

## Texas 4-H Shooting Sports Project Sporter Air Rifle Rules (2024)

The national governing body for the Sporter Air Rifle event rules are the [NRA Sporter Air Rifle Position Rules \(http://compete.nra.org/official-nra-rule-books.aspx\)](http://compete.nra.org/official-nra-rule-books.aspx). These rules are used with modifications in 4-H activities and events as stated below. The following rule set supersedes all other rules where differences exist. [General 4-H Shooting Sports Project Rules](#) cover all shooting disciplines. In 4-H events, event specific rules and regulations supersede other governing body rules where differences exist. Coaches, parents, and 4-H shooters are encouraged to be familiar with each of these rule sets.

### 1. SHOOTER AND COACH RESPONSIBILITY

#### 1.1 Safety

Shooters and coaches are responsible for understanding and practicing the rules of safe firearms handling. The highest standards of safety are to be followed at all times.

#### 1.2 Behavior and sportsmanship

The spirit of 4-H sportsmanship and appropriate behavior is expected of all participants in the 4-H shooting sports program.

#### 1.3 Knowledge of procedures and rules

Shooters and coaches will make effort to understand the procedures used in each event and comply with the rules, standards, and intent of the events. Questions are encouraged to clarify any areas of misunderstanding or ignorance. Ignorance of the rules in any event does not anticipate, prevent, or make unnecessary their existence. Shooters are responsible for knowing the rules of their event and staying within them. Learning the rules of the events is part of the educational process for shooting sports participants.

#### 1.4 Eligibility

It is the shared responsibility of the shooter and his/her coach to determine that all eligibility requirements for participation in the shoot have been met.

#### 1.5 Reporting

Shooters are responsible for knowing the proper time to report for each event and appropriate relay with equipment and materials necessary for completion of the event. They are also responsible for reporting in a timely fashion for any announced orientation programs and for observing progress in their events in order to be prepared early if shooting proceeds at a rate faster than the posted times. Shooters should be prepared to take the field a minimum of 45 minutes ahead of their posted firing time.

#### 1.6 Required Orientation

Where an orientation is required (as in the Texas 4-H Shooting Sports Championships) any shooter failing to attend the orientation will be disqualified from events during that day unless they are able to make up the orientation. No guaranteed availability of such make-up sessions is required. It is the shooter's responsibility to attend and receive the evidence of that attendance.

#### 1.7 Timing

The shooter is responsible for knowing and abiding by all-time limitations for firing any string of shots.

## 1.8 Checking scores

Each shooter is responsible for checking the scoring and mathematics of their individual score cards or targets. **Only** the shooter may review these cards or targets. Some events may allow an official to assist any shooter wishing to review their cards or targets.

## 1.9 Clearing the firing point.

Each competitor must leave the firing point promptly at the completion of his/her relay. Rifles must be unloaded, magazines, if present, released, actions open and an open bolt indicator in place. Rifles shall be cased prior to removal from the firing point.

## 1.10 Electronic Devices

**NO** electronic devices on the line. Including but not limited to smart phones, electronic ear buds, smart watches, any communications device, etc.

Exception: A dedicated timer for keeping track of time with no other functions.

## 1.11 Clear Bore Indicator:

Clarification: the terms clear bore indicator (CBI), Empty Chamber Indicator (ECI), Safety Flag, Open Bolt Indicator (OBI) are all interchangeable terms that may be used for a safety device that is inserted into the chamber and barrel to indicate the firearm is unloaded and safe. A CBI may be as simple as weed eater string or factory purchased flags such as available from CMP, NRA, or firearm manufactures. Should be a bright color that contrasts with the firearm action and stock.

