



BENCHREST RIFLE

OFFICIAL NATIONAL RULES

**BENCHREST DISCIPLINE
CENTREFIRE GROUP AND SCORE,
RIMFIRE GROUP, SCORE & IRB
CHAMPIONSHIPS**

Revised November 2022

No. 10.0

SSAA BENCHREST RIFLE OFFICIAL NATIONAL RULES

Centrefire Benchrest Group and Score and Rimfire Group, Score and IRB

History and Amendments

Edition	Date	Approved By	Amendment / revision
8	2013	2017 NDC Meeting and SSAA National Board	Various
9	2017	2017 NDC Meeting and SSAA National Board	Various
9.1	2019	2019 NDC Meeting and SSAA National Board	Corrections to Rules: 9.2, 18.1.2, 18.1.3, 18.1.4 – 18.1.27 and 18.2.1
9.2	2022	2022 Benchrest National Subcommittee Meeting & SSAA National Board	Clause 9.2. Revision of Rule 9. (Delete subrule 13)
10.0	2022	2022 NDC Meeting and SSAA National Board	Rule Book Approved November 2022 Purpose: One Benchrest Discipline Rule Book Requirements: Rewrite to Combine Rule Books from Part A and B into a single book with various changes, clarifications, additions, and links.

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These Rules, for the conduct of National Championships and Registered Tournaments, have been compiled by the Discipline Subcommittee and the Benchrest National Discipline Chairman, with amendments by the SSAA National Discipline Chairmen's Conference and approved and ratified for publication by the SSAA Inc National Board

BENCHREST RIFLE NATIONAL RULES

BENCHREST GROUP, SCORE AND IRB CHAMPIONSHIPS

Revised November 2022, No. 10.0

The 'Benchrest Rifle' Official National Rules are now one document issued to cover all classes of Benchrest Competition.

HISTORY AND BACKGROUND:

The sport "Benchrest" originated in the USA in the late 1940s and arrived in Australia in 1950 with the first bench line thought to be in the now defunct Baulkham Hills Range in Sydney NSW.

Benchrest grew over the next 10 years and aligned with SSAA. It is now acknowledged as the oldest contested and formulated discipline under that banner. From these humble beginnings under the tutelage of the SSAA, Benchrest has progressed to be in the vanguard of competing at and hosting World Championships, which are contested biennially.

The discipline is responsible for many firsts and highlights that developed and became common place within the annals of SSAA and its affiliated structure.

SECTION 1: AIMS AND OBJECTIVES

1.1 AIMS AND OBJECTIVES

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

SECTION 2: SSAA STANDARD RULES

The SSAA Standard Rules cover common rules, including the protest and appeals process that applies to all disciplines.

The current edition of the Standard Rules is available on the SSAA website at www.ssaa.org.au/standard-rules

These Standard Rules should be used with each discipline's current rule book and they take precedence, over any rule that may be in a discipline's rule book.

The Rules covered are shown as heading and sub-headings in this rule book.

2.1 COMPETITORS ELIGIBILITY

2.2 JUNIOR COMPETITORS

2.3 PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES

2.3.1 Authorisations

2.3.2 Substitute position

2.3.3 Awards, trophies, records, etc.

2.3.4 Protests

2.4 COMPETITORS RESPONSIBILITY

2.4.1 Competitors and Officials to be familiar with the Rules.

2.4.2 Sportsmanship

2.4.3 Behavior

2.4.4 Range Safety Rules

2.4.5 Safety Equipment

2.4.6 Clothing

2.5 STUCK LIVE ROUND: MANDATORY RULE

2.6 RULE INFRINGEMENTS

2.7 DISCIPLINE CHAIRMAN'S AUTHORITY

2.8 PROTEST AND APPEALS COMMITTEE

2.9 NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIPS

SECTION 3: DEFINITIONS

In these rules the following words and expressions shall have the meanings set out against them.

- 3.1** "SSAA Inc" means Sporting Shooters' Association of Australia Inc being the National body of the Sporting Shooters' Association of Australia.
- 3.2** "State" means the Sporting Shooters' Association of any Australian State or Territory.
- 3.3** "Branch" means a full Club of a State or Territory Sporting Shooters' Association
- 3.4** "Host" means a State, Branch or affiliated Association conducting a Registered Benchrest Tournament.
- 3.5** "Benchrest Committee" means SSAA Inc Benchrest Sub-committee.
- 3.6** "Appeals Committee" means Protest and Appeals Committee.
- 3.7** "Records Committee" means SSAA Inc National Benchrest Records Subcommittee.
- 3.8** The definition of the word's "relay" and "detail" in these rules have the meanings set out in this Section 3.8.1 and 3.8.2 unless the connotation of either word, as used in certain circumstances, implies otherwise, e.g."target detail".
- 3.8.1** "Relay" means an appearance at the benches by several competitors during which they shoot one target. A relay may be composed of one, two or more details.
- 3.8.2** "Detail" means any one group of competitors into which a relay has been divided when the number of competitors exceeds the number of benches available e.g. if there are 37 competitors and 15 benches, then it would be necessary to break the competitors in each relay into 3 details; one detail of 13 competitors and two details of 12 competitors. The number of competitors in each detail shall be as proportionate, as the number of benches, and the number of competitors will permit.
- 3.9** "Section" means a Section of these Rules.
- 3.10** "Qualifier" means a competitor who has entered and contested a course of fire for any class within a SSAA Registered Tournament.
In addition, a competitor who failed to qualify due to equipment failure or was penalised for a shot after the cease fire call, but in all other aspects attempted to complete the course of fire, will be counted as a "Qualifier."
A competitor who completes less than the required number of targets or cards for the course of fire of any class being contested by failing to take his or her place at the bench and does not attempt to complete the target or card shall not be considered as a "Qualifier."
- 3.11** "Competitor" means an individual who has paid to enter a match at a Registered Tournament.
- 3.12** "ECI" means Empty Chamber Indicator.
- 3.13** "IRB" means International Rimfire Benchrest.
- 3.14** "Sand" means a dry divided substance, such as, but not limited to sand, gravel, grain or sawdust. Sands can be ground from many different raw minerals or substances, this includes Zircon, Garnet, Ilmenite and Quartz.
- 3.15.1** "Innocent Party" means someone who has been harmed by the wrong action of another person.
- 3.16.1** "Match" means competitors competing in a relay, aggregate or an event of a tournament.

- 3.16.2** “Bench” shall be a rigidly constructed table of a height to permit a competitor of more or less average height to sit comfortably there at by merely increasing or decreasing the height of the stool on which the competitor sits or if separate stools are provided, then by choosing a stool, the height of which suits their physical build. The bench shall be constructed, to permit firing by either a right or left-handed competitor.
- 3.17** “Event” is the separate class events that make up the Championship.
E.g. LB, HB, SP, EXP/UNL, IRB Day 1, IRB Day 2, etc
- 3.18** “Championship” shall be defined as the conduct of the entire Tournament.
- 3.18.1** “Fail to qualify” (FTQ) shall be defined as a competitor who has not completed the required course of fire due to equipment failure, penalised due to firing after the time call has ceased or has breached rules that see them disqualified from the tournament or Championship(s).

SECTION 4: BENCHREST RIFLE SPECIFICATIONS

There are currently nine classes of competition benchrest rifle. Six in the Centrefire Class, two in the Rimfire class and one in the Air Rifle Class. The specifications for each of these classes are as follows:

4.1 EXPERIMENTAL / UNLIMITED BENCHREST

Any rifle having a barrel not less than 18 inches⁽¹⁾ (457.2 mm) long, measured from the bolt face to the muzzle, and a safely operated firing mechanism. The magnification of any telescopic sight shall be unrestricted. It may be fired from restricted or unrestricted rests as defined in [SECTION 6: RESTS](#).

4.2 HEAVY BENCHREST

Any rifle having a barrel not less than 18 inches⁽¹⁾ (457.2mm) long, measured from the bolt face to the muzzle, and a safe, manually operated, firing mechanism that does not include the use of pressure fluid, gas, or remote control. The use of an electric trigger is permitted; however, all accessories associated with such trigger, such as batteries, must be integrated as part of the rifle and included in the total rifle weight. The stock having a flat or a convex fore-end arm with a maximum width of the stock shall not exceed 3 inches (76.2 mm) at any point. The magnification of telescopic sight shall be unrestricted. The total weight of the rifle and telescopic sight, including all accessories and attachments, such as mirage shades, tuning devices and batteries for electric Trigger, shall not exceed 13 pounds 8 ounces (6.123 kg). The rifle shall be fired from restricted rests only as per [SECTION 6: RESTS](#).

All other specifications are to be in accordance with Benchrest Group Rifle Class Diagram; see [SECTION 24: STOCK REQUIREMENTS CENTREFIRE GROUP ONLY](#)

4.3 LIGHT BENCHREST

Any rifle that does not have a total weight more than 10 pounds 8 ounces (4.763 kg) including telescopic sight, all accessories and attachments, but otherwise meets the specifications of the Heavy Benchrest Rifle, (Section 4.2) and shall be fired from restricted rests only as per [SECTION 6: RESTS](#)

4.4 SPORTER BENCHREST

Any rifle that does not have a total weight more than 9 pounds (4.082 kg) including telescopic sight, all accessories and attachments, but otherwise meets the specifications of the Heavy Benchrest Rifle (Section 4.2) and shall be fired from restricted rests only as per [SECTION 6: RESTS](#)

4.5 HEAVY CENTREFIRE FOR SCORE ONLY

Any rifle⁽¹⁾ that has a safe, manually operated, firing mechanism that does not include the use of pressure fluid, gas, or remote control. The use of an electric trigger is permitted; however, all accessories associated with such trigger, such as batteries, must be integrated as part of the rifle and included in the total rifle weight. The stock having a flat or a convex fore-end with a maximum width of the stock shall not exceed 3 inches (76.2 mm) at any point. The magnification of telescopic sight shall be unrestricted. The total weight of the rifle including telescopic sight and all accessories and attachments, such as mirage shades, tuning devices and batteries for electric Trigger, shall not exceed 14 pounds (6.350 kg). The rifle shall be fired from restricted rests only as defined in [SECTION 6: RESTS](#)

4.6 LIGHT CENTREFIRE FOR SCORE ONLY

Any rifle that does not have a total weight more than 10 pounds 8 ounces (4.763 kg) but otherwise meets the specifications of the (Section 4.5) Heavy Benchrest For Score Rifle and shall be fired from restricted rests only as defined in

4.7 .22LR LIGHT RIMFIRE BENCHREST RIFLE FOR GROUP, SCORE

Any rimfire rifle chambered for the .22 calibre Long Rifle rimfire cartridge only, that does not have a total weight in excess of 8 pounds 8 ounces (3.855 kg) including telescopic sight and all accessories, and the telescopic sight shall be restricted to 6.5 magnifications (variable magnification telescopic sights shall be set at 6.5 magnifications or less and taped to ensure they are not tampered with) and the width of the stock shall not exceed 2.25 inches (57.15 mm) at any point, but otherwise meets the specifications of the Heavy Rimfire Group, Score Class rifle and shall be fired from restricted rests only as defined in [SECTION 6: RESTS](#)

4.8 .22LR HEAVY RIMFIRE BENCHREST RIFLE FOR GROUP, SCORE & IRB

Any rimfire rifle⁽¹⁾ chambered in 22 calibre Long Rifle long with a safe, manually operated, firing mechanism that does not include the use of pressure fluid, gas or remote control. The use of an electric trigger is permitted; however, all accessories associated with such trigger, such as batteries, must be integrated as part of the rifle and included in the total rifle weight. The stock having a flat or a convex fore-end with a maximum width of the stock shall not exceed 3 inches (76.2 mm) at any point. The magnification of telescopic sight shall be unrestricted. The total weight of the rifle and telescopic sight, including all accessories and attachments, such as mirage shades, tuning devices and batteries for electric Trigger, shall not exceed 14 pounds (6.350 kg). The rifle shall be fired from restricted rests only as defined in [SECTION 6: RESTS](#)

4.9 AIR RIFLE UNLIMITED BENCHREST RIFLE

Any air rifle⁽¹⁾ up to 22 calibre with a safe, manually operated, firing mechanism. The magnification of telescopic sight shall be unrestricted. The total weight of the rifle and telescopic sight, including all accessories and attachments, such as mirage shades, tuning devices, bipods and other accessories, shall not exceed 14 pounds (6.350 kg). The rifle shall be fired from restricted rests only as defined in [SECTION 6: RESTS](#)

Note: Air Rifle Unlimited is in development and shall be competed, as its own class, as per International Rimfire Benchrest rules.

4.10 RIFLE SPECIFICATION – INFORMATION

Note ⁽¹⁾: *The Firearms Legislation is not uniform throughout the States and Territories of Australia, therefore the competitor shall ensure their rifle is legal for the State or Territory the Championship is being held.*

4.11 TRIGGER

All rifles must have a trigger guard installed and a safe trigger system that is released by a finger of either hand.

4.12 BARREL TUNERS & ATTACHMENTS

4.12.1 Barrel Tuner

A muzzle attachment may be added to a rifle barrel when used only as a tuning device. The rifle with the attachment in place, must still meet the rifle requirements. Once the command “Commence Fire” is given by the Range Officer or electronic audio device, adjustment of muzzle attachments at the firing line may occur if the competitor removes their bolt from the rifle and may be undertaken standing or seated. If a competitor does not remove their bolt prior to adjusting the tuner, they shall be disqualified.

4.12.2 Muzzle brakes are not allowed in any class of benchrest rifle.

4.13 RIFLE NOT MEETING THE SPECIFICATIONS

A competitor may at the discretion of the Supervising Tournament Captain and where range facilities permit, use a rifle not meeting the specifications of a particular class however the competitor:

4.13.1 Will not be eligible for a place in the results and

4.13.2 Must pay the required entry fee and abide by all the rules in this rulebook and

4.13.3 The entry of the competitor into the Tournament will not be counted as an entry for the purposes of meeting any requirement for a minimum number of “qualifiers” as laid out in these rules. If any competitor enters the competition with such a rifle, all competitors must be advised of this fact and the requirements of this rule.

4.14 A competitor may, during the competition of any course of fire, match, group or card change to a different rifle(s):

The same or different calibre, provided that each rifle used complies with the specifications laid down in this [SECTION 4: BENCHREST RIFLE SPECIFICATIONS](#) for that particular class and that such change is notified in accordance with the procedure laid down in Section 11.11.
[SECTION 11: COMPETITORS](#)

4.15 BENCHREST RIMFIRE SPECIFICATION RIFLE CLASS SELECTION

	BENCHREST RIMFIRE CLASSES				
RIFLE SPECIFICATION	Light Group	Heavy Group	Light Score	Heavy Score	IRB
Light Rimfire	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Heavy Rimfire	✗	✓	✗	✓	✓

A rifle meeting the specification as shown in the table can be used in the classes as illustrated.

Table 1

4.16 BENCHREST CENTREFIRE SPECIFICATION RIFLE CLASS SELECTION

	BENCHREST CENTREFIRE CLASSES					
RIFLE SPECIFICATION	Sporter Group	Light Barrel Group	Heavy Barrel Group	Unlimited/ Experimental Group	Light Score	Heavy Score
Sporter Group	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Light Barrel Group	✗	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Heavy Barrel Group	✗	✗	✓	✓	✗	✓
Unlimited /Experimental	✗	✗	✗	✓	✗	✗
Light Barrel Score	✗	✗	✗	✓	✓	✓
Heavy Barrel Score	✗	✗	✗	✓	✗	✓

A rifle meeting the specification as shown in the table can be used in the Class as illustrated.

Table 2

SECTION 5: AMMUNITION

5.1 Centrefire Ammunition

Reloading of ammunition and cartridge development for the centrefire benchrest class competitions is an integral requirement for the discipline, as it is ***the objective*** in the search for the ultimate in rifle accuracy. Reloading cartridges during competition facilitates ***the accuracy tuning*** for changed conditions such as but not limited to ***Rifle Range conditions, weather and atmospheric*** and ***inherent barrel wear*** throughout the course of a match.

5.1.1 Care shall be taken by the competitor when reloading ammunition.

5.1.2 Reloaded ammunition often has characteristics particular to the competitor's components and equipment therefore it is not recommended to share reloaded ammunition with other competitors.

5.2 Rimfire Ammunition

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

5.3 Air Rifle Ammunition

Ammunition is unrestricted in shape and can be made of lead, lead alloy or alloy, in pellets or slugs.

SECTION 6: RESTS

6.0 Restricted rests only shall be used in all classes of the benchrest discipline except for Unlimited/Experimental, where a restricted or unrestricted rest maybe used.

6.1 RESTRICTED RESTS

6.1.1 Restricted rests shall comprise a front rest to support the front part of the rifle, and a rear rest to support the rear part of the rifle; neither rest may be clamped to the bench, the rifle or to the other rest, and each must be movable independently of the other.

6.1.2 The front rest may be a block or pedestal, and may incorporate adjustments for windage and elevation, but shall not have any guiding means; it shall be used in conjunction with a sandbag on which to rest the fore-end of the rifle; the section of fore-end contacting the sandbag shall be for full width of the stock.

