



BENCHREST RIFLE
OFFICIAL NATIONAL RULES

PART C

INTERNATIONAL RIMFIRE BENCHREST (IRB)

Revised 2013

No. 8

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Benchrest Rifle Official National Rules are issued in three parts

Part A: Benchrest Group and Score Championships

Part B: Fly Shoot Championships

Part C: International Rimfire Benchrest (IRB)

In circumstances not covered in Part B and C then Part A should be consulted.

These Rules, for the conduct of National Championships, have been compiled by the Discipline Subcommittee, with amendments by the SSAA National Discipline Chairmans' Conference and approved and ratified for printing by the SSAA Inc National Board

BENCHREST RIFLE

NATIONAL RULES

PART C

INTERNATIONAL RIMFIRE BENCHREST (IRB)

Revised 2013

No. 8

SECTION 1: AIMS AND OBJECTIVES

1.1 AIMS AND OBJECTIVES

- 1.1.1** The development and encouragement of benchrest competition to achieve extreme accuracy in firearms, ammunition, equipment and shooting methods.
- 1.1.2** To standardise, where practical, on an International basis, the entire benchrest shooting program so that targets, ranges, scoring methods, records and match procedures will be uniform and compatible.
- 1.1.3** To assist and encourage any individual or organisation affiliated with SSAA Inc in the promotion of benchrest shooting.
- 1.1.4** To gather and make available to SSAA members pertinent statistics and technical data.
- 1.1.5** To stimulate inspiration in the field of new ideas, designs and techniques; to arouse investigation into the feasibility and practical application of progressive concepts, or discoveries, with regard to safe firearms, sights and ammunition.

SECTION 2: SSAA STANDARD RULES

2.1 COMPETITOR'S ELIGIBILITY

A competitor who competes in a National Championship must be a financial member of the Sporting Shooters Association of Australia or an Association affiliated with the SSAA Inc or under special invitation from the SSAA Inc National Board.

A current SSAA membership card or official documentation from the SSAA National Membership Office or a SSAA State or Territory Association showing current membership details shall be accepted as proof of their financial membership, providing they are not under suspension from membership.

Members of Affiliated Associations must provide adequate documentation of their current membership of the Affiliate Association.

A person who is unfinancial or is unable to provide proof of their financial status may pay their full membership fee for the applicable SSAA State or Territory Association, to the Host Branch / Club, providing they are not under a suspension from membership. The membership fee must be paid prior to them commencing competition.

2.2 JUNIOR COMPETITORS

A SSAA junior member is any member under the age of 18 years at the commencement of the Championships.

A junior competitor in a National Championship shall pay no more than one half of the standard adult entry fee.

If the Discipline's National Championship includes Graded and / or Junior categories, a junior competitor is eligible to compete for Junior, Grade and Open medals and awards. The winning of a Junior medal or award does not preclude a junior competitor from winning any other category of medal or award.

Junior competitors are divided into two classes

- Under 15 years
- Under 18 years and 15 years and over

2.3 PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES

A competitor who, because of a physical disability, cannot fire from the prescribed shooting position outlined in these Rules, or who must use special equipment when firing, is entitled to petition the National Discipline Chairman for permission to assume a special position or to use modified equipment or both. The special position must simulate, as much as possible, the original firing position/s required by the Rules, for example boards or tables placed in front of a wheelchair may be used for the prone or kneeling positions.

This petition will be in the form of a written request from the competitor to the National Discipline Chairman outlining in detail the reasons why the special position must be assumed or the special equipment must be used. The petition, in duplicate, shall be accompanied by pictures of the competitor in the position they desire approved, and if special equipment is required, the pictures will show how this equipment is used. The petition must be accompanied by a medical doctor's statement if the physical disability is not completely evident in the pictures submitted.

2.3.1 Authorisation

Each petition will be reviewed by the National Discipline Chairman on its merits and may require additional or supplementary statements or pictures. If approved, the Chairman will issue a special authorisation certificate to the individual concerned. Such authorisation will have necessary pictures attached that will be signed and dated by the National Discipline Chairman. Competitors who have received special authorisation certificates are required to present them when requested by Competition Officials or the Range Officer.

