



BLACK POWDER SHOOTING UNION OF SOUTH AFRICA

CONSTITUTION AND RULES

(Updated October 2012)

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PREFACE

These Rules have been prepared to govern the shooting activities of the Black Powder Shooting Union (BPSU) 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 BPSU 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 BPSU in accordance with rule 5.2.4 of the Constitution.

1. **CONSTITUTION**

1.1 **NAME**

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

1.2 **OBJECTIVES**

The objectives of the BPSU are to:

- 1.2.1 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;
- 1.2.2 Prevent the alteration and/or spoiling of the historical value of vintage arms and encourage the restoration thereof;
- 1.2.3 Research and disseminate information on vintage arms and the shooting thereof in the “Spirit of the Original”;
- 1.2.4 Authorise Provincial, National and International competitions for black powder arms in accordance with the rules of the BPSU, MLAIC and any other national and international authorities which it may from time to time deem fit to follow;
- 1.2.5 Establish criteria for the selection of national teams and administer the team selection procedure;
- 1.2.6 Liaise with and where desirable, affiliate to other bodies anywhere in the world that share a common interest in the recreational and competitive shooting of historical firearms.

1.3 **MEMBERSHIP**

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

1.3.1 **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 that accepts black powder shooters as full members and that is affiliated to the BPSU. Only members who are fully paid-up members of the South African Bisley Union (SABU) may hold BPSU membership.

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

Junior members (<21 years) will pay 50% of the annual membership fee and veterans (>70) do not pay any membership fee. However, if a person >70 joins the BPSU for the first time, he/she will pay the full membership fee for the first year.

Members joining the BPSU for the first time after 30 June of any year, will hold temporary membership and pay 50% of the full BPSU membership fee, as well as 50% of the annual membership fee of SABU.

Entitlements:

- a) To have electronic access to the BPSU’s Constitution and Rules.
- b) To participate in all competitions, team selection trials and other events organised by the BPSU.
- c) To receive an annual membership card, BPSU’s newsletters and notices.
- d) To vote at Annual General and Extraordinary Meetings of the BPSU.

- e) To be covered by a Group Accident Policy, through SABU, which provides limited compensation for death, permanent disability, temporary total disability and medical expenses, and the BPSU's Public Liability Policy, also through SABU, whilst engaged in shooting activities of the BPSU, subject to all or any limitations, exclusions and exceptions imposed by the relevant insurer from time to time.
- f) To apply for and, if meeting all criteria, receive Dedicated Sportsman status issued by SABU.

1.3.2 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. Visiting members will pay a nominal day fee for SABU and the BPSU to the club chairman / secretary, and the money will be transferred by the club or province to the BPSU, who in turn, will pay SABU.

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

1.3.3 Affiliated Clubs and/or Associations

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

Fees: Annual club fees as determined by the Executive Committee from time to time.

Entitlements:

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

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

1.4 ADMINISTRATION

1.4.1 Management Committee

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

The Management Committee shall consist of the Chairman, Vice-chairman, Secretary and Treasurer.

1.4.2 Executive Committee

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

Management Committee

Affiliated Club Delegates: One person for each affiliated club having ten (10) 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 BPSU.
- 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 BPSU. 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 BPSU.
- f) The Executive Committee shall meet at least once a year.
- g) The Executive Committee is the policy formulating and ratification body of the BPSU. 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.

1.4.3 **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 BPSU; to attend Annual General and Extraordinary Meetings of the BPSU 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 BPSU, if signed by the Chairman at 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 BPSU.
- d) The Treasurer shall keep proper books of accounts of all sums of money received and expended by the BPSU and in the matters in which the receipt and expenditure took place and of assets and liabilities of the BPSU.
- e) The Treasurer is required to annually present an income and expenditure statement and balance sheet to the members of the BPSU for their inspection and approval at the first succeeding Annual General Meeting. Prior to this, the accounts of the BPSU shall be examined and the correctness of the income and expenditure statements and balance sheet be ascertained by an accountant 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 30th June and 31st 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.
- g) The positions of treasurer and secretary may be filled by the same person to facilitate ease of administration.

1.4.4 **Financial Year**

The financial year of the BPSU shall be from 1st January to the 31st December.

1.4.5 **Banking**

- a) The funds of the BPSU 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 BPSU shall be made by electronic funds transfer (EFT), authorised by two persons being, the Chairman, Vice Chairman, Secretary or Treasurer.

