HIGH POWER SPORTING RIFLE RULES

Official Rules and Regulations
to govern the conduct of all
NRA High Power Sporting Rifle Competitions

NATIONAL RIFLE ASSOCIATION OF AMERICA
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SAFETY
IS YOUR BUSINESS!
READ THE RULES

These rules provide for the efficient and orderly operation of a tournament. But ***that's not all.*** Many local range regulations exist for one reason alone **SAFETY**. Others serve a dual purpose, smooth range operation and **SAFETY**.

It's your responsibility as a competitor or as a tournament official to be familiar with the rules and to know the meaning behind those which are safety oriented.

NRA GUN SAFETY RULES

The fundamental NRA rules for safe gun handling are:

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

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

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

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

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

Shooters Read:

Eye Protection 3.19
Loaded Firearms 10.1.3
Muzzle Direction 10.1.8
Safe Condition 10.1.11

Range Operators Read:

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

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NOTES

NATIONAL RIFLE ASSOCIATION
Official Rules for High Power Sporting Rifle Matches

These Rules establish uniform standards for NRA sanctioned High Power Sporting Rifle competition. Where alternatives are shown, the least restrictive conditions apply unless the tournament program sets forth limitations. The rules do not apply to High Power Rifle, Silhouette or International Shooting Union type competition. They supersede all earlier editions and remain in effect until specifically superseded.

Tournament sponsors may not alter these rules. If sponsors require additional rules for special conditions, the additions must be fully set forth in the program for the competition concerned.

The arrangement and rule numbering systems are such that corresponding rules for other types of NRA competition are correspondingly located and numbered in the Rule Books for those competitions. Gaps in the sequence of rule numbers result from there being a rule in one or more of the other Rule Books which does not apply in this book.

Anyone wishing to submit recommendations for rule changes may forward those recommendations to the High Power Rifle Committee in care of the National Rifle Association.

NOTE: Rules in which major changes have been made since publication of the previous Rule Book are marked thus: (1.1). Rules in which major changes have been made are as follows: 13.1.

APPROVED TOURNAMENTS

Application forms for Approved tournaments may be obtained from the NRA. Official application for approval to conduct an NRA Approved Tournament must be made to the Competitions Division. The deadline, in advance of firing date for receipt of the completed application forms and programs, is 30 days for Approved Tournaments. In order to obtain publicity in *Coming Events columns of SHOOTING SPORTS USA (monthly)*, dates must be received and sanctioned by NRA by at least 45 days prior to the month of issue. (See General Regulations for *SHOOTING SPORTS USA* deadlines.)

1. NRA COMPETITION

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

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

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

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

1.4 General Regulations—The local sponsor of each type of competition must agree to comply with the General Regulations published by the NRA for the competition concerned. See Appendix in back of this rule book.

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

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

(a) *International Matches*—Arranged by the NRA with the recognized national shooting organization(s) of the countries concerned. The officials thereof are appointed by the NRA.

(b) *International Team Tryouts*—Are U.S. tournaments conducted under NRA Rules, organized or authorized by the NRA as preliminary or final tryouts for the selection of International Team members. The officials thereof are appointed by the NRA.

(c) *National Championships*—Organized by the NRA, and in some cases in conjunction with the National Board for the Promotion of Rifle Practice, Department of the Army, to form the National Matches. The officials thereof are appointed by the NRA, in some circumstances in cooperation with the NBPRP. These tournaments will be Registered.

(d) *Regional and Sectional Championships*—Arranged between the NRA and a local sponsoring organization. These tournaments will be Registered.

(e) *State Championships*—Annual tournaments conducted by State Rifle and/or Pistol Associations, affiliated with the NRA. Such State Associations may if desired, authorize local organizations to sponsor and conduct State Championships. In states where there is no NRA affiliated State Association the NRA may authorize a local organization to sponsor and conduct the State Championship. State Championships will be Registered Tournaments.

(f) *Registered Tournaments*—May be authorized by the NRA after ap.plication has been filed by the sponsoring organization. Application forms are available from NRA on request. National Records may only be established in Registered Tournaments.

(g) *Approved Tournaments*—May be authorized by the NRA after application has been filed by the local organization which will act as the sponsor. Application forms are available from NRA on request.

(h) *Sanctioned Leagues (shoulder-to-shoulder or postal)*—May be authorized by the NRA after application has been filed by a local group or organization. Application forms are available from NRA on request. Sanctioned League scores are used for classification. A League need not be operated by an Affiliated Club or Organization.

(i) *Postal Matches*—Organized by the NRA and publicized to groups concerned through the Shooting Sports USA, announcements and/or special mailings.

(j) *Special Tournaments*—May be sanctioned by NRA for types of shooting not otherwise a part of the NRA program.

(k) *State and Senior Games*—Tournaments which are part of the State and Senior Game program. Such tournaments are not charged fees, nor will any scores fired be used for classification. A simplified sanctioning procedure may be used, and they will be listed in Coming Events with the only contact being the State Coordinator.

1.7 Types of Matches—

(a) *Match*—A complete event as indicated in the program for the awarding of certain specific prizes. A match may consist of one or of several stages. It may, in the case of aggregate matches, include the scores fired in several subsidiary matches.

(b) *Stage*—A portion of a match which consists of one or more strings fired in one position, distance, time allowance (slow or rapid fire, for example), or target.

(c) *Open Match*—A match open to anyone, except that if so stated in the program an open match may be limited to one or any combination of the following: (a) United States citizens; (b) members of the National Rifle Association of America; and/or (c) with respect to non-U.S. cit.izens, persons who are members in good standing of their respective National Shooting Federations or Associations.

(d) *Restricted Match*—A match in which competition is limited to specified groups, i.e., juniors, women, police, civilians, veterans, etc.; or to specified classes, i.e., High Masters, Masters, Experts, Sharpshooters, Marksmen, etc.

(e) *Invitational Match*—A match in which participation is limited to those who have been invited to compete.

(f) *Squadded Individual Match*—A match in which each competitor is assigned a definite relay and target by the Statistical Office. Failure to report on the proper relay or firing point forfeits the right to fire. All entries must be made before firing commences in that match, except when otherwise stated in the tournament program.

(g) *Unsquadded Individual Match*—A match in which the competitor is not assigned a definite relay or target by the Statistical Office. The competitor reports to the Range Officer within the time limits specified in the program and is then assigned to a target and a relay in which to fire.

(h) *Re-Entry Match*—A match in which the competitor is permitted to fire more than one score for record; one or more of the highest scores being considered to determine the relative rank of competitors. The number of scores which may be fired, and the number of high scores to be considered in deciding the relative rank of competitors must be specified in the program. Scores fired in these matches shall not be used for classification purposes.

(i) *Aggregate Match*—An aggregate of the scores from two or more matches. This may be an aggregate of match stages, individual matches, team matches, or any combination, provided the tournament program clearly states the matches which will comprise the aggregate. Entries in aggregate matches must be made before the competitor commences firing in any of the matches making up the aggregate match.

PUBLIC AFFAIRS

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

2. ELIGIBILITY AND CATEGORIES OF COMPETITORS

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

INDIVIDUALS

2.1 Members of the National Rifle Association—Any individual member, including Benefactors, Patrons, Endowment, Life, Annual, Associate, Non-Resident and Junior members.

2.1.1 Non-U.S. Citizens—Non U.S. Citizens who are also non Residents, may compete in any NRA Sanctioned Tournament, unless further restrictions are imposed by conditions stated in the program.

2.1.2 Categories and Special Awards—If there are a sufficient number of competitors of a specific group (i.e., Women, Juniors, Service, etc.), a match sponsor may, at his discretion, establish a separate category for this group and make classification awards within this category, such as 1st Master Service, 3rd Sharpshooter Civilian, and so on. However, if there are insufficient entries of a specific group to warrant such a separation, and if the sponsor still wishes to provide recognition to this specific group, he may provide an overall Special Award such as High Woman, High Junior, etc., and all competitors in this specific group would be eligible for this one Special Award. Details concerning categories and special awards must be clearly outlined in the tournament program.

2.2 Civilian—Any civilian including all members of the Reserve Officers Training Corps (ROTC, NROTC and AFROTC), personnel of the State Security Forces (e.g., State Guard organizations having no federal recognition), retired members of each of the several services comprising the Armed Forces of the United States, and members and former members entitled to receive pay, retirement pay, retainer pay or equivalent pay, are classified as civilians except as noted in the example below. All competitors who are enrolled undergraduates of any of the service academies will be considered as civilians and may compete in collegiate and ROTC categories.

Individuals of any Reserve or National Guard component who, during the present calendar year, have not competed as National Guard (2.5)or Regular Service (2.6) or Reserve component (2.7) and have not been provided Service support for competition (in the form of firearms, ammunition, payment of travel or other expenses), wholly or in part, may fire as civilians. The provision of firearms and ammunition for a specific competition (i.e., National Matches or NBPRP Regional Leg Matches), when such is available to both military and civilian competitors, is not considered Service support under this Rule.

Unless specifically authorized to do so by the tournament program, members of the regular Army, Navy, Air Force, Marine Corps, Coast Guard, members of the Reserve components on active duty, retired personnel of the several services comprising the Armed Forces of the United States on active duty, or police (2.4) are not permitted to compete as civilians.

2.2.1 Senior—A person may compete as a Senior beginning on January 1, of the calendar year in which his or her 60th birthday occurs.

2.2.2 Grand Senior—A person may compete as a Grand Senior beginning on January 1 of the calendar year in which his or her 70th birthday occurs.

2.3 Junior—A person may compete as a Junior through December 31 of the calendar year in which his or her 20th birthday occurs. Individuals who have National Guard, Reserve, or active duty status and receive support (as defined in Rule 2.2) may not compete as juniors.

2.3.1 Intermediate Junior—A Junior may also compete as an Intermediate Junior from January 1 of the calendar year in which his or her 15th birthday occurs through December 31 of the calendar year in which his or her 17th birthday occurs.

2.3.2 Sub-Junior—A Junior may also compete as a Sub-Junior through December 31 of the calendar year in which his or her 14th birthday occurs.

2.4 Police—Any regular, full time member of a regularly constituted law-enforcement agency, including the enforcement officers of the several departments of the United States Government; State, County or Municipal Police Departments; Highway Patrols; Penal Institution Guards; full time salaried Game Wardens, Deputy Game Wardens; Deputy Sheriffs and Police Firearms Instructors for Law Enforcement Agencies; regularly organized Railroad or Industrial Police Departments, Bank Guards and Armored Truck and Express Company Guards.

Special Officers, Honorary Officers, Civilian Instructors, Deputy Sheriffs, Deputy Game Wardens or Police Officers who are not full time, full pay basis in a single department are not eligible to compete as police.

2.5 National Guard—Federally recognized officers or enlisted members of the Army National Guard, Air National Guard, or the Naval Militia of the several states, territories, the District of Columbia, or the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico, who are not on extended active duty, may be eligible to compete as Juniors and/or Collegiate.

2.6 Regular Service—Officers or enlisted members of the Regular United States Army, Navy, Air Force, Marine Corps, Coast Guard, and members of Reserve components thereof, who are on extended active duty; provided the term "Reserve Components" shall include Army National Guard and Air National Guard called into federal ser-

vice and while in such status, may be eligible to compete as Juniors and/or Collegiate.

2.6.1 Military Veteran—Former military personnel, other than active duty or reserve, in possession of any one of the following documents, Form DD214, retired military identification card or membership in a veteran's organization are allowed to compete.

