



# **BLACK POWDER SHOOTING UNION OF SOUTH AFRICA**

## **CONSTITUTION AND RULES**

**(Updated May 2010)**

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## **PREFACE**

These Rules have been prepared to govern the shooting activities of the Black Powder Shooting Union of South Africa and the conduct of its members at events, which are either organised by it and/or held under its auspices.

They are based on local requirements and national and international norms for promoting safety, orderly conduct, fair competition and the proper adjudication of challenges and any disputes.

Responsibility for seeing that the Rules are obeyed lies with the Executive Committee of the Union and the Executive Committees of its Affiliated Clubs.

From time to time in the future circumstances will invariably make it necessary to modify these Rules and the Constitution and therefore members' suggestions for improvements or changes to the Rules should be submitted in writing to the Secretary for consideration by the Executive Committee and adoption at a General Meeting of the Union in accordance with rule 5.2.4 of the Constitution.

## **1. HISTORY**

The modern era of historical arms shooting began in the Cape in 1958 when a small group of nine enthusiasts started the Historical Firearms Society of South Africa in Cape Town, the late Barry Berkowitch being the commanding figure.

In 1962 the first triangular postal match between South Africa and the United States of America and Great Britain was held. By 1969 regular organised shooting of Black Powder arms in the Transvaal gave rise to the formation of the first inland club, the Transvaal Muzzle Loaders. Over the next two decades members of these clubs set impressive national records for various classes of Black Powder arms.

For example Free Muzzle Loading Rifle: GW Spencer 95 in 1975; NAW Richardson 97 in 1979; HT Stanley 98 in 1981; BM Mac Dougall 100 in 1983. And Single Shot Pistol: Michael Elson 96/100 in 1983.

South Africa participated in World Championship Muzzle Loading events (Codogna, Italy in 1975, Zurich Switzerland in 1977 and Virginia USA in 1980 and Bisley U.K. in 1981). Regular international matches were held between South Africa and the USA and Great Britain in the 1980's and the national body controlling Black Powder shooting, the Historical Firearms Shooting Union of South Africa (HFSA) then became affiliated to the Muzzle Loaders Association's International Committee and adopted its rules for competition with muzzle loading arms in South Africa.

In the late 1970s, to focus on and develop the sport of Black Powder shooting, the Historical Firearms Shooting Union was formed as a separate body to the HFSA. A few years later the name of the body was changed to the present Black Powder Shooting Union of South Africa (BPSU).

By then competitive shooting with Black Powder breech loading arms became popular and in 1978 the Transvaal Breech Loaders was formed. This was the first and only club catering for vintage and classical breechloaders and was based at Zwartkop, subsequently home of the Mariette Black Powder Shooting Club.

South Africa participated in several World Championship Muzzle Loading events (Codogna Italy in 1975, Zurich Switzerland in 1977, Virginia USA in 1980, Bisley UK in 1981, Cape Town in 2001, Bordeaux France in 2007, Cape Town in 2007 and Adelaide Australia in 2008). Regular international matches were held between South Africa and the USA and Great Britain in the 1980s and the national body controlling black powder shooting, the Historical Firearms Shooting Union of South Africa (HFSA) then became affiliated to the Muzzle Loaders Association's International Committee (MLAIC) and adopted its rules for competition with muzzle loading arms in South Africa.

In 1983 South Africa was invited to participate in the MLAIC World Championships in Bordeaux, but due to complaints from certain countries about the racial sporting policy, the team was ultimately banned. The USA was outraged at this and under the leadership of Bucky Malson organised a test match between South Africa and the USA in Colesville, New Jersey. This team was captained by Steve Berkemeyer and the group consisted of Steve Berkemeyer, John Hall, Jack Wittleson, Eddy Stern, Derek Engelbrecht, Malcolm Cobb, Michael Elson, André Malan, Werner Krier and Dave Preiss.

In the Free Rifle Individual event, John Hall won the gold medal with a score of 96/100 and in the team event, Jack Wittleson shot a magnificent 98/100!

In the handgun events, Michael Elson won the gold medal with a score of 96/100 for Single Shot Pistol with his .44 Repro Le Page - this was a new South African record at the time and still stands today! He equalled this score in the team event, followed by David Preiss with a 95/100.

In 1997 the BPSU played a key role in the formation of the World Long Range Historical Rifle Shooting Association. It hosted the first World Championships at Bloemfontein at which six nations were represented. It also contributed to the drafting of the rules to regulate this event and which have now been adopted internationally.

The earlier events were mostly held under rules for competition and safety, which had been established by various national and international bodies with similar shooting interests.

Currently, the BPSU regulates the competitive shooting of historical firearms dating from the flintlock era of the 1700's up to and including service arms of the pre 1919 period in a wide range of events. These are hosted either by the BPSU or by the Provincial clubs, under the auspices of the BPSU.

The rapid expansion of competitive shooting of historical firearms in South Africa has prompted the BPSU to publish a comprehensive book of rules to promote safety and regulate the competitive shooting arms in South Africa. This publication is likely to require revision from time to time to adapt to changes in historical arms shooting.

In 2001 South Africa hosted the MLAIC World Long Range Championship in Cape Town. The South African mid range team won the bronze medal in the team competition, while the long range team won the silver. In

2003 South Africa competed in an individual as well as 8 man team matches against Germany in Cape Town . All the Germans shot breechloaders, while the South African team included 3 muzzle loaders. Some good individual scores were recorded, but Germany won the team events. During 2005 the BPSU entered several teams to participate in the 11 th MLAIC Pacific Zone championships in which six countries participated. South Africa won the gold medal in the Rigby event (100m Free Muzzle Loading).

South Africa hosted the 4<sup>th</sup> WORLD LONG RANGE HISTORICAL RIFLE SHOOTING ASSOCIATION Championship in Cape Town during April 2006. South Africa entered 16 shooters and official Protea colours were awarded by SASCOC. Thirteen breechloaders and three .451 muzzle loaders were used by the South Africans. Several individual medals were won by the South Africans and in the 900 meter team event our team showed character in extremely strong wind conditions and won this distance with an astonishing 63.20 points over the Americans who came second. That secured the silver medal for the South African long range team.

Shotgun shooting (muzzle- and breechloader) is also well established with several Protea Teams who represented South Africa at International events, i.e. the 22 nd MLAIC World Championships in Bordeaux , France in August 2006. For this event South Africa awarded Protea colours for the first time to a flintlock muzzle loading shotgun shooter. A total of 26 countries participated in the world championships and two of the South Africans, Dr Corena de Beer and a shotgunner, Zappi Lupini did us proud with good scores shot.

In April 2007 the BPSU also entered a National Team to participate in the 12 th MLAIC Pacific Zone Championships that was shot during the BPSU SA National Championships in Bloemfontein. Some very good scores were recorded and South Africa won 17 medals.

On 1 September 2007 the top 45 shooters from France, UK, USA, Switzerland, Norway, Germany, Sweden and South Africa met up at the Good Hope Shooting Range in Cape Town for the 6<sup>th</sup> MLAIC Long Range Muzzle Loading World Championships. The MLAIC rules acknowledge the first six places in each event (gold, silver, bronze and certificates for 4th, 5th and 6th places). At the end of the individual events we stood proud securing 31 awards (medals and certificates) for our Country.

Japie Maritz shot a new world record of 48.3/50 at the 500 meter individual event. Kobus de Villiers won five of the six original rifle events, all with new World Records (metrics). After the individual events, four man teams competed in the mid and long range team events. South Africa (Merwe van Rensburg, Tertius Smit, Japie Maritz and Casper Badenhorst) won the mid range team event with a huge margin of 31 points and 9 v-bulls, with France in second and the USA in third places. After trailing by 24 points after the 800 meters in the long range team event the South Africans (Merwe van Rensburg, Japie Maritz, Tertius Smit and Kobus De Villiers) shot magnificent in blistering wind conditions at the 900 and were crowned the Long Range World Champions as well again with the same huge margin of 31 points. Switzerland was second and the USA third. South Africa was the undisputed DOUBLE WORLD CHAMPIONS with an overall aggregate win of 81 points.

## **2. CONSTITUTION**

### **2.1 NAME**

This body shall be named the Black Powder Shooting Union of South Africa and shall hereafter be referred to as the "Union" in this Constitution and its Rules.

### **2.2 OBJECTIVES**

The objectives of the Union are to:

- 2.2.1 Develop an interest in the shooting of vintage firearms of the pre 1919 era and their replicas in the style and under the conditions of their original use;
- 2.2.2 Prevent the alteration and or spoiling of the historical values of vintage arms and encourage the restoration thereof.
- 2.2.3 Research and disseminate information on vintage arms and the shooting thereof in the "Spirit of the Original";
- 2.2.4 Authorise Provincial, National and International competitions for Black Powder arms in accordance with the rules of the Union, the Muzzle Loaders Association's International Committee (M.L.A.I.C.) and any other National and International authorities which it may from time to time deem fit to follow;
- 2.2.5 Establish criteria for the selection of National teams and administer the team selection procedure;

- 2.2.6 Liaise with and where desirable, affiliate to other bodies anywhere in the world which share a common interest in the recreational and competitive shooting of historical firearms;

## **2.3 MEMBERSHIP**

This shall be open to persons in competitive and recreational shooting of classic arms. Membership shall be granted in the following categories;

### **2.3.1 Full Members**

Eligibility: Any person over the age of 16 years who is

- a) a member of a properly constituted Black Powder shooting club or other properly constituted shooting club which accepts Black Powder shooters as full members and which is affiliated to the Union.

Fees: An annual membership subscription fee to be determined from time to time by the Executive Committee.

Entitlements:

- a) To receive one copy of the Union's Constitution and Rules.
- b) To participate in all competitions, team selection trials and other events organised by the Union.
- c) To purchase, wear and display the Union's blazer, badges and tie.
- d) To receive an annual membership card, Union's newsletters and notices.
- e) To vote at Annual General and Extraordinary Meetings of the Union.
- f) To be covered by a Group Accident Policy, which provides limited compensation for death, permanent disability, temporary total disability and medical expenses, and the Union's Public Liability Policy, whilst engaged in shooting activities of the Union, subject to all or any limitations, exclusions and exceptions imposed by the relevant insurer from time to time.

### **2.3.2 Visiting Members**

Eligibility:

- a) Members of foreign shooting teams and individual competitors.
- b) Visitors to affiliated clubs' shooting events, provided that the Range Officer has given permission for the visitor to participate.

Fees: To be determined by the Executive Committee from time to time.

Entitlements: To compete in events organised by the Union in accordance with its Rules and Regulations and subject to any entry fees as may be specified by the Union or Affiliated Clubs which are organising the event, as the case may be.

### **2.3.3 Affiliated Clubs and/or Associations**

Eligibility: Any properly constituted South African shooting club or association which accepts and recognises shooters of historical firearms as full members in terms of its own constitution, provided it has been approved by the Union's Executive Committee.

Fees: To be determined from time to time.

Entitlements:

- a) To receive a copy of the Union's Constitution and Rules.
- b) To be permitted to indicate on the club's or association's letterhead that it is affiliated to the Union.
- c) Provided that a club in question has a minimum of ten fully paid up (10) Black Powder shooting members, to have a delegated representative serve on the Executive Committee of the Union.

Application for any category of membership shall be in written form to the Union.

## **2.4 ADMINISTRATION**

### **2.4.1 Management Committee**

The Management Committee shall be the administrative body of the Union. It shall be in charge of its property and financial affairs. It shall conduct the day-to-day business of the Union and perform such duties as specified in the Constitution. It shall report to the Executive Committee and be bound by its policy decisions.

### **2.4.2 Executive Committee**

a) The Executive Committee shall consist of the following officers:

Management Committee:

Chairman  
Vice Chairman  
Secretary  
Treasurer

Affiliated Club Delegates: One person for each affiliated club having ten or more fully paid up Black Powder shooting members at the time of election of office bearers at an Annual General Meeting.

Additional members: Co-opted as required by the Management Committee.

- b) The Chairman, Vice Chairman, Secretary and Treasurer shall be elected every two years at a General Meeting of the Union.
- c) The Affiliated Clubs entitled thereto will nominate their Delegated Members after the Management Committee has been elected.
- d) The Management Committee may, at its discretion, co-opt additional members if it deems this to be necessary for the effective administration of the Union. Co-opted members of the Executive Committee do not have a vote.
- e) The Management Committee shall meet as regularly as is required to conduct the business of the Union.
- f) The Executive Committee shall meet at least once a year.
- g) The Executive Committee is the policy formulating and policy ratification body of the Union. Any policy recommendation proposed by either the Management Committee or affiliated clubs requires to be formally ratified by the Executive Committee before it can be implemented.

### **2.4.3 Duties of the Secretary & Treasurer**

- a) Subject to the direction of the Executive Committee it shall be the duty of the Secretary to conduct the correspondence of the Union; to attend General and Extraordinary Meetings of the Union and meetings of the Executive Committee; to record members attendance; to take minutes of the proceedings and to read all minutes of previous meetings which may be ordered to be read.
- b) Any such minutes of any such meetings of the Executive Committee of the Union, if signed by the Chairman of the next succeeding meeting, shall be receivable as evidence of matters stated in such minutes.
- c) The Treasurer shall be responsible for the collection of membership subscriptions and other amounts due to the Union.
- d) The Treasurer shall keep proper books of accounts of all sums of money received and expended by the Union and in the matters in which the receipt and expenditure took place and of assets and liabilities of the Union.
- e) The Treasurer is required to annually present an income and expenditure statement and balance sheet to the members of the Union for their inspection and approval at the first succeeding Annual General Meeting. Prior to this, the accounts of the Union shall be examined and the correctness of the income and expenditure statements and balance sheet be ascertained by an auditor appointed by the Executive Committee.

- f) The treasurer shall submit an interim financial report (income and expenditure statement and balance sheet), together with supporting documentation, to the Management Committee within 30 days of the 30<sup>th</sup> June and 31<sup>st</sup> December. The Management Committee shall circulate the year end financial statements to members together with the agenda for a succeeding AGM, for members to inspect, prior to this meeting.

#### 2.4.4 **Financial Year**

The financial year of the Union shall be from 1<sup>st</sup> January to the 31<sup>st</sup> December.

#### 2.4.5 **Banking**

- a) The funds of the Union shall either be deposited in a bank or building society or be invested in a manner approved by the Executive Committee.
- b) Authorised expenditure from the general funds of the Union shall be made by cheque which must be signed by two persons being, the Chairman, Vice Chairman, Secretary or Treasurer.

#### 2.4.6 **Subscription Fees**

The amount of full membership and club affiliation fees shall be determined by the Executive Committee and confirmed by vote of full members at a General Meeting of the Union.

#### 2.4.7 **Voting Powers of the Executive Committee**

The Club nominated delegates shall have a single vote on the Executive Committee. In the event of a tie, the Chairman or, if he is not present at the particular meeting, the Vice Chairman, shall have a casting vote.

### 2.5 **MEETINGS AND NOTICES**

- 2.5.1 An Annual General Meeting of the Union shall be held annually at the National Black Powder championships match, with two months prior notice of the meeting being given to all full members by the Secretary.

- 2.5.2 The purpose of the General Meeting shall be to:

- a) Confirm the minutes of the previous Annual General Meeting and of any Extraordinary Meetings.
- b) To receive the annual report of the Chairman which has been circulated to all Full Members at least 30 days before the AGM.
- c) To receive and consider the audited financial statements of the Union which have been circulated to all Full Members at least 30 days before the AGM.
- d) To debate any duly proposed and seconded motions which are put forward in writing by Full Members of the Union and circulated to all members at least 30 days prior to the meeting.
- e) To consider any business of which due notice has been given by the Secretary.
- f) To, every second year, reconstitute the management group of the Executive Committee by nomination and election and the Full Executive Committee by acceptance of the affiliated clubs' nominated delegates.

- 2.5.3 An Extraordinary General Meeting of the Union may either be called at any time by the Executive Committee or at the request of ten members of the Union for the purpose of addressing any urgent matters. Notice of such a meeting must be circulated by the Secretary at least one week before it is to be held. At such meetings, only the matters for which the meeting has been called shall be discussed.

### 2.6 **RULES**

- 2.6.1 Rules to promote safety, to regulate competitions, to select individuals and teams to represent the Union and for any other matters the Union may wish to regulate, shall be adopted and/or amended at General Meetings of the Union.

## **2.7 QUORUM**

- 2.7.1 At any Executive Committee Meeting of the Union a quorum shall consist of either the Chairman or, if he is not available to attend the meeting then the Vice Chairman and any three members of the Committee. 2.7.2 At any General Meeting of the Union a quorum shall consist of twenty percent of the total of Full Members of the Union present in person or represented by proxy.

## **2.8 MEMBERSHIP RULES**

- 2.8.1 Any full member of Affiliate Club, which fails to pay the annual subscription fee within three months of the due date (1<sup>st</sup> January) and has been notified of this fact by the Treasurer, shall cease to be a member.
- 2.8.2 Any member may terminate their membership by giving notice in writing. Upon resignation of a member, any subscription or part thereof already paid will not be refunded.

## **2.9 MISCONDUCT AND DISCIPLINARY PROCEEDINGS:**

- 2.9.1 Any Full Member or Affiliated Club who, by an act or omission, contravenes or violates the Constitution, Rules or Regulations of the Union, or causes any harm, prejudice or injury to the objects, good order or reputation of the Union or any of its Office Bearers or members shall be guilty of misconduct.
- 2.9.2 Any instance of suspected misconduct on the part of a Full Member or of an Affiliated Club may be brought to the attention of the Executive Committee in writing by any interested party.
- 2.9.3 If the Committee is of the opinion that the allegations are made in good faith, an extract from the documents received from the complainant must be sent to the accused person along with a letter in which he is invited, if he so desires, to furnish a written explanation within a stipulated period of 21 days. In such letter the accused person must be warned that such an explanation may be used as evidence against him in an enquiry.
- 2.9.4 Whenever by a two third majority vote of its members, the Committee is of the opinion that the accused person is guilty of misconduct as defined above, the Committee shall have power:
- a) To issue a written reprimand such member or club;
  - b) To suspend all or some entitlements and privileges of membership of such member or club for a period not exceeding 6 months in such cases where in the opinion of the Committee his conduct was not sufficiently serious to justify expulsion. A member or club who has been suspended shall not be entitled to the refund of any fee or subscription paid, nor be excused from paying any fee or subscription otherwise due by him.
  - c) To terminate the membership or affiliation of such member or club, as the case may be. Such member or club shall not be entitled to any refund of any fee or subscription paid.
- 2.9.5 A member or club who has been suspended or expelled shall have the right to appeal against his suspension or expulsion to the members of the Union at an Extraordinary Special General Meeting. Such appeal shall be lodged in writing within 30 days of receipt of the notification of the expulsion. with the Chairman or Secretary who shall take immediate steps to convene an Extraordinary General Meeting. At this meeting the case against the member shall be put by one member of the Committee on behalf of the Committee. The member shall be given the opportunity, to defend himself, including to be represented by a person of his choice, to cross-examine and to call witnesses. Reversal of the Committee's decision will require two-thirds majority of the members present. The vote shall be taken by ballot.

## **2.10 AMENDMENTS TO THE CONSTITUTION**

- 2.10.1 A proposed amendment to the Constitution, formally endorsed by at least five members and accompanied by a statement outlining the reason(s) for the amendment must be submitted to the Secretary to arrive at least 60 days before a General Meeting.
- 2.10.2 The proposed amendment shall then be sent to each member of the Union by the Secretary to arrive not less than 30 days before a General Meeting.

- 2.10.3 The proposed amendment will be put to the vote at a General Meeting and shall be adopted by a majority vote of the members present providing that they constitute a quorum. Proxy votes may be submitted in respect of amendments to be constituted.

#### **2.11 SHOOTING REGULATIONS**

- 2.11.1 All shooting meetings of the Union shall be run in accordance with the appropriate regulations for the arm used, as set out in the Shooting Regulations of the Union.
- 2.11.2 All shooters shall comply not only with the letter of the Regulations, but also with the spirit of sportsmanship in which they are written.
- 2.11.3 The Executive Committee may vary under rule 5.2.4 or the shooting Regulations.

#### **2.12 DISSOLUTION OF THE UNION**

In the event of the Union being dissolved, a General Meeting shall decide on the disposal of its assets. If a General Meeting is not practical, the Executive Committee shall make this decision without personal liability attaching to any of its members or the Committee as a whole.

### **3. PRINCIPLES OF RULES**

- 3.1 The underlying principles of the BPSU's rules are that no competitor or team shall:
- act in an unsafe manner;
  - or gain an unfair advantage or be at an unfair disadvantage in any competition.
- 3.2 These two principles shall be used as the basis for resolving any difficulty in interpreting these rules.

### **4. COMPLIANCE WITH RULES**

- 4.1 It is the responsibility of all members of the BPSU and competitors in events held under its auspices to familiarise themselves with these Rules, together with the conditions applicable to the competition which they have entered. Ignorance will not be accepted as an excuse for non-compliance.
- 4.2 All competitors and teams shall undertake to comply with these Rules.
- 4.3 Anyone becoming aware of any violation of these Rules or any part thereof must report the incident immediately to the Range Officer.

### **5. MATCHES AND COMPETITIONS**

#### **5.1 CLASSES OF COMPETITION**

The BPSU is the governing body for the shooting of historical muzzle and breech loading small arms in South Africa. It recognises the following types of competitions as being held under its auspices in South Africa.