1.4.6 **Subscription Fees**

The amount of full membership and club affiliation fees shall be determined and ratified by the Executive Committee BPSU.

1.4.7 **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.

If the positions of Treasurer and Secretary are filled by the same person, he/she may cast only one vote.

1.5 **MEETINGS AND NOTICES**

1.5.1 An Annual General Meeting of the BPSU shall be held annually, preferably at the National Black Powder championships, with one month's prior notice of the meeting being given to all full members by the Secretary.

1.5.2 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 that has been circulated to all full members at least 14 days before the AGM.
- c) To receive and consider the financial statements of the BPSU which have been approved by the Executive Committee and circulated to all Full Members at least 14 days before the AGM.
- d) To debate any duly proposed and seconded motions which are put forward in writing by full members of the BPSU 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 Committee of the Executive Committee by nomination and election and the full Executive Committee by acceptance of the affiliated clubs' nominated delegates.

1.5.3 An Extraordinary General Meeting of the BPSU may either be called at any time by the Executive Committee or at the request of ten (10) members of the BPSU 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.

1.6 RULES

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

1.7 QUORUM

- 1.7.1 At any Executive Committee Meeting of the BPSU 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.
- 1.7.2 At any General Meeting of the BPSU a quorum shall consist of twenty percent of the total of full members of the BPSU present in person or represented by proxy.

1.8 MEMBERSHIP RULES

- 1.8.1 Any full member of any Affiliated Club, which fails to pay the annual subscription fee within one month of the due date (1st January) and has been notified of this fact by the Treasurer, shall cease to be a member.
- 1.8.2 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.

1.9 MISCONDUCT AND DISCIPLINARY PROCEEDINGS

- 1.9.1 Any full member or Affiliated Club who, by an act or omission, contravenes or violates the Constitution, Rules or Regulations of the BPSU, or causes any harm, prejudice or injury to the objects, good order or reputation of the BPSU or any of its Office Bearers or members shall be guilty of misconduct.
- 1.9.2 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.
- 1.9.3 If the Executive 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.
- 1.9.4 Whenever by a two-third majority vote of its members, the Executive Committee is of the opinion that the accused person is guilty of misconduct as defined above, the Executive Committee shall have power:
- a) To issue a written reprimand to 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 cases where in the opinion of the Executive 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.
- 1.9.5 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 BPSU at an Extraordinary 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 Executive Committee on behalf of the Executive 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 Executive Committee's decision will require two-thirds majority of the members present. The vote shall be taken by secret ballot.

1.10 AMENDMENTS TO THE CONSTITUTION

- 1.10.1 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.
- 1.10.2 The proposed amendment shall then be sent to each member of the BPSU by the Secretary to arrive not less than 30 days before a General Meeting.
- 1.10.3 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.

1.11 SHOOTING REGULATIONS

- 1.11.1 All shooting meetings of the BPSU shall be run in accordance with the appropriate regulations for the firearm used, as set out in the Shooting Regulations of the BPSU.
- 1.11.2 All shooters shall comply not only with the letter of the Shooting Regulations, but also with the spirit of sportsmanship in which they are written.

1.12 DISSOLUTION OF THE BPSU

In the event of the BPSU 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.

2. PRINCIPLES OF RULES

- 2.1 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.
- 2.2 These two principles shall be used as the basis for resolving any difficulty in interpreting these rules.

3. COMPLIANCE WITH RULES

- 3.1 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.
- 3.2 All competitors and teams shall undertake to comply with these Rules.
- 3.3 Anyone becoming aware of any violation of these Rules or any part thereof must report the incident immediately to the Range Officer.

4. MATCHES AND COMPETITIONS

4.1 CLASSES OF COMPETITION

The BPSU is the governing body for the shooting of historical muzzle- and breechloading firearms in South Africa. It recognises the following types of competitions as being held under its auspices in South Africa.

- 4.1.1 **International Matches:** organised by the BPSU together with the recognised shooting organisation of the country concerned. The officials are appointed by the BPSU.
- 4.1.2 **National Championships:** organised by the BPSU. The officials are appointed by the BPSU.
- 4.1.3 **Provincial Championships:** annual competitions conducted by BPSU affiliated clubs. The Provincial clubs concerned thereof appoint the officials.
- 4.1.4 **Registered Competitions:** Other events to be organised by SABU or affiliated clubs of the BPSU, 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.