## 2. Disallowed Equipment

**Any firearm built or modified to give the distinct impression of a modern military style firearm such as an AR or AK is not allowed in the 4-H Shooting Sports Program. Listed below are visual examples of, but not limited to, firearms that resemble those not allowed. Examples of unacceptable firearm components include: any type of muzzle devices (muzzle brake, recoil compensator, suppressors, porting), front pistol grips, heat shield/shroud, and magazines extending more than 1 inch below the receiver.**



## 3. EQUIPMENT

### 3.2 Sporter Air Rifle

The Sporter Air Rifle is intended to be a low cost, entry-level rifle without specialized modifications, which adds to the cost of the rifle. Sporter air rifles must be .177 caliber (4.5 mm) pneumatic, spring air, compressed air, or CO2 rifles with a muzzle velocity of 600 fps or less that comply with these requirements:

#### 3.2.1 Approved Air Rifles

a) Air Rifles officially approved for Sporter Class air rifle competitions are the Crosman CH2000 (CO2), Crosman CH2009 (CO2 or compressed air), Daisy M599 Competition Air Rifle, Daisy M853/753/953/853CM (pneumatic), Daisy 888/887 (CO2), 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.

b) Rule 3.2.1 approval of an air rifle as a legal Sporter Class air rifle confirms that a specific air rifle fulfills Rule 3.2.1 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 Texas 4-H Rifle committee for approval before it can be added to the list of approved rifles.

c) Any approved Sporter Class air rifle that is not currently available to junior clubs or teams at a cost of \$650.00 or less will lose its Sporter Class approval. Air rifles of that model that were purchased at a cost of less than \$650.00 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: For information on Special Marketing Programs contact the manufacturer or distributor directly.

d) At competitions below the state level, Match 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.

### **3.2.2 Air Rifles Specifically NOT Approved:**

Statewide at All State, District and County Events **Air Force Edge and Crossman 2021 and any others with a similar profile.**

## **3.3 Equipment Specifications**

### **a. Caliber**

Only 4.5 mm or .177 caliber air rifles may be used. Wadcutter Pellets are required in paper and electronic scored events.

### **b. Weight**

Total weight of the rifle may not exceed 7 ½ pounds (3.375 kg), but weights may be added either internally or externally to reach that maximum.

### **c. Trigger**

Trigger pull may not be less than 1 ½ pounds (645 g). Release triggers or set triggers may not be used.

### **d. Butt plate**

The butt plate may be adjustable in length only but may not be adjusted during the competition.

### **f. Sights**

See Rule 3.7.1 Metallic sights or their equivalent are normally used in sporter air rifle position shooting. Telescopic sights may be permitted in some matches as published in match regulations or bulletins.

### **g. Length of pull**

The length of the stock and the height of the cheekpiece may not be changed during the course of fire.

### **h. Barrel weights**

Barrel weights are permitted provided the overall weight of the rifle does not exceed the maximum limitations and are within a radius of 1.18 inches (30 mm) from the center of the barrel

### **i. Internal modifications**

Only and all parts intended by the factory for use in the particular model must be present and functioning as intended. Internal parts may be polished or honed to improve their internal function, but their function may not be altered.

### **j. External modifications**

A single layer of tape or non-reflecting paint may be placed on the barrel to reduce glare.

### **k. Stocks**

Stocks must be of conventional design and symmetrically shaped for either right- or left-hand use. The butt may be roughened, checkered, or scored to provide a non-slip surface. The stock may be refinished or painted but other modifications are prohibited.

## **I. Removing a rifle from the firing line**

Rifles may not be removed from the firing line during the course of fire except as permitted by the range officials.

### **3.7 Sights**

#### **a. Metallic sights**

Metallic sights are defined as any sighting system made of metal or equivalent materials that provide a means of aligning two separate, visible sights or reference points mounted on the rifle.

1. non-corrective sights: Any sighting system, constructed of metal or equivalent, which provides a method of aiming or aligning two separate but visible sights, or reference points mounted on the rifle, including tube sights and non-magnifying color filters.

2. Corrective: Same as (1), except that a lens or system of lenses, not containing an aiming reference or reticle at the focal plane of any such lens or system of lenses, may be included in such system and may be used only if authorized in the match program.