- 5.1.1 **International Matches:** organised by the BPSU together with the recognised shooting organisation of the country concerned. The officials are appointed by the BPSU.
- 5.1.2 **National Championships:** organised by the BPSU. The officials are appointed by the BPSU.
- 5.1.3 **Provincial Championships:** annual prize meetings conducted by Provincial historical firearm shooting clubs. The Provincial clubs concerned thereof appoint the officials.
- 5.1.4 **Registered Competitions:** Other events may be authorised by the BPSU after application has been filed by the secretary or other appropriate officer of any affiliated club, which will act as the organiser of such an event or competition.

#### **5.2 AUTHORISATION OF COMPETITIONS**

Before being publicised in programmes or otherwise, the sponsoring organisation of any competition as mentioned in these Rules shall have applied for registration of the competition at least 90 days prior to the planned date of the event and have it approved by the BPSU before releasing the programme and inviting entries. The organiser shall also agree to comply with the BPSU's regulations for such a competition.

### 5.3 REFUSAL OR WITHDRAWAL OF BPSU AUTHORISATION

The BPSU may refuse to authorise or may withdraw its authorisation for any competition, which cannot or does not comply with the BPSU's requirements.

### 5.4 RULES TO GOVERN COMPETITION

The local sponsor of each competition must agree to conduct the authorised competition according to BPSU rules except where a rule is amended under rule 15.

## 6. AMENDMENTS TO RULES

- 6.1 Whenever a Rule is amended or a choice of procedures is permitted under these Rules prospective competitors should be informed of the amended or selected procedure before entries are invited. However, nothing in this Rule should be construed as preventing the programme committee from changing the conditions of an event at any time due to unavoidable circumstances.
- 6.2 In addition, the BPSU's Executive Committee reserves the right to alter, suspend or rescind any of these Rules at any time, however every effort will be made to effect such changes at the AGM of the Union.
- 6.3 Provincial clubs or associations and individual members may submit suggestions for amending these Rules to the BPSU. Such suggestions must be signed by at least five members and must clearly indicate the problem(s) with the existing Rule(s) together with the recommended amendment of a Rule.

## 7. APPLICABILITY OF RULES

- 7.1 These Rules are for the conduct of all historical firearm competitions held by or under the auspices of the BPSU.
- 7.2 These Rules should be read in conjunction with the conditions of a specific competition as detailed in the programme of that competition, in the event of any conflict, the programme takes precedence and applies.
- 7.3 Where no more specific rule is set out below, the current South African National Rifle Association (SANRA) Rules of Shooting shall apply.

## 8. THE ORGANISATION OF NATIONAL AND PROVINCIAL MATCHES

All National and Provincial matches held under the auspices of the BPSU shall be managed in an orderly manner. For each such event the following procedures shall be adhered to:

- 8.1 A **Match Director** shall be appointed to organise and run the meeting.
- 8.2 A **Match Programme** shall be compiled and be circulated to all competitors either prior to the match or upon registration for the event at the range. This programme should provide a schedule for the events to be held, a squadding sheet and a list of names of all the persons controlling the match and their designations.
- 8.3 A National **Range Officer** or his deputy will assume responsibility for the safe conduct and observance of all shooting rules.
- 8.4 Provision shall be made for the **inspection of firearms** prior to the start of each event to confirm that they comply with the rules for the competition. The inspection procedure shall be stated on the match programme.
- 8.5 An **Arbitration Committee** comprising at least three persons shall be appointed prior to the match to adjudicate scoring, protests, disputes, and challenges to recorded scores.
- 8.6 An **Information Sheet** detailing catering arrangements, accommodation, social events and any other information relevant to the meeting shall be incorporated in the match programme.
- 8.7 **Notices of the Match with Entry Forms** shall be circulated by the organisers of the BPSU sanctioned meetings to all affiliated Club secretaries and all members of the Association at least six weeks prior to the date on which the event will be held.

- 8.8 All **Other responsibilities** pertaining to the organisation and management of a BPSU sanctioned meeting unless specified, will be the responsibility of the host organisation and be its prerogative to conduct as it chooses.

## **9. CONDUCT OF SHOOTING**

- 9.1 **Range Officer(s):** Competitive shooting will only take place under the control of nominated BPSU ratified Range Officers who will be under the supervision of the National Range Officer.

- 9.2 **Restricted Area:** It is essential that the Range Officer (Chief Range Officers and or Assistant Range Officers) have a clear view of the entire range and the shooting point. Therefore the Range Officer's table will be positioned sufficiently far behind the shooting point (i.e. 5m for 30m wide shooting point with 20 competitors). A control line shall be established from the control table to two metres behind the rear border of the furthest shooting points being controlled. The area comprising the shooting point and the ground ahead of the control line specified above will be designated the restricted area.

No vehicles may be parked in this restricted area or move through it whilst shooting is in progress. The Range Officer will ensure that flags and all other warning devices are properly in place and the range forward of the line is totally cleared.

When shooting is in progress the only persons allowed forward of the control line would be:

- 9.2.1 The Range Officer on duty.
  - 9.2.2 BPSU Officers on duty.
  - 9.2.3 Register keepers or target markers.
  - 9.2.4 Competitors actively engaged in shooting or moving towards or back from the firing point.
  - 9.2.5 Members of a team during a team competition.
  - 9.2.6 Any other person with special authority from the National Range Officer.
- 9.3 **Range Commands:** Within the restricted area, competitors shall comply with all orders given by the Range Officer for the due observance of the rules of the event and maintenance of safety.
- 9.4 **Range Officers' Duties:** The duties and responsibilities of the Range Officers begin with the opening of the shoot and cease when shooting for the day is over and the range warning flags are lowered.
- 9.5 **No Interference:** Persons who are not authorised to be in the restricted area, may not distract competitors or engage them in conversation whilst an event is under the control of a Range Officer. Urgent communications may only be channelled through the Range Officer and will be conveyed at his discretion. No cellular phones may be operated in the restricted area.
- 9.6 **Punctuality:** Any competitor who is not ready at his proper place by the scheduled starting time may forfeit his right to shoot. In no circumstances will a latecomer be permitted to join the squad once a competitor has fired the first sighting shot.
- 9.7 **Disturbance:** No person is allowed to make any noise or disturbance likely to affect a competitor. The Range Officer may have any person infringing this regulation removed from the vicinity of the firing point.
- 9.8 **Practice:** No practice shots are permitted during the course of a match.
- 9.9 **Wrong Shots:** A competitor who intentionally fires at the wrong target or out of turn will be disqualified.
- 9.10 **Screening:** No competitor may screen himself or his rifle from the sun, wind or weather whilst competing in an event.
- 9.11 **Suspension of Shooting:** The Range Officer may suspend firing temporarily if in his judgement weather conditions justify such suspension or for any other reason he considers valid.
- 9.12 **Retirement:** A competitor retires when he voluntarily ceases to fire before being required to do so by the conditions of the match. To avoid a fruitless search being conducted later for his targets or scores the person concerned must formally report his retirement to the Range Officer.

- 9.13 **Vacating the Firing Point:** If a competitor withdraws from the firing point whilst shooting is still in progress, he must be careful not to cast shadows on or in any other way disturb other shooters in aim.
- 9.14 **Conversation on the Firing Point:** Other than provided for elsewhere in these Rules, conversation on the firing point is not permitted.
- 9.15 **Discipline:** It is the duty of each competitor to sincerely co-operate with the match officials in the effort to conduct a safe and efficient match. Competitors are expected to promptly call the attention of proper officials to any infraction of the Rules of safety or good sportsmanship. Failure of a competitor to co-operate in such matters or to give evidence when called upon to do so in any case arising out of an infraction of these Rules may result in the said competitor being considered as an accessory to the offence.
- 9.16 **Disorderly Conduct:** Disorderly conduct or intoxication is strictly prohibited on the range and anyone guilty of this will be expelled from the range and may become liable to a formal disciplinary enquiry. No alcoholic beverages may be drunk on the range or in its immediate vicinity whilst a match is in progress. Alcohol may only be consumed after the Range Officer has declared that shooting has ceased for the day.
- 9.17 **Drug and Alcohol Abuse:** The use of any drugs or alcohol to enhance performance or overcome match nerves is strictly prohibited.

## **10. SAFETY RULES**

- 10.1 Only legally possessed firearms which are in good working order and which conform to the patterns, models and styles defined in the competition rules, may be used in competitive events.
- 10.2 The use of eye protection (safety glasses) and ear protection (ear plugs and ear muffs) are mandatory when firing is commenced.
- 10.3 Whilst on the range and not participating in an event, a competitor must at all times, when his firearms are out of its carrying bag or case, make it visibly safe to fellow shooters and Range Officers, i.e. percussion arms with hammer cocked or half-cocked displaying an uncapped nipple(s); flint arms, half-cocked with pan open and unprimed; percussion arms and breech loading arms with action open and with breech flag inserted; pistols laid on the bench with breech or cylinder open and unloaded.
- 10.4 Firearms may not be handled when competitors are forward of the firing point and when the safety flags are raised. Actions may not be dry fired or caps snapped.
- 10.5 Firearms may not be loaded until the Range Officer issues the order "Range Safe. You May Commence Firing."
- 10.6 A Competitor who loads his firearm or fires a shot prior to the "Commence Fire" command will be guilty of an offence and will be penalised by being disqualified.
- 10.7 A loaded rifle must always be pointed towards the range backstop. Capping of percussion arms and loading of cartridges into rifle chambers or magazines must be done from the shooting position just prior to aiming.
- 10.8 A competitor who whilst on the firing point, accidentally discharges his firearm without aiming shall forfeit the shot (which shall be recorded as a miss). If the Range Officer considers the accidental discharge to have arisen from carelessness or folly he will forthwith forbid the competitor to fire again until the circumstances have been investigated by the Match Committee (director and arbitrators). If this body considers the action to have been dangerous it will disqualify the competitor.
- 10.9 In the event of a misfire, the arm shall be pointed downrange for a period of one minute and the Range Officer be called to observe and supervise the unloading or clearing of a charge from the arm's chamber or barrel. If the arm cannot be cleared on the range it must be made safe and the barrel dismantled and removed from the range.
- 10.10 Black Powder must be dispensed and handled with special care on the range. No arms may be loaded directly from a bulk Black Powder container. This includes the use of powder flasks. All Black Powder on the firing line must be held as pre-measured loads in separate containers. Powder may not be measured into loads from bulk containers within the restricted area on the range. When Black Powder events are being held smoking is prohibited in the restricted area. A

designated safe area will be allocated at each match for measuring out powder charges and loading cartridges.

- 10.11 The Range Officer may prohibit the use of any arm or method of loading or the operation of any arm, which he believes to be unsafe.

## **11. FLINT AND PERCUSSION ARMS EVENTS**

### **11.1 INTRODUCTION:**

The BPSU is a member of the Muzzle Loading Association's International Committee (MLAIC) and conducts its competitive events in accordance with MLAIC's shooting regulations. These regulations and other information pertaining to the MLAIC are attached as an addendum to these Rules for reference purposes. Unless otherwise specified, the MLAIC rules for competitions will apply to BPSU approved events other than the organisational structures adopted by the MLAIC for World and Zone Championship meetings.

### **11.2 TARGETS**

- 11.2.1 For 50m Flintlock Musket event.  
200m French Military Target. (M.L.A.I.C. 200m target) 3 ring diameter = 80mm, 9-1 ring, 80mm diameter increments per step. Single target for 13 shots.
- 11.2.2 For all other 25 - 100m events. UIT 50m Pistol target, 10 ring – 50mm, 9-1 ring, 50mm increments per ring diameter. Single target for 13 shots.
- 11.2.3 200m Events. UIT 25m Olympic Rapid Fire target. 10 ring - 100mm, 9-5 ring, 80mm increments per ring diameter. Single target for 13 shots.
- 11.2.4 300-900m events. SANDF targets as issued for full bore shooting in 1995. Scoring ring dimensions in inches as follows:

<b>TARGET</b>	<b>AIM MARK</b>	<b>BULL</b>	<b>INNER</b>	<b>MAGPIE</b>	<b>OUTER</b>
300M	23,5"	6,3"	15,8"	23,5"	Rest of Target
500/600m	35"	14"	35"	53"	Rest of Target
700,800&900m	45"	22"	45"	71"	Rest of Target

Target Frame Sizes:

300m	120x120cm	(47"x47")
500/600m	180x180cm	(72"x72")
700-900m	240x180 (h) cm	(96"x72")

V-Bull diameters: At all distances the V-Bull diameter is approximately  $\frac{2}{3}$  that of the bulls eye.

Courses of Fire: 3 convertible sighters at 300 & 500m.  
5 convertible sighters at 600-900m and 10 scoring shots to count.

### **11.3 SCORING AND TIES**

- 11.3.1 In all 25-200m events:

The best 10 out of 13 shots are counted for score, the centre point of the bullet hole must be touching the line to count for the higher score.

In the event of ties the winner is determined by the highest number of scoring shots in each scoring ring in descending order. If there is still a tie the loser is the one with the lowest value scoring shot furthest from the target centre and so on comparing second lowest value scoring shots etc. until the tie is resolved.

- 11.3.2 In all 300-900m events:

The converted sighters plus additional shots to make a total of 10 scoring shots.

Ties will be separated by V-bull counts first. If ties still exist, then by counting back from the last scoring shots in sequence and comparing the values obtained. The loser will be the person with the lower value shot in the count back comparison.

## **12. FIREARMS, AMMUNITION AND ACCESSORIES**

### **12.1 GENERAL RULES:**

Any firearm may only be used once in any event, i.e. it may not be loaned to any other competitor to compete with again in the same event.

All firearms are to be properly licensed in terms of the Arms and Ammunition Act.

No colours other than black or white may be used on the foresight.

The half-cock position, if present must be in a safe working condition.

No distinction is made between original and replica rifles in BPSU competitions.

### **12.2 CLASSES OF FIREARMS FOR MLAIC COMPETITIONS**

#### **12.2.1 Minie – Military Percussion Rifle over 13.5 mm (.5315") bore**

- The arms shall be manufactured in accordance with military patterns and have original pattern sights.
- Alterations to the point of aim are permissible by repositioning of the V in the backsight and adjusting the height, but not the shape of the foresight.
- Set triggers, butt pads, cheek pads, wiping bores out between shots and use of loading funnels with drop tube in excess of 100mm are not permitted.

#### **12.2.2 Miquelet - Military smoothbore flintlock musket**

- To be manufactured in accordance with military patterns.
- To be fired without a rear sight.

#### **12.2.3 Whitworth - Free percussion rifle (not qualifying for No 3 Minie)**

- Any muzzle loading rifle not qualifying as a military rifle in 12.2.1 and 12.2.2 with contemporary style sights excluding telescopic and optical sights.
- Aperture sights (including modern made replica sights) are permitted providing that their design is consistent with the period of manufacture and they are appropriate to the type of firearm.
- Bore size to be less than 0.53" or 13.5 mm
- Replica and sleeved barrels are permitted.

#### **12.2.4 Pistols and Revolvers**

- Any original or replica muzzle loading pistol or revolver
- Replica single shot pistols must have sights
- Contemporaneous with those of the 19<sup>th</sup> Century i.e. foresights should be pinhead, narrow blade of maximum width 2.03 mm, narrow pyramid or similar, but not the broad Partridge form. Rear sights should have only U or V notches.
- The front sights of revolvers may be of any height to assist aiming at 25m, but the original profile must be maintained.
- To prevent the use of revolvers as single shot pistol competitors must load at least 5 chambers for firing each of the first two strings; Cylinders may not be removed from revolvers for loading.
- Pistols and revolvers are held in one hand only for firing.

#### **12.2.5 Clay Target Guns**

- Only percussion clay target events are currently organised by the BPSU.
- Guns to be percussion, military or civilian, single or double barrelled smooth bore of any calibre.

- Slip on butt pads made of leather or other contemporary material (but not rubber) is permitted.
- Replicas with choked bores are ineligible for use.

## **12.3 AMMUNITION**

### **12.3.1 Powder**

- only factory made Black Powder be used as a propellant
- loading arms from pre-measured single charge containers is obligatory.

### **12.3.2 Wads**

- to be made from paper, fibre, leather or felt materials only. No plastic wads are permitted in muzzle loading competitions.

### **12.3.3 Bullets**

Bullets shall be of a style associated with the period of use of the original firearm namely:

- Flintlock arms - round ball only
- Percussion rifled pistols - round ball only
- Percussion revolvers - round ball or picket bullet
- Percussion military rifle - original style expanding bullet
- Percussion free rifles - round ball or any type of cylindrical bullet
- Shotgun - lead (or non-toxic lead substitute of single metals only) shot size must not exceed 2.5mm diameter.

## **12.4 ACCESSORIES**

### **12.4.1 Slings**

These should be of a contemporary type. They may be adjustable. Single point slings are NOT permitted for muzzle loading rifles. The two attachment points may not be closer together than 15 cm (6 inches).

### **12.4.2 Palm Supports**

These must be of a contemporary type and be fitted in a contemporary manner on rifles designed to have this attachment.

### **12.4.3 Funnels and Loading Tubes**

Long loading tubes may be used in all events, except military, smoothbore, flintlock, musket and military percussion rifle. Short funnels (maximum spout length of 10cm) may be used in all events to avoid spillage of powder.

### **12.4.4 Cleaning / Wiping Rods**

These may not be used in either military, smoothbore, flintlock or short (range up to 200m) military percussion rifle events.

### **12.4.5 Clothing**

There are no restrictions on clothing or shooting jackets.

## **12.5 SHOOTING RULES**

### **12.5.1 Shooting Positions** (see also Rule 17.6.1)

Prone and standing positions shall be as defined by UIT Rules.

In the prone position a competitor will:

- always shoot from the designated firing point.
- lie with his elbows as close to the front of the shooting point as possible.
- support his rifle with both hands, with the butt plate against the shoulder or upper arm, on the outside of the clothing, and all parts of the rifle, sling and the arms below the

elbows, including clothing, visibly clear of the ground and other objects. The butt may be positioned under a protective cape when shooting in the rain.

- have the back of the forward hand 10cm clear of the ground measured from the outside surface of the shooting glove, if one is worn.
- not allow the bottom of the rifle stock pistol grip to touch the inside of the supporting arm.

#### 12.5.2 **Number of Shots in Competitions**

For precision competitions thirteen (13) shots are to be fired within a 30-minute relay. The highest scoring 10 shots are to count.

#### 12.5.3 **Fouling Shot**

One fouling shot may be fired into the backstop and this is to be verbally declared as such to the Range Officer.

#### 12.5.4 **Snapping of Caps and Flashing of Pans and Firing of Fouling Shots**

This must only be done within the 30-minute period allowed for the relay.

#### 12.5.5 **Loading Incident**

In the event of a loading incident occurring during the relay (i.e. bullet loading without powder, two bullets loaded etc.) the shooter should obtain permission from the Range Officer before clearing the firearm so that the extra shot is not recorded as one of the permitted 13 shots.

#### 12.5.6 **Interruption of a Relay**

If a relay has to be stopped for any reason, it will be resumed when possible and continue for the unexpired time.

If it is stopped by bad weather or rain and the targets are not longer useable they should be replaced and the relay shot again.

#### 12.5.7 **Malfunction of Firearm**

Any malfunction requiring the assistance of a second party shall terminate any further shooting by the competitor in that event. Any necessary repairs to firearms during events must be carried within the 30-minute firing period. No substitute firearms may be used for repairs.

#### 12.5.8 **Aiming marks**

Aiming marks are prohibited.

#### 12.5.9 **Range Control Commands for Short Range Muzzle Loading Shooting Competitions**

- a) The Range Officer shall announce in a voice every competitor can hear, the name of the discipline about to commence, and that all those competitors allocated to that detail must put up their targets forthwith, and with the minimum of delay.
- b) Competitor's names (or number), the name of the discipline or event number, the bay number and detail number must be written in the printed space already provided on the Standard 50m I.S.U. pistol targets (NOT the bottom right corner as written in the BPSU Rules). The bottom right hand corner is already reserved for the scoring.
- c) Ensuring that all targets are up, and that all competitors are on the firing line, the Range Officer will declare in a voice that every competitor can hear: "*THE RANGE IS CLOSED*". The Range Officer should note on a sheet of paper, the names of each competitor and their bay numbers, and which discipline each competitor is shooting (in the event there may be a 'mixed' batch) in case of crossfires, etc.
- d) In the same loud voice: "*YOU HAVE 5 MINUTES TO PREPARE*" which will mean that scopes, mats, powder, caps, etc. may be made ready, weapons cleaned or adjusted in readiness for the next command.
- e) "*ARE YOU READY?*" if any competitors declare that they are not ready, a further 2 minutes will be allowed, which will be announced in a voice that every competitor can hear. No more time will be allowed.

- f) After one or two minutes: *"YOU HAVE 30 MINUTES FOR 13 SHOTS, BEST TEN TO COUNT"* (TWO WHISTLE BLASTS) - caps may only be snapped once the detail has been started. Fouling shots must be declared and are shot during the allocated shooting time.
- g) Since every competitor may not have a stopwatch, two courtesy calls will be given:
  - *"15 MINUTES"*
  - *"5 MINUTES LEFT"*
- h) After the allocated time, ONE LONG WHISTLE BAST, which will mean that the event is OVER. In the event of a competitor already having commenced loading a shot at this time, he will declare it to the Range Officer who will allow him to complete the load and discharge it at the target for a counting shot without undue delay. Any shots remaining unfired will be deemed as misses. A temporary cease-fire shall be signalled by a series of SHORT WHISTLE BLASTS.
- i) The Range Officer will personally check each rifle and pistol to see that there are not caps on nipples, and that actions are at half-cock, and that rifles are in the vertical position in a proper stand, and pistols (as for rifles) but lying on the bench with action uppermost and pointing down-range, revolvers (as for rifles) lying on the bench pointing down-range.
- j) In a voice that every competitor can hear: *"THE RANGE IS SAFE - YOU MAY GO FORWARD"* which means that competitors may advance to their targets. (The collecting of targets will depend on the Match Director, such as Provincials, Nationals, Trials, etc.)
- k) The Range Officer will remain at the firing point at all times. A delegated score keeper accompanies the competitors to the targets and immediately removes every target, the competitors being permitted reasonable time to ascertain the number of striking shots, etc.
- l) Targets are marked by the appointed score keepers and the scores entered in the register.
- m) it is the sole responsibility of the range officer(s) to ensure that there are red flags flying at the firing point and at the target area. It is not necessary to lower the red flag at a firing point during a target change. Red flags will fly from the moment the range is occupied by shooters as a warning of a dangerous area.

