

# **SATRA CHAMPIONSHIP RULES**

As updated in Sept 2023

## **1 REGULATIONS**

This Championship Meeting will be conducted under the published Rules and Regulations of the SATRA, which are closely based on those of the ISSF. However, our style of multi-target shooting necessitates certain amendments as highlighted below.

It is the responsibility of every competitor to acquaint himself with the rules and amendments, which are similar to those applied over the past years.

## **2 CONTROL**

The Championship will be under the general control of a Range Jury, to whom the Council has delegated full authority for all decisions relative to the shooting.

## **3 MARKING AND STATISTICAL CONTROL:**

3.1 The Stats and marking offices are out of bounds to everyone except "staff" and Jury Members.

3.2 All statistical and marking queries must be directed to the Secretary or his assistant.

3.3 A provisional score list (by competitor number, without names) will be posted on the scoreboard immediately the marking is completed for a detail. All challenges and queries must be in the hands of the responsible officers within three hours of this notice. After three hours, no further challenges will be accepted and scores will be transcribed onto the Master Sheets. For the late details of the day, this three-hour timing will be interrupted at "ceasefire" of the last detail and will recommence at the start of the first detail the following morning. N.B. On the day of the J W Human Memorial Match, this time will be reduced to one hour in order to finalize selection of the finalists.

3.4 A competitor or team captain may challenge any provisional score upon payment of a challenge fee of R50,00. This fee will be refunded if the challenge is upheld. A single challenge will relate to all the shots in a "set" of targets (i.e. 2, 3 or 4 cards, depending on the match) that were exposed simultaneously. Any challenge of a 600 match total, or any aggregate, can only relate to a statistical error in recording or adding the scores. 3.5 Over recent years the challenging of "squeaker shots" has not been allowed in terms of the ISSF rule which does not permit the regauging of shot-holes.

However, in response to many requests from competitors and acknowledging that we have not the manpower to duplicate the marking function and also have an overriding "marking Control Jury" as specified by the ISSF, Council has decided that such challenges will again be allowed. The Challenge Officer will regauge the relevant shot holes in front of the competitor or team captain concerned.

Competitors are advised not to make frivolous challenges as the Challenge Officer is also empowered to remark the score downwards if he finds a shot on which the marker has erred in favour of the Shooter.

#### **4 SQUADDING AND TARGETS:**

- 4.1 All events will be fully squadded and competitors must shoot according to their squadding cards. Should a competitor fail to attend at the time detailed he/she will forfeit any claim on the Association with regard to such competition. Under exceptional circumstances the Range Jury may permit a change to a competitors squadding, provided such change gives no unfair benefit to the shooter concerned.
- 4.2 Competitors must collect from the Secretary's office the correct number of targets and backing sheets for the championships not later than Sunday. Competitors will be responsible for filling in the required data on the cards and placing them on the frames. Under no circumstances may a competitor touch his target, or that of another competitor, after it has been fired upon, unless detailed to do so by the Range Officer.

#### **5 RANGE CONTROL AND SAFETY:**

- 5.1 The Range will be controlled by a Chief Range Officer and one or more assistants, whose function will be to ensure the smooth running of the shooting events. The C.R.O. will be responsible for safety, range discipline and ensuring that competitors adhere to the rules.
- 5.2 Prior to the commencement of each detail, the Range Officer will announce the conditions of the shoot i.e. the number of sighting and counting shots permitted, the time limit, etc.
- 5.3 Rifle bolts must remain open at all times prior to the "Commence fire / START" order. Rifles may not be lifted into the shooting position until the Range Officer has satisfied himself that no-one is in front of the firing point and gives the "get ready" warning. 5.4 Any competitor who places a cartridge in the rifle breech before the "Commence Fire/START" instruction will be disqualified for that match and may be disqualified for the rest of the meeting irrespective of whether the breech is open or closed.
- 5.5 Periodically during the shoot, the Range Officer will announce how much time remains for that detail. He must announce half-time and when ten-minutes are left and, if he observes that one or more shooters are running tight on time, he will count off the last five minutes by minute.

#### **6 DISCIPLINARY ACTION:**

A competitor infringing any rule or is proved guilty of any dishonesty, discreditable or dangerous conduct in shooting, renders himself liable to be disqualified for the whole of the meeting and to be suspended from taking part in any further SA Target Rifle Association meetings and competitions. Any persons conniving at such conduct on the part of another competitor, or failing to report immediately to the Range Officer or Range Jury any breach of the regulations by another competitor, which is known or suspected by him, renders himself liable to similar penalties.

