

**EUROPEAN
RIMFIRE & AIR RIFLE BENCHREST
SHOOTING FEDERATION**
(Based on World rules of the WRABF)

OFFICIAL RULE BOOK



Working with



EUROPEAN RIMFIRE AND AIR RIFLE BENCHREST SHOOTING FEDERATION

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General Information

General Information

The following information is the main Rules for Rimfire and Air Rifle Benchrest Competitions developed to suit international shooting. The following Rules can be used for Local, National and Continental Championships by member associations. These rules will be used for all World Rimfire and Air Rifle Benchrest Championships from 2010 onwards – as 'local rules' – International 'head to head' Championships and may be used for International Postal matches where appropriate. Targets used in all competitions will be the Official World Rimfire and Air Rifle Benchrest Targets as supplied as a master for own photocopying on A3 sheet or printed from the European Rimfire and Air Rifle Benchrest Shooting Federation (here by referred to as ERABSF) website. (See **APPENDIX F**) for details. This consists of 25 scoring targets. English will be the official language, both orally and in writing, at the shooting ranges during championship.

Affiliation

The ERABSF covers the majority of Rimfire and Air Rifle competitions at 25 meters and 50 meters. Affiliation to the ERABSF brings national Rimfire and Air Rifle benchrest shooting organisations under the same main rules of shooting set out below, with specific adaptation to suit other forms of rimfire benchrest. These adaptations may cover distance, classes and targets all to suit other world and continental rimfire benchrest shooting and club facilities.

Eligibility of Venue

The shooting venue where the championship is to be held must be approved and Insured, hold a current licence for the use of the firearms being used and abide by the Firearms Licensing Regulations of that country. It will be the responsibility of the host association / organisers to ensure that the range and facilities are of a high standard suitable for the conduct of the Championship. The Host will also need to organise volunteers to assist in running the event.

Acceptance of terms and conditions

By entering the world championship individuals, teams and national associations/ federations are officially accepting the rules stated within this document. This relates to all aspects of the championship including equipment and behaviour. The disqualification rules outlined within this document are very important to consider and it is the responsibility of all individuals, teams and national associations/ federations to make themselves aware of these facts. Where rules are broken or issue's raised, a normal protest can take place during the match by match officials and/ or the protest committee. If rules have been explicitly broken and this is discovered after the championship, than an Emergency General Meeting of international delegates will take place to consider the facts/ evidence and come to a decision. If upheld, individuals and/ or teams can be disqualified or have scores removed in the same way the protest system works. (This would be an exceptional circumstance).

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SECTION A Administration

A.1 Authority:

The European Rimfire and Air Rifle Benchrest Shooting Championships are conducted on the authority of the European Rimfire and Air Rifle Benchrest Shooting Federation and approved by the Delegates Committee.

A.2 Recognition of Member Countries:

There is no restriction on the number of countries that may join the European Rimfire and Air Rifle Benchrest Shooting Federation, subject to them meeting the admission criteria established within these rules, fulfilling financial obligations and meeting the appropriate standards of behaviour and sportsmanship.

A country may be expelled and membership cancelled by the delegates attending a meeting duly called and constituted by these rules. Such expulsion will be by a 2/3rd majority ballot of those country delegates present.

A.3 Recognised Body:

It is for each member country, to establish the body within its jurisdiction that will be recognised for participation at any rimfire championship conducted under the auspices of the European Rimfire and Air Rifle Benchrest Shooting Federation. However, only one body per country can be represented at the European Rimfire and Air Rifle Benchrest Shooting Federation Delegates Meetings per A4. The body representing each country must be a member of the European Rimfire and Air Rifle Benchrest Shooting Federation. Only one member federation/ association representing rimfire and/ or air rifle benchrest from each country is allowed to be a member of the European Rimfire and Air Rifle Benchrest Shooting Federation.

A.4 Types of Membership

A4.1 Full Membership

Each country accepted for membership is entitled to appoint a representative to care for their interests and attend any meetings of the ERABSF Delegates Committee.

A4.2 Affiliate Membership

Membership is available per **A13 Territory or Protectorate** and subject to all other Rules and requirements of these rules.

A4.3 Interim Membership

On the authority of the President or Secretary of the Federation, Interim Membership may be granted to a new country seeking membership, subject to such action being placed before the next Delegates Meeting for ratification of full (or Associate) membership or declinature in accordance with these rules.

A.5 Multiple Representations:

Where more than one organisation pursues the interests of Rimfire Benchrest Shooting within a particular country, it is for that country to determine representation. However the European Rimfire and Air Rifle Benchrest Shooting Federation Advisory Committee will only recognise one such body in any one country. Where an Association / Federation accept such responsibility, it is required to ensure all competitors from that country who wish to represent their country, are provided with the opportunity to qualify for such teams.

A.6 International Affiliation:

It is expected that any country / association recognition, should be capable of/or recognised by the controlling body of sports shooting in that country, to ensure full international status can be conveyed on the countries representatives.

A.7 Advisory Committee Meetings:

An Advisory Committee Meeting will be held at each European Rimfire and Air Rifle Championship to discuss matter relative to the conduct of the Rimfire and Air Rifle Championship.

The Advisory Committee meeting will be conducted by the Chairman of the European Rimfire and Air Rifle Benchrest Shooting Federation or his nominee if unavailable to attend. Representation will be by a Delegate from each approved country who may be accompanied by an official observer. Each delegate present at the meeting will hold one vote. The Chairman may hold his countries vote or a casting vote, but not both.

A.8 Membership Fees:

Member countries will be responsible for the payment of any membership fees or levies determined from time to time by the European Rimfire and Air Rifle Benchrest Shooting Federation Delegates Meeting. Failure to meet deadlines set for the payment of such fees will result in the non-acceptance of shooters from that country in any events conducted by the European Rimfire and Air Rifle Benchrest Shooting Federation.

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A.9 Conduct of Events:

A European Rimfire Championship shall be conducted every four years. All events at such Championships will be conducted in accordance with these Rules.

Should the host country traditionally conduct events in metric distances, same will be allowed, however all events for that Championship will be conducted in the metric distances.

A.10 Changes to Rules to be used at European Rimfire Championship:

Should changes be required to these rules, these should be advised to the Advisory Committee members at least one year prior to competition, and confirmation of such changes approved by the next Advisory meeting. Should no such changes be advised, then the competition will proceed on the basis of the published information. A temporary change for a specific Championship can be approved by the Chairman or nominee, in consultation with the Organising Committee, subject to all competing countries approving in writing that such change have their agreement.

A.11 New Competition Events:

These Rules contain all events that are currently approved by the Delegates Committee for competition. Should a member wish to provide an alternative competition or include an additional event on the programme, such detail must be submitted to the Advisory Committee meeting two years prior to competition. Such application must be accompanied by the Rules of Competition under which the event will be conducted and confirmation that all administrative matters (medals, teams etc) as provided in these Rules will prevail.

A.12 Competitor Accreditation:

Only competitors nominated by their affiliated country/association who have met their financial obligations and who hold that countries citizenship or residency qualification will be accepted. In the event of doubt, the shooters primary place of residency will determine eligibility, possibly through **verification of the competitor's passport.**

Where a competitor has previously competed for another country, that shooter cannot compete for a new country without a formal clearance from the originating country and a stand-down period of two years since the date of last competing at a European Rimfire and Air Rifle Benchrest Shooting Federation sanctioned event.

A.13 Territory or Protectorate:

The recognised National Shooting Association of such territories or protectorates may seek Affiliate membership of European Rimfire and Air Rifle Benchrest Shooting Federation. For entry to be accepted into a championship, all competitors must have been resident in that territory or protectorate for a minimum of two years.

A.14 Minimum Number of Individual Competitors:

For a European World Rimfire and Air rifle Championship to be conducted there must be thirty competitors representing a minimum of five countries.

The minimum number of competitors from each country shall be one competitor.

A.15 Maximum Number of Individual Competitors:

Each participating country may enter a maximum number of fifteen (15) competitors in each event of the championship. This can include up to 3 juniors (must be up to 18 years of age in the current year), but the maximum number will remain at 15 competitors.

A.16 Team Competition - Minimum Number of Teams:

There must be two participating countries for team awards to take place. However there must be three teams available from those two countries so 1st, 2nd and 3rd place can be competed for.

A.17 Size of Teams:

Each country is entitled to enter three teams of three shooters (plus up to two reserves for each team) in each event/ class (15 in total) (**of which team members can be juniors**). The Team and reserve shooters names to be registered as stated above under Registration. Three teams from each country can enter each class or match. Scoring will be an aggregate of scores achieved as individuals, amassed as the registered team of three, max score 2250 with 225 X's. **Changes to teams must be made one hour before the first shot of the match is fired.**

A.18 Reserves:

It is recognised that countries may wish to have reserves available in the event of difficulties within a *team where there is a team award*. Reserves will be able to shoot during official and unofficial practise days, but will not be permitted to participate as part of a team unless they replace a team member officially. (All reserves can shoot as individuals within a match/ championship). Reserves will not be included in the awards ceremony for team events unless they have replaced a team member and shot for the team. If replaced, the original team member replaced can no longer be included in the awards ceremony for that team. (Two reserves for each team 3 plus 2 = 5 x 3 teams = 15)

A.19 Use of Reserves:

Changes to teams must be made one hour before the scheduled start of the match.