2.7 Reserve Components—Officers and enlisted members of any Reserve component of the Armed Forces, exclusive of the Army National Guard and the Air National Guard of the United States, not on extended active duty, may be eligible to compete as Juniors and/or Collegiate.

2.8 College—Regularly enrolled full-time undergraduate students who carry 12 semester hours or the equivalent, who comply with the eligibility rules of their institution, and who have not received a bachelor's degree. Eligibility to compete as a collegian shall extend for a maximum of four years within a five year period beginning when a student first attends any class as a full–time (12 or more credit hours) student. The five–year period may only be interrupted by extended military service (60 consecutive days or more), with a recognized foreign aid agency of the U.S. Government or certified missionary service.

2.9 School—Regularly enrolled undergraduate students of any primary or secondary school, who comply with the eligibility rules of their institutions.

2.10-2.19—Blank

2.20 Residence—In those matches which are limited to residents of any specified geographical area a "resident" is defined as:

(a) A person who presents a current photo identification issued by a government entity, which shows a residential address within the specified geographical area.

(b) Military Personnel: The place of residence of members of the Military on active duty is defined as the place at which they are stationed by reason of official orders, provided they have been so stationed within the specified area for a period of at least 30 days immediately prior to the day of the match. In the case of retired, Reserve, or National Guard personnel not on active duty, the provisions of paragraph a) will apply. Naval personnel assigned on sea duty qualify for a residence in the area which is the usual base or home port of the unit to which attached.

(c) Federal and State Law Enforcement Officers: The provisions of paragraph (b) will apply.

3. EQUIPMENT AND AMMUNITION

This section defines authorized equipment. Where alternative types of equipment are shown, the least restrictive conditions apply unless the tournament program sets forth limitations.

3.1 – 3.3 Blank

3.4 Sporting Rifle—A center fire rifle of any caliber, not equipped with palm rest or Schuetzen type buttplate, weighing not over 9.5 pounds including detachable magazine and sights but excluding sling.

3.5 Automatic Rifle—No rifle is permitted unless it is incapable of auto.matic fire without the replacement or alteration of parts.

3.6 Blank

3.7 Sights—

(a) Metallic

(1) *Non-corrective:*

Any sighting system constructed of metal or equivalent which provides a method of aiming by aligning 2 separate but visible sights or reference points, mounted on the rifle, including tube sights and non-magnifying filters.

(2) *Corrective:*

(Front Sight)–A single lens may be used in conjunction with the front sight.

(Rear Sight)–Any sighting system constructed of metal or equivalent which provides a method of aiming or aligning two (2) separate but visible sights or reference points, mounted on the rifle including tube sights and non magnifying filters except that a lens or system of lenses, not containing an aiming reference or reticle at the focal plane or any side lens or system of lenses may be included in such system.

A lens may be used in the front sight or the rear sight but not both at the same time.

(b) *Telescopic*—

Any sighting system which includes a lens or system of lenses and an aiming reference or reticle at the focal plane of a lens or system of lenses.

(c) *Any*—

Any sight without restriction as to material or construction. Any sighting device programmed to activate the firing mechanism is prohibited.

3.8 Spotting Scope—The use of a telescope to spot shots is permitted. It may be positioned forward of the shooter's forward shoulder.

3.9 Shooting Kits—The shooting kit and/or shooting stool may not be placed forward of the firing line.

(Use of a rifle rest forward of the forward shoulder is prohibited except in the prone position for resting the rifle between shots. See Rule 6.1.)

3.10 Ground Cloth or Ground Pad—A ground cloth or ground pad may be used provided it is not constructed or used in a manner to provide artificial rest or support.

3.11 Gloves—Gloves may be worn but must be of style, construction and weight usual to gloves worn as garments. Specialized shooting gloves designed for competition are not permitted.

3.12 Padding—Shoulder pads, sling pads and elbow pads may be worn provided they are constructed so as not to provide artificial support. Competitive shooting coats are not authorized.

3.13 Slings—A sling may be a strap or straps made of leather, webbing, or synthetic material, and hooks, buckles, and keepers as necessary for attachment to the rifle and adjustment to the shooter. Unless otherwise specified in match conditions or position descriptions (Rule 5.12), the sling may be used in connection with one arm to steady the rifle.

3.14 Palm Rest—Any attachment or extension which aids the normal hand grip and support of the rifle by the forward hand that extends to a depth of more than 3 1/4 inches below the centerline of the bore is a palm rest. A palm rest may be used only in the standing position in "Any Rifle" matches. The standard box magazines of Service Rifles are not considered palm rests.

3.15 Schuetzen Type Buttplate—A butt or buttplate having a curved rear surface in which the depth of the curve exceeds 1/2 inch when measured from a straight line drawn from the top to the bottom of the buttplate; or any buttplate having a hook or stud engaging in a hole or receptacle in the shoulder of the shooting coat or shirt; or any buttplate having a knob or prong extending rearward more than 1/2 inch from the heel or toe of the butt. May be used only in those matches where it is specifically permitted by the program.

3.16 Release Triggers—Triggers which function on release are prohibited.

3.16.1 Compensators and Muzzle Brakes—The use of compensators and muzzle brakes is prohibited.

3.17 Ammunition—

(a) *Service*–Ammunition manufactured for or by the Government and issued for use in service arms. The use of armorpiercing ammunition may be prohibited by local range or match regulations. Use of tracer or incendiary ammunition is prohibited.

(b) *Any*–Ammunition of any description that may be fired without danger to competitors or range personnel. Tracer or incendiary ammunition is prohibited. The use of armorpiercing or any other type ammunition may be prohibited by local range or match regulations.

3.18 General—All devices or equipment which may facilitate shooting and which are not mentioned in these rules, or which are contrary to the spirit of these rules and regulations, are forbidden. The Match Director, Official Referee, Jury Chairman or Supervisor shall have the right to examine a shooter's equipment or apparel. The responsibility shall be upon the competitor to submit questionable equipment and apparel for official inspection and approval in sufficient time prior to the beginning of a match so that it will not inconvenience either the competitor or the official.

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

3.20 Ear Protection—All competitors and other personnel in the immediate vicinity of the range complex are urged to wear hearing protection devices.

3.21 Empty Chamber Indicator—An Empty Chamber Indicator is required in all NRA High Power Sporting Rifle competitions to indicate the bolt is open and the chamber is empty. The ECI, when inserted into the rifle, must extend into an otherwise empty chamber.

4.TARGETS

4.1 Official Targets—In NRA Sanctioned competition,only targets printed by NRA Licensed Manufacturers, bearing the Official Competition target seal, or military targets issued by the Armed Services, without modification except as authorized by NRA, will be used. All NRA Official Competition Targets are printed by NRA licensed manufacturers only. They may not be modified by the user or the manufacturer, except with specific written permission from NRA Competitions division. NRA Target masters are made using Computer Assisted Design and must be used in production of all NRA Targets.

OFFICIAL TARGET DIMENSIONS

All High Power rifle targets have single bullseyes.

4.2 100 Yard Targets

N.R.A. No. SR-1 – Reduction of the SR Target for use at 100 yards to simulate the 200-yard stages of the National Match Course.

Aiming Black (inches)	*Rings in White (inches)*
X ring 1.35	8 ring.....9.35
10 ring.....3.35	7 ring.....12.35
9 ring 6.35	6 ring.....15.35
	5 ring.....18.35

4.3 200 Yard Targets

NRA – No. SR–3 – Scoring rings the same as the SR target, with the 8–ring in the aiming black. (Sponsors are authorized to substitute target SR for SR–3.)

Aiming Black (inches)	*Rings in White (inches)*
X ring 3.00	7 ring..... 25.00
10 ring 7.00	6 ring..... 31.00
9 ring 13.00	5 ring.....37.00
8 ring 19.00	

5. POSITIONS

Positions–The positions for use in a match shall be stated in the program under conditions of the match and shall be in accord with the definitions of positions prescribed in this section.

5.1 The Ground—All references to "the ground" in the following position Rules are to be construed as applying to the surface of the firing point, floor, or shooting mats, and platforms as are customarily used on shooting ranges.

5.2 Artificial Support—Any supporting surface except the ground not specifically authorized for use in the Rules for the position prescribed. Digging of elbow or heel holes at the firing points which form artificial support for the elbows, arms, or legs is prohibited. Use of artificial support is prohibited except as individually authorized by NRA for a physically handicapped shooter.

5.3 Position of Rifle Butt—In all positions, the butt of the rifle must be held against the front of the shoulder on the outside of the shooting coat or shirt and must not touch the ground.

5.4 Rifle Magazine—The magazine of the rifle may touch the person or clothing of the shooter, but may not touch the ground or be used to provide artificial support.

5.5 Blank

Illustrations indicate some approved positions.

5.6 Prone—Body extended on the ground, head toward the target. The rifle will be supported by both hands and one shoulder only. No portion of the arms below the elbows shall rest upon the ground or any artificial support, nor may any portion of the rifle or body rest against any artificial support. The magazine may not compress the coat to the ground so as to provide artificial support (see Rules 5.2 and 5.4).

5.7 Blank

5.8 Kneeling—Buttocks clear of the ground, but may rest on one foot. The rifle will be supported by both hands and one shoulder only. The arm supporting the rifle rests on the knee or leg. The elbow of the trigger arm will be free from all support. One knee must be touching the ground.

5.9 Blank

5.10 Sitting—Weight of the body supported on the buttocks and the feet or ankles, no other portion of the body touching the ground. The rifle will be supported by both hands and one shoulder only. Arms may rest on the legs at any point above the ankles.

5.11 Blank

5.12 Standing—Erect on both

6. RANGE STANDARDS

6.1 Firing Line—The firing line is immediately in front of the several firing points. All ranges are measured from this firing line to the face of the targets when targets are hung in their proper position in front of the backstop.

6.2 Firing Point—That part of the range provided for the competitor immediately in the rear of the firing line from which firing takes place. Each firing point is numbered to correspond with the target frames. Each firing point should have a minimum width of 6 feet.

6.3 Shelter—The firing points may be protected with a roof but may not be wholly or partly enclosed. Competitors must be exposed to prevailing winds. This does not preclude the construction of ranges within areas surrounded or partially surrounded by safety walls or structures designed for the suppression of sound. Umbrellas or other types of temporary individual shelters are not to be used.

6.4 Distances—Matches are commonly fired at ranges of 100 and 200 yards.

6.5 Illumination—Artificial illumination of ranges is authorized.

6.6 Target Numbers—The numbers will be large enough to be identified under ordinary conditions with normal vision. Numbers must correspond with firing point numbers. Target numbers will be fixed in position so as to remain visible when targets are exposed and when concealed. Single digit numbers on the number boards to correspond to the last digit of the firing point number will be allowed, and should be painted black on white or white on black.

6.7 & 6.8 Blank

6.9 Range Safety Flag—A red flag visible from the firing line will be displayed when firing is in progress (Recommended size of range flags is 5 ft., 9 in. at the hoist, 18 feet in length and tapered the full length of the lower edge to be 3 feet wide at the fly end and made of red cotton flag bunting).

6.10 Communication—Communication will be maintained between the target pit and firing line whenever personnel are in the pits.

7. COURSES OF FIRE

The following courses and types of fire are most commonly found in NRA-sanctioned High Power Sporting rifle competition, fired on standard targets described in Rule 4. See Rule 8 for time allowances.

