



NATIONAL RIFLE ASSOCIATION OF AUSTRALIA LTD

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CHANGES TO NRAA SSR'S – After the NRAA May Board Meeting

The following Standard Shooting Rules have been added/alterd at the May 2012 NRAA Board Meeting

- (a) These rules come into force as of Monday 18th June 2012
- (b) They have been placed on the NRAA web site and advertised in the next available edition of the NRAA Magazine
- (c) They have been circulated to all States and Territories who were asked to place them on their respective web sites and to circulate this document as widely as possible amongst their members.
- (d) The Electronic copy of the full SSR's has been updated to Version 1 C and contains all rule changes to date. It has been placed on the NRAA Website.
- (e) The Written Copy of the Rules will not be updated at this time. A number of changes to Grading Rules and additions because of Electronic Targets are being contemplated and it makes sense to wait until all these are finalised.

CHANGES / ADDITIONS TO SSR's as of 18th June 2012

Rule 4.5.1.7 The dividing line or mark separating the divisions of the target shall be included in the measurements shown in Rules 13.1 and 13.2 and when a shot touches the edge of the line or mark between two divisions of the target the competitor shall be credited with the higher value. When marking 7.62mm and 5.56mm bullet holes close to the lines a gauge of **7.82mm** diameter must be used. See Appendix 2 to Chapter 4.

Comment:-

A 0.308" projectile is actually 7.82mm in diam., therefore any gauge should be 7.82mm, not 7.62mm as previously mentioned. This also then agrees with the gauge size in Appendix 2

Rule 9.5 Any competitor who commits an offence set out in Rule 8.4 shall incur a deduction of points at the distance at which the infringement was detected. This shall be 5 points for a TR competitor and 6 points for F Class. Any subsequent offence detected during the continuance of the meeting shall result in the entire score of that distance being forfeited.

Comment:-

A TR Shooter receives a penalty of 5 points, which is the full value of one shot. An F Class shooter should logically also receive a penalty of the full value of a shot, which is 6 points in F Class.

Rule 20.10 (f) No maximum weight limit is imposed on an unattached rest, however, the rifle must be able to be lifted clear of a front pedestal rest and rear sandbag without disturbing either rest in any way.

Comment:-

This is for F Standard. In the same way that the rifle forend must be able to be lifted without disturbing the front rest, so should the rifle be able to be lifted without disturbing the rear bag. This also prevents the making of special grooved butts and/or rear bags that may theoretically give some advantage. F Open already has Rule 20.1.2, which accomplishes the same thing.

Safety Alert for Users of Modified Military Rifles

(There will be an Extra Note (2) Inserted at the beginning of Chapter 2)

Users of certain Military Actions designed for military ammunition (specifically the Lee

Enfield actions including the No.4 MkI and MkII and Mauser M93 through to M96), which have been converted to use the 7.62 x 51mm cartridge, are advised that the use of SAAMI specification .308 Winchester ammunition, whether Factory produced or handloaded, may produce pressures well above the design limit of the Actions. This may lead to safety issues.

Accordingly, the NRAA advises that the use of ammunition which produces pressures higher than 47,000 psi CUP in these modified military actions is NOT permitted.

Handloaded or Factory ammunition which complies with these pressures may be used. For a more detailed discussion and ruling, refer to Appendix 5

Wireless and Telephone Communications on the Mound – The following will be inserted.

Rule 5.1.9 The only means of communication between the Butts and the Firing Point is to be that formally used by the Range and Butts Officers. No person in the Butts is to use any other means of communication that could be contacted by any person in sight of the Firing Point. In particular, mobile cell phones must be switched off by all personnel in the Butts and anyone within 20m of the Firing Point.

Rule 4.1.1.12 No other person is allowed to give advice to competitors on the firing point whilst that competitor is competing in an individual competition, subject to the exceptions in Rule 3.3.10.

Rule 4.1.1.13 Whilst on the Firing Point, a competitor may not use a mobile cell phone or any other type of device which is capable of communicating either wirelessly or through a wireless phone network. This applies even if the communication capability has been turned off. See Rule 4.1.1.14 for permissible exceptions to this.

Rule 4.1.1.14 If Electronic Target Systems that rely on wireless communications are being used, it is permissible for Shooters, Scorers, Check Scorers and other Range Officials to use wireless capable devices for the purpose of scoring, check scoring and administration of the Electronic Targets System, provided always that this is the only purpose that the devices are being used for.

FOR TEAM SHOOTING add the following:-

Rule 4.2.1.17 The use of any sort of Electronic Device by Team Officials for scoring or plotting is NOT allowed if such devices have any capability of wireless or telephone communication. This applies even if the communication capability has been turned off.

Comment:-

A number of electronic Applications and programs such as "Shot Plot" are becoming available on devices such, iPhones and iPads and other Smart Phones and Tablets. "Shot Plot" is an electronic Shot Plotting program that could be used on the mound whilst shooting. Unfortunately the Phone or Tablet being used also provides the ability to have messages transmitted to the shooter by other people on the range without others knowing. Whilst the NRAA acknowledges the desirability of advances in technology, it was felt that it would be impossible to supervise the use of these devices adequately enough to ensure that no unfair advantages were being taken. Some of these rules already exist in the ICFRA Rulebook and ICFRA is considering the same matter at the moment.