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A.20 Teams Competition participants:

For a Team score to be recorded, all team members must complete the Benchrest for Score competition. **Teams & names must be listed before the events, these should also be clearly posted at the event, with any changes notified in writing before the match begins.**

A.21 European Championship Records:

European Rimfire and Air Rifle Championship records can be established and are recorded in the European Rimfire and Air Rifle Benchrest Shooting Federation Championship Manual and on the organisations website.

A.21.a Un-confirmed Records:

The results as published at each championship can be used to indicate that an unconfirmed new European Rimfire and Air Rifle Championship Record have been established.

A.21.b Confirmed Record:

The Advisory Committee shall appoint a Technical Group for the final scoring of proposed new records. Such group are able to meet in person or by correspondence. All targets that constitute the record shall be made available to the Technical Group by the shooters Team Leader via the European Rimfire and Air Rifle Benchrest Shooting Federation Chairman or nominee, accompanied by appropriate application form. The Group shall personally inspect and independently re-score each target, providing to the Chairman or nominee the results of their efforts.

The Chairman (or nominee) shall co-ordinate all results, and determines the average of each individual's re-scores. It will be for the Chairman to announce any new records so obtained. There shall be no appeal rights available as a result of Technical Group or the Chairman's deliberations in this matter. Records established will be recorded on the ERABSF website for future reference and scoring. New records can be established from scores at other International matches. However this will rely on confirmation from the Match Director and official scorers. This can then be confirmed by independent scorers from individual nations if necessary. New records will be announced via the Chairman via the official ERABSF website.

A.21.c Recording of Records:

Score Records: Recorded as shot. (I.e. in both Metric and/or Imperial distances recorded)

SECTION B Rules of Competition

B.1 DEFINITIONS

B.2 Championship:

The *Championship* shall be defined as the conduct of the total tournament.

B.3 Event:

The *Event* will be those events separately listed in Section D.

B.4. Aggregate:

An *Aggregate* will be the total score of a Days matches or all matches in one class, the aggregate being the final score. 25 records shots at 25 meters or 50 meters with a time limit for matches of maximum 30 minutes outdoor. Each class will consist of a three targets to be shot in the same day with bench rotation in force. A competitor can compete only one time in each Class/Distance at any Championship. **Separate aggregate for air rifle & rimfire events will be recorded.**

B.5 Match:

A *Match* will be single event (one target) in a Championship.

B.6 Rifle Specifications

.22 Rimfire - Rifles Chambered for Short, Long, or Long Rifle.

Air Rifle - Rifles Chambered for .177, .20 or .22 and of power / velocity as stated in the Class designation section.

Rimfire:

(b) International Sporter - is any Sporter having a manually and mechanically operated firing mechanism, max weight not more than **81/2** pounds (3.855 Kg) inclusive of scope. Barrel weights, harmonic tuners or bullet stabilisers, barrel attachments (vibration devices) are NOT permitted. Any scope may be used with max magnification of **6.5X**, scopes with more power will have to be taped in position by a referee for duration of match. The barrel/ action can be bedded and have the trigger reworked (or replaced). Barrel must be made out of one piece of metal with no attachments except for the action a nut to secure the barrel to the action. Stock or stocks that meet 'Stock Clarification' rules may be used (**see APPENDIX G**). Return to battery shall NOT be permitted. No electronic assisted triggers allowed.

(c) Light Varmint (10½ lb) .22 Rimfire Rifle - is any rifle having a manually and mechanically operated firing mechanism, weighing not more than **10 1/2** pounds (4.762 kg) inclusive of sight. Any

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modification may be made to the rifle and any scope may be used. Factory stock or stocks that meet 'Stock Clarification' rules may be used (**see APPENDIX G**). Return to battery shall NOT be permitted. Barrel weights, harmonic tuners or bullet stabilisers are permitted but will be included in the overall weight of gun. No electronic or mechanically assisted triggers allowed. Stock tape is permitted.

(d) Heavy Varmint .22 Rimfire Rifle - is any rifle having a manually and mechanically operated firing mechanism and a weight restriction of 15 lbs is set (**including attachments – scopes, muzzle devices, etc**). Any modification may be made to the rifle and **any scope magnification** may be used. Factory stock or stocks that meet 'Stock Clarification' rules may be used (**see APPENDIX G**). Return to battery shall NOT be permitted. Barrel weights, harmonic or bullet stabilisers tuners are permitted. No electronic or mechanically assisted triggers allowed. Stock tape is permitted. **Rail guns will not be allowed.**

Air Rifle:

1. Sporter Air Rifle Class - is any having a manually and mechanically (including electronic triggers) operated firing mechanism, weighing not more than **10 1/2** pounds (4.762 kg) inclusive of sight. Factory stock or stocks that meet 'Stock Clarification' rules may be used (**see APPENDIX G**). The action can be either spring or pneumatic; air regulators, muzzle brakes and silencers are allowed of specific manufactures design. The air cylinder can be changed as long as it is provided by the Manufacturer as an option / spare to that model. Any scope may be used with max magnification of **6.5X**; scopes with more power will have to be taped in position for duration of match. The barrel/ action can be bedded and have the trigger reworked (or replaced). Return to battery shall NOT be permitted. Power to be restricted to **8.13 Joules or 6 ft lbs maximum**. Shooting Distance 25m. (0.177 and 0.2 scores plugged by 0.22 calibre gauge).

2. Light Varmint Air Rifle Class - is any rifle having a manually and mechanically (including electronic triggers) operated firing mechanism, weighing not more than **10 1/2** pounds (4.762 kg) inclusive of sight. Factory stock or stocks that meet 'Stock Clarification' rules may be used (**see APPENDIX G**). The action can be either spring or pneumatic; air regulators, barrel weights, harmonic tuners or bullet stabilisers are permitted but will be included in the overall weight of gun. The air cylinder can be changed as long as it is provided by the Manufacturer as an option/spare to that model. **Any magnification** scope may be used. The barrel/ action can be bedded and have the trigger reworked (or replaced). Return to battery shall NOT be permitted. Power to be restricted to **16.27 Joules or 12 ft lbs maximum**. Shooting Distance 25m (0.177 and 0.2 scores plugged by 0.22 calibre gauge)

3. Heavy Varmint Air Rifle Class A - is any rifle having a manually safe manually and mechanically (including electronic triggers) operated firing mechanism, a weight restriction of 15 lbs is set (**including attachments – scopes, muzzle devices, etc**). Any air regulator can be used as long as it is integral within the air cylinder. Any modification may be made to the rifle and **any magnification** scope may be used. Factory stock or stocks that meet 'Stock Clarification' rules may be used (**see APPENDIX G**). Return to battery shall NOT be permitted. Muzzle brakes, muzzle flips, barrel weights or Harmonic Tuners are permitted. There is no restriction on cylinder size or capacity as long as **21 Joules or 15 ft lbs maximum** power is retained and it is integral within the rifle. (Separate Air Cylinders are not allowed, the cylinder must be part of the rifle and the overall weight). Shooting Distance 25m. (0.177 and 0.2 scores plugged by 0.22 calibre gauge).

4. Heavy Varmint Air Rifle Class B - is any rifle having manually and mechanically (including electronic triggers)? operated firing mechanism, a weight restriction of 15 lbs is set (**including attachments – scopes, muzzle devices, etc**). Any air regulator can be used as long as it is integral within the air cylinder. Any modification may be made to the rifle and **any magnification** scope may be used. Factory stock or stocks that meet 'Stock Clarification' rules may be used (**see APPENDIX G**). Return to battery shall NOT be permitted. Muzzle brakes, muzzle flips, barrel weights or Harmonic Tuners are permitted. There is no restriction on cylinder size or capacity as long as **27.12 Joules or 20 ft lbs maximum** power is retained and it is integral within the rifle. (Separate Air Cylinders are not allowed, the cylinder must be part of the rifle and the overall weight). Shooting Distance 25m. (0.177 and 0.2 scores plugged by 0.22 calibre gauge).

B.7 Ammunition

Rimfire Ammunition must be a lead projectile in .22 Target Rimfire short, long, or long rifle calibres Air Rifle ammunition must be a lead pellet in calibre .177 .20 or .22

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Competitors using hand loaded ammunition and /or ammunition produced with jacketed bullet, or ammunition not available from regular outlets will be disqualified.

B.8 Rests:

A front rest shall only support the front portion of the rifle. The rear rest shall only support the rear portion of the rifle. Neither rest may be attached to the bench, the rifle or each other i.e.: Both parts shall be moveable independently of each other.

B. 8.1 Front Rest:

Generally the front rest or pedestal does not have restrictions in terms of weight, material and design for these devices. (**See APPENDIX H**)The front rest must incorporate a pliable bag containing sand. The front portion of the rifle shall contact no portion of the rest (other than a stop at the front of the rest that can be used to locate the distance that the rifle is moved towards the target) other than the bag containing the sand. The bottom of the fore end of the stock must form a 100% contact with the top of the sand bag. The rest can incorporate vertical and horizontal adjustments, with any appropriate mechanism used to achieve this.