6.1.3 A bipod attached to the front of the rifle can be used in place of a restricted front rest with a sandbag for the Air Rifle Unlimited Class.

6.1.4 The rear rest shall be a sandbag only, except that a vertical spacer shall be allowed between this sandbag and the bench top. Such spacer shall not incorporate adjustments for windage or elevation, nor shall it contain any protrusions which can be inserted into the bench-top or the sandbag. The rear sandbag shall not be contained in any manner.

6.1.5 A monopod attached to the rear of the stock can be used in place of a rear rest sandbag for the Air Rifle Unlimited Class.

6.2 SANDBAGS

6.2.1 Front Sandbag

The front shall be a bag, without additions, containing sand only, and at least ½” thick over its entire surface. No metallic materials may be used in the construction of the sandbag. Tape on the sandbag is legal.

6.2.2 Rear Sandbag

The rear sandbag shall be a bag or combination of bags containing sand only. A vertical spacer under the rear bag will be allowed if it incorporates no adjustments for windage or elevation. The vertical spacer shall not contain any protrusions which can be inserted into the bench top or the sandbag. The Dunrud type rear ring spacer under the rear bag is legal. The rear bag shall not be contained in any manner; no metallic materials may be used in the construction of the sandbag. Tape on the sandbag is legal.

6.3 Rifles shall be fired from rests which may be supported on a pedestal, which shall not co-act with the sandbag to restrain recoil or form a guiding means: and a rear rest, comprising a sandbag supporting the rifle between the rear of the pistol grip and the toe of the butt stock. The rifle must be able to be lifted freely from the sandbag in a vertical direction with all attachments in place.
An example of being “lifted freely” would be the same effort required to lift vertically the same rifle, placed flat on a table.

6.4 GUIDING MEANS

No devices or attachments designed to stabilise the rifle, reduce its recoil, or twisting torque after firing, by co-acting with the rests or sandbags, shall be fitted to the rifle, after the rifle has been weighed, checked, and cleared as meeting the requirements for a particular class.

6.6 UNRESTRICTED RESTS

- 6.6.1** Unrestricted rests may incorporate guiding means, and adjustments for elevation and windage in any or all of the rests.
- 6.6.2** Unrestricted may be used with or without sandbags, and may be made up of only one rest, or of two or more rests. They are as the word implies "unrestricted".
- 6.6.3** Unrestricted rests may be clamped to the bench.

SECTION 7: COURSE OF FIRE AND TIME LIMITS – ALL CLASSES

7.1 GROUP CLASS: COURSE OF FIRE AND TIME LIMITS

- 7.1.1** The course of fire for all Registered Tournaments may consist of either a single distance match or dual distance matches as defined in these Sections 7.2.1, 7.2.2, 7.2.3, 7.3.1, 7.3.2, 7.3.3, 7.3.4 and 7.3.5.

When a dual distance course of fire is undertaken, the matches may be broken in time, however the second distance shall be completed within 48 hours of the first to be eligible for class record.

- 7.1.2** In all classes the provision of a Warmup target is optional to the Host as well as the competitor (when same is posted). Where the Host opts not to post a Warmup target it is recommended that competitors be informed that the first target of each day or distance is for record; however, the onus is on the competitor to ascertain the status of the first target of each distance in each Registered match.
- 7.1.3** A Registered Tournament may include two different classes contested simultaneously where facilities and personnel permit.

7.2 SINGLE DISTANCE REGISTERED TOURNAMENTS

- 7.2.1** For the Sporter Benchrest, Light Benchrest and Heavy Benchrest classes, the complete course of fire shall be five targets of five shot groups plus an optional Warm Up target at either 100 yards, 200 yards or 300 yards.
- 7.2.2** For the Experimental / Unlimited class, the complete course of fire shall be five targets of ten shot groups plus an optional Warm Up target at either 100 yards, 200 yards or 300 yards.
- 7.2.3** For the .22LR Light Rimfire Benchrest and .22LR Heavy Rimfire Benchrest classes, the complete course of fire shall be five targets of five shot groups plus an optional Warm Up target at either 50 metres or 100 yards.

7.3 DUAL DISTANCE REGISTERED TOURNAMENTS

- 7.3.1** For the Sporter Benchrest, Light Benchrest and Heavy Benchrest classes the complete course of fire shall be five targets of five shot groups, plus an optional Warm Up target at 100 yards and five targets of five shot groups, plus an optional Warm Up target at 200 yards, or
- 7.3.2** Five targets of five shot groups, plus an optional Warm Up target at 200 yards and five targets of five shot groups, plus an optional Warm Up target at 300 yards.
- 7.3.3** For the Experimental / Unlimited Benchrest class, the complete course of fire shall be five targets of ten shot groups, plus an optional Warm Up target at 100 yards and five targets of ten shot groups, plus an optional Warm Up target at 200 yards or
- 7.3.4** Five targets of ten shot groups, plus an optional Warm Up target at 200 yards and five targets of ten shot groups, plus an optional Warm Up target at 300 yards

7.3.5 For the .22LR Light Rimfire Benchrest and .22LR Heavy Rimfire Benchrest classes, the complete course of fire shall be five targets of five shot groups, plus an optional Warm Up target at 50 metres and five targets of five shot groups, plus an optional Warm Up target at 100 yards.

7.4 In the .22LR Light Rimfire Benchrest and .22LR Heavy Rimfire Benchrest classes the targets to be used are the 100yard benchrest target at 50 metres and the 200-yard target at 100 yards as defined in [SECTION 22: TARGET SPECIFICATIONS](#)

7.5. For the first group of a class, or the first group after a change of distance, fifteen minutes shall be allowed for a ten-shot group, and ten minutes for a five-shot group. For subsequent groups twelve minutes shall be allowed for a ten-shot group and seven minutes for a five-shot group.

7.5.1 Competitors shall be allowed not less than thirty minutes rest or preparation period between the end of one relay and the beginning of their next relay, if required by one or more competitors.

7.5.2 Only one group may be fired in any one relay.

7.5.3 There shall be no exception to the requirement that all competitors must complete their string of fire within the time limits allowed, except as provided for in Sections:10.6,10.7 & 13.1.3.
[SECTION 13: CROSS-FIRES](#)

7.6 SCORE CLASS: COURSE OF FIRE AND TIME LIMITS

7.6.1 The course of fire for all classes for Score Registered Tournaments may consist of either a single distance match or dual distance match as defined in this Section 7.6.3, 7.6.4, 7.6.5 and 7.6.6.

When a dual distance course of fire is undertaken, the matches may be broken in time, however the second distance shall be completed within 48 hours of the first to be eligible for class record.

7.6.2 In both classes the provision of a Warmup target is optional to the host Association or branch as well as the competitor (when same is posted). Where the Host opts not to post a Warmup target it is recommended that competitors be advised in terms of Section 7.1.2.

7.6.3 In single distance Tournaments for Light Centrefire Benchrest for Score and Heavy Centrefire Benchrest for Score Class the complete course of fire shall be five (5), five shot targets (one shot at each record bull) plus an optional Warm Up target at either 100 yards or 200 yards.

7.6.4 In single distance Tournaments for .22LR Light Rimfire Benchrest for Score and .22LR Heavy Rimfire Benchrest for Score Classes the complete course of fire shall be five (5), five shot targets (one shot at each record bull) plus an optional Warm Up target at either 50 metres or 100 yards.

7.6.5 In dual distance Tournaments for Light Centrefire Benchrest for Score and Heavy Centrefire Benchrest for Score Classes the complete course of fire shall be five targets of five shots (one shot at each record bull) plus an optional Warm Up target at 100 yards and 200 yards.

7.6.6 In dual distance Tournaments for .22LR Light Rimfire Benchrest for Score and .22LR Heavy Rimfire Benchrest for Score for Score Classes the complete course of fire shall be five targets of five shots (one shot at each record bull) plus an optional Warm Up target at 50 metres and 100 yards.

7.6.7 In the .22LR Light Rimfire Benchrest for Score and .22LR Heavy Rimfire Benchrest for Score Classes the targets to be used are the 100-yard target designated as Benchrest for Score Class target at 50 metres and the 200-yard target at 100 yards as defined in this [SECTION 22: TARGET SPECIFICATIONS](#)

7.6.8 Time limits will be identical to those laid out in Section 7.5 and the word "target" should be substituted for the word "group" in all cases.

7.7 INTERNATIONAL RIMFIRE BENCHREST (IRB) CLASS: COURSE OF FIRE AND TIME LIMITS

7.7.1 The course of fire for International Rimfire Benchrest and Unlimited Air Rifle Registered Tournaments is a single distance match held over 50m with 25 shots per completed target. Each completed match consists of 3 x Targets.

A registered match can be held as a single day or two-day Championship, however the approved event for the conduct of the IRB National Championships is as follows:

Day 1 Match - 3 x Targets - 25 record shots per Target (Individual Championship)

Day 2 Match - 3 x Targets - 25 record shots per Target (Individual Championship)

When a multiple day course of fire is undertaken, it may be broken in time, however the second day shall be completed within 48 hours of the first, to be eligible for a class aggregate record.

7.7.2 WARM UP TARGET

A warmup single target may be conducted per day of competition, however this is optional and the prerogative of the Host, as well as the competitor (when same is posted) Where the Host opts not to post a Warmup target it is recommended that competitors informed that the first target of the day is for record, the onus is on the competitor to ascertain the status of the first target of each day of a registered match.

7.7.3 TARGETS

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

7.8 TIME LIMITS

7.8.1 Target Card – the time limit will be 20 minutes. There shall be no exception to the requirement for all competitions to complete their string of fire within the time allowed, except as provided for in Sections:10.6,10.7 & 13.1.3.

[SECTION 10: PROCEDURAL COMMANDS AT REGISTERED TOURNAMENTS](#)
[SECTION 13: CROSS-FIRES](#)

7.8.2 For subsequent relays – Not less than 30 minutes shall be allowed between the relay's completion of one "Target" and the start of the same relay commencing its next "Target." This is at the discretion of the Range Officer if all competitors are ready at the firing line.

7.8.3 Wind Indicators - Positioning, Installation and relocation.

Competitors may place wind indicators on the range as desired, however all indicators on the range must be no higher than a line between the top of the bench and the bottom of the target card and also be retained within the competitors target lane. The Range Officer has the discretion to remove or drop any wind indicators that is interfering with any competitor.

Any competitor may also place personal wind flags off to the side of the range; that is, left of the left-most bench on the range, and/or right of the right-most and right-most bench being used.

Wind Indicators - Positioning, Installation and relocation. (continued)

After the start of any match, competitors will be allowed approximately eight (8) minutes at the end of each completed relay, to move flags on pre-installed pegs or stand-up pre-aligned and positioned wind indicators into the lane which they are about to shoot a target. There could be multiple relays for each of the 3 targets in an IRB Match.

The commencement of time shall be announced by the Range Officer after the bench line has been cleared of rifles and equipment and the range opened and is safe to proceed forward of the firing line.

In general terms this will require positioning of pegs or wind indicator alignment markers, prior to the commencement of the day's competition. The repositioning of indicators will occur during the same period the target crew, will be collecting completed targets, checking for cross fires, patching stationary backers and placing the new targets. Some additional time may be allocated for the placing of competitors Wind Flags before the first relay of the B and the C targets, which are a bench rotation change.

The placing of competitors wind flags is always under the Range Officers control and discretion to maintain the orderly conduct of a "Match."

SECTION 8: RANGE REQUIREMENTS

8.1 A range for Registered Tournaments must have provision for the posting of targets at all measured distances from the firing line at which the Registered Tournament is to be conducted. A target for each bench shall be posted that is assigned a competitor within a bench rotation. Targets shall be clearly labelled with competitor number, class, detail and bench number to assist with identification by competitors and to prevent as much as possible – cross fires.

8.2 The firing line shall preferably be coincident with the forward edge of the bench. If not, the firing line must be clearly marked at the point it commences.

8.3 Group Competitions Only

The range must provide **moving backing strips** behind the Record Targets to indicate the actual number of shots that have passed through the Record Target. The moving backing strips must move horizontally in one direction at a minimum speed of travel no less than one inch per minute. Reciprocating motion is also allowed so long as the above horizontal travel specified minimum is achieved. The moving backing strips shall not be mounted, stapled, glued or attached to any card or board for the width or length of the Record Target that would cause the bullet to deviate before the strike reaches the stationary backer. Black plastic film (200um) is an acceptable support for the moving backing strip. Moving backing strips shall not show any exposed portion or part that a competitor can see to shoot at unless the bullet first passed through the Record Target.

It is mandatory, if the moving backer system cannot separate shots, especially in Unlimited Class, that the moving backer strip shall be silicone coated or by other means approved by the Benchrest National Discipline Chairman, to allow shots to be clearly counted.

8.4 Score and International Rimfire Benchrest

These shall be identical to the requirements defined in Section 8.3, except that moving backing strips are not required, however stationary backing cards and black backing material (directly behind the target) are mandatory.

- 8.5** Any rifle range registered for the conduct of Benchrest tournaments must notify the Benchrest National Discipline Chairman of any range change or alteration made since the original range registration approval. Such notification is to be in writing detailing the changes and must be made by 1 November in the year preceding the National Championship or at least three months prior to any other registered match. This notice shall allow reasonable consideration and/or inspection of any proposed change or any change implemented prior to advising the Benchrest National Discipline Chairman in writing. Changes not formally ratified by the Benchrest National Discipline Chairman may impact on the range registration for the conduct of registered matches under these rules.
- 8.6** The range must provide black backing material between target and backing strip as an aid to competitors in locating their bullet strike. However, if the moving backing strip is black and of a material acceptable to the National Benchrest Committee and/or Benchrest National Discipline Chairman, this requirement may be waived.
- 8.7** The range must provide stationary backing cards to enable the target detail and Official Scorer to determine if apparently cross-fired shots belong to the particular competitor on whose Record Target they appear, or have been cross-fired by another competitor. The stationary backing card is to be placed 36 inches behind the Record Target at 50 metres and 100 yards, 72 inches behind the Record Target at 200 yards and 108 inches behind the Record Target at 300 yards.
- 8.8** It is recommended a range for Registered Tournaments shall not have less than five benches.
- 8.9** All ranges shall have all benches as dual handed to allow either right or left-handed competitors to fire from any bench.
- 8.10** Ranges shall be constructed, so that benches are aligned with targets to an accuracy of plus or minus half of one degree, measured from the centreline of the bench.
Note: Para Rifle Range is exempt from clause 8.9 & 8.10 due to its date of inception.
- 8.11** A “bench” should be a rigidly constructed table. A competitor need not sit down when firing a rifle on unrestricted rests. The Benchrest National Discipline Chairman shall make available, for the purpose of range development, plans of bench designs which have been accepted by the Benchrest Subcommittee as being acceptable for use in Registered Tournaments.
- 8.12** The benches should be covered by a roof to protect competitors from the elements, such as sun and rain.
- 8.13** The layout of the range shall comply with the safety rules, such as effective butt stops and safety angles of fire, to comply with legal requirements of the State involved, for that range.

8.14 WIND INDICATOR REQUIREMENTS

Shall be provided by the host at suggested distances across the range unless competitors' own wind indicators already fulfil this requirement.

Wind indicators are required to be placed up range at distances approximating 25 and 50 metres, 100, 150, 200 yards and in the case of 300-yard matches at 250 and 300 yards. The wind indicators should be so placed across the range so that there will be a line of wind indicators flanking no more than every four benches e.g. If eight benches three lines of wind indicators would be required, twelve benches four lines, sixteen five lines and so on. The number of wind indicators stated is the minimum requirement and the host and or competitors may place more wind indicators, if they so choose, but not less. The type of wind indicators used shall be the prerogative of the Host but ideally should be so constructed as to indicate not only wind velocity, but direction as well. The Host and or competitors wind indicators may be placed subject to the following:

8.14.1 Wind Indicator Placement

Competitors may place wind indicators on the range as desired, however all indicators on the range must be no higher than a line between the top of the bench and the bottom of the target card and also be retained within the competitors target lane.

The competitor may also place personal wind flags off to the side of the range; that is, left of the left-most bench on the range, and/or right of the right-most and right-most bench being used.

Placement of any competitor's wind indicator(s) shall not obstruct or interfere in any way with any equipment used by the Host in the conduct of any Registered Tournament or shall not obscure any part of any competitor's target card, additional sighting target or mirage indicator.

8.14.2 Group and Score Class

Any competitor wishing to place any wind indicator(s) for any Registered Tournament, must do so prior to the commencement of the "match" at the time of which commencement shall be determined by the Host and circulated with sufficient prior notice. For the purpose of this Section 8.14, "match" shall mean all "relays" have completed a single distance course of fire as defined in Section 7.1.1 for Benchrest Group and Section 7.6.1 Score Classes.

8.14.3 IRB Class

Any competitor wishing to place any wind indicator(s) for any Registered Tournament, must do so prior to the commencement of each of their "targets." This means, prior to the commencement of the competitors A target, then their B target and finally their C target.