Rules Affirming that F Open Projectiles may be Metplatted and /or Pointed

Rule 3.4.8 Issued ammunition and projectiles used for TR and F Standard may not be modified or interfered with in any way. F Open competitors should refer to Rule 20.1.1 and Appendix 1

Rule 20.1.2 (Create 2 points within the original rule. Part (a) the same, Part (b) is new.)

(a) An F-Class Open Rifle may be of any calibre up to and including 8mm. The overall weight must not exceed 10kg including all attachments (such as, but not limited to, its sights and bipod, if any). NB: An attachment is defined as any external object (other than the competitor, his sling (if any) and his apparel) which recoils (or partially recoils) with the rifle, or which is in any way joined to the rifle for each shot, or which even slightly raises with the rifle when vertically lifting the rifle from its rest(s).

(b) Projectiles used for F Open may be modified by competitors. This includes Metplating and Pointing. Projectiles. Ammunition components and Powder need not be sourced from the NRAA.

Amend APPENDIX 1 – Point (d) (amend this point)

- (d) The above points (a), (b) and (c) do not apply to ammunition used for F Class Open. Projectiles may be modified by competitors. This includes Metplatting and Pointing of projectiles.

Comment:-

While F Open has always been able to Metplat and Point projectiles if desired, it has never been explicitly specified in the SSR's. These rule changes make it clear that F Open is allowed to do so.

New Procedures for Marking Sighters on Scorecards

Rule 4.1.3.16 If the competitor decides to convert one or both sighting shots, the value/s of the sighting shot(s) being converted must be struck through with a diagonal line and transferred to the boxes for the first, or first and second, counting shot(s) as the case may be. Any scoring spaces left blank, crossed through or written "C" will count zero: only the shots recorded in the scoring boxes will be counted.

Examples are:-

S1	S2	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	Total
V	V	V	V	5	5	4	V	V	5	4	5	48.4
4	V	V	5	V	5	4	V	V	5	4	5	48.4
V	4	V	V	5	5	4	V	V	5	4	5	48.4

- Line 1 Both Sighters are converted
- Line 2 Only second sighter converted
- Line 3 Neither sighter is converted

Comment

The NSW Rifle Assn. sent the NRAA a motion that the we adopt the ICFRA rules for marking sighters on scorecards. This system was used in Brisbane during the World Championships in October 2012. Our present system which it replaces is often used in many different ways by different shooters. The current system often resulted in a totally illogical arrangement of scores on the card which could cause confusion on the mound and in the stats office. This system ensures that all counting shots are always marked on the scorecard in the same places and the same way.

APPENDIX 5 (A new Appendix has been added to refer to the use of Older Military Actions)

Users of certain Military Actions designed for military ammunition (specifically the Lee Enfield actions including the No.4 MkI and MkII and Mauser M93 through to M96), which have been converted to use the 7.62 x 51mm cartridge, are advised that the use of SAAMI specification .308 Winchester ammunition, whether Factory produced or handloaded, may produce pressures well above the design limit of the Actions. This may lead to safety issues.

Accordingly, the NRAA advises that the use of ammunition which produces pressures higher than 47,000 psi CUP in these modified military actions is NOT permitted. Handloaded or Factory ammunition which complies with these pressures may be used. The competitor may be required to submit proof that their ammunition complies.

Rationale

In regard to the above statement prohibiting the use of SAMMI Spec .308W in certain service rifles, the NRAA consulted with our appointed Armourer, and the following rationale is provided as being the position of the NRAA:

Proof testing does not mean that a tested action should be used with ammunition with pressures above what the action design is rated at. The issue with the military actions in question is a gradual degradation of safety tolerances over time. The alternative to proof testing is crack testing, but there is no standard in place for crack testing and certifying actions in Australia.

It is not appropriate to use certain military actions with SAAMI specification .308W ammunition as opposed to 7.62mm NATO ammunition. The reason is that 7.62mm NATO ammunition is rated at up to 47,000 psi CUP, whilst .308W is rated at up to 55,000 psi CUP. .303 British, for which the actions were originally designed for, is rated up to 45,000 psi CUP. So using .308W ammunition in these rifles is likely to lead to safety issues over time. This is because in operating them at the limit of their safety margin, these actions will stretch over time, unless reduced pressure hand loads are used. The latter is impossible to regulate due to the variations in ammunition components, chamber sizes, distance from the projectiles to the lands and the potential for human error or ignorance of pressure indications on fired cases.

As a result, the NRAA is compelled to put the safety of our members first and users of the Military Rifles specified above, that have been modified to 7.62mm NATO, must comply with this direction. For anyone using the above mentioned actions, the onus will be on them to demonstrate that they are using ammunition that produces maximum pressures of no more than 47,000 psi CUP. Our Armourer advises that handloaded ammunition with a speed of 2850 fps near the muzzle will produce the desired lower pressures.

Bob Pedersen – Rules Director - NRAA