B.8.2 Rear Rest:

To be a bag or series of bags containing sand. The rear bag can incorporate a vertical spacer (donut) as long as it does not contain horizontal or vertical adjustments. The vertical spacer shall not contain any protrusions which can be inserted into the bench top or the sand bag. The rear bag/s shall not be contained in any way.

B.9 Sand Bag:

Sand bags must be made of leather and/or cloth (i.e. Condura) which are filled with sand, pliable and this material will be a maximum of 3mm or 0.12 inches in thickness across its general surface, the base only can be thicker for stability. Thickness can be tested at the seams of the bag. **Solid leather, plastic or wooden bags covered in leather / material is not permitted**
Anti slip surfaces on the bags may be utilised. Talc or non slip compounds/ tapes can be used to aid tracking of the rifle.

B.10 Restraint of Rifles:

When rifle is raised straight up, the front and / or rear rest must not rise up with rifle. If the front and/ or rear rest raises up with rifle, the front and / or rear rest must be weighed with rifle to determine eligibility. The Rifle can also be slid back and forward to determine if it's being clamped in the rest. Front and/ or rear rifle rest cannot be used to restrain recoil of rifle. In general none of the competitor's equipment may be attached to the bench. Tape on the sandbag is legal.

B.11 Guiding means:

Any device, addition, contour or dimension on a rifle, designed to co-act with any equipment to guide its return to the firing position, without the necessity to re-aim the rifle optically for each shot shall be deemed illegal.

B.12 Firing Line:

The firing line shall preferably be coincident with the forward edge of the bench. If not, the line must be clearly marked on the bench.

B.13 Bench:

A bench shall be a rigidly constructed table at which a shooter may sit. The shooter should be able to adjust personal height via the seat or stool which is to be adjustable. Benches should be constructed to allow firing by either right or left handed competitors.

During a match competitors or team officials cannot occupy any bench if they are not competing. There will be a designated line that non shooting competitors or spectators shall not cross.

B.14 Position on the bench:

The rifle shall be so placed that the muzzle extends forward of the bench and the entire receiver of the rifle is behind the firing line.

B.15 Unused Benches:

No competitor or Team Official shall occupy any bench in any match in which they personally are not competing.

SECTION C Conduct of Championships

C.1 Targets:

Targets to be used in the Championship, shall be the Official European Rimfire and Air Rifle Benchrest Shooting Federation Target for Score. Should a local print be used, this will require prior approval from the Officials of the Federation.

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C.2 Official Set of Targets:

One target per match shall be provided per competitor, these to be clearly marked with a "Competitor Number".

C.3 Target Dislodged:

Should a Target be 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 proceeding with further competition.

C.4 Lost Targets:

If a target is lost (the fault of the range or weather) and the shooter has all other completed targets, the score for the lost target will be the average of the best and worst of those remaining targets. It is the responsibility of the Target Staff to ensure adequate protection of the targets against weather etc by stapling if necessary.

C.5 Posting of Targets:

All completed targets are to be posted in a common area (Wailing Wall) and displayed for all competitors to view. No competitor shall remove from the display area, any targets until the aggregate for that day has been completed, and the protest time for that aggregate has expired, as this negates any protest rights. (see C16) Should a Team or individual wish to lodge a protest in regard to target marking etc, refer Section E.9 or 10 Target Re-measurement Procedures.

Should an issue arise in regard to Aggregates, the Protest Committee may require the targets to be produced. However it should be noted that re-marking of targets cannot be undertaken after expiration of the protest time. **Plugged targets can be re-plugged (ONCE ONLY) as part of a protest – ONLY BY THE PROTEST COMMITTEE.**

Storage of shot targets will be assured by the Match/ Championship Manager. If a competitor is disqualified for any reason, such as an equipment violation, the score will be reported as "DQ". The Match Director will report the reason for the DQ in the match results. If a competitor does not finish their target in the allotted amount of time, the score will be reported as "DNF".

C.6 Removal of Targets:

Early removal of targets by a competitor prior to the expiry of the notified protest time for each aggregate automatically negates all protest rights and could lead to disqualification. The Organising Committee shall provide adequate storage for targets during a championship for those competitors who do not wish to remove their targets until completion of the Championship.

C.7 Target marking facilities:

The availability of a separate target marking facility is necessary, with restricted access to competitors and the public. All targets marking should be conducted by two delegated Technical Officials, one to undertake primary scoring using approved equipment, the other to act as check scorer and recorder. Target score to be displayed on the face of the target.

C.8 Target Marking Procedures:

8a Best Edge:

Best edge scoring will be used in the scoring of targets. (If the hole touches the border of the next highest ring, the higher score will be awarded). A bullet hole touching the inner ring (X) will be awarded an X score. (25 meter target 10 ring to be obliterated to score and X count). The score, in the form of minus ex 10 or points to be taken off the total, is to be written in the box provided. A shot in the target box but missing the largest ring will be scored as four (4) points. All shots that are close will be plugged by the scorer. Tears or distortions on the target will not be counted. Perfect score: 250 and 25X's.

8b Missing Scoring box.

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

8c Scoring Plugs

All shots which cannot be scored by visual scoring will be checked using a certified **.22 plug for rimfire and air rifle** - plug and marked on the target with a "P" to so indicate. **A Target cannot be re-plugged as part of score query; it can only be re-plugged as part of a protest and ONLY BY THE PROTEST COMMITTEE.**

Plugs for both rimfire and air rifle will be .22 calibres. In reference to air rifle so that smaller calibres are not disadvantaged by larger calibres being used.

8d Multiple shots on Targets: Should multiple shots appear in a scoring box, only the lowest score will be counted and **will be penalized** by subtracting 1 point as a penalty.

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8e Shots between target blocks:

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

8F First Shot error.

If the first shot on paper unintentionally hits a record box, 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 target when same is recovered. No penalty will be incurred.

8G First Miss (FM):

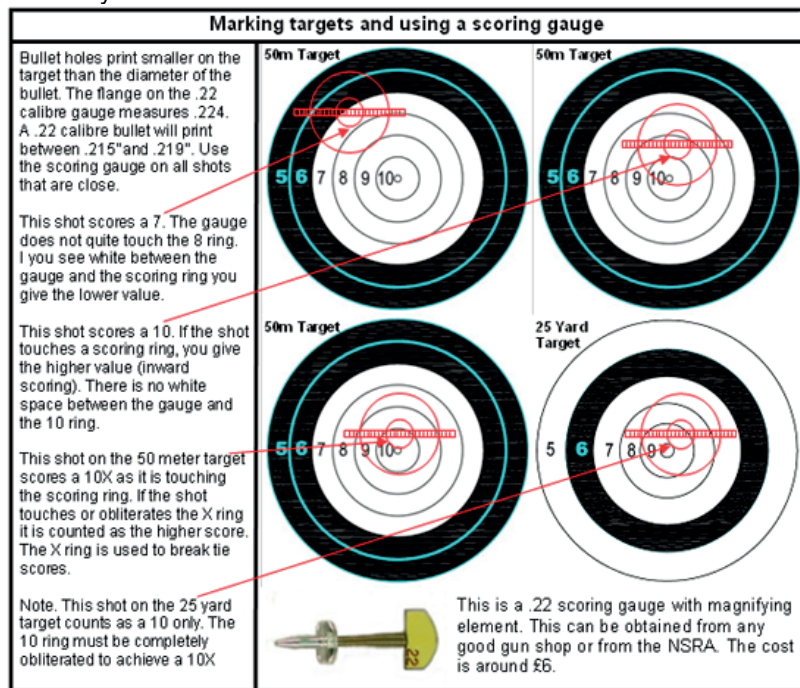
All targets will be scored for FM. The Scorer will check the target box's starting with the #1 target box. First target box that is not a 10 will be recorded as FM.

If target box 1 through 25 are all 10's (250 Score) go to #1 target box and check X's. The first target box that is not an X will be recorded as FM.

If a tie still exists (250 25X), go to #1 target box and the first X that is not completely plugged out will be recorded as FM. (All FM recorded in the Target Score area and not in target boxes.)

8F Results Printout:

After all the results are recorded for a class a Preliminary Results will be printed. The scorer will then review this printout for any obvious errors and correct them. He will then review the printout looking for any ties the Scoring Program did not break. If any are found he will note it on the printout and also inform the Protest Committee that a Tie exists. Then they will be posted along with the Targets and labelled Preliminary Results.



C. 9 Ties: Protest Committee Procedure.

C9a Target Ties: (Single Target)

Target Ties are broken by Score then X's then First Miss. If a tie still exists then FM on X's will be used to break the Tie.

C9b Three Target Aggregate Ties:

In a match for one specific class ties will be broken by comparing the score on the first target - High Score wins and if a tie still exists then the second target score and if a tie still exists then the third target score to resolve the winner.

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C9c Grand Aggregate Tie: (More than 3 Targets)

Should a tie exist in total score & X's, such ties will be broken by comparing the score on the first target - High Score wins and if a tie still exists then the second target score and if a tie still exists then the third target score etc. to resolve the winner.

Note: For Aggregate Tie Breaks the term "score" is Score & X's. If a tie still exists then the term "score" will include FM to break the tie.

C.10 Stationary Backers:

Stationary Backers are desirable but optional. Where they are used these will be located behind the target frames for all matches. These are required to be placed as follows; 3 feet/1m behind target frame.