### **13. MUZZLE LOADING EVENTS SANCTIONED BY THE BPSU OF SA**

#### **13.1 SHORT RANGE EVENTS**

**Miquelet** - Military Smoothbore Flintlock Musket.

- 200m French Military rifle target.
- Standing / off hand: 50m.

**Minie** - Military Percussion Rifle over 13.5mm (.5315") bore 50m UIT Pistol target.

- Standing / off hand: 50m.
- Prone: 100m.
- 25m ORF Pistol target.
- Prone: 200m.

**Whitworth** - Free Percussion Rifle (not qualifying for No 3 Minie).

- 50m UIT Pistol target.
- Standing / off hand: 50m.
- Prone: 100m.
- 25m ORF Target.
- Prone: 200m.

### **Free Percussion Shotgun**

- 25 Clay Targets shot over 5 stands within a 60 or 80-minute detail with a maximum of 6 or 8 shooters respectively.

### **Kuchenreuter** - Free Single Shot Percussion Pistol.

- 50m UIT Pistol Target.

Any calibre rifled pistol with 19<sup>th</sup> century contemporary sights. Standing at 25m.

### **Mariette** - Free Percussion Revolver.

- 50m UIT target.

Any calibre with contemporary sights, height of foresight unlimited, but profile must be or original style.

Standing at 25m.

### **Hawken - Traditional Class**

- 50m UIT target.

Fixed / flip up sights, steel / brass back plate, wooden stock, patch ball or bullets not exceeding 2x caliber, no slings, black powder only, shooting or specially designed clothing prohibited.

- Standing / Off Hand 50m.

- Prone 100m.

### **Hawken - Modern Class**

- 50m UIT target.

- Percussion, no peep- or telescopic sights – any other sights, any bullet, black powder substitute permitted (Sannadex or similar), no bolt action, must have a historic undertone, any clothing.

- Standing / Off Hand 50m.

- Prone 100m.

## **13.2 MID RANGE EVENTS**

**Minie**- Military Percussion Rifle over 13.5 mm (.5315”) bore.

- 300m, 500m, and 600m SANDF (1995) targets.

- Barrels may be wiped out between shots.

- Three convertible sighters and 10 shots for record.

**Whitworth** – Free Percussion Rifle (not qualifying for No 3 Minie).

- 300m, 500m and 600m SANDF (1995) targets.

- Three convertible sighters and ten shots for record for 300 and 500m.

- Five convertible sighters and ten shots for record for 600m.

## **13.3 LONG RANGE EVENTS**

**Whitworth** – Free Percussion Rifle (not qualifying for No 3 Minie).

- 700, 800 and 900m SANDF (1995) targets.

- Five convertible sighters and ten shots for record.

# **14. RULES FOR CLAY TARGET COMPETITIONS**

## **14.1 SHOOTING STANDS**

Stands should be at the same level as the top of the trap house and should be marked by either a 700cm square or circle.

For the percussion layout there should be 5 stands 8 meters behind the point where the clay target's flight intersects the level of the stands.

Stands should be located 70 degrees left, 35 degrees left, central, 35 degrees right and 70 degrees right of the axis of the flight of the clay targets.

Loading tables shall be provided 3 metres behind the central stand.

#### **14.2 CLAY LAUNCHER** – (see also M.L.A.I.C. rule 4.12)

The point of emergence of the clay from the trap house and the approximate point of landing are to be clearly marked in a manner that is visible from all stands.

The clay launcher should be set to throw centrally with the clay target landing at 60 + 5 meters from the point at which the flight of the clay intersects the level at 10 metre forward of this point of intersection.

Whenever possible an acoustic release clay target launcher will be used.

In the case of malfunction of the launcher, the Range Officer shall decide on whether to replace the machine, continue or stop the event.

#### **14.3 CLAY TARGET**

The clay target shall be of the standard type used for Olympic trap shooting.

#### **14.4 SPECTATORS**

Spectators must be at least 3 meters behind the loading tables.

Spectators may not speak to the shooters or assist them in any way during the relay.

#### **14.5 RANGE OFFICER AND ARBITRATORS**

The Range Officer controls the shooting with the assistance of three arbitrators. These officials are the only people allowed to intervene if a shooter is in difficulties.

The arbitrator signals a missed clay by raising an arm after a competitor has fired.

The Range Officer observes the arbitrator's signals and if there is a disagreement, makes a decision and calls out the results for all to hear.

#### **14.6 SHOOTING RULES**

Each round is to be 25 clay targets (for 6 shooters) in 60 minutes.

Only one shot may be taken at each clay target.

Double-barrelled guns may be used with only 1 barrel being loaded at a time.

The following misfires will be allowed without penalty:

- Three misfires per round for flintlock guns.
- One misfire per round for percussion guns.
- One misfire in each additional Tie shoot-off round (for both flintlock and percussion).

For each misfire and extra clay target will be launched at the same stand.

If a misfire is due to the mechanical failure of the gun (i.e. other than due to ignition) an allowed extra misfire will be granted.

If a shooter fires before the command "Pull" is given, it will be scored as a miss.

Prior to the start of each round one clay target will be launched in full view of all the shooters in that round.

If the launcher is repaired or replaced a further trial clay will be launched.

If a clay target is not launched immediately on the command "Pull", the shooter may refuse to shoot without incurring a penalty, but he must make his intention clear by raising his gun.

Drawing lots shall make the allocation of stands at the commencement of a relay. Each shooter shall fire his first shot in the sequence determined by the draw and thereafter in any order as soon as ready.

After each shot shooters will proceed to the next stand in anti-clockwise direction.

Shooters must have the authorization of the Range Officer before calling "Pull".

Shooting will proceed without interruption unless disrupted by technical difficulties.

The Range Officer may stop the shooting due to inclement weather and resume the round later at the point where it was stopped.

If a shooter is not present when his name is called prior to the commencement of a round, the Range Officer will call out the shooter's name three times within a minute. If there is no response the round will commence without that shooter. The missing shooter will only be allowed to shoot later if space permits.

In the case of major mechanical breakdown of a gun, which cannot be repaired quickly, the shooter must leave his round. He may be allowed to complete his round later if space permits. If the gun can be repaired before the end of the round the competitor may resume shooting with the permission of the Range Officer, but will forfeit any shots not fired within the time limit of that round.

After a misfire a gun may be unloaded or fired to clear the barrel, subject to the authorization of the Range Officer.

The normal number of shooters squadded for a relay is 6.

This may be increased to a maximum of 8 with an additional 10 minutes per shooter being added to the normal 60 minutes round. See M.L.A.I.C. note 416 for flintlock rules.

#### **14.7 TIES**

Ties for the top 3 individual places will be determined by shoot-off with the first fault being the loser. Shoot-offs shall comprise one clay target from each of the five stand.

Ties for team scores shall be determined by count back. The winning team is that which has the largest unbroken string of hits from the end, counting back.

#### **14.8 GUNS**

Guns may be percussion military or smoothbore, single or double barrelled and of any calibre. Replicas with choked bores are ineligible for competition.

Slip on butt pads made of leather or other contemporary material (but not rubber) is permitted. Any other addition to the butt is forbidden.

#### **14.9 LOADS**

Only factory made Black Powder is permitted.

Lead (or non-toxic lead substitutes of single metals only) shot size not to exceed 2.5mm diameter.

Loads must not exceed normal Proof Table Service Loads for the calibre of the gun up to a maximum of 6.2 grams (3.5 drams) of Black Powder and 35 grams (1.25oz) of shot.

Loading of powder and shot must be from pre-measured single charge containers.

Loading must be in accordance with contemporary methods. No plastic wads may be used.

#### **14.10 CLAY TARGET SHOOTING RULES**

Loading may only be carried out at the loading tables.

When walking from the loading table to the stands, shooters must carry their guns with the muzzles pointed upwards.

Fully cocking and capping may only be done at the shooting stand with the barrel pointed downrange just prior to firing.

Shooters may only shoot when it is their turn to do so and after the clay target has been released.

Aiming and / or shooting at other shooter's clays are forbidden.

The shooter may mount the gun in the shoulder or start from the gun down position as preferred before calling "Pull".

When firing, shooters must use safety spectacles and hearing protection.

When the shooter is ready to fire he may with the permission of the Range Officer give the order "Pull". The shooter may also ask "Ready?" but nothing else.

A clay target will be deemed broken, when, after being correctly launched and shot according to the rules, at least one visible part flies away.

A clay target will be deemed missed and score zero if:

- It is not broken during flight
- The shooter does not fire because he has:
  - the gun in the half cock position
  - forgotten to load cap or fully cock the gun or lost the cap
  - not seen the clay target
  - had a misfire in excess of the permitted number
  - or touches the lock of the gun before it is checked by the Range Officer following a misfire or technical fault.

The clay target will be deemed "No Bird" and another clay will be granted to the shooter whether he has fired or not if:

- The clay breaks on launching
- Two or more birds are launched together
- The flight is not straight or is irregular or too slow.
- The clay is a different colour to preceding clays.
- The clay is not immediately launched on the order "Pull" providing the shooter indicates his intention not to shoot by raising his gun.

If a misfire or default is due to mechanical breakdown of the gun, lock or cock or if the shooter has been obviously hindered by a third party.

#### **14.11 PROTESTS**

If the shooter or Team Captain does not agree with the Range Officer over a miss, one of them should immediately lodge a claim by raising one arm and shouting "Protest". The Range Officer will then immediately suspend shooting and consult the Arbitrators and give a final decision.

It shall not be permissible to recover a Clay Target to check if it is broken or not.

If a shooter or Team Captain does not agree with the shooter's score one of them should immediately lodge a complaint to the range office who will consult with the Arbitrators and give a final decision.

An appeal against a Range Officer's decision can be lodged with the Arbitration Committee of the match, but no appeal can be made over whether or not a clay was broken as the Range Officer's decision is final in this matter.

#### **14.12 PENALTIES**

All shooters shall be deemed to know the rules and must accept beforehand all penalties that may result from violations thereof or from disobeying the Range Officer's instructions.

If a violation of the rules is deliberate, the shooter may be disqualified.

If a shooter hinders another by his attitude, conduct or words the Range Officer will warn the shooter.

If the offence is repeated the shooter may be penalised by the deduction of one or two points from his or her score, as decided appropriate by the Range Officer and the Arbitration Committee.

A shooter firing a gun before reaching the shooting stand will be committing a severe breach of the safety rules and will be disqualified.

#### **14.13 SAFETY RESTRICTION**

For safety reasons only muzzle loading percussion guns may be shot together in the same relay.

## **15. GENERAL BLACKPOWDER SHOOTING SAFETY REGULATIONS**

Smoking is absolutely forbidden on the firing line.

The snapping of caps or the flashing of pans before the "Open Fire" signal is not permitted. Firearms may only be capped or primed with the barrel pointing down the range.

All firearms are to be uncapped or unprimed and placed in a safe position during a "Temporary Cease Fire".

All firearms are to be unloaded upon the "Cease fire" signal and before retiring from the firing line.

Powder in bulk is not allowed on the firing point. Powder charges must be in pre-measured single charge containers. Priming flasks containing no more than 16.2 grams (250 grains) of powder may be used. Powder should be kept away from direct sunlight.

Percussion caps, being sensitive and dangerous, should be protected from accidental ignition by heat or sparks. Only a minimal quantity should be taken to the firing point and containers be kept closed when firing.

Care should be taken when loading to ensure that the projectile is firmly seated on to the powder charge to prevent damage to the barrel.

The use of safety spectacles, tinted or otherwise, is mandatory.

Corrective shooting lenses are permitted.

The use of hearing protection by shooters and Range Officers is mandatory.

Original firearms must be in a safe shooting condition.

Replica arms must be of reliable construction and in a safe condition.

Loads must never exceed the normal service loads applicable to modern Black Powder.

In the event of a misfire the competitor must keep the firearm pointing towards the target for at least one minute. After that it should be kept pointing at the target when possible, while the problem is being attended to and never turned towards another shooter or spectator.

If the competitor cannot clear a mistake or malfunction, he or she must inform the Range Officer before taking further action.

In flintlock events, the organisers should ensure that protection from vent flashes is installed between shooters.

Spectators must remain at least three metres behind the firing point and remain quiet when shooting is in progress. No one other than the Range Officer, shall be permitted to speak to competitors during competitions.

In the event of loading incident occurring (e.g. bullet without powder, two bullets loaded, etc) the shooter should seek the permission of the Range Officer before clearing the firearm.

Each shooter is responsible for the proper functioning of his or her firearm and equipment.

Only factory made Black Powder may be used. No Black Powder substitute may be used.

It is mandatory to seal the chambers of revolvers with grease after loading the projectiles to prevent chain-firing occurring.

## **16. ORGANISATION OF MID AND LONG RANGE MUZZLE LOADING MATCHES (I.E. 300 – 900 M EVENTS)**

### **16.1 RANGES**

Events are to be held on ranges equipped with proper butts facilities which enable targets to be safely and properly marked and shot values to be indicated.

### **16.2 SHOOTING POSITION**

All shooting shall be from the prone position except in the case of physically disabled shooters who are unable to assume the prone position. In such instance the Range Officer may allow the use of another shooting position provided he considers it to be safe.

The shooter will always shoot from the built-up firing points at the respective distances at which competitors are being held.

Shooting positions are designated as for Short Range Muzzle Loading shooting.

Wrist rests (rifle supports) and the use thereof in 700-900m events is specified in Annexure II, par. 9.3.

### 16.3 SQUADDING

Competitors will be squadded 2 or 3 per target and shall fire in a sequence to be agreed upon amongst themselves.

A time of 60 minutes will be specified for a pair of shooters firing alternately to complete an event. If 3 shooters are allocated per target an additional 30 minutes will be allowed.

### 16.4 TARGETS AND RING VALUES

The 1995 SANDF 300–900m range of targets specified in these Rules shall be used for competitions. These present a circular aiming mark against a white background.

At each distance the target has 3 circular scoring zones with scoring values of 3 to 5 points. Hits on the rest of the target outside these circles score 2 points. The bull (5 ring) has an inner circle marked in it with a dotted line and this is known as the V-Bull.

In individual and team matches, V-Bulls will be marked throughout the meeting. Whilst retaining the value of 5 points, a V-Bull will be entered on the scorecard with the letter V and the number of V's and their position in a string of shots will be criteria in the counting out of tied scores.

The colloquial names for the scoring ring are:

V – Bull	=	5 points
Bull's-eye	=	5 points
Inner	=	4 points
Magpie	=	3 points
Outer	=	2 points
Miss	=	0 points

### 16.5 MARKING AND SIGNALLING

All mid and long range events are deliberate fire competitions with each shot marked and signalled separately.

A value marker being placed on the face of the target in the following positions indicates the value of each shot.

A miss is indicated when the miss marker is attached after the target has been examined for a bullet hole.

Placing a spotting disc over the bullet hole indicates the actual position of the shot. Dimensions of spotting discs for the various distances are as follows.

300m	:	10cm in diameter
500–600m	:	15cm in diameter
700–900m	:	20cm in diameter

The face of the spotting discs should be sprayed with Day-Glo fluorescent red, pink or orange spray paint.

The diameter of the dowel peg should be different for the .577 and .450 calibre events so that the shot holes are not enlarged.

The pegs should be turned down to .58 and .45 inch calibre respectively for these events.

Dimensions of the square shaped value markers for the different distances are as follows:

300m	-	150 mm <sup>2</sup>
500 & 600m	-	250 mm <sup>2</sup>
700 – 900m	-	300 mm <sup>2</sup>

The value markers should be painted black and they should be displayed against the white background of the face of the target. In the case of the 700–900m targets, the miss and V-Bull marker positions on the targets overlap over the black aiming mark. In these positions a black painted value marker will not be clearly seen. One face of the value marker should thus be either

painted white or be sprayed with a fluorescent Day-Glo pink, orange or yellow paint for signalling misses and V Bulls at 700–900m.

#### **16.5 SHOT MARKING PROCEDURE**

Immediately a shot is fired into a target it will be lowered by the marker. The new shot hole will be located and marked with the spotting disc. The previous holes will then be patched. A shot value marker will then be affixed to the face of the target showing the value of the last shot and the target will be raised. The sequence will be followed for every shot.

#### **16.7 MARKER'S DUTIES**

Markers should watch for the bullet impact on the butt-stop behind the target and not look for a shot strike on the raised target. Confusion can arise if shots are heard to strike adjacent targets and are thought by a marker to be on his target.

#### **16.8 SCORING**

A shot fired on a wrong target will be scored as a miss.

If two shots strike the target during one exposure, the competitor who fired in his proper turn will be credited with the higher value. Only the higher value shall be signalled, but both shots will be marked.

The signalled value of a shot may be challenge once only by the firer, before another shot is fired at that target. Before accepting a challenge the Range Officer may collect a challenge fee.

If the challenge is successful the fee will immediately be refunded to the competitor.

When the value of the shot has been challenged the target must be lowered and be examined by the Butt Officer even if he can clearly see on the raised target that the challenge will be unsuccessful.

A shot hole that marks (with a leaded ring) or cuts the line of a scoring ring will be accorded the next highest ring value.

If the target is moved vertically at the moment a shot is fired, but not by the wind from side to side, the firer will be permitted to immediately fire another shot. The protest must be lodged immediately when the incident occurs and must have been observed by one of the other competitors.

If the spotting disc position disagrees unmistakably with the value signalled, the register keeper must immediately inform the Range Officer of the error and the Butt Officer will be requested to visibly correct the marking of the target before another shot is fired on that target.

If the spotting disc remains in the same place as signalled for the previous shot, the firer is entitled to request the Range Officer to confirm with the butts that the last two shots were close to each other. If they were not, the marking error must be corrected.

It is the responsibility of every competitor to bring to the attention of the register keeper and the Range Officer any anomalies or incorrect marking before the next shot is fired on the target concerned.

It is an offence, punishable by disqualification, to knowingly claim or accept points that have not been scored or to connive at such conduct with another competitor.

Only persons employed in the butts, the Range Officer or his deputy and members of the BPSU's Executive Committee will be permitted to examine a target during the meeting. In no circumstances will the competitor be allowed to examine his target.

A ricochet that hits the target shall be regarded as a hit. If it makes an elongated hole the end closest to the centre of the target shall be taken as the point of strike. The competitor will be informed that a ricochet has been marked.

#### **16.9 TIES**

In all mid and long range competitions a score will include the arithmetical sum of all the shot values and number of V-Bulls.

In the event of ties the highest V-Bull count will win.

If there are equal numbers of V-Bulls, then the tie will be resolved by counting out by comparing the values of the last scoring shot and if still a tie each preceding shot in order until the tie is broken.

In team events, the same procedure will apply. If the team tie is not resolved by V-Bull count then the sum of the scoring shots fired by the team will be compared in descending order from the last series of scoring shots fired at the longest distance.

#### **16.10 RIFLE REGULATIONS**

Competitors may not exchange a rifle during a relay.

Mechanical problems in a rifle during a relay must be reported to the Range Officer before the shooter attempt to repair the fault. If the Range Officer is satisfied the problem can be fixed with safety he will allow the firer to temporarily leave the firing point to rectify the fault and to rejoin the shoot provided there is sufficient remaining time.

A Range Officer is empowered at any time to inspect a rifle if he suspects it might not be safe to fire or that it does not qualify in terms of the specifications of the type of firearms which is eligible instruct the shooter to stop firing and request the Arbitration Committee to rule on the matter.

The mass of muzzle loading rifles used in mid and long-range event may not exceed 5.454kg or 12lbs.

Another competitor in the same event may not use a rifle.

#### **16.11 COURSE OF FIRE**

300m	3 convertible sighters	+	10 shots for record
500m	3 convertible sighters	+	10 shots for record
600m	5 convertible sighters	+	10 shots for record
700m	5 convertible sighters	+	10 shots for record
800m	5 convertible sighters	+	10 shots for record
900m	5 convertible sighters	+	10 shots for record

#### **16.12 SLINGS**

Military and Free Muzzle loading rifles may only be shot with a double point slings. The two attachment points may not be closer together than 15 cm (6 inches).

#### **16.13 WIPING OF BARRELS**

Barrels of Military Percussion rifles used in mid and long-range events may be brushed and wiped out between shots.

#### **16.14 SAFETY**

The wearing of safety glasses and hearing protection is compulsory when shooting is in progress for anyone within 3 meters of the firing shot.

### **17. HISTORICAL BREECHLOADING SMALL ARMS COMPETITION**

#### **17.1 INTRODUCTION**

The BPSU is the governing body for the competitive shooting of historical breech loading small arms in South Africa. Its aims are to encourage the appropriate and safe use of these arms in South Africa for competition and recreation in Union meetings and those of its affiliated clubs.

