



IPRF General Rules

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1. STANDARDS AND PRINCIPALS

Precision Rifle competitions are designed to test a shooter's ability to shoot accurately at long range, correct for environmental factors effectively, and solve problems within a prescribed limited amount of time.

A high level of professionalism and sportsmanship is expected at each Precision Rifle event, and all participants, including Match Directors, Range Officers, Safety Officers, Competitors, and Spectators will be treated with the utmost respect at all times.

The safe, responsible, legal and ethical handling of firearms is at all times paramount to all aspects of Precision Rifle sport.

The IPRF, its Member Nations, and their members and athletes, shall at all times;

- not discriminate, nor support those that discriminate against others whether that discrimination be against; race, color, sex, sexual orientation, language, religion, belief, political, social or other.
- promote the safe, legal and ethical handling of firearms. Where any uncertainty exists, the IPRF and its recognised National Bodies shall engage and work with the relevant authorities to remove such uncertainty in an effort to define acceptable rules, regulations, procedures and policies for the promotion of precision rifle sport.

Interpretation of Rules

- 1.1. Interpretation of these rules and regulations is the responsibility of the IPRF Council.
- 1.2. Persons seeking clarification of any rule are required to submit their questions in writing by email to IPRF Council, via the IPRF Secretary General.
- 1.3. All rule interpretations published on the IPRF website will be deemed to be precedents and will be applied to all IPRF sanctioned matches commencing after the date of publication.
 - 1.3.1. All such interpretations are subject to ratification or modification at the next IPRF Annual General Meeting.

2. DISCLAIMER

Competitors and all other persons in attendance at an IPRF match are wholly, solely and personally responsible to ensure that all and any equipment which they bring to the match is fully in compliance with all laws applicable to the geographical or political area where the match is being held. Neither IPRF nor any IPRF Officers, nor any organization affiliated to IPRF nor any of their officers accepts any responsibility whatsoever in this regard, nor in respect of any loss, damage, accident, injury or death suffered by any person or entity as a result of the lawful or unlawful use of any such equipment.

3. MATCH OVERVIEW AND INFORMATION

3.1. GENERAL DEFINITIONS

The following definitions are used for clarity:

- 3.1.1. Match – Consists of a minimum number of stages and targets, where the total sum of individual stage results are accumulated to rank the results and declare a winner.
- 3.1.2. Series or League – Consists of two or more related IPRF matches held at different locations and on different dates. The total sum of match results attained by each competitor at component matches specified by the Series/League organizers will be accumulated to determine a Series/League winner.
- 3.1.3. Stage – A portion of a match containing one Course Of Fire and related supporting facilities, amenities, shelter and signage.
- 3.1.4. Course Of Fire ("COF") – A separately scored and timed (if applicable) shooting challenge, conceptualized and constructed in accordance with IPRF principles of course design, containing targets and challenges which each competitor must safely negotiate.

3.2. SANCTIONED MATCHES

- 3.2.1. Match Organizers must be registered with their IPRF recognised National Body.
- 3.2.2. Match Organizers wishing to receive IPRF sanctioning must comply with the general principles of course design and construction as well as all other current IPRF Rules and Regulations. Courses of fire that do not comply with these requirements will not be sanctioned, and must not be published as IPRF sanctioned matches or events.
- 3.2.3. An IPRF recognised body may withdraw IPRF sanctioning from a match if, in their opinion, a match or any component part thereof:
 - 3.2.3.1. Contravenes the purpose or spirit of the principles of course design; or
 - 3.2.3.2. Has been constructed at significant variance to the sanctioned design guidelines; or
 - 3.2.3.3. Is in breach of any current IPRF or National Body Rules; or
 - 3.2.3.4. Is likely to bring the sport of IPRF shooting into disrepute.

3.3. MATCH STATUS

- 3.3.1. Match Organizers seeking to obtain IPRF Status for their events are required to submit an application to their National Body. Such application shall be in writing, giving such details of the event as may be required.
 - 3.3.1.1. National Bodies may delegate this responsibility to Provincial or District Bodies as the case may be.
- 3.3.2. It is the responsibility of that Body to investigate each application, to assess the standard of the proposed event, to ascertain full details of the matches proposed and to ensure that the venue, infra-structure and equipment is up to the standard required for such an event.

- 3.3.3. In the case of International Matches;
 - 3.3.3.1. Having satisfied itself as to the overall standard of the event and the appropriateness of its date and venue, the National Body shall submit to the IPRF Council for approval the original application, together with its supporting recommendations.
 - 3.3.3.2. Should a National Body not recommend that International Status be accorded to an event, then that National Body shall report to the IPRF Council that such status has been applied for by the Organising Committee concerned and its reason for not recommending that such status be granted.
 - 3.3.3.3. The IPRF Council may require additional information regarding the proposed event such as details of facilities for competitors, spectators, accommodation, prize money and sponsors requirements.
- 3.3.4. A National Body affiliated to IPRF cannot actively or passively sanction a shooting match of any type or format within the geographical boundaries of another National Body without the advance and written approval of that National Body where the match is to be held.

3.4. MATCH DIVISIONS

- 3.4.1. Each match must recognize at least one Division.
- 3.4.2. Divisions recognize different Rifles, Equipment and Age Groups.
- 3.4.3. Where multiple Divisions are available in a match, each Division must be scored independently, and match results recognize a winner in each Division.
- 3.4.4. In IPRF Continental, Regional and World Championships Matches, the minimum number of starting competitors in a Division must be met for it to be recognised.
- 3.4.5. Prior to the commencement of a match, each competitor must declare one Division for score, and Match Officials should check competitor equipment compliance with the declared Division, prior to the competitor making an attempt at any of the courses of fire. This is a service to assist competitors verify that their equipment, in the configuration as presented, is in compliance with their declared Division.
 - 3.4.5.1. If a competitor disagrees with an equipment compliance ruling, the onus is upon him/her, prior to their attempting any Courses Of Fire, to provide evidence acceptable to the examiner in support of his claim. In the absence or rejection of such evidence, the original decision will stand, subject only to appeal to the Match Director, whose decision is final.
 - 3.4.5.2. The competitor's Rifle and all allowed equipment accessible to them during a Course Of Fire are subject to compliance testing, if requested by a Match Official.
- 3.4.6. Where a Division is unavailable or removed, or where a competitor fails to declare a specific Division prior to the commencement of a match, the competitor will be placed in the Division which, in the opinion of the Match Director, most closely identifies with the competitor and their equipment.
 - 3.4.6.1. If, in the opinion of the Match Director, no suitable Division is available, the competitor, at the discretion of the Match Director, may shoot the match for no score.

- 3.4.7. A competitor who is classified or reclassified as above must be notified as soon as possible. The Match Director's decision on these matters is final.
- 3.4.8. A match disqualification incurred by a competitor, at any time during a match, will prevent the competitor from further participation in the match.

3.5. COURSE CONSTRUCTION

- 3.5.1. Safety considerations in the design, physical construction, and stated requirements for any Course Of Fire are the responsibility of the Match Director.
- 3.5.2. Every reasonable effort must be made to prevent injury to competitors, officials and spectators during the match. Course design should prevent inadvertent unsafe actions.
- 3.5.3. Courses Of Fire must always be designed considering Safe Angles Of Fire.
 - 3.5.3.1. Unless otherwise specified, the default maximum horizontal muzzle angle is measured from the shooting position(s) to; 30 degrees to the left of the left most target, and 30 degrees to the right of the right most target.
See Match Director Guidelines for further information and best practises.
- 3.5.4. Consideration must be given to the operation of any Course Of Fire to provide suitable access for officials supervising the competitors (where applicable).
- 3.5.5. Courses of fire where multiple competitors are required to fire simultaneously from a common firing line (e.g. Shoot-Off), must provide a minimum of 2 meters of free space between each competitor.

3.6. TARGET CONSTRUCTION

- 3.6.1. Targets must;
 - 3.6.1.1. be constructed of suitably hard steel such as AR500 Steel, Hardox, Armox, etc.
 - 3.6.1.2. be of suitable size for:
 - 3.6.1.2.1. the level/standard of competition, and
 - 3.6.1.2.2. shooting position, and
 - 3.6.1.2.3. stage time constraints, and
 - 3.6.1.2.4. expected wind or weather conditions.
 - 3.6.1.3. deflect impacts down towards the ground.
- 3.6.2. Target Frames and Stands must be designed with sufficient strength and durability in order to present the target in a consistent manner for all competitors.
- 3.6.3. Any target past 550 meters must be reactive (ie. Visibly Swing/Move on impact) and must have two spotters observing the target.
- 3.6.4. Any target past 750 meters should, if possible, have a supplemental hit indicator such as a flash or a camera system.