The time of which commencement of wind indicator placement shall be as determined in 7.8.3.

SECTION 7: COURSE OF FIRE AND TIME LIMITS – ALL CLASSES

8.14.4 Group and Score classes only: After any wind indicator(s), no persons other than authorised Tournament Officials, or their delegate, may remove, reposition, adjust, or authorise repairs to any wind indicator(s) until the completion of the particular "match" or course of fire of the Registered Tournament prior to which the wind indicator(s) were placed. For IRB class requirements, see clause 7.8.3

8.14.5 The Host shall be empowered to refuse the placement of any competitor's wind indicator(s) if such placement would contravene any restriction on such placement for safety or operational reasons.

- 8.20** It is recommended that the range provide a public address system and a timed electronic audio device to automatically announce all procedural commands in order that competitors can receive commands and time calls at the exact time and in identical format and manner. It is recognised that such a requirement may not be possible to implement and is therefore not mandatory, but every effort should be made by the Host to comply.
- 8.21** Mirage indicators shall be mandatory at all Registered Tournaments. The type and design of such indicators shall be the prerogative of the Host. The Benchrest Committee shall make available, for the purpose of range development, plans of mirage indicators, which have been accepted by the Benchrest Subcommittee as being suitable for use at Registered Tournaments. This requirement is not mandatory for the IRB class and shall be considered optional.
- 8.22** The target detail will post an additional numbered sighting-in target , adjacent to each competitor's target frame, at all Registered matches for Group and Score Classes, in addition to the first target of the day, distance change or change of class. This requirement is not mandatory for the IRB class and shall be considered optional.

SECTION 9: CONDUCT OF TOURNAMENTS

9.1 CLASSES OF BENCHREST TOURNAMENT

- 9.1.1** Benchrest Tournaments shall be in two general classes: Registered Tournaments and Unregistered Tournaments. Only at Registered Tournaments will targets be accepted and recognised for record purposes. At the beginning of each year the Benchrest Committee should have published and advised all State Associations, the date and venue of all anticipated Registered Tournaments for that year.
- 9.1.2** During the year applications may be made to the Benchrest Committee by States, Branches, or affiliated Associations for approval to hold Registered Tournaments during the current year, or for the year following. The application should be lodged via the State Delegate, however if this is not possible due to the unavailability of such Delegate, a duplicate of the application to the Benchrest National Discipline Chairman should be forwarded to the State Delegate by the applicant State, Branch, or affiliated Association. Provided the application is lodged within sufficient time for the Benchrest National Discipline Chairman to make the necessary investigations relating to range requirements, the applicants' ability to conduct a Registered Tournament in accordance with the required standards, the presence of one or both State Delegates or proxy as defined in Section 9.2.4, and any duplication of other Registered Tournament dates that may clash with previously accepted and approved Registered Tournaments, these applications should be approved by the Benchrest National Discipline Chairman. In the case of ranges already approved and accepted for the conduct of Registered Tournament "sufficient time" is defined as a minimum of 48 hours prior to the match requiring registration.
- 9.1.3** Unregistered Tournaments may be conducted as and when any Association or branch sees fit to do so but must not be advertised as a championship event and must clearly state in all notices that it is a non-registered event, as such billing is the province of registered matches.
- 9.1.4** At all National Championships the course of fire format to be applied shall be the shortest distance of each class first.

9.2 REGISTERED TOURNAMENTS

- 9.2.1** A minimum of five (5) competitors who are “qualifiers” are required to constitute a Registered Tournament.
- 9.2.2** To be recognised as a “qualifier” at a Registered Tournament for minimum number requirements and award qualification, the competitor shall compete in all relays for the individual class, otherwise it shall be deemed not to count as an official qualifier. i.e., The competitor cannot compete in one relay of the class or per yardage of the class and be constituted as a qualifier for the remainder by failing to qualify (FTQ). See “Qualifier” Definition 3.10 [SECTION 3: DEFINITIONS](#)
- 9.2.3** Registered Tournaments shall be held only on SSAA approved Rifle Ranges approved by the Benchrest National Discipline Chairman and must comply with the specifications and mandatory requirements laid down in Section 8 and must be able to comply with all requirements laid down in [SECTION 8: RANGE REQUIREMENTS](#)
- 9.2.4** At every Registered Tournament, a State Delegate, from the state in which the Registered Tournament is held, must be in attendance. Should a State Delegate not be able to attend a proxy may be appointed, however such proxy will only be recognised if the proxy authorisation is in writing and signed by both State Delegates.

9.3 Range Approval

States, Branches or affiliated Associations wishing to have their ranges accepted and approved for the conduct of Registered Tournaments, shall make application to the Benchrest National Discipline Chairman, who shall make investigations to ensure that the range facilities comply with the requirements of these Rules as stated in [SECTION 8: RANGE REQUIREMENTS](#) and that the State, Branch or affiliated Association has adequate measuring devices, moving backing strips and all other necessary equipment and facilities; also enough personnel sufficiently well versed in measuring targets, and operating the other equipment and devices required to conduct a Registered Tournament in keeping with the standards as laid down from time to time by the Benchrest National Discipline Chairman and these Rules.

- 9.4** The Host of a Registered Tournament shall be responsible for all organisational details, the provision or engagement of all manual help and for all expenses incurred.
- 9.5** The publication and distribution of all program notices, prior publicity, and advertising associated with a Registered Tournament shall be addressed by the Host.
- 9.5.1** Any Host that wishes to undertake pre-registration for a Registered Tournament must advertise to that effect, in all notices, publicity and advertising with a prior closing date, otherwise such pre-registration cannot be implemented. The Host may request nomination fees to accompany or be paid with the written pre-nomination, which shall be acknowledged by a receipt (electronic or hard copy).
- 9.5.2** The Host shall also provide a competition nomination form containing provision for insertion of the nomination fee, rifle class or event nominated for, nominees name, State Association and branch to which the member is affiliated, expiry date of SSAA membership, rifle, scope and ammunition details; i.e. Cartridge or calibre, Action, Barrel, Telescopic sight and power, Stocker, Gunsmith, Case, Primer, Powder load and Projectile weight, type and maker.

- 9.5.3** At the time of nomination competitors may request sharing of equipment, and/or wind indicators with other competitors but this is to be at the discretion of the Tournament Organisers where range facilities allow.
- 9.5.4** Space for rifle, scope and ammunition details should if possible be duplicated, in case the competitor shoots a different rifle or calibre at each distance, or otherwise changes rifles. Alternatively, two nomination forms may be used.
- 9.5.5** Each competitor should complete a separate nomination form for each event or rifle class contested.
- 9.5.6** The Host shall provide each competitor with a score card having space to show the competitor's number, detail to which they are assigned or have drawn, bench number for each relay and sufficient room on the card for the competitor to keep a record of each group and aggregate.
- 9.5.7** A score book or sheet should be used by the host, ruled up to provide the following information, Competitor's name and number, detail number, bench numbers, scores for each group at each distance, aggregate at each distance, overall aggregate and placing in all aggregates.
- 9.6** For the proper conduct of a Registered Tournament the following officials and staff will be required and essential:
- 9.6.1** One or both State Delegates in attendance who shall oversee the match or matches. Should a State Delegate not be able to attend, a proxy as defined in Section 9.2.4 may be appointed.
- 9.6.2** A Supervising Tournament Captain who shall be in command of all other staff, and shall with the help of assistants, attend to the collection of nomination fees, ensure that all competitors fill out their particulars and equipment details on their nomination forms, check the weight of rifles, scope specifications (where applicable) and that rifles and all other equipment comply with rifle specifications and events to be contested. On the completion of the event the Supervising Tournament Captain must supply a full copy of results to the Benchrest National Discipline Chairman.
- 9.6.3** In the selection of technical and volunteer staff, special consideration must be given to the competence of Range Officers. It is preferable to look for well experienced individuals, who have a known ability to conduct the matches in a manner compatible with the event. Emphasis should be placed on the ability to administer issues such as crossfires, target system failures, equipment inspections etc.
- 9.6.4** A Range Officer, with assistants to supervise safety, calling of competitors to the firing line, giving orders relative to the event, procedural commands (ideally by public address system and timed electronic audio devices), maintain order at the firing line, assist competitors in line with Section 11.8. **SECTION 11: COMPETITORS**
- 9.6.5** A Target Detail Captain, with assistants to post and collect targets, check and collect backing strips and inspect stationary backing cards, and ensure that target frames, moving backing strips and stationary backing cards etc. operate satisfactorily and efficiently; and attend to changing moving backing strips and changing or patching out stationary backers.
- 9.6.6** An Official Scorer, aided by a check scorer and assistants to measure targets, calculate aggregates, placings etc.

9.7 Except as provided for in Section 4.11, a device shall be used to check telescopic sights in classes where magnification limitations form part of the class specifications. Such a device should be used before the match during weighing procedures and during the match when spot checks are undertaken. This device should not involve any implement or procedure that could damage or mark the competitor's equipment. [SECTION 4: BENCHREST RIFLE SPECIFICATIONS](#)

9.8 Certification Equipment .

The following list is recommended:

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

9.8.1 Inspection Area: A facility for the implementation of inspection procedures to ensure firearms are in compliance with the rules. The Certification Equipment to be used for the inspection should be available prior to competition, to ensure individuals have an opportunity to evaluate their equipment to ensure compliance with these Rules.

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

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

9.8.4 Inspection Mandatory: Prior to the commencement of competition in any class, the rifle(s) shall be checked for compliance with [SECTION 4: BENCHREST RIFLE SPECIFICATIONS](#)
The rifle(s) to be used by competitors shall be checked for verification that any rule has not been breached.

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

9.8.6 Similarly in any class for which a scope magnification limitation applies, the rifles to be used by the competitors shall, except as provided for in [SECTION 4: BENCHREST RIFLE SPECIFICATIONS](#) , be checked on the telescopic sight checking device for verification that the magnification limitation rule has not been breached.

9.8.7 Random Inspection: Rifles, telescopic sights and rests can be subject to one “Random Inspection” per relay on competitors by the Range Officer or their assistants, to ensure that they conform to the specifications of the class being fired. Any rifle, telescopic sight or rest being used that does not comply with the specifications constitutes grounds for disqualification of the competitor. If rifle, telescopic sights, or rests are found not to comply, the competitor may lodge a protest and shoot under protest. If the competitor declines to lodge a protest, then after the relay has finished the Range Officer shall report the matter to the Supervising Tournament Captain who shall check the equipment in question, and if that equipment is found not to comply with the specifications, the competitor shall be disqualified from receiving any prizes or trophies and from being eligible for any awards, records or recognition pertaining to that event.

9.9 Registered Tournament – Bench Rotation (Mandatory)

The rotation system to be used is to be advised to all competitors prior to the start of the match. The rotation shall move across the full width of the Range over the days of consecutive competition. i.e., over the period of the championship competitors starting bench shall move every day across the full width of the range, regardless of the rotation method chosen. On ranges that all benches are dual handed the following formula’s will apply for rotation:

9.9.1 Group & Score Class

Day 1 Match: A random draw for start bench and detail shall be taken prior to the Tournament, taking into consideration any sharing requirements after the initial random draw. Each competitor shall move to the right, one fifth of the number of benches used, calculated to the nearest whole number, after each relay per yardage.

Subsequent Day(s): Each competitor shall move from the original start bench to the right to the next bench within their rotation and this shall be their start bench for Day 2. This shall continue each day for the duration of the Tournament.

Subsequent Day(s) (Continued): The “details” shall be in reverse order from that of the Day 1 Match, if only two details are required. If further “details” and days are required please see example below.

Example: 25 Benches used for rotation – 3 x Details – 75 Competitors Maximum

- Day 1 Match: Competitor 1 Rotation Benches 1, 6, 11, 16 & 21: Detail 1
- Day 2 Match: Competitor 1 Rotation Benches 6, 11, 16, 21 & 1: Detail 2
- Day 3 Match: Competitor 1 Rotation Benches 11, 16, 21, 1 & 6: Detail 3
- Day 4 Match: Competitor 1 Rotation Benches 16, 21, 1, 6 & 11: Detail 1

In the even some classes only have two details and others three or more the intent of this rule is to endeavour to create as fair a system as possible and or practical.

9.9.2 International Rimfire Benchrest (IRB)

Day 1 Match: A random draw for start bench and relay shall be taken, taking into consideration any sharing requirements. Each competitor shall move to the right, one third of the number of benches used, calculated to the nearest whole number, after each target.

Day 2 Match: Each competitor shall move from the original start bench to the right to the next bench within their rotation and this shall be their start bench for Day 2. The Relays shall be in the reverse order of the Day 1 Match

Example: 24 Benches used for rotation – 5 x Relays – 120 Competitors Maximum

- Day 1 Match: Competitor 1 Rotation Benches 1, 9 & 17: Relay 1
- Day 2 Match: Competitor 1 Rotation Benches 9, 17 & 1: Relay 5

9.10 Bench rotations – Legacy Ranges

On existing legacy approved ranges, where all benches are not dual handed, rotation, as laid down in this Section 9.9.1, cannot be applied. In such cases the State, Branch or affiliated Association must submit a rotation formula to either the Benchrest National Discipline Chairman or Benchrest Committee for approval. Such formula in these circumstances should be designed in such a manner that competitors are afforded a rotation over the full spectrum of the benches being used in the Tournament irrespective of whether the competitor is right or left-handed.

This only applies to the Para Range in South Australia due to date of inception.

9.11 Results Service

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

9.11.1 As soon as possible after the completion of firing in any class, the Range Officer or their staff shall post the scores on a notice board or other convenient place so that competitors may check their results.

9.11.2 Scoring Error

Where a competitor considers an obvious error has been made, a request can be made of the Official Scorer to view the Target and have the matter resolved. Where there is a doubt or the matter is unresolved, the competitor can submit a formal protest in accordance with the Appeals procedures as outlined in Section 2.8 of the Official SSAA National – Standard Rules. [SECTION 2: SSAA STANDARD RULES](#)

9.12 The Host shall send a match report to the Benchrest National Discipline Chairman, giving full results as well as noting any irregularities in the conduct of the event, protests, range equipment failures and anything beyond the control of the match organizers.

9.13 If delays occur that prevent a Tournament from being carried out according to the scheduled timetable, then if any part of an event is carried over to the next or another day, every effort possible should be made to ensure that each competitor shoots the same number of targets on each day.

9.14 In the event of some unforeseen situation or circumstance arising (e.g. act of providence) that could impede or prevent the continuance of an event or Tournament or part thereof, and for which no provision is made in these Rules; the Supervising Tournament Captain, after consultation with the relevant members of their staff and State Delegate or Delegates (or authorised proxy), has the authority to adopt any procedure deemed necessary to overcome the problem, or to cancel the event or Tournament, or part thereof, whichever the case may be.

9.15 Artificial Light

9.15.1 The firing of Registered Tournaments under artificial lights is allowed, however records shot under artificial light shall be classed as separate to those shot in daylight hours.

9.15.2 If a Registered Tournament or Tournaments is/are part of a postal shoot, then all contending Associations or branches must agree, that artificial lighting shall be allowed.

9.16 Protests and Appeals

9.16.1 Protest and Appeals shall be as [SECTION 2: SSAA STANDARD RULES](#). Section 2.8 shall be consulted for information regarding the process and requirements to be followed.

9.16.2 The Benchrest Discipline Protest lodgement fee shall be twenty dollars (\$20).

9.16.3 Protest Application Form

Available from the Benchrest National Discipline Chairman or the relevant State Delegate in attendance of the registered match.

<https://www.ssaa.org.au/disciplines/all-disciplines/benchrest/> (Downloads)

SECTION 10: PROCEDURAL COMMANDS AT REGISTERED TOURNAMENTS

The following commands and procedures shall be used at all Registered Tournaments for all classes of competition:

10.1 **Group and Score Classes Only:** For the first group at each distance of each class, when all competitors are set up, the Range Officer should announce if the target is a Warmup or for record i.e., if the host is declining the option of a Warmup target, however time limits for the first target of the distance remains unchanged as laid down in Section 7.5.

[SECTION 7: COURSE OF FIRE AND TIME LIMITS – ALL CLASSES](#)

10.2 Match Commands

The following match commands shall be used at the conduct of all championships.

- 1) No ammunition or bolt to be placed in the rifle action before the Commence Fire is given.
- 2) This is Relay.....Match.....
- 3) Are all 'competitors' ready?
- 4) You haveminutes to complete this match.
- 5) Commence Fire
- 6) Half Time
- 7) You have two minutes to complete your firing.
- 8) You have one minute to complete your firing
- 9) You have 30 seconds to complete your firing.
- 10) Five seconds
- 11) "Sound of whistle" - Cease Fire
- 12) Remove bolts where possible or insert an Empty Chamber Indicator (ECI) and all rifles to be cleared by a Range Officer

Note: Commands 1 through to 12 can be on an automated system heard over the Range Public Address System, however items 13 and 14 shall be a verbal command from the Ranger Officer.

- 13) Clear the benches.
- 14) Target crew may go forward.

