



**BENCHREST RIFLE**  
**OFFICIAL NATIONAL RULES**

**FLY SHOOT CHAMPIONSHIPS AND REGISTERED  
MATCHES**

**Revised 2018**

**No. 9**

## TABLE OF CONTENTS

<b>SECTION 1: AIMS AND OBJECTIVES .....</b>	<b>3</b>
1.1 AIMS AND OBJECTIVES.....	3
<b>SECTION 2: SSAA STANDARD RULES.....</b>	<b>4</b>
2.1 COMPETITOR'S ELIGIBILITY.....	4
2.2 JUNIOR COMPETITORS.....	4
2.3 PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES.....	5
2.4 COMPETITOR'S RESPONSIBILITY.....	6
2.5 STUCK LIVE ROUND: MANDATORY RULE .....	7
2.6 RULE INFRINGEMENTS.....	7
2.7 DISCIPLINE CHAIRMAN'S AUTHORITY.....	7
2.8 PROTEST AND APPEALS COMMITTEE.....	7
2.9 SUPPLEMENTARY EVENTS.....	9
<b>SECTION 3: FLY SHOOT.....</b>	<b>10</b>
3.1 RIFLE SPECIFICATIONS.....	10
3.2 EQUIPMENT .....	11
3.3 COURSE OF FIRE AND TIME LIMITS.....	13
3.4 RANGE SPECIFICATIONS.....	15
3.5 SCORING.....	17
3.6 TARGET SPECIFICATIONS .....	18
3.7 CONDUCT OF TOURNAMENTS.....	19
3.8 MEDALS AND AWARDS.....	19
3.9 NATIONAL RECORDS.....	20
3.10 HALL OF FAME .....	21
3.11 ADDITIONAL REQUIREMENTS.....	21
APPENDIX 1:.....	23

These Rules, for the conduct of Registered Fly Matches, have been approved and ratified for printing by the SSAA Inc. National Board

## FLY SHOOT

### NATIONAL & REGISTERED MATCH RULES

# FLY SHOOT MATCHES

Revised 2017

No. 9

## Background and History

The Fly Shoot event was created by benchrest shooters who saw the need for a way to prove centrefire rifles under organised range conditions at a longer range, that is 500 metres. After many months the competition format was settled. Rifles would be shot off the benches, but unlike short range benchrest, the match would be for group size, and include the score. This would encourage competitors to place their groups with a higher degree of accuracy than in short range benchrest matches.

In 1990 the first match was advertised, including in the SSAA Shooters Journal, as an open challenge to SSAA members, Police and Military personnel, and any other interested group. The response was overwhelming, attracting 40 competitors. The first Fly Shoot match was shot on the SSAA Canberra range in 1990, and was a huge success, with competitors keen to have it as a regular annual event.

The 20<sup>th</sup> annual Fly Shoot was contested on the SSAA Canberra range in 2010. The first official SSAA Fly Shoot National Championships was held in Canberra, ACT in 2012.

## SECTION 1: AIMS AND OBJECTIVES

### 1.1 AIMS AND OBJECTIVES

- 1.1.1 The development and encouragement of benchrest competition to achieve extreme accuracy in firearms, ammunition, equipment and shooting methods.
- 1.1.2 To standardise, where practical, on an International basis, the entire benchrest shooting program so that targets, ranges, scoring methods, records and match procedures will be uniform and compatible.
- 1.1.3 To assist and encourage any individual or organisation affiliated with SSAA Inc in the promotion of benchrest shooting.
- 1.1.4 To gather and make available to SSAA members pertinent statistics and technical data.
- 1.1.5 *To stimulate inspiration in the field of new ideas, designs and techniques; to arouse investigation into the feasibility and practical*

*application of progressive concepts, or discoveries, with regard to safe firearms, sights and ammunition.*

- 1.1.6 *To maintain the historical integrity of the Fly discipline where the highest Centrefire score of the day is the class and overall winner of the day's event, however should the Centrefire events be held over two days the score that is the highest in either Light Gun or Heavy Gun will be the overall winner. Any multi gun awarded is always secondary and at the host clubs discretion.*

## **SECTION 2: SSAA STANDARD RULES**

### **2.1 COMPETITOR'S ELIGIBILITY**

A competitor who competes in a National Championship must be a financial member of the Sporting Shooters Association of Australia or an Association affiliated with the SSAA Inc or under special invitation from the SSAA Inc National Board.