#### **17.2 SAFETY AND THE SHOOTERS' RESPONSIBILITIES**

Historical breech loading firearms have generally been in use for many years. It is therefore recommended that great care be taken when loading ammunition for them, taking into consideration the age, design and the materials used in their construction. It is the shooter's responsibility to ensure that the ammunition used in them is suitable for the firearms in question, that the firearm is in a serviceable and safe condition and that firing it will not be hazardous to either the shooter or others in the vicinity of the shooter.

#### **17.3 CLASSIFICATION OF HISTORICAL ARMS FOR COMPETITION**

Classification of arms is necessary in order to define their eligibility for shooting under BPSU Rules and to enable competitions to be organised between arms of a similar capability. The

principal criteria used for classification of breech loading arms for competitions are their age, their calibre, their type and their ammunition.

This classification does not cover the entire historical breech loading arms, but is restricted to those, which are relatively common in South Africa and are relatively easily acquired by historical arms shooters. In essence, the broad classification of these arms is as follows:

**Historical Breech Loading Rifles:** A firearm with a rifled barrel designed for shooting from the shoulder (but not a shoulder stocked pistol) manufactured for a pattern in production before the end of 1945.

**Historical Breech loading Pistols:** Firearms, which are designed for shooting with one hand. This term encompasses single shot pistols, revolvers and self-loading pistols of a pattern and chambering in production before the end of 1945.

## 17.4 CLASSIFICATION OF HISTORICAL BREECH LOADING RIFLES FOR BPSU EVENTS (BY AGE TYPE AND CALIBRE)

### 17.4.1 By Age:

**Vintage Rifles:** These are rifles manufactured to a pattern in production before the end of 1890 and chambered for a contemporaneous cartridge. Where re-barrelled the rifling type and barrel material shall be contemporaneous with the arm. The ammunition used in these arms shall contain only factory made Black Powder and the bullets shall be of a contemporaneous design. E.g. Snider-Enfield, Martini-Henry 577/450, Gibbs-Farquarson, Metford, Trapdoor Springfield, Mauser Model 1871, Sharps 1874, Lee-Metford MK1, etc.

**Classic Rifles:** These are rifles manufactured to a pattern introduced and in production after the end of 1890 and before the end of 1918 and chambered for a contemporaneous cartridge or to an earlier pattern, but being used with ammunition loaded with a propellant other than Black powder alone. (Duplex loads are permitted). Where re-barrelled the rifling pattern and barrel material shall be contemporaneous with the arm, e.g. Lee-Enfield SMLE Mks I to IV, Springfield 1903, Krag Jordensen 1896, Swedish Mauser, Argentinian Mauser, Brazilian Mauser, Martini-Henry .303.

**Veteran Rifles:** Rifles manufactured to a pattern introduced and in production after the end of 1918 and before the end of 1945 or to an earlier pattern, but chambered for a cartridge introduced within that period.

### 17.4.2 By Type:

**Service Rifle:** A rifle which is substantially the same as a regulation pattern adopted by any government for issue to its Regular or Volunteer forces. Sights to be to contemporaneous service pattern iron sights. E.g. Martini-Henry, Snider-Enfield, Lee-Enfield, Military Mausers, etc.

**Service Target Rifle:** A service rifle fitted with contemporaneous pattern adjustable click adjustment iron back sight and service style blade or barleycorn foresight.

**Match Rifle (Vintage):** A target rifle equipped with contemporaneous iron sights (no click adjustment is permitted). Propellant shall only be factory manufactured Black Powder and bullets lead or lead alloy and may be paper patched. No metallic gas checks are allowed. Mass up to 15lbs (6.80kg).

**Match Rifle (Classic and Veteran):** May be chambered for any contemporaneous cartridge and be equipped with "click" adjustable iron sights and military blade or ring foresights.

**Sporting Rifle:** A rifle designed for use in the taking of game and not equipped with a deeply curved or hooked butt plate or a palm rest.

**Capping Breech Loading Rifles:** A breech loading rifle designed to fire a cartridge without a self contained means of ignition, but are used with a separate external percussion cap. **Note:** This class of rifle is not presently eligible for any BPSU events, e.g. Westley Richards Monkeytail.

### 17.4.3 By Calibre

**Small Bore:** Calibre less than 0.32 inch (8.00mm) e.g. 7x57, 8x57, .303, 6.6x55.

**Medium bore:** Calibre between 0.32 with (8.00mm) and 0.476 inch (12.09mm) e.g. 38/55, 577/450, 11,15mm.

**Large bore:** Calibre greater than 0.53 inches (13.5mm) e.g. 577 Snider, 8 bore B.P., Maastricht Snider.

#### 17.4.4 By Ammunition

**Vintage Class:** Only ammunition loaded solely with Black Powder may be used. Duplex loads are not permitted. Bullets to be lead or lead alloy without metallic gas checks.

**Classic Class:** Ammunition may be duplex loaded (e.g. 8mm Guedes Steyr) with Black Powder and a smokeless powder priming charge. Mostly, however, Classic Class ammunition is loaded with smokeless powder propellants. Bullets may be lead or lead alloy, or jacketed with cupro nickel or other modern jacketing alloys.

**Veteran Class:** Ammunition may be hand loaded or be factory made rounds with smokeless powder propellant and jacketed bullets.

### 17.5 CLASSIFICATION OF HISTORICAL BREECH LOADING PISTOLS FOR BPSU EVENTS (BY AGE, TYPE AND CALIBRE)

#### 17.5.1 By Age

**Vintage Pistol:** Any breech loading pistol of a pattern, including its chambering, in production before the end of 1890 and without significant modification. Ammunition: Propellant shall be factory manufactured Black Powder only. Bullets shall also be of a contemporaneous design.

**Classic Pistol:** Any breech loading pistol of a pattern, including its chambering, in production after the end of 1890, but before the end of 1918 or have an earlier pattern but propellant, and without significant modification.

#### 17.5.2 By Type

**Service Revolver:** Any breech loading revolver substantially the same as a regulation pattern issued by any government to its Regular or Volunteer Armed Forces.

**Vintage Class:** Colt .45", Webley New Model Army Express, S&W Model No 3 Russian.

**Classic Class:** Colt and S&W .45", Webley .455".

**Veteran Class:** Not catered for by BPSU.

**Service Self Loading Pistol:** Any breech loading self loading pistol substantially the same as a regulation pattern issued by any Government to its Regular or Volunteer Armed Forces.

**Examples:** Classic Class: .45" Colt M1911, 9mm Parabellum  
Pistol 1908 (Luger), 8mm Roth  
Steyr, Broomhandle Mauser 9mm.

#### 17.5.3 By Ammunition

**Vintage:** Classification of a pistol as Vintage is dependant on it being fired with cartridges loaded with Black Powder alone as the propellant. Duplex loads are not permitted.

### 17.6 SHOOTING POSITIONS

#### 17.6.1 Rifles Competitions

**Prone** – the body is extended on the ground with the head towards the target. Both hands shall support the rifle with the butt plate against the shoulder. The rifle sling is used, and both arms below the elbows shall be visibly clear of the ground. The forward hand and glove (if worn) must be at least 100mm above the ground.

**Supine** – Body is extended on the ground with feet towards the target. NOTE: This position is only permitted for Match Rifle competition and in the case of handicapped shooters who cannot shoot in the prone position and who have had their use of this

position approved by the Match Director and / or BPSU Exco after formal application has been tendered by the prospective user.

**Sitting** – Weight of the body is supported on the buttocks and the legs, feet and ankles. No part of the body above the buttocks may touch the ground. Legs may be apart or crossed and may extend forward of the front edge of the firing point. Both hands shall support the rifle with the butt-plate against the shoulder. The shooter's arms may rest on the legs at any point above the ankles.

**Kneeling** – No part of the body may touch the ground except one foot and the other leg from the knee downwards. The buttocks may rest on the rearward foot. Both hands shall support the rifle with the butt-plate against the shoulder. The forward elbow may rest on the knee.

**Standing** – Body is erect on both feet. No other portion of the body shall touch the ground or any other object. Both hands shall support the rifle with the butt-plate against the shoulder. The elbow or upper arm of the forward arm may be placed against the body or rested on the hip. The use of rifle slings in the standing position is permissible.

#### **17.7 RANGE PROCEDURE AND COMMANDS FOR BREECHLOADING RIFLE EVENTS**

The competitor shall report to the Range Officer 10 minutes before the start of an event and submit his / her name, match details (nature of competition) for recording in the range register.

The Range Officer will assign competition to targets by a squadding sheet. On the order of the Range Officer competitors may take their equipment on to the firing point and make ready to shoot. Rifles may be taken from cases and / or rifles slips and placed on shooting mats with their actions open for inspection. No rifle may be handled whilst anyone is forward of the firing point.

The Range Officer will inform the competitors of the starting time of the detail 5 minutes before it is to commence. A final warning will be given 1 minute prior to the signal (a whistle blast) being given to commence firing.

No firearms may be loaded before the order is given for the match to commence.

At the end of the allotted period for the event the Range Officer shall give a signal to Cease Fire (a whistle blast) and give the order "Unload and Make Safe" (i.e. unload and open the action). He shall then inspect each rifle to confirm it is unloaded.

Competitors will then be ordered to pack their kit away and vacate the position they occupied on the firing point.

#### **17.8 RANGE PROCEDURE AND COMMANDS FOR BREECHLOADING PISTOL EVENTS**

All competitors shall report to the Range Officer 10 minutes before the start of an event and submit his / her name, match details for recording in the range register.

The Range Officer will assign competitors to targets by a squadding sheet. On the order of the Range Officer competitors may take their shooting equipment on to their assigned positions on the firing point and make ready to shoot.

Pistols will be laid on the shooting bench with breech or cylinder open and unloaded.

The Range Officer will inform the competitors of the starting time of the detail 5 minutes before it is to commence a final warning will be given 1 minute prior to the signal being given to commence firing.

The Range Officer will inform the competitor which event is about to be shot together with the number of rounds of ammunition to be expended.

At the start of the event the Range Officer will then signal the commencement of the event (with a whistle blast) and instruct the competitors to load their pistols and commence firing.

At the end of the allotted period for the event the Range Officer shall give a signal to "Cease fire" (a single whistle blast) and the instructions "Unload and Make Safe". He shall then inspect each pistol and confirm that it is unloaded.

Competitors will then be ordered to pack away their kit and vacate the position they have occupied on the firing point.

## **17.9 SCORING OF TARGETS**

The Range Officer will either give the command to competitors to either advance or score their own targets or to retrieve their targets and hand them in for scoring. NOTE: It is the competitor's responsibility to see that his name appears on the target together with the identity of the competition, which has been shot.

In Vintage breech loading events shot at 25-200m ranges only the centre of the bullet hole must be on the line to score the higher score.

In all other Vintage breech loading arms events shots at ranges beyond 200m bullet holes, which cut a line, will be awarded the higher score.

In all Classics a Veteran breech loading arms events shot at any ranges from 25-900m bullet holes which cut a line, will be awarded the higher score.

### **17.10 TIES**

The procedure for counting out ties varies for the different courses of fire. It is as follows:

- a) In the 100 and 200m Vintage Rifle events, ties will be settled by comparison of larger over smaller total number of high value hits. I.e. Bulls, 9s, 8s, 7s, etc. and if a tie still exists by comparing the distances of the furthers lowest value hit with the nearest to the centre of the bull taking precedence. If these distances are equal then the next nearest lowest value hits are to be similarly compared and so on until the tie is broken.
- b) In the 25m Vintage Pistol events ties will be broken as in a).
- c) In the 100m, 200m Classic Rifle events and Vintage, Classic and Veteran Rifle events, ties will be decided on V-bull counts initially. If the tie is not broken in the 100m and 200m events then by the method specified in a).
- d) In the 300–900m Vintage, Classic and Veteran rifle events ties will be counted out firstly by comparison of V-bull counts. If they are the same, then by sequential comparison of the values recorded in reverse order in the string of scoring shots until the tie is broken.

For organisational reasons, ties cannot ordinary be settled by shoot-off, but this ruling may be waived by match organisers if they wish to have a shoot-off for any breech loading event.

### **17.11 SAFETY IN THE LOADING, TRANSPORTATION AND USE OF CARTRIDGES**

Loaded (primed, propellant filed and bullet seated) cartridges are potentially explosive components of breech loading shooting and the following rules will be strictly observed.

Loaded cartridges which do not chamber with ease with no more than a finger pressure or light pressure on the loading lever or bolt will under no circumstances be forced into the chamber except by means of a safe seating appliance which has to be shown to and be approved by the Range Officer as a safe method.

If a cartridge cannot be seated and jams on loading it into a chamber it may only be cleared under supervision of the Range Officer by use of a ramrod inserted from the muzzle end of the firearm and gentle pressure. Hammering the cartridge out by use of the ramrod on the range is prohibited.

If a primer in a cartridge is not properly seated and interferes with closure of the breech, it shall be discarded. It shall also be disassembled and propellant removed before any attempt is made to seat the primer deeper in the primer pocket. Deeper seating of primers in loaded cartridges by any other means on the range is prohibited.

Only unloaded cartridge cases may be primed and loaded in the vicinity of the range behind the 3m safety zone behind the firing point using commercial priming tools or custom made pressing tools. Tapping them into their pockets with hammers may not under any circumstances seat primers or any other hand tools on the range at any event held under the auspices of the BPSU or any of its affiliated clubs.

Violation of any of the rules specified under this section may lead to either immediate disqualification of the offender from the match, or his summary eviction from the range or a formal BPSU investigation and disciplinary hearing on all of the actions.

NOTE: Primers are the most dangerous components of breech loading ammunition and may detonate if they are maltreated in any way through ignorance, carelessness, arrogance or familiarity.

## 17.12 TARGETS AND COURSES OF FIRE FOR BREECH LOADING EVENTS

### 17.12.1 Targets:

- 25m Events - UIT 50m Pistol Target
- 50-100m Events - UIT 50m Pistol Target
- 200m Events - UIT 25m Olympic Rapid Fire Target.
- 300-900m Events - SANDF Targets as specified for full bore shooting in 1995 as per specification in 11.3.4

### 17.12.2 Breech loading Events Sanctioned by the BPSU of SA

#### 17.12.2.1 Pistol Events

Vintage, Classic and Veteran Pistol (Revolver or Self Loading Pistol).

##### **Precision Fire:**

Sighting series – 5 in 5 minutes and patch target.

Scoring series – 2 x 5 shots in 5 minutes each with 2 minutes to reload between each series.

##### **Rapid Fire:**

Sighting series – 5 shots in 2 minutes and then patch target.

Scoring series – 4x5 shots in 15 seconds per series with 30 seconds to reload between series.

#### 17.12.2.2 Rifle Events (Vintage, Classic and Veteran events)

##### **VINTAGE EVENTS:**

##### **Vintage Medium Bore Breech loader (The Martini Event).**

Courses of Fire:

- 100m : 13 shots best 10 to count for score.
- 200m : Sighting series: 3 shots to be patched at the end of the sighting series.  
Scoring series: 10 shots.
- 300 and 500m : Sighting series: 3 shots convertible for score.  
Scoring series: 10 shots.

##### **Vintage Large Bore breech loader (The Snider Event)**

Courses of Fire:

- 100m : 13 shots, best 10 to count for score.  
Time: 30 minutes.
- 200m : Sighting series: 3 shots to be patched at the end of the sighting series  
Scoring series: 10 shots.  
Time: 20 minutes.
- 300m : Sighting series: 3 shots convertible for score.  
Scoring series: 10 shots.  
Time: 1 hour for a pair of competitors on one target.

##### **Vintage Match Rifle (Free Breech loading Target Rifle)**

These events are in addition, governed by the Rules of the World Long Range Historical Rifle Shooting for 300 to 900m events. (The WLRHRS Rules are provided as Annexure 2 to this document)

Courses of Fire:

- 100m : 13 shots best 10 to count.

- 200m : Sighting series: 3 shots to be patched at the end of sighting series.
- 300 and 500m : Sighting series: 3 shots (convertible for score)  
Scoring series: 10 shots.
- 600–900m : Sighting series: 5 shots (convertible for score)  
Scoring series: 10 shots.

### **Classic Breech loading Rifle Events**

Classic Service Rifle (Precision and Rapid Fire)

Course of Fire:

- Prone 100m : 13 shots, best 10 to count for score.  
Time: 15 minutes
- Prone 200m : Sighting series: 3 shots to be patched at the end of sighting series  
Scoring series: 10 shots  
Time: 15 minutes.
- Prone 300 & 500m : Sighting series: 3 shots (convertible for score)  
Scoring series: 10 shots  
Time: 1 hour for a pair of competitors on one target
- Prone 100m Rapid Fire: (The Mad Minute)  
Sighting series: 3 shots with patching at the end of Sighting series.  
Scoring series: As many shots as can be fired in 60 seconds starting with magazine unloaded and rifle angled with butt in contact with the ground.  
NOTE: The use of stripper clips for loading is permitted in magazine rifles with only 5 rounds being permitted to be loaded into the magazine at any time during the event. The use of cartridge holders affixed to the rifle is not permitted.
- Four position 100m : (Prone, Sitting, Kneeling and Standing)  
Sighting series: 3 shots to be patched at the end of the sighting Series.  
Scoring series: 5 shots for each position in 5 minutes each.

### **Classic and Veteran Match Rifle**

Classic and Veteran (Service) Match Rifle (to be shot as one class in the prone position)

Courses of Fire:

- 300 and 500m : Sighting series: 3 shots (convertible)
- 600,700,800,900m : Sighting series: 5 shots (convertible)
- 300 to 900m : Scoring series: 10 shots

## **18. ASSOCIATION RECORDS**

Record scores achieved by Association members will be kept and updated by the BPSU as the record scores are advanced.

Record scores will only be accepted when they are recorded in International, National, Provincial and other events officially held either under the auspices of the BPSU or in events sanctioned by the BPSU and shot under Rules which are in accord with those of the BPSU.

Records will be recorded in all events listed in the rules and other which may from time to time be added in this list.

If the targets or Rules specified for BPSU events are changed for any reason a new record series will be begun in accordance with the new conditions under which an event will be held.

Certificates will be awarded by the BPSU Management Committee for new records to mark these special achievements.

Record will be shared if they are recorded in the same event at a match.

In mid and long range events record scores will not reflect the number of V-bulls shot. This is only used for resolving ties when equal scores are recorded.

## **19. SELECTION OF TEAMS AND INDIVIDUALS TO REPRESENT SOUTH AFRICA AT INTERNATIONAL EVENTS.**

### **Constitution**

Under article 2.2.5 of the Constitution the Union, represented by its Management Committee is empowered to establish criteria for the selection of teams to represent South Africa at International meetings and to administer the selection procedure.

### **Procedure**

Invitation to the BPSU to participate in International Black Powder shooting competitions will be considered by the Management Committee in consultation with the full Executive Committee of the Association.

If it is decided to accept the invitation all members of the Association will be notified at the earliest opportunity of the event and be invited to make themselves available for team selection by a given date by return of an entry form.

Criteria for team selection will be circulated with the notice calling for team trial lists.

Different criteria will be applied for short range and mid to long range event.

**For short range (MLAIC) events** – trial lists will initially required to equal (or exceed) minimum laid down qualifying scores for each discipline in 4 out of 6 nominated targets shot under supervision of the Management Committees of their clubs on their home ranges. The scores will have to be ratified by signature of club-designated witnesses present on the range when they were shot.

Nominated targets will be marked on the obverse side with stickers supplied by the Management Committee of the BPSU. Sets of 6 stickers will be issued for a discipline and be marked with the trial lists name and be numbered. If a trialist fails to meet the qualifying criteria he may apply for a second set of stickers. A fee will be levied for the stickers and trials entry.

A trialist that meets the qualifying criteria will request his club chairman / secretary to confirm this in writing to the BPSU Management Committee. Upon receipt of this confirmation the trialist will be invited to participate in a Team trials selection shoot to which all pre-qualifiers have been invited.

The final trials selection will be based on the trialist achieving an aggregate score in two targets, which equals or exceeds the National standards for the discipline.

The minimum qualifying scores to obtain National Colours for MLAIC disciplines are as follows:

Minie	(Military ML Rifle)	88/100
Whitworth	(Free ML Rifle)	92/100
Vetterli	(Free ML Rifle 50m Off hand)	92/100
Miquelet	(Military Smoothbore musket)	85/100
Kuchenreuter	(Free Single Percussion Pistol)	92/100
Colt / Mariette	(Percussion Revolver)	90/100
Lorenzoni	(Percussion Shotgun)	42/50
Manton	(Flintlock)	36/50
Miquelette	(Smoothbore flintlock)	88/100
Maximillian	(100m)	90/100
Pensylvania	(50m)	90/100
Lamarmora	(Military cal 5315)	88/00

### **For Mid and Long Range Events**

Trialists will shoot a single target at 300m, 500m, 600m, 700m, 800m and 900m at a venue or venues designated by the Management Committee.

The minimum qualifying score is achieving an aggregate, which will average 40 for all distances in the trials series (i.e 6 x 40 =240 ex 300).

### **Selection Committee**

A selection committee comprising two persons who are nominated by the Executive Committee will adjudicate the results of the trials and make recommendations to the Management Committee as to who should be selected to represent South Africa and receive National Colours.

These selectors have to be present on the range when the trials are shot.

The Executive Committee will rectify the National team members and their names announced as soon as possible after the trials are completed.

### **Principle of Team Selection**

Teams will be selected on merit only as the selection criterion.

If the minimum qualifying scores are not achieved because of weather conditions being unfavourable or any other relevant factors, the selectors may take this into account in making their recommendations for team selection.

## **20. ADDITIONS AND AMENDMENTS TO SHOOTING RULES**

Rules may vary and ratified annually at the AGM of the Association under Article 5.1 of the Association's Constitution.

