

# SPORTER AIR RIFLE POSITION

## Changes for 2012

**1.6 Types of Tournament** - The types of tournaments listed below are those which are sanctioned by the NRA in its competitive shooting program.:

- (b) International Matches – Arranged by the NRA with the recognized national shooting organization(s) of the countries concerned. The Officials thereof are appointed by the NRA.
- (c) National Championships – Organized by the NRA, and in some cases in conjunction with the Civilian Marksmanship Program (CMP), to form the National Matches. The Officials thereof are appointed by the NRA, in some circumstances in cooperation with the CMP. These will be Registered Tournaments.
- (d) Sectional Championships – Arranged by the NRA and a local sponsoring organization.
- (e) State Championships – Annual tournaments authorized and/or conducted by State Rifle and/or Pistol Associations affiliated with the NRA. Such State Associations may, if desired, authorize local organizations to sponsor and conduct State Championships. In states where there is no NRA affiliated State Association, The NRA may authorize a local organization to sponsor and conduct the State Championship.
- (f) Registered Tournaments – National Records may only be established in Registered Tournaments (Rule 17.1). Match Sponsors may require all competitors to be NRA members if specified in the program.
- (g) Approved Tournaments – May be authorized by the NRA after application has been filed by the local organization which will act as the sponsor. Applications forms are available from the NRA on request.
- (h) Sanctioned Leagues – (shoulder-to-shoulder or postal) May be authorized by the NRA after application has been filed by a local group or organization. Application forms are available from the NRA on request. Sanctioned League scores are used for classification.
- (i) Postal Matches – Organized by the NRA and publicized through the Shooting Sports USA announcements and/or special mailings. A Postal Match or home range match is a competition in which entrants fire separately on their home ranges and exchange scores or submit their scores and/or targets to NRA Headquarters where scores are evaluated and ranked. The firing of Postal Match scores must be witnessed.
- (j) Special Tournaments – May be sanctioned by the NRA for types of shooting not otherwise part of the NRA program.

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

## 1.7 Types of Matches

- (a) Match – A complete event as indicated in the program for the awarding of certain specific prizes. A match may consist of one or of several stages. It may, in the case of aggregate matches, indicate the scores fired in several subsidiary matches.
- (b) Stage – A portion of a match which consists of one or more strings fired in one position, distance, time allowance (slow or rapid fire, for example), or target.
- (c) Open Match – A match open to anyone, except that if so stated in the program an open match may be limited to one or any combination the following:
  - (1) United States citizens
  - (2) Members of the National Rifle Association of America
- (d) Restricted Match – A match in which the competition is limited to specified groups, i.e. juniors, women, police, civilians, veterans, etc.; or to specified classes, i.e. Masters, Experts, Sharpshooters, Marksman, etc.
- (e) Classified Match – A match in which awards are given to the winners and to the highest competitors in several specified classes such as Masters, Experts, Sharpshooters, and Marksmen. The classification of competitors may be accomplished by the National Classification System (Sec. 19) or by other means. The program for classified matches must specify the groups or classes in which awards will be made.
- (f) Invitational Match – A match in which participants are limited to those who have been invited to compete.
- (g) Squadded Individual Match – A match in which each competitor is assigned a definite relay and target by the Statistical Office. Failure to report on the proper relay or firing point forfeits the right to fire. All entries must be made firing commences in that match, except when otherwise stated in the tournament program.
- (h) Unsquadded individual Match – A match in which the competitor is not assigned a definite relay or target by the Statistical Office. The competitor reports to the Range officer within the time limits specified in the program and is then assigned to a

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target and relay in which to fire.