#### **d. Prohibited sights.**

Any sighting device that activates the firing mechanism or projects an image on the target is prohibited. Note that visually impaired individuals may use a sight that projects an image and have a spotter to assist them in aligning the dot with the target.

#### **f. Sporter Air Rifle**

Unless otherwise specified, sporter air rifle events are restricted to metallic sights only.

### **3.8 Spotting Scope**

The use of a telescope or other optical device to spot shot is permitted. It may be positioned forward of the shooter's forward shoulder.

### **3.9 Shooting kits**

The use of a shooting stand is encouraged in 4-H position rifle shooting. The stand aids in safety and reduces fatigue by permitting rest between shots. The shooting stand, kit or table may be placed down range of the shooter's forward shoulder during the standing stage of 3-position shooting, but it may not be of a size, shape, construction, or placement to interfere with other shooters.

### **3.10 Ground cloth**

A ground cloth or shooting mat may be used providing it is not constructed or used in a way that provides artificial support. Shooting mats may not exceed 49.2 X 78.7 inches (1.25 x 2 meters) in width and length. Mats may be up to 1.9 inches (5 cm) thick and must be composed of soft and flexible materials.

### **3.11 Clothing Regulations**

All clothing must be made of flexible material that does not materially change its physical characteristics under commonly accepted shooting conditions.

#### **3.11.2 Clothing – Specifications**

- a. No shooting jackets permitted.
- b. No shooting trousers permitted.
- c. Glove may be worn.
- d. A maximum of two unaltered sweatshirts may be worn during firing.
- e. Only normal street type or light athletic shoes are permitted so long as they do not exceed the top of the ankle. Shooting boots/shoes are not permitted.
- f. no pads, braces, or elastic bandages will be allowed.

### **3.13 Slings**

Unless otherwise specified in the match program, a rifle sling may be used provided they do not exceed 32mm (1.25") in width with the rifle stock and one arm only to steady the rifle **except** in the standing position. Sling cuffs and pads are prohibited.

#### **3.14.1 Kneeling roll**

A cylindrical cushion of soft and flexible material and not exceeding 9.84 inches (25 cm) in length and 7.08 inches (18 cm) in diameter may be used in the kneeling position.

### **3.17 Ammunition**

Only .177 caliber wadcutter lead pellets may be used.

### **3.21 Open Bolt Indicator**

An open bolt indicator is required in all 4-H competitions to indicate the bolt is open.

## **4. TARGETS**

### **4.2 Sporter Air Rifle**

AR-5/10 (12 bull) targets are used in sporter events.

## **5. SHOOTING POSITIONS**

### **5.1 The Ground**

This defines the surface of the firing point or any coverings that do not provide an artificial means of support.

### **5.2 Artificial support**

Any support not specifically authorized, including modifications of the ground to provide support for the elbows, arms, or legs.

### **5.3 Rifle butt position**

In all positions the butt of the rifle must be supported on the front of the shoulder, outside the jacket or shirt and not touching the ground.

### **5.4 (Blank)**

### **5.5 Physically handicapped shooters**

Shooters with physical handicaps that make it impossible to shoot from the specified positions may petition for permission to use modified equipment or positions. Thorough explanation and photographic evidence of the position and reasons for using it are required.

#### **5.5.1 Temporary disabilities and substitute positions**

Any person with a temporary physical disability preventing them from shooting in a given position, upon presentation of evidence and permission of the Texas 4-H Shooting Sports Coordinator or match coordinator, may be permitted to substitute the next more difficult position, for example, standing for kneeling.

### **5.6 Prone**

The body extended on the ground with the head facing the target and the rifle supported by the shoulder and both hands. The forearm supporting the rifle must form a minimum angle of 30 degrees to the ground. No part of the arm below the elbow may rest on the ground or any artificial support.

