes in the National competition receive EIC points.

4.2.6. **U.S. Army Junior Air Rifle Tournament**. Restricted to qualifying teams; the top 50% of the athletes in the individual competition receive EIC credit points.

4.2.7 **CMP Championships**. Restricted to qualifying teams and individuals; the top 25% of the athletes receive EIC points at the Regional Championship and the top 50% of the athletes receive EIC points at the National Championship.

## 5. National Three-Position Air Rifle Junior Olympic Championship

5.1. The CMP and USA Shooting jointly sanction and conduct Three-Position Air Rifle Junior Olympic Championships.

5.2. The CMP administers State 3PAR Junior Olympic Championships in each state every year. State JO Championships may be conducted by combining scores from sectional competitions in different locations in the state. Non-Distinguished athletes in State 3PAR Junior Olympic Championships receive EIC credit points according to established EIC qualifying scores (see **EIC Credit Point Chart**).

5.3. The CMP conducts the National 3PAR Junior Olympic Championship each year. This is a restricted competition; the top 50% of all athletes receive EIC credit points.

## 6. Junior Excellence-in-Competition Badges

6.1. Junior EIC badges are silver and bronze badges that are awarded to eligible junior three-position air rifle athletes who distinguish themselves by attaining high rankings in designated major junior air rifle championships that include the State 3PAR Junior Olympic Championships, CMP Cup Matches, National Council Member Championships and the National Three-Position Air Rifle Junior Olympic Championships.

6.2. The Junior Bronze EIC Badge is a bronze-finished badge. The Junior Bronze EIC Badge is authorized for wear on JROTC cadet uniforms (see appropriate Cadet Command regulations).

6.3. To receive the Junior Bronze EIC Badge, athletes must earn a minimum of 3 EIC credit points. Any athlete eligible to receive the Bronze EIC Badge may order the badge by submitting an application and an administrative fee of \$5.00 per medal to: CMP Competitions—3-P Air Rifle, P. O. Box 576, Port Clinton OH 43452 or [3PAR@TheCMP.org](mailto:3PAR@TheCMP.org).

6.4. The Junior Silver EIC Badge is a silver-finished badge. The Junior Silver EIC Badge is authorized for wear on JROTC cadet uniforms (see appropriate Cadet Command regulations).

6.5. To receive the Junior Silver EIC Badge, athletes must earn a minimum of 15 EIC credit points. Any athlete eligible to receive the Silver EIC Badge may order the badge by submitting an application and an administrative fee of \$5.00 per medal to: CMP

## 7. Junior Distinguished Badge

7.1. The Junior Distinguished Badge is awarded to eligible junior three-position air rifle athletes who distinguish themselves by attaining a series of high rankings in designated major junior air rifle championships that include State Junior Olympic Qualifiers, CMP Cup Matches, National Council Member Championships and the National Junior Olympic Three-Position Air Rifle Championships.

7.2. The Junior Distinguished Badge is a gold-finished badge. The Junior Distinguished Badge is authorized for wear on JROTC cadet uniforms (see appropriate Cadet Command regulations).

7.3. To receive the Badge, athletes must earn 30 EIC credit points in designated competitions. At least 10 of the 30 points must be won in National Council Member Championships or the National Junior Olympic Championship. Alternatively, up to 10 of the 30 points may be won by firing qualifying scores that earn gold EIC points (see EIC Credit Point Chart) in State Junior Olympic or CMP Cup Matches. The Junior Distinguished Badge is provided, at no cost and, when possible, awarded at a ceremony appropriate for the presentation of an award of such high distinction.

## 8. Junior Achievement Award Pins

8.1. Achievement Award Pins are incentive and recognition awards for juniors who attain established score levels in any sanctioned competition sanctioned by the National Council.

8.2. Bronze, silver and gold pins may be awarded to athletes in sanctioned three-position air rifle competitions when they equal or exceed the following scores.