10.2.1 Match commands interpretations

- a) No ammunition or bolt to be placed in the rifle until the Commence Fire command is given. If an Empty Chamber Indicator is used it should not be removed before the Commence Fire command is given.
- b) Timing commences at the end of the words "Commence Fire".
- c) Timing ceases at the end of the words "Cease Fire".

10.3 Removal of bolts

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

Breach of this rule could lead to disqualification from the Tournament at the discretion of the Supervising Tournament Captain.

10.4 Any shots fired before the command “Commence Fire” or after the command “Cease Fire” therefore outside the allotted time, shall incur a penalty. Any competitor confirmed by the Range Officer/s or the Protest Committee as disobeying the time call rules will be disqualified from:

10.4.1 In the case of group competitions, receiving any award for that group or any aggregate which would include that group or,

10.4.2 In the case of Classes for Score, receiving any award for that score and for any aggregate score which would include that target.

10.4.3 In the cases of Classes for IRB, receiving any award for that score and for any aggregate score which would include that target.

10.5 Temporary Suspension of Competition

If a circumstance should arise that requires a temporary suspension of competition, the Range Officer should give the order "Hold your fire--clear your rifle by firing or opening your bolt and removing your bolt if able to do so."

If your bolt cannot be removed a ECI shall be inserted in the empty chamber.

10.6 Emergency cease fire

Should an emergency arise during the competing of an individual group that demands the immediate cessation of all competitors from competing, the Range Officer shall give the order "Cease fire--emergency--unlock your bolt and stand clear of your rifle"; this will permit all rifles to be made safe without extracting any live ammunition that may have already been chambered.

10.7 Dislodged target

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

10.8 Time lost

Any time lost by an interruption caused by either of the orders to cease fire in this Section is not to be charged against the time remaining to complete the course of fire, and the Range Officer should note the time lost by such interruption. When an electronic timed audio device is in use when either command in this Section is given, the device should be stopped immediately and re-started when the "Commence Fire" order is given to complete the detail's relay.

SECTION 11: COMPETITORS

- 11.1** In accordance with the SSAA National – Standard rules in Section 2, no competitor may enter more than once in any one class forming the whole or part of any Registered Tournament. [SECTION 2: SSAA STANDARD RULES](#)
- 11.2** Competitors should familiarise themselves with record scores and procedures relating to the submitting of possible records, as defined in Sections 12 and clause 15.4, as it is the responsibility of the competitor to ensure the branch and/or State delegate submits targets, backing strips and the prescribed form (duly filled in and signed) relating to a record to the Records Committee.
- 11.3** A competitor is liable to disqualification for using any aids that are forbidden in these Rules.
- 11.4** In all Registered Tournaments, in any class of competition, no competitor shall be allowed to occupy or shoot from any bench that is otherwise normally used for that competition, other than the benches to which they are assigned.
- 11.5** At all Registered Tournaments the only persons permitted to shoot on that section, or part, or the whole of the range, set aside for the conduct of a Tournament, when the Tournament is in progress, shall be these persons actually engaged in the Tournament.
- 11.6** A competitor may receive help and advice from any person in setting up and adjusting their equipment prior to the commencement of firing in a relay or detail, but all benches must be cleared of persons who are not actual competitors competing in that relay, immediately prior to the Range Officer giving the order **"Are all competitors ready"**.
- 11.7** No coaching is to be permitted, and no person or persons, including other competitors in the same relay, shall be allowed to visit a bench with another competitor. A competitor may be alerted to a crossfire situation via the Range Officer this is not considered coaching
- 11.8** If a competitor experiences any difficulties with the range facilities, their own equipment or the placement of another competitor's rifle on the firing line, they may approach the Range Officer or a member of the Range staff for assistance, who shall be obliged to assist where possible.
- 11.9** As Benchrest encourages and facilitates hand loading of ammunition it is the responsibility of every competitor to ensure that all safe practices and codes outlined for such procedures are diligently observed.
- 11.10** Competitors sharing rifles in competition should do so keeping in mind that responsibility will lie with the individuals sharing the rifle, that the following is considered:
- Rifle is as per Standard Rules 2.4.4, [SECTION 2: SSAA STANDARD RULES](#)
 - That it has been checked off as compliant to the rules for all individuals using the rifle.
- 11.11 Rifle or Rifle Calibre Change**
- 11.11.1** Any competitor who nominates an initial calibre and changes to an alternate calibre or changes rifles, at any time, shall notify the Range Officer prior to use. The Range Officer will advise the scorer immediately after the first target where the changed calibre or rifle is used. Failure to notify could make the competitor liable to disqualification.

- 11.11.2** Any competitor who changes rifle, calibre or both, may be subject to a random check on each occasion of the change(s) to ensure compliance with the rules.
- 11.12** Competitors should learn if the first target at each distance of each class to be contested is a Warmup or for record. Although the Range Officer should make such an announcement the onus is on the competitor to be fully aware of the status of the target.
- 11.13** The onus to complete firing within time limits as laid down in Section 7.5 is entirely the responsibility of the competitor, however the host should implement all procedures to assist in this matter.

SECTION 7: COURSE OF FIRE AND TIME LIMITS – ALL CLASSES

SECTION 12: SCORING OF TARGETS & PROCEDURES ASSOCIATED WITH TARGETS

12.1 Scoring Procedures: All Classes

- 12.1.1** If a target, or targets should be lost before it, or they have been measured, then this shall become an automatic protest. The Appeals Committee shall investigate the matter and decide if an average of the balance of the competitor or competitors, targets for that distance should be allotted as the group size for the lost target, or targets. Depending upon the circumstances in which the target, or targets were lost, or are missing, and upon factual and reliable evidence available, The Appeals Committee may allot a group size or score, either smaller, or larger, than the average of the balance of targets. Notwithstanding the above, any such allotted group size or score will not constitute a record, for either that group or score and any aggregate that includes that group or score.
- 12.1.2** When the targets have been brought back from the firing line they shall be checked for discrepancies and irregularities and then measured; after which (**BUT ON NO ACCOUNT BEFOREHAND**) they shall be displayed at a point behind the firing line, termed "**The Wailing Wall**", so that the competitors may inspect them. No handling of the targets by any persons other than the Official scoring staff, or the target detail, is to be allowed while they are on display. After a reasonable time for inspection has elapsed the scoring staff shall collect the targets and any moving backing strips for safe keeping.
After the completion of the Tournament, any competitor may take possession of their own targets, unless the targets and their associated backing strips are being considered for a potential record(s) or are the subject of any Protest or Appeal still pending resolution.
- 12.1.3** Whenever possible all targets for a Registered Tournament shall be measured/scored by the one person, and another person (but not necessarily the same one) shall check the measurements/scores of the Official Scorer. For Group Classes the check scorer can use a vernier to check the group size, so that obvious errors will be avoided.
- 12.1.4** The Official Scorer will re-score the disputed target in the presence of the Check Scorer for the competitor concerned using the same equipment as originally used.

12.2 Scoring procedures : Group Class

12.2.1 Groups are to be measured from the centre to centre of the two shots widest apart on the Record Target which constitute the group as defined in this Section 12.5, regardless of how many shots that may be.

Groups shall be measured with a reticule rule designed for measuring small groups per calibre to one thousandths of an inch. The reticule rule typically has the following etched circles: 22 Centrefire 0.224", 6mm Centrefire 0.243" and 30 calibre centrefire 0.308".

When measuring groups fired with calibres other than that of the reticule size, a measurement should be taken, using the existing reticule, from the extreme outside edges of the two widest bullet holes and the actual difference between the diameter of a bullet hole of the calibre used, and the diameter of the reticule, shall be subtracted, in the case that the calibre is larger than the reticule, from the measurement read on the reticule rule scale.

If the calibre is smaller than the reticule, then the difference should be added. The result is the group's size.

This method is an approximation and does not mean that persons experienced in measuring targets should abandon any other method they have devised that is at least as quick and at least equally accurate.

12.2.2 After the conclusion of a relay, the target detail shall inspect the targets and on those Record Targets on which the required number of bullet holes cannot be distinctly counted, they shall inspect the moving backing strip and count the bullet holes on it. If the moving backing strip shows that the correct number of bullet holes have passed through the Record Target, they shall mark the target as being correct, or attach the appropriate moving backing strip to the target, according to whichever method the Official Scorer shall request, as being the most suitable to identify the validity of the targets.

12.2.3 If there are less than the required number of bullet holes on the moving backing strip, then in all cases the moving backing strip should be attached to its target, so that the Official Scorer may be able to determine whether the target is valid or not.

12.2.4 Targets that may be eligible for records, either in the natural (daylight) light or artificial light category, must have the appropriate moving backing strip attached to them, and shall be kept for a period of six months after the conclusion of the Registered Tournament. This also applies to all targets in a record aggregate. Targets without their moving backing strips cannot be submitted for record purposes, unless all the required number of shots are clearly visible on the Record Target or in the case of an aggregate, on all the Record Targets.

12.2.5 The moving backing strips shall be marked, or some means adopted to make it possible to identify each moving backing strip with its appropriate target in case the correct moving backing strip is required to be inspected by the Appeals Committee, or for any other purposes such as records or protests.

12.2.6 In the event of a moving backing strip stopping, or not starting, or not being switched on, or not functioning properly during the Tournament, then this shall become an automatic protest. The following shall apply:

- If all competitors are affected the relay shall be completed again with all existing targets disregarded.
- If an individual competitor is affected, they shall disregard the existing target and complete the target again immediately after relay has been completed. Targets without moving backing strips that do not reveal all the shots required to be fired have passed through the Record Target cannot be allowed for record purposes.

12.2.7 The target detail, when collecting the targets and checking the backing strips, should note if there is an extra bullet hole or holes wide of the group on any Record Targets. If more are present they shall check if the extra bullet hole or holes on the Record Target and the stationary backing card line up with the correct bench or with another bench by looking through them, and then write their findings on the stationary backing card. In all cases of suspected crossfires, they shall attach the stationary backing card and moving backing strip to the correct target. The Official Scorer shall check by placing the Record Target over the stationary backing card, and after lining up the holes forming the group, see if the extra hole or holes coincide on both the Record Target, the stationary backing card and moving backing strip or card. The Official Scorer shall then decide if any crossfires have been fired on the Record Target, or if the extra shot or shots have been fired by the competitor themselves.

12.3 Shots on record target

12.3.1 A competitor may fire as many sighting shots as they wish, or fire none at all, but except as provided for in this Section 12.3.2, all Record Target bullet holes must touch or be contained within, the borders of the Record Target, otherwise penalties as laid out in this Section 12.6 will apply. On the Warmup target card (when posted) a competitor may fire on the Sighter Target only or use both Sighter and Record Targets on it for sighting purposes, or not fire on the Warmup target card at all. However, the Warmup target card must conform to the requirements of [SECTION 7: COURSE OF FIRE AND TIME LIMITS – ALL CLASSES](#), [SECTION 9: CONDUCT OF TOURNAMENTS](#) and [SECTION 22: TARGET SPECIFICATIONS](#)

If the competitor wishes to claim a record group shot on the Warmup target.

12.3.2 If a competitor's first shot on their target is on the Record Target of that competitor and the competitor wishes to have this shot disregarded, then the competitor shall report this shot at once to the Range Officer before firing another shot. The Range Officer shall confirm that no other shots have been fired by the competitor on the target card and shall inform the Official Scorer so that the target is not penalized, and the first shot not scored. All subsequent shots on the Record Target will be subject to the procedures as laid down in Section 12.5.

12.4 A Record group must be fired on the Record Target only. Under no circumstance is a group fired on the sighter target to be counted or scored, for record or any other purposes, or to be included in an aggregate. Similarly, no group fired on a Warmup Record Target is to be included in an aggregate.

12.5 All shots on the Record Target including any transferred crossfires, as described in Section 13.1, but not including the first shot, which has been reported to and confirmed by the Range Officer as allowed in Section 12.3.2, nor any identified crossfires from another competitor, shall be regarded as Record shots. Only those shots inside or touching the border shall be measured for group size.

[SECTION 13: CROSS-FIRES](#)

12.6 Any Record shot that is not contained within or does not touch the border will for each such shot incur a penalty of one minute of angle added to the group measurement.

12.7 For the purpose of these rules, a shot touching or breaking the centre line of the target card is to be regarded as a sighting shot: a shot touching or breaking the border line of the Record Target is to be regarded as within such border and not subject to the penalty provisions of this Section 12.6. A shot on or touching any part of the target card which forms part of the Record Target but does not touch or break the centre line is to be regarded as a shot on the Record Target.

12.8 If the number of Record shots is less than the required number of shots then a penalty of one minute of angle for each missing shot shall be added to the group measurement.

12.9 If the number of Record shots is more than the required number of shots then, unless subject to Section 12.6 or Section 13.1.1, no penalty shall be applied.

12.10 Scoring procedures: Score Class

12.10.1 Light Centrefire Benchrest for Score and Heavy Centrefire Benchrest for Score rifle targets shall be scored by gauging each scoring shot on that target with a gauge, right for the calibre used on that target. If the gauged shot touches or covers any part of a scoring ring or is within a scoring ring but not touching or covering any part of a higher valued scoring ring then, subject to any penalties which may apply, that shot shall be awarded the value of that scoring ring. The shot must only be plugged with the gauge once and marked on the scoring face with a "P" to indicate that a scoring face cannot be re-plugged as part of a protest, score query or record submission. Gauge tolerance requirements as per 24.3.2. [SECTION 23: TOLERANCES](#)

12.10.2 .22LR Light Rimfire Benchrest for Score and .22LR Heavy Rimfire Benchrest for Score rifle targets shall be scored in the same manner as the Light Centrefire for Score targets except that the scoring gauge will be checked by a certified 0.2200 plug and marked on the scoring face with a "P" to indicate that a scoring face cannot be re-plugged as part of a protest, score query or record submission. Gauge tolerance requirements as per 24.3.3. [SECTION 23: TOLERANCES](#)

12.10.3 If the first sighting shot at each target is outside of or not touching the border line surrounding the sighter bull, the competitor shall report this at once to the range officer before firing another shot. The range officer shall confirm that no other shots have been fired on the target and shall then inform the Official scorer so that the target shall not be penalised, and the first shot not scored

12.10.4 Only one shot shall be fired on each of the 5 record bulls. If more than one shot is placed on a record bull the lowest shot is scored and a penalty of 1 point will be incurred for the extra shot on that bull. If there are no shots on a record bull, then that bull scores 0 (zero).

12.10.5 Any shots outside the record bulls are scored as 0 (zero). Only the 5 lowest scoring shots on the target will be counted. Any extra shots incur a 1-point penalty per shot.

NOTE: Apply these rules in the order as listed, e.g., if there are 8 shots in the scoring area of the target. Apply 12.10.3 first, then 12.10.4, followed by 12.10.5.

12.11 Scoring procedures: IRB

12.11.1 All target marking shall be conducted by an approved automated system by the Benchrest National Discipline Chairman or Manually by Delegated Scoring Officials. If manual scoring is used, two Technical Officials are required, with one to undertake primary scoring using approved equipment, the other to function as the check scorer and recorder. The Target score to be displayed on or affixed to the front target face.

12.11.2 Best edge scoring

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

A bullet hole touching the inner ring will be awarded an X score. If a manual scoring system is used the score is to be written in the box provided.

A shot in the target but missing the outside ring will be awarded a zero (0).

Tears or distortions on the target will not be counted.

12.11.3 Missing Scoring Box

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

12.11.4 Scoring Plugs

All shots which cannot be scored clearly by visual scoring shall be checked by using a certified 0.2200 Inward Gauge and marked with a "P" next to that bullet hole to so indicate it has been plugged. All close shots should be plugged as a matter of course.

A target must only be plugged once. It cannot be re-plugged as part of a protest, score query or record submission. Gauge tolerance requirements as per 24.3.3.

[SECTION 23: TOLERANCES](#)

12.11.5 Overloaded Targets

Should more than one shot appear on a scoring target, only the lowest score will be counted less 1 point penalty for each additional. The minimum score for an overloaded target shall be zero (0).

12.11.6 Shots Between Target Blocks

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

12.11.7 First Shot Error

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

SECTION 13: CROSS-FIRES

13.1 If a competitor realises that they have cross-fired on another competitor's Record Target they shall report it at once to the Range Officer and shall then fire the balance of their shots on their own Record Target.

If a competitor cross-fires and does not report doing so, and this competitor has not fired more than the required number of shots, including those shots fired on someone else's Record Target, and the cross-fired shot(s) can be identified and attributed to the competitor by a stationary backing card, or by any other means, including their own admission of having cross-fired unintentionally, then in either case, the competitor shall not be disqualified, but their own cross-fired shot, or shots shall be transposed to their own Record Target, and these shots shall then be eliminated from the other competitor's Record Target on which they were actually fired.

13.1.1 When a crossfire has been decided by the match officials which was not declared by a competitor an automatic protest will be initiated as per Sections 2.7 and 2.8 within [SECTION 2: SSAA STANDARD RULES](#) Match officials will find the source of the crossfire shot(s) and identify the bench location. If a competitor has fired in total, more shots on their own target and the cross fired target than allowed then a penalty shall apply. The penalty applied in this rule to the cross-firing competitor for an undeclared crossfire shall be that no score or group size will be recorded for the relay.