Two types of authorisations are issued, temporary and permanent. Permanent authorisations are issued to competitors who have permanent physical disabilities.

2.3.2 Substitute position

In competitions where different shooting positions are required, a competitor with a temporary or permanent physical disability or impairment, that prevents them from using the specified firing position as defined in the Rules, may notify the National Discipline Chairman or the Competition Officials of their intention to use the next more difficult position in lieu of a position, e.g. Sitting may be used for Prone, Kneeling may be used for Sitting, and Standing may be used for Kneeling.

This substitution must comply with the rules for that position to be used and be approved by the National Discipline Chairman or Competition Official/s before the start of the shooting for that position.

2.3.3 Awards, trophies, records, etc.

Competitors using special authorisation certificates shall be eligible for all awards, trophies, etc. made under the competition Rules. But Australian or National records may not be established by use of scores shot in special positions or with special equipment under a special authorisation certificate.

2.3.4 Protests

In the event of a protest involving the position or the equipment used by a competitor, under Rule 2.8 the Protest and Appeals Committee will compare the questioned position or equipment with the certificate and photographs presented by the competitor. If the competitor's position or equipment does not, in the opinion of the Appeals Committee, conform to that authorised by the National Discipline Chairman (or if the competitor has no authorisation certificate or pictures), the protest shall be allowed and the competitor will be required to change immediately to the position or equipment which has been approved or to an otherwise legal position or equipment.

2.4 COMPETITOR'S RESPONSIBILITY

2.4.1 Competitors and Officials to be familiar with the Rules

Competitors and officials should be familiar with the Rules pertaining to National Championships.

2.4.2 Sportsmanship

Competitors shall behave in a sportsmanlike manner as befitting membership of the SSAA.

2.4.3 Behaviour

Competitors should refrain from boisterous conduct on the firing range during the conduct of an event. A competitor failing to observe this fact will be disciplined by the Range Officer. In the event of boisterous or unsportsmanlike behaviour by a competitor the Range Officer shall caution the offender once, and, if there is any repetition of the conduct, the competitor may be asked to immediately leave the firing line and may also be disqualified.

Any disqualification made under this Rule may be appealable under the procedure set down in Rule 2.8 for the Protest and Appeals Committee.

2.4.4 Range Safety Rules

All competitors should familiarise themselves with the usual safety precautions observed on SSAA ranges as well as any Rules specific to the range on which a particular championship is being conducted. Unsafe practices by a competitor on a SSAA range can be grounds for disqualification.

2.4.5 Safety Equipment

It is strongly recommended that ear and eye protection be worn at all times by persons who are in the vicinity of the firing line whilst shooting is underway.

It is recommended that suitable clothing, including enclosed shoes or boots, be worn at all times by a competitor whilst engaged in the competition and in the vicinity of the firing line.

A competitor may wear medical equipment which may be seen as giving support if a medical certificate confirming the competitor's need to wear such a device for health reasons is submitted to the National Discipline Chairman and / or Discipline Subcommittee for approval prior to the commencement of the competition.

2.5 STUCK LIVE ROUND: MANDATORY RULE

In the event of a malfunction which results in a stuck live round which cannot be simply removed from the breech end of the barrel, the firearm is to be made safe and removed from the range to a competent person for repairs. Under no circumstance is an attempt to be made to remove the round by insertion of a cleaning rod or similar object from the muzzle end of the firearm.

2.6 RULE INFRINGEMENTS

A competitor found to be infringing these Rules will be given a warning by the Range Officer. If the infringement continues the competitor may be suspended or disqualified from the competition being contested and their scores will not be recorded. Safety infringements or breaches may result in immediate suspension or disqualification.

2.7 DISCIPLINE CHAIRMAN'S AUTHORITY

The Discipline's Chairman shall have the power to direct the Host Branch / Club in the manner in which the Championships are to be conducted, and shall have the right to interpret the Rules and requirements to ensure the Championships are conducted in an acceptable and uniform manner.

2.8 PROTEST AND APPEALS COMMITTEE

The Rules for the Protest and Appeals Committee are common to all SSAA Disciplines and form part of each Discipline's Rule Book. The Rules are as follows:

2.8.1 At all registered Championships there shall be a Protest and Appeals Committee (hereinafter called "Appeals Committee") which shall be formed by the National Discipline Chairman or their appointed nominee to hear and decide protests and appeals.