STANDARD SINGLE-STAGE MATCH COURSES OF FIRE:

Course Position	No. of Shots	Type of Fire	Distance	Target
7.1 Prone	8	slow	100 yds.	SR-1
7.2 Standing	8	slow	100 yds.	SR-1
7.3 Sitting or Kneeling	8	rapid	100 yds.	SR-1
7.4 Prone	8	rapid	100 yds.	SR-1
7.5 Prone	8	slow	200 yds.	SR-3
7.6 Standing	8	slow	200 yds.	SR-3
7.7 Sitting or Kneeling	8	rapid	200 yds.	SR-3
7.8 Prone	8	rapid	200 yds.	SR-3

7.9 – 7.13 Blank

STANDARD MULTIPLE STAGE OR AGGREGATE MATCH COURSES OF FIRE:

7.14 High Power Sporting Rifle Match Course (32 shots):

Prone	8	slow	100 or 200 yds	SR-1 or SR-3
Standing	8	slow	100 or 200 yds.	SR-1 or SR-3
Sitting or Kneeling	8	rapid	100 or 200 yds.	SR-1 or SR-3
Prone	8	rapid	100 or 200 yds.	SR-1 or SR-3

Any combination of the above courses of fire, all fired at the same distance, may constitute an aggregate match. However, only tournaments containing an equal distribution of shots from each of the four stages will be approved and accepted for classification.

8.TIME LIMITS

8.1 Computing Time—Time is not checked on each shot. In slow fire the time allowance is computed for a complete stage (including sighting shots when specified) on the basis of the specified number of shots multiplied by the allowance per shot. The Chief Range Officer may terminate any slow fire relay before completion of the full time allowance, if all competitors in that relay have completed firing. In rapid fire the time allowance is specified for the complete string. Targets must be fully exposed for the full time specified for that rapid fire string. Time allowed but not used does not carry over to another string or stage.

Note: To time rapid fire strings, start the stopwatch when targets are fully exposed (at the top of the travel of the target carrier) and stop the stopwatch when targets start to move to be withdrawn into the pits.

8.2 Time Allowances:

(a) Slow Fire–The time allowance is one minute per shot.

(b) Rapid Fire–In rapid fire, the competitor is to be in the prescribed position for the stage of fire when the command "COMMENCE FIRING" is given. The time limit for 4 shots will be 30 seconds.

8.3 Blank

8.4 Passage of Time—Range Officers will not voluntarily warn competitors of the passage of time. Competitors may inquire of Range Officers as to the time remaining before expiration of the time limit. The request and the response shall be given in a tone which will not disturb other competitors.

9. COMPETITION REGULATIONS

9.1 Changing Rifle—Unless otherwise provided in the program, no competitor will change his rifle during the firing of any single stage, multiple stage, or aggregate match unless it has become disabled and has been so designated by the Chief Range Officer. For the purpose of this Rule, the firing of a match is considered to have started when the competitor has fired his first record shot or his first sighting shot, if sighters are permitted. Claim that a rifle is disabled must be made immediately. All shots fired up to the time that the claim is made will stand as part of the official score. (See Rule 10.9.)

9.1.1 Voluntarily Changing Rifles—If at any time a competitor wishes to change rifles, he may do so before the start of a stage or match. It is the responsibility of the competitor to notify his score keeper and a Range Officer that he has changed rifles. His scores for previously fired matches in the aggregate in which the rifle is changed will be disallowed in that aggregate. Previously fired individual match scores will stand, but will not be counted as a part of the aggregate score. That aggregate will be noted on the scoreboard and in the results bulletin as a "Disallowed Score, Rule 9.1.1"

9.2 Sighting Shots—In Registered Tournaments, the sighting shots specified must be fired and scored before the competitor commences firing for his record score.

In other courses of fire, when sighting shots are permitted, they must be fired and scored before the competitor commences firing for his record score.

In rapid fire stages or matches, any sighting shots not fired during the time allowed for sighters will be recorded as misses (in the space reserved for sighting shots). See Section 8 for time allowance.

9.3—Blank

9.4 Defective Cartridge—A defective cartridge is one:

(a) Which has such evident structural defect as to cause a misfire or to cause a rifle to fail to function; or

(b) Which bears an imprint of the firing pin on the primer; or

(c) From which the bullet has not left the barrel.

(For procedure in case of a defective cartridge see Rule 10.9. For refiring privileges see Rule 10.7.1.)

9.5 Disabled Rifle—A disabled rifle is one which: (a) cannot be properly aimed or safely fired, (b) has suffered damage so that it cannot be fired or will not function properly, (c) has suffered the loss of a sight or damage to the sights. Sights improperly adjusted do not constitute a disabled rifle. A rifle once declared disabled by the Range Officer shall not be used again for competition firing until the defect has been corrected and the rifle has been ruled as safe by the Chief Range Of-

ficer. Any rifle used to replace a disabled rifle shall be of the same caliber and the same type, semi-auto or manually operated, and described by the same Rule as the disabled rifle. A semi-automatic rifle which fires automatically due to a mechanical defect shall be considered disabled. When a rifle is declared disabled the competitor will be given a minimum of 20 minutes to repair or replace the rifle before being called to the line to fire. (If a disabled rifle occurs on the last relay at that range, the Range Officer must use his discretion as to what is best for the match, but the competitor will be given 20 minutes even if it means moving back to that range later the same day.) (For procedure in case of a disabled rifle see Rule 10.9.)

9.6 Malfunction—Failure of the rifle to function properly due to mechanical defects or to defective ammunition. Functional failures due to improper manual operation are not to be considered as malfunctions. (For procedures in case of a malfunction see Rule 10.9.)

9.6.1 Removal of Malfunctioning Rifle—A rifle which repeatedly malfunctions may be removed from the range at the discretion of the Range Officer, Referee, Match Director or Supervisor.

9.7 Continue to Fire—Competitors who fire a perfect score (all X's where same are used) in an individual match will be given an opportunity to continue to fire to provide a means of breaking ties. This continuation of firing may be either immediately following the match in which the perfect score was fired or later, whichever is most practical. Firing time will be arranged between competitor and tournament officials but must in all cases commence during the scheduled time of the match in which the perfect score was fired. Firing time and firing conditions will be the same as for the match in which the perfect score was fired. Firing will continue until a hit is made outside the ring of the highest value (X ring where the X is used). The total score (original match score and the score in the continuation of firing) will be used for breaking ties in the match concerned. Firing is not continued for perfect scores fired in team matches.

9.8—Blank

9.9 Competitor's Position—A competitor will take his position to the right of the numbered firing point marker. No portion of the shooter's body may rest upon or touch the ground in advance of the firing line.

9.10 Coaching Prohibited in Individual Matches—Coaching is prohibited in all individual matches of an NRA Approved or Registered Tournament.

9.11 Matches Not Complete—When a match or stage is not completed by all competitors in accordance with the tournament schedule, the match or stage may be rescheduled or canceled. Any match or stage which has been completed by all competitors will not be refired. Only scores of a match or stage which has been completed will be included in an aggregate event or for National Record purposes, and a match or stage is not completed unless all competitors have fired.

9.12 Refires Not Allowed—If a cartridge fails to fire or misfires, or a rifle fails to function in a rapid fire string, the competitor will not be allowed to refire the string. The competitor may complete the string by manually operating the bolt or operating rod (Service Rifles), but if he does so the rifle must remain pointed down range at all times.

Note: Rule 9.12 may be used for tournaments provided the tournament program clearly states that Rule 9.12 will apply for the tournament.

9.13 Interference—Firing points and lines will be kept clear at all times except for the competitors and their equipment and such range personnel as necessary. When competitors are used as scorers, their equipment may be kept with them but must not interfere with any competitor who is firing. Competitors will not be permitted to interfere with the handling of targets by range personnel and will not be permitted in the pits, except when assigned there as pit detail.

9.14 Refiring

(a) No competitor will fire more than one score for the same award except as provided in the program or in accordance with Rule 9.11 or Rule 1.7(j).

(b) In slow fire, no competitor will be allowed to refire any previously fired shots because of disabled rifle or malfunction.

9.15 Score Cards Must be Signed—See Rules 18.14 and 14.3.1(f).

9.16 to 9.22—Blank

9.23 Aliases—No competitor may fire under an assumed name nor may he substitute for another in a match, register, enter, or fire in the name of another.

9.24 Score and Classification Falsification—No competitor will falsify his score, or classification, nor that of any other competitor, nor be an accessory thereto.

9.25 Crossfire; Excessive Shots—No competitor will deliberately fire on the wrong target nor fire more than the required number of shots, including misses and hits on some other competitor's targets (See Rule 14.10 (c)).

9.26 Bribery—No person will offer a bribe of any kind to any of the range or statistical personnel, or others, nor be an accessory thereto.

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

9.27.1 Willful Destruction of Range Equipment —No competitor

shall cause any range equipment to become damaged through a deliberate act, and anyone guilty of same will be expelled, without a warning, from the range. Expelled competitors will be disqualified from the competition with no return of entry fees.

9.28 Refusal to Obey—No person will refuse to obey instructions of the Match Director, Official Referee, Jury Chairman, Supervisor, Range Officers or any other officer of the tournament, if instructions are given in the proper conduct of his office.

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

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

9.31 Suspension—For violation of these rules deemed so to justify, any competitor may be suspended from competition and/or expelled from the National Rifle Association upon presenting evidence and conducting a hearing as prescribed in the Bylaws.

In as much as the commission of any of the forgoing offenses, Rule 9.23 through 9.29, are of such importance as to be major offenses, all of the forgoing that may merit action under Rule 9.31, shall be sent to the NRA Protest Committee. The complaint shall be in writing, notarized and signed by the complainant.

10. RANGE COMMANDS, CONTROL AND OPERATIONS

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

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

10.1.1 Actions Open—Unless the rifle is cased, the actions must be open with the bolt face visible, and detachable magazine removed at all times except when the competitor is in position at his firing point, and the command "THE PREPARATION PERIOD STARTS NOW" has been given.

10.1.2 Rifles Unloaded—Rifles will not be loaded until the competitor has taken position at his firing point, his rifle pointed toward the targets and the command "LOAD" has been given for his relay.

10.1.3 Loaded Rifles—A rifle that has a cartridge in the chamber or in an attached magazine shall be considered loaded. A loaded rifle shall be pointed in the direction of the targets at all times.

10.1.4 Cease Firing—All rifles will be unloaded and detachable magazines removed immediately upon the command "CEASE FIRING." Actions will remain open.

10.1.5 Not Ready—It is the duty of competitors to notify the Range Officer if not ready to fire at the time the Chief Range Officer asks "IS THE LINE READY?" Should the Chief Range Officer cause firing to proceed, the competitor concerned will be given an opportunity to fire his score in the earliest possible relay or by time extension in his relay. Failure of a competitor to notify the Range Officer that he is not ready forfeits his right to fire.

10.1.6 Loading in Slow Fire—In all slow fire events, the rifle will be loaded with only one cartridge at a time.

10.1.7 Rapid Fire Loading Procedure—At the command to load, competitors will load 4 rounds and close the bolt.

10.2 Loud Language—Loud or abusive language will not be permitted. Competitors, scorers, and Range Officers will limit their conversation directly behind the firing line to official business.

10.2.1 Smoking—There will be no smoking allowed on the firing point by competitors, scorers, team coach, captain, or range officials.