13.1.2 Any competitor, who notices that another competitor has cross-fired on their Record Target, shall report the cross-fired shot(s) to the Range Officer immediately they become aware of it.

13.1.3 Any competitor or competitors who have lost time reporting cross-fires, or other unforeseen circumstances (excluding rifle malfunction), shall have extra time allowed to complete firing their group, the amount of time allowed shall be equal to the time lost and the Range Officer should note the length of time lost by a competitor or competitors under these circumstances. The Range Officer should identify and take written note of the position of the cross fired shots where possible, and then direct the competitor to complete their group on that target i.e., the target assigned to the competitor or competitors assigned to them, within the time allowed, including the extra time.

13.1.4 No competitor shall intentionally crossfire on another competitor's target. Any competitor found to have done so will be liable to a maximum penalty of disqualification from participation in any event, in any Registered Tournament subsequent to the alleged offence.

13.2 PENALTIES

13.2.1 GROUP CLASS PENALTY

The competitor responsible for cross-fires of this kind shall have their Record Target measured, so that the group includes the transposed cross-fired shot or shots, and a penalty of one minute of angle shall be added to the actual measurement (which shall include any penalty incurred for any shots described in Section 12.6) of their group, per shot cross-fired. [SECTION 12: SCORING OF TARGETS & PROCEDURES ASSOCIATED WITH TARGETS](#)

13.2.2 SCORE CLASS PENALTY

Whenever a cross-fire occurs and it can be established who the offender is, via stationary backing cards or the competitor's own admission, the identifiable cross-fired shot shall be transposed to the offender's target; if the cross-fired shot cannot be identified from the legitimate shot then the lowest valued shot on the receiver's target shall be transposed to the offender's target; in either case a penalty of two (2) points for each cross-fired shot shall be deducted from the offender's score.

All other procedures for crossfires as defined in Section 13 shall apply.

If after the transposition to the offender's target of all cross-fired shots found to have been fired by that offender, more than the required number of shots per bull is the result the offender's target will be scored in accordance with 12.10.3, then 12.10.4, then 12.10.5.

13.2.3 INTERNATIONAL RIMFIRE BENCHREST (IRB) CLASS PENALTY

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

SECTION 14: SCORING OF AGGREGATES

14.1 GROUP CLASSES: SINGLE DISTANCE AGGREGATES

14.1.1 Aggregates shall be made up of the 50-metre aggregate, 100-yard aggregate, 200-yard aggregate and 300-yard aggregate. In dual range Tournaments there will also be the overall aggregate for the class and when there is more than one class in the Tournament, the grand aggregate for all classes fired in the Tournament. Although individual group measurements will only be taken to .001 inch as read directly from the reticule or vernier calliper, all aggregates shall be mathematically calculated to .0001 inch.

14.1.2 The 50-metre aggregate for a competitor shall consist of their five group measurements fired at 50 metres added together, the sum doubled and then divided by five (5) then calculated to four decimal places (unless subject to Section 14.2) and expressed in minute of angle (M.O.A.)

14.1.3 The 100-yard aggregate for a competitor shall consist of their five group measurements fired at 100 yards, added together, the sum divided by five (5), then calculated to four decimal places (unless subject to Section 14.2) and expressed in M.O.A.

14.1.4 The 200-yard aggregate for a competitor shall consist of their five group measurements fired at 200 yards, added together, the sum divided by ten (10) then calculated to four decimal places (unless subject to Section 14.2) and expressed in M.O.A.

14.1.5 The 300-yard aggregate for a competitor shall consist of their five group measurements fired at 300 yards, added together, the sum divided by fifteen (15) then calculated to four decimal places (unless subject to Section 14.2) and expressed in M.O.A.

14.2 GROUP CLASSES: DUAL DISTANCE AGGREGATES

In dual distance Registered Tournaments, dependent upon the course of fire chosen and registered on behalf of the host Association or branch, the overall aggregate for a competitor in any class shall be computed by: --

14.2.1 Adding the 50 metre and 100-yard aggregates expressed in M.O.A. and dividing the sum by two (2), the result will also be expressed in M.O.A. (unless subject to Section 14.3).

14.2.2 Adding the 100 yard and 200-yard aggregates expressed in M.O.A. and dividing the sum by two (2), the result will also be expressed in M.O.A. (unless subject to Section 14.3).

14.2.3 Adding the 200 yard and 300-yard aggregates expressed in M.O.A. and dividing the sum by two (2), the result will also be expressed in M.O.A. (unless subject to Section 14.3).

14.3 Grand Aggregate

The grand aggregate for a competitor in a multi-class aggregate, shall be the sum of the overall aggregate in each class, expressed in M.O.A., that is included in the Grand Aggregate conducted during the whole of the Tournament, and divided by the number of classes included in the grand aggregate; the result will also be expressed in M.O.A. (unless subject to Section 14.4).

14.4 To be eligible for an aggregate, a competitor must satisfactorily complete every Record Target included in that aggregate. Ineligibility in one or more aggregates shall preclude a competitor from a class or Tournament grand aggregate, but not for any other aggregate in which the competitor satisfactorily completes all Record Targets in that distance or class aggregate.

14.5 SCORING OF AGGREGATES OF BENCHREST FOR SCORE CLASSES

14.5.1 Distance aggregate scores shall comprise the 50-metre total, 100-yard total or 200-yard total i.e., a maximum of 50 points plus 5 X ring scores on each target, a total of 250 points plus 25 X ring scores. In dual range tournaments there will also be the overall total for the class i.e., a maximum of 500 points plus 50 X ring scores.

14.5.2 To be eligible for a distance or class aggregate the provisions of Section 14 will apply.

14.6 SCORING OF AGGREGATES OF INTERNATIONAL RIMFIRE BENCHREST (IRB)

- 14.6.1** Distance aggregate scores shall comprise the 50-metre total. i.e., a maximum of 50 points plus 5 X ring scores on each target, a total of 250 points plus 25 X ring scores.
- 14.6.2** Individual day scores (3 x Targets) will also be the overall total for the class i.e., a maximum of 750 points plus 75 X ring scores.
- 14.6.3** Two-day scores (6 x Targets) will also be the overall total for the class i.e., a maximum of 1500 points plus 150 X ring scores.
- 14.6.4** To be eligible for a distance or class aggregate the provisions of Section 14 will apply.

SECTION 15: BREAKING OF TIED SCORES

15.1 GROUP CLASSES

For the breaking of tied scores, if two or more competitors have groups of identical size in the firing of any one of the first, second, third, fourth or fifth groups at any one distance, their relative position on the score sheet for the firing of that particular group shall be decided by their relative position in the total aggregate for that particular distance i.e. a competitor with a better aggregate score shall be placed ahead of a competitor with a worse aggregate score.

- 15.1.1** If in an aggregate fired over one distance, two or more competitors are tied with aggregate measurements of identical size, then their aggregates should be calculated to as many decimal places as needed to break the tie. If ties are still unbroken then the competitor who has fired the smallest group shall be placed ahead of the other competitor or competitors.
- 15.1.2** If in an aggregate fired over two distances, two or more competitors are tied with aggregates of identical size, then their aggregates should be calculated to as many decimal places as needed to break the tie. If ties are still unbroken then the average of the smallest group at each distance fired by the tied competitors will be taken with the smallest average to be given the higher placing.
- 15.1.3** For tied scores in a grand aggregate fired over two or more classes, the tied aggregates shall be taken to as many decimal places as needed to break the tie. If ties are still unbroken then the average of the smallest groups fired by the tied competitors at each distance in each class will be taken with the smallest average being placed the highest.
- In the event the tie cannot be broken on either the single distance aggregate, class aggregate or the multi gun aggregate the following will apply in the awarding of medals.

Places will be awarded according to the aggregates achieved:

Equal 1st place, 3rd place. There is no second place

1st place, equal 2nd place. There is no 3rd place.

1st place, 2nd place, equal 3rd place. There is no 4th place.

Medals will be awarded according to the placings:

Equal 1st = 2 gold medals, no silver, 3rd = 1 bronze medal

Equal 2nd = 1 gold medal, 2 silver medals, no bronze

Equal 3rd = 1 gold medal, 1 silver medal, 2 bronze medals, no 4th place

15.2 SCORE CLASS

- 15.2.1** Tied scores in Benchrest for Score Tournaments shall be broken by the competitor having the highest total number of X ring scores in that class, being placed ahead of the other competitor or competitors in the tie; if still tied then by the greatest number of tens, then nines, then eights, then sevens, then sixes. If a tie cannot be broken in this manner, then the following will apply.
- 15.2.2** In the case of a single distance (i.e., 5 targets) a tie will be broken by reverting to the first record target of that distance and progressing from the first record bull until a miss and out situation eliminates one of the competitors.
- 15.2.3** In the case of a dual distance (i.e., 10 targets) a tie will be broken by reverting to the first record target at 100 yards, or in the case of Rimfire 50metres, and progressing as previous Rule 15.5.2.
- 15.2.4** To determine the match (Aggregate) winner, ties will be broken by reverting to the first record bull of that match and progressing to each succeeding bull until a miss and out eliminates one of the competitors, then use the total aggregate score for tie breakers to determine match winners who have identical scores.
- 15.2.5** In the case of a 2 Gun (i.e., 20 targets) the methods above in 15.5.3 shall be used and applied to each class.
- 15.2.6** For the purpose of breaking tied scores the official sequence in reading a Benchrest for Score class target will be starting with the bull to the left of the sighter and working clockwise to the bull above the sighter.

In the event the tie cannot be broken on either the single target distance aggregate, the dual aggregate or the multi gun aggregate the following will apply in the awarding of medals:

Places will be awarded according to the score achieved:

Equal 1st place; 3rd place. There is no second place.

1st place; equal 2nd place. There is no 3rd place.

1st place; 2nd place, equal 3rd. There is no 4th place.

Medals will be awarded according to the placings:

Equal 1st = 2 gold medals, no silver; 3rd = 1 bronze medal

Equal 2nd = 1 gold medal; 2 silver medals; no bronze

Equal 3rd = 1 gold medal; 1 silver medal; 2 bronze medals, no 4th place.

15.3 BREAKING OF TIED SCORES: INTERNATIONAL RIMFIRE BENCHREST (IRB)

15.3.1 SCORE MATCH TIE

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

15.3.2 Score Aggregate Tie

If no awards are to be made for daily aggregates, then 15.6.1 shall apply.

If awards are to be made, then 15.6.3 will apply.

15.3.3 Grand Aggregate Tie

Should a tie exist, such ties will be broken by the competitor having the highest number of X ring scores being placed ahead of the other competitor or competitors in the tie; if still tied the greatest number of 10s, then 9s and so on. If a tie cannot be broken in this manner the following in **Rule** 15.3.4 of these Rules will determine the winner.

15.3.4 The tie will be broken by reverting to the first numbered record bull and progressing to each succeeding bull until a miss or out eliminates one of the competitors. For breaking of tied scores, the official sequence will start at Target 1, Rondel (bull) number 1 progressing to number 25.

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

In the event the tie cannot be broken on either the daily aggregate or grand aggregate the following will apply in the awarding of medals:

Places will be awarded according to the score achieved:

Equal 1st place, 3rd place. There is no 2nd place

1st place, equal 2nd place. There is no 3rd place

1st place, 2nd place, equal 3rd place. There is no 4th place

Medals will be awarded according to the placings:

Equal 1st = 2 gold medals; no silver; 3rd = 1 bronze medal

Equal 2nd = 1 gold medal; 2 silver medals; no bronze medal

Equal 3rd – 1 gold medal; 1 silver medal; 2 bronze medals; no 4th place

SECTION 16: MEDALS AND AWARDS

16.1 NATIONAL BENCHREST CHAMPIONSHIPS

16.1.1 National medals shall be ordered from the Benchrest National Discipline Chairman by the Host state and awarded (where contested) in accordance with the following table:

NATIONAL BENCHREST CHAMPIONSHIP MEDALS								
CLASS		Small Medal			Large Medal			
		GOLD	SILVER	BRONZE	GOLD	SILVER	BRONZE	
RIMFIRE Group Light Heavy	50Agg	2	2	2				
	100Agg	2	2	2				
	Grand				2	2	2	
	2 Gun				1	1	1	
	50m Grp	2						
	100m Grp	2						
	<i>total</i>	8	4	4	3	3	3	
IRB (Score)	Two-day six target match - Overall Score	1	1	1				
	High Score Day 1	1	1	1				
	High Score Day 2	1	1	1				
	total	2	2	2	1	1	1	
	Junior Champ -Under 15 Years	IRB	1	1	1			
	Junior Champ - Over 15 and under 18 Years	IRB	1	1	1			
	<i>total</i>	4	4	4	1	1	1	

NATIONAL BENCHREST CHAMPIONSHIP MEDALS (CONTINUED)

CLASS		Small Medal			Large Medal		
		GOLD	SILVER	BRONZE	GOLD	SILVER	BRONZE
CENTREFIRE Group Sporter Light BR Heavy BR EXP/Unl	100 Grp	4					
	100Agg	4	4	4			
	200 Grp	4					
	200Agg	4	4	4			
	Grand				4	4	4
	2 Gun				1	1	1
	3 Gun				1	1	1
	4 Gun				1	1	1
	<i>total</i>	16	8	8	7	7	7
JUNIOR CHAMP							
Junior Champ -Under 15 Years	RF*	1	1	1			
Junior Champ - Over 15 and under 18 Years	RF*	1	1	1			
Junior Champ – Under 15 Years	CF*	1	1	1			
Junior Champ – Over 15 and Under 18 Years	CF*	1	1	1			
	<i>total</i>	4	4	4			
RIMFIRE BENCHREST FOR SCORE Light & Heavy RF	50 Score	2	2	2			
	100 Score	2	2	2			
	Grand L & H				2	2	2
	2 Gun				1	1	1
	<i>total</i>	4	4	4	3	3	3
CENTREFIRE BENCHREST FOR SCORE Light and Heavy CF	100 Score	2	2	2			
	200 Score	2	2	2			
	Grand L & H				2	2	2
	2 Gun				1	1	1
	<i>total</i>	4	4	4	3	3	3
BENCHREST FOR SCORE Light	2-gun L CF&RF				1	1	1
	2-gun H CF&RF				1	1	1
Heavy	4 Gun				1	1	1
	<i>total</i>				3	3	3

16.1.2 All Junior medals will be awarded for 1st, 2nd and 3rd placings

16.1.3 Top Ten Patches shall be obtained by the Host of each National Benchrest Championships and the patches shall be awarded accordingly.

16.1.4 A competitor's patch shall be supplied to those competing in their first National Benchrest Championship, irrespective of class, along with a year / location strip that is to be supplied to all competitors with the cost borne by the Host.

SECTION 17: PERPETUAL TROPHIES

A register shall be established of perpetual trophies awarded at National events and maintained by the National Awards Secretary. The register shall be reviewed annually at the annual general meeting of the Discipline.

17.1 Perpetual Trophies – Centrefire Group

17.1.1 The winner of the **200-yard aggregate** in Sporter Benchrest Rifle at the National Benchrest Championship shall receive the "A.D. Peake Memorial Trophy".

17.1.2 The winner of the **Grand Aggregate** in Sporter Benchrest Rifle at the National Benchrest Championships shall receive the "Den-Lo Park Trophy".

17.1.3 The winner of the **Grand Aggregate** in Light Benchrest Rifle at the National Benchrest Championships shall receive the "Top Gun Manufacturing Trophy."

17.1.4 The winner of the **200-yard Aggregate** in Heavy Benchrest at the National Benchrest Championships shall receive the "H.I. Madden Memorial Trophy" and a smaller, keeper trophy by the discipline.

17.1.5 The winner of the **Grand Aggregate** in Heavy Benchrest Rifle at the National Benchrest Championships shall receive the "Catalyst Legal Trophy" .

17.1.6 The winner of the **200-yard Aggregate** in Experimental / Unlimited at the National Benchrest Championships shall receive the "Ray Edwards Trophy".

17.1.7 The winner of the **Grand Aggregate** in Experimental / Unlimited at the National Benchrest Championships shall receive the "Ron Marsden Trophy".

17.1.8 The winner of the **2 Gun Aggregate** in Light Benchrest and Heavy Benchrest at the National Benchrest Championships shall receive the "John Dark Trophy".

17.1.9 The winner of the **3 Gun Aggregate** in Sporter Benchrest, Light Benchrest and Heavy Benchrest at the National Benchrest Championships shall receive the "**Max Coady Trophy**".

17.1.10 The winner of the **4 Gun Aggregate** at the National Benchrest Championships shall receive the "**Chas. Brown Trophy**"

17.1.11 The 4 competitors from each State or Territory who shoot the Smallest combined **4 Gun Aggregate** at the National Championships shall comprise the winning **State or Territory Team** and shall receive the "**Lou Palmisano Trophy**".

17.2 Perpetual Trophies – Rimfire Group

17.2.1 The winner of the **Grand Aggregate** in Heavy Rimfire Benchrest at the National Benchrest Championships shall receive the "**Steve Brown Trophy**."