4.2 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.

4.3 REFUSAL OR WITHDRAWAL OF BPSU AUTHORISATION

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

4.4 RULES TO GOVERN COMPETITION

The local sponsor of each competition must agree to conduct the authorised competition according to BPSU rules. All matches and competitions should at all times be hosted under the BPSU rules, if not then that match will not be recognised and not covered by insurance. It will in effect then in totality not an event relevant to the BPSU.

5. AMENDMENTS TO RULES

- 5.1 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.
- 5.2 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 BPSU.
- 5.3 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.

6. APPLICABILITY OF RULES

- 6.1 These Rules are for the conduct of all historical firearm competitions held by or under the auspices of the BPSU.
- 6.2 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.
- 6.3 Where no more specific rule is set out below, the current SABU Rules of Shooting shall apply.

7. 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:

- 7.1 A **Match Director** shall be appointed to organise and run the meeting.
- 7.2 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.
- 7.3 A National **Range Officer** or his deputy will assume responsibility for the safe conduct and observance of all shooting rules.
- 7.4 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.
- 7.5 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.
- 7.6 An **Information Sheet** detailing catering arrangements, accommodation, social events and any other information relevant to the meeting shall be incorporated in the match programme.
- 7.7 **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 one month to the date on which the event will be held.
- 7.8 All **Other responsibilities** pertaining to the organisation and management of a BPSU sanctioned meeting unless otherwise specified, will be the responsibility of the host organisation and be its prerogative to conduct as it chooses.

8. CONDUCT OF SHOOTING

- 8.1 **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.
- 8.2 **Restricted Area:** It is essential that the Range Officers (Chief Range Officers and/or Assistant Range Officers) have a clear view of the entire range and the shooting point. A control line shall be established 10 meters behind the shooting point and this area shall 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:

- 8.2.1 The Range Officer on duty.
- 8.2.2 BPSU Officers on duty.

- 8.2.3 Register keepers or target markers.
- 8.2.4 Competitors actively engaged in shooting or moving towards or back from the firing point.
- 8.2.5 Members of a team during a team competition.
- 8.2.6 Any other person with special authority from the National Range Officer.
- 8.3 **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.
- 8.4 **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.
- 8.5 **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.
- 8.6 **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.
- 8.7 **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.
- 8.8 **Practice:** No practice shots are permitted during the course of a match.
- 8.9 **Cross fires:** A competitor who intentionally fires at the wrong target or out of turn will be disqualified.
- 8.10 **Screening:** No competitor may screen himself or his rifle from the sun, wind or weather whilst competing in an event.
- 8.11 **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.
- 8.12 **Retirement:** A competitor retires when he voluntarily ceases to fire before being required to do so by the conditions of the match. The person concerned must formally report his retirement to the Range Officer or, in case of mid- and long range competitions, submit his scorecard with "Withdrawn" written in the remaining scoring blocks and his signature.
- 8.13 **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. No competitor may leave the shooting point unless dedicated non-shooting score-keepers are appointed.
- 8.14 **Conversation on the Firing Point:** The only communication that will be allowed on the range, will be between shooters confirming value of each shot, guiding co-shooters until on the target, communication with range officers calling for challenges etc. Conversation should be limited to necessary communication to ensure the correct flow of the event, and should at all times consider other participants on the range.
- 8.15 **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.

- 8.16 **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.
- 8.17 **Drug and Alcohol Abuse:** The use of any drugs or alcohol to enhance performance or overcome match nerves is strictly prohibited.

9. **SAFETY RULES**

- 9.1 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.
- 9.2 The use of eye protection (safety glasses) and ear protection (ear plugs and ear muffs) are mandatory when firing is commenced.
- 9.3 Whilst on the range and not participating in an event, a competitor must at all times, when his firearm is out of its carrying bag or case, make it visibly safe to fellow shooters and Range Officers, i.e. percussion firearms with hammer cocked or half-cocked displaying an uncapped nipple; flint firearms, half-cocked with pan open and unprimed; percussion firearms and breechloading firearms with action open and with breech flag inserted; pistols laid on the bench with breech or cylinder open and unloaded.
- 9.4 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.
- 9.5 Firearms may not be loaded until the Range Officer issues the order "Range Safe. You May Commence Firing."
- 9.6 A Competitor who loads his firearm or fires a shot prior to the "Commence Fire" command will be guilty of an offence and shall be disqualified.
- 9.7 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.
- 9.8 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.
- 9.9 In the event of a misfire, the firearm shall be pointed downrange for a period of one (1) minute and the Range Officer be called to observe and supervise the unloading or clearing of a charge from the firearm's chamber or barrel. If the firearm cannot be cleared on the range it must be made safe and the barrel dismantled and removed from the range.
- 9.10 Black powder must be dispensed and handled with special care on the range. No firearms 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.
- 9.11 The Range Officer may prohibit the use of any firearm or method of loading or the operation of any firearm, which he believes to be unsafe.