- (l) Re-Entry Match – A match in which the competitor is permitted to fire more than one score for record; one or more of the highest scores being considered to determine the relative rank of competitors. The number of scores which may be fired, and the number of high scores to be considered in deciding the relative rank of competitors must be specified in the program. Scores fired in these matches shall not be used for classification purposes.
- (j) Squadded Team Match – A match in which the teams are assigned a definite time to fire. Teams may be assigned one or more adjacent targets. All entries must be made before firing commences in that match. The entire team must report and fire as a unit.
- (k) Unsquadded Team Match – A match in which the teams may report to the firing line at any time within the limits specified in the program, targets being assigned by the Range Officer. The entire team must report and fire as a unit, unless the program provides otherwise.
- (l) Aggregate Match – An aggregate of the scores from two or more matches. This may be an aggregate of match stages, individual matches, team matches or any combination, provided the tournament program clearly states the matches which will comprise the aggregate. Entries in aggregate matches must be made before the competitor commences firing in any of the matches making up the aggregate match.

**2.1 and 2.1.1** – Moved to Glossary

### 2.11 Club Teams

- (b) Open club Teams – Open Club Teams must be composed of club members all of whom are not necessarily legal residents in the same state, territory or province. More than one team from each club is acceptable.

**2.11.1 Affiliated Other Organizations** – (Article 3, Section 4(b) NRA Bylaws) – All members including team captain and coach of such teams must have been fully-paid members of the organization the team represents for a period of at least 30 days immediately prior to the competition.

### 3.7.1 Sights -

- (e) A blinder may be attached to the rifle or rear sight. The blinder must not be more than 3.3 mm (1 1/4 inches) deep nor extend more than 100 mm (~4 inches) from the center of the rear sight aperture on the side of the aiming eye. Side Blinders attached to the hat, cap, shooting glasses, or to a headband, not exceeding 40 mm (1 1/2 inches) deep are permitted (See A). These blinders must not extend

further forward than to a line from the center of the forehead. A piece to cover the non-aiming eye not larger than 30 mm (1 1/4 inches) wide is permitted (See B).

**3.10 Ground Cloths** – Ground cloths or mats with a maximum dimensions of 1.25 x 2 meters (49.2 x 78.7 inches) in size and a maximum total thickness of 5 cm (approximately 2 inches) may be used provided it is not constructed or used in a manner to provide artificial rest or support. Ground cloths shall not be used standing.

### 3.11.2 Clothing – Specifications

- (e) Shoes – Normal street type of light athletic shoes are permitted so long as they do not exceed the top of the ankle. Shooting boots/shoe are not permitted.

### 3.21 – CBI's are required.

**4.1 Official Targets** – In Registered and Approved rifle matches only targets bearing the words "Official National Rifle Association" and the eagle and shield insignia of the Association or ISSF approved targets will be used without any alterations. Targets used in National Championships will be NRA Official targets or ISSF approved targets. When appropriate, targets will be mounted only vertically on existing range hangers (frames) with the highest numbered bullseye(s) at the bottom. All NRA Official Competition Targets are printed by NRA licensed manufactures only. They may not be modified by the user or the manufacturer, except with specific written permission from NRA Competitive Shooting Division. NRA target masters are made using Computer Assisted Design and must be used in production of all NRA targets. The use of electronic scoring targets is authorized in all events as long as the fact is included in the match program

*NOTE: The use of other targets may be scheduled for other rifle matches by sponsors provided the conditions are clearly stated in the match program.*

**5.10 Kneeling** - The shooter shall touch the ground with the right foot, the right knee and the left foot. The rifle shall be held in the same way as when shooting in the prone position, i.e. with both hands and the right shoulder. The left elbow shall be supported on the left knee. The point of the elbow must not be more than 10 cm (approximately 4 inches) over or 15 cm (approximately 6 inches) behind the point of the knee. The rifle may be held by means of the sling. The fore-end behind the left hand or any part of the rifle must not rest on the sling or its attachments. If the kneeling roll is placed under the instep of the right foot, the foot may not be turned at an angle of more than 45 degrees. If the kneeling roll is not used, the foot may be positioned at any angle, to include placing the side of the foot and the lower leg in contact with the ground. No portion of the upper leg or buttocks may touch the ground at any point. The shooter may kneel completely on the ground cloth and/or thick mat (Rule 3. 10 and 3. 10. l) or he may have only one or two of the three points of contact (toe, knee, foot) on the ground cloth and/or thick mat. Only the trousers and underclothing may be worn between the shooter's seat and his heel.