10.3 Delaying a Match—No competitor will delay the start of a match through tardiness in reporting or undue delay in preparing to fire (See Rule 18.7).

10.3.1 Preparation Period—In all cases (including refires) competitors will be allowed 3 minutes to take their places at their firing points and prepare to fire after the firing point has been cleared by the preceding competitor. All targets will be cleared and visible during this time. (Preparation period during scoring may be allowed during team matches provided that the team coach has an opportunity to observe the target after it is cleared and before the next string of fire.) Dry firing shall be permitted during this period. Sighting shots will not be fired during a preparation period.

10.4 Policing Range—It is the duty of competitors to police the firing points after the completion of each stage. The Range Officers will supervise such policing and will see that the firing points are kept clean.

10.5 Competitors Will Score—Competitors will act as scorers when requested to do so by the Match Director or Chief Range Officer, except that no competitor will score his own target.

10.6 Repeating Commands—A Range Officer will repeat the Chief Range Officer's commands only when those commands cannot be clearly heard by the competitors under his supervision.

10.7 Firing Line Procedures and Commands—(In all cases in which the term "Chief Range Officer" is used, it shall be understood that the Chief Range Officer may designate another person to perform the task indicated, for the purposes of this Rule.) When ready to start a match, the Chief Range Officer commands, **"RELAY NO. 1, MATCH NO. __ (or naming the match) ON THE FIRING LINE."** Competitors take their places at their firing points. The Chief Range Officer states, **"THE PREPARATION PERIOD STARTS NOW."** Range Officers check competitors as to correct relay and firing point numbers. At the end of 3 minutes, the Chief Range Officer states, **"THE PREPARATION PERIOD HAS ENDED."** (Rule 10.3.1)

After seeing that the range is clear and the competitors are ready, the Chief Range Officer proceeds with the firing commands:

"LOAD"—In slow fire, competitors may load one round. In rapid fire, the competitors load the required number of rounds. (Rule 10.1.7)

The Chief Range Officer then asks, **"IS THE LINE READY?"** Any competitor who is not ready, or whose target is not ready, will raise his arm and call "Not ready on target number." A Range Officer investigates and either assists the competitor to correct the cause of the delay, or removes the competitor from the firing line so as not to delay the start of firing.

If after a competitor answers as prescribed as to being not ready, and does not fire any shots when the targets appear in slow fire, he shall be allowed additional time, and in rapid fire shall be allowed to fire the string in a succeeding relay. A competitor's failure to make the prescribed "Not Ready" answer, forfeits his right to these allowances.

Following the question, **"IS THE LINE READY?",** the Chief Range Officer will state, **"THE LINE IS READY"** or **"THE LINE IS NOT READY",** as appropriate. If the line is not ready, after appropriate time he will again ask, **"IS THE LINE READY?",** again followed by, **"THE LINE IS READY" or "THE LINE IS NOT READY."**

After **"THE LINE IS READY"** has been stated, the Chief Range Officer gives the following sequence of preparatory commands, stopped only by sudden inability of the range to operate properly or by safety considerations: **"READY ON THE RIGHT," "READY ON THE LEFT,"** and **"READY ON THE FIRING LINE."** There should be approximately a 3 second interval between these commands.

"READY ON THE FIRING LINE" means the range is ready to operate and the targets are about to be exposed or the signal to commence firing is about to be given.

"COMMENCE FIRING" will be signaled within 5 seconds (a) by moving targets fully into view, (b) verbally, or (c) by a short blast on a whistle. It means to start firing, as the time allowed for the string is started with this command.

"CEASE FIRING–UNLOAD. REMAIN IN POSITION UNTIL THE LINE IS CLEARED.""ARE THERE ALIBIS OR ANY SAVED ROUNDS ON THE RIGHT? ALIBIS OR ANY SAVED ROUNDS ON THE LEFT?" When the Chief Range Officer receives the information on saved rounds, he will report the target numbers and number(s) of saved rounds to the Pit Officer. **"IS THE LINE CLEAR?"** This means that all rifles on the line are unloaded, and all bolts are open. Upon receiving confirmation from the Line Officers that all rifles are clear, say **"THE LINE IS CLEAR. YOU MAY MOVE OUT OF POSITION. REMOVE YOUR EQUIPMENT FROM THE LINE AND POLICE YOUR FIRING POINT. STAND BY TO RECEIVE SCORES."** After a reasonable interval, say, **"THE CHALLENGE PERIOD HAS ENDED, EXCEPT FOR THOSE TARGETS UNDER CONTENTION." "IS SCORING COMPLETED ON THE RIGHT? IS SCORING COMPLETED ON THE LEFT?"**After it is confirmed by signals from the Line Officers that scoring is complete, except for challenged targets, and those targets under contention, say, **"SCORING IS COMPLETE."**

In the event of any emergency requiring a cease fire, a Range Officer may give the command, **"CEASE FIRE, UNLOAD."** This command may be accompanied by moving the targets out of view, or by a blast on a whistle or other signaling device, or both. Competitors must cease firing immediately when the command **"CEASE FIRE" i**s given, open the actions of their rifles, and remove any detachable magazines.

"AS YOU WERE," means to disregard the command just given (regardless of what it might have been) and return to the status immediately preceding the **"AS YOU WERE"** command.

"CARRY ON" means to proceed with whatever was being done before some interruption occurred.

10.7.1 Range Alibis—Refires are allowed through faulty or improper range procedure, such as:

(a) Withdrawn target (Rule 10.16);

(b) Incorrect time allowance (Rule 8.2(b));

(c) Incorrect range commands (failure of targets to appear within specified time limit)-(Rule 10.7);

(d) Improper scoring procedure (placing spotters in holes of a target which has insufficient hits, not all in the 9 and/or 10 ring).

(e) Any other condition of improper or faulty range procedures which penalize the competitors.

10.8 Pit Procedures and Commands—The Pit Officer, at the discretion of the Chief Range Officer, shall control the position of the targets by using the following procedures and commands: (In all cases in which the term "Pit Officer" is used, it shall be understood that the Pit Officer may designate another person to perform the task indicated, for the purposes of this Rule.)

(a) Prior to starting the match, the Pit Officer shall review with the pit personnel the procedures and commands that will be utilized.

(b) The Pit Officer shall review the course of fire with the pit personnel prior to each string of fire. For example, in slow fire, instruct the pit personnel that, "This will be a slow fire string of __ rounds. The target must be pulled and marked after each shot." Or, in rapid fire strings, "This will be a rapid fire string, 10 shots in 60 (or 70) seconds. Do not pull and mark the target until you have received the command to do so."

(c) When all targets and pit personnel are ready, give the command: **"HALF MAST ALL TARGETS"** and notify the Chief Range Officer by saying **"READY IN THE PITS."** (When a target is at half mast, it is approximately halfway up between the bottom and top of the carrier's travel. In this position, the upper portions of all targets should be visible from the firing line.)

(d) The targets should be raised and lowered for the starting and ending of each preparation period and/or string of fire by using the following commands: **"STAND BY YOUR TARGETS"** (This command will be given in the pits in sufficient time to allow the firing line commands to be completed.) At this time, the Chief Pit Officer will repeat all firing line commands to the pit personnel as they are given by the Chief Range Officer. When the command, **"READY ON THE FIRING LINE"** is given, the Pit Officer will give the command,**"TARGETS... UP"** within 5 seconds.

Targets must be fully exposed for the full time specified for that course of fire.

NOTE: To time, start the stopwatch when the targets are fully exposed (at the top of the travel of the target carriers)and stop the stopwatch when the targets start to move to be withdrawn into the pits. In slow fire strings, where competitors sometimes complete the course of fire prior to the expiration of the allowed time, the Chief Range Officer may command that the targets be withdrawn before the full time allowed has expired.

Prior to the end of the prescribed period of time for the string (approximately 15 seconds), the Chief Pit Officer will give the command, **"STAND BY YOUR TARGETS,"** and at the end of the allowed firing time, he will give the command, **"TARGETS... DOWN."** (The targets are to be moved only on the portion of the command **"UP"** or **"DOWN.**" The words **"UP"** or **"DOWN"** are the operable portions of the command. The word **"DOWN"** must be given at the precise second at the end of the string.)

(e) The Chief Pit Officer will receive the report of saved rounds from a Range Officer, and will relay this information to the pit personnel prior to giving the command, **"VERIFY THE NUMBER OF HITS ON YOUR TARGET."** This means to make certain that the correct number of hits for that string of fire appears on each target (For rapid fire strings only).

(f) The Chief Pit Officer will receive reports of excessive and/or insufficient hits from pit personnel, and relay that information to a Range Officer. After all targets which are under contention (those which have excessive or insufficient hits) have been identified, give the command, **"SCORE ALL TARGETS THAT ARE NOT UNDER CONTENTION."**

(g) After challenges and discrepancies have been resolved, give the command, **"SCORE ALL REMAINING TARGETS."**

(h) After all scoring is completed on uncontested targets, and at the direction of the Chief Range Officer, give the command, **"PULL, PASTE, AND HALF MAST ALL TARGETS THAT ARE NOT UNDER CONTENTION."**

10.9 Procedure in Case of Defective Cartridge, or Malfunction in Slow Fire—If a cartridge fails to fire or a rifle fails to function in slow fire, the competitor will call the Range Officer. The Range Officer, when satisfied that there is a defective cartridge (Rule 9.4), disabled rifle (Rule 9.5), or malfunction (Rule 9.6) will permit the competitor to replace the unfired cartridge or clear the jam and continue firing. Additional time may be allowed such competitor, equal to the time lost because of the defective cartridge, or malfunction. (For refiring privileges see Rule 10.9). It is not required that the Range Officer attempt to fire a cartridge before it is declared defective.

10.10—Blank

10.11 Pit Discipline—Pit personnel will be instructed in their duties and safety precautions by the Chief Pit Officer under the direction of the Match Director, and will at all times conduct themselves in a safe and orderly manner in complying with those instructions.

10.12 Half-Mast Targets—When targets are mounted in the carriers they will be elevated so that only the top half of the target is exposed over the parapet. This is known as placing the targets at "half-mast."

10.13 Ready in Target Pits—When all targets which are to be used for the firing of a particular match have been mounted at half-mast and pit personnel are ready, the Chief Pit Officer will notify the Chief Range Officer,"Ready in the pits."

10.14 Slow Target Operation—If a competitor feels that the operation of his target is so slow as to interfere with his ability to complete his score within the specified time, it is the duty of the competitor to call the situation to the attention of the Range Officer. The Range Officer will personally check the operation of the target and if the complaint is justified, will allow the competitor such additional time as is indicated by the facts. (Normal time required from the firing of a shot until the target is again ready will average 15 to 18 seconds.)

10.15 Telephone Messages—Messages between firing line and pit will be limited to official matters. Requests such as to mark, or to place or reverse spotters, may be handled by telephone operators. Information on rifle calibers, which could affect scores, or requests to correct or speed up the service on a target, will be transmitted only by a Range Officer to a Pit Officer. The following standard messages are to be used as stated, for the indicated purposes; Scorers, Range and Pit Officers, telephone operators, and pit markers must know these messages and their meanings.

"MARK TARGET NO. __" — means pull the target, spot the shot hole and signal the value of the shot. (This message is used when a shot has been fired but the target has not been pulled within a reasonable length of time.)

"DISK (or RE-DISK)TARGET NO. __" — means to signal or re–signal the value(s) of the last shot or string of shots on the target when the value is uncertain.