3.7. SAFETY AREAS

- 3.7.1. The host organization is responsible for the construction and placement of a sufficient number of Safety Areas for the match. They should be either;
 - 3.7.1.1. be conveniently placed and easily identified with signs, or
 - 3.7.1.2. each Range Officer at each Stage must identify the Safety Area, and indicate the Safe Direction to each squad of competitors on their arrival at the Stage.
- 3.7.2. Competitors are permitted to use Safety Areas unsupervised for the activities stated below provided they remain within the boundaries of the Safety Area and the firearm is pointed in a safe direction. Violations may be subject to disqualification.
 - 3.7.2.1. Casing, uncasing unloaded firearms.
 - 3.7.2.2. Conduct inspections, stripping, cleaning, repairs and maintenance of firearms, component parts and other accessories.

3.8. TEST FIRING / SIGHTING-IN BAY

- 3.8.1. A zero range with targets at 100m and 100y must be available.
 - 3.8.1.1. The zero range must always be operated under the supervision and control of a Range Officer.
- 3.8.2. A suitable range with targets to confirm Trajectory Data to beyond that of the maximum target range at the competition is recommended at National and above level matches.
- 3.8.3. Competitors may test the operation of their firearm and ammunition, subject to all existing safety rules and any time limits or other restrictions imposed by a Range Officer.

3.9. MATCH INFORMATION

- 3.9.1. The competitor is always responsible to safely complete a Course Of Fire but can only reasonably be expected to do so after verbally or physically receiving the written stage briefing, which must adequately explain the requirements to the competitors.
- 3.9.2. All competitors must be provided with the same Match information, within the same notice period, in advance of the match. The information may be provided by physical or electronic means, or by reference to a website.
- 3.9.3. A Match Book, describing each Course Of Fire, must be available at all National, International and World Championship matches.
- 3.9.4. If a Match Book is provided before a match, it must not be published so far in advance that any competitor may practice, or gain advantage over other competitors not able to do the same.

3.10. COMPETITOR SCHEDULING AND SQUADDING

- 3.10.1. Competitors must compete for score according to the published match and squadding schedule. A competitor who is not present at the scheduled time and date for any stage may not attempt that stage without the prior approval of the Match Director, failing which the competitor's score for that stage will be zero.
- 3.10.2. A Match will be deemed to have started on the first day that competitors (including those specified above) shoot for score and will be deemed to have ended when the results have been declared final by the Match Director.

3.11. STAGE BRIEFINGS

- 3.11.1. A stage briefing consistent with these rules and approved by the Match Director must be available at each Stage prior to commencement of the Stage. This briefing will take precedence over any Course Of Fire information published or otherwise communicated to competitors in advance of the match, and it must provide the following minimum information:
- Targets (type, number, distance (if applicable));
 - Minimum number of rounds;
 - The rifle ready condition;
 - Start position;
 - Time starts: audible or visual signal;
 - Procedure;
 - Any specific safety considerations.
- 3.11.2. The Range Officer in charge of a Course Of Fire must read out the written stage briefing verbatim to each squad. The Range Officer may visually demonstrate the acceptable Start Position and Gun Ready Condition.
- 3.11.3. The Match Director may modify a written stage briefing at any time for reasons of clarity, consistency or safety.
- 3.11.4. After the written stage briefing has been read to competitors, and questions arising therefrom have been answered, competitors may be permitted to conduct an orderly inspection ("walkthrough") of the Course Of Fire. The duration of time for the inspection must be stipulated by the Match Director, and it should be the same for all squads.
- 3.11.4.1. The Inspection Time should be no longer than 5 minutes, and no less than 1 minute per squad.
- 3.11.4.1.1. If no time is specified by the Match Director, then the Inspection Time shall be five (5) minutes per squad.
- 3.11.4.2. If the Course Of Fire includes moving targets, props, barricades or similar items, these should be demonstrated to all competitors for the same duration and frequency.
- 3.11.4.3. The Exception to this is a 'Blind Course Of Fire', where competitors will not be permitted to inspect the stage and/or targets.

3.12. MODIFICATIONS TO COURSE CONSTRUCTION

- 3.12.1. Match Officials may, for any reason, modify the physical construction or procedure for a Course Of Fire, provided that such changes are approved in advance by the Match Director. Any such physical changes or additions to a published Course Of Fire should be completed before the stage begins.
- 3.12.2. All competitors must be notified of any such changes as soon as possible. As a minimum, they must be notified by the Range Officer in charge of the Course Of Fire during the squad briefing.
- 3.12.3. If the Match Director approves any such action after the match begins he must either:
- 3.12.3.1. Allow the Course Of Fire to continue with the modification affecting only those competitors who have not already completed the stage. If a competitor's actions caused the change, that competitor must be required to reshoot the revised Course Of Fire, or
 - 3.12.3.2. If possible, require all competitors to complete the Course Of Fire as revised with all previous attempts removed from the match results, or

- 3.12.3.3. In the case of a single target failure; If it is possible to accurately remove that single target from the recorded scores of previous competitors, then the stage may continue without that target and previous scores need to be adjusted accordingly. Should the target be removed, then the stage time must be adjusted by the ratio of targets/engagements on the stage.
- 3.12.3.4. A competitor who refuses to reshoot a Course Of Fire, when so ordered by a Range Officer, will receive a zero score for that stage, irrespective of any previous attempt.
- 3.12.4. If the Match Director determines that the physical or procedural change results in a loss of competitive equity and it is impossible for all competitors to attempt the revised stage, or if the stage has been rendered unsuitable or unworkable for any reason, that stage and all associated competitor scores must be removed from the match.
- 3.12.5. A competitor who incurred a disqualification in a stage which is subsequently removed, may be entitled to reinstatement, subject to;
 - 3.12.5.1. If the Match Director deems that the disqualification was directly attributable to the reasons for the stage being removed, and
 - 3.12.5.2. If there is sufficient time for the competitor to reasonably and safely complete any uncompleted stages.
- 3.12.6. If the Match Director deems that climatic or other conditions have, or are likely to, seriously affect the safety and/or conduct of a match, he/she may order that all shooting activities be suspended, until a "resume shooting" directive is issued.

3.13. RANGE EQUIPMENT FAILURE AND OTHER ISSUES

- 3.13.1. Range equipment must present the challenge fairly and equitably to all competitors.
- 3.13.2. Range equipment failure includes, but is not limited to;
 - 3.13.2.1. the failure of targets or target stands, or
 - 3.13.2.2. the premature activation or inaction of moving targets, or
 - 3.13.2.3. the malfunction of mechanically or electrically operated equipment, or
 - 3.13.2.4. the failure of props such as barricades openings, ports, and barriers.
- 3.13.3. A competitor who is unable to complete a Course Of Fire due to range equipment failure, must be required to reshoot the Course Of Fire after corrective actions have been taken.
 - 3.13.3.1. If a Match Director deems that one or more targets in a Course Of Fire are faulty and/or have been presented in a manner significantly different to earlier presentations, he may offer a reshoot to the affected competitor(s).
- 3.13.4. Chronic malfunction of equipment in a Course Of Fire may result in the removal of that stage from the match results.

4. COMPETITOR RESPONSIBILITY & EQUIPMENT

4.1. MEMBERSHIP

- 4.1.1. Competitors at IPRF Regional and World Championship recognised matches must hold membership in their affiliated IPRF National Body and be resident to that nation.

4.2. RESPONSIBILITY

- 4.2.1. Each Competitor is solely responsible for ensuring that he/she fully understands the IPRF and Match Rules as well as the Course Of Fire prior to starting the stage.