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Articles may not be placed between these points or under the right knee. (Left-handed shooters reverse these descriptions.) See Rule 3.14.1.

**5.12 Standing** - The shooter will stand free with both feet on the ground without any other support. The rifle shall be held with both hands and the shoulder, the cheek and the part of the chest next to the right shoulder. However, the chest beyond the area of the right shoulder and right chest must not support the rifle. The left upper arm and elbow may be supported on the chest or on the hip. Use of the sling attached to the body and/or rifle is prohibited. During shooting, the sling swivel may not contact the supporting hand. (Left-handed shooters reverse this description.)

**6.3 Shelter** - The firing point on outdoor ranges should be covered and enclosed on three sides, open toward the targets. There must be ample room for Range Officers and witnesses to move freely at the rear of the shooters.

**6.5 Illumination** - Artificial illumination of outdoor and indoor ranges is permitted. An illumination level of 1500 lux throughout the range is recommended. The firing should also be well illuminated.

**7.10 Finals Procedure** – The shooter must use a rifle that was used in one of the qualifying courses.

- (a) Finalist in each event: 8 competitors
- (b) Reporting to the range for Finals: Competitors must report to the appropriate Range Official 20 minutes before the scheduled beginning of the Finals event.
- (c) Preparation time and Presentation of Finalists: The three (3) minutes preparation time starts with the command, **PREPARATION BEGINS NOW**. The competitors will be introduced to the spectators during the preparation time and if necessary the first minutes of the sighting time. Before and during preparation period shooters may handle their rifle, dry fire and carry out holding and aiming exercises on their assigned firing points.
- (d) Sighting Time: At the end of the preparation time the Range Officer will announce **SIGHTING TIME START**. Seven (7) minutes will be allowed for unlimited sighting shots. Thirty (30) seconds before the end of the sighting time the range officer will announce **30 SECONDS**. At the end of the 7 minutes the Range Officer will announce **STOP**.
- (e) Start Time: The starting time for each final event should be printed in the official program or announced by Match Director's Bulletin. The starting time begins with the command **LOAD** for the first competition shot
- (f) Any finalist who is not in his/her assigned position at the beginning of the start time is automatically given the last place in the final results and is not allowed to participate in the finals.

- (g) Start Positions: The competitors who qualified for the finals will have the following start positions according to their qualifications rank:

Note: All competitors will be given new start numbers corresponding to their placing. Last names should also be placed on the new start number.

Firing Point: 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8  
Start Point: 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8

- (h) Number of Sighting Targets and Shots per Target:

1. Number of sighting targets: (Paper Targets) 4 targets
2. Number of competition shots per target: (Paper Targets) One (1) shot per target

- (I) Final Results: In all events the results of the finals competition will be added to the individual results of the qualification round

Results of the finals will be printed in the results bulletin.

In all events the final scoring of the series of shots will be made immediately in the target pit or at the firing line of the final competition. Any challenge will be decided immediately and the decision is final.

The scoring of the finals will be conducted, if technically possible, with target reading machines which classify each ring in ten sections (such as 8.1, 8.2, etc., up to the maximum of 10.9). Shots which cannot be classified by target reading machines will be scored by hand, by jury members with ISSF/NRA approved instruments.

Final scores will be used for classifications.