"PLACE A SPOTTER IN TARGET NO. __" — means to pull the target and place a spotter in the last shot hole. (Do not paste the shot hole. This message is used when the pit operator has neglected to put a spotter in the last shot hole.)

"REVERSE THE SPOTTER IN TARGET NO. __" — This message is used when the pit operator has inserted the spotter with the wrong side showing.

"THERE IS A CHALLENGE ON TARGET NO. __" — means that the Pit Officer in person must pull the target, examine it with the greatest care and personally signal the value of the last shot after the target has been run up. (This message is used when the competitor has paid the challenge fee to the Range Officer in order to have his target re-examined by the Pit Officer personally.) (See Rule 9.45.)

10.16 Withdrawn Target—If during slow fire, a target is withdrawn just as a competitor fires, or in rapid fire, it is withdrawn before the end of the allotted time, the competitor concerned may complain (through the Scorer, when assigned, who will report the complaint together with his own information concerning the incident) to the Range Officer. If satisfied that incorrect target operation occurred, the Range Officer will direct the following procedures:

(a) **In Slow Fire**–The shot concerned will be pasted and disregarded, the competitor will fire another shot, and will be allowed additional time to compensate for time lost.

(b) **In Rapid Fire**–All shots fired in that stage by the competitor concerned will be pasted, without spotting or informing the competitor of the value or location of any hits, and the competitor will fire a new string as soon as practical. If all targets were operated incorrectly, this procedure will be applied to all competitors in the relay concerned.

11.TOURNAMENT OFFICIALS

Tournament Officials—*Officials will be thoroughly familiar with conditions of the program and with National Rifle Association Rules. Match Director, Deputy Match Director, Chief Range Officer, Chief Pit Officer, Chief Statistical Officer and Official Referee may not compete in any Registered tournament where they are officiating. In Approved tournaments, the Supervisor is the only official who may not compete.*

11.1 Match Director—The Match Director is directly responsible for the efficient conduct of the entire tournament. The Match Director may change the match and firing conditions as shown by the program provided. A Match Director's Bulletin is posted for the information of all competitors, and that such changes are not contrary to current NRA Rules. The Match Director is directly responsible for the efficient operation of the range and of the Statistical Office and for the safety and proper discipline of all tournament operating personnel, competitors and spectators. Instructions from the Match Director for the operation of the tournament will be complied with by all persons on the range. The Match Director will use the best judgment at all times and behavior and decisions must be characterized by absolute impartiality, firmness, courtesy and constant vigilance. In the application of these Rules, the Match Director will confer with the NRA Official Referee, Jury or Supervisor on any doubtful point and will be guided by the Official Referee's, Jury's, or Supervisor's decision. The Match Director may disqualify a competitor(s) under provisions of Rule 9.30. (See Rule 11.9).

11.2 Blank

11.3 Supervisor—A Supervisor is required at all NRA Approved Tournaments. The Supervisor may be an NRA Official Referee, or an officer of an NRA Club, League or State Association who is familiar with NRA competition rules and match procedure. The Supervisor may also act as Match Director. The Supervisor is responsible for seeing that all NRA Rules are properly interpreted and applied. The supervisor's decisions will be final in scoring of challenged targets, except when targets are scored in the pit. It is the Supervisor's duty to rule on all challenges and protests when challenges cannot be remedied by the Range Officer or Match Director. The Supervisor may not change NRA Rules. The Supervisor will make a complete report to the NRA on the Approved Tournament where he serves. It is the duty of the Supervisor to report the facts concerning any competitor or Tournament Official who refuses to comply with proper instructions given. A Supervisor may not compete in any match fired in conjunction with any tournament where he is officiating. The Supervisor may disqualify a competitor(s)under provisions of Rule 9.30. (See Rule 11.9).

11.4 Chief Range Officer—The Chief Range Officer will have full charge of the range and pits and will conduct the matches on the schedule approved by the Match Director. He is responsible for range safety, and for enforcing all rules. (See Rule 11.9).

11.5 Range Officers—Each Range Officer is an assistant to the Chief Range Officer; competitors may be assigned this duty. He is responsible for the safety and discipline of range personnel, competitors and spectators in the sector of the range to which he has been assigned. He is responsible for seeing that competitors' equipment and positions are as authorized for the particular match being fired. It is his duty to be completely familiar with the program and with the National Rifle Association Rules. He is to comply to the best of his ability with all instructions issued by the Match Director or Chief Range Officer and will render all possible cooperation to other officials. He must be constantly alert, impartial in his handling of competitors and courteous though firm. (See Rule 11.9).

11.6 Statistical Officer—The Chief Statistical Officer is in charge of all statistical work in connection with the match except the actual recording of scores when this is done on the range. The Statistical Officer is directly responsible to the Match Director. He is assisted by such Assistant Statistical Officers as may be required.

11.6.1 Duties of Officer—It is the duty of the Statistical Office to:

(a) Register competitors and check their eligibility and classification.

(b) Accept match entries.

(c) Prepare, post and keep current a list of competitors showing name, competitor number and classification.

(d) Squad competitors and prepare range assignment cards where such cards are used.

(e) Prepare official score cards.

(f) Check addition on score cards and correct totals.

(g) Tabulate scores on order of merit.

(h) Prepare Preliminary and Official Bulletins.

(i) Maintain an Official Bulletin Board.

(j) Determine winners and distribute awards.

(k) Report to Match Director, NRA Official Referee, Jury or Supervisor for appropriate disciplinary action any irregularities in firing or scoring which may be indicated by squadding records or score cards.

(l) Make required reports to NRA within specified time.

11.6.2 Retention of Records—The Statistical Office will retain in good order all completed official score cards for 30 days, and all fired targets (except those scored on frames) until the expiration of the time allowed for challenges and protests.

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

11.6.4 Official Bulletins—Official Bulletins will be posted on the Official Bulletin Board. However, in the procedure outlined in Rule 13.3 for bulletin boards, such scores shall be acceptable and become final after the elapse of the challenge time period and shall act as an Official Bulletin.

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

11.6.6 Changing Official Bulletins—No Official Bulletin shall be changed except on authority of the Match Director, Official Referee, Jury, or Supervisor granted before the time has expired for challenging the last of the preliminary bulletins required to cover all the scheduled events. Subsequent changes from the Match Director, Official Referee or Supervisor are limited to correction of:

(a) Typographical errors.

(b) Aggregate bulletins on which the total score does not agree with the scores shown on the Official Bulletins for the matches constituting the aggregate.

(c) Where an error has been made by not following the program schedule of awards.

(d) Errors in classification of competitors, the competitor having been previously advised of such error and of his correct classification.

(e) Disqualification of competitors as provided by Rule 9.30.

11.6.7 Individual Squadding—Where advance entries are received, squadding for all matches may be made in advance.

11.6.8— 11.6.9—Blank

11.6.10 Range Assignment Cards—When used, range assignment cards are prepared by the Statistical Office and delivered to the Range Officer prior to each match. Range Officers check competitors on the firing line to ascertain that each is on the proper firing point as indicated by the range assignment cards. Should any reassignment of competitors be necessary on the firing line, Range Officers will carefully note such reassignments in the space provided on the range assignment card. These cards will be turned in to the Statistical Office immediately upon the conclusion of each relay.

11.7 Pit Officers—The Chief Pit Officer controls the target frames or target pits, with such Assistant Pit Officers as may be required. See Rules 10.11 and 16.1.

11.8 National Championship Protest Committee—A National Championship Protest Committee may be appointed by the Match Director of any NRA National Championship (see Rule 16.2.1). When such a Championship Protest Committee is appointed, decisions on Protest by that Committee at that Championship are final, without appeal to the NRA Protest Committee. When possible cases of suspension from competition arise from an incident in a Championship, the Championship Protest Committee may not act, but must forward a recommendation to the NRA Protest Committee for action. No member of the National Championship Protest Committee may be a competitor in that tournament.

A protest procedure must begin no later than one hour after the completion of firing for the day. In the case of awards, the protest must begin no later than one half hour after the completion of the awards ceremony.

11.9 Duty to Competitors—It shall be the duty of all operating officials and personnel to conduct themselves properly by being fair and impartial to all in carrying out their various duties. No official shall molest a competitor nor allow such practice by another official or other competitors. Should a competitor's equipment or demeanor warrant disqualification for an individual match or tournament, it should be done in such a manner as will cause the least inconvenience to all concerned. In so doing, the official should state to the competitor the Rule or section of Rules under which the disqualification is being made. Said official shall not handle any of the competitor's equipment. Said official shall not disturb individual competitors during the preparation period or firing period except for determining alibis and malfunctions, or for safety reasons or rule infractions.

13. PHYSICALLY DISABLED SHOOTERS

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

(a) Each petition will be reviewed by the NRA Protest Committee. The Committee may require additional or supplementary statements, medical information, or pictures. If approved, the NRA Secretary will issue a special authorization certificate to the individual concerned. Such certificates will have necessary pictures attached.

(b) Shooters who have received special authorization certificates are required to present them when requested by officials of the competition or by NRA Official Referees or Supervisors.

(c) In the event of a protest involving the position or the equipment used by such a shooter, the Official Referee, Jury or Supervisor will compare the questioned position or equipment with the certificate and photographs presented by the shooter. If the shooter's position or equipment does not, in the opinion of the officials, conform to that authorized by the NRA Secretary (or if the shooter has no authorized certificate or pictures), the protest shall be allowed and the shooter will be required to change immediately to the position or equipment which has been approved or to an otherwise legal position or equipment.

(d) Should a protest be carried beyond the Official Referee, Jury or Supervisor, the original protest will be endorsed by the Referee, Jury Chairman or Supervisor to show the action he has taken and will be forwarded to the National Rifle Association.

(e) National Records may not be established by use of scores fired in special positions or with special equipment as may be authorized according to this Rule. (No National Records in Sporting Rifle Matches.)

(f) Two types of authorizations are issued; temporary and permanent. Permanent authorizations are issued to competitors who are permanently disabled.

13.2 Temporary Disability: Substitute Positions—Any person who has a temporary physical disability, as substantiated by a current written medical opinion, which prevents him from using a specified position as defined in this rule, may assume the next more difficult position in lieu of that position. In this manner, sitting may be used for prone, kneeling may be used for sitting, and standing may be used for kneeling. Any substitute position must conform to the rule which defines it. The Match Director must be informed of the substitute, and may require that the substitute position be demonstrated so he may be certain that it meets the definition of the appropriate rule.

14. SCORING AND MARKING

14.1 When to Score—

(a) Before scoring any target, examine it and count the hits to determine whether there are hits of uncertain value requiring gauging (Rule 14.3), possible ricochet hits (Rule 14.8), or conditions possibly requiring application of Rules 14.9 through 14.13. Only a Pit Officer (Range Officer if targets are scored on the frames without pits, or Statistical Officer if scored in the Statistical Office) may decide the scoring when any of these rules apply. If they do not, or if they do and their applicable procedures have been completed, then proceed as in paragraphs (b) or (c) below for each shot credited to the competitor.

(b) When targets are scored in the pits:

1. In slow fire, spot and signal each shot when fired.

2. In rapid fire, spot and signal all shots after completion of each string.

(c) When targets are scored on the frames without pits, or are scored in the Statistical Office, score at the end of each target or string.