4.3. FIREARMS

- 4.3.1. Firearms are regulated by the requirements and constraints of the Division an athlete chooses to shoot within.
- 4.3.2. Firearms must be serviceable and safe.
 - 4.3.2.1. Range Officers may demand examination of a competitor's firearm or allied equipment, at any time, to check they are functioning safely.
 - 4.3.2.2. Match Directors may require a simple Rifle Drop test to ascertain that a competitor's rifle and trigger are in safe working order.
 - 4.3.2.3. Triggers and/or trigger shoes that extend beyond the width of the trigger guard are expressly prohibited.
 - 4.3.2.4. If any firearm or item of gear is declared unserviceable or unsafe by the Match Director or a Range Officer, it must be withdrawn from the match until the item is repaired to the satisfaction of the Match Director.
- 4.3.3. Competitors must use the same Firearm and Optic for all courses of fire in a Match.
 - 4.3.3.1. In the event that a competitor's original firearm and/or optic becomes unserviceable or unsafe during a match, the competitor must, before using a substitute firearm and/or optic, seek permission from the Match Director who may approve the substitution provided he is satisfied:
 - 4.3.3.1.1. The substitute firearm satisfies the requirements of the Division that the competitor is competing within; and
 - 4.3.3.1.2. In using the substitute firearm the competitor will not gain an advantage; and
 - 4.3.3.1.3. The competitor's ammunition, when tested in the substitute firearm, remains under the relevant Division muzzle velocity limits.
 - 4.3.3.2. A competitor who substitutes or significantly modifies a firearm during a match without the prior approval of the Match Director will be Disqualified from the Match.
- 4.3.4. A competitor must never use or wear on his person more than one firearm during a Course Of Fire.

4.4. CARRY AND STORAGE AND COMPETITOR EQUIPMENT

- 4.4.1. Except when under the supervision and direct command of a Range Officer, all firearms must be unloaded.
 - 4.4.1.1. A Chamber Safety Indicator, that extends into the chamber of the rifle, must be fitted at all times when the firearm is not in use, and Detachable magazines must be removed. Failure to comply may be subject to Disqualification.
 - 4.4.1.2. Competitors arriving at a match in possession of a loaded firearm must immediately report to a Range Officer, who will supervise unloading of the firearm. Competitors failing to comply may be subject to Disqualification.
 - 4.4.1.3. When outside of the boundaries of a Safety Area, long guns must be carried or stored;
 - 4.4.1.3.1. held, shouldered or slung, or placed in a rack, with the muzzle pointed skywards or downwards, or
 - 4.4.1.3.2. placed in a slip or case, are not required to be pointed skywards, however no ammunition may be in the rifle, and a Chamber Safety Indicator must remain securely fitted.
 - 4.4.1.4. Ammunition must be carried or worn on the competitor or mounted to the rifle in safely designed pouches, pockets or other suitable retention devices, unless otherwise specified in the written stage briefing.

4.5. APPROPRIATE DRESS

- 4.5.1. Competitors must be appropriately dressed to accomplish Courses of Fire safely.
- 4.5.2. The Match Director will be the final authority in respect of what garments must not be worn by competitors.
- 4.5.3. Camouflage attire should be avoided where possible.
 - 4.5.3.1. Camouflage is prohibited for sport use in many countries, and local rules must be considered when traveling to competitions in other jurisdictions.

4.6. EYE AND EAR PROTECTION

- 4.6.1. All persons are warned that the correct use of adequate eye and ear protection is in their own interest and of paramount importance to prevent injury to vision and hearing. It is strongly recommended that eye and ear protection be worn at all times by all persons while on the range premises.
- 4.6.2. Ear Protection is mandatory for all Competitors, Match Officials and Spectators.
- 4.6.3. Eye Protection is highly advisable for all Competitors, Match Officials, and Spectators. Those persons choosing to forgo Eye Protection do so entirely at their own risk.
- 4.6.4. Match Organizers may require the use of such protection by all persons, as a condition of attendance and while present on the range premises. If so, Match Officials must make every reasonable effort to ensure that all persons wear required protection.

- 4.6.5. During a Course Of Fire;
- 4.6.5.1. If a Range Officer notices that a competitor has unintentionally dropped or displaced their eye or ear protection, the Range Officer must immediately stop the competitor who will be required to reshoot the Course Of Fire after the protective devices have been restored.
- 4.6.5.2. A competitor who inadvertently loses eye or ear protection during a Course Of Fire, or commences a Course Of Fire without them, is entitled to stop, point their firearm in a safe direction and indicate the problem to the Range Officer, in which case the previous above rule will apply.
- 4.6.5.2.1. Any attempt to gain a reshoot or advantage by removing eye and/or ear protection during a Course Of Fire will be considered unsportsmanlike conduct and result in a Match Disqualified.
- 4.6.6. If a Range Officer deems that a competitor, about to make an attempt at a Course Of Fire, is wearing inadequate eye or ear protection; then the Range Officer may ask the competitor to rectify the situation before allowing the competitor to continue. The Match Director is the final authority on this matter.

4.7. AMMUNITION AND RELATED EQUIPMENT

- 4.7.1. Competitors at a match are solely and personally responsible for the safety of all and any ammunition, which they bring to the match. Neither IPRF nor any IPRF Officers, nor any organization affiliated to IPRF, nor the officers of any organization affiliated to IPRF accepts any responsibility whatsoever in this regard, nor in respect of any loss, damage, accident, injury or death suffered by any person or entity as a result of the lawful or unlawful use of any such ammunition.
- 4.7.2. All competitor ammunition must comply with the provisions of the Division in which they are participating.
- 4.7.3. Spare magazines, or ammunition dropped or discarded by a competitor after the Start Signal may be retrieved. However, their retrieval is, at all times, subject to all safety rules, and no additional time will be granted to the competitor.
- 4.7.4. Metal piercing, incendiary and/or tracer ammunition is prohibited at matches. Any competitor to be found with such ammunition will be Disqualified from the match.
- 4.7.4.1. Any damage caused by the usage of such ammunition must be compensated for in full by the person using it.
- 4.7.5. Ammunition deemed unsafe by a Match Official must be immediately withdrawn from the match.

4.8. MALFUNCTIONS – COMPETITOR'S EQUIPMENT

- 4.8.1. If a competitor's firearm malfunctions after the Start Signal, the competitor may safely attempt to correct the problem and continue the Course Of Fire. During such corrective action, the competitor must keep the muzzle of the firearm pointing safely downrange at all times. The competitor must not use rods or other tools to verify or correct the malfunction. Violations will result in a zero score for the stage.
- 4.8.1.1. While rectifying a malfunction that requires the competitor to clearly move the firearm away from aiming at a target, the competitor's fingers must be clearly visible outside the trigger guard.

- 4.8.1.2. In the event that a firearm malfunction cannot be corrected by the competitor before the maximum stage time is exceeded, or if the competitor self-stops for any other reason, he must point the firearm safely downrange and advise the Range Officer, who will terminate the Course Of Fire in the normal manner.
 - 4.8.1.2.1. The Course Of Fire will be scored 'as shot' and any score achieved up to the malfunction shall stand, if applicable, the competitors time shall be the maximum stage time.
- 4.8.1.3. Where the firearm has failed as above, the competitor shall not be permitted to reshoot the Course Of Fire. This includes instances where a firearm is declared unserviceable or unsafe during a Course Of Fire.
 - 4.8.1.3.1. The exception to the above is if the firearm was provided as a 'House Gun'. Then the competitor shall be entitled to a reshoot.
- 4.8.2. A competitor who experiences a firearm malfunction while responding to the "Load And Make Ready" or "Make Ready" command, but prior to issuance of the Start Signal, is entitled to retire, under the authority and supervision of a Match Official, to repair his firearm, without penalty, subject to the safety rules.
 - 4.8.2.1. Once the repairs have been completed, the competitor may return to attempt the Course Of Fire, subject to scheduling as determined by the Range Officer or Match Director.
- 4.8.3. In the event that a Range Officer terminates a Course Of Fire due to a suspicion that a competitor has an unsafe firearm or unsafe ammunition (e.g. a "squib" load), the Range Officer will take whatever steps he deems necessary to return both the competitor and the range to a safe condition. The Range Officer will then inspect the firearm or ammunition and proceed as follows:
 - 4.8.3.1. If the Range Officer finds evidence that confirms the suspected problem, the competitor will not be entitled to a reshoot, but will be ordered to rectify the problem.
 - 4.8.3.1.1. The Course Of Fire will be scored 'as shot' and any score achieved up to the malfunction shall stand, if applicable, the competitors time shall be the maximum stage time.
 - 4.8.3.2. If the Range Officer discovers that the suspected safety problem does not exist, the competitor will be required to reshoot the stage.
 - 4.8.3.3. A competitor who self-stops due to a suspected or actual squib load is not entitled to a reshoot.
- 4.8.4. Regardless of a malfunction or not, under no circumstances is a competitor permitted to leave a Course Of Fire in the possession of a loaded firearm.
 - 4.8.4.1. Failure to comply may be subject to Disqualification.