Sporter Class	Gold	Silver	Bronze	Precision Class	Gold	Silver	Bronze
Medal Scores 3x10	245+	220-244	200-219	Medal Scores 3x10	280+	270-279	250-269
Medal Scores 3x20	490+	440-489	400-439	Medal Scores 3x20	560+	540-559	500-539

8.3. Sponsors of sanctioned matches may purchase achievement award pins through CMP Competitions for presentation to junior athletes who fire qualifying scores in their matches. Order Junior Achievement Award Pins on the **Application to Conduct a Three-Position Air Rifle Match**, <http://www.TheCMP.org/3P/Forms/SanctApp.pdf>.

### SILVER AND BRONZE EIC BADGES

To see the current official list of junior competitors who have earned EIC credit points, visit the CMP website at <http://www.TheCMP.org/3P.htm>. Then click on "List of Juniors with EIC Credit Points". Any competitor with a minimum of 3 points is eligible for the Bronze EIC Badge. Any competitor with a minimum of 15 points is eligible for the Silver EIC Badge. Junior shooters who earn 30 points will receive the gold Junior Distinguished Badge at a special presentation. Junior shooters who are eligible to receive the bronze or silver EIC badges should use the **Silver and Bronze EIC Badges Order Form** to order badges, <http://www.TheCMP.org/3P/Forms/EICBadges.pdf>. Complete the form and send it with \$5.00 to cover administrative costs for each medal ordered.

**FIRING PROCEDURES AND RANGE OFFICER COMMANDS FOR  
THREE-POSITION COURSES OF FIRE AND FINALS**

**COMMANDS FOR CONDUCTING 3X10,  
3X20 AND STANDING COURSES OF FIRE**

<b>COMMANDS AND INSTRUCTIONS</b>	<b>NOTES (Range Officer actions are in bold)</b>
<i>Before the competition:</i>	<i>Before a competition, the Range Officer must prepare the range for firing. Athletes may not move their equipment to the firing line until the Range Officer calls them to the firing line.</i>
<p><b>WELCOME TO THE (Competition Name) THREE-POSITION AIR RIFLE MATCH</b></p> <p><b>RELAY NUMBER (Relay Number) YOU MAY MOVE YOUR RIFLES AND EQUIPMENT TO THE FIRING LINE...GROUND YOUR RIFLES</b></p>	<p><i>The Range Officer begins each relay by welcoming the athletes and calling them to the firing line. When athletes bring their rifles to the firing line, they must ground them on their firing points with actions open and CBIs inserted.</i></p> <p><i>If athletes will be asked to go downrange to hang their targets, all rifles must be grounded with CBIs inserted before anyone goes down range.</i></p> <p><i><u>If electronic targets are used or if targets are already hung, do not use the command <b>GROUND YOUR RIFLES</b>, but go directly to the <b>TAKE YOUR POSITIONS</b> command.</u></i></p>
<p><b>IS THE LINE CLEAR?</b></p> <p><b>THE LINE IS CLEAR...GO FORWARD AND HANG YOUR TARGETS</b></p>	<p><b>Range Officers must signal YES or NO to indicate that all rifles are grounded with CBIs inserted.</b></p> <p><i>Coaches, athletes or target handlers may go downrange to hang targets. No one may handle rifles while personnel are downrange.</i></p>
<b>After all targets are hung and all personnel are back from downrange:</b>	
<b>TAKE YOUR POSITIONS</b>	<i>After being instructed to take their positions, athletes may set up their equipment, take their prone positions and do holding and aiming exercises. CBIs may not be removed. The Range Officer should allow a minimum of five minutes for athletes to prepare.</i>
<b>After 5:00 minutes</b>	
<p><b>PREPARATION AND SIGHTING STAGE... TIME LIMIT 10 MINUTES...START</b></p> <p><b>30 SECONDS</b></p>	<p><i>This is a combined Preparation and Sighting Stage. During this period, athletes may get into their firing positions, remove CBIs and dry fire or fire sighting shots. If athletes are new to this procedure, the Range Officer may explain that the command <b>START</b> authorizes them to load and begin firing when they are ready.</i></p> <p><i>The Range Officer gives a 30 second warning after 9 minutes, 30 seconds.</i></p>
<b>After 10:00 minutes</b>	