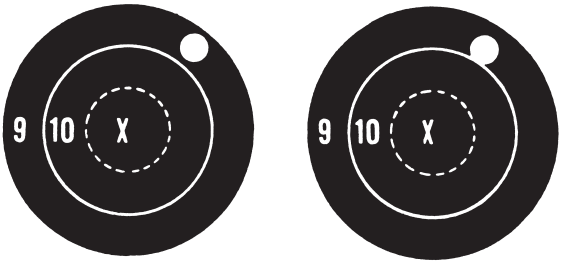
14.2 Where to Score—Targets may be scored in the Statistical Office, in the pits or on the frame in view of competitors and spectators.

14.2.1 Targets Are Score Cards—Targets constitute the score cards when scored in the Statistical Office and therefore must be retained in good order until the time allowed for filing challenges and protests has expired.

14.3 How to Score—A shot hole, the leaded edge of which comes in contact with the outside of the X ring or other scoring rings of a target, is given the higher value (including keyhole or tipped shots even though the hole is elongated to the bullet's length rather than being a circle of the bullet's diameter). X's must be scored. The higher value will be allowed in those cases where the flange on the gauge touches the scoring ring. The .30 caliber gauge will be used to score all targets and calibers.

Caliber	*Flange / Diameter*
.30/7.62mm	.308" +/– .001"

Devices other than scoring gauges may be used to assist in establishing the correct value of hits. These devices are not to be inserted into the bullet hole and do not constitute a scoring gauge.



Correct method of scoring. The shot on the left bullseye counts nine, the one on the right ten.

14.3.1 Authorized Use of Plug Type Scoring Gauges—Use of the plug type gauge will be restricted to range operating personnel who may include Range Officers, Block Officers, Pit Officers, Match Supervisor, Statistical Officer, and/or Referee or Jury as appropriate to the tournament. The tournament program should state by whom and under what circumstances plug type scoring gauges may be used.

14.3.2 Scorers' Duties—Scorers are required when targets are scored in the pits or on frames. In team matches and individual matches, the scorer's position will be established at least 2 paces to the rear of the firing line. Upon assuming the duties of a scorekeeper, an individual becomes an official of the match. The Scorer's duties include but are not limited to the following:

(a) It is the scorer's responsibility, where scorers are present on the firing line, to confirm that the data required on the score card are entered and are correct, to record the serial number of the rifle, and when a competitor changes rifles in accordance with Rule 9.1.1, the scorekeeper is responsible for recording that information on the score card and to make certain that a Range Officer is notified.

(b) During rapid fire, the scorer will position himself so that he can closely observe the competitor's firing and the operation of the target. He will carefully count the shots as they are fired and note any unusual occurrence such as mechanical malfunctions or late shots. If a late shot is observed, the scorer will immediately notify the Range Officer in accordance with Rule 14.11.1. Under no circumstances will the scorer observe the targets through a spotting scope during the firing phase of a rapid fire string. The scorers spotting scope will be turned away from the targets while they are exposed for firing. If for any reason the number fired differs from the number prescribed, immediately after the command "Cease Firing", notify the Range Officer of the number actually fired. (See Rule 14.10 (c)(5)).

(c) When targets are scored in the pits, enter the value of each shot on the score card as signaled, announcing the value to the competitor in this manner: "Mr. Blank's first sighting shot (first shot etc.) is a ." After entering all shots of the string, enter the total.

(d) When targets are scored on the frames, enter the value of each shot and the total on the score card, announcing the values to the competitor in this manner: "Mr. Blank, 5 tens, 4 nines, 1 eight, total score 94."

(e) An individual value (X, appropriate Arabic value numeral, or M for misses) must be entered for each shot in the separate spaces provided on the score card. For slow fire scored from the pits, enter the value for each shot in the order in which fired and signaled. For other types of fire or scoring, record all shots after completion of a string, recording the highest value hits first, then hits of the next highest value, etc. Any shot not individually recorded as here prescribed shall be scored a miss.

(f) At the conclusion of scoring, the scorer will:

(1) Enter the total score.

(2) Sign the card.

(3) Have the competitor (or Team Captain in Team Matches) sign the card.

(4) Deliver the scorecard to the Statistical Office via the established means.

(g) The competitor is responsible for all safety regulations. The scorekeeper will verify that the rifle is unloaded and in a safe condition upon completion of a string of fire and upon the competitor's departure from the firing line.

14.4 Misses—Hits outside the scoring rings or scoring areas defined in Section 4 are scored as misses. If the competitor fires fewer than the prescribed number of shots through his own fault, or fires on the wrong target, he is scored a miss for each unfired shot or each shot fired on a wrong target.

14.5 Early or Late Shots—In matches with pit operated targets, any sighting shots or record shots fired prior to the signal to "Commence Firing", shall be considered "record shots" and be scored as misses.

In slow fire matches the competitor will be penalized by being scored a miss for his first record shot. In rapid fire, he will be penalized by being scored a miss for the hit on the target of highest value.

In matches fired at stationary targets, any sighting shots or record shots fired prior to the signal to "commence firing", or after the signal to "cease fire", will be penalized by being scored a miss for the hit of the highest value on the target in both rapid fire and slow fire.

14.6 All Shots Count—All shots fired by a competitor after he has taken his position at the firing point will be counted in his score even if the rifle may be accidentally discharged.

14.7 Hits on Wrong Target—Hits on the wrong target are scored as misses.

14.8 Ricochets—A hole made by a ricochet bullet does not count as a hit and will be scored as a miss. It must be noted that the bullet which keyholes is not necessarily a ricochet. If there is doubt in the mind of the target marker as to whether a hole is caused by a ricochet bullet, the Pit Officer (Chief Range Officer or Statistical Officer if pits are not used), must be called and his decision obtained before the value of the hit is signaled or scored.

14.9 Visible Hits and Close Groups—As a general rule only those hits that are visible will be scored. An exception will be made in the case where the grouping of three or more shots is so close that it is possible for a required shot or shots to have gone through the enlarged hole without leaving a mark, and there has been no evidence that a shot or shots have gone elsewhere than through the assigned target and when there are no excessive hits on one or two adjacent targets. In such case, the shooter will be given the benefit of the doubt and scored hits for the non-visible shots, on the assumption they passed through the enlarged hole. If such assumption could place a non-visible hit in either of two scoring rings, it shall be scored in the higher-valued ring.

14.10 Excessive Hits—Excessive hits are defined as hits in excess of the prescribed number of shots, or in excess of the number of shots the competitor has fired. A competitor will not be credited with more shots than he has fired. If excessive hits are found, any hit which the Pit Officer (Range Officer or Statistical Officer if targets are not scored in the pit) can distinguish as having been fired by another competitor or in some other string, shall not be scored or spotted. Scoring discs will be placed in the top center and the top right hand corner of the target. This distinction may be by type or caliber of bullet hole, backing target (if used), or other means. If excessive hits remain indistinguishable, the following procedures apply:

(a) In any string, if all hits are of equal value, score the number of shots the competitor fired, assigning a miss for each required shot he failed to fire.

(b) In slow fire:

(1) When targets are scored in the pit, if more than one hit appears when the assigned competitor fires, put spotters in all hits, score the hit of highest value, and make no record of the other hit(s).

(2) When targets are not scored in the pit, a Range Officer shall notify the competitor if there are excessive hits, and the score corresponding to the number of shots he has fired of lowest value. The competitor has the option of accepting that score or of refiring a string of the same number of shots. He must select his option immediately upon being informed of the excessive hit situation.

(3) If more than one hit appears on a competitor's target while he is firing sighting shots, these hits will be spotted but not scored. A Range Officer will inform the competitor and allow him an additional sighting shot and time.

(c) In rapid fire:

(1) When targets are scored in the pit, hold any target in the pit that has excessive hits and is not covered by paragraph (a) above, until the Pit Officer directs further actions according to paragraphs (2) or (3) following. No spotters will be inserted until the Pit Officers decision is made.

(2) If the competitor fired fewer than the required number of shots through his own fault, and more hits than he fired appear on the target, he shall be given the score corresponding to the number of shots he fired, of highest value, and scored a miss for each shot that he did not fire. (See also Rule 14.12.)

(3) If the competitor fired the required number of shots in the required time and eleven (11) hits are found on the target, all hits will be spotted on the target and the value of all hits will be indicated on the score board and the score keeper will record the value of the ten (10) hits of highest value and the competitor will not have the option to refire (See Rules 9.25).

(4) If the competitor fired the required number of shots in the required time and more than eleven (11) hits are found, the competitor may either accept the value of the ten (10) hits of lowest value or refire the string. If the score is accepted, all hits will be spotted on the target and the value of all hits be indicated on the score board and the score keeper will record the value of the lowest ten (10) hits. (See Rules 9.25).

(5) If the competitor fired fewer than the required number of shots through no fault of his own and more hits than fired appear on the target, all hits will be spotted on the target and the value of all hits will be indicated on the score board and the score keeper will record the score corresponding to the number of shots fired by the competitor of highest value on the front of the score card. The competitor will refire the string on the alibi relay and the score will be recorded on the back of the score card. The shots of lowest value needed to complete the string will be transferred to the front of the score card.

(6) A competitor who fires more than the required number of rounds shall have his score for that match disallowed. See Rule 10.7.1.

14.11 Non-Visible Hits–All in the 9 and/or 10 Ring—In a rapid fire string where a competitor fires both 4-Shot strings in the required time, and where only 7 hits are visible in the 9 and/or 10 ring, and where there is no evidence that a shot went elsewhere than through the assigned target, and where there are no excessive hits one or two targets to the left or right of the assigned target. The competitor may:

(a) Accept the score as fired.

(b) Challenge the score:

(1) Before refiring an additional string, or

(2) Before accepting the score as fired.

(c) Fire an additional 8 shot string or match. Scoring procedure: The value of the 7 hits on the competitor's target will be recorded on the front of the score card. The refire string will be fired on the alibi relay, and recorded on the back of the score card. The shot or saved round of lowest value of the refire string will be transferred to the front of the score card to complete the score. If the refire string results in a nonvisible hit as specified above, the refire string will be disregarded and another string fired.

14.11.1 Non-Visible Hits—Late Shots–In a rapid fire string, if the scorer observes a late shot, he will immediately notify a Range Officer. If the score results in insufficient hits, a refire string will not be allowed.

14.11.2 Non-Visible Hits-NOT All in the 9 and/or 10 ring—In a rapid fire string where a competitor fires both 4 shot strings in the required time, and where there has been no evidence that a shot went elsewhere than through the assigned target, that is, one or two targets to the right or left of the assigned target, and where fewer than 8 hits are visible on the target, the competitor may challenge, or accept the score of the shots visible.

14.12 Insufficient Hits—If a competitor fires fewer than the required number of shots through his own fault, he shall be given the score corresponding to the number of shots he fired, and scored a miss for each unfired shot.

14.12.1 Misses Scored—In any string, the competitor must be scored the required number of shots, assigning a miss for each required shot that he failed to fire.

14.13 Notification of Competitor—In all cases where Rules 14.9, 14.10, 14.11, 14.11.1, 14.12, or 14.12.1 apply, the competitor will be notified at once of the fact that there is a problem with his target. If Rules 14.11 through 14.12.1 apply, the competitor will also be notified if there are any excessive hits one or two targets to the left or right of the assigned target.

14.14 Blank

14.15 Score Cards—Score cards must be prepared by the Statistical Office and delivered to the competitor or to the Range Officers who will check the target assignments of each competitor as he reports at the firing point, then give the score cards to the Scorer. At the conclusion of each relay, Range Officers will take up the score cards and deliver them to the Statistical Office.