### **5.8 Sitting**

The weight of the body is supported on the buttocks and the feet or ankles with no other part of the body touching the ground. The rifle is supported by one shoulder and both hands only. The elbows may rest on the legs at any point above the ankles.

### **5.10 Kneeling**

The body is supported on one knee and one foot with the buttocks clear of the ground but resting on one foot. The elbow of the forward arm may rest on the upright knee or leg. The elbow of the shooting arm is free from all support. A kneeling roll may be placed under the instep of the supporting foot provided that the foot is placed toe-down at an angle not more than 45 degrees from the vertical and the toe making contact with the ground. If the kneeling roll is not used, the foot may be placed in any position, including having the lower leg and foot flat on the ground.

## **5.12 Standing**

Erect on both feet with no other portion of the body touching the ground or any supporting surface. Use of the sling is not permitted, and the rifle must be supported by both hands and the shoulder only. The elbow or upper arm of the forward hand may be placed against the body or supported on the hip.

## **6. RANGE STANDARDS**

### **6.1 Firing line**

The firing line is immediately in front of the firing points. All measurements of range are taken from the firing line to the face of the target.

### **6.2 Firing points**

The part of the range provided for the shooter immediately behind the firing line.

### **6.3 Shooting Ranges, Specific**

#### **a. 10 meters**

The shooting distance in sporter air rifle is 10 meters. A 33-foot distance may be substituted for the 10-meter (32 feet 9¾ inches) distance if desired and posted.

The target heights should be set as appropriate for the shooter and as allowed by the range conditions such that shooting is safe for both the shooter and the range.

### **6.4 Shooting distance**

The shooting distance is measured from the firing line to the target face. The shooter may place his or her forward foot or elbow up to the firing line. The distance will be 10 meters +/- .05 meters.

### **6.6 Target and firing point identification.**

Targets and firing points will be marked with numbers to indicate their position. Target numbers should be large enough to be read with the unaided eye under normal conditions.

### **6.9 Wind flags**

Outdoor ranges may display wind indicator flags at appropriate intervals. Wind indicator flags will be of a light material (strips of cloth or surveyor's tape) of any bright color except red or orange. In air rifle position events, there will be at least one wind flag for each of the four firing points.

## **7. COURSES OF FIRE**

### **7.1 Courses of fire**

The courses of fire listed here are those currently in use by the Texas 4-H Shooting Sports Program. A modification of these courses of fire by districts, counties or clubs is permissible as long as the course of fire is listed in the bulletin or announcement of the event.

#### **a. Sporter Air Rifle**

Sporter air rifle events may include prone, standing, sitting, and kneeling stages or others as may be listed in the bulletin or announcement for the event. The standard course of fire is 10 shots in each position: prone, standing, sitting, and kneeling in that order.

#### **b. Target**

Air rifle target for 10 meters: Rule 4.2.

#### **c. Time limits**

See Rule 8.2.

#### **d. Dry firing in air rifle**

Dry firing is permitted only during the sighting period. It is not permitted after the first record shot has been fired (unless a disabled rifle requires re-sighting), and dry fires will be counted as misses. NOTE: If Electronic Targets are in use, DRY Firing that expels air **will not** be allowed.

## **8. TIME LIMITS**

### **8.1 Running Time**

In nearly all 4-H events, time is computed as a running total. Times for individual shots are not observed, but a total time is allotted for firing an entire record string, bank of targets, stage, or match. The shooter is responsible for pacing their shooting to meet the time limitations.

#### **a. Precedence of posted limits**

Posted time limits supersede standard NRA time limits for each event.

### **8.2 Time allowances**

#### **a. Time limits**

Shooters are allowed one and one-half (1½) minutes per record shot in prone, sitting, and kneeling positions and two (2) minutes per shot in standing. This time period includes sighting shots. If the match is fired in stages where shooters must go down range to change targets, time left in one stage will **not** carry over to the following stages.

### **8.4 Shooter Responsibility**

Shooters are responsible for knowing the posted time limits for each event and for pacing their shooting to the time limits. Range officers may be asked about the passage of time or time remaining, but they are not charged with doing so.