In the case of cross-fires or indecisive targets, these shall not be removed from the frames until the matter is resolved by the Technical Staff. Any fair and appropriate method of using backers will be discussed before the match so all shooters understand their use.

C.11 Standard Range commands – First Match General Instructions:

Prior to each relay of the first match of the day, general instructions shall be announced by the Range Officer. They should be the same or similar to the following, acknowledging local requirements:

"During the match, should an emergency arise which requires an immediate ceasefire, I shall command

"Emergency – cease fire – unlock your bolts"

This will permit all rifles to be in a safe condition without extracting the case from the chamber. This command will only be given in cases of such emergency that we cannot permit you to clear your rifle by firing.

If a condition should arise which requires temporary suspension of firing, I shall command

"Hold your fire – clear your rifle by firing or by removing your bolt"

"Air Rifles should read open your firing mechanisms"

Do not place any ammunition in the action until the command 'Commence Firing'

C.12 Standard Range Commands – Each Match:

To ensure the championship is conducted without confusion, the following range commands are to be used.

1) This is Relay n° XXX Match n°XXX Class XXX : Shooters Make Ready!

Competitors called to Benches **10 minutes** before start to set up rifle and rests, all rifles to be safe, either magazines removed or bolts depending on action.

2) Are Shooters Ready?

Competitors do have the facility to ask Range Officers additional time to set up (no more than three minutes) if they are experiencing trouble with equipment. Such facility will only be granted once time during a match.

3) Insert Bolt in Your Rifle!

4) You have 30 minutes to complete this match: commence fire! (whistle start)

NO Competitor to leave **the bench seating position** the line until Match completed. No competitor to enter the firing line once the Relay has started. They will forfeit that Relay if they are late. Any shots fired before whistle start will result in the shooter being disqualified from.

5) Ten Minutes

6) Five Minutes

7) Thirty seconds

8) Cease Fire! (whistle stop) Remove bolts from Rifles and leaves benches

All equipment to be removed from bench after guns put in custody or rack. Any shots fired after whistle stop will result in the shooter being disqualified.

Interpretations

a) *No live ammunition may be placed in the rifle until the Commence Fire command is given.*

b) *Timing commences at the beginning of the word "commence".*

c) *Timing ceases at the end of the blowing of the whistle.*

d) *Any shots fired before the command "Commence Fire" or after the "Blowing of the whistle" for cease fire, will result in the shooter being disqualified from, and not taking part in the rest of the days shooting.*

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C.13 Emergency Commands:

In the event of an emergency, the Range Officer will issue a "cease fire" command per C.8. Such command must be obeyed immediately and no further shots fired. Prior to recommencement of firing, the Range Officer will allow 5 minutes additional time and advise the shooters accordingly, however this allowance cannot exceed the original time for the match.

If match is stopped, three things will have to happen, all guns made safe, remove bolt / magazine etc and checked. Match either abandoned or re-started. If to be restarted no one leaves the Bench except competitor with the problem, an additional 5 minutes is added to the time remaining for re-setting up rests etc. If abandoned then the Match to be re-scheduled after a break of 30 MINUTES minimum. **Any shots fired after whistle stop firing will results in the shooter being disqualified.**

Note - Voice commands are preferable over a whistle. However Range Officer to have a whistle in case a stop to the match is required - Cross fire or mechanical fault with a competitor, (or even stray animal, people wandering into range etc, etc.). This will permit all rifles to be in a safe condition without extracting the case from the chamber. This command will only be given in cases of such emergency that we cannot permit you to clear your rifle by firing.

C.14 Protest Committee:

It is the responsibility of the Organising Committee to arrange a Protest Committee to hear any grievances raised by competitors in regard to any matters associated with the conduct of the championship.

C.15 Composition of Protest Committee:

The Protest Committee shall consist of the Championship Director, and four experienced Competitors (not from the host country) appointed from those entered. It is preferred that competitor appointees are changed daily for the period of the championship. Alternatively, the Organising Committee may appoint a Technical Committee of experienced individuals to act as the Protest Committee, who are not competitors and who have the ability to act independently of competing teams.

C.16 Lodging Protest:

All protests are to be lodged on the prescribed form (see Appendix Form A) together with a Protest Fee of €3 or equivalent local currency.

In the event of a successful protest, the fee will be refunded in full; otherwise all fees will be retained by the Organising Committee.

All Protests must be submitted within 30 minutes of the alleged grievance, or posting of the result of the aggregate so disputed.

C.17 Decisions of Protest Committee:

The decisions of the Protest Committee are final and binding and there is no provision for appeal of such decisions.

C.18 Sportsmanship

There shall be no boisterous conduct on, or near, the firing line during the firing of any match. Everyone should treat all shooters as they would like to be treated if they were about to shoot a new record score. If competitors cause a disturbance a protest that may lead to disqualification may be applied. Competitors who have a grievance must ensure the Referee / Range Officer is aware. They will determine what course of action to take. Disturbance can be seen as:

- a. Mobile phones going off. (No mobile phones are allowed on the range)
- b. Moving from the firing line when shooting relay has not finished.
- c. Conversations with people on the firing line or spectator area while people are shooting.
- d. Cleaning of rifles.
- e. Major adjustments of rifles.
- f. Coaching shooters, in all its forms
- g. No competitor should enter the firing points once the match has started. If they have missed the start of the match/ relay they forfeit that relay, as this will cause a disturbance to other shooters.
- h. Major adjustments will not allowed, minor adjustments such as adjustments on the tuning device are allowed only from sitting position and rifle stays pointed in target direction.

This list is not exhaustive.

Competitors must remain seated until the end of each relay. No competitor should enter the firing points once the match has started. If they have missed the start of the relay they forfeit that relay, as this will cause a disturbance to other shooters. The above applies to spectators, who will be asked to keep noise to a minimum and if continued they will be asked to leave while shooting continues. Spectators will not be in the shooting area under any circumstances and must not engage in conversation with competitors on the line, whether they are shooting or not.

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SECTION D Approved Events and Time Limits

D.1 Approved Events:

The approved events for conduct at the World Rimfire and Air Rifle Benchrest Shooting Championship are as detailed:

D.2 Mandatory Events (depending on entry numbers to events, below is a suggested itinerary only – the match director can outline the order of events with 25m first and 50m second, or what is suitable for the specific range where the championship takes place):

Day One	25 meter - 3 cards x 25 shot diagrams	LV (Hunter) Air Rifle Championship
Day One	25 meter - 3 cards x 25 shot diagrams	Unlimited Air Rifle Championship
Day Two	Int. Sporter Rimfire Championship	
Day Three	Int. Sporter Rimfire Championship	
Day Four	LV Rimfire Championship	
Day Five	LV Rimfire Championship	
Day Six	HV Rimfire Championship	
Day Seven	HV Rimfire Championship	

**Rimfire matches are; each class two days with;
25M day 1 and 50M day 2.**

Note. *If present at the championships, Air Rifle in all circumstances will shoot first.*

Classes must be contested in the following order:

First: International Sporter, Second; 10 ½ lb (Light Varmint) and Third; Heavy Varmint weight Class. If 25yrd rimfire and 50 meter rimfire are shot at the championship, 25 meter matches will shoot first.

A Practice Day should also be established within this event calendar for both Air Rifle and Rimfire (possibly after the air rifle events). Weigh in before event.

D.2a Metric Alternative:

See Section A.9

D.2b Warm-up Match:

A warm-up match will be conducted on the first day of competition. ***If time is restrictive warm up or practice can be eliminated at the Match Director discretion.***

D.3 Time Limits:

Score matches - the time limit will be 30 minutes. There shall be no exception to the requirement for all competitors to complete their string of fire within the time allowed.

D.4 Subsequent Relays:

Not less than 30 minutes shall be allowed between the end of one match of an event and the start of the same relay in the next match. The Range Officer will call competitors to the line at least ten minutes before the commence fire command is to be given, in order to allow rests and other equipment to be set and adjusted.

Section E Technical Provisions:

E.1 Range Officers:

In the selection of technical and volunteer staff, special consideration must be given to the competence of Range Officers and their knowledge of these rules. It is preferable to seek well experienced individuals who have a known ability to conduct the matches in a manner compatible with the event. Particular emphasis should be placed on the ability to administer issues such as crossfire's, target system failures etc

E.2 Squadding Procedures:

Allocation of positions on the firing line for the championship will be drawn by ballot, immediately following the Closing Date for final entries on the following basis:

Ballot will be for Teams spread evenly amongst available benches.

It will be for each Team Leader, at the time of final entry, to advise allocation of their team's individual shooting order. If no such advice is forthcoming, the Organising Committee will undertake allocation at their discretion.

In the event of competitors being nominated without involvement in a Team, each will be allocated any available benches or positions at the discretion of the Organising Committee.

E.3 Bench Rotation:

Bench rotation shall be mandatory. If necessary a drawing for bench assignments will be made before the first match of the day. Any fair and reasonable method shall be allowed. The rotation system to be used is to be advised to all countries at the time of seeking entries. Should a country wish to adopt a

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system not previously used at the World Rimfire and Air Rifle Benchrest Championship, consultation with the ERABSF President must be undertaken so a consensus view can be sought. It is preferred that the rotation over the six days of competition be consecutive i.e.: over the period of the championship shooters move across the full width of the range.