2.8.2 The Appeals Committee shall consist of a minimum of three people, including the National Discipline Chairman, any one of whom may be a competitor. The National Discipline Chairman or their appointed nominee will chair the Appeals Committee. But in no case shall an appellant or protester be included as a member of the Appeals Committee (not withstanding any Rule or Rules of law to the contrary).

In competitions where more than one State is represented a delegate from any of the States represented may be appointed to be a member of the said Committee and such appointments shall be at the discretion of the National Discipline Chairman or their appointed nominee.

2.8.3 A protest may be lodged by any competitor who feels aggrieved by a decision of the Range Officer, the target scorers, or any other organisational matters or methods of conducting the competition. A competitor may protest the conduct of another competitor(s) or that another competitor(s) has not fulfilled their obligations according to these Rules, or has not properly obeyed the Rules.

2.8.4 The protest must be lodged in writing and accompanied by a fee set by the National Discipline Chairman. If the protest or appeal is upheld, the applicant is to be refunded the amount of the fee. If the protest is disallowed, then the fee shall be forfeited to the organisers conducting the competition.

2.8.5 The protest is to be lodged with the Range Officer or other persons nominated by the National Discipline Chairman or their appointed nominee to receive appeals. A protest may be lodged during the conduct of a competition or after the competition has been completed but not later than 30 minutes after the scores for that competition have been announced or posted. When received, the protest or appeal must be given to the Chairman of the Appeals Committee as soon as possible.

2.8.6 The Chairman shall convene the Appeals Committee without undue delay and the Appeals Committee shall be empowered to hear evidence from the protester, the appellant and person(s) involved in the protest; to require the Range Officer, Scorers or organisers to produce targets, score sheets or other material relevant to the protest; to call evidence from any other person(s) who may be able to help the Appeals Committee and to do all such other things that the Appeals Committee believes will enable it to reach an unbiased and just decision.

2.8.7 Any accused person shall:

- 2.8.7.1 have a right to be heard before the Appeals Committee and to remain in attendance during each session of the Appeals Committee.
- 2.8.7.2 be advised of the time and place the Appeals Committee shall hear evidence of the protest or appeal.
- 2.8.7.3 be entitled to remain in attendance before the Appeals Committee until the Appeals Committee adjourns the proceedings to make its decision.
- 2.8.7.4 be informed of the evidence or allegations made.
- 2.8.7.5 be supplied the details of verbal or written statements made against that person or persons.
- 2.8.7.6 be given an opportunity before the Appeals Committee to correct or contradict any accusations or allegations made.

2.8.8 Immediately the Appeals Committee has made a decision, the Appeals Committee Chairman shall verbally announce it to a gathering of competitors summoned to hear the decision or post the decision on a notice board. The decision of the Appeals Committee shall be final and binding on the matter of the protest and on all persons concerned therein.

Note: Desirably the Appeals Committee proceedings and deliberations should be conducted out of the public gaze and free from distractions of the ongoing competition.

2.9 SUPPLEMENTARY EVENTS

State and Territory Associations or Bodies may devise their own type of shooting competitions and formulate their own Rules for the conduct of supplementary competitions, but in National Championships they will be obliged to abide by the Rules laid down from time to time by the SSAA Inc for the conduct of National Championships.

The conduct of supplementary events shall not in any way infringe on the conduct and completion of the core National events.

SECTION 3: DEFINITIONS

- 3.1** The Championship shall be defined as the conduct of the total Tournament.
- 3.2** The event will be the events separately listed in Section 7.
- 3.3** A Championship (Total) score will be the averaged score of a day's matches or all matches.
- 3.4** A match will be a single event (one target) in a Championship.

SECTION 4: RANGE SAFETY & PROCEDURES

Safety of Competitors, Officials and spectators is considered paramount. It is the responsibility of all participants to ensure that all safety standards are complied with and breaches will not be tolerated.