10. FLINT AND PERCUSSION ARMS EVENTS

10.1 INTRODUCTION:

The BPSU is a member of the MLAIC and conducts its competitive events in accordance with MLAIC's shooting regulations. 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.

10.2 TARGETS

10.2.1 For 50m Flintlock Musket event.

200m French Military Target. (MLAIC 200m target) 3 ring diameter = 80mm, 9-1 ring, 80mm diameter increments per step. Single target for 13 shots.

10.2.2 For all other 25-100m events. ISSF 50m Pistol target, 10 ring – 50mm, 9-1 ring, 50mm increments per ring diameter. Single target for 13 shots.

10.2.3 200m Events. ISSF 25m Olympic Rapid Fire target. 10 ring - 100mm, 9-5 ring, 80mm increments per ring diameter. Single target for 13 shots.

10.2.4 300-900m events. SABU targets as issued for fullbore shooting in 1995. Scoring ring dimensions in inches as follows:

TARGET	AIM MARK	BULL	INNER	MAGPIE	OUTER
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 and 10 scoring shots to count.
5 convertible sighters at 600-900m and 10 or 15 scoring shots to count.

10.3 SCORING AND TIES

10.3.1 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.

10.3.2 In all 300-900m events:

The converted sighters plus additional shots to make a total of 10 or 15 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.

11. FIREARMS, AMMUNITION AND ACCESSORIES

11.1 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 Firearms Control Act 60 of 2000 where required.

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.

11.2 CLASSES OF FIREARMS FOR MLAIC COMPETITIONS

11.2.1 Minié – 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.

11.2.2 Miquelet - Military Smoothbore Flintlock Musket

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

11.2.3 Whitworth - Free Percussion Rifle (not qualifying for Minié)

- Any muzzle loading rifle not qualifying as a military rifle in 11.2.1 and 11.2.2 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.

11.2.4 Pistols and Revolvers

- Any original or replica muzzle loading pistol or revolver
- Replica single shot pistols must have sights
- Contemporaneous with those of the 19th 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 pistols during the revolver discipline, 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.

11.2.5 **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 may not be used.

11.3 **AMMUNITION**

11.3.1 **Powder**

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

11.3.2 **Wads**

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

11.3.3 **Bullets**

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

- Flintlock arms - round ball only
- Percussion 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.

11.4 **ACCESSORIES**

11.4.1 **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).

11.4.2 **Palm Supports**

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

11.4.3 **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.

11.4.4 **Cleaning / Wiping Rods**

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

11.4.5 **Clothing**

There are no restrictions on clothing or shooting jackets.

11.5 **SHOOTING RULES**

11.5.1 **Shooting Positions** (see also Rule 17.6.1)

Prone and standing positions shall be as defined by ISSF 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.
- 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.

11.5.2 **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.

11.5.3 **Fouling Shot**

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

11.5.4 **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.

11.5.5 **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 shall 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.

11.5.6 **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 no longer useable they should be replaced and the relay shot again.

11.5.7 **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.

11.5.8 **Aiming marks**

Additional markings on targets, such as bright coloured patches to improve visibility of the aiming mark, are not allowed

11.5.9 **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 target number and detail number must be written in the bottom left hand corner on the Standard 50m ISSF pistol targets. The bottom right hand corner is 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 target numbers, and discipline 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) Two courtesy calls will be given by the Range Officer:
 - "*15 MINUTES*"
 - "*5 MINUTES LEFT*"
- h) After the allocated time, ONE LONG WHISTLE BAST 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 into the backstop under supervision of the Range Officer without undue delay. This shot shall NOT count as a scoring shot. 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 hammers 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.

12. MUZZLE LOADING EVENTS SANCTIONED BY THE BPSU OF SA

12.1 SHORT RANGE EVENTS

Miquelet - Military Smoothbore Flintlock Musket.