4.9. AMMUNITION VELOCITY TESTING - CHRONOGRAPH

- 4.9.1. The maximum Muzzle Velocities for each Division are stipulated.
- 4.9.2. One or more official match chronograph(s) must be used to assist in the determination of the Muzzle Velocity of each competitor's ammunition.
 - 4.9.2.1. In the absence of the official match chronograph(s), a Muzzle Velocity declared by a competitor cannot be challenged.

- 4.9.3. The chronograph must be properly set up in accordance with the manufacturer's recommendations and verified each day by Match Officials in the following manner:
- 4.9.3.1. At the beginning of the first day of the match, a Match Official will fire 3 rounds from the supply of the official match calibration ammunition through the calibration firearm over the chronograph, and the average velocity of the 3 rounds will be recorded;
 - 4.9.3.2. On each of the following match days, the process will be repeated using the same firearm and ammunition supply (ideally from the same factory lot);
 - 4.9.3.3. The chronograph will be deemed to be within tolerance if the daily average velocity is within 25fps of the average velocity achieved above;
 - 4.9.3.4. Should a daily variance exceed the allowable tolerance stated above, the Match Director will take whatever steps he deems necessary to rectify the situation.
- 4.9.4. Competitor Ammunition Testing Procedure
- 4.9.4.1. Ammunition must be tested using the competitor's firearm. Moreover, prior to and/or during testing, the competitor's firearm and the component parts thereof must not be altered or modified in any way from the condition it is being used (or will be used) at the match.
 - 4.9.4.2. An initial 3 sample rounds for the chronograph test will be drawn from each competitor at a time and place determined by Match Officials, who may require additional tests of a competitor's ammunition at any time during the match.
 - 4.9.4.3. The 3 sample rounds drawn by Match Officials are fired over the chronograph. If a competitor has rounds of different bullet weights in his possession, 3 sample rounds of each may be drawn for testing.
 - 4.9.4.4. If the resultant Muzzle Velocity exceeds the relevant Division maximum, the competitor may, at the Match Directors discretion, continue shooting the match, but his scores will not be entered into match results nor count for match recognition and awards.
 - 4.9.4.5. If a competitor's ammunition is retested, or if any authorized replacement ammunition is used, and different Muzzle Velocities are recorded when tested according to these rules, then the competitor shall be Disqualified.
 - 4.9.4.6. The scores of a competitor who, for any reason, fails to present his rifle for testing at the designated time and location and/or who fails to provide sample rounds for testing whenever requested by a Match Official, will be removed from the match results, and, at the Match Directors discretion, the competitor may be removed from the match.
 - 4.9.4.7. If the Match Director deems that a chronograph has become inoperative, and further testing of competitor's ammunition is not possible, the Muzzle Velocity of competitors which have been successfully tested will stand, and the Muzzle Velocities declared by all other competitors who have not been tested will be accepted without challenge, subject to any applicable Division requirements.

4.10. RIFLE DROP TEST

- 4.10.1. At any time before (during registration or similar) or during a match; a simple drop test (not SAAMI specification) may be required by the Match Director to test a rifle to ensure that it is safe for competition use.
- 4.10.2. The following procedure shall apply to a Rifle Drop Test.
 - 4.10.2.1. Place a thin (less than 1 cm thick) rubber (or similar material) mat onto a solid floor (such as concrete).
 - 4.10.2.2. Ensure that the rifle does not contain any ammunition and that the magazine has been removed (if applicable).
 - 4.10.2.3. Cock the rifle.
 - 4.10.2.4. Disengage the external safety.
 - 4.10.2.5. Hold the rifle, by the barrel, barrel up over the rubber mat.
 - 4.10.2.6. Whilst maintaining control of the barrel, allow the rifle to slide freely onto its butt pad from a height of between 6-8 inches (15-20cm) onto the rubber mat.
- 4.10.3. This test must be completed 3 times.
 - 4.10.3.1. The rifle may be recocked between each test.
- 4.10.4. If during any of the 3 tests performed; the firing pin activates, then the rifle will be deemed to have failed the simple Drop Test.
- 4.11. Should a rifle fail this test, then it is deemed unsafe for competition, and it shall not be allowed to be used at that competition until it passes.
 - 4.11.1. The competitor may withdraw to the Safety Area to attempt to rectify the problem.
 - 4.11.1.1. Once the competitor is satisfied that the problem has been rectified, then they may resubmit the rifle for retesting.
 - 4.11.1.2. The rifle may be retested a maximum of 3 times.

5. SCORING

General scoring for all IPRF matches.

5.1. SCORING METHOD

- 5.1.1. Points are accumulated by hitting the designated targets in each Course Of Fire.
- 5.1.2. Stage results must rank competitors within the relevant Division in descending order of individual stage points achieved.
- 5.1.3. Match results must rank competitors within the relevant Division in descending order of individual stage points achieved.
- 5.1.4. Team results must rank teams within the relevant Division in descending order of individual stage points accumulated by all members of the team in accordance with the Team Competition Rules.

5.2. SCORE VERIFICATION AND CHALLENGE

- 5.2.1. After the Range Officer has declared "Range is Clear", the competitor or their delegate will be permitted to approach the official responsible for scoring to verify their score.
- 5.2.2. Any challenge to a score or penalty must be appealed to the Range Officer by the competitor (or his delegate) prior to the next competitor starting the Course Of Fire, or the squad leaving the stage as the case may be with regards to the last competitor in the squad.
- 5.2.3. In the event that the Range Officer upholds the original score or penalty and the competitor is dissatisfied, he may appeal to the Match Director for a ruling.
- 5.2.4. The Match Director's ruling in respect of the scoring of hits on targets and no-shoots will be final. No further appeals are permitted with respect to such scoring decisions.

5.3. SCORE SHEETS

- 5.3.1. Both a Primary and a Secondary method of scoring should be utilized.
 - 5.3.1.1. One method must be manually on paper.
- 5.3.2. The Range Officer must enter all information (including any warnings given) on each competitor's score sheet prior to signing it. After the Range Officer has signed the score sheet, the competitor must add his own signature in the appropriate place.
 - 5.3.2.1. Electronic score sheet signatures or electronic approval are acceptable.
- 5.3.3. If corrections to the score sheet are required, these will be clearly entered onto the original and other copies of the competitor's score sheets. The competitor and the Range Officer should initial any corrections.
- 5.3.4. Should a competitor refuse to sign or initial a score sheet, for any reason, the matter must be referred to the Match Director. If the Match Director is satisfied that the Course Of Fire has been conducted and scored correctly the unsigned score sheet will be submitted as normal for inclusion in the match results.

- 5.3.5. A score sheet signed by both a competitor and a Range Officer is conclusive evidence that the Course Of Fire has been completed, and that the scores and time (if applicable) recorded on the score sheet, are accurate and uncontested. The signed score sheet is deemed to be a definitive document and, with the exception of the mutual consent of the competitor and the signatory Range Officer, or due to an arbitration decision, the score sheet will only be changed to correct arithmetical errors.
- 5.3.6. If a score sheet is found to have insufficient or excess entries, or if the time (if applicable) has not been recorded on the score sheet, it must be promptly referred to the Match Director who will normally require the competitor to reshoot the Course Of Fire.
- 5.3.6.1. In the event that a reshoot is not possible for any reason, the following actions will prevail:
- 5.3.6.1.1. If insufficient hits have been recorded on the score sheet, those which have been recorded will be deemed complete and conclusive.
- 5.3.6.1.2. If excessive hits have been recorded on the score sheet, the maximum stage score value will be used.
- 5.3.6.1.3. If the time (when applicable) is missing from a Timed Stage, the competitor will receive the maximum time for that stage.
- 5.3.6.1.4. If the identity of the competitor is missing from a score sheet, it must be referred to the Match Director, who must take whatever action he deems necessary to rectify the situation.
- 5.3.7. In the event that an original score sheet is lost or otherwise unavailable, the competitor's duplicate copy, or any other written or electronic record acceptable to the Match Director, will be used.
- 5.3.7.1. If the competitor's copy, or any other written or electronic record, is unavailable, or is deemed by the Match Director to be insufficiently legible the competitor will be required to reshoot the Course Of Fire. If the Match Director deems that a reshoot is not possible for any reason, the competitor will incur a zero score for any affected stages.
- 5.3.8. No person, other than an authorized Match Official, is permitted to handle an original score sheet retained on a stage, or at any other place, after it has been signed by a competitor and a Range Officer, without the prior approval of the Range Officer or personnel directly involved with Stats.
- 5.3.8.1. Violations of the above will result in a warning for the first occurrence, and a Stage Disqualification for each occurrence thereafter.