## **9. COMPETITION REGULATIONS**

### **9.1 Changing rifles**

Rifles or parts thereof may be changed during the firing of a match **only** if the rifle has been declared disabled by the range officer. The claim of a disabled rifle must be made immediately, and all shots prior to the claim will be counted as record shots.

### **9.2 Sighting shots**

Where permitted, all fouling or sighting shots must be made after the command to commence firing has been given.

#### **a. Sighters when using running time**

When all targets are hung at the same time and a block of running time is being used, unlimited sighting shots are permitted in each position. Rule 9.2.2.a will apply for each position.

#### **b. Cease fire for longer than 3 minutes**

In the event of a cease fire for longer than three (3) minutes, competitors may demand and receive equal and extra time. In the event of a cease fire for longer than five (5) minutes, the shooter has the right to unlimited sighting shots. In the event that changing targets requires the shooter to change his or her position, the shooter has the right to unlimited sighting shots after the target change.

#### **c. Disabled rifle**

Shooters who have a disabled rifle are allowed unlimited additional sighting shots

#### **d. Penalties**

A two-point penalty will be assessed for each sighting shot fired after the first record shot except as authorized by range officials as above.

### **9.2.2 Misplaced sighting shots**

If the first sighting shot falls outside the guard ring of the sighting bulls, the competitor must stop immediately and notify the range officials. Once noted, the shot will be labeled as a sighting shot and discounted in the scoring. Any additional shots outside the guard ring will be counted as record shots.

### **9.4 Misfire**

A misfire occurs when the pellet or BB fails to exit the barrel of the firearm. The range officials must be notified immediately in the event of a misfire. When satisfied that a misfire has occurred, the range officer will permit the shooter to continue firing, allowing additional time as required for the misfire.

## **9.5 Disabled Air Rifle**

A rifle that cannot be safely and accurately aimed or fired, including one on which the sights were damaged or lost or one that has suffered mechanical problems that cause it not to function properly may be declared disabled. The shooter will be permitted to repair or replace the rifle and complete the firing during the time that was left when the rifle became disabled.

## **9.6 Malfunction**

Failure to fire due to mechanical defects or faulty ammunition is termed a malfunction. The range officer must be notified immediately of a malfunction. Time may be added to the shooter's allotment for time lost due to a malfunction or the shooter may be permitted to re-fire those targets not already shot.

## **9.9 Shooter position**

Shooters must take their positions at their assigned firing points without interfering with shooters on either side of them. No part of the shooter's body may rest on the ground forward of the firing line.

## **9.10 Coaching Prohibited**

During individual competition, coaching of any kind is forbidden while the competitor is on the firing line. Coaches may not touch the shooter or handle any of their equipment after the preparation period has been completed or after the shooter has taken a position on the firing line **except** at the direct instruction of the range officer.

### **a. Coaching in individual matches**

Coaching is **NOT** permitted in individual matches.

### **b. Coach behavior**

Coaches must conduct themselves in a quiet, supportive, and cooperative manner at all times.

### **c. Removal of coaches**

Range staff or the 4-H Shooting Sports Coordinator may remove a coach from the firing line if they violate rules, distract other shooters, or appear to distract their own shooters. In the event that a coach is removed, replacement **may** be permitted at the discretion of the range staff. Continued disruption shall be deemed the cause for disqualification.

## **9.13 Interference**

No competitor or coach may interfere with other shooters or shoot officials in the conduct of their affairs, either on the range or in the handling of targets. Firing lines and points must be kept clear and conversations will be limited to those required to conduct the business at hand during the firing of a match.

## **9.18 Disturbance of competition**

No shooter will deliberately disturb another during the firing of a shot. If a competitor feels that he/she was disturbed during any shot, the individual will immediately put down their rifle and notify the range officer without disturbing other shooters. If the claim is considered justified, the shot will be disallowed, and the competitor will be allowed to repeat the shot. If it is not considered justified, the shot will be credited to the shooter.