A current SSAA membership card or official documentation from the SSAA National Membership Office or a SSAA State or Territory Association showing current membership details shall be accepted as proof of their financial membership, providing they are not under suspension from membership.

Members of Affiliated Associations must provide adequate documentation of their current membership of the Affiliate Association.

A person who is unfinancial or is unable to provide proof of their financial status may pay their full membership fee for the applicable SSAA State or Territory Association, to the Host Branch / Club, providing they are not under a suspension from membership. The membership fee must be paid prior to them commencing competition.

### **2.2 JUNIOR COMPETITORS**

A SSAA junior member is any member under the age of 18 years at the commencement of the Championships. There is only one age class of Juniors for Fly Events.

A junior competitor in a National Championship shall pay no more than one half of the standard adult entry fee.

If the Discipline's National Championship includes Graded and / or Junior categories, a junior competitor is eligible to compete for Junior, Grade and Open medals and awards. The winning of a Junior medal or award does not preclude a junior competitor from winning any other category of medal or award.

## **2.3 PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES**

A competitor who, because of a physical disability, cannot fire from the prescribed shooting position outlined in these Rules, or who must use special equipment when firing, is entitled to petition the National Discipline Chairman for permission to assume a special position or to use modified equipment or both. The special position must simulate, as much as possible, the original firing position/s required by the Rules, for example boards or tables placed in front of a wheelchair may be used for the prone or kneeling positions.

This petition will be in the form of a written request from the competitor to the National Discipline Chairman outlining in detail the reasons why the special position must be assumed or the special equipment must be used. The petition, in duplicate, shall be accompanied by pictures of the competitor in the position they desire approved, and if special equipment is required, the pictures will show how this equipment is used. The petition must be accompanied by a medical doctor's statement if the physical disability is not completely evident in the pictures submitted.

### **2.3.1 Authorisation**

Each petition will be reviewed by the National Discipline Chairman on its merits and may require additional or supplementary statements or pictures. If approved, the Chairman will issue a special authorisation certificate to the individual concerned. Such authorisation will have necessary pictures attached that will be signed and dated by the National Discipline Chairman. Competitors who have received special authorisation certificates are required to present them when requested by Competition Officials or the Range Officer.

Two types of authorisations are issued, temporary and permanent. Permanent authorisations are issued to competitors who have permanent physical disabilities.

### **2.3.2 Substitute position**

A competitor with a temporary or permanent physical disability or impairment, that prevents them from using the specified (benchrest) firing position as defined in the Rules, may notify the National Discipline Chairman or the Competition Officials of their intention to use a substitute position.

This substitution must comply with the rules for that position to be used and be approved by the National Discipline Chairman or Competition Official/s before the start of the shooting for that position.

### **2.3.3 Awards, trophies, records, etc.**

Competitors using special authorisation certificates shall be eligible for all awards, trophies, etc. made under the competition Rules. But Australian or National records may not be established by use of scores shot in special positions or with special equipment under a special authorisation certificate.

### **2.3.4 Protests**

In the event of a protest involving the position or the equipment used by a competitor, under Rule 2.8 the Protest and Appeals Committee will compare the questioned position or equipment with the certificate and photographs presented by the competitor. If the competitor's position or equipment does not, in the opinion of the Appeals Committee, conform to that authorised by the National Discipline Chairman (or if the competitor has no authorisation certificate or pictures), the protest shall be allowed and the competitor will be required to change immediately to the position or equipment which has been approved or to an otherwise legal position or equipment.

## **2.4 COMPETITOR'S RESPONSIBILITY**

### **2.4.1 Competitors and Officials to be familiar with the Rules**

Competitors and officials should be familiar with the Rules pertaining to National Championships.

### **2.4.2 Sportsmanship**

Competitors shall behave in a sportsmanlike manner as befitting membership of the SSAA. In the observation of any competitor behavior that the Range Officer or match organisers deem contrary to the spirit of the event, the Range Officer shall caution those involved once, and, if there is any repetition of the conduct, the competitor/s may be asked to immediately leave the firing line and or the target being shot scored as a zero or the competitor/s may be disqualified.-Coaching or deliberate crossfires to gain an advantage may come under this clause.