## COMMANDS FOR CONDUCTING 3X10, 3X20 AND STANDING COURSES OF FIRE

COMMANDS AND INSTRUCTIONS	NOTES (Range Officer actions are in bold)
<p><b>SIGHTING SHOTS...STOP</b></p> <p><b>PRONE RECORD FIRE...</b></p> <p><b>20 (or 10) SHOTS IN A TIME LIMIT OF 20 (or 10) MINUTES...START</b></p> <p><b>FIVE (5) MINUTES</b></p> <p><b>TWO (2) MINUTES</b></p>	<p><i>After the command <b>STOP</b> between the Sighting and Record stages, rifles may remain loaded and in position ready for the Record Fire <b>START</b> command.</i></p> <p><i>If electronic targets are used, there must be a pause while the computer officer resets the targets from sighter to record.</i></p> <p><i>The time limit begins when the command <b>START</b> is given.</i></p> <p><i>The Range Officer gives five and two minute warnings.</i></p>
<p><b>After 20:00 (or 10:00) minutes</b></p>	
<p><b>STOP—UNLOAD</b></p> <p><b>IS THE LINE CLEAR?</b></p> <p><b>THE LINE IS CLEAR...GO FORWARD AND CHANGE TARGETS</b></p>	<p><i>When the <b>STOP—UNLOAD</b> command is given, all athletes must insert CBIs and ground their rifles.</i></p> <p><b>Range Officers must signal YES or NO to indicate that all rifles are grounded with CBIs inserted.</b></p> <p><i>Coaches, athletes or target handlers may go downrange to hang targets. No one may handle rifles while personnel are downrange.</i></p> <p><i><u>If electronic targets are used and it is not necessary to go downrange to repair targets, the Range Officer can pause one or two minutes after the <b>STOP—UNLOAD</b> command and then go directly to the <b>TAKE YOUR POSITIONS</b> command.</u></i></p>
<p><b>After all targets are changed and all personnel are back from downrange:</b></p>	
<p><b>TAKE YOUR POSITIONS, YOUR FIVE MINUTE CHANGEOVER STAGE FOR THE STANDING POSITION BEGINS NOW</b></p>	<p><i>After being instructed to take their positions, athletes may change their equipment, take their standing positions, remove CBIs and dry fire.</i></p>
<p><b>After 5:00 minutes</b></p>	
<p><b>STANDING POSITION SIGHTING STAGE...TIME LIMIT FIVE (or 10) MINUTES...START</b></p>	<p><i>This is a combined Preparation and Sighting Stage. During this period, athletes may get into their firing positions, remove CBIs and dry fire or shoot sighting shots.</i></p>

## COMMANDS FOR CONDUCTING 3X10, 3X20 AND STANDING COURSES OF FIRE

COMMANDS AND INSTRUCTIONS	NOTES (Range Officer actions are in bold)
<b>30 SECONDS</b>	<i>The Range Officer gives a 30 second warning after 4 minutes, 30 seconds, or if a 10-minute Sighting Stage is used, after 9 minutes, 30 seconds.</i>
<b>After 5:00 (or 10:00) minutes</b>	
<b>SIGHTING SHOTS...STOP</b>	<i>After the command <b>STOP</b> between the Sighting and Record stages, rifles may remain loaded and in position ready for the Record Fire <b>START</b> command.</i>
<b>20 (or 10) RECORD SHOTS IN A TIME LIMIT OF 25 (or 15) MINUTES...START</b>	<i>The time limit begins when the command <b>START</b> is given.</i>
<b>FIVE (5) MINUTES</b>	<i>If electronic targets are used, there must be a pause while the computer officer resets the targets from sighter to record.</i>
<b>TWO (2) MINUTES</b>	<i>The Range Officer gives five and two minute warnings.</i>
<b>After 20:00 (or 10:00) minutes</b>	
<b>STOP—UNLOAD</b>	<i>When the <b>STOP—UNLOAD</b> command is given, all athletes must insert CBIs and ground their rifles.</i>
<b>IS THE LINE CLEAR?</b>	<b>Range Officers must signal YES or NO to indicate that all rifles are grounded with CBIs inserted.</b>
<b>THE LINE IS CLEAR...GO FORWARD AND CHANGE YOUR TARGETS</b>	<i>Coaches, athletes or target handlers may go downrange to hang targets. No one may handle rifles while personnel are downrange.</i>
	<i><u>If electronic targets are used and it is not necessary to go downrange to repair targets, the Range Officer can pause one or two minutes after the <b>STOP—UNLOAD</b> command and then go directly to the <b>TAKE YOUR POSITIONS</b> command.</u></i>
<b>After all targets are changed and all personnel are back from downrange:</b>	
<b>TAKE YOUR POSITIONS, YOUR FIVE MINUTE CHANGEOVER STAGE FOR THE KNEELING POSITION BEGINS NOW</b>	<i>After being instructed to take their positions, athletes may change their equipment, take their kneeling positions, remove CBIs and dry fire.</i>