17.2.2 The winner of the **2 Gun Rimfire** Group at the National Championships shall be awarded the "**Neil Starr Memorial Trophy**".

17.2.3 The 4 competitors from each State or Territory, who shot the smallest Grand Aggregates in either the .22LR Light Rimfire Benchrest or .22LR Heavy Rimfire Benchrest classes shall constitute that **State's or Territory's Team** at the National Benchrest Championships. Competitors who nominate for both Rimfire classes are eligible once only for the **State or Territory's Team**. The winning team shall receive the "**Progress Equipment Trophy**".

17.3 Perpetual Trophies – Benchrest for Score Rimfire & Centrefire

17.3.1 The winner of the **Grand Aggregate in Light Rimfire** at the National Benchrest for Score Championships shall receive the "**Pair Investments Trophy**."

17.3.2 The winner of the **Grand Aggregate in Heavy Rimfire** at the National Benchrest for Score Championships shall receive the "**BRT Trophy**."

17.3.3 The winner of the **Grand Aggregate in Light Centrefire** at the National Benchrest for Score Championships shall receive the "**Brendan Atkinson Trophy**."

17.3.4 The winner of the **Grand Aggregate in Heavy Centrefire** at the National Benchrest for Score Championships shall receive the "**Procal Trophy**."

17.3.5 The first placed **Junior Competitor** (as per the rules at time of competition) in **Rimfire 2 Gun Aggregate** Benchrest for Score at the National Benchrest for Score Championships shall receive the "**David Kerr Trophy**".

17.3.6 The winner of the **Light Rimfire & Heavy Rimfire 2 Gun Aggregate** at the National Benchrest for Score Championships shall receive the "**Roger and Carla Marshall Trophy**".

17.3.7 The winner of the **Light Centrefire & Heavy Centrefire 2 Gun Aggregate** at the National Benchrest for Score Championships shall receive the "**Gavin Marshall Trophy**".

17.3.8 The winner of the **Light Rimfire & Light Centrefire 2 Gun Aggregate** at the National Benchrest for Score Championships shall receive the "**Newcastle Trophy**".

17.3.9 The winner of the **Heavy Rimfire & Heavy Centrefire 2 Gun Aggregate** at the National Benchrest for Score Championships shall receive the "**David Kerr Trophy**".

17.3.10 The winner of the **4 Gun Benchrest Score** at the National Benchrest for Score Championships shall be awarded the "**Nick Catlan Trophy**."

17.4 Perpetual Trophies – INTERNATIONAL RIMFIRE BENCHREST (IRB)

17.4.1 The winner of the **2 Day International Rimfire Benchrest (IRB)** Championships shall be awarded the "**Huntsman Engineering Trophy**."

SECTION 18: HALL OF FAME

18.1 HALL OF FAME (CENTREFIRE GROUP)

A Hall of Fame Award shall be conducted on a point score basis in the Sporter Benchrest class, Light Benchrest class, Heavy Benchrest class, Experimental / Unlimited class and the 4 Gun Aggregate at the National Benchrest Championships.

For points to apply the minimum “qualifier” numbers in each class and 4 Gun will be:

Sporter Benchrest Class	minimum of	25 competitors
Light Benchrest Class	minimum of	30 competitors
Heavy Benchrest Class	minimum of	30 competitors
Experimental /Unlimited Class	minimum of	20 competitors
4 Gun Aggregate	minimum of	105 qualifiers

The 4 Gun aggregate qualifiers shall be from the combined four classes applicable, this entry number can be achieved by any combination of class qualifier numbers.

Points will be allocated as follows

only after the above-mentioned provisions and parameters are met:

Distance Aggregate win in any of the 4 classes - 1 point.

Class Grand Aggregate win in any of the 4 classes - 2 points.

1st, 2nd and 3rd in 4 Gun Aggregate - 3, 2 & 1 point respectively

The maximum number of points able to be awarded at any one National Benchrest Centre Fire Group Championship is 22. A competitor must amass a total of 10 points for entry into the Hall of Fame

18.2 HALL OF FAME (SCORE)

A Hall of Fame Award shall be conducted on a point score basis at the National Benchrest Championships in Light Rimfire Benchrest for Score, Heavy Rimfire Benchrest for Score, Light Centrefire Benchrest for Score, Heavy Centrefire Benchrest for Score Classes and 4 Gun for Score Classes.

For points to apply the minimum “qualifier” numbers per class will be 20 competitors, in the four classes 80 Competitors. The 4-gun “qualifier” number can be achieved by any combination of the individual class entry numbers.

Points will be allocated only after the above criteria are met:

Distance score win in any of the 4 classes 1 point

Class Grand Score win in any of 4 classes 2 points

1st, 2nd & 3rd Place in 4 Gun Score 3, 2 & 1 point, respectively.

The maximum number of points able to be awarded at any National Benchrest for Score Championship is 22. A competitor must amass a total of 15 points for entry into the Hall of Fame.

18.3 HALL OF FAME RIMFIRE (GROUP)

A Hall of Fame Award shall be conducted on a point score basis at the National Benchrest Championships in the Light Rimfire Benchrest and Heavy Rimfire Benchrest Classes and the 2 Gun Aggregate.

A minimum number of twenty (20) “qualifiers” in each class and forty (40) “qualifiers” in the 2-gun aggregate must compete before points are allotted. The “qualifier” numbers for the 2-gun aggregate points award can be achieved by any combination of the two class entry numbers.

Points to be allocated as follows after the above criteria are met:

Distance score win in any of the 2 classes	1 point
Class Grand Score win in any of 2 classes	2 points
1 st , 2 nd & 3 rd Place in 2 Gun Score	3, 2 & 1 points

The maximum number of points able to be awarded at any one National Rimfire Benchrest Championship is 14. A competitor must amass a total of 15 points for entry into the Rimfire Benchrest Hall of Fame.

18.4 HALL OF FAME INTERNATIONAL RIMFIRE BENCHREST (IRB)

A Hall of Fame Award shall be conducted on a point score basis at the National Championships. The International Rimfire Benchrest (IRB) championships consists of a two-day event – 3 cards per day with a 2 Day (6 Target) for Score Aggregate.

For points to apply the minimum “qualifier” number per day will be 30, in the two days minimum 60 “qualifiers”.

The “qualifier” competitor numbers for the 2 Day Aggregate points award can be achieved by any combination of the two days “qualifier” entries.

Points will be allocated only after the above criteria are met:

Day win (3 Target Match)	1 point each day
1 st , 2 nd & 3 rd Place in 2 Day (6 Target) Score Aggregate	3, 2 & 1 point respectively.

The Maximum number of points a competitor can win at each National Championship event is 5 points.

A competitor must amass a total of 12 points for entry into the IRB Hall of Fame.

SECTION 19: NATIONAL SSAA BENCHREST AWARDS

19.1.1 Medal Awards Available

19.1.2 Silver Award. May be won by any SSAA member who can shoot a five-shot group at 100 yards, measuring less than one inch centre to centre.

19.1.3 Gold Award. May be won by any SSAA member who can shoot a ten-shot group at 100 yards, measuring less than one inch centre to centre

19.1.4 Ruby Award. May be won by any SSAA member who can shoot a five-shot group at 200 yards, measuring less than one inch centre to centre.

19.1.5 Diamond Award. May be won by any SSAA member who can shoot a ten-shot group at 200 yards, measuring less than one inch centre to centre.

19.2 MEDAL AWARD RULES

19.2.1 All financial members of the SSAA may compete. Awards are free. There is no restriction on rifle or firing position.

19.2.2 All awards must be shot on a SSAA range and witnessed by the official range officer.

19.2.3 Members may win only one of each award.

19.2.4 Targets may be of member's own choice, but there must be neither patched out holes nor more than one group on the target. Targets must be full size and not with the group cut out of it.

19.2.5 If the shots cannot be counted, a backing strip or other acceptable verification material, tangible, not verbal must accompany the group. The Range Officer must witness both the target and the backer. The Range Officer or appointed deputy shall supervise the posting, competing and retrieving of the target and backing strip.

19.2.6 The following details must be listed on the face of the target: Name, address, membership expiry date from card, calibre, action, barrel, power and brand of telescopic sight, powder weight and type, case, primer, projectile brand and weight and type, SSAA range shot on, signature and range officer's signature and date shot. Failure to list all these items will result in disqualification of target.

19.2.7 Targets eligible for awards should be mailed to the Benchrest Awards Secretary.

Forms are available from the Benchrest National Discipline Chairman or the relevant State Delegate. Insufficient postage will render disqualification.

[Benchrest Group Medal Awards - Sporting Shooters' Association of Australia \(SSAA\)](#)

19.3 SCREAMER PATCH

19.3.1 Competitors in Group Registered Tournaments who meet the following criteria may win a Screamer Patch:

Rimfire:

50m - 0.199" and smaller

100yd - 0.399" and smaller

Centrefire:

5 shot 100yd 0.099" and smaller 10 shot 100yd - 0.199" and smaller

5 shot 200yd 0.249" and smaller 10 shot 200yd - 0.449" and smaller

5 shot 300yd 0.449" and smaller 10 shot 300yd - 0.699" and smaller

Targets eligible for Screamer Patch awards (along with the backing strip) are to be witnessed by the Tournament Official Scorer and the Benchrest National Discipline Chairman or a State Delegate in attendance. If the group is adjudicated as a "Screamer," a patch will be awarded.

19.3.2 Benchrest for Score proficiency awards:

Competitors in Score Registered Tournaments who attain the following criteria may apply for 250 or 500 score patch as applicable.

- 250 Patch: 250 points at a single distance over 5 targets in the one class
- 500 Patch: 500 points over 2 distances in the same class (Grand Aggregate Total)

19.3.3 Benchrest – International Rimfire Benchrest (IRB) proficiency awards:

Competitors in IRB Registered Tournaments who attain the following criteria may apply for a 250 or 750 score patch as applicable:

- 250 patch: 250 points on any 1 target of 25 shots
- 750 patch: 750 points over 3 consecutive targets in a single day of targets of 25 shots

SECTION 20: RECORDS

20.1 RECORD INFORMATION & SUBMISSION REQUIREMENTS: ALL CLASSES

20.1.1 There will be two categories for all records; those shot under artificial light will be classed and recognised as separate from those records shot under natural daylight conditions i.e., sunup to sunset. All records irrespective of category must comply in every way in accordance with these Rules.

20.1.2 The Records Committee shall comprise of the Official National Scoring Officer, and two other persons selected by and approved by the National Benchrest Subcommittee. The Records Committee shall be entrusted with the task of measuring and keeping the SSAA Inc National Benchrest Records.

20.1.3 If, at any Registered Tournament, the organizers, State delegate, or a competitor believes any group, or aggregate of groups fired could constitute a record, the Host, in co-operation with the State Delegates, should send the target or targets (all Record Targets shot in an aggregate are necessary for aggregate records) to the Official National Scoring Officer with the appropriate moving backing strip or strips, where required to determine if the correct number of shots have been fired, plus the prescribed form.

20.1.4 Prescribed forms are available from the Benchrest National Discipline Chairman and must be completed in full, duly signed by State Delegate or Delegates in attendance and accompany the targets and backing strips. In the event of a proxy delegate being in attendance this person should sign the form and attach thereto, a copy of the written proxy authorisation as laid down in Section 9.2.4 [SECTION 9: CONDUCT OF TOURNAMENTS](#)

20.1.5 The three members of the Records Committee shall each separately measure any Record Target, or Record Targets submitted for records. The three (3) separate measurements for each Record Target submitted shall be added together and the sum divided by three (3) and calculated to four (4) decimal places. This average measurement will then be deemed to be the official group size of the Record Target or Record Targets under scrutiny for record purposes.

20.1.6 For all records, the Official National Scoring Officer shall enter into a register of records the following information: Competitor Information including name and competitor number, name of competition, date and time of match, daylight or artificial light, benchrest class, location of the range and the measurement or measurements.

The Official National Scoring Officer shall also keep and preserve the Record Target(s) and moving backer strip(s), until such time the record is ratified.

20.2 GROUP CLASSES: YARDAGE AND AGGREGATE RECORDS

20.2.1 There shall be a record for the smallest group measurement at 50 metres (.22LR Light Rimfire Benchrest and .22LR Heavy Rimfire Benchrest classes only), 100 yards, 200 yards and 300 yards and any other distances that may from time to time be ordered or agreed upon for each recognised Benchrest class. A group shot on the Warmup Record Target shall be allowed for individual group records but cannot be included in an aggregate record; it must comply in all ways with the requirements of other Record Targets.

20.2.2 There shall be aggregate records for the full course of five (5) groups at 50 metres (.22LR Light Rimfire Benchrest and .22LR Heavy Rimfire Benchrest classes only), 100 yards, 200 yards and 300 yards, and any other distances as in this Section. Also an overall class aggregate record comprised of 50 metres aggregate plus the 100 yard aggregate in .22LR Light Rimfire Benchrest and .22LR Heavy Rimfire Benchrest, 100 yards aggregate plus 200 yards aggregate, 200 yards aggregate plus 300 yards aggregate for each class, and any other distance as in this Section and a grand Tournament aggregate comprised of the overall aggregates of the Sporter Benchrest, Light Benchrest, Heavy Benchrest and Experimental/Unlimited Benchrest classes.

20.3 SCORE DISTANCE RECORDS

20.3.1 There shall be records for the best score at 50 metres in Light Rimfire Benchrest for Score and Heavy Rimfire for Score, best score at 100 yards in Light Rimfire Benchrest for Score, Heavy Rimfire for Score, Light Centrefire for Score and Heavy Centrefire for Score and best score at 200 yards in Light Centrefire for Score and Heavy Centrefire for Score i.e., the sum of the five targets

20.3.2 There shall be records for the overall class combined scores of targets shot at 50 metres and 100 yards in Light Rimfire Benchrest for Score and Heavy Rimfire for Score Class and combined scores of targets shot at 100 yards and 200 yards in Light Centrefire for Score and Heavy Centrefire for Score Class i.e., the sum of the ten targets.

20.3.3 There shall be records for Two-Gun Light for Score, which shall comprise the total of all scores in Light Rimfire for Score Class and Light Centrefire for Score Class.

20.3.4 There shall be records for Two-Gun Heavy for Score Class, which shall comprise the total of all scores in Heavy Rimfire for Score Class and Heavy Centrefire for Score Class

20.3.5 All other requirements laid down in Section 20.1 will apply when submitting targets for record purposes apart from lodgement of moving backing strips, which are not used in for Score Class matches. SECTION 20: RECORDS

20.4 INTERNATIONAL RIMFIRE BENCHREST (IRB) RECORDS

20.4.1 SCORE AND AGGREGATE RECORDS

There shall be records recognised for the following: -

- Single target record
- 3 target record
- 6 target record

20.4.2 All other requirements laid down in Section 20.1 will apply when submitting targets for record purposes apart from lodgement of moving backing strips, which are not used in for Score Class matches. **SECTION 20: RECORDS**

20.5 RECORD SUBMISSION FORM

Available from the National Benchrest Chairman or the relevant State Delegate in attendance of the registered match.

<https://www.ssaa.org.au/disciplines/all-disciplines/benchrest/> (Downloads)

SECTION 21: AUTHORITY AND POWERS

21.1 The Benchrest Subcommittee shall include a Chairman, Two State Delegates from each State and Two National Rimfire delegates. Each State and the Rimfire delegates have two votes. Each State and the Rimfire delegates carry two votes, if only one delegate is in attendance, or the State only has one delegate they still carry two votes. The Chairman will have the casting vote in the event there is a tie. In the event the Chairman is also a State Delegate, then they only have one vote in total. Should the State Delegate(s) not be in attendance, then any person claiming to be a proxy requires the same official correspondence from the relevant State Body or the Rimfire Delegates advising of the individual(s) taking their place at the meeting.

21.1.1 The Benchrest Sub-committee is not an autonomous body within SSAA Inc and therefore all decisions of such committee must be ratified by the SSAA National Coaching and Discipline Supervisor and/or the SSAA Inc National Board.

21.1.2 All accredited State Benchrest Delegates may place items on the Agenda for each National Benchrest Subcommittee meeting; such items should be in the hands of the Benchrest National Discipline Chairman a minimum of two months prior to the meeting though items may be submitted any time prior to that deadline.

21.2 BENCHREST NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIPS

21.2.1 The Benchrest National Discipline Chairman and the Benchrest State Delegates will provide dates and locations of the disciplines National Championships, as agreed at the National Delegates Meeting the preceding year. Considerations will be given to how best run the Championships for the discipline, to ensure the competitions are not overlapped and attendances kept strong.

21.2.2 BENCHREST NATIONALS – ATTENDANCE REQUIREMENTS

A minimum of two participating States is required to conduct a National Championships.