4.1 RANGE OFFICER/S

It is the responsibility of the Range Officer/s to supervise all matches and enforce all safety rules. Refusal to comply with an order of the Range Officer shall be grounds for barring a competitor from the range.

4.2 STANDARD SET OF COMMANDS

Range Rules at each facility may vary from Branch to Branch and State to State. It is the responsibility of the Organising Committee of each championship to ensure any individual requirements that may apply are advised to participants. However as a minimum, a standard set of Commands are provided (See Rule 6.12 and 6.13 of these Rules)

SECTION 5: RULES OF COMPETITION

5.1 RIFLE SPECIFICATIONS

The Championship will be completed under one class of rifle, this to be any rifle chambered in 22LR with a maximum weight of 14lbs (6.35KG) without restriction on trigger weight (pull) or scope power. The trigger must be manually operated and it is the competitor's responsibility to ensure its safe operation. The stock shall not exceed 3 inches in width at the fore-end, be of conventional design and to be stable and safe to operate – rifle must be controlled safely. The rifle must meet the Legislative Authority requirements applicable at the Host Branch / Club for the class of rifle.

5.1.1 Barrel Tuner

A muzzle attachment maybe added to a rifle barrel used as a tuning device. The rifle with the attachment in place, must meet the rifle specifications.

Adjusting of muzzle attachments (tuner) at the firing line during the firing of a match (between the commence fire and cease fire commands will be permitted provided the bolt is removed from the rifle and may be undertaken standing or seated. (Rule 4.11 Part A).

5.2 AMMUNITION

Ammunition must be of lead projectile type in 22LR, commercially available from regular outlets.

5.3 RESTS

A front rest shall only support the front portion of the rifle. The rear rest shall only support the rear portion of the rifle. Neither rest may be attached to the bench, the rifle or each other i.e. both parts shall be moveable independently of each other.

5.3.1 Front Rest

A front rest must incorporate a pliable bag containing sand. The front portion of the rifle shall contact no portion of the rest (other than a stop at the front of the rest that can be used to locate the distance that the rifle is moved towards the target) other than the bag containing the sand. The bottom of the fore end of the stock must form a 100% contact with the top of the sand bag. The rest can incorporate vertical and horizontal adjustments.

5.3.2 Rear Rest

To be a bag or series of bags containing sand. The rear bag can incorporate a vertical spacer as long as it does not contain horizontal or vertical adjustments. The vertical spacer shall not contain any protrusions which can be inserted into the bench top or the rear sand bag. The rear bag/s shall not be contained in any way.

5.4 SAND BAG

The front and rear sand bag will be a bag without additions, containing sand only and at least ½ inch / 12.7mm thick over its entire surface. A bag must be able to be indented at least ¼ inch / 6.4mm with finger pressure at any point other than the base.

5.5 RESTRAINT OF RIFLES

Rifles shall be fired from rests as described above, a front rest may be supported on a pedestal which shall not co-act with the sandbag to restrain recoil or form a guiding means; and a rear rest, comprising sandbag supporting the rifle between the rear of the trigger guard and the toe of the butt stock.

The rifle must be able to be lifted freely from the sandbag in a vertical direction with all attachments in place. Tape on the sandbag is not permitted.

5.6 GUIDING MEANS

Any device, addition, contour or dimension on a rifle, designed to co-act with any equipment to guide its return to the firing position, without the necessity to re-aim the rifle optically for each shot shall be deemed illegal.

5.7 FIRING LINE

The firing line shall preferably be coincident with the forward edge of the bench. If not, the line must be clearly marked on the bench.

5.8 BENCH

A bench shall be a rigidly constructed table approximately 32 inches / 812mm in height at which a shooter may sit. The shooter should be able to adjust personal height by the provision of a seat or stool which is adjustable. Benches should be constructed to allow firing by either right or left handed competitors.

5.9 POSITION ON THE BENCH

The rifle shall be so placed that the muzzle extends forward of the bench and the entire receiver of the rifle is behind the firing line.

5.10 UNUSED BENCHES

No competitor or Team Official shall occupy any bench in any match in which they personally are not competing.

SECTION 6: CONDUCT OF CHAMPIONSHIPS

6.1 TARGETS

Targets to be used in the Championship shall be the Official SSAA IRB targets. Should a local print be used, sample targets will require prior approval from the National Benchrest Chairman.