## **9.25 Crossfire and excessive hits**

No competitor will fire on the wrong target or fire more than the required number of record shots, including those on another shooter's target.

## **9.27 Disorderly conduct**

Disorderly conduct or the use of alcohol or other controlled substances on the grounds of any 4-H event is strictly forbidden. Anyone guilty of such behavior will be disqualified from the event(s) and expelled from the range with forfeiture of any entry fees.

### **9.27.1 Destruction of range equipment**

No shooter will willfully damage range equipment. Anyone doing so will be expelled from the competition.

## **9.28 Refusal to obey**

No person will fail to comply with the instructions of range officials in the proper conduct of their offices.



## 9.29 Evasion of rules

No person will deliberately evade or attempt to evade competition rules, nor shall any person be an accessory to evasion of any rule. Refusal of an individual to give full disclosure of any rule evasion or violation is considered to be acting as an accessory to that evasion.

## 9.30 Disqualification

The range officials may disqualify and eject any individual from the range premises for unsafe or discreditable conduct. In the event of a disagreement among the match officials in such cases, the Match Director, Event Coordinator or Shooting Sports Coordinator will determine the outcome. Any case of disqualification will be referred to the 4-H Shooting Sports Coordinator for consideration of any additional actions.

## 10. RANGE CONTROL AND COMMANDS

Standard range safety and operation commands are essential in 4-H Shooting Sports events. Range commands as listed in section 10 of the NRA rule manuals, 4-H basic or expanded range commands as outlined in the appendices of the 4-H Shooting Sports Guide, Range control and safety are the **primary** concern of range staff.

### 10.1 Discipline

The safety of competitors, range staff and spectators depend upon continuous attention to all safe firearms handling principles by all persons on or about the range. Self-discipline is the foundation of safety; and if it is lacking, it is the responsibility of range personnel to enforce range discipline. It is the duty and responsibility of all persons on the range to assist in this process.

#### 10.1.1 Actions open

No rifle shall be picked up or handled until authorized by appropriate command. Open bolt indicators are **required** on all air rifles. All actions will remain open and exposed to inspection except when actively engaged in firing or dry firing under direct command of the range officer. Under **no circumstances** will careless handling be permitted.

#### 10.1.2 Rifles Unloaded

No rifle will be loaded until shooters are in position with the rifles pointed down range and the commands **Commence Firing, Ready or Load** have been given.

#### 10.1.3 Rifles Loaded

Any firearm with its action closed will be considered loaded and must be pointed down range (in a safe direction) at all times.

#### 10.1.4 a Cease Firing

Upon the command CEASE FIRE, all rifles must be immediately unloaded, magazines (if present) removed, and the rifles made safe with the actions open.

#### 10.1.4 b Commence Firing

All shooters may start firing upon the command "Commence Firing" as the timing of the string is started with this command. "*Commence*" is the preparatory part of the command and "*Firing*" is the action part of the command. No shot will be fired before the "firing" is spoken.

#### 10.1.5 Not ready

Competitors who are not ready to fire at the time the range officer asks, "**is the line ready**" must notify the range officer by stating "**not ready on (firing point)**" and include their firing point or target number.

#### 10.1.9 Target mounting

Shooters may be required to mount their own targets properly. Fired targets will be collected immediately by range officials.

### 10.4 Policing the range

Competitors are responsible for policing their firing points at the end of each stage or match under the supervision of the range staff.

## 10.6 Repeating commands

Other range staff will repeat commands of the range officer only when the commands cannot be heard clearly by the competitors under the Chief Range Officer's supervision.

## 10.7 Firing Line procedures and Commands

### a. Relay (#) Match (name) on the firing line

The shooters move to the firing line with their equipment and take their positions at the appropriate firing point.

### b. Go forward and hang your targets

Shooters will move forward to the target frames and hang their targets.