21.2.3 BENCHREST FOR GROUP National 4 Gun Championships shall include:

Sporter Benchrest Class
Light Benchrest Class
Heavy Benchrest Class
Experimental / Unlimited Class

21.2.4 BENCHREST FOR SCORE National Championships shall include:

.22LR Light Rimfire Benchrest for Score class
.22LR Heavy Rimfire Benchrest for Score class
Centrefire Light and Heavy Benchrest for Score Classes

21.2.5 RIMFIRE GROUP and IRB National Championships shall include:

.22LR Light Rimfire Benchrest Group
.22LR Heavy Rimfire Benchrest Group
International Rimfire Benchrest Class

21.2.6 NATIONAL Championships – All:

The individual National Championship events described above shall have their class events forming the Championship held on consecutive days at the same Host range. **SECTION 22: TARGET SPECIFICATIONS**
The Official SSAA Benchrest targets shall be used for all Registered Tournaments

22.1 Group Target Specifications will be as follows:

22.1.1 All Official Benchrest targets shall be a single target card comprising a "Record Target" and a "Sighter Target". A line shall be printed horizontally across the entire width of the target card and midway between the top and bottom edges of the card. The Record Target shall be that part of the target card above the line and the Sighter Target shall be that part of the target card below and including the line.

22.1.2 On both the Record Target and the Sighter Target there shall be printed: five concentric rings, an aiming mark, a border surrounding the rings and aiming mark. Except for the rings and aiming mark, there shall be no other marks or printing within the border of the Record Target. The Sighter Target shall have two additional concentric rings in each lower corner of the border and the letter "S" in one other corner of the border with the remaining corner being reserved for target numbering.

22.2 In the case of the 100-yard targets:

22.2.1 The rings shall be a ten ring of 0.500 inches (127mm) outside diameter with a ring thickness of 0.040 inches (1.02mm); a nine ring of 1.000 inches (25.4mm) outside diameter with a ring thickness of 0.020 inches (.51mm) and succeeding rings with thicknesses of 0.020 inches (.51mm), increasing by 0.500 inches (12.70mm) in outside diameter to, and including, the six ring.

22.2.2 The aiming mark shall be 1.000 inches (25.4) square and placed at 12 o'clock, tangent to the eight ring and shall have sides 0.250 inches (6.35mm) thick, leaving within the sides, an unfilled square of 0.500 inches (12.70mm) for the actual mark at which to aim.

22.2.3 The additional rings on the Sighter Target shall be a ten ring and a nine ring as defined in this Section 23.2.2.

22.2.4 The border shall be a rectangle measuring 3.50 inches (88.90mm) horizontally by 4.75 inches (120.65mm) vertically and shall be formed by border lines 0.040 inches (1.02mm) thick.

22.2.5 The target card shall measure 8 inches (203.2mm) by 16 inches and the line separating the Record Target from the Sighter Target shall be 0.040 inches (1.02mm) thick.

22.2.6 In the case of targets for other distances, except as provided for in Section 7.4, the dimensions of the rings, aiming mark and separating line shall be increased or decreased in direct proportion to the distance fired at.

22.2.7 For 200 yards, the target card shall be 8 inches (203.2m) by 16 inches (406.4mm) and the line separating the Record Target from the Sighter Target shall be 0.080 inches (2.04mm) thick.

22.2.8 For 200 yards, the border shall be a square of 7 inches (177.8mm) formed by border lines 0.080 inches (2.04mm) thick.

22.2.9 For 300 yards, the target card shall be 12 inches (304.8mm) by 24 inches (609.6mm) and the line separating the Record Target from the Sighter Target shall be 0.120 inches (3.05mm) thick.

22.2.10 For 300 yards, the border shall be a square of 10.5 inches (266.70mm) formed by border lines 0.120 inches (3.05mm) thick.

22.2.11 The printing on any Official Benchrest Target shall be in Black and used for a National Championships and all other Registered Benchrest Tournaments.

22.2.12 All targets to be used in registered tournaments is to be purchased from an approved SSAA target supplier.

22.2.13 Specifications of all targets shall be contained in a set of full-scale drawings held by the Benchrest National Discipline Chairman, or such other person(s) approved by the Committee. Diagrams of each target will be found in Section 26. The diagrams there are not necessarily to scale and are for the purposes of illustration only.

22.3 TARGET SPECIFICATIONS: SCORE CLASS:

22.3.1 The Official SSAA 100-yard target designated as Benchrest for Score target for all Registered Tournaments shall be a score target with six "bulls" on it. One of the bulls shall be a sighter, and shall be enclosed within an area bounded by two red border lines and two target card edges. The border lines shall be 0.040 inches (1.02mm) thick. There shall be a hatched triangular mark in each upper corner of the sighter area.

22.3.2 Each bull shall consist of five concentric scoring rings starting with a 10 ring of 0.500 inches (12.70mm) outside diameter and increasing in diameter by 0.500 inches (12.70mm) and decreasing in value by 1 per scoring ring and finishing with a 6 ring of 2.500 inches (63.50mm) outside diameter. There shall also be an X ring, being a filled circle, concentric with the scoring rings and having a diameter of 0.0625 inches (1.58mm).

22.3.3 Each scoring ring shall be 0.020 inches (.51mm) thick and the X, 10, 9 and 6 rings shall be red. The 7 and 8 rings shall be the same colour as the target card. The areas between the 6 and 7 rings and between the 7 and 8 rings shall be red.

22.3.4 The value of the scoring rings shall not be printed on any bull on the target card except for the sighting bull.

22.3.5 The two-hundred-yard targets, and targets used for other distances shall be increased or decreased, in direct proportion to the distance fired at, with respect to their aiming marks, scoring rings and border lines unless specified otherwise in this Section 7.6.7.

22.3.6 Any change to the specification of any target shall not immediately invalidate the existing target. The existing target shall have equal validity with the new target for a period of one calendar year, or such other period agreed upon by the Benchrest Subcommittee, after the new specification comes into force

22.4 TARGET SPECIFICATIONS: INTERNATIONAL RIMFIRE BENCHREST: (IRB):

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

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

22.4.3 SSAA IRB TARGET

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

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

Sighter Rings: Colour Pantone Warm Red ink

Card Size: A3, 420mm wide x 297mm tall plus 1 mm minus zero

Square box bounding the score rings: Each square box is 52 x 52 mm

X dot

1,0 mm +/- 0,1 mm

Rings

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

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

8 ring 18,0 mm

7 ring 24,0 mm

6 ring 30,0 mm

5 ring 36,0 mm Blue

4 ring 42,0 mm Blue

3 ring 48,0 mm Blue

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

SECTION 23: TOLERANCES

23.1 Distances

23.1.1 Firing line to target frame (100,200 and 300 yds) - 0 +6 inches (152.4mm)

23.1.2 Firing line to target frame (50 Metres) - 0 +75 mm

23.1.3 Target frame to stationary backer +/- 3inches (76.2mm)

23.2 Angles

23.2.1 Alignment of target centre to bench centreline +/- 0.5 deg

23.2.2 Squareness of target to bench centreline +/- 2.0 deg

23.3 Other Dimensions

23.3.1 Targets

+/- 0.010 inches

23.4 Scoring Plugs

23.4.1 Benchrest for Score Class scoring gauges

Calibre (+ 0.0002/-0.0000) inches

23.4.2 Benchrest IRB scoring gauges

0.2200 (+ 0.0002/-0.0000) inches

23.5 Time Limits

-0/+1 second

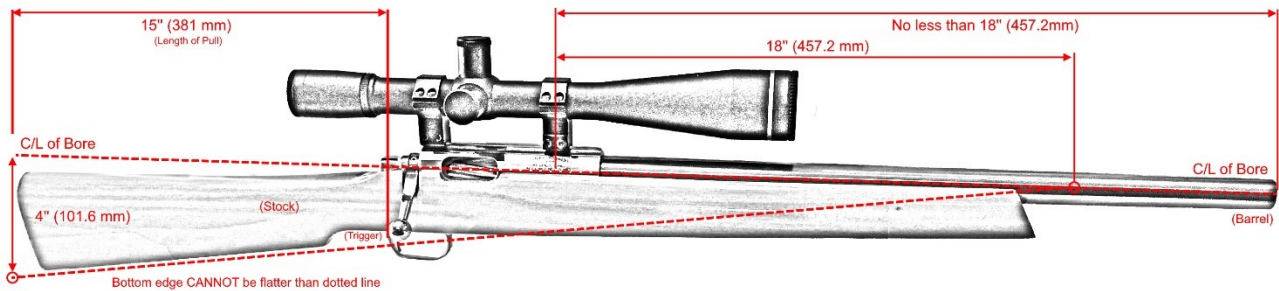
23.6 Conversion Factors

23.6.1 One inch = 25.4 millimetres
One pound = 0.453592370 Kilograms
(National Bureau of Standards 1967)

23.6.2 For the purposes of these Rules, the term "Minute of Angle" (MOA) is defined to be the angle subtended by one inch at one hundred yards, one half of one inch at 50 Metres, two inches at two hundred yards or three inches at three hundred yards depending on the distance at which the term is applied.

SECTION 24: STOCK REQUIREMENTS CENTREFIRE GROUP ONLY

24.1 Stock Requirements illustration



To measure:

1. Insert cleaning rode guide.
2. Insert cleaning rod.
3. Drop 4" (101.6 mm) down butt plate and mark point.
4. Measure 18" (457.2 mm) ahead of bolt face and mark second point.
5. Connect marked points using yard stick.
6. Bottom butt stock must NOT be more parallel to bore than the yard stick.

Notes:

"Length of pull" is measured from the centre line of the trigger straight back to the rear of the stock.

Stock Drawing illustrating requirements for stock butt angle for Centrefire Group Rifles Only.

SECTION 4: BENCHREST RIFLE SPECIFICATIONS

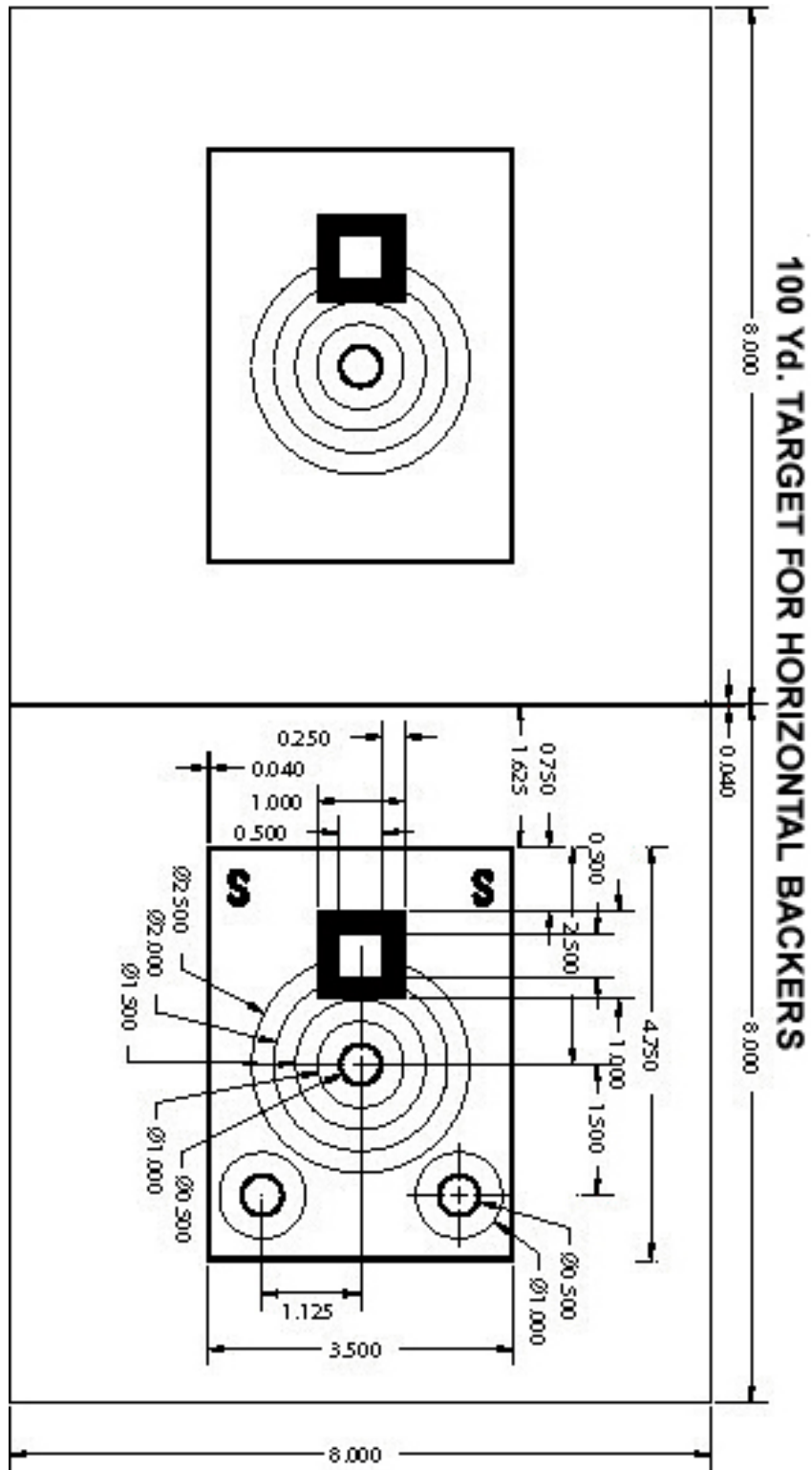
24.2: Stock Butt Angle Measuring Device

A stock butt angle measuring device unit or plans to manufacture is available from the Benchrest National Discipline Chairman.