### **2.4.3 Behaviour**

Competitors should refrain from boisterous conduct on the firing range during the conduct of an event. A competitor failing to observe this fact will be disciplined by the Range Officer. In the event of boisterous or unsportsmanlike behaviour by a competitor the Range Officer shall caution the offender once, and, if there is any repetition of the conduct, the competitor may be asked to immediately leave the firing line and may also be disqualified.

Any disqualification made under 2.4.2 or 2.4.3 may be appealable under the procedure set down in Rule 2.8 for the Protest and Appeals Committee.

### **2.4.4 Range Safety Rules**

All competitors should familiarise themselves with the usual safety precautions observed on SSAA ranges as well as any Rules specific to the range on which a particular championship is being conducted. Unsafe practices by a competitor on a SSAA range can be grounds for disqualification.

### **2.4.5 Safety Equipment**

It is strongly recommended that ear and eye protection be worn at all times by persons who are in the vicinity of the firing line whilst shooting is underway.

It is recommended that suitable clothing, including enclosed shoes or boots,

be worn at all times by a competitor whilst engaged in the competition and in the vicinity of the firing line.

A competitor may wear medical equipment, which may be seen as giving support if a medical certificate confirming the competitor's need to wear such a device for health reasons is submitted to the National Discipline Chairman and / or Discipline Subcommittee for approval prior to the commencement of the competition.

## **2.5 STUCK LIVE ROUND: MANDATORY RULE**

In the event of a malfunction that results in a stuck live round which cannot be simply removed from the breech end of the barrel, the firearm is to be made safe and removed from the range to a competent person for repairs. Under no circumstance is an attempt to be made to remove the round by insertion of a cleaning rod or similar object from the muzzle end of the firearm.

## **2.6 RULE INFRINGEMENTS**

A competitor found to be infringing these Rules will be given a warning by the Range Officer. If the infringement continues the competitor may be suspended or disqualified from the competition being contested and their scores will not be recorded. Safety infringements or breaches may result in immediate suspension or disqualification.

## **2.7 DISCIPLINE CHAIRMAN'S AUTHORITY**

The Discipline's Chairman shall have the power to direct the Host Branch / Club in the manner in which the Championships are to be conducted, and shall have the right to interpret the Rules and requirements to ensure the Championships are conducted in an acceptable and uniform manner.

## **2.8 PROTEST AND APPEALS COMMITTEE**

The Rules for the Protest and Appeals Committee are common to all SSAA Disciplines and form part of each Discipline's Rule Book. The Rules as applied to the Fly Discipline are as follows:

- 2.8.1** At all registered Matches there shall be a Protest and Appeals Committee (hereinafter called "Appeals Committee") which shall be formed by the Discipline Chairman or their appointed nominee to hear and decide protests and appeals.
- 2.8.2** The Appeals Committee shall consist of a minimum of three people, including the Discipline Chairman (or nominee), any one of whom may be a competitor. The National Discipline Chairman or their appointed nominee will chair the Appeals Committee. But in no case shall an appellant or protester be included as a member of the Appeals Committee (notwithstanding any Rule or Rules of law to the contrary).

In competitions where more than one State is represented a delegate from any of the States represented may be appointed to be a member of the said Committee and such appointments shall be at the discretion of the Discipline Chairman or their appointed nominee.