**Annexure I:**

**Muzzle Loading Associations International Committee**

*World Governing Body for Muzzle Loading Shooting*



**CONSTITUTION, RULES AND REGULATIONS**

Incorporating changes up to August 2008

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## **100 MLAIC ORGANISATION**

110 The name of the organisation shall be the "Muzzle Loaders Associations International Committee" referred to as the "MLAIC". The aims of the MLAIC, as defined at the founding meeting of 20 June 1971 are:

- a) To develop a wider interest in antique firearms, through shooting them as close as reasonably possible under the original conditions and style.
- b) To discourage any alteration which would affect the historical value of antique firearms; to promote their correct cleaning and repair; and to save them from destruction or irreparable damage.
- c) To encourage historical research into antique firearms and their use.
- d) To organise matches; establish shooting rules; publish results; award trophies and championship titles; arbitrate on rule disputes, etc.

NB From these aims it is evident that MLAIC shooters should have an active interest in the historical past of the firearms they shoot. Those interested only in shooting and unwilling to learn have no part in MLAIC Championships.

111 The official language of the MLAIC shall be English.

## **120 Committee Members**

121 Each participating country's National Association, as recognised by the MLAIC, shall nominate an official representative. All correspondence, registrations for Championships etc, shall be through this delegate.

122 Delegates may change but the National Association for each country shall remain the same, unless that organisation formally notifies the MLAIC of a change in its country's representative body.

123 The MLAIC cannot admit a single club to represent a country but can only recognise a federation or association of clubs. In the event that such does not exist, it would be the responsibility of that country's National Olympic Association to designate a representative body.

124 A distinction is made between 'Member' Countries which take part in Committee Meetings and Championships, and 'Correspondent' Countries which are non-participant or only just starting muzzle loading activities. Only 'Member' countries can vote at MLAIC meetings.

125 The title of Honorary Member of the MLAIC may be awarded by the Committee to dedicated individuals who have retired from the Committee.

## **130 Committee Organisation**

131

- a) The President of the National Association organising a World Championships shall be appointed as the President of the MLAIC from the day after the preceding World Championships up until the last day of his Championships.
- b) The President of the National Association organising a Zone Championship shall be appointed as a Vice President of the MLAIC from the day after the preceding Zone Championships up until the last day of his Championships.

132 The Secretary-General of the MLAIC shall be elected at the end of each World Championship Committee Meeting. by a simple majority vote.

133 Postage expenses incurred by the Secretary-General shall be met by a yearly contribution from each Member Country, which is to be paid in cash at each Committee Meeting.

134 The Secretary-General's travel (car/plane etc) and hotel expenses for each Championships together with those of the appointed International Co-ordinator, are to be reimbursed by the host country, except where low attendance make this impracticable.

#### **140 Committee Meetings**

141 The MLAIC shall convene twice at each World Championships for:

- a) The Technical Meeting - for technical instructions to team captains; appointment of arms control officers, arbitrators, scorers etc; Championship schedule; transportation etc.
- b) The Committee Meeting - to discuss matters on the agenda. This meeting should commence between 1400 hrs and 1800 hrs and conclude before 2300 hrs.

142 At the Committee Meeting, the Committee shall decide on the dates and venues of subsequent Championships, postal matches, alterations to rules (effective immediately following the close of the Championships), admission of new members, amount of yearly contribution, and any other business on the agenda.

143 The Secretary-General shall send the agenda for Committee Meetings to all delegates at least three months before the meeting to allow time for the delegates to discuss it within their Associations. Any matters for inclusion on the agenda must be received by the Secretary-General at least four months before the meeting.

144 Any decision made at an MLAIC meeting must be agreed upon by not less than two thirds of the total votes cast. Abstentions shall not count as votes. If a delegate cannot attend a meeting, a substitute with full voting powers may be sent, or a mail vote may be registered with the Secretary-General. Each country may have only one vote, whether by delegate, proxy or mail. Proposals not on the Agenda can only be adopted with the unanimous agreement of the Meeting.

145 Voting forms will be given to each delegate. These, when completed, will form a record of the voting at meetings.

146 An MLAIC Commission, of six members elected at each Committee Meeting, shall be appointed as a permanent advisory body to study proposals and make recommendations on rule changes.

147 Delegates should keep the Committee informed of the dates of any major outside events likely to clash with MLAIC Championships.

148 A Small Arms Committee comprising six (6) members, not necessarily MLAIC participants, shall be appointed to examine documentation provided by producers of replica firearms for historical correctness in their manufacture and appropriateness for MLAIC competition. Manufacturers will submit all required firearms information to the Secretary-General, who will then submit it to the Small Arms Committee members for their consideration and recommendations. The recommendations of this committee will be made known to the MLAIC by the Secretary-General through the Newsletter.

#### **200 WORLD & ZONE CHAMPIONSHIPS**

201

- a) World Championships will be held every two years, preferably between 1 July and 30 September.
- b) Zone Championships may be held in alternate years. These comprise:  
Zone A: European Zone, All countries other than those countries listed in Zone B.  
Zone B: Pacific Zone, All countries adjacent to the Pacific Rim, South Africa and countries within South America.
- c) World Records can only be established at World Championships. Zone Records may be achieved by a resident of a Zone at either a Zone or World Championships.

d) Shooters residing outside of a Zone may only participate in that Zone's Championships as Non-classified guests.

202 The organising country will send out official invitations and preliminary entry forms by early February of the year of the event. Participating countries should return these forms by 1st March.

203 Visiting teams will return completed entry forms at least six weeks before the event, giving names of all members in their party; the name of the person in charge (Team Captain); the proposed Customs point of entry; a full list of firearms detailing make, type, calibre and, where possible, serial numbers or identifying marks; details of transportation arrangements; requirements for hotel reservations or camping sites.

204 Each shooter must be either a permanent resident, hold a valid passport, or have been born in the country he or she is representing.

205 The organiser of a Championship must explain at the preceding Championship Meeting any political problems that may prevent the attendance of any MLAIC country. In such cases or where federations must comply with their Government's policies, it is permissible to allow the entry of an MLAIC International Team made up from a) shooters from non-member countries, and b) shooters from member countries not sending an official team, subject to the approval of that country.

206 A fee will be charged for individual/team entries to cover the cost of targets, medals and administration.

207 Recommended Championship Schedule

Monday morning: Arrival, Registration, Firearms Inspection.

Monday afternoon: Technical Meeting, Firearms Inspection, Practice.

Tuesday: Registration, Firearms Inspection, Practice.

Committee Meeting, Opening Ceremony.

Wednesday: Competitions, Shooters' Buffet.

Thursday: Competitions, Awards Ceremonies.

Friday: Competitions, Awards Ceremonies.

Saturday morning: Competitions, Clay target shoot-offs.

Saturday evening: Official Banquet, Closing Ceremony.

Prospective hosts should try to minimise the cost to shooters by limiting the duration of the Championships to six days or less.

To avoid delays and unnecessary queuing, Registration and Firearms Inspections should be carried out to a set programme with a specified attendance time for each country.

## **210 Categories - Number of Competitors**

211 The number of competitors in each event is to be determined by the organising country according to the range facilities available.

212 Whenever possible each country should be allowed up to a maximum of 16 competitors in each event of which 50% may be using replicas (e.g. if 16 places are available then 16 originals may be used; or 8 originals and 8 replicas; or no originals and 8 replicas).

a) In respect of Long Range Rifle Shooting Championships sixteen shooters using replica rifles may enter each individual event (per country). In addition an unlimited number of shooters using original rifles may enter each individual event (per country).

213 A minimum of 4 competitors is necessary for an individual competition to be valid.

214 No 7 (Colt) and No 12 (Mariette) shall have the same maximum number of permissible entries.

215 No 2 (Maximilian) and No 5 (Cominazzo) shall have at least five permissible entries per country.

216 All competitions shall be shot in two categories - O (Original firearms) and R (Replica firearms).

- a) A shooter can compete in either Category O or Category R, but not in both
- b) If essential to the Championship schedule, both Categories may be shot at the same time.
- c) Team events that are to be shot only with Originals (Category O) are: Nos 9 (Gustav Adolph), 10 (Pauly), 18 (Boutet), 26 (Wedgnoock), 27 (Nobunaga) and 30 (Adams).
- d) Team events that are to be shot only with Replicas (Category R) are: Nos 13 (Peterlongo), 19 (Nagashino), 29 (Lucca), 31 (Halikko), 32 (Magenta) and 33 (Forsyth).
- e) Team events that may be shot with a mixture of Originals and/or Replicas (Open Category) are: Nos 17 (Amazons), 20 (Rigby), 24 (Pforzheim), 25 (Wogdon), 34 (Hawker), 35 (Batesville) and 38 (Kunitomo).

## **220 Team Events**

221 When inadequate time is available, team events will be shot concurrently with the individual competitions. In such cases the Team Captain must notify the organisers, by close of play on the previous day, the names of the shooters whose scores shall be used for team events. These events are Nos. 9, 10, 11, 13, 17, 18, 19, 20, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 29, 30, 31, 32, 33, 34, 35 and 38. Each country may have only one team in each team event.

222 A minimum entry of four teams is necessary for a team competition to be valid. All teams except No. 11 Versailles shall comprise 3 members.

In No 23 (Hawker) the three members shall be different individuals.

## **230 Medals and Trophies**

231 Medals shall be awarded to the first three places in each individual event and to each member of the first three places in each team event, as follows: Winner - Gold medal, 2nd - Silver medal, 3rd - Bronze medal. Diplomas shall be awarded to fourth, fifth and sixth places in each individual event.

232 Trophies shall be awarded at each World Championship to the winner of each individual event and to the winning team of each team event.

233 Team Captains are responsible for returning trophies at the subsequent World Championships.

234 All competitors shall be issued with a Participant's Medal, a Certificate of Participation and a programme of events.

235 Official medals will not be awarded to medalists in Junior and Historic events.

## **240 Ceremonies**

241 The Championships shall be opened by a short ceremony prior to the start of competitions.

242 A closing ceremony shall be held on the last day of the Championships, after the final awards ceremony.

## **250 Arbitration**

251 An Arbitration Committee shall be appointed at each Championship Committee Meeting and shall be composed of three members and three substitutes.

252 A member will be replaced by a suitable substitute when the dispute involves either:

- a) a competitor from his or her own country
- b) an event in which he or she is a competitor.

253 The Arbitration Committee shall have the following duties and responsibilities:

- a) to settle all litigations
- b) to check the top six targets in each event
- c) to check the top six scorers' firearms in the event of a protest.

In the case of a claim on a rejected arm, the Team Captain and the shooter must be given the opportunity to discuss the matter with the Arbitration Committee.

254 All decisions by the Arbitration Committee will be final and binding.

255 Protests for resolution by the Arbitration Committee must be made in writing by either the Delegate or Team Captain of the country concerned. Claims involving scores must be lodged with the Chief Arbitrator within one hour of the initial posting of the results.

256 Penalties that may be imposed are:

- a) A caution delivered by the Range Officer
- b) A reduction of two points from the competitor's score
- c) The disqualification of the shooter by the Arbitration Committee on the Range Officer's report.

257 The Chief Arbitrator and the Chief Range Officer will draw up and post a schedule of Arbitration Committee Meetings.

258 A non-voting arbitrator from the host country shall be appointed to the Arbitration Committee for the purpose of providing information.

## **260 Firearms Control Committee**

261 The Firearms Control Committee shall be appointed by the President of the MLAIC from participating members of at least three different countries. The organisers should, in advance, seek volunteers from participating countries and notify those appointed before the start of the Championships. A member of the Firearms Control Committee will not be able to inspect the arms of his or her own country.

262 The Firearms Control Committee shall have the following duties and responsibilities:

- a) To inspect and certify all firearms to be used in the Championships prior to the start of competitions. Firearms must pass this inspection before being used in any event.
- b) To identify and mark in a easily visible manner all firearms certified for competition and their original or replica status.
- c) To have available on the shooting range all tools necessary to perform inspections competently, e.g. calipers, micrometer, magnifying glass, metric screw gauges, and to have available specifications for most common types of firearms.
- d) The Firearms Control Committee may carry out a check on any firearm, its sights, bore, bedding etc at the firing point immediately after the firearm has been shot.

263

- a) Any firearm of questionable authenticity should be presented to the Firearms Control Committee with any available substantiating documentation. The arm would then either be accepted with normal reserves or rejected. 'Normal Reserves' means that the Committee accepts the firearm as complying with the Rules, but without any implication of authenticity.
- b) Any questionable bullet design should be presented to and left with the Firearms Control Committee with any available substantiating documentation. That type of bullet would then either be accepted or rejected. This applies to any type of bullet that is not of a standard recognised design.

264 The disqualification of any unacceptable firearm should be done by the Firearms Control Committee before the event.

**300 SHOOTING REGULATIONS - PRECISION EVENTS** (NB Precision events refer to those shot with rifle, musket or pistol to distinguish them from clay target events)

301 All Team Captains and competitors should be fully acquainted with MLAIC Rules and the competition programme.

302 Range Officers shall be provided by the host country and will include:

- a) A Chief Range Officer, who shall be responsible for the proper operation of the range throughout the Championships
- b) Line Officers, who shall verify that competitors are in their correct positions before competition details begin and check for infractions of rules during competitions.
- c) Verification Officers, who shall be assigned to specific targets to verify the number of shots fired by each competitor and to record fouling shots, cross-fires, and firearm breakages.
- d) Range Officer should not disturb any shooter after signal "Open Fire", except for safety matters.

303 No one except Range Officers, MLAIC Officials and competitors shall be allowed to go beyond the area designated for spectators, which shall be three meters behind the firing line. No one other than Range Officers shall be permitted to speak to competitors during competition\*. Spectators must remain quiet while shooting is in progress. (\*Explanation: This means no one other than Range Officers, and ensures that the competitor will not be disturbed during the 30-minute event. Anyone speaking loud enough for the competitor to hear – whether it be positive or negative comments – constitutes a violation of this rule. It is recommended that the Range Officer remove the violator from the range. The second violation by the same person should be answerable to the Arbitration Committee for disciplinary action. Repeatedly photographing a competitor during the official time period of the event may also constitute a violation of this rule by distracting the competitor, and action by the Range Officer is also in order if this situation occurs.)

304 Competitors may use telescopes for spotting shots, but no coaching or assistance from others is permitted.

305 The following signals shall be used to start and stop competition details:

- a) Open Fire - Two whistle blasts
- b) Temporary Cease Fire - Series of short whistle blasts
- c) Cease Fire - One long whistle blast

306 No firearm is to be loaded until the signal is given to 'Open Fire'.

307 No snapping of caps or pan flashing before the signal is given to 'Open Fire'.

308 All firearms to be uncapped or unprimed during 'Temporary Cease Fire'.

309 All firearms to be unloaded on 'Cease Fire'.

Instead of whistle blasts the match organiser may choose to use dissimilar audible instruments for the three signals, so as to improve clarity.

### **310 Targets**

311

- a) Events Nos. 1, 9, 14, 16, 19 and 27 use the French Military 200 meter target (MLAIC C200). 10 ring = 80 mm (3.15") diameter, black centre out to 6 ring, measuring 400 mm (15.75") diameter.
- b) Events Nos. 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 10, 12, 13, 15, 17, 18, 20, 24, 25, 26, 28, 29, 30, 32, 33, 36, 37 and 38 use the ISSF 50 meter Pistol Target (MLAIC C50). 10 ring = 50 mm (1.97") diameter, black centre out to 7 ring, measuring 200 mm (7.87"), white out to 1 ring, measuring 500 mm (19.69").

- c) Unless glued to a backing of cardboard, the paper used for targets shall be a minimum of 230 gr/m<sup>2</sup>.

312 Targets shall bear the following markings:

Top Left: Relay Number Top Right: No of Target  
Bottom Left: No of Shooter Bottom Right: No of Event

Neither the competitor's name nor nationality shall appear or be identifiable in any manner on the target. On scoring, the value of each shot and the total score shall be clearly marked in the lower right corner of the target and initialed by the scoring official.

313

- a) Competitions in which the ISSF 50 meter Pistol Target (C50) is used, will be shot using a pair of targets set side-by-side at the same level, for each competitor. Six shots are to be fired on one target and seven shots on the other. In the event of the use of electronic targets, only one target is to be used for all 13 shots.
- b) Competitions in which the French Military 200 meters target (C200) is used will be shot using a single target for all thirteen shots for each competitor.

314 Rules Modifications for Use of Electronic Targets (Applicable only when electronic targets are used)

- a) Target is to be printed on I.S.S.F. regulation paper, 550 mm square. Target to be off-white with black center.
- b) For events Miquelet, Tanegashima and Hizadai, scoring to be only from five to ten-rings.

### **320 Practice**

321 There will be no practice during the competition days of the Championship. Two days of practice will be allowed prior to the start of the competition events.

322 Practice targets on each range will be fairly allocated to each country in proportion to its number of competition entries.

### **330 Shooting Rules**

331 Prone, kneeling and standing positions shall be as defined by ISSF Rules, but use of a carrying sling is permitted for all positions.

332 For precision competitions, thirteen (13) shots are to be fired within a thirty (30) minute relay. The highest scoring ten shots are to count.

One fouling shot may be fired into the backstop provided that the Range Verification Officer is first notified. Snapping of caps, flashing of pans and firing of fouling shots must be done within the 30 minute relay.

333 In the event of a loading incident (e.g. bullet loaded without powder, two bullets loaded etc) the shooter should seek permission from the Range Line Officer before clearing the firearm so that the extra shot is not recorded as one of the thirteen permitted shots.

334 If a relay has to be stopped due to inclement weather or any other reason, it will be resumed where it was stopped and continue for the unexpired time. If however the targets are no longer in a usable condition, they shall be replaced and the relay shot again.

335 Any malfunctions requiring the assistance of a second party shall terminate any further shooting by the competitor in that event. Any necessary repairs to firearms during events must be carried out by the competitor only, and completed within the 30 minute relay. Under no circumstances will the competitor be allowed to substitute a different firearm or be granted additional time to effect repairs.

336 The duties and responsibilities of every competitor are:

- a) to fully understand and to comply at all times with all competition rules and regulations.
- b) to present his or her firearms to the Firearms Control Committee for inspection and approval prior to competing.
- c) to provide proof, if required by the Firearms Control Committee, of the authenticity of his or her firearms.
- d) to be at the correct firing point, at the designated time for each competition.
- e) to correctly maintain his or her firearms and equipment.
- f) to practice good sportsmanship at all times and to promote the aims of the MLAIC.

### 340 Scoring

341 In competitions where pairs of targets are being used, a maximum of seven shots one target and six on the other is allowed. If there are more than seven shots on a target the best scoring additional shots will be counted as misses.

Example: Target 1 (8 shots) 10, 10, 9, 9, 9, 9, 8, 7 (Delete the best shot, 10)

Target 2 (5 shots) 10, 9, 9, 9, 8

Score ~~10~~, 10, 10, 9, 9, 9, 9, 9, 9, 9, 8, ~~8~~, ~~7~~ Total = 91

- a) In the event electronic targets are being used, computers will score, record score, break ties and print out results. In the event of a tie (all computer scores being the same), the worst shot from the center is the loser.

342 The centre point of the bullet hole must be at least on the line to count for the higher score.

343 A bullet fired into another competitor's target must be signaled to the Range Verification Officer and will be counted as a miss.

344 Scores shall be witnessed by one official of the host country and one official of the MLAIC.

345 In the event of ties in individual events, the winner is the one who has the highest number of shots in each scoring ring in descending order. If these are the same for each ten scoring shots, then the loser is the one with a scoring shot furthest from the centre. If the tie is still unresolved the next nearest scoring shots are used, and so on.

NB If necessary all ten scoring shots are to be used in this manner to determine ties and the three non-scoring shots are only to be considered if a tie then still exists.

346 In the event of ties in team events, the winning team is determined by the one which has the highest number of shots in each scoring ring in descending order. If these are the same for all the scoring shots, then the losing team is the one with a scoring shot furthest from the centre. If the tie is still unresolved the next nearest scoring shots are used, and so on.

### 350 Firearms

351 General information:

- a) Any firearm may be used once only in each event.
- b) All firearms must be privately owned.
- c) No colors, other than black or white, may be used on the foresight.
- d) The half-cock position, if present, should be in a safe working condition.

352 Originals: Any alterations to an original firearm which would spoil its historical value will disqualify its use in MLAIC competitions. If an original has major modifications (i.e., relining or replacement of the barrel or replacement of the stock) the firearm may be shot in the replica class, provided it has not been declared as an original prior to the competition. Any lined or modern barrels must be classified as replicas prior to inspection. If declared as an original and found to be a replica, the firearm must be disqualified.