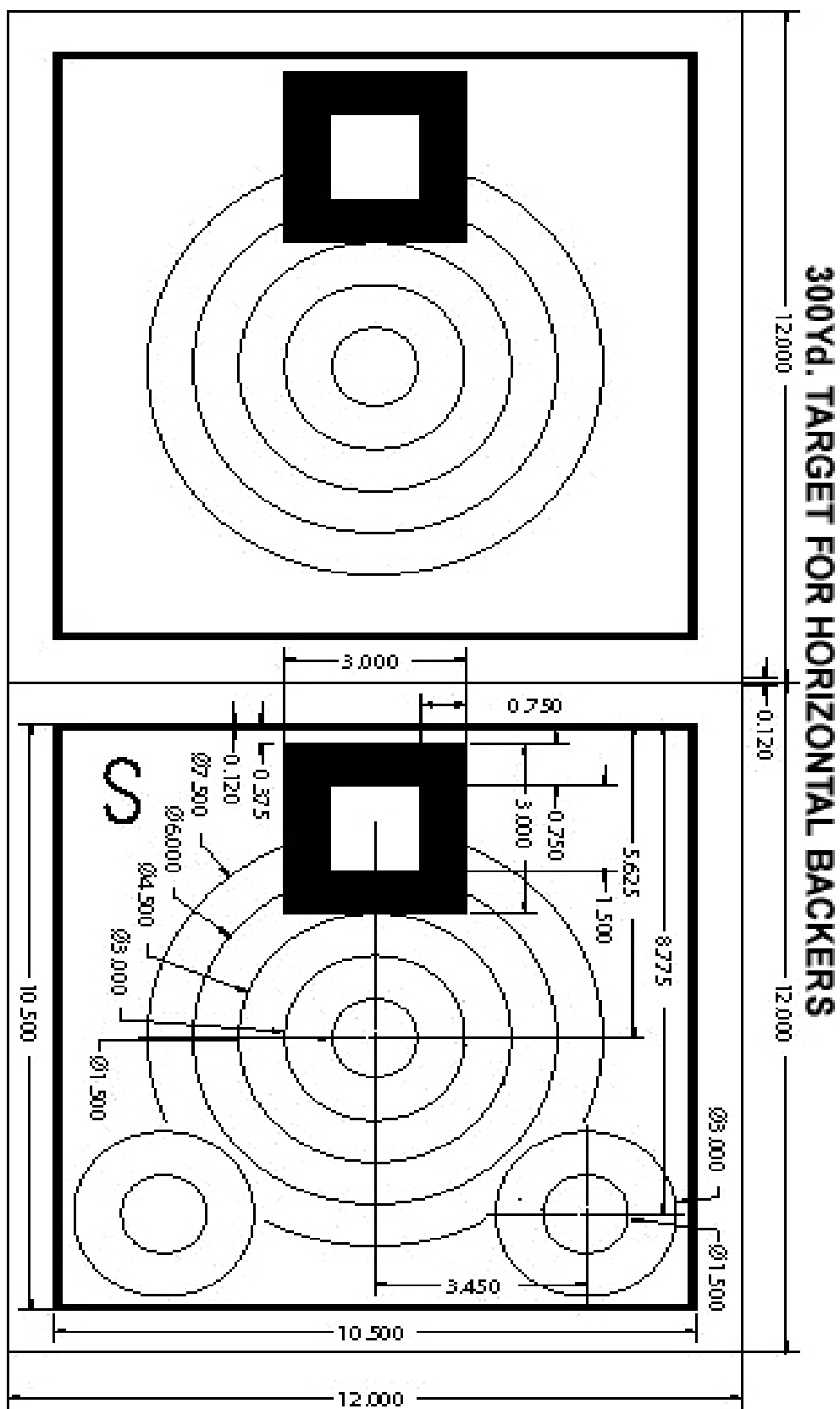
SECTION 25: TARGET DRAWINGS

GROUP TARGETS

25.1 100-yard group target

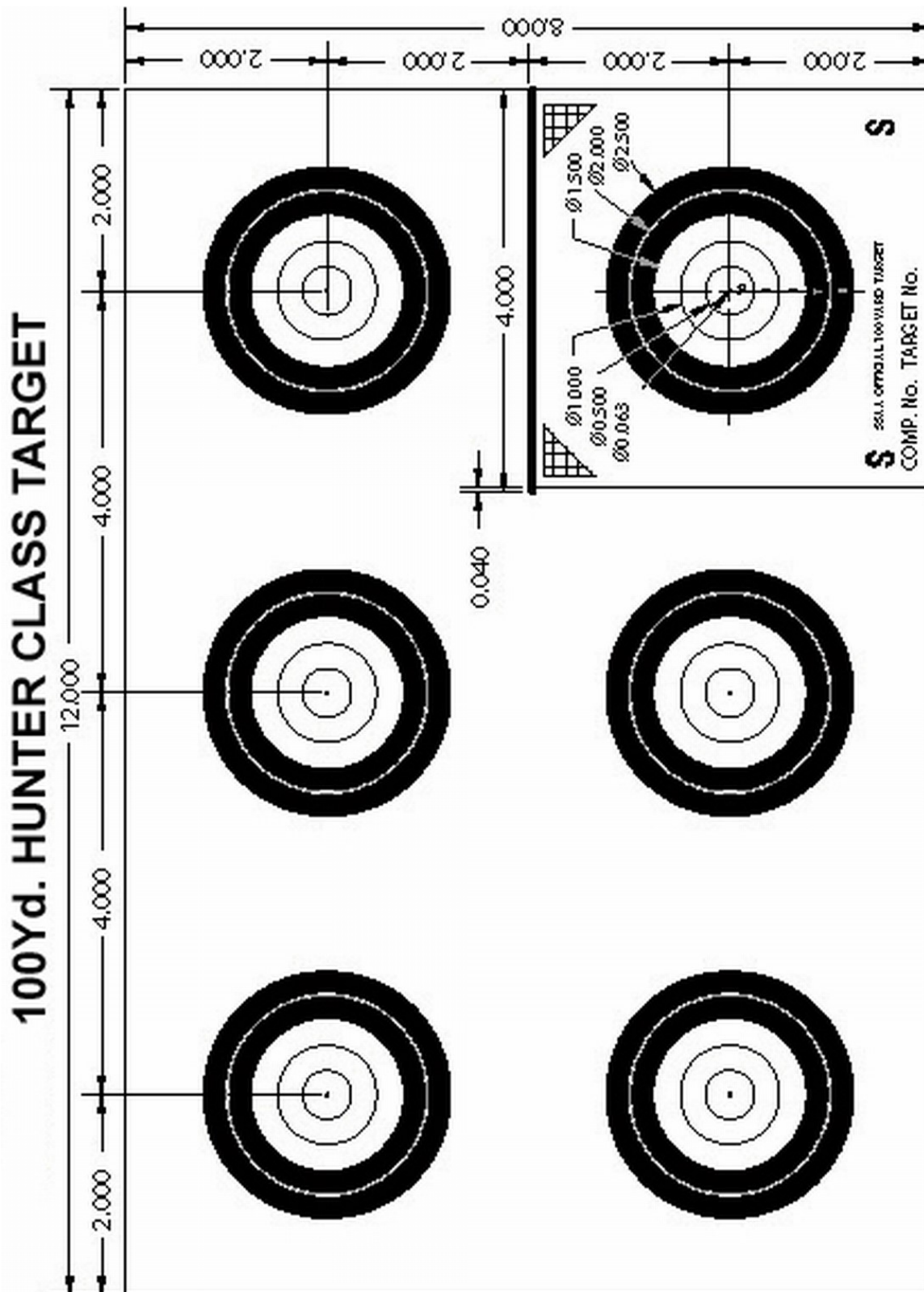


25.3 300-yard group target

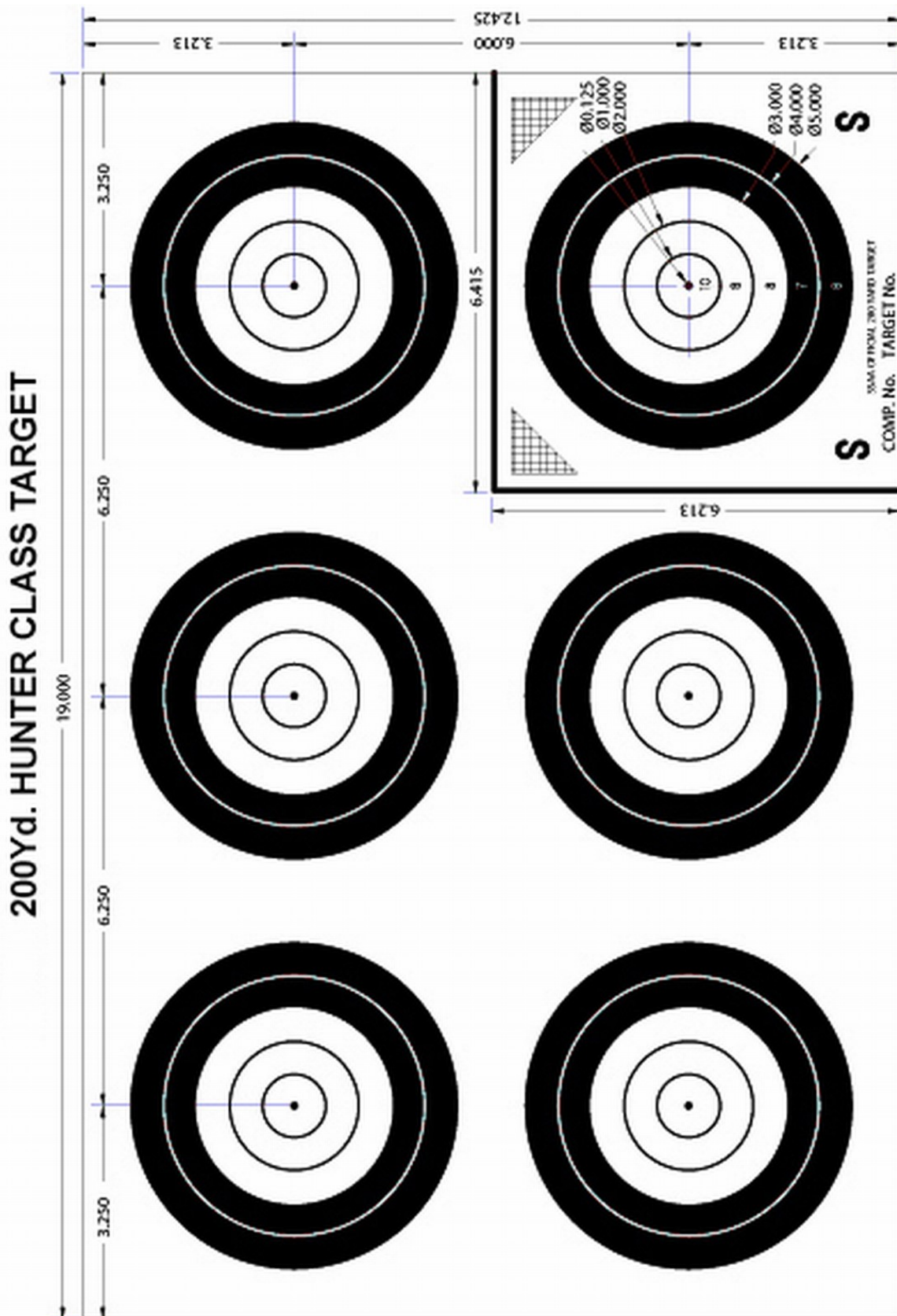


SCORE TARGETS

25.4 100-yard Target for Benchrest for Score Class

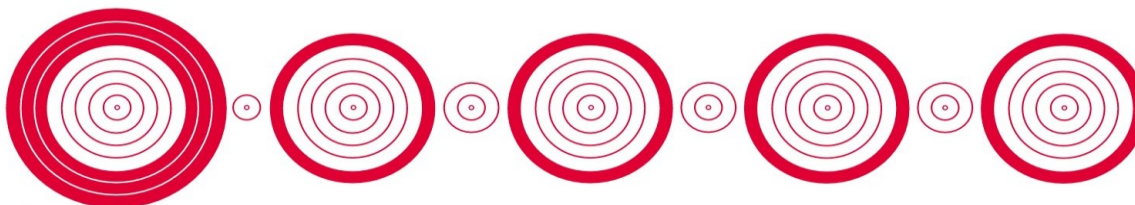
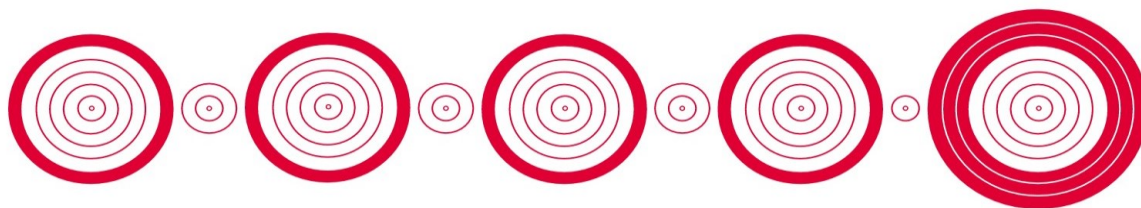
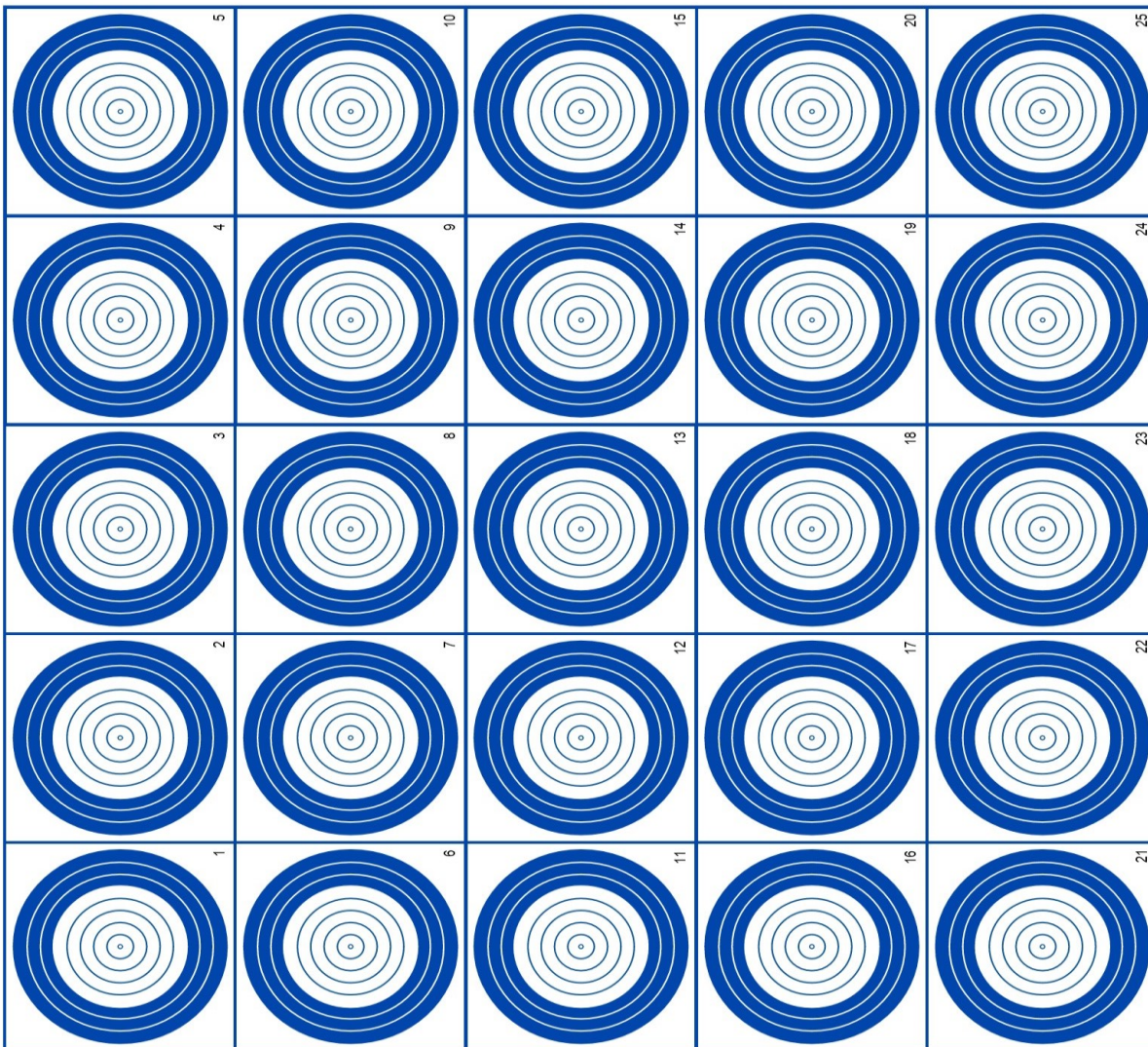


25.5 200-yard Target for Benchrest for Score Class



25.6 International Rimfire Benchrest (IRB) Target – 50m (To be printed on A3 sized card)

OFFICIAL SSAA - INTERNATIONAL RIMFIRE BENCHREST 50 TARGET



COMPETITOR : TARGET :DETAIL : BENCH :

SCORE :

APPENDIX A: BENCHREST INTERNATIONAL TEAM SELECTION INFORMATION

A.1 CENTREFIRE GROUP

The International team selection is compiled from the previous two National Championships that allow for the minimum six-month time frame required prior to the International Event.

A.1.1 SELECTION PROCESS

Selection is based on the competitor placings of Light Benchrest & Heavy Benchrest acquired from the two selection events. A total of eight aggregates will be completed and placings will be accumulated over these two events. These placings are then added, and the worst placing is then removed to come up with a final total.

These will then be listed in order from lowest to highest with the top twenty considered for the team selection. From these top twenty, up to three teams of four competitors will be chosen starting from 1st Place and proceeding down the order of the list until the required numbers of competitors for the team(s) have been selected.

In the event insufficient numbers are not available to comprise the three teams, consideration should be considered on one of the following:

- Sending fewer than three teams to the International Competition
- Sending a competitor(s) who have not made the top twenty qualifiers, as a development opportunity or team to gain experience at International Competition.

A.1.2 SELECTION EVENT NOTICE

Notice shall be given 6 months prior to the scheduled event that it will be used for International Selection for prospective team members.

A.1.3 NATIONAL EVENT SUBSTITUTION

In the event the minimum six months' time frame prior to International Event start date is not achievable, an application to the SSAA National Discipline Chairman can be made, to advise of an alternate event be considered for approval, to allow the Benchrest Discipline Selection Criteria to be used.

A.1.4 INTERNATIONAL TEAM APPROVAL

All International Teams and individual members(s) of the teams are subject to approval from SSAA National Board.

A.1.5 INTERNATIONAL RULES

All Competitors shall make themselves aware of the International Rules for competitions, especially Rifle Specifications to ensure their equipment is compliant with these rules.

A.2 INTERNATIONAL RIMFIRE BENCHREST (IRB)

The International team selection is compiled from the previous two National Championships that allow for the minimum six-month time frame required prior to the International Event.

A.2.1 SELECTION PROCESS

Selection is based on the competitor placings of the International Rimfire Benchrest Championships acquired from the two selection events. A total of twelve targets will be completed and placings will be accumulated over these two events. These placings are then added, and the worst placing is then removed to come up with a final total.

These will then be listed in order from lowest to highest with the top twenty considered for the team selection. From these top twenty, up to three teams of three competitors will be chosen starting from 1st Place and proceeding down the order of the list until the required numbers of competitors for the team(s) have been selected.

In the event insufficient numbers are not available to comprise the three teams, consideration should be considered on one of the following:

- Sending fewer than three teams to the International Competition
- Sending a competitor(s) who have not made the top twenty qualifiers, as a development opportunity or team to gain experience at International Competition.

A.2.2 SELECTION EVENT NOTICE

Notice shall be supplied 6 months prior to the scheduled event that it will be used for International Selection for prospective team members.

A.2.3 NATIONAL EVENT SUBSTITUTION

In the event the minimum six months' time frame prior to International Event start date is not achievable, an application to the SSAA National Discipline Supervisor can be made, to advise if an alternate event be considered for approval, to allow the Benchrest Discipline Selection Criteria to be used.

A.2.4 INTERNATIONAL TEAM APPROVAL

All International Team members(s) are subject to approval from SSAA National Board

A.2.5 INTERNATIONAL RULES

All Competitors shall make themselves aware of the International Rules for competitions, especially Rifle Specifications to ensure their equipment is compliant with these rules.

A.3.1 INTERNATIONAL TEAM: WORK SHEETS

The selection worksheet as outlined in these rules is available from the Benchrest National Discipline Chairman.

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