6.2 OFFICIAL SET OF TARGETS

One target per match shall be provided per competitor, these to be clearly and legibly marked with a "Competitor Number".

6.3 TARGET DISLODGED

Should a target be dislodged during a match, the match will continue uninterrupted. At the completion of the match, the Range Officer will assess and award extra time to the competitor to enable the match to be completed prior to proceeding with further competition.

6.4 LOST TARGETS

If a target is lost (the fault of the range or weather conditions) and the shooter has all other completed targets, the score for the lost target will be the average of the best and worst of those remaining targets. It is the responsibility of the Target Staff to ensure adequate protection of the targets against loss etc. by stapling if necessary and appropriate handling and storage.

6.5 POSTING OF TARGETS

All completed targets are to be posted in a common area (Wailing Wall) and displayed for all competitors to view. No competitor shall remove from the display area, or handle any targets until the aggregate for that day has been

completed, and the protest time for that aggregate has expired. See Section 2.8.5 Part A

Should a Team or individual wish to lodge a protest in regard to target marking, etc., refer Section 8.9 of Part C Target Rescore Procedures. Should an issue arise in regard to Aggregates, the Appeals Committee may require the targets to be produced. It should be noted that remarking of targets cannot be undertaken after expiration of the protest time.

6.6 REMOVAL OF POSTED TARGETS

Early removal of posted targets by a competitor prior to the expiry of the notified protest time for each aggregate automatically negates all protest rights. The Organising Committee shall provide adequate storage for targets during a championship for those competitors who do not wish to remove their targets until completion of the Championship.

6.7 TARGET MARKING FACILITIES

The availability of a separate facility for target marking is necessary, with restricted access to competitors and the public. All target marking should be conducted by two delegated Technical Officials, one to undertake primary scoring using approved equipment, the other to act as check scorer and recorder. Target score to be displayed on the face of the target.

6.8 TARGET MARKING PROCEDURES

6.8.1 Best Edge

Best edge scoring will be used throughout all score matches, (if the hole touches the border of the next highest ring with no gap, the higher score will be awarded).

A bullet hole touching the inner ring will be awarded an X score. The score is to be written in the box provided.

A shot in the target but missing the outside ring will be awarded a zero (0). Tears or distortions on the target will not be counted.

6.8.2 Missing Scoring Box

All shots that do not enter or touch the scoring box will be awarded a Zero (0).

6.8.3 Scoring Plugs

All shots which cannot be scored by visual scoring, will be checked by using a .22 ISSF / USAS Inward Gauge (5.60-5.65 mm or .2205- .2225") and marked with a "P" to so indicate.

A target must only be plugged once it cannot be re-plugged as part of a protest or score query.

6.8.4 Overloaded Targets

Should more than one shot appear on a scoring target, only the lowest score will be counted less 1 point penalty for each additional shot.

6.8.5 Shots Between Target Blocks

Should a shot appear between the target blocks, the shot will be plugged and assessed for within which target block appears the majority of the bullet hole. The box with the majority of the bullet hole will be recorded as having been shot.

6.8.6 First Shot Error

If a competitor's first shot unintentionally hits a record target, the Range Officer must be informed before the second shot is fired. The Range Officer must visually check the target and make a note on the target when same is recovered. No penalty will be incurred.

6.9 SCORE MATCH TIE

The X count will be the primary method of breaking. Should two or more competitors still have equal scores, a tie will be recorded

6.9.1 Score Aggregate Tie

If no awards are to be made for daily aggregates, then 6.9 shall apply. If awards are to be made then 6.92 will apply.

6.9.2 Grand Aggregate Tie

Should a tie exist, such ties will be broken by the competitor having the highest number of X ring scores being placed ahead of the other competitor or competitors in the tie; if still tied the greatest number of 10s, then 9s and so on. If a tie cannot be broken in this manner the following in Rule 6.9.3 will determine the winner.

6.9.3 The tie will be broken by reverting to the first numbered record bull and progressing to each succeeding bull until a miss or out eliminates one of the competitors. For the purpose of breaking tied scores the official sequence will be from bull number 1 progressing to number 25.