- A) Military Rifles - Service issue rifles and muskets for use in competitions Nos. 1, 3, 8, 9, 10, 11, 15 and 37. The following shall apply:
- 1) Arms shall be manufactured in accordance with military patterns, in unaltered condition and with original pattern sights.
  - 2) Limited alterations to the point of aim are permissible by the use of a replacement blade or sight bearing the same configuration and profile as the original. Alterations to the original sights are not permitted.
  - 3) Military smooth-bore flintlock muskets having a fixed (non-detachable) rear sight are not permitted in competitions No 1 or No 9. The removal of such existing sights is not permitted. Military smooth-bore flintlock muskets with rear sights that may be detached without alteration to the gun, may be used with the rear sight removed.
  - 4) Set triggers, butt pads, cheek pads, wiping out between shots, and long loading funnels are not permitted.
  - 5) The bore diameter must be in excess of 13.5 mm (0.5315").
  - 6) Barrels may not be bent to alter their point of aim.
  - 7) Replica barrels or original barrels which have been sleeved are not permitted.
  - 8) The use of Cream of Wheat, Cornmeal, or other natural filler is permissible in military rifles.
- B) Free Rifles - Any original muzzle loading rifle not qualifying as a Military rifle in A) above, with contemporary sights (excluding telescopic or optical) for use in competitions Nos. 2, 4, 8, 14, 15, 16, 17, 19, 20, 24, 26, 27 and 36. The following shall apply:
- 1) Aperture sights (including modern made replica sights) are permitted providing their design is consistent with the period of manufacture and appropriate to the type of firearm. This applies to both rear and fore-sights. NB The periods of manufacture in relation to the pattern of sights are: up to 1750 for matchlocks, up to 1850 for flintlocks, and up to 1890 for percussion.
  - 2) Military rifles of a calibre of less than 13.5 mm (.5315") may be used in competitions Nos. 4 and 20, and those of any bore diameter may be used in competitions Nos. 2, 8, 15, 17 and 24.
  - 3) Barrels may not be bent to alter their point of aim.
  - 4) Replica barrels or original barrels which have been sleeved are not permitted.
- C) Pistols and Revolvers - Any original pistol or revolver with contemporary sights, for use in competitions Nos. 5, 6, 7, 18, 25 and 30. The following shall apply:
- 1) Rifled single shot percussion pistols, eligible for competition Nos 6 and 18, must have sights contemporary to the 19th Century, i.e.: fore-sights should be pinhead, narrow blade of a maximum width of 2.03 mm (.080"), narrow pyramid or similar, but not broad Patridge form; rear sights should have V or U form sight notches.
  - 2) The front sights of original revolvers, eligible for competition Nos 7 and 30, may be of any height to assist aiming at 25 meters, but the original profile must be retained.
  - 3) Barrels may not be bent to alter their point of aim.
  - 4) Replica barrels or original barrels that have been sleeved are not permitted.

353 Replicas: A replica is a modern made reproduction of an original antique firearm, with sights, lock assembly, stock and barrel in the original style. Original parts may be used to build replicas. Replica firearms do not need to bear proof marks.

- A) Replica Military Rifles - Service issue rifles and muskets for use in replica classes of competitions Nos. 1, 3, 8, 15, 17, 24 and 37. The following shall apply:
- 1) Replica Military rifles shall closely follow original military service patterns, specifications and tolerances. The rifling pitch and number of grooves should replicate the appropriate original pattern but the depth of the rifling grooves may be different.

- 2) Limited minor alterations to the front or rear sights to improve the point of aim are permissible providing a similar configuration and profile as the original is retained.
  - 3) Replica Military smooth-bore flintlock muskets having rear sights are not permitted in competition No 1.
  - 4) Set triggers, butt pads, cheek pads, wiping out between shots, and long loading funnels are not permitted.
  - 5) The bore diameter must be in excess of 13.5 mm (0.5315").
- B) Replica Free Rifles- Any replica of an original muzzle loading rifle not qualifying as a Military rifle in A) above, with contemporary sights (excluding telescopic or optical) for use in replica classes of competitions Nos. 2, 4, 8, 14, 15, 16, 17, 19, 20, 24, 29 and 36. The following shall apply:
- 1) The rifling pitch and number of grooves should replicate the appropriate original pattern but the depth of the rifling grooves may be different.
  - 2) Aperture sights (both rear and fore sights) are permitted providing their design is consistent with the original period of manufacture and are appropriate to the type of firearm. NB the periods of manufacture in relation to the pattern of sights are: up to 1750 for matchlocks, up to 1850 for flintlocks, and up to 1890 for percussion.
  - 3) Replica Military rifles of a calibre of less than 13.5 mm (.5315") may be used in competitions Nos. 4 and 20, and those of any bore diameter may be used in competitions Nos. 2, 8, 14, 15, 16, 17, 19, 24, 29 and 37.
- C) Replica Pistols and Revolvers - Any replica of an original muzzle loading pistol or revolver, with contemporary sights for use in replica classes of competitions Nos. 5, 6, 12, 13, 18 and 25. The following shall apply:
- 1) Replica rifled single shot percussion pistols, eligible for competition No 6, must have sights contemporary to the 19th Century, i.e.: fore-sights should be pinhead, narrow blade of a maximum width of 2.03 mm (.080"), narrow pyramid or similar, but not broad Patridge form; rear sights should have V or U form sight notches.
  - 2) The front sights of replica revolvers, eligible for competition No 12, may be of any height to assist aiming at 25 meters, but the original profile must be retained. There are no restrictions on the form of rifling for replica revolvers.
  - 3) Dovetailed fore-sights are acceptable on replica revolvers provided that the ends of the tennon are flush with the barrel.

### **354 Matchlocks (Originals and Replicas)**

- A) Original Matchlock Muskets - original muzzle loading smooth-bore matchlock muskets for use in competitions Nos. 14 (O), 15 (O), 16 (O), 19, 24 and 27 and in accordance with the following design: Of early Portuguese or Japanese style, with an attenuated butt similar to a pistol grip and designed to be held against the cheek (cheek stock) and not against the shoulder. The rear sight block to have a narrow aiming slot and the foresight to be in the form of a pyramid or vertical wedge. Replacement sights should be of these forms.
- B) Replica Matchlock Muskets - replica muzzle loading smooth-bore matchlock muskets for use in competitions Nos. 14 (R), 15 (R), 16 (R), 19 and 24 and in accordance with either of the following two designs:
- 1) Of early Portuguese or Japanese style, with an attenuated butt similar to a pistol grip and designed to be held against the cheek (cheek stock) and not against the shoulder. The rear sight block to have a narrow aiming slot and the foresight to be in the form of a pyramid or vertical wedge.
  - 2) Of European style, with a shoulder stock and, in original military form, often used with a forked rest. This rest is not permitted for use in MLAIC competitions. Adjustable dioptic sights are not permitted but contemporary style fixed rear peep-sights or tube-sights attached to the barrel are allowed.
- C) Matchlock Pistols - for use in competitions Nos. 5, 28 and 39 (See 354 G and Appendix 6)
- 1) Of Japanese style - shall be a similar, but shorter, form of the Japanese musket.

- D) Matches (applies to both original and replica classes)
  - 1) During loading, the lighted end of the match must be kept in a safe container.
  - 2) When shooting, the match must be secured so that it does not fly about on firing.
- E) Relining - The relining of Japanese smooth-bore matchlock barrels is permitted for safety reasons, as long as it does not affect the external appearance and historical characteristics. Relined matchlocks will only be permitted in replica events.
- F) Should there be less than four original matchlock musket entries, these originals will be permitted to shoot in the replica class.
- G) Replica matchlock pistols are not permitted in the replica class of Competition No 5 (Cominazzo).

### **355 Miscellaneous**

- 1) Original and replica flintlock pistols for use in competition No 5 shall have a minimum bore diameter of 11 mm (.433").
- 2) To prevent the use of revolvers as single shot pistols, competitors must load at least five chambers for each of the first two strings.
- 3) The cylinder may be removed from the revolver for any reason other than for loading.
- 4) The major parts of replicas (barrel, lock and cylinder) may be made of stainless steel.
- 5) Chromium plated barrels are permitted in replica shotguns.

### **356 Ammunition**

- A) Powder:
  - 1) Only factory made black powder may be used. A simple test may be used if necessary to detect the use of powder other than authentic black powder, to eliminate the possibility of competitors using substitutes.
  - 2) Loading from pre-measured single charge containers is obligatory.
  - 3) No priming flask containing more than 16 grams (250 US grains) of powder may be used.
- B) Wads: No plastic wads are permitted in any competition. Wads may be made from paper, fibre or felt materials.
- C) Bullets:

Bullets shall be of the style associated with the original firearm namely:

  - 1) Flintlock and matchlock arms - Round ball only
  - 2) Percussion rifled pistols - Round ball only
  - 3) Percussion revolvers - Round ball or picket bullet
  - 4) Percussion military rifles - Original style expanding bullet
  - 5) Percussion free rifles - Round ball or any type of elongated bullet

No pre-rifled bullet may be used in a firearm that was not designed for use with such a bullet.  
No modern style or wadcutter bullet may be used in any competition except as permitted in item 5 above.

### **357 Accessories:**

- A) Slings:
  - 1) Slings must be original or a reproduction of a contemporary type. Modern adjustable target type slings, including single-point slings, are NOT permitted.

- 2) Only military style slings are permitted in competitions Nos. 1, 3, 9, 10, and 37. Slings may only be attached to proper original sling swivels.
  - 3) Carrying slings are permitted on original target rifles without sling attachments, providing attachment is by straps or string. The addition of sling swivels is not permitted.
  - 4) Slings – are not permitted on matchlock long arms.
- B) Palm supports - Palm supports must be original or a reproduction of an original type and only used on firearms designed to have this attachment.
- C) Funnels and loading tubes:
- 1) Funnels and loading tubes may be used in all competitions except Nos. 1, 3, 9 and 10.
  - 2) Short funnels (10 cm/4" maximum spout length) are permitted in competitions Nos. 1, 3, 9 and 10 to avoid spillage of powder.
- D) Cleaning/wiping rods - may be used in all competitions except Nos. 1, 3, 9 and 10.
- E) Clothing
- 1) Heavy shooting trousers of the type used for ISSF competition are eliminated for use in MLAIC competition. This rule is intended to allow the use of shooting trousers made of light-weight, flexible material, such as cotton, with no reinforcement that would give artificial support. The trousers could have knee pads for the protection of the shooter's knees and would also allow a reinforced sewn-in seat. However, what is not permitted is the use of heavy-weight, stiff and inflexible trousers (such as those made of leather or double-weight canvas) that may or may not also have "stays" in the legs to provide additional support. This would include trousers that use any special devices or means of immobilizing or unduly reducing the movement of the shooter's legs and lower body, thus possibly artificially improving the shooter's performance.
  - 2) There are no other restrictions on clothing.

### **358 Repairs:**

- 1) Repairs must follow the original construction and be of a style contemporary with the period of manufacture.
- 2) The faces of frizzens, or any re-facing material, must be of a ferrous material.
- 3) Modern chemical materials such as fibreglass and epoxy resin may not be used for bedding barrels. Materials such as animal glue and sawdust used by contemporary gunsmiths for making repairs, are permitted.

### **359 Data on Firearms used by the top six competitors:**

The final MLAIC Championship results should include details of the makes and calibres of firearms used by the top six competitors in each event. Also, for the benefit of inexperienced shooters, these competitors are asked to provide for publication the following additional information: bullet type, weight and size; powder type and weight; and type of sights (open or aperture).

**Rules 360 - 375 are included on the 'COMPETITIONS' page.**

## **400 SHOOTING REGULATIONS - CLAY TARGET EVENTS**

### **401 CLAY TARGET COMPETITIONS**

**402 No 21 Manton** Free flintlock guns of any calibre. Total of 50 clay targets shot in two separate rounds (one in the morning and one in the afternoon of the same day) of 25 clay targets over five stands within 60 minute detail.

**403 No 22 Lorenzoni** Free percussion guns of any calibre. Total of 50 clay targets shot in two separate rounds (one in the morning and one in the afternoon of the same day) of 25 clay targets over five stands within 60 minute detail. (O & R).

**404 No 34 Hawker** Teams of three shooters from No 21.(O &/or R Open)

**405 No 35 Batesville** Teams of three shooters from No. 22 (O &/or R Open)

### **410 Regulations**

#### **411 Shooting stands:**

- a) Stands should be at the same level as the top of the trap house.
- b) Stands should be marked by a 70 cm (approximately) square or circle.
- c) For the flintlock (No 21) and percussion (No 22) layouts there shall be five stands at 8 meters behind the point where the flight of the clay target intersects the level of the stands. Stands should be located: 70 degrees left, 35 degrees left, central, 35 degrees right, 70 degrees right.
- d) Individual loading tables shall be provided within a few meters behind each stand.
- e) Whenever possible, an acoustic release clay target launcher will be used.
- f) (In effect only when using ATA trap ranges.) All shooting stands for flint and percussion must be at the same elevation as the ATA station number 3. (Note: This rule will place the trap shooter standing with his feet at the same height as the trap machine throwing arm.)

#### **412 Clay Launcher:**

- a) The point where the clay target leaves the traphouse and the approximate point where it lands should be clearly marked so as to be visible from all stands.
- b) The clay launcher should be set to throw centrally with the clay target landing at 60 meters (plus or minus 5 meters) from the point at which the flight of the clay target intersects the level of the stands. The height of the clay target should be 2 meters above stand level at 10 meters forward of this point of intersection.
- c) A malfunction of the clay launcher should be reported to the Range Officer who should decide whether to change the launcher, to continue, or to stop the event.

413 Clay Target - The clay target shall be of the standard type used for Olympic Trap shooting.

#### **414 Spectators:**

- a) must be at least three meters behind the loading tables and maintain quiet.
- b) may not speak to the shooters or assist them in any way.

#### **415 Range Officer and Arbitrators:**

- a) The Range Officer controls the shooting, with the assistance of three arbitrators for scoring. These officials are the only people allowed to intervene if a shooter has difficulties.
- b) The Arbitrators signal each missed clay target by each raising an arm.

- c) The Range Officer observes the Arbitrators' signals and, from the majority (if there is a disagreement), clearly calls out the result for all to hear.

#### **416 Shooting rules:**

- a) Each round to be 25 clay targets in 60 minutes.
- b) Only one shot may be taken at each clay target.
- c) Double barreled guns may be used but with only one barrel loaded at a time.
- d) The following misfires will be allowed, without penalty:
  - Three misfires per round for flintlock guns
  - One misfire per round for percussion guns
  - One misfire in each additional Tie shoot-off round (for both flintlock and percussion)
- e) For each misfire allowed an extra clay target will be launched at the same stand.
- f) If a misfire is due to the mechanical failure of the gun (other than due to ignition problems), an 'allowed extra misfire' will be granted.
- g) If a shooter fires before the command 'Pull', it will be scored as a miss.
- h) Prior to the start of each round, one trial clay target will be launched in full view of all the shooters in that round.
- i) If the launcher is repaired or replaced, a further trial bird will be launched.
- j) If a clay target is not launched immediately on the command 'Pull', the shooter may refuse to shoot without incurring a penalty, but must make his or her actions clear by raising the gun.
- k) The allocation of stands for each round will be made by the shooters drawing lots. Each shooter shall fire his or her first shot in the sequence determined by the draw, but may subsequently fire in any order as soon as ready.
- l) After each shot, shooters will proceed to the next stand in an anticlockwise direction.
- m) Shooters must have the authorisation of the Range Officer before calling 'Pull'.
- n) Shooting will proceed without interruption unless disrupted by technical difficulties. The Range Officer may stop the shooting due to inclement weather and resume the round later at the point where it was stopped.
- o) If a shooter is not present when his or her name is called prior to the commencement of a round, the Range Officer will call out the shooter's name three times within a minute. If there is no response the round will commence regardless and the missing shooter will only be allowed to shoot later if space permits.
- p) In the case of a severe mechanical breakdown of a gun which cannot be repaired quickly, the shooter must leave his or her round and may only be allowed to complete the remaining round if space is available on a later round. If the gun can be repaired before the end of the round, the competitor may resume shooting with the permission of the Range Officer, but will forfeit any shot not fired within the time limit of that round.
- q) After a misfire, a gun may be unloaded or fired away subject to the authorisation of the Range Officer.
- r) The normal maximum number of shooters to be squadded on a round is six for No 21 (Manton) and No 22 (Lorenzoni). Should it be absolutely essential, this may be increased to a maximum of eight in No 21 and No 22, but the time for the round is to be increased by ten minutes for each additional shooter above six.

#### **417 Ties**

- a) Ties for the top three individual places will be determined by shoot-off with the first five birds. If a tie still exists, the winner will be determined with the first fault being the loser. Shoot-offs shall comprise:
  - Flintlock and percussion: One clay target from each of the five stands
  - Should both shooters miss, they will continue the shoot-off on the next stand
- b) Ties for team scores will be determined by count-back. The winning team is that which has the longest unbroken string of hits from the end, counting back.

#### **418 Guns:**

- a) Guns may be percussion or flintlock, military or civilian, single or double barreled, smooth-bore, and of any calibre. Replicas with choked bores are forbidden.
- b) Slip-on butt pads made of leather or other contemporary material (but not rubber) are permitted. Any other addition to the butt is forbidden.
- c) An 'Original' is defined as any original muzzle loading gun in unaltered condition. A 'Replica' is a newly made reproduction of an antique original.

#### **419 Loads:**

- a) Only factory made black powder is permitted.
- b) Lead (or non-toxic lead substitutes of single metals only) shot size must maximum 2.55 mm diameter.
- c) Loads must not exceed normal Proof Table Service Loads for the calibre of gun up to a maximum of 6.2 grams (3.5 drams) of black powder and 35 grams (1.25 oz).
- d) Loading of powder must be from pre-measured single charge containers.
- e) No priming flask containing more than 16.2 grams (250 US grains) of powder may be used.
- f) Loading of lead shot (or non-toxic lead substitutes of single metals only) must be from prepacked single charge containers.
- g) Loading must be in accordance with contemporary methods and materials. Plastic wads are prohibited.

#### **420 Shooting Rules:**

- a) Loading may only be carried out at the loading tables.
- b) When walking from the loading table to the stands and back, shooters must carry their guns with the muzzles pointed upwards.
- c) Capping or priming may only be done at the shooting stand, with the barrel pointed down range.
- d) Cap dispensers are encouraged for percussion guns.
- e) Guns shall only be fully cocked when at the shooting stand and ready to fire.
- f) The use of slings is forbidden.
- g) The utmost care in handling guns is to be observed at all time.
- h) When not in use guns should be kept in the racks and must not be touched without the owner's permission.
- i) The shooter may only shoot when it is his or her turn to do so, and after the clay target has been released.
- j) Aiming or shooting at other shooters' clays is forbidden.
- k) The shooter may mount the gun in the shoulder or start from the gun down position as preferred before calling 'Pull'.
- l) When firing, shooters must stand within the area marked for the stand.
- m) Safety spectacles and hearing protection must be used when shooting.
- n) When the shooter is ready to fire he or she may, with the permission of the Range Officer, give the order 'Pull'. The shooter may also ask 'Ready?' but nothing else.
- o) A clay target will be deemed broken when, after being correctly launched and shot according to the rules, at least one visible part flies away.
- p) A clay target will be deemed missed and scored zero, if:
  - it is not broken during flight;
  - the shooter does not fire because he or she has: the gun in the safety or half cock position; forgotten to load, prime, cap or fully cock the gun; lost the priming or cap; not seen the clay target; had a misfire in excess of the permitted number; or

the shooter touches the lock of the gun before it is checked by the Range Officer following a misfire or technical fault.

- q) A clay target will be deemed a 'No bird' and another clay will be granted to the shooter, whether he or she fired or not if:
- the clay breaks on launching;
  - the flight is not straight, is irregular or is too slow;
  - two or more birds are launched together;
  - the clay is of a different colour to that of preceding clays;
  - the clay is launched before the order 'Pull';
  - the clay is not launched immediately on the order 'Pull', providing the shooter indicates an intention not to shoot by raising the gun;
  - if a misfire or default is due to the mechanical breakdown of the gun, the lock or the cock; or
  - if the shooter has obviously been hindered by a third party.

#### **421 Claims:**

- a) If the shooter or Team Captain does not agree with the Range Officer over a miss, one of them should immediately lodge a claim by raising one arm and shouting 'Protest!' The Range Officer will then suspend shooting, consult with the Arbitrators and give a final decision. The Protest will be entered into the Range Report.
- b) It shall not be permissible to recover a clay target to check whether or not it is broken.
- c) If the shooter or Team Captain does not agree with the shooter's score, one of them should immediately lodge a complaint with the Range Officer who will consult with the Arbitrators and then give a final decision.
- d) An appeal against a Range Officer's decision can be lodged in writing with the Arbitration Committee but no appeal can be made over whether a clay was broken or not, as the Range Officer's decision in this matter is final.
- e) If a shooter, Team Captain or Championship Official observes something that is contrary to the rules he or she should point the matter out immediately to the Range Officer who should take immediate steps to stop the violation of the rules. If this is not possible a protest may be lodged as above.

#### **422 Penalties:**

- a) All shooters shall be deemed to know the rules, and must accept beforehand all penalties that may result from violations thereof, or from disobeying the Range Officer's instructions.
- b) If a shooter uses a gun or ammunition which does not comply with the rules, any target hit with that gun or ammunition will be scored as a miss.
- c) If a violation of the rules is deliberate, the shooter may be disqualified.
- d) If a shooter hinders another by his or her attitude, conduct or words, the shooter will be warned by the Range Officer. If the offence is repeated the shooter will be penalised by the deduction of one or two points from his or her score, as decided appropriate between the Range Officer and the Arbitration Committee.
- e) A shooter firing a gun before reaching the shooting stand will be committing a severe breach of the safety rules and will be disqualified.

423 For safety reasons, flintlock and percussion guns should not be shot on the same relay.

### **500 SAFETY REGULATIONS**

501 Smoking is absolutely forbidden on the firing line.

502 The snapping of caps or the flashing of pans before the 'Open Fire' signal is not permitted. Firearms may only be capped or primed with the barrel pointing down range.

503 All firearms are to be uncapped or unprimed and placed in a safe position during a 'Temporary Cease Fire'.

504 All firearms are to be unloaded upon the 'Cease fire' signal and before retiring from the firing line.

505 Powder in bulk is not allowed on the firing point. Powder charges must be in pre-measured single charge containers. Priming flasks containing no more than 16.2 grams (250 US grains) of powder may be used. Powder should be kept away from direct sunlight.