## COMMANDS FOR CONDUCTING 3X10, 3X20 AND STANDING COURSES OF FIRE

### COMMANDS AND INSTRUCTIONS

### NOTES (Range Officer actions are in bold)

After 5:00 minutes

**KNEELING POSITION SIGHTING**  
**STAGE...TIME LIMIT FIVE (or 10)**  
**MINUTES...START**

**30 SECONDS**

*This is a combined Preparation and Sighting Stage. During this period, athletes may get into their firing positions, remove CBIs and dry fire or fire sighting shots.*

*The Range Officer gives a 30 second warning after 4 minutes, 30 seconds, or if a 10-minute Sighting Stage is used, after 9 minutes, 30 seconds.*

After 5:00 (or 10:00) minutes

**SIGHTING SHOTS...STOP**

**20 (or 10) SHOTS IN A TIME LIMIT OF 20**  
**(or 10) MINUTES...START**

**FIVE (5) MINUTES**

**TWO (2) MINUTES**

*After the command **STOP** between the Sighting and Record stages, rifles may remain loaded and in position ready for the Record Fire **START** command.*

*If electronic targets are used, there must be a pause while the computer officer resets the targets from sighter to record.*

*The time limit begins when the command **START** is given.*

*The Range Officer gives five and two minute warnings.*

After 20:00 (or 10:00) minutes

**STOP—UNLOAD**

**IS THE LINE CLEAR?**

**THE LINE IS CLEAR...GO FORWARD AND**  
**REMOVE TARGETS**

*When the **STOP—UNLOAD** command is given, all athletes must insert CBIs and ground their rifles.*

**Range Officers must signal YES or NO to indicate that all rifles are grounded with CBIs inserted.**

*Coaches, athletes or target handlers may go downrange to remove targets. No one may handle rifles while personnel are downrange.*

**After all targets are removed and all personnel are back from downrange:**

**COMMANDS FOR CONDUCTING 3X10,  
3X20 AND STANDING COURSES OF FIRE**

**COMMANDS AND INSTRUCTIONS**

**NOTES (Range Officer actions are in bold)**

**ATHLETES, YOU MAY REMOVE YOUR  
EQUIPMENT FROM THE FIRING LINE**

**YOU MAY DISCHARGE AIR OR GAS  
DOWNRANGE**

*Athletes are instructed to remove their equipment from the firing line to prepare for the next relay of athletes. Athletes who wish to case their rifles before removing them from the firing line are authorized to close the rifle actions and discharge air or gas before casing them.*

**If there are additional relays of athletes to fire, the Range Officer returns to the welcome and call to the firing line for the next relay according to the scheduled start time for that relay.**