#### **7 TEAM SELECTIONS:**

##### **7.1 WAKEFIELD TROPHY MATCH:**

The top 10 shooters in the Prone Championship. A tie for 10th place will be counted out according to the amended tie-breaking rules.

## **8 CLASSIFICATION:**

8.1 Competitors will be classified on the scores returned during the year. Each province must keep full records of each competitive, league, club, or championship shoot. Competitors will be classified only on 50 meter scores.

8.2 At the end of each year (31st December) the grand average of each shooter will determine his/her commencing handicap for the forthcoming year. This handicap will be taken as the handicap for the National Championships.

8.3 Any shooter who has no Provincial handicap as at the 31st December, must be handicapped by his/her club.

8.4 The following figures will be the basis for classification in the prone position:

A-Class: 96.5 and upwards/ If clearing a 590 score.

B-Class: 94.0 to 96

C-Class: below 94.0

D-Class: First time shooters entering for the 22.5m competition.

F- and H-Competition:

This F- and H-Competition is reserved for shooters who are not classified according to the SATRA classification rules. As well as the disabled, elderly and visually impaired shooter. Also especially reserved for the shooter that does not use a 0.22 target rifle. Only low velocity or standard ammunition may be used. A-, B-, C- or D-Class shooters may not participate in the F- and H-Competition.

8.5 The following figures will be the basis for classification in the 3 positional event:

Men

A-Class: 540 and over

B-Class: 510 - 539

C-Class: 509 and under.

Women

A-Class: 540 and over

B-Class: 510 - 539

C-Class: 509 and under.

8.6 However, the holders of National Colours are forever classified A Class, as well as Dewar Colours holders. Ladies who have attained Randle Colours will be classified either A or B Class, likewise Junior Colours holders. These conditions are applicable to scholars as well.

8.7 In the case of any dispute over classification the decision of the Appeal Jury will be final.

8.8 Brief summary of F- and H-Competition rules.

Any licensed 0.22 long caliber rifle may be used. If rifle is equipped with a magazine, it may only be used in the single shot mode. The H-competition is reserved for rifles that are usually used for hunting purposes.

Any sights may be used - telescopes are allowed. If a shooting jacket is used, no other means of support will be allowed.

## **The following rules are adopted from the NRA rules:**

The rifle's overall weight, including all attachments such as sights and bipod, must not exceed 8.25 kilograms (approximately 18.18 pounds). An "attachment" also includes any external object, other than the competitor and apparel, which recoils or partially recoils with the rifle, or which is clamped, held, or joined in any way to the rifle for each shot, or which even slightly raises with the firing of the rifle from the rests).

No portion of the rifle's butt or for end shall rest directly on the ground or any hard surface. A rear rabbit eared bag, small sandbag or a gloved hand may be used to support the rifle's butt. Any rear support employed shall not be attached, clamped or held to the rifle in any manner. The rear support may not be fixed to or protrude into the firing point. Mechanically adjustable rear support is not allowed.

The bipod and rear rest may be adjusted after any shot to compensate for rest movement or settling.

When no shooting jacket is used, only a front support conforming to the three-positional kneeling roll specifications may be used, i.e., an 18 cm in diameter cylindrically shaped roll made of soft and flexible material with a maximum length of 25 cm. Bipods may also be used as a front support, but must conform to the following specifications:- (i) The material may not exceed 25 mm in diameter or square. (ii) At the base end the width may not exceed 250 mm. (iii) It must be in the form of an A-frame and attached at the apex to the rifle. The rear part of the butt may not be supported on a solid surface or the ground, it must be supported by the shooter's hand and/or shoulder. No glove or hand protection may be used. No height adjustments may be made by any device whatsoever. You may only use your hand under the stock/butt to adjust the height (elevation). If such a device does exist, it must be welded or glued before the competition to prevent any adjustments.

No suppressors, moderators or silencers are allowed.

Each match will consist of 60 shots plus sighters.

Ammunition is restricted to standard velocity or subsonic velocity lead point ammunition. No copper sheathed, no high or ultrahigh velocity ammunition is allowed. Non-compliance will lead to disqualification.

The F- and H-Competition is not an ISSF event and therefore will not be considered as part of the Prone Open Class Matrix or for any of the team events, such as the Postal Matches, J W Human Memorial Match, Inter-provincial Matches or Inter-club Matches. F- and H-Competition shooters may not compete against Open Class shooters in any way whatsoever.