- (j) Finals Events:

Air Rifle – Men  
Air Rifle – Women

Seven (7) minutes unlimited sighting shots. (Range Officer Gives warning signal 30 seconds before end of sighting time)

One thirty (30) second pause. Range Officer will instruct shooters:

### ADVANCE TO COMPETITION TARGET

The final consist of 10 shots and will be conducted single shot-for-shot with the following commands for each shot:

### FOR THE FIRST/NEXT COMPETITION SHOT LOAD

After this command the competitors load their rifles. The rifle must not be loaded before this command is given. That means the air rifle must be cocked only after the command **LOAD**. The pellet must be loaded into the chamber only after the command **LOAD**.

### ATTENTION 3-2-1 START

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The shooter has 75 seconds for standing for one shot. This command with the count-down should give the competitor sufficient time to take their shooting position. The shooting time starts with command **START**. Each shot fired before the command **START** will be counted as a miss (zero).

### STOP

This command is given after the last competitor has fired or immediately after termination of the shooting time whichever comes first. The last second (75th) has to correspond with the word **STOP**. At this time the fired target will be advanced/returned and the next competition target will be advanced.

4. If a shooter fires more than one shot during the singles shot period, all of those shots must be scored as a zero (0) and counted as part of the ten shot final.
5. After scoring the shot, the procedure indicated in (3) will be repeated until all competitors have fired their 10 shots.
- (k) If automatic target carriers are used, the target must be carried in only after the command **STOP** is given to avoid any disturbances of the other finalists.
- (l) Aiming exercises are allowed between the commands **STOP** and the following command **LOAD**. Dry firing in any form is prohibited.

(n) Decisions in the event of tied scores:

The scores of the qualification round and of the finals series are added. In case of tied scores for the three places at the end of the finals the following rule will apply:

In case of tied scores after the finals in series the shooters who are tied will continue to shoot single shot-for-shot until the tie is broken.

Shooters who are tied remain at their firing points. All other shooters place their firearms in a safe position and leave the firing line immediately after the scoring of their final results has been made. The Final will be continued as fast as possible and without additional sighting shots according to the procedure in (j) (3).

### 7.10.1 Contingencies, Penalties and Resolutions

- (a) A firing line officer will be appointed to supervise the firing line, issue warnings, deductions and disqualifications in accordance with finals procedures. The firing line officer will also identify rounds fired prior to the command **START**, and after **STOP**.
- (b) Upon issuing a warning, deduction, or disqualification, the firing line officer will notify the competitor involved, the chief range officer and the classification officer.
- (c) Violations of the ISSF Olympic Finals procedures 7.10 (j) (3) and 7.10 (k) will be penalized according to the following format:

- (1) 1<sup>st</sup> Offense: WARNING
- (2) 2<sup>nd</sup> Offense: DEDUCTION of two points from the next shot
- (3) 3<sup>rd</sup> Offense: DISQUALIFICATION and the shooter will be ranked in the last place of the participating finalists.

- (d) Shooters disagreeing with an announced shot value desiring to challenge must declare intent prior to the initiation of the next shot. The challenge shot will be rescored by the classification officer. The official score will be announced before starting the next shot sequence. There is no challenge fee.
- (e) Should the Chief Range Officer prematurely announce, **STOP**, the following procedure is followed:
  - (1) Announce, **AS YOU WERE! THE SHOT SEQUENCE WILL BE REPEATED FOR FINALISTS HAVING SHOTS REMAINING TO BE FIRED!**
  - (2) The finals sequence 7.10 (j) (3) is initiated.
- (f) In the case of an allowable malfunction the shooter is allowed to complete or repeat the fired shot(s) twice during the finals including shoot-offs if the competitor can repair or replace his rifle or ammunition within three minutes after the malfunction(s) has been declared allowable.

The procedures are as follows:

- (1) The Final will be interrupted in every case.
- (2) Events with card targets - Targets will not be collected or scored until the shooter has fired his missing shot.  
  