## COMMANDS FOR CONDUCTING A FINAL

COMMANDS AND INSTRUCTIONS	NOTES (Range Officer actions are in bold)
<p><i>Before the competition:</i></p>	<p><i>Before a competition, the Range Officer must prepare the range for the Final. The eight firing points used for the Final should be numbered as firing points 1-8. Targets should be prepared in advance for those firing points. Athletes may not move their equipment to the firing line until the Range Officer calls them to the firing line.</i></p>
<p><b>WELCOME TO THE FINAL ROUND COMPETITION FOR THE (Competition Name) THREE-POSITION AIR RIFLE MATCH.</b></p> <p><b>ATHLETES TO THE LINE...GROUND YOUR RIFLES AND EQUIPMENT.</b></p> <p><b>PLEASE WELCOME THE FINALISTS. IN 8TH POSITION, WITH A QUALIFYING SCORE OF (score), REPRESENTING (club or school), IS (FIRST NAME, LAST NAME). This sequence continues until all eight finalists are introduced.</b></p>	<p><i>The Range Officer begins the Final by calling the finalists to the firing line.</i></p> <p><i>Athletes should bring their rifles to the firing line and ground them on their firing points with actions open and CBIs inserted. All finalists must turn to face spectators for the introductions.</i></p> <p><i>Either the Range Officer or an Announcer can introduce each athlete. The finalists should all face the spectators until all have been introduced.</i></p>
<p><b>TAKE YOUR POSITIONS</b></p>	<p><i>The finalists may handle their rifles and get into the standing position. They may do aiming and holding exercises, but they may not remove CBIs or dry fire until the Preparation and Sighting Stage begins.</i></p>
<p><b>After 2:00 minutes</b></p>	
<p><b>PREPARATION AND SIGHTING, TIME LIMIT EIGHT MINUTES...START</b></p> <p><b>30 SECONDS</b></p>	<p><i>This is a combined Preparation and Sighting Stage. During this period, athletes may finish getting into their firing positions, remove CBIs and dry fire as well as load and fire unlimited sighting shots.</i></p> <p><i>The Range Officer gives a 30 second warning after 7 minutes and 30 seconds elapse.</i></p>
<p><b>After 8:00 minutes:</b></p>	

## COMMANDS FOR CONDUCTING A FINAL

COMMANDS AND INSTRUCTIONS	NOTES (Range Officer actions are in bold)
<p><b>SIGHTING SHOTS...STOP-UNLOAD</b></p>	<p><i>If electronic targets are used, there must be a pause while the computer officer resets the targets from sighter to record.</i></p> <p><i>There will be a 30 second pause to reset electronic targets.</i></p>
<p><b>After 30 seconds:</b></p>	
<p><b>FOR THE FIRST COMPETITION SHOT, LOAD...(5 second pause)...START</b></p> <p><b>After 40 seconds</b></p>	<p><i>After the command <b>LOAD</b> for each shot, there is a <u>five (5)</u> second pause to give finalists time to load their rifles and get into their firing positions.</i></p> <p><i>The time limit of <u>50</u> seconds begins when the command <b>START</b> is given.</i></p> <p><i>A verbal "ten" or audible signal should be given to let finalists know 10 seconds remain in the time limit.</i></p>
<p><b>After 50 seconds:</b></p>	
<p><b>STOP</b></p> <p><b>SCORES FOR THE FIRST SHOT:</b>  <b>(Family name of 1st Finalist), (score).</b>  <b>(Family name of 2nd Finalist), (score).</b>  <b>This continues until all eight scores are announced.</b></p> <p><b>FOR THE NEXT COMPETITION SHOT, LOAD....(5 second pause)...START</b></p> <p><b>After 35 seconds</b></p>	<p><i>The Range Officer must command <b>STOP</b>.</i></p> <p><i>The Range Officer or Announcer can announce scores immediately after the <b>STOP</b> command. After announcing scores, short comments about the rankings and any changes in rankings can be made.</i></p> <p><i>Commands for the next Final Round shot begin immediately after the scores and comments.</i></p> <p><i>An audible signal/warning should be given.</i></p>
<p><b>After 50 Seconds, the STOP command is given. The announcement of scores and comments and commands for succeeding shots continue until ten Final Round shots are fired. No scores are announced after the tenth shot.</b></p>	
<p><b>After the 10th shot (electronic targets, with no ties for places 1-3).</b></p>	

## COMMANDS FOR CONDUCTING A FINAL

### COMMANDS AND INSTRUCTIONS

### NOTES (Range Officer actions are in bold)

**STOP—UNLOAD...**

*When the **STOP—UNLOAD** command is given after the 10th shot, all athletes must insert CBIs and ground their rifles.*