Tie breaking procedures will only be applied to aggregates for which medal or awards presentations will be made.

6.10 STATIONARY BACKERS

Stationary Backers are mandatory at all matches, must be rigid, located behind the target frames and consideration be given to wind strength for extra stabilisation. As a guide, maximum tolerances are to be – 0mm horizontal position, plus or minus 50mm vertically and are to be placed as follows:-

3ft / 1metre behind the target frame

In the case of cross-fires or indecisive targets, the backer and target/s shall not be removed from the frames until the matter is resolved by the Technical Staff.

6.11 STANDARD RANGE COMMANDS

FIRST MATCH GENERAL INSTRUCTIONS:

Prior to each relay of the first match of the day, general instructions shall be announced by the Range Officer. The instructions should be the same or similar to the following, and also acknowledge local requirements:

In an emergency local range safety rules apply.

During the match, should an instance arise which requires a cease fire, the command will be:

“CEASE FIRE – UNLOCK YOUR BOLTS”

This will permit all rifles to be in an unlocked condition without extracting the case from the chamber. This command will only be given in such cases that we cannot permit you to clear your rifle by firing.

If a condition should arise that requires temporary suspension of Firing, the command will be:

“HOLD YOUR FIRE – CLEAR YOUR RIFLE BY FIRING OR BY REMOVING YOUR BOLT”

Do not place any ammunition in the action until the command “Commence Firing”

6.12 MATCH COMMANDS

To ensure the Championship is conducted without confusion, the following match commands are to be used:

- 1) No ammunition is to be placed in the rifle action before the Commence Fire is given
- 2) This is RelayMatch
- 3) Are all shooters ready?
- 4) You haveminutes to complete this match
- 5) Place bolts in rifles
- 6) Commence Fire
- 7) Half time
- 8) You have two minutes to complete your firing
- 9) You have one minute to complete your firing
- 10) You have thirty seconds to complete your firing
- 11) Five seconds
- 12) “Sound of whistle” - Cease Fire
- 13) Remove bolts from rifles

Interpretations:

- a) No live ammunition may be placed in the rifle until the Commence Fire command is given.
- b) Timing commences at the end of the words “Commence Fire”
- c) Timing ceases at the end of the words “Cease Fire” . Any shots fired before the command “Commence Fire” or after the command “Cease Fire”, will result in the shooter being disqualified from and not taking part in the rest of the days shooting.

6.13 EMERGENCY COMMANDS

In the event of an emergency, the Range Officer will issue a "Cease Fire" command as per Rule 6.11. Such command must be obeyed immediately and no further shots fired. Prior to the recommencement of firing; the Range Officer shall allow 2 minutes additional time and advise the shooters accordingly, however this allowance cannot exceed the original time for the match.

SECTION 7: APPROVED EVENTS AND TIME LIMITS

7.1 APPROVED EVENTS

The approved events for conduct at a Championship are:

MANDATORY EVENTS:

| | |
|--------------------------------------|-------------------------|
| Day 1 50 yards/m - 3 x 25 shot cards | Team Championship |
| Day 2 50 yards/m - 3 x 25 shot cards | Team Championship |
| Day 3 50 yards/m - 3 x 25 shot cards | Individual Championship |
| Day 4 50 yards/m - 3 x 25 shot cards | Individual Championship |

7.2 METRIC ALTERNATIVE

If the Host Branch / Club traditionally conduct events in metric distances same will be allowed, however all events for that Championship will be conducted in the metric distance.

7.3 WARM UP MATCH

A warm up match will be conducted on the first day of competition.

7.4 TIME LIMITS

Score matches – the limit will be 30 minutes. There shall be no exception to the requirement for all competitions to complete their string of fire within the time allowed.

For subsequent relays – Not less than 30 minutes shall be allowed between the end of one match of an event and the start of the same relay in the next match. This is at the discretion of the Range Officer if all competitors are ready at the firing line.

7.5 SCORE AND AGGREGATE RECORDS

There will be records recognised for the follow:

- a) Single target record
- b) 3 target record
- c) 6 target record

Championships fired under artificial light are recognised, however records shot under artificial light shall be classed as separate to those shot in daylight hours.