Events with electronic targets - The Range Officer will not announce the shot evaluation and ranking until the shooter has fired his missing shot.
- (3) In all cases of repeated shooting, the starting command of the competition must be given as from the command, **LOAD**.
- (4) If a shooter is unable to repair or replace his firearm within 3 minutes, he will lose the shot and the Final will be conducted 3 minutes later according to the rules.

**9.8 Changing of Air Rifles** – No competitor will exchange an air rifle or the stock of the air rifle during the firing or any single or multiple stage match (except in aggregate matches), unless it has become disabled and has been so designated by the Chief Range Officer or Referee. For the purpose of this rule the firing of a match is considered to have started when the competitor has fired the first record shot. A claim that an air rifle is disabled must be made

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immediately. All shots fired up to the time that the claim is made will stand as part of the official score.

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

**9.30 Penalties/Disqualifications** - In cases of infringement and contravention of the regulations or of the instructions of Range Officers, the following penalties may be imposed upon the competitor by the Match Director, Referee or Jury:

Warning  
Deduction of points from the score  
Disqualification

In case of infringement of the regulations:

- (a) A warning may be given so that the competitor may have the opportunity to correct the fault. In case of a serious violation of safety regulations, the Jury or Referee has the authority to impose immediate disqualification.
- (b) If the competitor does not correct the fault before the next shot, 2 points shall be deducted from his score.
- (c) For a repeated infringement, the competitor may be disqualified.
- (d) A warning to the competitor must be expressed in such terms as will leave no doubt that it is an official warning. A warning to the competitor, whenever it is possible, should be given so as not to disturb him while firing a shot, unless the infringement concerns safety, in which case the competitor shall be warned immediately.
- (e) If a competitor continues to handle his firearm in a dangerous manner, or continues to violate any of the safety regulations, he may be disqualified.
- (f) If the Range Officer, Referee or Jury is of the opinion that the competitor has attempted to intentionally circumvent the rules or disturb other competitors in an unsportsmanlike manner, he may be warned, then penalized by the deduction of 2 points from his score, or he may be disqualified.
- (g) If the Range Officer, Referee, or Jury considers that the competitor is holding up the procedure unnecessarily, with the intention of gaining unfair advantage, he may be warned, then for every similar fault thereafter, 2 points may be deducted from his score.
- (h) The discharge of any firearm any place other than the firing line, or the firing line prior to the shooter being placed in the preparation period, will result in disqualification and expulsion from the tournament with no refund of fees. If a firearm is discharged while

the shooters are in the preparation period prior to the command "LOAD," it will result in the competitor being disqualified from that fired match.

- (I) Any competitor placing a pellet in the chamber on the loading ramp before the command : "LOAD" or "COMMENCE FIRING," will be warned on the first violation, disqualified from that stage for the second violation, disqualified from the match for the third violation, and expelled from the tournament of the fourth violation, with no refund of fees.

*All irregularities, penalties, misses, malfunctions, extra time allowed, repeated shots or repeated series, annulment of shots, etc., must be clearly marked and recorded on both the target and score card, by the responsible official on the range. Penalty points will be deducted from the stage or match in which the infraction has occurred, starting from the last bull fired in the stage or match.*

**10.1.2 Air Rifles Unloaded** - Air Rifles will not be loaded until the competitor has taken position at his assigned firing point; air rifles are pointed toward the targets; and the command, "COMMENCE FIRE" or "START" has been given.

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

**10.7 Firing Line Commands** - When ready to start the firing of a match the Range Officer commands:

**"RELAY NO. 1 MATCH NO. (or naming the match) ON THE FIRING LINE."**

Once shooters have been given enough time to get to their firing points, the Range Officer will state: **"GO FORWARD AND HANG YOUR TARGETS."**

When all shooters have returned from downrange, the Range Officer commands: **"THE PREPARATION PERIOD STARTS NOW."**