- 200m French Military rifle target.
- Standing / Off Hand: 50m.

Minié - Military Percussion Rifle over 13.5mm (.5315") bore.

- 50m ISSF Pistol target.
- Standing / Off Hand: 50m.
- Prone: 100m.
- 25m ORF Pistol target.
- Prone: 200m.

Whitworth - Free Percussion Rifle (not qualifying for Minié).

- 50m ISSF 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 ISSF Pistol Target.
- Any calibre rifled pistol with 19th century contemporary sights.
- Standing at 25m.

Mariette - Free Percussion Revolver.

- 50m ISSF target.
- Any calibre with contemporary sights, height of foresight unlimited, but profile must be or original style.
- Standing at 25m.

Donald Malson - Free Single Shot Percussion Pistol.

- 50m ISSF target.
- Any calibre with contemporary sights, height of foresight unlimited, but profile must be of original style.
- Standing at 50m.
- Round ball or picket bullet

Hawken – Traditional Class

- 50m ISSF target.
- Fixed / flip up sights, steel / brass back plate, wooden stock, patch ball or bullets not exceeding 2x calibre, black powder only.
- No slings; shooting or specially designed clothing prohibited.
- Standing / Off Hand 50m.
- Prone 100m.

Hawken - Modern Class

- 50m ISSF 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.

12.2 MID RANGE EVENTS

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

- 300m, 500m, and 600m SABU (1995) targets.
- Barrels may be wiped out between shots.
- Three convertible sighters and 10 shots for record.

Whitworth – Free Percussion Rifle (not qualifying for Minié).

- 300m, 500m and 600m SABU (1995) targets.
- Three convertible sighters and ten shots for record for 300 and 500m.
- Five convertible sighters and ten shots for record for 600m.

12.3 LONG RANGE EVENTS

Whitworth – Free Percussion Rifle (not qualifying for Minié).

- 700, 800 and 900m SABU (1995) targets.
- Five convertible sighters and ten or fifteen shots for record.

13. RULES FOR CLAY TARGET COMPETITIONS

13.1 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° left, 35° left, central, 35° right and 70° right of the axis of the flight of the clay targets.

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

13.2 CLAY LAUNCHER – (see also MLAIC rules on Clay Target Competitions)

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 meters forward of this point of intersection.

Whenever possible a voice activated 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.

13.3 CLAY TARGETS

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

13.4 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.

13.5 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 experiencing 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.

13.6 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 authorisation 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 authorisation 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 MLAIC note 416 for Flintlock rules.

13.7 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.

13.8 GUNS

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

13.9 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.

13.10 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 hammer or if the shooter has been obviously hindered by a third party.

13.11 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.

13.12 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.

13.13 SAFETY RESTRICTIONS

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

14. GENERAL BLACK POWDER 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 downrange.

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 a 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.

15. ORGANISATION OF MID- AND LONG RANGE MUZZLE LOADING MATCHES (I.E. 300-900m EVENTS)

15.1 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.

15.2 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 accordance to the MLAIC rules for long range shooting.

15.3 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.

15.4 TARGETS AND RING VALUES

The 1995 SABU 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-Bulls 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

15.5 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 target is shown not reflecting any value or point of impact 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 ²
500-600m	-	250 mm ²
700-900m	-	300 mm ²

The value markers should be painted black and they should be displayed against the white background of the face of the target.

15.6 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.

15.6 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.

15.7 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.

The target must be lowered and 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. Under 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.

15.8 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.

15.9 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.

A competitor in any event may not use a rifle or handgun already used by another competitor in the same event, unless direct family ties are reported, i.e. father and son, husband and wife etc.

15.10 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 or 15 shots for record
800m	5 convertible sighters	+	10 or 15 shots for record
900m	5 convertible sighters	+	10 or 15 shots for record

15.11 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).

15.12 WIPING OF BARRELS

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

15.13 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.

16. HISTORICAL BREECHLOADING SMALL FIREARMS COMPETITION

16.1 INTRODUCTION

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

16.2 SAFETY AND SHOOTERS' RESPONSIBILITIES

Historical breechloading 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.

16.3 CLASSIFICATION OF HISTORICAL FIREARMS FOR COMPETITION

Classification of firearms is necessary in order to define their eligibility for shooting under BPSU Rules and to enable competitions to be organised between firearms of a similar capability. The principal criteria used for classification of breechloading firearms for competitions are their age, their calibre, their type and their ammunition.