14.16 Score Card Corrections— No erasures allowed on score cards. When an incorrect value has been entered on the score card, the scorekeeper will immediately advise the shooter, draw a line through the incorrect value, enter the correct value above, and initial. When targets are scored in the pits, the recorded value of any shot will not be changed (except when re-disked or re-marked) unless some special message with reference to it is received by the Range Officer from one of the Pit Officers.

14.17 Use of Shot Hole Spotters—When targets are operated from a pit, shot hole spotters are used to show the location of hits, white spotters for hits in the aiming black and black spotters for hits elsewhere (including hits scored as misses). See Rule 14.1. In slow fire, a spotter is placed in the first hit, the target exposed and the value signaled, and the target is left exposed for the next shot. As each succeeding shot is fired, the target is withdrawn, the spotter moved to the new hit, the previous shot hole covered with a target paster and the target is re–exposed and the new hit value signaled. In rapid fire, spotters are placed in all hits of the string, or as many as feasible, before exposing the target to signal the values. After signaling all hits, the target is withdrawn, spotters removed and holes pasted before the next string. In the case of excessive or insufficient hits in rapid fire, spotters shall not be inserted in the target until directed by the Pit Officer. The same size spotter will be utilized on all targets for each stage of fire. The following spotters will be used:

(a) A 3 inch spotter for slow fire, 200 yards.

(b) 1½ inch or smaller spotters are to be used for all rapid fire matches. (White golf tees in the black are acceptable substitutes for 1½ inch spotters.)

14.18 Signal Systems for Scoring Targets—The visual signaling system described below will be used in all tournaments where target pits are used.

(a) **Slow Fire:** Value spotters are placed as indicated on the target frame, all of a highly visible color such as fluorescent orange:

X.....Bottom left corner

10 .....Bottom center

9.....Bottom right corner

8.....Center of right side

7.....Top right corner

6.....Top left corner

5.....Center of left side

Miss.....Top center

(b) **Rapid Fire:** A narrow vertical chalk board is hung on the left side of the target frame (during scoring phase only), with the successive scoring values painted on it. Opposite each value is chalked the total number of hits of that value scored in the string.

15. DECISION OF TIES

Note: All tie (same numerical score) ranking Rules shall be applied in the order listed below.

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

15.2 Value of "X"—In all matches, an X is a hit of highest value.

15.3 Blank

15.4 In all matches, ties will be decided as follows:

(a) By the greatest number of X's over the course.

(b) Any tie not decided by the above will be decided:

(1) By the highest ranking score at the standing stage.

(2) By the highest ranking score at the sitting or kneeling rapid fire stage.

(3) By the highest ranking score at the prone rapid fire stage.

(4) By the highest ranking score at the prone slow fire stage.

(c) In the event the tie is not broken, the scores at each range, in the above order will be ranked:

(1) By the fewest misses.

(2) By the fewest hits of lowest value.

(3) By the fewest hits of next lowest value, etc.

(4) In slow fire individual stages, by the value of the hits in inverse order, counting singly from last to first (X's being hits of highest value).

15.5 & 15.6 Blank

15.7 Slow and Rapid Fire at One Range—Ties will be ranked by considering first rapid fire scores and then the slow fire scores, in the order prescribed in Rule 15.4.

15.8 Matches Including Both Rifle and Pistol—In matches which include both rifle and pistol stages, ties will be ranked:

(a) By the highest ranking score at the pistol stage.

(b) By the highest ranking score at the rifle stage.

15.9 & 15.10 Blank

15.11 In Re-Entry Matches—Ties will be ranked:

(a) By considering as a unit the total score fired on all targets constituting the score for record as provided in the program and applying there the provisions of Rules 15.2 to 15.7 inclusive.

(b) By out ranking the competitor with the lowest score on any one target of those constituting the score for record.

(c) If still a tie, by combining all cash prizes to which those tied are entitled and dividing such cash equally among those tied. Lots will be cast for merchandise prizes or medals or other trophies.

15.12 Blank

15.13 Unbreakable Ties—In any case where a tie cannot be ranked under the foregoing provisions of this section, the Match Director will direct that the tie be decided and prizes awarded under one of the following plans as appears necessary or advisable:

(a) By firing of a complete or partial score under the original match conditions or at longest range of the match.

(b) By drawing of lots for merchandise, medal or trophy awards, and combining any cash awards to which those tied may be entitled and equal division of such cash among those tied.

16. CHALLENGES AND PROTESTS

16.1 Challenges—When a competitor feels that a shot fired by himself or by another competitor has been improperly evaluated or scored, he may challenge the scoring. Such challenge must be made immediately upon announcement of the score. No challenge will be accepted after the targets have been pasted.

(a) If a competitor desires to challenge the evaluation of any shot or string of shots, he shall notify a Range Officer (Statistical Officer if targets are scored in the Statistical Office) and pay that official a challenge fee of not more than $3.00.

(b) When targets are scored in the pits, the action on the challenge will be as described in Rule 9.45. In slow fire, the Range Officer will note the time consumed, and allow the competitor additional time accordingly. Decision of the Pit Officer is final. No other sub-section of Rule 16.1 applies when targets are scored in the pits.

(c) When the targets are scored on the frames without pits, the challenge must be made immediately upon examination of the targets. The Range Officer will make the evaluation described in Rule 9.45. Decision of the Range Officer is final.

(d) When targets are scored in the Statistical Office, the challenge must be made within a time limit which shall be stated in the program or published by bulletin board notice. The re-check of the target concerned will be made by the Chief Statistical Officer if he has not previously scored or checked the target, or by the Official Referee, Jury (or the Supervisor), in that order. Decision of the official making this check is final.

(e) The Match Director may at his discretion recheck any competitor's target or scorecard by an administrative challenge. Such challenge must be made within the posted challenge period and checked by the Official Referee or Jury.

(f) Competitors must immediately challenge the scoring of any shot on which they disagree with the target marker. It is the duty of the Range Officer to accept the challenge; collect the fee without comment; direct that no further shots be fired by the competitor until the challenge has been decided; personally telephone the Pit Officer and remain at the firing point until the correct value is signaled from the pit. The Pit Officer shall examine the challenged target carefully, scrutinizing all lines, figures, and wrinkles to locate possible undetected hits using a magnifying glass and/or scoring gauge to detect close doubles, and a scoring gauge as appropriate to resolve close scoring values, before signaling results found. The Pit Officer's decision is final. If the competitor's challenge is sustained, the challenge fee will be returned immediately; otherwise, it is forfeited and turned over to the Statistical Office.

16.2 Protests— A competitor may formally protest:

(a) Any injustice which he feels has been done him 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) The score that a competitor has received.

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

(a) State the complaint orally to the Chief Range (Chief Statistical) Officer. If not satisfied with his decision then,

(b) State the complaint orally to the Official Referee, Jury Chairman or Supervisor. If not satisfied with his decision then,

(c) File a formal protest in writing with the Official Referee, Jury Chairman or Supervisor 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 Official Referee, Jury Chairman or Supervisor will then forward the protest with a complete statement of facts within 48 hours of receipt thereof to the Protest Committee at NRA Headquarters.

18. COMPETITORS' DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

Note: The following competitors' duties are in addition to those specified elsewhere throughout these Rules.

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

18.2 Knowledge of Program—It is the competitor's responsibility to be familiar with the program. Officials cannot be held responsible for a competitor's failure to obtain and familiarize himself with the program.

18.3 Eligibility—It is the competitor's duty to enter only those events for which he is eligible and to enter himself in the proper classification.

18.4 Blank

18.5 Individual Entries—In individual matches it is the duty of the competitor to make his own entries on the forms and in the manner prescribed for that tournament. Errors due to illegibility or improper filling out of forms are solely the competitor's responsibility. The Statistical Office is not required to accept correction after entry closing time.

18.6 Squadding Tickets—It is the competitor's duty to secure his squadding ticket for each match (or to consult the squadding bulletin)in ample time to permit reporting at the proper time and place to fire each match. It is not the duty of officials to page competitors in order to get them on the firing line. Competitors, upon receipt of squadding tickets, should inspect them for correctness of competitor's number and non-interference in squadding assignment. Errors should be reported immediately to Statistical Officer.

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

18.8 Timing—Time for the firing of a string (within the official time limit) is the competitor's responsibility. Range Officers will not announce the time during the firing, but if requested will give the competitor information as to remaining time.

18.9 Loading—No competitor will load a rifle except at the firing point and after command has been given by the Range Officer.

18.10 Cease Firing—All rifles will be unloaded and detachable magazines removed after command has been given by the Range Officer.

18.11 Checking Scores—It is the duty of all individual competitors to check the shot value and the total score on their score card at the conclusion of each match. In Team Matches, the Team Captain must check and sign score cards. Failure to sign a score card before leaving the firing line results in the loss of both the challenge and protest privilege. (For procedures on challenges and protests, see Rule 16).

18.12 Clearing the Firing Point—It is the competitor's duty to leave the firing point promptly at the conclusion of his relay. When leaving the firing point, rifles must be unloaded and actions open. An Empty Chamber Indicator will be in place.

18.13 Checking Bulletin Board—Competitors must promptly check the Preliminary Bulletin Board between matches and call attention to errors within the time specified at that tournament. Failure to check scores within the time limit results in the penalty of losing the privilege of any further challenge. (For procedures on challenges, see Rule 16).

18.14 Score Cards Must Be Signed—When targets are scored in the pits or on frames, after the score card is signed by the Scorer (Rule 9.42), the competitor (Team Captain in team matches) checks the values of shots and the totals as recorded, and signs the card. If he leaves the firing line without so signing, he is allowed no challenge or protest for that match. If he wishes to protest, he writes "protested" on the score card above his signature.

18.15 Responsibility—It shall be the competitor's responsibility:

(a) That all equipment meets all rules and match specifications in any match in which that equipment is to be used.

(b) That competitor's position conforms to the rules.

(c) That competitor has full knowledge of the rules under which the match is fired.

(d) That after due warning on any infraction of existing rules, at competitor shall understand a repetition thereof shall be the subject of disqualification for that match or tournament.

(e) It is the competitor's responsibility to perform scoring and/or target pulling duties if assigned. If any competitor, or his substitute, fails to perform his squadded assignment for scoring and/or pulling targets, that competitor may be disqualified from the entire tournament.

(f) When targets are framed by the competitor it is the competitor's responsibility that the correct target is framed for the range and event being fired.

(g) To insure that his target is not altered intentionally or with special marks which benefit him in any way. Scores fired on such targets will not be scored.

19. NATIONAL HIGH POWER SPORTING RIFLE CLASSIFICATION

19.1 Classified Competitors—Classified competitors are all individuals who are officially classified by the NRA for High Power Sporting Rifle competition, or who have a record of scores fired over courses of fire used for classification (See Rule 19.4) which have been recorded in a Score Record Book.

19.2Unclassified Competitor—An unclassified competitor is a competitor who does not have a current NRA High Power Sporting Rifle classification, either regular or temporary by Score Record Book (Rule 19.14), nor an "Assigned Classification"(Rule 19.6). Such competitor shall compete in the Master Class.

19.3 & 19.4 Blank

19.5 Courses of Fire Used for High Power Sporting Rifle Classification—The High Power Sporting Rifle Match Course as described in Rule 7.14 or any aggregate of the courses described in Rules 7.1-7.14 which contains an equal distribution of shots from the four stages.