Targets submitted as possible records must comply with the provisions of Rules 16.1, 16.2, 16.5. 16.5.1, 16.5.2 & 16.5.3 in Part A of Official Rules for Benchrest Rifle.

SECTION 8: TECHNICAL PROVISIONS

8.1 RANGE OFFICERS

In the selection of technical and volunteer staff, special consideration must be given to the competence of Range Officers. It is preferable to seek well experienced individuals who have a known ability to conduct the matches in a manner compatible with the event. Particular emphasis should be placed on the ability to administer issues such as crossfires, target system failures etc.

8.2 SQUADING PROCEDURES

Allocation of positions on the firing line for championship events will be drawn by ballot, immediately following closing date for final entries on the following basis: ballot for Teams spread evenly amongst the available benches it will be each Team Leader, at the time of final entry, to advise allocation of their teams' individual shooting order. If no such advice is forthcoming the Organising Committee will undertake allocation at their discretion. In the event of competitors being nominated without involvement in a team, each will be allocated any available benches or positions at the discretion of the Organising Committee.

8.3 BENCH ROTATION

Bench rotation shall be mandatory. The rotation system to be used is to be advised to all competitors at the time of lodging entries. It is preferred that the rotation over the four days of competition be consecutive i.e. over the period of the championship shooters move across the full width of the range.

8.4 UNFINISHED AGGREGATES

In the event that any aggregate is uncompleted on the scheduled day the aggregate will continue the next morning where it left off.

8.5 RESULTS SERVICE

The Host Branch / Club shall provide a timely and accurate results service to the competitors. It is preferable that a computerised score programme be used to process the results to ensure an adequate style of presentation and accuracy. However a hard copy of all results is to be maintained in the event of a computer failure.

8.6 RESULTS POSTING

Adequate notice boards are required to post results progressively during the competition. Such should be easily accessible to both competitors and the public. It should be clearly stated in the Championship instructions, where official results will be posted to ensure no confusion over protest requirements. Aggregate results so posted and the time of the expiry of protest rights (30 minutes).

8.7 INSPECTION AREA

A facility for the implementation of inspection procedures to ensure firearms are in compliance with the rules. The equipment to be used for the inspection should be available at least two days prior to competition, to ensure individuals have an opportunity to test their equipment to ensure compliance with these rules.

8.7.1 Inspection Requirements

Inspections should be carried out by match officials who are fully familiar with the rules.

8.7.2 Documentation

It is desirable that a standardised inspection form be used to provide consistency and be recognisable to range staff if further inquiry is scrutiny is required.

8.7.3 Certification Stickers

An inspection / approved sticker, which are suitable for attachment to the rifle are to be available and retained under security.

8.7.4 Certification Equipment

The following list is recommended:

- a) Certified Weighing Scales (preferably electronic) with a rated capacity of at least 15kgs and checked to have an accuracy within the limits of 10 gms or 0.5 ounces. The scales should be available at all times so that competitors may check the weight of their rifles and associated equipment. The scale will be required during the match should spot checks be undertaken. A known test weight should also be available for scale verification purposes.
- b) Rule (Tape measure)
- c) Gauge to measure stock width. The stock must not be more than 3 inches wide regardless of where measured.

8.7.5 Inspection Mandatory

All competitors must present at the subscribed time, all rifles intended to be used in the Championships for inspection. Failure to do so will mean disqualification from that event.

8.7.6 Inspection Failure

Rifles that fail inspection may be re-submitted for re-inspection following any adjustments, prior to commencement of competition.

8.7.7 Weight Allowance

At the time of weighing, an additional allowance of ½ ounce / 15g will be granted.

8.7.8 Random Inspection

At the discretion of the Championship Director, shooters may be required to resubmit their rifle/s for re-inspection at any time during the Championship. The Director is not required to give advanced notice of such inspections.

8.8 SCORING ERROR

Where a competitor considers an obvious error has been made, a Request can be made of the Target Marking Officials to view the Target and have the matter resolved. Where there is a doubt, the competitor can submit a formal protest in accordance with the Appeals procedures as outlined in Section 2.8 Part A

8.9 TARGET RE-SCORE PROCEDURE

The Official Scorer will re-score the disputed target in the presence of the second official and the Team Leader for the competitor concerned using the same equipment as originally used.