**THERE ARE NO TIES, RESULTS ARE FINAL**

*When there are no ties, the Range Officer or Announcer must immediately recognize the first three place winners.*

**THE GOLD MEDAL WINNER, WITH A SCORE OF (final score), REPRESENTING (club or school), IS (ATHLETE'S NAME); THE SILVER MEDAL WINNER, WITH A SCORE OF (final score), REPRESENTING (club or school), IS (ATHLETE'S NAME) and THE BRONZE MEDAL WINNER, WITH A SCORE OF (final score), REPRESENTING (club or school), IS (ATHLETE'S NAME).**

**IS THE LINE CLEAR?**

*After recognizing the place winners, the line must be cleared (all actions open, CBIs inserted), and equipment removed from the firing line.*

**THE LINE IS CLEAR...YOU MAY REMOVE YOUR EQUIPMENT FROM THE FIRING LINE**

**After the 10th shot (electronic targets, with a tie)**

**STOP—UNLOAD**

*When the **STOP—UNLOAD** command is given after the 10th shot, all athletes must insert CBIs and ground their rifles.*

**THERE IS A TIE FOR (1st, 2nd or 3rd) PLACE.**

*If there is a tie, the Range Officer must immediately proceed with the tie-breaking shoot-off. The Range Officer should instruct athletes who are not in the shoot-off to leave their equipment in place and step back from the firing line (Rule 10.3.7).*

**FIRING POINTS (firing point numbers of the tied athletes)...FOR YOUR TIE-BREAKING SHOT...LOAD...(5 second pause)...START**

**After 40 seconds**

*An audible signal should be given to let finalists know 10 seconds remain in the time limit.*

**After 50 seconds:**

## COMMANDS FOR CONDUCTING A FINAL

### COMMANDS AND INSTRUCTIONS

### NOTES (Range Officer actions are in bold)

**STOP—UNLOAD**

*When the **STOP—UNLOAD** command is given after the tie-breaking shot, all athletes must insert CBIs and ground their rifles.*

**THERE ARE NO TIES, RESULTS ARE FINAL**

*If the tie is broken, the Range Officer or Announcer must immediately recognize the first three place winners.*

**THE GOLD MEDAL WINNER, WITH A SCORE OF (final score), REPRESENTING (club or school), IS (ATHLETE'S NAME); THE SILVER MEDAL WINNER, WITH A SCORE OF (final score), REPRESENTING (club or school), IS (ATHLETE'S NAME) and THE BRONZE MEDAL WINNER, WITH A SCORE OF (final score), REPRESENTING (club or school), IS (ATHLETE'S NAME).**

*If the tie is not broken, tie-breaking shots must continue until it is broken.*

**IS THE LINE CLEAR?**

*After recognizing the place winners, the line must be cleared (all actions open, CBIs inserted), and equipment removed from the firing line.*

**THE LINE IS CLEAR...YOU MAY REMOVE YOUR EQUIPMENT FROM THE FIRING LINE**

**After the 10th shot (paper targets)**

**STOP—UNLOAD**

*When the **STOP—UNLOAD** command is given after the 10th shot, all athletes must insert CBIs and ground their rifles.*

**IS THE LINE CLEAR?**

*The Range Officer must confirm that all rifles have open actions with CBIs inserted.*