5.4. SCORING RESPONSIBILITY

- 5.4.1. Each competitor has a responsibility to maintain an accurate record of their scores and verify against those results posted by the Chief Scorer.
- 5.4.2. After all competitors have completed a match, the provisional stage results must be published and posted in a conspicuous place at the shooting range for the purpose of verification by competitors. The time and date the results were actually posted (not just printed) at each venue must be clearly stated thereon.

- 5.4.3. If a competitor detects an error in the published results, he must file an appeal with the Match Director within 15 minutes after the results were posted. If the appeal is not filed within the time limit, the posted scores will stand and the appeal will be dismissed.
- 5.4.4. A Match Director may elect to have results posted electronically (e.g. via a website) either in addition to, or as an alternative to, physically printing them. If so, the relevant procedure must be published in advance in match literature and/or by way of a notice posted in a conspicuous place at the shooting range prior to commencement of the match. Facilities (e.g. a computer) must be provided for competitors to view the results if a Match Director has elected to only have results posted electronically.

5.5. OFFICIAL TIME & TIMING

- 5.5.1. The Match Director is responsible for determining the Match Time to which the match schedule shall apply.
- 5.5.2. For the purposes of Timed Stages;
 - 5.5.2.1. Only the timing device operated by a Range Officer must be used to record the official elapsed time of a competitor's attempt at a Timed Course Of Fire.
 - 5.5.2.1.1. The timing device must be a suitable timer, capable of recording the report of a firearm, must be used when recording the times of competitions on Timed Stages.
 - 5.5.2.1.1.1. Where applicable, it's important the timer is able to function correctly with both suppressed and unsuppressed firearms.
 - 5.5.2.1.2. If a Range Officer assigned to a Course Of Fire (or a more senior Match Official) deems that a timing device is faulty, a competitor whose attempt cannot be credited with an accurate time will be required to reshoot the Course Of Fire.
 - 5.5.2.2. If the time credited to a competitor for a Course Of Fire is deemed, in the opinion of an Arbitration Committee, to be unrealistic, then the competitor will be required to reshoot the Course Of Fire.

5.6. SCORING PROGRAMS

- 5.6.1. The official scoring program for all National or higher matches is the latest version of the PractiScore, unless another scoring program is approved by the IPRF Council.

6. INFRINGEMENTS & DISQUALIFICATIONS

6.1. PROCEDURAL INFRINGEMENT

- 6.1.1. Procedural infringements are imposed when a competitor fails to comply with procedures specified in a written stage briefing and/or is found to be in violation of other general rules.
- 6.1.2. Procedural infringements provide no negative scoring, however targets shall not be scored;
 - 6.1.2.1. while a competitor is in violation of a procedure, or
 - 6.1.2.2. until a competitor rectifies a procedural infringement after getting an unfair advantage from such infringement.
- 6.1.3. Range Officers are not obliged to inform the competitor of procedural infringements during the Course Of Fire, however; the same notification procedure must be consistent for all competitors within a Course Of Fire.
- 6.1.4. A competitor disputing the application of procedural infringement may appeal to the Range Officer and/or Chief Range Officer and /or Match Director. A competitor who continues to be aggrieved may then lodge an appeal for arbitration.
- 6.1.5. Examples of Procedural infringements:
 - 6.1.5.1. A competitor sustains a Procedural Infringement when:
 - 6.1.5.1.1. any part of their body is touching the ground, or any object, beyond a Fault Line.
 - 6.1.5.1.2. fails to comply with a mandatory reload.
 - 6.1.5.1.3. fails to comply with the written stage briefing.
 - 6.1.5.2. A competitor who infringes a fault line in an attempt to 'short-cut' a Course Of Fire to gain an advantage, shall continue to be in violation, until they return to the location where they initially infringed the fault line.

6.2. WARNINGS & DISQUALIFICATIONS

- 6.2.1. A competitor who commits a safety infraction or any other prohibited activity during a match and is disqualified from the match; will be prohibited from attempting any remaining Courses Of Fire regardless of the schedule or physical layout of the match, pending the verdict of any appeal submitted.
- 6.2.2. When any Warning or Stage / Match disqualification is issued, the Range Officer must record the reasons for the sanction, and the time and date of the incident, on the competitor's score sheet.
 - 6.2.2.1. In the case of Stage or Match Disqualification, the Match Director must be notified as soon as possible.
- 6.2.3. Where a competitor is Disqualified from a National, Regional or Championship match, the Match Director must notify the competitors National Body as well as the IPRF Council of such Disqualification, including the circumstances surrounding such Disqualification.
 - 6.2.3.1. Such Disqualification may carry additional sanctions should the competitor's National Body or IPRF Council warrant that they are necessary.

- 6.2.4. Scores for a competitor who has received a Disqualification must not be deleted from match results, and match results must not be declared final by the Match Director;
 - 6.2.4.1. until such time as the match is concluded, or
 - 6.2.4.2. if, once the match has been concluded and an appeal has been lodged, then until such time as the appeal has reached a conclusion.
- 6.2.5. Scores for a competitor who has completed a pre-match or main match without a disqualification will not be affected by a disqualification received while that competitor is participating in a Shoot-Off or other side match.
- 6.2.6. Warnings are divided into the following 3 categories:
 - 6.2.6.1. Unsafe Firearm Handling , including Negligent Discharge.
 - 6.2.6.2. Unsportsmanlike Behaviour, including Abuse of Officials.
 - 6.2.6.3. Cheating, including Use of Prohibited Substances.
- 6.2.7. Warnings are compound in nature within each category of warning, and are elevated by occurrence from Verbal Warning to Stage Disqualification to Match Disqualification.
- 6.2.8. Unless specified below, or at the discretion of the Match Director who, when the situation warrants, may apply a more severe penalty, offenses shall generally carry the following sanctions which shall all be recorded on the score sheet;
 - 6.2.8.1. First offense: Verbal warning.
 - 6.2.8.2. Second offense: Stage Disqualification.
 - 6.2.8.3. Third offense: Match Disqualification.
- 6.2.9. Examples:
 - 6.2.9.1. Following a verbal warning for unsafe gun handling at a stage, a second verbal warning for Unsafe Gun Handling at another stage is compounded to a Stage Disqualification.
 - 6.2.9.2. Following a verbal warning for unsafe gun handling at a stage, a second verbal warning for Unsportsmanlike Behaviour at another stage remains a Verbal Warning in both categories.
 - 6.2.9.3. Following a Stage Disqualification for an initial, but severe, Unsafe Gun Handling at a stage, a verbal warning for Unsafe Gun Handling at another stage is compounded to a Match Disqualification.
- 6.3. The following sections attempt, by way of examples, to describe, but not directly limit, the scope of each infringement category. Match Directors may impose other warnings and sanctions should the situation reasonably warrant it.
 - 6.3.1. Should other warnings or sanctions, outside those described in the following categories be applied, then a description of such incident and the subsequent warning or sanction be sent to the National Body by the Match Director, and then forwarded to the IPRF Executive Committee by the National Body.