506 Percussion caps, being sensitive and dangerous, should be protected from accidental ignition by heat or sparks. Only a minimal quantity should be taken to the firing point and containers should be kept closed when firing.

507 Care should be taken when loading to ensure that the projectile is firmly seated on to the powder charge to prevent damage to the barrel.

508 The use of safety spectacles, tinted or otherwise, is mandatory. Corrective shooting lenses are permitted.

509 The use of hearing protection by shooters and Range Officers is mandatory.

510 Original firearms must be in a safe shooting condition.

511 Replica arms must be of reliable construction and in a safe shooting condition.

512 Loads must never exceed the normal service loads applicable to modern black powder.

513 In the event of a misfire the competitor must keep the firearm pointing towards the target for at least 10 seconds. After that it should be kept pointing at the target when possible, and never turned towards another shooter or spectator.

514 If an incident or malfunction cannot be cleared by the competitor, he or she must inform the Range Officer before taking further action.

515 In flintlock and matchlock events, the organisers should ensure that protection from vent flashes is installed between shooters.

516 Matchlocks:

- a) During loading, the lighted end of the match must be kept in a safe container.
- b) When shooting, the match should be secured so that it does not fly about on firing.

517 Spectators must remain at least three meters behind the firing point and remain quiet when shooting is in progress. No one, other than the Range Officers, shall be permitted to speak to competitors during competitions.

518 In the event of a loading incident (e.g. bullet without powder, two bullets loaded etc) the shooter should seek the permission of the Range Officer before clearing the firearm.

519 Each shooter is responsible for the proper functioning of his or her firearm and equipment.

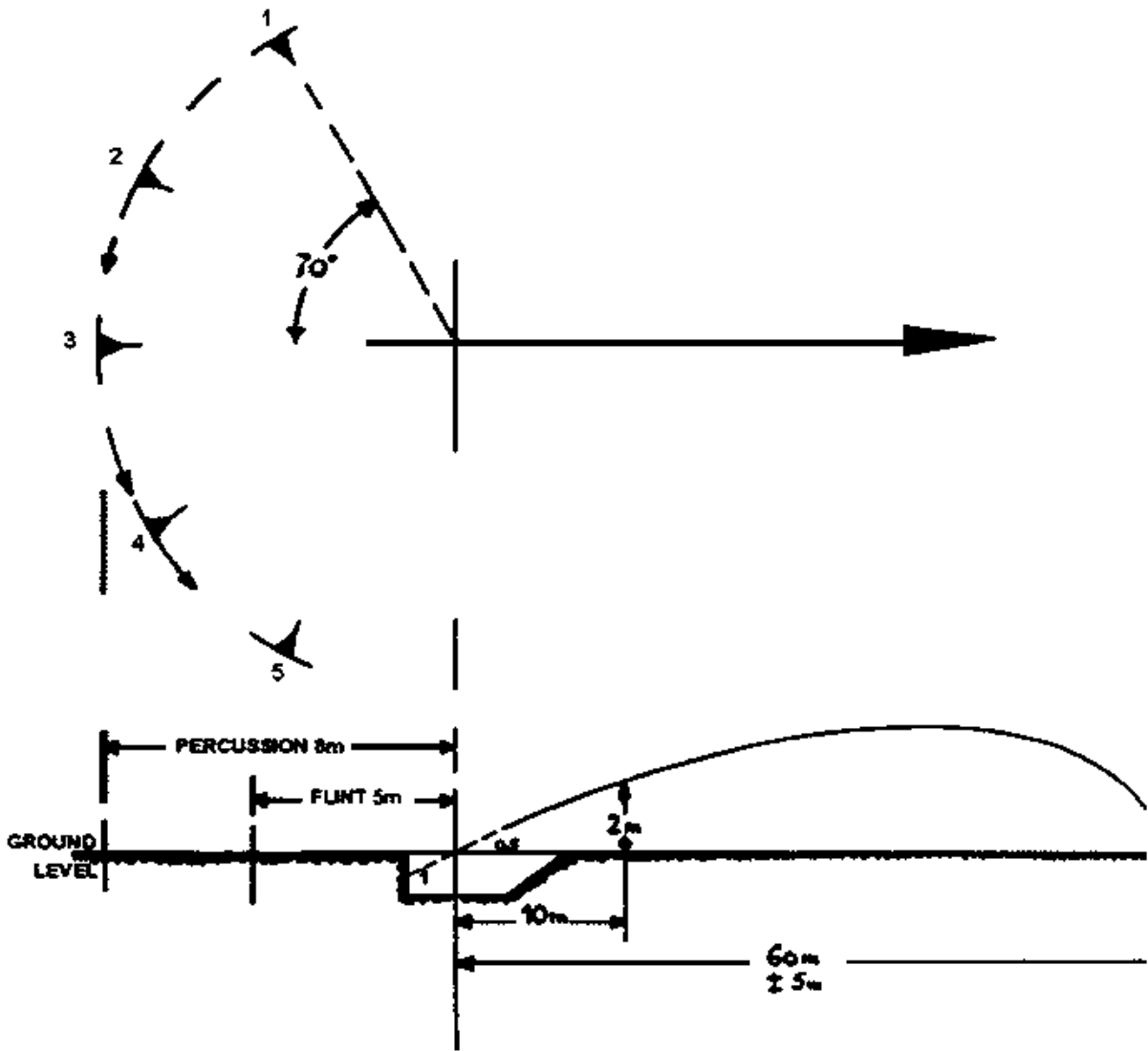
520 Only factory made black powder may be used. No black powder substitute may be used.

521 It is mandatory to seal the chambers of revolvers with grease after loading the projectiles.

**RULE 600 IS INCLUDED IN THE 'COMPETITIONS' PAGE**

APPENDIX 1

CLAY TARGET SHOOTING LAYOUT – PLAN AND ELEVATION





## APPENDIX 2

### HISTORICAL SHOOTING EVENTS

The following Historical Shooting Events are not MLAIC competitions, but may be held during MLAIC Championships at the discretion of the organisers and subject to ratification at an MLAIC Meeting.

All Historical Shooting Events shall be conducted in accordance with the MLAIC Rules, modified as follows:

**Rule 352 Originals:** Any alteration to an original firearm which would spoil its historical value or be out of keeping with the construction techniques of the period, would disqualify the arm from use in Historical Shooting Events. In particular the following items are disallowed:

Bedding of the barrel into the stock, irrespective of the manner in which it is done.

Sleeving of the barrel.

Lightening of lock springs by filing, annealing or any other method.

The reduction in the weight of trigger pull by means of filing, or other means of removal of material, to modify the original profile of the tumbler or seal.

The entire replacement of the barrel or lock.

The use of diopters, palm rests or another accessories on firearms not originally intended for their use.

Barrels may not be bent to alter their point of aim.

NB Reducing the depth of the firing notch by welding a lining to the tumbler is permitted.

**Military Longarms:** - Service rifles and muskets of any calibre and model for use in disciplines Leipzig, Austerlitz, Gettysburg and Inkermann. The following shall apply:

Arms should be of a genuine military service pattern as adopted by a Government and be in an unaltered as-issued condition with military pattern sights.

Limited alterations to the point of aim are permissible by the use of a replacement blade or sight bearing the same configuration and profile of the original.

Set triggers are only permitted on arms originally designed with this feature, (eg Swiss Federal Carbine Model 1851, Bavarian Jagerstutzen Model 1854).

Butt or cheek pads, the wiping out of the barrel between shots, and the use of a loading funnel are prohibited.

Repair of Arms: Any repair or restoration work to firearms must be in accordance with MLAIC Rules.

The use of any material unknown or not used by gunmakers of the period in which the arm was made, is not permitted.

The use of minor replacement parts, such as screws or springs, is permitted provided the parts are of identical design and material to the original.

**Loading of Arms:** Loading must always be carried out in accordance with the original military procedure laid down for the model of arm in the country of origin (including paper cartridges) and with the use of the original ramrod or an identical reproduction thereof.

When the original loading procedure required the use of a powder flask, this shall be used to fill a separate single-charge container, which will, in turn, be used to load the powder into the muzzle.

For safety reasons, flintlock muskets must be loaded either unprimed (with a copper or brass pin plugging the touch-hole) or primed with a leather covering to the frizzen face.

**Ammunition:** The use of any material unknown or not used in the manufacture or loading of ammunition during the period in which the arm was originally used, (eg aluminium foil, plastic) is not permitted. Cartridges must be made as identical as possible to the original pattern for the model of arm in the country of origin.

Bullets must be as identical as possible to the original pattern for the model of arm in the country of origin, and must function in accordance with the original design principle of the arm (e.g. Minie, pillar breech, compression).

Combustible or nitrate paper cartridges are forbidden for safety reasons.

**Uniforms:** Historical uniforms, either original or replica, appropriate to the arm being used in competition, are to be worn. A penalty of two points will be deducted for each shooter not in correct uniform.

**Clothing:** In competition, it is forbidden to wear clothing designed for modern shooting disciplines, such as shooting shoes, shooting trousers, shooting gloves etc.

Shooting spectacles, with or without an iris, are permitted.

**Targets:** The target used shall be the C N D A 1/1993 HS (54 cm x 84 cm) having a black stripe in the middle, oval scoring rings of increasing width from '10' out to the '3'.

### **Historical Shooting Disciplines:**

**1) No 50 LEIPZIG:** Individual - 50 meters - Standing Offhand (Elbow of supporting arm far from body) 13 shots in 30 minutes - best 10 shots to score. Flintlock smooth-bore military muskets of any type or calibre.

**2) No 61 AUSTERLITZ:** Teams of four shooters as Leipzig, except 10 shots per shooter. One target for each team member. Each shot to be fired on command from the Range Officer as follows  
'Load' - each shooter loads his arm and assumes the 'Ready' position;  
'Aim' - given when all shooters are seen to be in the 'Ready' position;  
'Fire' - following which shooters have 10 seconds in which to fire.  
Misfires count as zero. Ties decided as with MLAIC team events.

**3) No 52 GETTYSBURG:** Individual - 100 meters - Standing Offhand - 13 shots in 30 minutes - best 10 shots to score. Percussion military rifles over 13.5 mm bore.4)

**No 62 INKERMANN:** Teams of four as Gettysburg. Shooting as Per Austerlitz.

### **APPENDIX 3 MLAIC APPROVED CHAMPIONSHIPS**

Besides World and Zone Championships, the MLAIC is pleased to give official recognition and approval to international championships run in accordance with MLAIC rules. Application for such approval, stating any deviation to the rules that may be necessary due to local conditions (such as a reduction in the number of entrants) should be made to the Secretary-General in ample time for consultation with Member Countries. The following international championships are currently approved by the MLAIC:

**1) ANZAC Zone** (The New Zealand Black Powder Shooters Federation)

**2) ICMLA** (Koninklijke Nederlandse Schutters Associatie)

**3) MLAIC GRAND PRIX.**

MLAIC Grand Prix Championships may be held each year in addition to Zone and World Championships, to include two (2) to ten (10) nations (ideally two to four within a specific geographic area). These events must be conducted under MLAIC rules and the program must be approved by the Secretary-General prior to its being designated "sanctioned" or "approved." Any or all of the events included in a full MLAIC program of competition may be included in the Championships, and regional records shall be kept, separate from Zone and World records.

## APPENDIX 4 to the Constitution, Rules & Regulations of The Muzzle Loaders Associations International Committee (adopted 15 August 2000)

### 1.00 RULES AND COMPETITION CONDITIONS FOR LONG RANGE RIFLE SHOOTING CHAMPIONSHIPS

**1.01 GENERAL** Championships are to be organised as an MLAIC event under the current Constitution, Rules and Regulations of the MLAIC supplemented by the additional rules below. In the event of an omission or a discrepancy the rules of the MLAGB/NRA of GB for mid and long range shooting, modified as necessary to comply with established shooting practices of the host nation, apply, but in all cases the decision of the Arbitration Committee shall be final and binding.

**1.02 SQUADDING** A competitor must shoot at the time and at the target for which he has been squadded, and in sequence with the other shooters squadded on the same target. The competitor must fire from a position on the left of his allocated target peg and allow other shooters sharing the same firing position to compete with the minimum of hindrance.

**1.03 COACHING** Competitors may spot for or coach each other, but must keep noise to a minimum so as not to disturb other shooters. No coaching or assistance from others is permitted. Communications with the butt markers will be through the Range Officer only and limited to queries on standard messages as in section 5.00.

**1.04 FOULING SHOTS** Unlimited fouling shots/warming shots may be fired in to the stop butt, but only during the permitted detail time. These shots must be fired from the prone/supine position.

**1.05 CONVERTIBLE SIGHTERS** The first scoring shot on the target will count as the first convertible sighter. The decision to convert sighters must be made after all the sighters have been fired and before firing any further shots. Sighters can only be converted in reverse order of firing, so that they form a continual sequence with the following scoring shots. It is therefore not possible to convert a sighter without including all the subsequent sighters. When sighters are converted the number of subsequent shots shall be reduced accordingly to give the correct total of shots for the competition.

**1.06 AMMUNITION** Only factory made black powder may be used. Bullets may be lead or lead alloy, greased or paper patched and of a contemporary style. Gas checks are not permitted.

**1.07 MARKING** The position and scoring value of each shot will be separately signaled. In addition to a spotting disk placed in the shot hole, the value of the shot will be indicated by a coloured maker positioned along the lower edge of the target frame as follows

Extreme left	fluorescent marker	1 point (Hit)
Extreme left	black marker	2 points (Outer)
Centre left	black marker	3 points (Magpie)
Centre right	black marker	4 points (Inner)
Extreme right	black marker	5 points (Bull)
Extreme right	fluorescent marker	5 points (V Bull, used for determining ties)

No marker, miss.

**1.08 SCORING** When a shot touches the line between the scoring divisions on a target, the shooter shall be accredited with the higher score.

**1.09 REGISTER KEEPING** The recording of scores will be carried out by range officers. Protests over the value of the score or a challenge in the event of a miss, must be made to the range officer by the competitor before the next person on that target fires.

**1.10 TIES** In the event of a tie the winner will be decided by the highest number of V Bulls. If still a tie, the winner shall be determined by having the higher score on count back (for example, a shooter whose final shots are 4, 3, 5 beats someone who finishes 2,3, 5).

**1.11 BUTT MARKING DUTIES** Competitors must share butt marking duties if required to do so. Anyone failing to carry out butt marking duties conscientiously shall have his score in the event deleted.

**1.12 MEDALS** In respect of Long Range Rifle Shooting Championships medals shall be awarded for the first three places in each individual event in each category O and R and to each member of the first three places in each team event, as follows:

Winner – Gold Medal  
Second – Silver Medal  
Third – Bronze Medal

Diplomas shall be awarded to fourth, fifth and sixth places in each individual event. A gold medal shall be awarded for the highest aggregate score in original and replica categories for competitions one, two and three (mid-range aggregate), four and five (long-range aggregate) and for the highest overall aggregate for competitions one, two, three, four and five (the grand aggregate).

## **200 COMPETITIONS**

### **2.01 No 1 - 300 Yards Whitworth - Individual O or R**

- A) Firearm: Free percussion rifles (MLAIC definition), maximum weight 15 lbs (6.81 kgs), no distinction between originals and replicas.
- B) Sights: Contemporary sights, including original style replica sights. Aperture sights (front and rear) permitted if consistent with the period. Magnifying or telescopic sights not permitted.
- C) Target: NRA 300(or nearest equivalent on metric ranges)
- D) Position: Prone
- E) Distance: 300 yards (or nearest equivalent on metric ranges)
- F) Shots: 3 convertible sighters, 10 shots to count
- G) Duration: 1 hour detail

### **2.02 No 2 - 500 Yards Whitworth - Individual O or R**

- A) Firearm: Free percussion rifles (MLAIC definition), maximum weight 15 lbs (6.81 kgs), no distinction between originals and replicas.
- B) Sights: Contemporary sights, including original style replica sights. Aperture sights (front and rear) permitted if consistent with the period. Magnifying or telescopic sights not permitted.
- C) Target: NRA 500 (or nearest equivalent on metric ranges)
- D) Position: Prone
- E) Distance: 500 yards (or nearest equivalent on metric ranges)
- F) Shots: 3 convertible sighters, 10 shots to count
- G) Duration: 1 hour detail

### **2.03 No 3 - 600 Yards Whitworth - Individual O or R**

- A) Firearm: Free percussion rifles (MLAIC definition), maximum weight 15 lbs (6.81 kgs), no distinction between originals and replicas.
- B) Sights: Contemporary sights, including original style replica sights. Aperture sights (front and rear) permitted if consistent with the period. Magnifying or telescopic sights not permitted.
- C) Target: NRA 600 (or nearest equivalent on metric ranges)

- D) Position: Prone
- E) Distance: 600 yards (or nearest equivalent on metric ranges)
- F) Shots: 3 convertible sighters, 10 shots to count
- G) Duration: 1 hour detail

#### **2.04 No 4 -900 Yards Whitworth - Individual O or R**

- A) Firearm: Free percussion rifles (MLAIC definition), maximum weight 15 lbs (6.81 kgs), no distinction between originals and replicas.
- B) Sights: Contemporary sights, including original style replica sights. Aperture sights (front and rear) permitted if consistent with the period. Magnifying or telescopic sights not permitted.
- C) Target: NRA LR (or nearest equivalent on metric ranges)
- D) Position: Prone (wrist rests permitted) or supine (back position)
- E) Distance: 900 yards (or nearest equivalent on metric ranges)
- F) Shots: 5 convertible sighters, 15 shots to count
- G) Duration: 1½ hour detail

#### **2.05 No 5 - 1,000 Yards Whitworth - Individual O or R**

- A) Firearm: Free percussion rifles (MLAIC definition), maximum weight 15 lbs (6.81 kgs), no distinction between originals and replicas.
- B) Sights: Contemporary sights, including original style replica sights. Aperture sights (front and rear) permitted if consistent with the period. Magnifying or telescopic sights not permitted.
- C) Target: NRA LR (or nearest equivalent on metric ranges)
- D) Position: Prone (wrist rests permitted) or supine (back position)
- E) Distance: 1,000 yards (or nearest equivalent on metric ranges)
- F) Shots: 5 convertible sighters, 15 shots to count
- G) Duration: 1½ hour detail

#### **2.06 Team Events**

No 6 - Mid Range Aggregate: Teams of four, concurrent scores from Competitions 1, 2 & 3 (O &/or R Open)

No 7 - Long Range Aggregate: Teams of four, concurrent scores from Competitions 4 & 5 (O &/or R Open)

### **3.00 PARTICIPATION & TEAMS**

3.01 Sixteen shooters using replica rifles may enter each individual event (per country). In addition an unlimited number of shooters using original rifles may enter each individual event (per country). Each MLAIC Member Country will be allowed one team of four competitors in each of the team events.

3.02 All Delegates must register and pay their team's entry fees in before any member of the team participates in practice or competition.

3.03 The Team Captain shall notify the organisers, by close of play on the previous day, of the names of the shooters whose scores should be used for team events.

### **4.00 SAFETY**

4.01 Smoking is absolutely forbidden on the range.

4.02 No competitor may move himself or his equipment forward onto the Firing Point until authorised to do so by the Range Conducting Officer.

- 4.03 The snapping of caps or loading of firearms before the 'Open Fire' signal is not permitted. Firearms may only be capped with the barrel pointed down range.
- 4.04 Fouling/warming shots must be fired from the prone/supine position.
- 4.05 Powder charges must be in pre-measured single charge containers.
- 4.06 The use of safety spectacles and hearing protection is mandatory.

## 5.00 MID RANGE AND LONG RANGE RADIO MESSAGES.

The following Code Messages will be used to communicate between the Range Officers on the firing point and the butts. The target number will be given, followed by the message number, viz

Message 1 Firing is about to start - raise targets.

Message 2 No spotting disc is visible.

Message 3\* The spotting disc unmistakably disagrees with the value shown. Re-signal correct value.

Message 4\* Examine the target for a shot and signal the shot of found or a miss.

Message 5\* Challenge for a higher value.

Message 7\* Challenge for a hit after a miss has been signaled.

Message 9 (From firing point) Unduly slow marking; (From butts) Unduly slow firing.

Message 10 Stand easy; half mast target and patch out.

Message 11\* The wrong shot may have been patched out

\* The butts supervisor must radio the result to the firing point.

For messages 5 and 7, the butts supervisor must, and for 11 should, personally check the target.

**6.00 VENUES.** Because of the limited number of countries with ranges capable of hosting a long-range championship, the venue will rotate among the United Kingdom, the United States and South Africa. This will continue until such time as additional nations are able to host such championships, and at that time these nations will become part of the rotation procedure.

## 7.00 NRA TARGET DIMENSIONS

Divisions	Long Range	600 Yard	500 Yard	300 Yard
Black Aiming Mark	48"	39"	39"	22"
V Bull (5 points)	16"	9"	7"	3.75"
Bull (5 points)	24"	13"	10.5"	5.5"
Inner (4 points)	48"	26"	26"	11"
Magpie (3 points)	72"	39"	39"	16.5"
Outer (2 points)	96"	52"	52"	22"
Hit (1 point)	118" wide x 70" high	70" wide x 60" high	70" wide x 60" high	46" square

The V Bull is indicated on the target by a broken line.

At 600 yards, shots clear outside the lines drawn 6" inside the top and bottom of the target and 1" inside on each side of the target count as misses. At Long Range, shots clear outside the lines drawn 1" inside the edges of the target count as misses.

Adoption of Rules and competition conditions for long range rifle shooting used for the 1st MLAIC Long Range Muzzle Loading Rifle World Championships at Bisley in October 1999.