E.4 Relay: Six (6) Relays should be the maximum programmed for one day, to allow for orderly competition.

E.5 Unfinished Aggregates:

In the event that any aggregate is uncompleted on the scheduled day, the aggregate will continue the next morning where it was left off.

E.6 Results Service:

There is a need to provide a timely and accurate results service to the competitors. It is preferable that a computerised score programme 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 computer failure. Scoring should be done in a private and secure area, restricted to official technical staff only. All targets marking should be conducted by at least two delegated Technical Officials, one to undertake primary marking using approved equipment. Target score to be displayed on the face of the target. A scoring plug is to be used at all official matches. Appointed by the Match Director to score targets, the Score Officer(s) must have ISSF/ NRA approved scoring plugs for each calibre needed.

E.7 Results Posting:

Adequate notice boards are required to post results progressively during the competition. Such should be easily accessible both to competitors and the public. **No competitor or persons from the public are allowed to touch any target till 30 minutes had lapsed**

It should be clearly stated in the Championship instructions, where Official Results will be posted to ensure no confusion over protest requirements.

Aggregate results so posted shall have included on the results the exact time of posting and the time of the expiry of protest rights (30 minutes) **Championship scores and records will be recorded electronically on the appropriate websites; National, continental and the ERABSF websites.**

Note. *The organisers of an event will appoint a scoring group for the final scoring of proposed new records. Such group are able to meet in person or by correspondence. All targets that constitute the record shall be made available to the 'scoring group' by the shooters Team Captain. Independent scoring by ERABSF official scorers. The group(s) shall personally inspect and independently re-score each target, providing to the General Council and nominee the results of their efforts. It will be for the Chairman of the ERABSF to announce any new records via appropriate websites. There shall be no appeal rights available as a result of scoring*

E.8 Inspection Area:

It will be necessary to establish a facility for the implementation of inspection procedures to ensure firearms are in compliance with these rules.

The equipment to be used for inspection should be available at least two days prior to competition, to ensure individuals have an opportunity to test their equipment to ensure compliance with these rules.

E.8.1 Manpower Requirements:

Inspections should be carried out by staff that is fully familiar with the rules.

E.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.

See Appendix E for suggested form.

E.8.3 Certification Sticker/s:

An Inspection / approved sticker, which are suitable for attachment to the rifle, are to be available.

These should be unique to each championship and retained under security.

E.8.4 Certification Equipment:

The following list is recommended.

Rule (Tape Measure) or rifle size template.

Gauge to measure stock width. The stock must not be more than 76.2mm (3") wide regardless of where measured for 10½ lb Light Varmint and Unlimited Class.

Gauge to measure stock width. The bottom of the butt of stock, if flat, must be 25mm (0.98") maximum wide regardless of where measured for 10½ lb Light Varmint and Unlimited Class. Gauge to measure stock width. The stock must not be more than 57.15 mm (2.25") wide regardless of where measured for all Sporter and Hunter Class.

Calibrated Weighing Scales (preferably electronic) with a rated capacity of 10kgs.

Chronograph to measure the effective energy of pellet in joule (ft/inch) for all Air Rifles.

E.8.5 Inspection Mandatory:

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All competitors must present at the subscribed time, all rifles intended to be used in the Championship for inspection. Failure to do so will mean disqualification from that event.

E.8.6 Inspection Failure:

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

E.8.7 Weight Allowance for each class:

All guns are to be weighed before the match begins so no one will get a rude surprise if their equipment is found to be overweight. If a rifle is found to be overweight after a match is fired, the score must be reported as "DQ" (same as any other disqualification). We also recommend that the guns of all winners of prizes, be weighed. At the time of weighing, an additional allowance of **28g or 1 ounce** will be granted for possible inaccuracy / calibration of the scales. An Inspection/approved sticker, which are suitable for attachment to the rifle, are to be available. These should be unique to each championship and retained under security. An area for weighing and inspection should be available at the venue.

E.8.8 Random Inspection:

At the discretion of the Championship Director, shooters may be required to resubmit their rifle/s for re-inspection at any time during the Championship. The Director is not required to give advance notice of such inspections. **If Officer(s) verifies that any element of the equipment, already submitted to preliminary control, are altered or replaced, the competitor will be immediately disqualified for the whole match or, in specific cases, for the whole championship.**

E.8.9 Air Rifle Power Check Procedure

- 1) 10 of the competitor's pellets to be weighed and the average noted.
- 2) A string of 10 shots over using a chronograph, an average velocity would be calculated.
- 3) The power output would be derived from the information in 1 and 2, by using the following formula;
$$\text{Kinetic energy} = \frac{\text{weight (grains)} \times \text{speed (ft/sec)} \times \text{speed (ft/sec)}}{450240}$$

This is then multiplied by 1.356 to attain the correct Joule value

- 4) If the power is within the prescribed limit the rifle and pellet box/tin will be labelled as such, the pellet box/tin being sealed with the label until the match starts then re-sealed after each detail.
- 5) If the power is outside the limit time would be given to sort the problem before a re-test.
- 6) Competitors should make sure there are sufficient pellets in the batch that have been tested to shoot the whole match as additional testing will not be done unless unforeseen circumstances make such a test necessary.

E.8.10 Rifle and/ or Equipment Conformity

In case of non conformity of rifles and equipment noticed by Weapons & Equipment Check Officer(s), competitors do have the possibility to replace it or adjust his / her rifle / equipment, but are only allowed up to 15 minutes before the start of the relay / match. Competitors can also forward a claim to have the said equipment/ rifle admitted by applying in writing to Championship Referees who will make a final decision. If this is not done in time for the start of the relay, the Range Officer has the right to admit the shooter with the purpose of not hampering or to slowing down the beginning of the competition. In this situation the Match Director will make a final decision at the end of the relay/match whether the equipment/ rifle is allowed under the rules. If this is not the case the rifle / equipment will be disallowed and the competitor disqualified for that relay / match. It is the responsibility of the competitor to ensure that all rules are understood and clarity is sought if they are not.

E.9 Scoring Error.

Where a competitor considers an obvious error has been made, a request can be made of the Target Marking Officials to view the target or result sheet and have the matter resolved. Where there is doubt, the competitor can submit a formal protest in accordance with the Protest Procedures.

E.10 Target re-score Procedure:

The Official Scorer will re-score the disputed target in the presence of the second Official and the Team Leader of the Competitor concerned using the same equipment as originally used.

E.11 Removal of Bolts:

All rifle bolts must be kept out of all rifles, except on the command of the Range Officer. Rifle that are unable / do not have bolts to be removed, must have inserted into the chamber a device that visibly shows that the chamber is empty. 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 championship at the discretion of the Championship Director.

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E.12 Cross fire procedures:

It is the responsibility of the shooter who cross- fires to immediately advise the Range Officer of such event, and then fire the balance of their shots on their own target. A shooter who cross-fires and only the required number of shots are counted on their own record target plus the cross-fired shot/s, and does not notify the range officer, will have been deemed to have inadvertently cross-fired and shall not be disqualified, but shall be penalised as per E.12.2.

E12.1 Cross-fire transfer:

A notified cross-fire will be transferred to the correct target and included in the match score.

E12.2 Cross-fire Penalty:

The target of the cross-fired shooter 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.

E12.3 Innocent Party:

The competitor, on whose target a cross fire has been placed, is obliged to advise the Range Officer of such a happening.

E12.4 Failure to Notify:

Any shooter found to have cross-fired, and not notified the Range Officer, and whose target shows more than the required number of shots, including cross-fires, shall be deemed to have tried to conceal the fact and shall be disqualified from the event.

E12.5 No additional time:

No additional time will be awarded to a shooter who cross-fires.

E.13 Wind flags:

Wind flags can be utilised that are present at the venue and competitors can bring their own. Flags must be no higher than level of bench top to bottom of target. Organisers must place enough wind flags in position before match begins. **It may be possible for wind flags to be moved or taken down after each relay (target) is completed, depending on the nature of the range where the championship is taking place – if so time will need to be allocated for this during each days match's.** As bench rotation will need to be considered to facilitate this process. If a flag is in a shooter's line of sight, the Range Officer / Referee will lay the flag on the ground. This must be done before match commences. For clarity moving flags is under the control of the Range Officer and may not interfere with the orderly conduct of the match.

E.14 Rifle fault during the match

A change of rifle is permitted during the competition if there is a proven fault with a rifle, especially when this relates to safety and it is considered dangerous. In this case the competitor will ask the Range Officer to view the rifle and possibly replace it with a new one. The Range Officer may authorise the change of weapon with a rifle of the same class, after which the faulty rifle will be dispatched for inspection by Weapons & Equipment Check Officer(s). **(The Range Officer will need to decide if the match can continue or needs to be stopped depending on the how serious the fault is and if changing rifle will infringe on the shooters who are continuing with the match).** No extra time will be allowed for competitors when this situation occurs and they will not be allowed to re-shoot the relay. If inspection confirms the fault then, after the end of the relay, the shooter will keep the score achieved with the new rifle. **If the fault is manufactured by (or the responsibility of the competitor due to negligence) the competitor to gain advantage, an automatic DQ from the match will be applied.**

SECTION F Range and Facilities 25 Meters / 50 Meters

F.1 Minimum Range facilities for conducting a World Rimfire and Air Rifle Championship Tournament:

The firing line shall consist of not less than twenty five (20) benches/tables.