6.4. UNSAFE GUN HANDLING

- 6.4.1. Handling a firearm, without an Empty Chamber Indicator, at any time except;
 - 6.4.1.1. when in a designated Safety Area, or
 - 6.4.1.2. when under the supervision of a Range Officer, or
 - 6.4.1.3. when competing.
- 6.4.2. Prematurely Discharging a shot during a Course Of Fire, while 'on glass' within the Safe Angle of Fire.
 - 6.4.2.1. In addition to the sanction, the shot will count as a target engagement if applicable.
- 6.4.3. Allowing the muzzle of a rifle to point at any part of the competitor's, or any other person's body during a Course Of Fire (i.e. sweeping or flagging).
 - 6.4.3.1. If the bolt is closed, and the safety is not engaged, this is considered a serious safety violation, and will result in an immediate Match Disqualification.
- 6.4.4. Failure to keep the finger outside the trigger guard during movement or transitioning to targets.
- 6.4.5. Failure to keep the finger outside the trigger guard while dealing with a malfunction.
- 6.4.6. Failure to keep the finger outside the trigger guard during loading, reloading, or unloading.
 - 6.4.6.1. A competitor will be exempt from this rule when operating the trigger to dry fire or to release the action and/or drop the hammer while making ready prior to the Start Signal, or when 'Making Safe' at the end of a Course Of Fire.
 - 6.4.6.1.1. In the event that the gun discharges during this operation Disqualification will still apply.
- 6.4.7. Using prohibited and/or unsafe ammunition.
- 6.4.8. Engaging a target with significantly incorrect 'dope', or unintentionally 'dialing' a revolution more than intended for any target.
 - 6.4.8.1. If the round can potentially be determined to have traveled over a berm or backstop, this is considered a serious safety violation, and will result in an immediate Match Disqualification.
- 6.4.9. Allowing the muzzle of a firearm to point outside of the safe angles of fire; during a Course Of Fire, or while the firearm is loaded, or while loading or unloading, or while under direct Range Officers supervision.
- 6.4.10. If at any time during the Course Of Fire, a competitor drops his firearm or causes it to fall, loaded or not, or fails to maintain Positive Control of a loaded or unloaded firearm during a Course Of Fire, they will receive a Stage Disqualification.
 - 6.4.10.1. Should the fallen firearm also point outside of the specific safe angles of fire, then the competitor will receive a Match Disqualification.
 - 6.4.10.2. Dropped firearms must always be retrieved by a Match Official who will, after checking and/or clearing the firearm, return it to the competitor in a safe condition.

- 6.4.10.3. Note that a competitor who, for any reason during a Course Of Fire, safely and intentionally places the firearm on the ground or other stable object will not be disqualified provided that:
 - 6.4.10.3.1. The competitor maintains control of the firearm, until it is placed firmly and securely on the ground or another stable object; and
 - 6.4.10.3.2. The firearm safety is engaged, or the action is open.
- 6.4.11. Having a loaded firearm other than when specifically authorized by a Match Official.
 - 6.4.11.1. Immediate Match Disqualification.
- 6.4.12. Failure to Open the Bolt and/or clear the chamber during Movement or Transitioning during a Course Of Fire:
 - 6.4.12.1. The competitor shall open the bolt and clear the chamber to the Range Officer's satisfaction.
 - 6.4.12.1.1. If the competitor has not been disqualified, then they shall move back to the last shooting position where they may continue with the Course Of Fire.
 - 6.4.12.2. The exemption to the above is for Semi-Automatic Rifles, however; the same applies if the external safety was not engaged.

6.4.13. NEGLIGENCE DISCHARGE

- 6.4.13.1. Negligent Discharges (ND's) are taken very seriously, and will result in an immediate Match Disqualification, and no further part may be taken by the competitor in the match.
- 6.4.13.2. A competitor who causes a negligent discharge must be stopped by a Range Officer as soon as possible.
- 6.4.13.3. A negligent discharge is defined as follows:
 - 6.4.13.3.1. A shot, which travels over a backstop, a berm or in any other direction, specified in the written stage briefing by the Match Director as being unsafe.
 - 6.4.13.3.2. A shot which occurs while actually loading, reloading or unloading a firearm.
 - 6.4.13.3.3. A shot which occurs during remedial action in the case of a malfunction.
 - 6.4.13.3.4. A shot which occurs while transferring a rifle between hands.
 - 6.4.13.3.5. A shot which occurs during movement or transitioning between targets.
 - 6.4.13.3.6. A shot which occurs when the shooter is not 'on glass' with an established sight picture.
 - 6.4.13.3.7. A shot which impacts anything other than a specified target, under 75m from the shooting position.
 - 6.4.13.3.8. A shot which occurs during a cease fire period.

- 6.4.13.4. If it can be established that the cause of the discharge is due to a broken or defective part of the firearm, the competitor has not committed any safety infraction in this Section, and a disqualification will not be invoked, but the competitor's scores for that stage will be zero.
- 6.4.13.4.1. The firearm must be immediately presented for inspection to the Match Director or his delegate, who will inspect the firearm and carry out any tests necessary to establish that a broken or defective part caused the discharge. A competitor may not later appeal a disqualification for an accidental discharge due to a broken or defective part if they fail to present the firearm for inspection prior to leaving the Course Of Fire.

6.5. UNSPORTSMANLIKE CONDUCT

- 6.5.1. Competitors may be disqualified for conduct which a Range Officer deems to be unsportsmanlike. In such cases the Match Director must be notified as soon as possible.
 - 6.5.1.1. Examples include, but are not limited to; cheating, dishonesty, constant or habitual complaining or whining, showboating, distracting other competitors, failing to comply with the reasonable directions of a Match Official, arguing with other competitors or Match Officials, abuse of Match Officials, throwing of equipment or any other unpleasant and disruptive behavior or emotional outbursts, heckling other shooters while they are shooting, use of vulgar/offensive language, or any behavior likely to bring the sport into disrepute.
- 6.5.2. Other persons may be expelled from a stage and/or a range for conduct which a Match Official deems to be unacceptable.
 - 6.5.2.1. Examples include, but are not limited to, failing to comply with the reasonable directions of a Match Official, interference with the operation of a Course Of Fire and/or a competitor's attempt thereof, and any other behaviour likely to bring the sport into disrepute.
- 6.5.3. If the Match Director determines an infraction to be of a serious enough nature, they may issue a Match Disqualification and have the offender removed from the premises immediately.
- 6.5.4. Unsportsmanlike behavior must be reported to the relevant National Committee or IPRF Executive Committee, as the case may be, by the Match Director within 1 week of the match.

6.6. CHEATING

- 6.6.1. Cheating, or attempted cheating, of any kind will not be tolerated at any Precision Rifle events and will result in an immediate match disqualification and in certain instances may be grounds for expulsion from a Series/League/National Body.
- 6.6.2. Cheating is defined as deliberately attempting to gain an unfair advantage over other competitors in an unscrupulous manner.

- 6.6.3. Examples of cheating include but are not limited to: practicing or proofing/dry firing any stage, exceeding the velocity or caliber rule, changing anything on a fellow competitor's equipment, using equipment prohibited or excluded by match or stage rules, altering or falsifying score sheets or data in electronic scoring devices, deliberately altering props or barricades prior to the target being scored or engaged to gain advantage, or using assistance provided by Stage Officials for safety reasons to gain an advantage.
- 6.6.4. A second offense, or a severe first offense, or habitual offenders will result in further Disciplinary Action imposed by the competitors National Body or the IPRF.

6.6.5. PROHIBITED SUBSTANCES

- 6.6.5.1. All persons are required to be in complete control both mentally and physically during Precision Rifle matches.
- 6.6.5.2. The IPRF considers the abuse of alcoholic products, non-prescription and nonessential drugs and the use of illegal or performance enhancing drugs, irrespective of how they are taken or administered, to be an extremely serious offense.
- 6.6.5.3. Except when used for medicinal purposes, competitors and officials at matches must not be affected by drugs (including alcohol) of any sort during matches.
- 6.6.5.4. Any person, who in the opinion of the Match Director is visibly under the influence of any prohibited substance, will immediately be Disqualified from the match and may be required to leave the premises.
- 6.6.5.5. The IPRF reserves the right to prohibit any general or specific substances and to introduce tests for the presence of these substances at any time.
- 6.6.5.6. The IPRF follows the WADA World Anti-Doping Code.
 - 6.6.5.6.1. The World Anti-Doping Code is the document that harmonizes regulations regarding anti-doping in sport across all sports and all countries of the world.
 - 6.6.5.6.2. The Code provides a framework for anti-doping policies, rules, and regulations for sport organizations and public authorities.

7. ARBITRATION AND INTERPRETATION OF RULES

7.1. GENERAL PRINCIPLES

Occasional disputes are inevitable in any competitive activity governed by rules. It is recognized that at the more significant match levels the outcome is much more important to the individual competitor.