**APPENDIX 5** to the Constitution, Rules & Regulations of The Muzzle Loaders Associations International Committee (adopted 24 August 2004):

## MLAIC JOB DESCRIPTIONS

Note: Throughout this document the references to "he," "his" or "him" shall also mean he/she, his/her, him/her.

## SECRETARY-GENERAL

Shall be elected at the end of each World Championships Committee Meeting by a simple majority of the voting delegates and have the following duties:

1. Preside over all MLAIC meetings during the following two years but have no vote on considered items during those meetings.
2. Chair all technical and committee meetings.
3. Be responsible for the day-to-day administration of the MLAIC and enforcement of MLAIC Rules and committee decisions.
4. Receive correspondence from member associations and distribute pertinent information to delegates.
5. Set and send the agenda for Committee Meetings to all delegates at least three months prior to the meetings.
  - a. Any matters for inclusion on the agenda must be received by the Secretary-General at least four months prior to the meetings.
6. Edit, print and circulate newsletters.
7. Appoint Recording Secretary, Webmaster and Small Arms Committee, and monitor their activities as well as those of the Commission.
  - a. Has authority to appoint appropriate ad-hoc advisory committees as necessary.
8. Edit amendments and voted alterations to the MLAIC Rules.
9. Edit and maintain World and Zones Records lists and mail same to all delegates in the first newsletter following the World or Zone event.
10. Develop a list of individuals who have expertise in working with MLAIC rules and regulations.
  - a. This list should be utilized to assist the host country to obtain properly qualified individuals to serve on the MLAIC Firearms Control and Arbitrations Committees.
11. Assist delegates and their match directors with information helpful to their operation of upcoming matches.

The Secretary-General's travel expenses (economy class air, rail and auto plus hotel and food) for attendance at World and Zones Championships are to be reimbursed by the host country except where low attendance makes this impractical.

## **PRESIDENT**

Shall be the delegate of the host country accepted by the MLAIC to serve as the host/organizer of the upcoming World Championships and to serve as the President of the MLAIC from the day after the preceding World Championships until the last day of his championships. He shall be responsible for:

1. Presenting a proposed program for his championships to the MLAIC Delegates' meeting at the preceding championship.
2. Maintaining contact with the Secretary-General providing information on the progress of the planned championships.
3. Transmitting all necessary information and forms for the event to all member countries within the prescribed time limits.
4. Overseeing the organization and the conduct of his World Championships, including the appointment of appropriate staff.

## **VICE PRESIDENT(S)**

Shall be the delegates of the host/organizing countries of the upcoming Zone Championships and to serve as Vice Presidents of the MLAIC from the day after the preceding Zone Championships until the last day of his championships.

He shall be responsible for:

1. Presenting the proposed program for the upcoming Zone Championships to the MLAIC delegates.
2. Maintaining contact with the Secretary-General providing information on the progress of the planned Zone Championships.
3. Transmitting all necessary information and forms for the event to all member countries in the applicable zone within the prescribed time limits.
4. Organizing and assuring the proper conduct of the appointed Zone Championships, including appointing all necessary staff.
5. Appointing a Firearms Control Committee from participating members of at least three different countries and appointing an Arbitration Committee to serve during his championships.
6. Assuring finalization and publication of the Zone Championships results that are to be presented to the Secretary-General and to all delegates prior to their departure from the Zone Championships.

#### **TREASURER**

Shall be appointed by the Secretary-General, with the approval of the MLAIC delegates, and shall be responsible for:

1. Collection of dues and assessed fees from member organizations and payment of appropriate expenses.
2. Presenting a current MLAIC financial report to be distributed by the Secretary-General along with the meeting agenda at least three months prior to the World Championships.
3. Supplying, as appropriate, updated reports during the World Championships meetings and to the Secretary-General upon request.

#### **RECORDING SECRETARY**

Shall be appointed by the Secretary-General, with the approval of the MLAIC delegates, and shall be responsible for:

1. Attending the World Championships at his own expense.
2. Recording the minutes from each meeting and presenting them to the Secretary-General for review and distribution.
3. Performing other meeting duties as directed by the Secretary-General.
4. As the operational language of the MLAIC is English, the Recording Secretary should be fluent in at least that language.

#### **WEBMASTER**

Shall be appointed by the Secretary-General, with the approval of the MLAIC delegates, and shall be responsible for Preparing, monitoring and maintaining on a current basis the content of the MLAIC official website under the direction of the Secretary-General. The yearly cost of the website shall be reimbursed to the Webmaster by the MLAIC.

#### **SMALL ARMS COMMITTEE**

1. Shall be appointed by the Secretary-General and consist of six highly-knowledgeable black powder arms collectors, curators, historians, etc., and shall be responsible for:
  - a. Reviewing and evaluating submitted replicas of antique arms for appropriate use in MLAIC competitions. These arms may be submitted by manufacturers or private individuals.
  - b. Preparation and publishing of updated lists of approved arms.

- 2 These lists to be distributed by the Secretary-General to the delegates of MLAIC member countries, the Firearms Control Committees at scheduled matches and to interested arms companies upon request.

## **DELEGATE**

Shall be duly elected or appointed by each country's authorized National Association to act as its representative and have the following duties:

1. Attend and participate in all World Championships Committee and appropriate Zone Championship meetings, where he shall have one vote on each matter for consideration.
  - a. May, if unable to attend, authorize a deputy to attend and vote in his place.
  - b. May, alternatively, authorize the delegate from another nation to carry his proxy vote(s) on matters to be considered at meetings where he cannot attend. Such a proxy must be made in writing to the attending delegate, with a copy to the Secretary-General.
2. Responsible for all his organization's correspondence, championship registrations, etc.
3. Responsible for maintaining regular contact with the Secretary-General.
4. Reporting any pertinent MLAIC information to his own country's organization.
5. When the delegate's country is appointed to host a championship, he must explain at the preceding Championship Meeting any political problems that may prevent the attendance of any other MLAIC country.
  - a. In such cases where federations must comply with their government's policies it is permissible to allow the entry of an MLAIC International Team, made up from shooters from non-member countries or shooters from member countries not sending an official team. This alternative is subject to the approval of the affected country.
6. When acting as the host country for World Championships or Zone Championships, he shall oversee and assign appropriate responsibilities for operation of said matches.
  - a. Should endeavor to minimize the cost to all shooters by limiting the duration of the Championships to six days or less.

## **FIREARMS CONTROL COMMITTEE**

Shall be appointed by the President of the MLAIC (for World Championships) or the applicable Vice President (for Zone Championships) from participating members of at least three different countries.

1. The organizers should, in advance, seek volunteers from participating countries and notify those appointed before the start of the championships.

A member of the Firearms Control Committee shall not make any decisions regarding the firearms of his own national team. The committee shall have the following duties and responsibilities:

1. Inspect and certify all firearms to be used in the championships prior to the start of competitions.
  - a. The committee shall make use of the latest updated MLAIC Approved Arms List as prepared by the Small Arms Committee.
  - b. Any firearm of questionable authenticity should be presented to the Firearms Control Committee with any available substantiating documentation. The arms shall be accepted with normal reserves or rejected. "Normal reserves" means that the committee accepts the firearm as complying with the rules but without any implication of authenticity.
  - c. Any bullet design of questionable originality (especially those of a non-standard design) should be presented to the Firearms Control Committee with any substantiating documentation.
2. Identify and mark, in a readily visible manner, all firearms certified for competition and their Original or Replica status.

3. Have available on the shooting range all instruments and gauges necessary to competently perform inspections.
  - a. Calipers, micrometer, magnifying glass, metric screw gauges, lists of specifications for most arms, etc.
4. Disqualification of any unacceptable firearms or bullets should be done prior to the start of the applicable event.
  - a. Disqualified arms or bullets may be appealed by the competitor and/or team captain or delegate, in writing, to the Arbitration Committee, whose decision shall be final.
5. The Firearms Control Committee may carry out a check of any firearm, its sights, bore bedding, bullets, etc., at the firing point immediately after the competitor has completed the match.

### **ARBITRATION COMMITTEE**

Shall be composed of three members and three alternates selected from at least three different MLAIC nations. Shall be appointed by the President of the MLAIC (for World Championships) or the applicable Vice Presidents (for Zone Championships) and shall be chaired by a Chief Arbitrator/Foreman. These committee personnel shall have the following responsibilities:

1. The Chief Arbitrator shall draw up and post a schedule of Arbitration Committee meetings.
2. Serve in a dispute arbitration capacity except when the dispute involves either a competitor from his own country or an event in which he is a competitor.
3. Assist in checking the top four targets in each event.
4. In the event of a protest, assist in checking the firearms of the top four scorers.
  - a. In the event of a claim on a rejected arm, the Team Captain and the shooter must be given the opportunity to discuss the matter with the Arbitration Committee.
  - b. Protests for resolution by the Arbitration Committee must be made in writing by either the Delegate or Team Captain of the country concerned. Claims pertaining to scores must be lodged with the Chief Arbitrator within one hour of the final posting of the results.
5. Responsible for making well-informed decisions that shall be final and binding.
6. Penalties that may be imposed by the Arbitration Committee include:
  - a. A caution to the team or competitor, delivered by the Range Officer.
  - b. A reduction of two points from a competitor's score.
  - c. The disqualification of the shooter based upon the Range Officer's report and/or inspection by the Arbitration Committee.

### **RANGE OFFICERS**

Shall be provided by the host country and consist of:

1. A Chief Range Officer who shall be responsible for the proper operation of the range throughout the championships.
  - a. Shall report to the Match Director.
  - b. Shall have full knowledge of range operations, safety procedures and MLAIC rules.
  - c. Shall enforce all applicable MLAIC rules, including the establishment of the zones restricted for shooters and range officials, spectator areas and spectator control during the events.

2. Line Officers who shall verify that competitors are in their correct positions before the relay begins and to check for infractions of rules during competitions (recommend one line officer for every ten shooters).
  - a. Shall report to the Chief Range Officer.
3. Verification Officers who shall be assigned to specific targets to verify the number of shots fired by each competitor and to record fouling shots, cross-fires and firearm breakages (recommend one verification officer for every four shooters).
  - a. Shall report to the Chief Range Officer.

#### **MLAIC COMMISSION**

Shall be composed of six members elected by the delegates during each World Championships. May be elected as a "slate" by a simple majority voice vote or by written ballot, wherein the six top vote-getters shall comprise the Commission for the following two years. Shall have the following responsibilities:

1. Act as an advisory body to study proposals and make recommendations on rule changes.
  - a. Proposals may come from the Secretary-General at any time during their term or from the Delegate Committee.
2. Report the evaluations and recommendations to the Secretary-General, who shall present them to the Delegate Committee for due consideration.

**APPENDIX 6 to the Constitution, Rules & Regulations of The Muzzle Loaders Associations International Committee (adopted 24 August 2004): Specifications for the Form of Japanese Repro Tanzutsu Pistols**

Non-Japanese alternatives to the requirements below should be acceptable where clear photographic evidence (but not a sketch or other form of drawing, whatever its origin) of a complete pistol can be presented, together with some idea of the size of the original. However, such a pistol must conform to the illustration in its entirety, and must not be used to justify the use of a specific detail on its own. Such alternative forms should be submitted and approved before the beginning of any competition, and should not be submitted on the day in the hope that they would scrape through.

General Form. The general form of the pistols should be based on existing published illustrations of Japanese matchlock pistols.

Barrel. Smoothbore – minimum bore size .34" (equivalent to 1 monme). Round or octagonal exterior except at muzzle, which may have a muzzle cap of larger than the average barrel dimensions. This cap may be round or octagonal. The foresight would normally be fitted to this muzzle cap.

A touch hole liner may be screwed into the barrel for safety reasons. No blanking plug on reverse side of the barrel.

The barrel to be located in the stock, fitted at the rear by a projection of the breech plug located in a recess in the stock under the barrel band.

Sights. Traditional Japanese format (a block of metal with a V, U or square groove in it for the rear sight. No adjustment for either height or lateral (windage) sight correction. The foresight to be straight tapered with a narrow flat top, or a narrow parallel sided blade with a .080" max width with a flat top. Any wings on the foresight for lateral adjustment to be removed after sighting in – like military revolvers.

Lock. Traditional Japanese format snap lock with external serpentine fitted onto brass plate. No half cock position. No set trigger. No trigger pressure or travel adjustment. Internal or external sear acceptable. The mainspring to be either external or internal brass leaf springs (but not steel springs), or a spiral (clock type) steel spring, or coil spring. Steel compression springs allowed for locks with an internal sear return spring.

Lock held in stock by the brass breech band at the front and a tight fitting pin through the stock at the rear.

Trigger to be either a flat plate or a 'ball on a post'. Modern shaped triggers (curved) not allowed.

Trigger guards may be fitted only where they conform in size and shape to the original on which the repro was based. Shapes may not be altered to form a reference point for the middle finger of the shooter's shooting hand.

Stock. Lacquered or painted full length stock of fairly straight form. Conformance with illustrated profiles of stocks on originals essential. Alternative to lacquered or painted wood is polished oak. No metal butt plate, although a small metal plate within the existing stock profile to prevent stock finish degradation should be accepted. No chequering.

Fixings in general. No screws allowed anywhere except to retain the breech plug in the barrel and the touch hole liner. This includes the lock and the pan cover. No screw fittings on barrel key escutcheons.

Pan cover. To be a close fit to the pan, and sufficiently stiff to prevent it swinging open when the pistol is tilted exposing the priming powder when the match is being fitted into the serpentine.

Match retention. As in Hizadai, etc, the match must be retained with the pistol at the time of firing. This may be achieved either by the use of a pin through the serpentine, by holding the unlighted end of the match in the shooting hand, or by feeding the match through a hole in the stock or through an open or closed ring under the barrel band. Any such ring shall not be screwed into the barrel band, and may either be fixed or swivel.

Variations to the above specifications may be shown in evidence.

**APPENDIX 7 to the Constitution, Rules & Regulations of The Muzzle Loaders Associations International Committee**

Rules and Regulations for Youth Events (adopted 8 August 2006)

1. Juniors/Youth must be under 21 years of age as of the opening day of the match (practice day #1).
2. Junior/Youth events will include:  
Lorenzoni (25 birds)  
Whitworth  
Vetterli  
Kuchenreuter
3. Junior/Youth events shall be one class or category until the participation numbers justify otherwise (16 of any class)
4. For safety purposes, each shooter is to have a personal supervisor behind the firing line who, in case of major malfunction, may assist. No coaching is allowed, including sight adjustments or loading.

## **Annexure II:**

# **World Long Range Historical Rifle Shooting Association**

(FOUNDED 1997)

The Association  
Objects of the Association  
Organization of Matches  
Match Rules  
Targets and Scoring  
Classification of Rifles  
Course of Fire  
Equipment  
Shooting Positions  
Individual Matches  
Team Matches  
Aggregate Competitions  
Score Keeping  
Ties

## **THE ASSOCIATION**

The Association shall be called the World Long Range Historical Rifle Shooting Association.

## **OBJECTS OF THE ASSOCIATION**

To promote and hold Long Range Black Powder matches which will attract shooters from all over the world.

To make the shooting rules as flexible as possible to allow as many shooters as possible to compete.

## **ORGANIZATION OF MATCHES**

World Championship matches will be organized by the shooters of a host country either independently or through a local shooting organization in accordance with the World Association's shooting rules contained herein.

## **MATCH RULES**

### Administration

The hosting organization will be responsible for the planning, organizing, running and controlling of a World Championship match.

### Match Committee

To be comprised of one person from the host country and two persons from the founding countries (being the USA, Canada and RSA) selected on a rotational basis and who are knowledgeable of the rules. Team captains are not eligible to serve on this committee.

### Match Procedure

Two or more days of sighting in and practising are to be available before the match begins.

The practice session is to be followed by individual matches held at 300, 400, 500, 600, 700, 800 and 900m or equivalent distances in yards.

A long range team match is then to follow over the next two days starting with relays at 700 and 800m on the first day and followed by two relays at 900m on the second day, giving each shooter a possible aggregate score based on 10 scoring shots per distance (total of 40 shots).

## **TARGETS AND SCORING**

The targets to be used are the ones normally used in the host country at distances of 300-900m or nearest yards equivalents.

Shots will be scored by the leading edge of the bullet hole.

Leading edges of bullet holes touching a scoring ring will be scored at the higher value, including keyholes and tipped shots.

Ricochets and ricochet hits on wrong targets will be scored as misses.

Targets must be positioned at least 1.5m (5 feet) apart. If target machines are positioned closer than this then every second target position will be used and the unused target frames will be pulled down or left empty.

## **CLASSIFICATION OF RIFLES**

All types of rifles (muzzle and breech loading) shall compete in a single class.

## **COURSE OF FIRE**

A maximum of 5 sighters may be taken of which only 3 may be converted to scoring shots. The converted sighters may only be taken in sequence in reverse order of firing.

The first shot which strikes the target will be considered to be the first sighting shot.

Ten scoring shots are to be recorded which include any converted sighters.

## **EQUIPMENT**

### Rifles

Any muzzle loading rifle of a pattern contemporaneous with that of the pre-1900 period.

Any breech loading rifle of a pattern contemporaneous with that of the pre-1900 period chambered for an original Black Powder cartridge of not less than .32 inch calibre (8mm), excluding bolt actions.

Mass of rifle may not exceed 15 lbs (6.82kg.)

### Sights

Metallic sights of a pattern contemporaneous with those of the pre-1900 period Black Powder rifles.

Click stop sight adjustments, and optical sights giving a magnified sight picture are not permitted. A lens may be fitted to the backsight provided it is of a similar prescription to that which the competitor would wear in everyday use.

### Stocks

Original or reproduction stocks of a pattern contemporaneous with that of the pre-1900 period.

Adjustable butt plates and cheek pieces may not be used.

### Triggers

Any safe trigger. Any mechanical failure of the trigger mechanism which causes an inadvertent discharge during a relay will be counted as part of the sighting or scoring series of shots.

### Bullets

Any lead or lead alloy bullet cast or swaged (either lubed or paper patched). Use of metallic wads, gas checks or jacketed bullets is not permitted.

### Propellants

Only factory made Black Powder or the Black Powder substitute Pyrodex may be used. Use of smokeless powder in any amount is not permitted (i.e Duplex charges). Competitors' ammunition will be subjected to inertia disassembly or randomly selected cartridges.

### Shooting Accessories

Slings (single or double point), shooting jackets, elbow pads, scopes, shooting gloves, shooting mats may be used. Wrist supports are permitted in events 700m, 800m and 900m or nearest range equivalent in yards. Padded shooting mats for stock support are not permitted.

### Scrutineering of Rifles and other Equipment

Prior to commencement of a match, competitor's rifles will be examined by the judges for compliance with the above specifications.

## **SHOOTING POSITIONS**

Any safe position may be used by competitors.

Parts of the rifle may only be in contact with the shooter's body. The rifle, sling (if fitted) and both arms, below the elbows, shall be visibly clear of the ground.

When a wrist support is used at 700-900m, hand wrist, or forearms must be interposed between the rifle and the wrist support.

## **INDIVIDUAL MATCHES**

Competitors will be placed 2 per firing point by either random selection or in a rotating programme.

Competitors will have a minimum of 60 minutes to fire their sighting and scoring shots may opt to fire alternating shots or to complete their strings separately.

Individual coaching is not permitted after the first sighting shot has struck the target.

## **TEAM MATCHES**

National teams shooting in the team matches will be comprised of 8 persons. Only the top 6 scores shot per distances will be recorded for the team aggregate.

Countries may field more than one team to compete in second and even third ties team events should the number of entries per country permit this. These lower tier teams will be designated "B" and "C", etc.

Neutral scorers will be appointed to keep scores.

A non-coaching team manager will be permitted to assist team members on to the target with their ranging shots, to independently score team members and to communicate with Range Officers and other officials on behalf of the team members.

Coaching is only permitted between the two team members sharing a firing point.

A minimum of 60 minutes will be provided for pairs of team members to complete their sighting and scoring shots at each distance.

## **AGGREGATE COMPETITIONS**

There will be the individual aggregate competitions as follows:

The Mid Range Aggregate comprising the scores shot at distances between 300 and 600m or yards equivalent.

The Long Range Aggregate for score shot at distances between 700 and 900m or yards equivalent.

The Grand Aggregate for scores shot at all distances between 300 and 900m or yards equivalent.

## **SCORE KEEPING**

At the completion of a relay competitors must initial the score cards which have been kept for them to signify acceptance of the values awarded to each shot and the total score recorded. Score cards must be signed in their presence by the scorer.

Scores will be posted on a score board, on the range, within 30 minute of completion of a relay.

Challenges of posted scores must be submitted to the match committee, in writing, on an available prescribed form, no later than 4 hours after the scores have been posted on the scoreboard.

Challenges of individual marked shots and/or the values given to them must be resolved with the assistance of the Range Officer immediately after the target has been marked and before the next shot is fired on that target.

## **TIES**

Shoot outs will not be held to resolve ties.

The procedure for counting out ties in individual events will be as follows:

When scores are equal including the number of V-bulls (or X-rings), there will be a count back from the last shot scored.

In Individual Aggregate competitions in which there are ties in the score and number of V-bulls or X-rings are equal then the tie shall be resolved by comparing the range scores in each successive stage commencing with the longest distance. If still a tie, then by the value of each shot commencing with the last at the longest distance with V-bulls and X-rings being of higher value than bulls.

In the team event, if ties occur with the same total number of V-bulls or X-rings then the tie shall be resolved by the range totals in order of distance commencing with the longest distance. If still a tie, then by the aggregate of the last shots of all the members of the team, shot at the longest distance followed by the aggregate of the penultimate shots and so on.