8.10 REMOVAL OF BOLTS

All bolts and ammunition must be kept out of all rifles and off the Bench until the Range Officer declares the range open for firing. Rifles that are unable / do not have bolts to be removed, must have inserted into the chamber a device that visibly shows the chamber is empty. This provision included behind the firing line and in all other range areas including competitor facilities, parking areas etc.

Breach of this rule could lead to disqualification from the Championship at the discretion of the Championship Director.

8.11 CROSS FIRE PROCEDURES

It is the responsibility of the shooter who cross-fires to immediately advise the Range Officer of such event, and then fire the balance of their shots on their own target. A shooter who crossfires and only the required number of shots are counted on their record target plus the cross fired shots, will have been deemed to have inadvertently cross fired and shall not be disqualified, but shall be penalised as per Rule 8.11.2

8.11.1 Cross Fire Transfer

A notified cross fire will be transferred to the correct target and included in the match score.

8.11.2 Cross Fire Penalty

The target of the cross fired shooter will be penalised 5 points. If the cross fired shot cannot be identified (2 shots on target) the innocent party will be awarded the highest scoring shot.

8.11.3 Innocent Party

The competitor, on whose target a cross fired has been placed, is obliged to advise the Range Officer of such a happening.

8.11.4 Failure to notify

Any competitor found to have cross fired, and not notified the Range Officer, and whose target shows more than the required number of shots, including cross fires shall be subject to Rule 13.4 in Part A of the Official Benchrest Rules.

8.11.5 Additional Time

No additional time will be awarded to a competitor who cross fires. However a competitor or competitors who have lost time reporting cross fires, or other unforeseen circumstances (excluding rifle malfunction), shall have extra time allowed to complete firing their target, the amount of time allowed shall be equal to the time lost and the Range Officer should note the length of time lost by the competitor or competitors under these circumstances.

8.12 WIND FLAGS

Competitors may place wind flags on the range as desired, however all flags on the range must be no higher than level with the bench tops and the bottom of the target card, and retained within the competitor's shooting lane. Range Officer has the discretion to remove or drop any wind flag that is interfering with any shooter.

Once flags are set up they cannot be moved or adjust until the end of the event (3 target course of fire) i.e. no moving or adjusting flags between matches / targets. This equates to a set of flags being required for each bench in a rotation.

For clarity moving flags is under the control of the Range Officer and may not interfere with the orderly conduct of the match.

Similarly the Range Officer to be responsible for allowing damaged flags to be fixed, e.g. in the event of flags being blown over.

SECTION 9: TARGET DIMENSIONS

9.1 An Official SSAA – WBSF International Rimfire Benchrest Target card is available from the two approved Benchrest target printers. A sample image is show below for identification purposes.

9.2 Individual target dimensions form the critical component of the target card. It comprises 25 scoring targets (also known as rondels) within framed square borders in a 5 x 5 configuration along the left and right hand side sighter targets are provided for the competitor

9.3 The specific dimensions of the individual score rondel and frame is as follows:

SSAA IRB TARGET

Colour Pantone 287 Blue – note where rings are in filled with blue the rings are to contrast in white.

Card Size 435mm wide x 312mm tall plus 1 mm minus zero

Square box bounding the score rings

Each square box is 55 x 55 mm

X dot

1,0 mm +/- 0,1 mm

Rings

10 ring 6,0 mm +/- 0,1mm **measured on the outside of the ring**

9 ring 12,0 mm +/- 0,1 mm

8 ring 18,0 mm

7 ring 24,0 mm

6 ring 30,0 mm

5 ring 36,0 mm Blue


4 ring 42,0 mm Blue

3 ring 48,0 mm Blue


Rings should have a thickness of 0,4 to 0,5 mm.



























325mm

436mm



SSAA INTERNATIONAL RIFMIRE BENCHREST TARGET



| | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
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COMPETITOR: _____

BENCH: _____

DETAIL: _____

RELAY: _____

SCORE: _____

30mm
 20mm
 10mm
 5mm
 2.5mm
 1.25mm

IRB
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