Count outs on X's

## 9 SPECIAL RULES FOR THE SOUTH AFRICAN CHAMPIONSHIPS

As the SATRA rules (as published in the yellow covered booklet) are based on the ISSF style of “single diagram, single shot per diagram” shooting, the use of 5 diagram targets necessitates certain amendments relative to scoring, sighting shots, misses, crossfires and tiebreaking. The following rules will thus apply during this meeting:-

### 9.1 SCORING

On the 5-diagram targets, the top two scoring diagrams will be scored as one “card” and the bottom two on that target as the next “card”. Where the match consists of 4 or 6 “cards” the onus will be on the shooter to clearly mark his targets so that scores can be recorded in the correct sequence. As this sequence will be used for tiebreaking, targets that are unmarked will have their scores recorded in descending order, with the highest card score entered as “card number one”, the next highest score as “card number two” and so on.

### 9.2 SIGHTING SHOTS

In each event a specific number of sighting shots will be allowed. (The actual number will be published in the programme and announced by the Range Officer prior to the commencement of the match). These sighters may be fired, on the appropriate diagram/s, at any time during the match.

N.B. This rule does not apply to the final stage of the J W Human Memorial Trophy match, where no further sighters may be fired once a shooter commences his counting shots.

### 9.3 MISSES AND CROSSFIRES

Other than a “declared” first sighting shot, any shot that falls below the line on the target separating the sighting from the counting diagrams will be regarded as a counting shot and, if outside the scoring rings, will be scored as a miss. If a shooter's first sighting shot of a match (or stage) falls below this line or strikes a neighbor's target, it will be recognized as a sighting shot and will not be penalized, provided the shooter immediately advises the Range Officer, who must verify the value and position of the shot-hole with a telescope, so that the specific shot-hole can be identified for “Stats”.

As the backing sheet enables Stats to identify cross fired shots, shooters will be credited with the value of their own shots on neighbor's counting diagrams less a two-point penalty for each shot cross fired. Shots on the wrong counting diagram of a shooter's own targets (i.e. more than 5-shots on a diagram) will be considered as crossfires and will be penalized from the second offence onwards in any one competition (i.e. no penalty for first crossfire). Cross-fired sighting shots onto the sighting diagram a neighbor's targets will not be penalized but the recipient of such a crossfire, if he is unsure which shot/s are not his, may request, from the Range Officer that he be allowed one additional sighting shot. The Range Officer will use his discretion in permitting this extra sighter.

If a shooter fires more than the total number of sighting and counting shots combined, that are allowed for in the conditions of the match, each additional shot will be penalized by 2 points. If a shooter fires more than the requisite number of shots onto the scoring diagrams (including any shot/s that he has cross-fired), the best shots in excess of the number required will be deducted and each excessive shot will be penalized by 2 points (in addition to any possible penalty for cross-firing).

If a shooter fires less than the requisite number of shots onto counting diagrams and a correspondingly greater number onto the sighting diagrams, the worst shot/s on any of his sighting diagrams of that set of targets will be taken as counting shots to make up the required number of counters. Again, there will be a two-point penalty for each such wrongly-fired shot.

N.B. The minimum score for any single shot is "0" therefore a cross fired shot that strikes the "1" ring will only be penalized one point and a cross-fired miss will not be penalized additionally above the loss of the 10 points for a miss.

#### **9.4 TIEBREAKING**

Because of the volume of work that already has to be handled by the small band of volunteers in Stats and the extreme difficulty of accurately counting "inner-bulls" when there are 5 shots on a diagram, it has been decided to revert to the old tie rules.

##### Single Matches

Ranking will be determined by the highest score on the last card (string of 10 shots), then the next-to-last, working backwards by 10-shot series until the tie is broken. In the unlikely event of there still being a tie, inner-bulls (cartons) will be counted on all the cards in the match and the winner will be the shooter with the greatest number of cartons.

##### Daily Aggregates - Prone

Placings will be determined by the highest score in the last complete match fired. If still a tie, count back by 10-shot strings, from last to first, through all the day's cards, if necessary.

##### Prone Championship

Ties in the Prone Championship will be counted out by applying the following tie-breakers in this order:

- a) Totals for each of the five individual matches in order from last fired to first.
- b) If still a tie, by counting backwards by 10-shot strings as far as is necessary, through all the prone matches.

Ties in the Lemmer and Paul Kruger Trophies will be determined by the highest score in the Prone Championship and, if still a tie, by the Prone championship count-out procedure detailed above.