Shooters will have a minimum of 3 minutes to make their last minute preparations. Shooters may dry fire during the preparation period. Range Officers should check the location of each competitor as to correct firing point by comparing the number of each competitor's firing point with the relay and target number on his scorecard or on the range assignment card. At the end of 3 minutes, the Range Officer states: **"THE PREPARATION PERIOD HAS ENDED."**

Next the Range Officer asks the question: **"IS THE LINE READY?"**

A competitor who is not ready will immediately raise his arm and call, **"NOT READY ON TARGET! ' \_\_\_\_\_ '** The Range Officer will immediately state: **"THE LINE IS NOT READY,"** proceed to investigate the difficulty and assist in correcting it. When this has been corrected, the Range

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Officer calls: "THE LINE IS READY, YOU HAVE ' \_\_\_\_ ' MINUTES, COMMENCE FIRING."

(Note: Time will vary depending on course of fire.)

After this command, firing commences and competitors have the stated time to complete their firing. At the end of the firing period, the Range Officer commands: "CEASE FIRE. MAKE THE LINE SAFE. INSERT CBI"

### 11. TOURNAMENT OFFICIALS

Tournament Officials-Officials will be thoroughly familiar with conditions of the program and with National Rifle Association Rules. The Match Director, Deputy Match Director, Chief Range Officer, Chief Statistical Officer, and Official Referee should not compete in any Registered Tournament where they are officiating.

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

#### 11.3 – BLANK

**11.6.1 Duties of Office** - It is the duty of the Statistical Office to:

- (g) Score targets and tabulate
- (k) Report to NRA Official Referee and Match Director for appropriate disciplinary action any irregularities in firing or scoring which may be indicated by squadding records or scorecards.

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

- (a) Typographical errors.
- (b) Aggregate bulletin on which total score does not agree with scores shown on the Official Bulletins for

the matches constituting the aggregate.

- (c) Where an error has been made by not following the program schedule of awards.
- (d) Errors in classification of shooters, the shooter having been previously advised of such error and of correct classification.
- (e) Disqualification of shooters as provided by Rule 9.30.

**11.9 Duty to Competitors** - It shall be the duty of all operating officials and personnel to conduct themselves properly by being fair and impartial to all in carrying out their various duties. No official shall molest a competitor nor allow such practice by another official or other competitors. Should a competitor's equipment or demeanor warrant disqualification for an individual match or tournament, it should be done in such a manner as will cause the least inconvenience to all concerned. In so doing, the official should state to the competitor the rule or section of rules under which the disqualification is being made.

**14.3.1 Use of Plug Type Scoring Gauges** - Shots in dispute shall be scored with the aid of a "plug" type scoring gauge. When the accurate use of a plug is made difficult by the close proximity of another pellet hole or torn paper, the shot value shall be determined by means of an engraved gauge of some flat, transparent material to aid in reconstructing the position of a scoring ring or number of pellet holes which may develop. (A .177 air gun plastic scoring aid - CT17190 - from the NRA is available or a magnifying device with the same dimensions as the CT17190 may be used.

- (c) When the two initial scorers disagree, a decision from a scoring supervisor shall be requested immediately and before the plug is removed. After inspecting the plugged shot hole, the Chief Statistical Officer shall indicate his decision by writing "+" or "-" on the target to indicate whether the shot goes to the higher or lower value. All three scoring officials shall initial the target.

**16.1 Challenges** - When a competitor feels that a match fired by himself or by another competitor has been improperly evaluated or scored, the competitor may challenge the score. A challenge must be made within the challenge time. It shall be the challenging person's privilege to inspect the target during or following the re-check.

- (a) A challenge fee of not more than \$3.00 may be charged to all competitors making challenges. The challenge fee will be collected before making the first re-check of the challenged score. If the competitor's challenge is sustained at any point along the line of re-checks, the challenge fee will be returned. If the challenge is lost, the challenge fee will be included in the general revenue of the tournament. In NRA competition to which the NRA assigns a Referee, or Jury, the decision of the Official Referee, or Jury will

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be final.