There shall be sturdy target frames at both 25 yds/m and 50 yds/m.

There shall be adequate covered area for all competitors to protect the competitors from direct sun and rainfall and spacing to allow adequate comfort both right and left-handed shooters. Covered shooting area does not constitute an indoor range if targets are still in open air.

50 meter Rimfire and 25 meter Air Rifle matches will only be undertaken outdoors.

There shall be enclosed facilities for statistical personnel.

There shall be adequate covered area for display of completed targets.

There shall be adequate sanitary facilities for competitors (Male, Disabled and Female), technical staff and spectators, with provision for disabled participants.

F.2 Range Inspection and Certification:

It will be the responsibility of the host association to ensure that the range and facilities are of a standard suitable for the conduct of the Championship and have appropriate insurance.

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It will be for the host country's International Delegate to provide assurance to the Delegates Committee that these requirements have been met.

In the event of doubt or concern, it will be for the Delegates Committee and / or President to appoint a suitable person to undertake a pre-championship inspection to ensure all standards are being met.

F.3 Range – Benches:

The range must be equipped with adequate benches to cope with the numbers expected at the Championship. No international standards have been developed on size, spacing etc however the Delegates Committee needs to be satisfied fair and equal competition will be offered. Benches must be covered by roofing to protect the competitors from direct sun and rainfall.

F.4 Minimum Competitors:

There must be a minimum of thirty competitors for a European or World Championships, representing at least five countries, with a minimum of one individual competitor representing each country. For a country to place a team in the competition they must have at least three competitors.

F.5 Maximum Competitors:

Each country can enter a maximum of fifteen competitors for each event/match in the Championship, including juniors.

F.6 Teams:

There must be a minimum of **two countries** with teams entered into a match for a team result to be shown, with at least three teams entered from those two countries. Each country can enter up to three teams of three in each match/ class, which includes two reserves – total 5 competitors in each team of three.

F.7 Relays:

All competitors on each relay if possible, must be contesting the same class. If time is restrictive and numbers in classes are low, then mixed classes on each relay can be organised at the Match Directors discretion.

F.8 Toilet Facilities:

The provision of both male and female toilets is required at all sites within reasonable walking distances of the range facilities with provision for disabled athletes.

Note: Six relays per day should be the maximum programmed to allow for orderly and fair competition. Three targets will be shot in one day for each allowed Class in bench rotation, the aggregate being the score submitted and that will form the basis of a "World Ranking" within the Sport.

Main events must have: car park inside for visitors with campers and cars with range emergency access; possibility of store rifles and equipment into protected area during the competition; separate area for Scorer and Technical Officers; adequate covered area for display of completed targets and finally a covered separate area for rest and restore of Competitors.

It will be the responsibility of Organisers to ensure that the host range and facilities are of a standard suitable for the conduct of the match/championship. The ERABSF will appoint a suitable person to undertake a pre-championship inspection to ensure all standards are being met.

SECTION G Ceremony, Meetings and Medal Distribution

G.1 Medal Ceremonies.

It is for the organising committee to arrange the style and venue for medal ceremonies to suit their own occasion. This would normally be held as part of an overall closing / social function.

G.2 Opening Ceremony.

An opening ceremony is an excellent opportunity to promote the sport in front of invited guests, and equally sets the stage for competition. It is suggested that early consideration be given to a list of guest speakers who are important to the sport. Politicians, City Officials etc. often need to be booked several months in advance.

It is normal practise, that such an event would be staged on the opening morning of the competition however alternative options could be explored. The style and content of the ceremony is at the discretion of the host association. A Competitors pin will be given out to each participant at the end of the opening ceremony.

G.3 Closing Ceremony.

The style and format of a closing ceremony / function should also be considered.

It is generally recognised that a semi-formal function should be arranged.

It is recommended that during this function, the teams from each country should be presented to the function as an acknowledgment of their participation.

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G.4 Other Functions

Any additional functions are at the discretion of the Organising Committee.

G.5 Meetings

Meetings are required as follows:

Technical Meeting: This to be held at the range, if a suitable venue is available, at least 24 hours before the commencement of competition.

The purpose of the meeting is to ensure critical staff and Team Officials are briefed on final arrangements for the Championship, and to deal with any particular concerns.

The following are required to attend:

All Delegation Leaders and Interpreters as required.

All Technical Staff.

Other Team Officials/Coaches – optional.

See Appendix F for Agenda.

(Note: *This meeting is not designed for competitors.*)

ERABSF Advisory Conference:

This meeting is usually held about midway through the Championship. This should be planned to be away from the range at an easily accessible venue. (Team Accommodation or similar).

This should not be planned to commence before 7.30pm.

G.6 Medal Distribution:

The following list of medals/Awards is to be presented at each Championship for each class.

Senior Individual to the top three in each class / event - **Gold, Silver, Bronze. (24 medals)-**

Teams to the top three teams in each class / event - **Gold, Silver, Bronze. (54 medals)**

If there are sufficient junior competitors the following would also apply;

Juniors Individual to the top three in each class / event-Gold, Silver, Bronze. ***Subject to minimum of three entrants in each class applicable.***

This does not block junior shooters from winning to medal in the senior individual section or from being members of teams. In this occurs they may get two medals. However, this is at the discretion of the Championship Organisers / Match Director. If there are insufficient 'Junior ' entrants to enable to medal place, entrants will be combined into a Senior overall Individual Award.

G.7 Awards:

Top Score - Single Card over the whole championship (Air Rifle and Rimfire).

G.8 Discretionary Awards

At the discretion of the Organising Committee, the provision of **Top 10 Patches.**

is suggested for:

Grand Aggregate Individual Championship based on 2 or three gun aggregates where applicable.

G9 Participation Award

The Organising Committee should provide a suitable medal or patch to all registered competitors as an acknowledgment of participation. **Participation certificates will also be provided for all people who complete the championship.**

Championship patches, T shirts or other merchandise can be offered to participants on a purchase basis – funds will go to ERABSF and/or the host of the championship.

Section H Entry Fees and Registration

Registration

Match / relays will commence at the designated times set out in the programme of events which will be circulated to all competitors upon registration. Registration will close before the event commences. Initial registration forms are to be filled out and signed by each competitor and submitted by their national organisation for both individuals and Teams. The final registration will have a set deadline before the event to ensure clarity. Names of competitors can change, but no further entries will be made after the close of registration. Fee payments are to be made no later than one day before the championships / match commences. It is the responsibility of the national organisations to ensure registration fee payments are made in full on or before the due date on behalf of all shooters from that Organisation. Payment will only be accepted from individuals in exceptional circumstances. All Competitors to sign in with Name, Class, Gun, Calibre and Licence Number.

An individual 'Pin' number will be issued that will be placed on each target they use competitors are responsible for ensuring they know the number of the target they are using.

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H.1 **Entry Fees:**

It is the responsibility of the Organising Committee to publish at least 12 months in advance the level of **reasonable** entry fees to be charged. **International delegates must agree on costs.**

H.2 **Responsibility for Payment of Entry Fees:**

It is the responsibility of the recognised organisations to make entry fee payment in full before the due date on behalf of all shooters from that Organisation. Payment will not be accepted from individuals. Individual registration is payable per class entered. Team registration is free.

H.3 **Practice Fees:**

Costs for Official Practice Days are to be included in the entry fees for each championship event. Unofficial practice costs can be charged separately at the discretion of the Organising Committee. All practise fee arrangements are to be advised in the entry information.

H.4 **Late Entries:**

The acceptance of late entries is at the discretion of the Organising Committee. The acceptance of same must not disadvantage those countries that have met the entry deadlines. The Organising Committee is authorised to charge a penalty rate for late entries.

Section I **Range Safety and Procedures**

Safety of Competitors, Officials and Spectators is considered paramount. It is the responsibility of all participants to ensure that all safety standards are complied with, and breaches will not be tolerated. The Match Director, Range Officer or ERABSF Officials will be responsible to see that appropriate safety precautions are taken. It is expected that the Match Director and all competitors will exercise their best judgment to keep our sport safe for all that participate. The Range Officer to go over basic safety rules if appropriate before a match if there is any question that anyone in attendance may not be familiar with the rules in effect at that range. Team Leaders / Team Captains even if they do not compete have a responsibility to ensure all participants comply with this requirement.

I.1 **Range Officer:**

It is the responsibility of the Range Officer/s to supervise all matches and enforce all safety rules. Refusal to comply with an order of the Range Officer shall be grounds for barring a competitor from the range. **Disqualification may result if these procedures are not followed.**

I.2 **Standard set of commands:**

Range Rules at each facility may vary from country to country. It is the responsibility of the Organising Committee of each Championship to ensure any individual requirements that may apply are advised to participants. However as a minimum, a standard set of commands are provided (see C11 and C12)

I.3 **Public Areas:**

It is the responsibility of each individual shooter to ensure movement around public areas with firearms, is conducted in a safe and appropriate manner. Team Leaders have a responsibility to ensure all participants comply with this requirement. **All rifles must be in a bag or case.**

I.4 **Recognised safety rules will apply:**

4a All Rifles, having a safe manually and mechanically operated firing mechanism, must be equipped with trigger guards.