**THE LINE IS CLEAR...YOU MAY GO DOWNRANGE TO RETRIEVE TARGETS FOR SCORING**

**After the targets are scored and final scores are available:**

## **COMMANDS FOR CONDUCTING A FINAL**

<b>COMMANDS AND INSTRUCTIONS</b>	<b>NOTES (Range Officer actions are in bold)</b>
<p><b>THE FINAL ROUND SCORES ARE:</b>  <b>(Family name of 1st Finalist), (score).</b>  <b>(Family name of 2nd Finalist), (score).</b>  <b>This continues until all eight scores are announced.</b></p> <p><b>THE TWO MINUTE PROTEST TIME BEGINS NOW</b></p>	<p><i>The Range Officer of Announcer must announce the scores of all eight finalists beginning with the athlete on firing point one and continuing to the score of the eighth finalist.</i></p>
<b>After two minutes:</b>	
<p><b>RESULTS ARE FINAL</b></p> <p><b>THE GOLD MEDAL WINNER, WITH A SCORE OF (final score), REPRESENTING (club or school), IS (ATHLETE'S NAME); THE SILVER MEDAL WINNER, WITH A SCORE OF (final score), REPRESENTING (club or school), IS (ATHLETE'S NAME) and THE BRONZE MEDAL WINNER, WITH A SCORE OF (final score), REPRESENTING (club or school), IS (ATHLETE'S NAME).</b></p> <p><b>FINALISTS, YOU MAY REMOVE YOUR EQUIPMENT FROM THE FIRING LINE</b></p>	<p><i>The Range Officer or Announcer will recognize the winners as soon as possible after scores are available.</i></p> <p><i>The Range Officer of Announcer may make closing comments about the competition or award ceremony.</i></p>

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# Safety Rules for Air Rifle Ranges

*Continued from the inside front cover*

*Before doing any shooting on ranges, athletes, coaches and competition officials must study these Safety Rules for Air Rifles and the Safety Rules in Section 2.0 of this Rulebook.*

7. **GUN CASES** – Many air rifles are transported to and from ranges in gun cases. The Range Officer on any range will determine whether athletes may open gun cases and remove air rifles from them or replace air rifles in them behind the firing line or whether this may only be done on the firing line. When a gun case is opened, the first thing that must be done is to open the action and insert a CBI. When an air rifle is replaced in a gun case, the CBI may be removed, the action closed and the trigger released before closing the gun case. Closing the action and releasing the trigger to discharge gas after the line has been cleared may only be done when authorized by the Range Officer.
8. **RANGE COMMANDS** – Know the range commands that are used in Three-Position Air Rifle shooting. No athlete may load a pellet in an air rifle until after the command **LOAD** or **START** is given. No athlete may fire a shot until after the command **START** is given. When the command **STOP** is given, no further attempt to fire a shot may be made; the rifle must be taken down immediately and the action must be opened. If a pellet remains in the rifle, ask the range officer for instructions.
9. **LOADING** – Rifle muzzles must remain pointed downrange or up towards the ceiling whenever the rifle is charged and loaded. Special care must be taken during charging and loading to ensure that a rifle muzzle is never pointed at a neighboring athlete or at any area behind the firing line.
10. **TARGET** – Shoot only at your designated target. Be sure the target is properly placed in front of a safe backstop. Shooting at any object on a range besides your own target is strictly forbidden.
11. **GOING DOWN RANGE** – Whenever it is necessary for anyone to go down range to hang or retrieve targets or for any other purpose, all air rifle actions must be open with CBIs inserted and all rifles must be grounded on the floor or shooting bench. No one may go down range until authorized to do so by the Range Officer. No one may handle rifles while anyone is downrange.
12. **EYE PROTECTION** – Eye protection is recommended for air rifle shooting especially if there is any possibility of a pellet or pellet fragment bouncing back from the backstop. Eye and/or hearing protection may be required on some ranges.
13. **TREAT EVERY RIFLE AS IF IT WERE LOADED** – Even if you are sure your rifle is unloaded and it has a CBI inserted and even if a Range Officer has checked your rifle; treat it as if it were loaded at all times. Be sure it is never pointed at another person. Remember the first rule of gun safety, keep the muzzle under control and pointed in a safe direction!

Cost: \$2.00

To obtain additional copies of these Rules, contact:

**National Three-Position Air Rifle Council**

**Camp Perry, P. O. Box 576**

**Port Clinton, Ohio 43452**

**Email [3PAR@TheCMP.org](mailto:3PAR@TheCMP.org)**

**Tel. 419-635-2141 (ext. 1102), Fax 419-635-2573**

**These Rules may be viewed at or downloaded from the  
CMP web site at <http://www.TheCMP.org/3P.htm>**