- (b) It shall be the responsibility of the tournament sponsor to state in the program or by Special Bulletin Board notice the time limits within which a challenge may be made.
- (c) When targets are scored in the Statistical Office or on display racks, the re-checks will be made by the Chief Statistical Officer (provided he has not previously scored or checked the target) and the Official Referee, or Jury in that order.
- (d) The Match Director may at his discretion re-check any competitor's target by an administrative challenge. Such a challenge must be made within the posted challenge period and checked by the Referee or Jury.
- (e) Fired matches are challenged by total score, not individual shots, targets or stages.

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

- (a) State the complaint orally to the Chief Range or Chief Statistical Officer. If not satisfied with his decision then,
- (b) State the complaint orally to the Official Referee, or Jury Chairman. If not satisfied with his decision then,
- (c) File a formal protest in writing with the Official Referee, or Jury Chairman stating all the facts in the case. Such written protest must be filed within 12 hours of the occurrence of the protested incident.
- (d) The Official Referee, or Jury will then forward the protest with a complete statement of facts within 48 hours of receipt thereof to the Protest Committee at NRA Headquarters.
- (e) At National Championships, a competitor must state his complaint orally to the Chief Range Officer or Chief Statistical Officer and if not satisfied with his decision, the competitor must file a written protest with the Match Director. If the competitor is not satisfied with the Match Director's decision on the matter, the Match Director will forward the protest to the Protest Committee along with a written statement of his decision. The decision of the Protest Committee at the National Championships is final. A protest procedure must begin no later than one hour after the completion of firing for the day. In the case of awards, the protest must begin no later than one half hour after the completion of the awards ceremony.

**19.15 Individual Class Averages** - Competitors will be classified as follows and NRA Classification Cards issued accordingly:

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Master..... 88.00 and above  
Expert .....84.00 to 87.99  
Sharpshooter .....81.00 to 83.99  
Marksman .....80.99 and below

### 20.4 Duties - Before Tournament

Having accepted an assignment to serve, it is the duty of the Official Referee to:

- (a) To be Familiar with the program.
- (b) Verify, by mail or in person with the Match Director of the tournament to ensure that range and statistical facilities are adequate and in good order and that ample range and statistical personnel have been employed or definitely arranged for.

### 20.5 Duties - During Tournament

- (a) Observing the functions of the Statistical Office when first opened to help establish proper registration and squadding procedure. Make sure the Statistical Office has arranged to check all competitors' current classifications before issuing a competitor's first squadding ticket.
- (b) Inspecting the target equipment and range personnel in company with the Match Director to ensure that the range will function properly.
- (c) Consult with the Match Director and arrange to have Official Bulletins posted immediately covering any changes or corrections which have been authorized.
- (d) Observe personally the scoring and bulletin methods used when the targets from the first relay are being scored and call attention to any errors before an erroneous method becomes established.
- (e) Remain constantly alert for infractions of safety or competition Rules by moving over the range behind the firing line from flank to flank; observe activities of target runners, Range Officers, scorers, and statistical clerks, spectators; watch competitors handle their rifles, etc.
- (f) Report immediately to the Match Director any errors in administration or infractions of Rules by competitors or personnel, requesting that he have them corrected at once. If the matter is one requiring instant action the Official Referee should direct whatever action is required and report his action and the reason to the Match Director as soon as that officer can be reached.
- (g) In tournaments when situations occur that are not specifically covered by an existing Rule or Rules, the Referee shall exercise his best judgment in ruling for the best interest of the shooting sports and competitors.
- (h) Check personally with the Statistical Officer at the

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conclusion of the tournament to make sure that all bulletins have been properly completed and awards issued as prescribed in the Tournament Program or are available for mailing to competitors who have left the range.

- (l) Forward to NRA Headquarters all reports currently required of him, including National Record Reporting forms, copies of protests, decisions, appeals and all written statements bearing on the case.