4b Firearm movement around public area has to happen in a closed custody. This provision includes behind the firing line and the other common range areas like competitor facilities, parking areas etc.

4c Rifles are NEVER to be on the bench until the Match Director calls the relay to the line after determining that the range is secure. When anyone is down range, NO RIFLES will be allowed on benches.

4d At all times at the range all rifle bolts must be kept out of all rifles, except on the command of the Match Director. Rifles that are unable / do not have bolts to be removed, must have a device inserted into the chamber that visibly shows that the chamber is empty. (Bolt can be inserted or flag stop-bolt removed only following the command "Insert Bolt in Your Rifle!" by the Match Director.)

4e Under no circumstances will a shooter load a round into a rifle before "LOAD" command.

4f Firearms and equipment cannot be removed from the bench before the term of the match, authorization excepted by Match Director. The shooter that has to abandon the bench during the competition, even if momentarily, must have been cleared only by the Match Director, and leave weapon on the rest deprived of the bolt or with the flag stop-bolt inserted. **At the end of a relay the competitor must declare his/her rifle safe to the range officer and show his/her rifle bolt.**

Section J **Competitor Requirements:**

J.1 **Official Language:**

The official language of the Championship shall be English, and all commands and instructions shall be provided in that language.

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J.2 Competitor Number:

Each competitor shall be provided with an individual competitor number and country identification, suitable for attachment to competition clothing. Such Identification must be worn and visible at all times the competitor is at the firing line.

J.3 Name Tag:

Each competitor should be provided with a name tag including Name and Country and can be used for identification purpose on the range and at functions.

J.4 Official Notice Board:

The Organising Committee will establish an official notice Board and its location advised to competitors and officials. All official communications must be posted on this board to ensure all participants are equally informed.

J.5 Disabled Competitors:

The ERABSF positively supports the participation of disabled shooters in this Championship. No specific limitations are mandated; however organising committees must be mindful of access and toilet requirements. Should a participant require special dispensations due to physical disabilities, application should be made in writing to the President or nominee in sufficient time for a determination to be made.

Section K Officials and Duties

General

Any person may hold more than one Tournament Official position. When possible, it is suggested that matches be scheduled such that persons holding the Official positions may also be able to compete in the matches. Main rules apply to Official / Range Officers etc. Officials to be as follows: Match Director; Range Officer; Weapons & Equipment Check Officer; Score Officer and Referees.

Definition and Duties

K.1 Match / Championship Director:

Is the manager delegated to setup the competition, sending programs and invitation forms to participants. He can nominate collaborators and supervisors where there is a specific requirement for logistic, safety and range facilities. He is responsible to every other organisational aspect of the championship / match.

K.2 Weapons & Equipment Check Officer(s):

Appointed by Match / Championship Director to weigh rifles, check that all equipment and accessories conform to the rules. A check pass / conformity sticker will be applied to every rifle, scope and piece of equipment.

K.3 Score Officer(s):

Appointed by Match / Championship Director to score targets and be responsible for compilation and classifications of all scores. Score Officer must have full knowledge of the rules and have a good level of experience in championship events. He, in the case of score doubt, can nominate two referees under Match Director approval. Scorer must have an ISSF / NRA approved scoring plug provided by the club. Scorer and referees cannot be competitors at the match.

K.4 Range Officer:

Person in charge of the Match, responsible for monitoring and timing each relay. He is the only person authorised to pronounce the range commands. The range Officer is the first liaison between match director / officials and shooters. He must check safety and all relevant range conditions before start of the relay. Every competitor will refer to him for every issue, protest or problem on the firing line during or after each match up to a maximum of 30 minutes after the relay / match has finished.

K.5 Referees:

Persons who will decide problems in crossfire, help with protests in scoring, eligibility of guns and rests, and may help with any other protests that may arise. Referees at anytime before the 'commence to fire' and after cease fire may inspect and weigh guns, or inspect rest or scope to determine if shooter is in compliance with rules. Referees must weigh at least the first three winning guns in each class. Referees may weigh again any other rifles. Referees may help the 'Protest Delegates/ Committee' decide outcome of any protests lodged by competitors before, during, and after match. Referees must check all variable scopes in Sporter Class are taped (or if this is removed / altered) before 'commence to fire'. An alternate referee should be named in case one of the three referees has filed a protest or is involved in a protest. Match Director cannot be a referee, but can act as a 'vote' in a matter of protest. Referee can not be scorer.

K.6 Air Rifle filling station

The hosts must ensure that adequate safe facilities be available at the Range as to enable competitors to fill the air rifles to the required capacity 8.25 Joules or 6 ft lbs 16.27 Joules (12 ft/lbs 20.34 Joule or 15 ft/lb .200 and 300 bar filling facilities must be available at the event.

EUROPEAN RIFLE AND AIR RIFLE BENCHREST SHOOTING FEDERATION

APPENDIX B – Hosting Form

APPLICATION
TO HOST EUROPEAN RIFLE & AIR RIFLE BENCHREST SHOOTING
CHAMPIONSHIP

Type of Application
Initial Secondary

Year and date of application:
Day..... Month..... Year.....



Section A
Country of Application:.....
.....
Proposed Venue:.....
.....
Proposed dates of competition:.....
.....
Practise facilities available

Section B
Proposed draft programme of events:.....
.....
.....
.....
.....
.....
.....

Section C
The following restrictions apply to range use / hours:

The following accommodation arrangements are proposed:

This application is lodged on behalf of (National Association)

Authorised Country/ Association Signatory.....
Date..... Position.....

EUROPEAN RIFLE AND AIR RIFLE BENCHREST SHOOTING FEDERATION

APPENDIX C – Federation Application Form

APPLICATION
TO JOIN *EUROPEAN RIFLE & AIR RIFLE BENCHREST SHOOTING FEDERATION*



Type of Application

Renewal Initial

Year and date of application:

Day..... Month..... Year.....

Section A

Country of Application:.....

Name of National Association or Organisation:.....

Postal address:.....

Telephone Number:..... Fax Number:.....

Section B

Application submitted by:

Name:..... Country:.....

Signature:.....

The following is agreed on at the time of application;

Application is made on behalf of the country named above to join the *EUROPEAN RIFLE & AIR RIFLE BENCHREST SHOOTING FEDERATION*. It is understood that probationary membership can be granted, subject to the final approval of the General Council at their next meeting. I acknowledge that we have read and understood the rules of the Federation and understand the obligations and liabilities of such membership

Section C

The rules of the ERABSF require the appointment of up to two delegates for the General Council, who will act in the interests of the country, and act as the primary contact between the country and the Federation. In addition, the delegate(s) will be entitled to represent that country at any full meetings held at the World or European Championships and will carry those countries voting rights (one vote per country).

1. Country Delegate Name:.....

Postal address:.....

Phone Number:..... Fax Number:..... Email address:.....

2. Country Delegate Name:.....

Postal address:.....

Phone Number:..... Fax Number:..... Email address:.....

EUROPEAN RIFLE AND AIR RIFLE BENCHREST SHOOTING FEDERATION

APPENDIX D – Record Application

**APPLICATION for
Confirmation of Rimfire or Air Rifle Benchrest Record**

Competition/ Match (Please tick);

World Championship European Championship National Championship

Date, time and relay number:

Date.../.../..... Time..... Relay No/ Match.....



Section A

Country of Application:

.....
Competitor Name:

.....
Competitor Number:

Section B

Application is made for the following target/s to be recorded as a new record.

Target Information:.....

Event:

Distance

Witness Signature..... Date..... Time.....

Section C

This application is lodged on behalf of (Association).....

To be completed by Authorised Signatory receiving the request;

(date and time):.....

Position):.....

EUROPEAN RIFMIRE AND AIR RIFLE BENCHREST SHOOTING FEDERATION

APPENDIX E – Rifle Inspection

ERABSF - Rifle Inspection Form And Technical Data

Competition/ Match (Please tick);

World Championship European Championship National Championship

Date, time and relay number:

Date.../.../... Time..... Relay No/ Match.....



Section A

Competitor Name:

.....

Competitor Number:

.....

Name of National Association or Organisation:

.....

Postal address:

.....

.....

Telephone Number: Email address:

Section B

Technical Information:

Rifle Make:..... Rifle Model:.....

Gunsmith:..... Barrel Maker:.....

Ammunition Maker:..... Type:.....

Scope Maker:..... Power:.....

Competitor Signature..... Date..... Time.....

Section C

Rifle Inspection:

Rifle Weight: Stock width:

Official Signature..... Date..... Time.....