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

Historical Breechloading 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 Breechloading 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.

16.4 CLASSIFICATION OF HISTORICAL BREECHLOADING RIFLES FOR BPSU EVENTS

16.4.1 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 firearms 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-Farquharson, 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 firearm, e.g. Lee-Enfield SMLE Mk 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.

16.4.2 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 Breechloading Rifles: A breechloading 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.

16.4.3 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.

16.4.4 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.

16.5 CLASSIFICATION OF HISTORICAL BREECHLOADING PISTOLS

16.5.1 By Age

Vintage Pistol: Any breechloading 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 breechloading 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.

16.5.2 By Type

Service Revolver: Any breechloading 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 breechloading 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.

16.5.3 By Ammunition

Vintage: Classification of a pistol as Vintage is dependent on it being fired with cartridges loaded with black powder alone as the propellant. Duplex loads are not permitted.

16.6 SHOOTING POSITIONS

16.6.1 Rifle 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.

16.7 RANGE PROCEDURES 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 shall 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.

16.8 RANGE PROCEDURES 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 shall 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.

16.9 SCORING OF TARGETS

The Range Officer will 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 breechloading 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 breechloading firearms events shots at ranges beyond 200m bullet holes, which cut a line, will be awarded the higher score.

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

16.10 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 ordinarily be settled by shoot-off, but this ruling may be waived by match organisers if they wish to have a shoot-off for any breechloading event.

16.11 SAFETY IN THE LOADING, TRANSPORTATION AND USE OF CARTRIDGES

Loaded (primed, propellant filed and bullet seated) cartridges are potentially explosive components of breechloading 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 breechloading ammunition and may detonate if they are maltreated in any way through ignorance, carelessness, arrogance or familiarity.

16.12 TARGETS AND COURSES OF FIRE FOR BREECHLOADING EVENTS

16.12.1 Targets:

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

16.12.2 Breechloading Events Sanctioned by the BPSU of SA

16.12.2.1 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.

16.12.2.2 Rifle Events

VINTAGE EVENTS:

Vintage Medium Bore Breechloader (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 Breechloader (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 Breechloading Target Rifle)

These events are in addition, governed by the Rules of the World Long Range Historical Rifle Shooting for 300 to 900m events. Refer to the WLRHRS Rules.

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 Breechloading 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

17. BPSU 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 to 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.

Records 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.

18. SELECTION OF TEAMS AND INDIVIDUALS TO REPRESENT SOUTH AFRICA AT INTERNATIONAL EVENTS.

Constitution

Under article 2.2.5 of the Constitution the BPSU, 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 BPSU.

If it is decided to accept the invitation all members of the BPSU 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 events.

For short range (MLAIC) events – trial lists will initially be 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 trialist's 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 trial selection shoot to which all pre-qualifiers have been invited.

The final trial 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:

Minié	(Military ML Rifle)	90/100
Whitworth	(Free ML Rifle)	94/100
Vetterli	(Free ML Rifle 50m Off hand)	94/100
Miquelet	(Military Smoothbore musket)	85/100
Kuchenreuter	(Free Single Percussion Pistol)	94/100
Colt / Mariette	(Percussion Revolver)	92/100
Donald Malson	(Percussion Revolver 50m)	78/100
Lorenzoni	(Percussion Shotgun)	44/50
Manton	(Flintlock)	38/50
Miquelette	(Smoothbore flintlock)	88/100
Maximillian	(100m)	90/100
Pensylvania	(50m)	90/100
Lamarmora	(Military cal 5315)	90/100

For Mid and Long Range Events

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

The minimum qualifying score is achieving an aggregate over 5 distances, which will average 40 for individual distances in the trials series (i.e 5 x 40 =200 ex 250).

Selection Committee

A selection committee comprising at least three persons who are nominated by the Management Committee will adjudicate the results of the trials and make recommendations to the Management Committee as to who shall be selected to represent South Africa and receive National Colours. The appointed coach shall be one of these selectors.

One of the selectors have to be present on the range at all times when the trials are shot.

The Management Committee will approve the National team members and their names as soon as the final selection is complete.

Principle of Team Selection

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

19. ADDITIONS AND AMENDMENTS TO SHOOTING RULES

Rules may vary and be ratified annually at the AGM of the BPSU according to the BPSU's Constitution.