19.6 Assigned Classification—A competitor who has no NRA High Power Sporting Rifle classification, either regular or temporary by Score Record Book (Rule 19.14), but who has an NRA classification in one or more of the High Power, Smallbore or International Rifle categories, will be given an "Assigned Classification" corresponding to his highest in those categories. This "Assigned Classification" will apply until superseded by a temporary or regular classification.

19.7 Lack of Classification Evidence—It is the competitor's responsibility to have his NRA official classification card or Score Record Book with required scores for temporary classification (see Rules 19.1 and 19.14) and to present such classification evidence when required. Any competitor who cannot present such evidence will fire in the Master Class. A competitor's classification will not change during a tournament. A competitor will enter a tournament under his correct classification and fire the entire tournament in that class. Should it be discovered during a tournament that a competitor has entered in a classification lower than his current rating, the tournament records will be corrected to show the correct classification for the entire tournament.

19.8 Competing in a Higher Class—Any individual or team may elect, before firing, to compete in a higher classification (except High Master) than the one in which classified. Such individual or team must fire in the higher class throughout the tournament.

When there are insufficient entries in any class to warrant an award in that class according to the match program conditions, the individual or team concerned may be moved by the Tournament Match Director to a higher class provided this change is made prior to the individual or team concerned having commenced firing in the tournament.

19.9 Obsolete Classifications and Scores—All classifications and scores (including temporary, Rule 19.14) except Master, shall become obsolete if the competitor does not fire in NRA competition at least once during 3 successive calendar years. Master classifications and scores shall become obsolete if the competitor does not fire in NRA competition at least once during 5 successive calendar years.

19.10 Appeals—Any competitor having reason to believe that he is improperly classified may file an appeal with the NRA stating all essential facts. Such appeals will be reviewed by the NRA Protest Committee.

19.11 Protests—Any person who believes that another competitor has been improperly classified may file a protest with the NRA stating all essential facts. Such protests will be reviewed by the NRA Protest Committee.

19.12 Blank

19.13 Reporting Scores—NRA competition (see Rule 1.6) sponsors will report to the NRA all match scores fired over the courses stated in Rule 19.5. Scores from all tournaments and sanctioned leagues will be reported by each sponsor no more than 30 days following completion of the tournament firing schedule.

19.14 Score Record Book—(Temporary Classification)-A competitor who does not have a regular NRA High Power Sporting Rifle classification will obtain an NRA "Score Record Book" from the Official Referee, Supervisor, or Tournament Statistical Office, or from the Secretary of a sanctioned league, in which he will enter all his High Power Sporting Rifle scores fired in NRA sanctioned individual and team competition of the types defined in Rule 1.6 subparagraphs (c) through (h) inclusive. The total of all scores so recorded, divided by the number of 10-shot strings represented, will be the competitor's average for temporary classification in accordance with the table in Rule 19.15. Scores from at least one complete tournament (Rule 1.1) or league match (Rule 1.6(h)) are required in order to establish an initial temporary classification. The Score Record Book and any such temporary classification are superseded when the competitor's regular classification becomes effective.

19.15 Individual Class Averages—Competitors are classified or reclassified on the bases of scores fired as specified in Rule 19.5, expressed as average scores for a 32-shot course. The table below shows the scores corresponding to each classification.

	Avg. Score/320	*Percent of Possible*
Master	300 to 320	93.75%
Expert	284 to 299	88.75%
Sharpshooter	268 to 283	83.75%
Marksman	Below 268	Below 83.75

19.16 Establishing Classification—A competitor will be classified when his scores for not less than 64 shots have been reported as prescribed, except that classification will not include tournament or league scores until after all scores for the tournament or league concerned have been reported. When his classification is assigned, he will be furnished an official classification card showing the effective date.

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

(a) NRA Headquarters will record all scores which qualify for classification purposes according to Rule 19.4.

(b) A competitor will be considered for reclassification upward when his most recently recorded scores, for not less than 96 shots, fired subsequent to the tournament date at which he earned his current classification, have been recorded as prescribed, except that such consideration will not include tournament or league scores until after all scores for the tournament or league competition concerned have been recorded. If his average score so justifies, he will be reclassified upward accordingly.

(c) A competitor will be reclassified downward only upon a written request by him to the NRA, and only on the basis of at least 160 shots recorded as prescribed, fired subsequent to the effective date of his current classification. If his average on this basis so justifies, he will be reclassified downward accordingly.

(d) If after reclassification downward, a competitor regains the classification thus vacated, he will not again be reclassified below the latter.

(e) A reclassified competitor will be provided a new Classification Card showing the effective date.

21. NRA COMPETITION PROGRAMS

Tournament programs must describe the conditions of the match, the positions, rifles, caliber of rifles, ammunition, targets, ranges, and should cover all the following points:

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

TOURNAMENT DATE(S):
Date or dates of tournament.

SPONSORING ORGANIZATION:
Name of Affiliated Club or Association.

FOR INFORMATION CONCERNING THE TOURNAMENT WRITE TO:
Give name and complete address as you want it listed in "Coming Events" Notice.

DIRECTIONS TO RANGE:
List directions clearly.

RULES:
State any additional rules required by the conditions of the competition concerned. Where NRA Rules show alternative conditions, the least restrictive apply unless the program sets forth limitations.

COMPETITION OPEN TO:
State the restrictions, if any, on entries. See Rules 1.7(c) and 1.7(e).

REGISTRATION FEE:
List amount of tournament registration fee to be charged each competitor and what it entitles him to such as brassard, competitor number badge, etc., and a copy of the Official Bulletin.

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

ENTRY FEE:
State amount per match (team and individual).

ENTRIES CLOSE:
State date and time.

POST ENTRIES:
Show that post entries will or will not be accepted, closing time and fee.

ENTRY LIMIT:
State number of entries that will be accepted.

FIRING STARTS:
State the hour that the first relay of the first match will begin each day.

CLASSIFICATION OF COMPETITORS:
If classes are to be combined, list details.

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

MATCH SCHEDULE AND CONDITIONS:
Give complete details on courses of fire, types of sights, rifle, calibers, etc.

GENERAL INFORMATION:
List eating facilities, housing facilities, etc.

Note: Changing Match Conditions–The Match Director may change match conditions shown by the program in special circumstances. See Rules 11.1 and 18.13.

APPENDIX GENERAL REGULATIONS FOR NRA SANCTIONED TOURNAMENTS

Tournament sponsors must follow these Regulations as directed by Rule 1.4. They provide standard procedures required for the sanctioning of NRA Tournaments, establishing of fee structures, awards, reporting, cancellation, NRA membership requirements, and other items involved with NRA Sanctioned Tournaments, both Registered and Approved. These Regulations do not apply to Silhouette, or Action Shooting competitions, which have their own General Regulations.

These Regulations supersede all previous editions and will remain in effect until specifically superseded.

GENERAL REGULATIONS GOVERNING NRA APPROVED TOURNAMENTS

1. Sanction of NRA Approved Tournament(s): To obtain approval of tournaments, the following steps must be taken by the sponsoring organization in advance of the tournament date.

(a) Send NRA your completed applications and draft copies of your completed programs, BOTH IN DUPLICATE, a minimum of 30 days in advance of the tournament date.

(b) If the above in not done, the NRA reserves the right to cancel its sanction of the tournament.

(c) In order to be listed once in the Coming Events section of Shooting Sports USA, your application and programs must be sanctioned by the Competitions Division by the 15th of the month, three months before the month of issue. If you desire publicity in more than one issue (up to a maximum of 10 months), an additional month's notice must be allowed for each monthly listing.

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

3. Tournament Cancellation: If a tournament is canceled, NRA must be notified immediately.

4. Classification of Competitors: The NRA Classification System may be used, but is not required.

5. Courses of Fire in Approved Tournaments for Classification Use: Courses of fire which may be used for classification are listed in Rule 19.4. It is not required that these specific courses of fire be used in Approved Tournaments, but, if the scores are to be used for classification, they must be used.

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

7. Entry Fees:

(a) NRA Registration Fee: A fee of $4.50 per competitor is charged by NRA for Approved Tournaments.

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

8. Tournament Officials as Competitors: All Officials of an NRA Approved Tournament (except Supervisors) may compete in that tournament.

9. Official Supervisor: The Official Supervisor may NOT compete in the Tournament in which he has agreed to act as Supervisor. See Rule 11.3.

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

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

(a) An SR-1 card for each competitor showing the total number of shots fired in individual matches and a total score; the total number of shots fired in fired team matches, and the total score of the fired team match(es). The NRA membership ID number must be indicated on each card for classified competitors and NRA members who are not yet classified. Score Reporting cards are available free of charge upon request in packs of 50.

(b) A registration fee reporting form, and remittance of $4.50 per competitor.

(c) A copy of any Match Director's Bulletins.

GLOSSARY

Rifle shooting, like other sports, has its own "language" technical terms, slang, and idioms. Many of the words and expressions used in these Official Regulations are defined as a part of the Rules. The following "definitions" (or more properly, "explanations") are given for the benefit of the tyro to give him a clear understanding of the Regulations.

Alibi—A term for a refire given for rifle or ammunition malfunction.

Automatic Fire—The discharge of more than one shot by a single actuation of the trigger because of the intentional design of the firing mechanism.

Category—A grouping of individuals or teams designated by a specific title in a tournament program to establish a system of competing for awards. These groupings may be used within a classification or, in certain circumstances, instead of classification. (Example: Junior, Senior, Military, Collegiate, etc.).

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

Compensator or Muzzle Brake—A device such as an attachment at the muzzle, or pods provided near the muzzle, which release powder gases laterally or rearward in order to reduce muzzle jump or recoil.

Crossfire—Firing a shot on a target not assigned to the competitor who fired it.

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

High Power Rifle—Any center fire rifle.

Match—A complete event as indicated in the program for the award of certain specific prizes. A match may consist of one or of several stages. It may, in the case of aggregate matches, include the scores fired in several subsidiary matches.

Pair Firing—A procedure which may be used in slow fire stages of team matches whereby 2 members of a team are assigned concurrently to the same target, normally firing alternately.

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

Range Alibi—A refire given to a competitor or to an entire relay of competitors because of improper range procedure. (See Rule 10.7.1.) .....

Score—The total value of all shots credited to a competitor for any one string, stage, or match.

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

Stage—A portion of a match which consists of one or more strings fired in one position, distance, time allowance (slow or rapid fire, for example), or target.

String—A group of 10 shots fired and scored as a unit, as, for example, a rapid fire string, fired within a specified time and scored after the end of that time, rather than on a shot-by-shot basis.

Target—A surface, usually paper or tagboard, containing one or more aiming points.

Target Butts—Target butts, or, more commonly, "Butts" That part of the range where the targets are displayed for firing. The "Butts" can also be the earthen berm which protects the target pits in which the target carrier operators work and from which the targets are exposed during firing.

Target Carriers—A movable frame upon which targets are mounted, and which is capable of enough vertical (or horizontal) movement so that targets can be exposed for firing, and then can be withdrawn into the target pits for the purpose of scoring or changing targets.

Target Pits—The area in which movable target carriers are mounted, and target operators work.

"X" Ring—An inner circle placed inside the bullseye of decimal targets. This inner circle makes it possible to decide tie scores without changing the total score. The highest numerical value for a hit on an NRA High Power rifle target is 10. Consequently the inner circle placed in these targets is designated as "X" (the Roman numeral ten).

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