EUROPEAN RIMFIRE AND AIR RIFLE BENCHREST SHOOTING FEDERATION

APPENDIX F –Targets

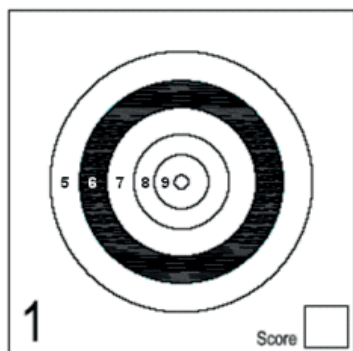
Targets

The targets used in all competitions will be the Official rimfire and air rifle targets as supplied. These Targets consist of twenty-five (25) record bulls and sighter bulls with best edge (inward) scoring. All cards will be scored with a specific gauge to match the calibre of the rifle used, i.e.22. There is a separate lined box between the sighter bulls and the record bulls. All shots to the right of this area count for record. Any number of shots may be fired into the sighter bulls. If the first shot impacts in the record area, the competitor must immediately notify the Range Officer (before firing another shot) who will inspect the target and make note that the shot will not be counted. This will only be allowed on one occasion during a match. **Should more than one shot appear on a scoring target, only the lowest score will be counted. At the end of the competition, where the impacts on the scoring target are more than 25, a penalty of 1 point will be assigned for every shot in excess in comparison to the allowed number.**

There are different targets for the 25 meter and 50 meter matches.

The 25 meter target diagram is based on the UKBR22 sizes, with 25 fitted onto A3 paper.

On 25 meter targets the six ring is black to aid sighting, all other rings are white with black-line borders. The central 10 ring is 2 mm in diameter; this is to be obliterated to score a 10X.



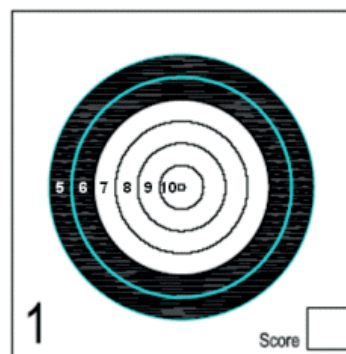
Dia.
10 Ring
9 Ring
8 Ring
7 Ring
6 Ring
5 Ring

MM	In
2.000	0.07874
8.000	0.31495
14.000	0.55118
22.000	0.86614
30.000	1.18110
39.000	1.53542

The 50 meter target diagram is based on the USA IR50/50 sizes, with 25 fitted onto A3 paper.

On 50 meter targets the 6 and 5 ring are black to aid in sighting, all other rings are white with black line borders. The central X ring is 0.792 mm in diameter; this is to be touched to score a 10X.

Dia.	MM	In
10 X	0.792	0.0312
10Ring	6.350	0.2500
9 Ring	12.700	0.5000
8 Ring	19.050	0.7500
7 Ring	25.400	1.0000
6 Ring	31.750	1.2500
5 Ring	38.100	1.5000



One set of targets per match shall be provided per competitor, these to be clearly marked with a “Competitor Number or PIN” and relay number that is clearly visible at all ranges.

European Championship Targets to be printed on 160 gsm (grams per square meter) paper minimum and placed only in the horizontal position. Request for the target to be placed portrait or landscape depending on the shooters specification can be applied, if such a request is made well before the match begins.

EUROPEAN RIMFIRE AND AIR RIFLE BENCHREST SHOOTING FEDERATION

APPENDIX G

Stocks Clarification

International Sporter Class (Including Air Rifles). The action may be glued into the stock. Stock must be 57.15 mm (2.25") or under at its widest point. No stock tape allowed. For-end and butt of stock that comes in contact with front and rear sandbags must be convex. Convex will be determined by placing a 'coin' (circular disk measuring 22 millimetres) on the stock that comes in contact with sand bags. The outer edges of the 'coin' can not come in contact with the stock. There must be visible space underneath the outer edges of the 'coin' (circular disk).

10.5lb Light Varmint and Unlimited Weight Classes (Including Air Rifles), the forearm of stock must be either convex or flat, maximum 76.2mm (3") or under at its widest point, this can be a specialist stock or via a flat plate attached to the bottom of the stock, any material can be used. The bottom of the butt of the stock that comes in contact with rear sandbag must be either convex or flat. If flat, the bottom of the butt of stock must be 25mm (0.98") or under in width.

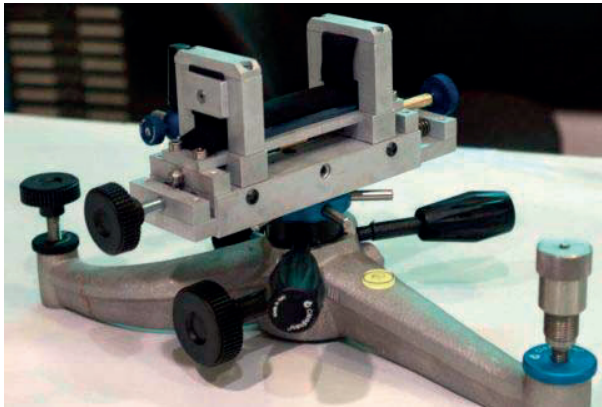
Air Rifle Sporter stocks shall be an unmodified factory stock or good equivalent conforming to the manufacture's original design (conforming means form and equal dimension), convex on all bottom surfaces unless manufactured item is flat i.e.: Air Arms S200, S200T etc. Stock must be 2.25 inches (57.2mm) under at its widest point.

It is the responsibility of the individual competitor to check they abide by these specifications.

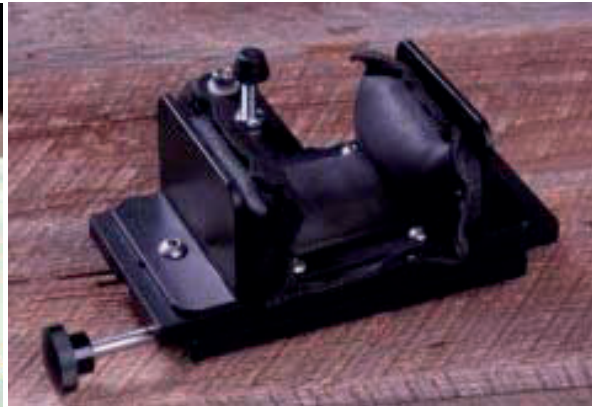
APPENDIX H

Clarification on latest design of front rests

Development of Benchrest equipment especially front rests is still being carried out by the main manufacturers. The front rest sand bag is a prime example. The latest development is the fixed bag produced by Sinclair International, Varide Cicognani, Bald Eagle, Fudd and Midway. This latest bag is acceptable under these rules for all competitions. The following are examples of such bags.



Varide Cicognani



Sinclair International



Midway (Caldwell)

The 'pressure gauge' forming part of the front rest is also a new development by Varide Cicognani, this attachment however will **not be allowed in competitions** and will not have to be removed before that rest can be used. This list is not exhaustive – competitors are responsible for ensuring they abide by the rules laid here.

EUROPEAN RIMFIRE AND AIR RIFLE BENCHREST SHOOTING FEDERATION

APPENDIX I

TECHNICAL MEETING AGENDA

TECHNICAL MEETING - elements of this agenda may be placed on official notice boards as confirmation memo's

Technical Meeting: This to be held at the championship range at least 24 hours before the commencement of a competition/ match. The purpose of the meeting is to ensure staff and Team Officials are briefed on final arrangements for the Championship, and to deal with any particular concerns.

The following are required to attend:

All Delegation Leaders and Interpreters as required.

OFFICIAL WELCOME

- Item 1 Welcome to delegates
- Item 2 Introduction of senior operating personnel.
- Item 3 Introduction any new countries

CHAMPIONSHIP SECRETARY

- Item 1 Advice on Operations Office and hours attended.
- Item 2 Confirmation of official Information Board of Organising Committee for posting of notices, results etc.
- Item 3 Marketing souvenirs etc.
- Item 4 Photographer arrangements.
- Item 5 Opening and Closing Ceremonies (and Official / informal functions)
- Item 6 Medal Ceremonies and Medal Distribution
- Item 7 Official / informal functions,
- Item 8 Practise arrangements.

CHAMPIONSHIP MANAGER

- Item 1 Advice on Equipment Control arrangements and times.
- Item 2 Confirmation of programme of events
- Item 3 Confirmation on start times.
- Item 4 Confirmation of bench allocation and rotation.
- Item 5 Confirmation of target posting and result distribution.
- Item 6 Confirmation of protest procedures and fees.
- Item 7 Confirmation of Protest Committee
- Item 8 Reminder – Crossfire Procedures
- Item 9 Armoury arrangements and/or range security.
- Item 10 Range parking.
- Item 11 Other range information.

ANY OTHER BUSINESS

QUESTION AND ANSWER SESSION!

GENERAL ITEMS

QUESTION AND ANSWER.

APPENDIX J

Delegates Committee Meeting

Agenda

Welcome by Chairman.

Apologies

EUROPEAN RIMFIRE AND AIR RIFLE BENCHREST SHOOTING FEDERATION

Minutes of previous meeting

Business arising from previous meeting.

Chairman report to Delegates.

Presentation - New Country Memberships

Confirmation – Country Delegates and Contact Information

Discussion Papers

Presentations

**Progress report next World Championship
Bids for Championship 4 years in advance as of 2011
Notification Bids 4 years in advance as of 2011**

General Business

APPENDIX H - ERABSF RECORDS

Score Records for both Rimfire and Air Rifle

**Teams Championship Grand Aggregate Score
Individual Grand Aggregate Score**

Single Day/ Class (3 Target) Score record - Individual

Single Day/ Class (9 Target) Score Record – Team

Single Target Score Record - individual