- 7.1.1. Effective match administration and planning will prevent most if not all disputes.
- 7.1.2. Appeals may be submitted to arbitration in accordance with the following rules for any matter except where specifically denied by another rule.
 - 7.1.2.1. Appeals arising from a disqualification for a safety infraction will only be accepted to determine whether exceptional circumstances warrant reconsideration of the disqualification. The commission of such infraction as described by the Match Official is not subject to challenge or appeal.

- 7.1.3. The Range Officer makes decisions initially. If the appellant disagrees with a decision, the Stage/Range Officer for the stage or area in question should be asked to rule. If a disagreement still exists, the Match Director must be asked to rule.
- 7.1.4. Should the appellant continue to disagree with the decision he may appeal to the Arbitration Committee by submitting a first party appeal.
- 7.1.5. An appellant is required to inform the Match Director of his wish to present his appeal to the Arbitration Committee and may request that the officials retain any and all relevant documentary or other evidence pending the hearing.
- 7.1.6. The appellant is responsible for the preparation and delivery of the written submission, together with the appropriate fee. Both must be submitted to the Match Director within the specified period of time.
- 7.1.7. Any Match Official in receipt of a request for arbitration must, without delay, inform the Match Director and must note the identities of all witnesses and officials involved and pass this information on to the Match Director.
- 7.1.8. Upon receiving the appeal, the Match Director must convene the Arbitration Committee in a place of privacy as soon as possible.
- 7.1.9. The Arbitration Committee is bound to observe and apply the current Rules and to deliver a decision consistent with those rules. Where rules require interpretation or where an incident is not specifically covered by the rules, the Arbitration Committee will use their best judgment in the spirit of the rules.

7.2. COMPOSITION OF COMMITTEE

- 7.2.1. The composition of an Arbitration Committee will be subject to the following rules:
 - 7.2.1.1. The IPRF Chairman, or his delegate, or a certified Match Official appointed by the Match Director, (in that order) will serve as Chairman of the committee with no vote.
 - 7.2.1.2. Three arbitrators will be appointed by the IPRF Chairman, or his delegate, or by the Match Director, (in that order), with one vote each.
 - 7.2.1.3. When possible, arbitrators should be competitors in the match and should be certified Match Officials.
 - 7.2.1.4. Under no circumstances must the Chairman or any member of an Arbitration Committee be a party to the original decision or subsequent appeals, which led to the arbitration, or be in a position to benefit from the outcome of the Appeal.

7.3. TIMEFRAMES AND LIMITS

7.3.1. TIME LIMIT FOR APPEAL TO ARBITRATION

- 7.3.1.1. Written appeals to arbitration must be submitted to the Match Director, accompanied by the applicable fee, within one hour of the time of the disputed call as recorded by Match Officials.
 - 7.3.1.1.1. Failure to comply will render the appeal invalid, and no further action will be taken.
 - 7.3.1.1.2. The Match Director must, on the appeal form, immediately record the time and date he received the appeal.

7.3.2. DECISION TIME LIMIT

- 7.3.2.1. The Appeal Committee must reach a decision within 24 hours of the request for arbitration or before the results have been declared final by the Match Director, whichever comes first.
- 7.3.2.1.1. If the Committee fails to render a decision within the prescribed period, the appellant will automatically succeed in their appeal, and the fee will be returned.

7.4. APPEAL FEES

- 7.4.1. World Championship Matches
 - 7.4.1.1. The appeal fee to enable an appellant to appeal to arbitration will be €500.00 (Five Hundred Euros).
- 7.4.2. Regional Championship Matches
 - 7.4.2.1. The appeal fee to enable an appellant to appeal to arbitration will be €300.00 (Three Hundred Euros).
- 7.4.3. An appeal brought by the Match Director in respect of a match issue will not incur a fee.
- 7.4.4. If the Committee's decision is to uphold the appeal, the fee paid will be returned.
- 7.4.5. If the Committee's decision is to deny the appeal, the appeal fee and the decision must be forwarded to IPRF.

7.5. RULES OF PROCEDURE

- 7.5.1. The Committee will study the written submission and retain on behalf of the organizers the monies paid by the appellant until a decision has been reached.
- 7.5.2. The Committee may require the appellant to personally give further details of the submission and may question him/her on any point relevant to the appeal.
- 7.5.3. The appellant may be asked to withdraw while the Committee hears further evidence.
- 7.5.4. The Committee may hear Match Officials as well as any other witnesses involved in the appeal. The Committee will examine all evidence submitted.
- 7.5.5. The Committee may question witnesses and officials on any point relevant to the appeal.
- 7.5.6. Committee members will refrain from expressing any opinion or verdict while an appeal is in progress.
- 7.5.7. The Committee may inspect any range or area related to the appeal and require any person or official they regard as useful to the process to accompany them.
- 7.5.8. Any person attempting to influence the members of the Committee in any way other than evidence may be subject to disciplinary action at the discretion of the Arbitration Committee.
- 7.5.9. When the Committee is satisfied that they are in possession of all information and evidence relevant to the appeal, they will deliberate privately and will reach their decision by majority vote.

7.6. VERDICT AND SUBSEQUENT ACTION

- 7.6.1. When a decision is reached by the Committee, they will summon the appellant, the official and the Match Director to present their judgment.
- 7.6.2. It will be the responsibility of the Match Director to implement the Committee's decision.
- 7.6.3. The Match Director will post the decision in a place available to all competitors.
- 7.6.4. The decision is not retroactive and will not affect any incidents prior to the decision.
- 7.6.5. The decision of the Committee is final and may not be appealed.
- 7.6.6. Decisions of the Arbitration Committee will be recorded and will provide precedent for any similar and subsequent incident during that match.

7.7. THIRD PARTY APPEALS

- 7.7.1. Appeals may also be submitted by other persons on a "third party appeal" basis in the same manner as outlined above.



8. MATCH OFFICIALS

8.1. ROLES OF OFFICIALS

The duties and terms of reference of Match Officials are defined as follows:

- 8.1.1. Match Director ("MD") – Handles overall match administration including squadding, scheduling, range construction, the coordination of all support staff and the provision of services. His authority and decisions will prevail with regard to all matters. The Match Director is appointed by the Match Organiser, and has overall authority over all persons and activities within the entire range, including range safety, the operation of all courses of fire and the application of these rules. All disqualifications and appeals to arbitration must be brought to his attention.
- 8.1.2. Range Officer ("RO") – Issues stage commands, oversees competitor compliance with the written stage briefing and closely monitors safe competitor action. He also declares the scores and time (if applicable) achieved by each competitor and verifies that these are correctly recorded on the competitor's score sheet (under the authority of Match Director and/or a Chief Range Officer if applicable).
- 8.1.3. The following positions are normally managed by the Match Director, but may be established as required:
 - 8.1.3.1. Chief Range Officer ("CRO") – Is the primary authority over all persons and activities in the Stages / Courses Of Fire under his control, and oversees the fair, correct and consistent application of these rules (under the direct authority of the Match Director).
 - 8.1.3.2. Chief Scorer ("CS") – Supervises the scoring team, which collects, sorts, verifies, tabulates and retains all score sheets and ultimately produces provisional and final results (under the direct authority of the Match Director).

8.2. DISCIPLINE OF MATCH OFFICIALS

- 8.2.1. The Match Director has authority over all Match Officials, and is responsible for decisions in matters concerning conduct and discipline.
- 8.2.2. In the event that a Match Official is disciplined, the Match Director must send a report of the incident and details of the disciplinary action to their National Body. Such National Body will be responsible for informing the IPRF Council.
- 8.2.3. A Match Official who is disqualified from a match for a safety infraction while competing will continue to be eligible to serve as a Match Official for the match. The Match Director will make any decision related to an official's participation.

8.3. APPOINTMENT OF OFFICIALS

- 8.3.1. Match Organizers must, prior to commencement of a Match, appoint a Match Director to carry out the duties detailed in these rules. The nominated Match Director should preferably be the most competent and experienced certified Match Official present.
- 8.3.2. References in these rules to Match Officials (e.g. "Range Officer", "Match Director" etc.), mean personnel who have been officially appointed by Match Organizers to serve in an official capacity at the match.
 - 8.3.2.1. Persons who are certified Match Officials, but who are merely participating in the match as regular competitors, have no standing or authority as Match Officials for that match. Such persons should therefore not participate in the match wearing garments bearing Match Official identification.