### c. The preparation period starts now

After shooters have returned to the firing line, this is announced. Shooters may handle their equipment, dry fire and prepare for live firing during this three-minute period. The range officer verifies that the shooters are on the proper firing points with targets properly hung.

### d. The preparation period has ended

At the end of the three-minute preparation period, the range officer announces its ending. before moving on to the following commands.

### e. Is the line ready?

Any competitor who is not ready to fire must reply by stating not **ready on** (firing point number), and the range officer will state **the line is not ready**.

### f. The line is ready, commence firing, you have (#) minutes

Once the problems have been fixed and the line is ready, the range officer will declare the line ready, issue the commence firing command and state the amount of time for the stage or match being fired. Competitor may load and fire after the command **commence firing** had been issued.

### g. Cease firing, make the line safe

At the completion of the time period or upon completion of firing by all competitors, the range officer will stop all firing with the **cease firing** command. Each shooter will immediately stop firing, open the action, and place the rifle on the shooting mat with the action open and visible

### h. Is the line clear?

If all rifles are grounded, cleared, and have their actions open, the range officer will declare the line safe. If not, he/she will state **the line is not clear, stand easy** and see to any problem that makes the line remain hot. Once it has been resolved, the line will be declared safe.

### i. The line is clear, go forward and replace your targets

No one may touch or handle a rifle while there is anyone down range.

### j. Unsafe condition

Anyone who observes an unsafe condition or the potential for injury to any living animate thing down range must call **Cease fire**.

### k. As you were

This command means to disregard the immediately preceding command.

### l. Carry on

This command means to continue with whatever was taking place prior to an interruption.

## 10.7.1 Firing sequence

Only one shot is fired at each record bull unless otherwise specified in the shoot program. It is the shooter's responsibility to keep track of his/her shots and to fire no more than one shot at each record bull.

## 10.13 Procedure in case of a loose or fallen target

If a target falls or is blown loose so that the shooter can no longer fire at it, the shooter (or coach) will immediately notify the range officer. The range officer at his/her discretion may cease firing to re-hang the target, wait until the end of the stage or relay before permitting the shooter to re-hang the target and complete the firing, or re- squad the shooter. All shots fired prior to the problem count, and the shooter will be given the amount of time that remained to be fired at the time the loose or fallen target was reported. Sighting shots are also allowed according to (Rule 9.2).

## 14. SCORING

### 14.1 Scoring times

Targets may be scored as designated by shoot management, but usually will be scored after each relay has completed their course of fire.

## 14.2 Scoring location

Scoring will be accomplished at the locations designated by shoot management, either on the range or in the statistical office.

## 14.3 How to score

Each shot will be scored by the location of the bullet hole on the target surface. The innermost (highest value) scoring area touched by the bullet hole, even if it is elongated or keyhole is the assigned value of the shot. The use of appropriate scoring gauges is strongly encouraged on all questionable bullet holes and on any questionable hole on other targets. Both inward and outward scoring gauges, or "plugs", will be used to aid in assessing the values of close shots, and holes touching a scoring ring will be scored at the higher value. a. Air Rifle, .177" - .179" (4.5 – 4.55 mm) (inward)

b. Air Rifle gauges for "outside" scoring, 5.45 – 5.50 mm.

The outward scoring gauge will be used except in scoring center shots.

### 14.3.1 Authority to use scoring gauges.

Only duly authorized range or statistical staff and referees or jury members are authorized to use scoring gauges. A given hole may be plugged (have the scoring gauge used) only once. If any question of the shot value remains, at least two statistical officers will agree on the scoring before the gauge is removed. The determination of the official scorers is final and may not be challenged except in cases where the score is mis-written, or the scorer has failed to place either the "p" or the + or - indicating that the hole was checked with a scoring gauge.

### 14.3.2 Scoring Inner Tens

Inner tens are scored on the AR-5/1, AR-5/5, and AR-5/10 targets when the ten dot has been completely shot out as determined by the use of a 4.5 mm inward scoring gauge.