8.4. STAGE OFFICIALS

- 8.4.1. Match Directors are completely responsible for the recruitment, management and conduct of all Match Officials.
- 8.4.2. Match Directors have the following three (3) options with regards to Range Officer configurations:

8.4.2.1. FULL RANGE DETAIL

- 8.4.2.1.1. The Match Director assigns all Match Officials to stages;
 - 8.4.2.1.1.1. Range Officer,
 - 8.4.2.1.1.2. Score / Time Keeper,
 - 8.4.2.1.1.3. Other required Range Officials / Spotters.
- 8.4.2.1.2. All Match Officials must remain on their designated Stage(s) for the duration of the Match.
- 8.4.2.1.3. Match Officials may not be competitors.
- 8.4.2.1.4. The Range Officer on each stage is the only person authorized to award impacts and make decisions.

8.4.2.2. RANGE OFFICER & COMPETITOR ASSISTANTS

- 8.4.2.2.1. The Match Director assigns Range Officers to stages.
- 8.4.2.2.2. The Range Officer must remain on their designated Stage for the duration of the Match, and is the only person authorized to award points and make decisions.
- 8.4.2.2.3. The Range Officer shall not be a competitor.
- 8.4.2.2.4. Competitors shall, if required, assist the Range Officer in:
 - 8.4.2.2.4.1. Scoring / Time Keeping;
 - 8.4.2.2.4.2. Spotting;
 - 8.4.2.2.4.3. Assisting in Safety management.

8.4.2.3. SQUAD BASED RANGE OFFICER

- 8.4.2.3.1. The Match Director assigns an experienced competitor as the Range Officer for each squad.
- 8.4.2.3.2. The Range Officers must be briefed on all stages by the MD to ensure stage consistency.
- 8.4.2.3.3. The Range Officer is the only person within the squad authorized to award impacts and make decisions.
 - 8.4.2.3.3.1. The exception is when the Range Officer is competing. Then another competitor shall act as the Range Officer in the interim.
- 8.4.2.3.4. Competitors shall assist the Range Officer in:
 - 8.4.2.3.4.1. Scoring / Time Keeping;
 - 8.4.2.3.4.2. Spotting;
 - 8.4.2.3.4.3. Assisting in Safety management.

8.4.3. At International or International qualification matches, Match Directors may not implement a 'Squad Based Range Officer' configuration of Stage Officials.

8.4.4. At World Championship matches, Match Directors must implement a 'Full Range Detail' configuration of Stage Officials.

8.4.5. RANGE OFFICER RESPONSIBILITIES

- 8.4.5.1. Range Officers are responsible for all aspects of the Course Of Fire they are running, and must have a complete understanding of the stage procedure on their assigned stage. Any questions regarding the rules or procedure of the stage must be addressed with the Match Director prior to the start of the match.
- 8.4.5.2. Range Officers must;
 - 8.4.5.2.1. have a full understanding of the official IPRF Rules.
 - 8.4.5.2.2. ensure the rules are applied the same for every shooter.
- 8.4.5.3. Range Officers will;
 - 8.4.5.3.1. provide a Stage Briefing prior to the start of each squad and all questions must be asked and answered prior to the start of the first competitor from each squad.
 - 8.4.5.3.2. point out each target to the shooters except on "blind" stages in which case target locations shall not be provided.

9. GLOSSARY

Aftermarket	Items not manufactured by the OFM, and/or bearing identifying marks of a different manufacturer, and/or available publicly from the original manufacturer.
Aim / Aiming	Aligning the barrel of a firearm at targets.
Attempt at (COF)	The period from issuance of the 'Start Signal' to when the competitor indicates that he has finished shooting.
Berm	A raised structure of sand, soil or other materials used to contain bullets and/or to separate one shooting bay and/or COF from another.
Bullet	The projectile in a round intended to strike a target.
Caliber	The diameter of a bullet measured in millimeters (or thousandths of an inch).
Cartridge case	The main body of a round, which contains all component parts.
Chamber Safety Indicator	A brightly colored device, no part of which resembles a round or any part thereof. The indicator/flag must be incapable of being inserted into a firearm which has a loaded chamber and must, while fitted, prevent a round from being inserted into the chamber. The flag must have an integral tab or ribbon clearly protruding from the firearm.
Compensator / Muzzle Brake	A device fitted to the muzzle end of a barrel to counter muzzle rise (usually by diverting away escaping gasses).
Detonation	Ignition of the primer of a round, other than by action of a firing pin, where the bullet does not pass through the barrel (e.g. when the action of a firearm is being manually retracted, when a round is dropped).
Discharge	See Shot.
Downrange	The general area of a stage, shooting bay or range, where the muzzle of a firearm may be safely pointed when not aiming bolt closed during a Course Of Fire and/or where bullets are intended or are likely to impact. This can be 180° from sky to ground and no more than 60° starting from the last target on the right and the same on the left. When the bolt is closed, general security rules apply.
Dry firing	The activation of the trigger and/or action of a firearm which is totally devoid of ammunition.
Dummy Ammunition	Includes practice or training rounds, blanks, snap caps and empty cases.
Engage	Firing a shot at a target. Firing a shot at, but missing, a target is not a "failure to engage". The malfunction of a firearm or a round which prevents a shot being fired, is deemed to be a "failure to engage".
Face, (facing) uprange	The competitor's face, chest and toes are all facing uprange.
False Start	Beginning an attempt at a COF prior to the Start Signal.
Grain	A common unit of measurement used in respect of the weight of a bullet (1 grain = 0.0648 grams).
Loaded	A firearm having a live or dummy round in the chamber, or having a live or dummy round in an inserted or fitted magazine(s).
Loading	The insertion of ammunition into a firearm.
Location	A geographical place within a Course Of Fire.
Match Personnel	People who have an official duty or function at a match, but who are not necessarily qualified as, or acting in the capacity of, Match Officials.
May	Entirely optional.
Must	Mandatory.

National Body	The affiliated IPRF National Association or National Federation as the case may be in that country.
No-shoot(s)	Target(s) that incur penalties when hit.
OFM	Original Firearm Manufacturer.
Positive Control	Maintaining at least one point of bodily contact with the rifle or a sling type attachment to the body of the competitor.
Primer	The part of a round which causes a detonation or a shot to be fired.
Props	Items, other than targets or fault lines, used in the creation, operation or decoration of a COF.
Prototype	A firearm in a configuration which is not in mass production and/or is not available to the general public.
Region	A geographical area defined by several Countries/Nations, recognized by IPRF.
Regional Director	The person, recognized by IPRF, who represents a Region.
Reloading	Replenishment or the insertion of additional ammunition into a firearm.
Reshoot	A competitor's subsequent attempt at a Course Of Fire, authorized in advance by a Range Officer or an Arbitration Committee.
Round	A cartridge of ammunition used in a handgun or rifle.
Shooting position	The physical presentation of a person's body (e.g. standing, sitting, kneeling, prone).
Shot	A bullet which passes completely through the barrel of a firearm.
Should	Optional but highly recommended.
Sight picture	Aiming at a target without actually shooting at it.
Snap Cap	(Also "spring cap") A type of dummy round.
Squib	Any part of a round lodged inside the barrel of a firearm and/or a bullet which exits the barrel at extremely low velocity.
Stance	The physical presentation of a person's limbs (e.g. hands by the side, arms crossed etc.).
Start position	The location, shooting position and stance prescribed by a COF prior to issuance of the Start Signal.
Sweeping / Flagging	Pointing the muzzle of a firearm at any part of any person's body during a Course Of Fire when a handgun is held or touched while not securely holstered, bagged, or when a long gun is held while a chamber safety flag is not inserted.
Target(s)	A term that can include both scoring target(s) and no-shoot(s) unless a Rule differentiates between them.
Target Array	A collection of targets that can only be seen from any single location or view.
Unloaded	A firearm which is totally devoid of any live or dummy rounds in its chamber(s) and/or in an inserted or fitted magazine(s).
Unloading	Removal of ammunition from a firearm.
Uprange	The general area of a stage, shooting bay or range, rearwards of the downrange of the default maximum safe angle of fire (see Rule 2.1.2), where the muzzle of a firearm must not be pointed during a Course Of Fire (exception: see Rule 10.5.2).
Shall / Will	Mandatory.