## 14.4 Misses

Shots outside the scoring area on the targets will be scored as misses, assigned to the nearest record bull, and given the value of zero.

## 14.5 Early or late shots

Any shots fired at the target before the **commence firing** command or after the **cease fire** command are counted as misses. The hits of highest value will be counted as misses until the number of early or late shots is eliminated.

## 14.6 All hits count

All shots fired by the competitor after having taken his/her position on the firing line will be counted in his/her score, except for the first sighting shot (Rule 2.2).

## 14.7 Hits on the wrong target or bullseye

### b. Misplaced sighting shot

If a competitor fires a sighting shot at a record bull on another shooter's target, the shot will be discounted on the hit target, and the shooter firing the shot will be penalized two (2) points on their final score for each such shot fired.

### c. Crossfires of record shots

If a competitor fires a record shot at the target of another shooter, that shot will be discounted on the other shooter's target and the shot will be scored as a miss.

## 14.10 Excessive Hits

*(Note that all targets framed or exposed at the same time will be considered "a target card" for the purpose of interpretation in this section.)*

Excess hits on a target card will be scored as follows:

### a. Excessive shots on own target

If a competitor fires the required number of shots but fires more shots than are required at any bull, there is no penalty for the first two (2) occurrences. For the third and all additional occurrences, a penalty of two (2) points per shot shall be assessed.

### **b. Shots from another competitor**

If excessive hits occur on any target, only the required number of hits of lowest value will be scored, unless it is confirmed that another shooter fired the excessive hit(s). Confirmed hits by another shooter will be discounted and not entered into the score.

### **c. Disclaimed Shots**

If a shooter wishes to disclaim any hit on his/her target, the bullet hole to be disclaimed must be reported immediately to the range officer. If the range officer cannot confirm beyond all reasonable doubt that the competitor did not fire the disputed shot(s), the shot will be scored as a record shot.

The following shall be considered sufficient to justify annulment of a shot:

- 1) The scorer confirms by observation of the target and the competitor that he/she did not fire the shot.
- 2) A missed shot is reported by another competitor or scorer at approximately the same time and within two or three shooting stations.
- 3) Another shooter confirms that he/she fired at the wrong target, accepting the excessive hit on the other shooter's target.

### **d. Scoring with confirmed crossfires**

If the shot fired by another individual on the competitor's target cannot be identified, the competitor will receive a score composed of the required number of hits of highest value.

## **15. DECISIONS OF TIES**

### **15.3 Breaking Tie Scores**

Competitor having the same numerical score over the entire course of fire will be ranked in order:

- a. The highest score of the last 10 shots fired working forward by 10-shot string until the tie is broken.
- b. The highest number of 10s, 9s, 8s, etc.
- c. The highest number of inner 10s or center shots.

## **16. CHALLENGES AND PROTESTS**

### **16.1 Challenges**

When a shooter or coach feels that a match fired where he/she is competing has been improperly evaluated or scored, the shooter may challenge the score. A challenge must be made within the challenge time.

### **16.2 Protests**

A competitor may formally protest

- a. Any injustice which they feel may have done to them, except the evaluation of a target, which he may challenge as outlined in Rule 16.1.
- b. The conditions under which another competitor has been permitted to fire.
- c. The equipment which another competitor has been permitted to use.
- d.

### **16.3 How to Protest**

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

- a. State the complaint orally to the Range Officer or Statistical Officer. If not satisfied with his/her decision then,
- b. State the complaint orally to the Match Director. If not satisfied with his decision, then,
- c. File a formal protest with the Match/Event Director stating all the facts in the case. Such written protest must be filed within 12 hours of the occurrence of the protested incident.
- d. The Match/Event Director will form a Jury, discuss the facts, make a decision and report to the competitor. The protest and result of the protest will only be discussed with the shooter/participant that filed the complaint.