- 2.8.3** A protest may be lodged by any competitor who feels aggrieved by a decision of the Range Officer, the target scorers, or any other organisational matters or methods of conducting the competition. A competitor may protest the conduct of another competitor(s) or that another competitor(s) has not fulfilled their obligations according to these Rules, or has not properly obeyed the Rules.
- 2.8.4** The protest must be lodged and accompanied by a fee set by the Organisers of the Match, if no fee is prescribed before the commencement of the match, none shall apply. If the protest or appeal is upheld, the applicant is to be refunded the amount of the fee. If the protest is disallowed, then the fee shall be forfeited to the organisers conducting the competition.
- 2.8.5** The protest is to be lodged with the Range Officer or other persons nominated by the National Discipline Chairman or their appointed nominee to receive appeals. A protest may be lodged during the conduct of a competition or after the competition has been completed but not later than 30 minutes after the scores for that competition have been announced or posted. When received, the protest or appeal must be given to the Chairman of the Appeals Committee as soon as possible. If the protest relates to a scoring matter, the chairman may in their discretion accept such a protest verbally, but all other protests must be lodged in writing.
- 2.8.6** The Chairman shall convene the Appeals Committee without undue delay and the Appeals Committee shall be empowered to hear evidence from the protester, the appellant and person(s) involved in the protest; to require the Range Officer, Scorers or organisers to produce targets, score sheets or other material relevant to the protest; to call evidence from any other person(s) who may be able to help the Appeals Committee and to do all such other things that the Appeals Committee believes will enable it to reach an unbiased and just decision.
- 2.8.7** Any accused person shall:
- 2.8.7.1 have a right to be heard before the Appeals Committee and to remain in attendance during each session of the Appeals Committee.
  - 2.8.7.2 be advised of the time and place the Appeals Committee shall hear evidence of the protest or appeal.
  - 2.8.7.3 be entitled to remain in attendance before the Appeals Committee until the Appeals Committee adjourns the proceedings to make its decision.



- 2.8.7.4 be informed of the evidence or allegations made.
- 2.8.7.5 be supplied the details of verbal or written statements made against that person or persons.
- 2.8.7.6 be given an opportunity before the Appeals Committee to correct or contradict any accusations or allegations made.

**2.8.8** Immediately the Appeals Committee has made a decision, the Appeals Committee Chairman shall verbally announce it to a gathering of competitors summoned to hear the decision or post the decision on a notice board. The decision of the Appeals Committee shall be final and binding on the matter of the protest and on all persons concerned therein.

Note: Desirably the Appeals Committee proceedings and deliberations should be conducted out of the public gaze and free from distractions of the ongoing competition.

## **2.9 SUPPLEMENTARY EVENTS**

State and Territory Associations or Bodies may devise their own type of shooting competitions and formulate their own Rules for the conduct of supplementary competitions, but in National Championships they will be obliged to abide by the Rules laid down from time to time by the SSAA Inc for the conduct of National Championships.

The conduct of supplementary events shall not in any way infringe on the conduct and completion of the core National events.

### **DEFINITIONS:**

In these rules the following words and expressions shall have the meanings set out against them.

“SSAA Inc” means SPORTING SHOOTERS’ ASSOCIATION OF AUSTRALIA INC. being the National body of SPORTING SHOOTERS’ ASSOCIATIONS OF AUSTRALIA.

“STATE” means the SPORTING SHOOTERS’ ASSOCIATION of any Australian State or Territory.

“Spotter” means a person who, with the aid of a spotting scope, rifle scope or the naked eye, observes weather conditions, mirage, wind flags and fall of shot and collaborates with a competitor in that competitors participation in the Fly Shoot.

“BRANCH” means a full member of a State.

“Host” means a State, Branch of affiliated Association conducting a Registered Fly Tournament.

“Benchrest Committee” means SSAA Inc Benchrest Subcommittee

“Appeals Committee” means Protest, Disputes and Appeals Committee.

“Records Committee” means SSAA Inc National Benchrest Records Subcommittee.

The definition of the words “relay” and “detail” in these rules have the meanings set out in the two following sections unless the connotation of either word as used in certain circumstances, implies otherwise, e.g. “target detail”.

The word “**relay**” means an appearance at the benches by a number of competitors during which they shoot one group. A relay may be composed of one, two or more details.

The word “**detail**” means any one group of competitors into which a relay has been divided when the number of competitors exceeds the number of benches available e.g. if there are 37 competitors and 15 benches, then it would be necessary to break the competitors in each relay into 3 details; one detail of 13 competitors and two details of 12 competitors. The number of competitors in each detail shall be as proportionate, as the number of benches, and the number of competitors will permit.

“Section” **means a Section of these Rules.**

## **SECTION 3: FLY SHOOT**

The SSAA Fly Shoot Championships has Centrefire Light Gun Centrefire Heavy Gun and Rimfire classes. All three classes must be contested at the SSAA Fly National Championships. The timing of these three events is the prerogative of the State or Territory hosting the National Fly Championships and each event will be held as complete and discrete events. The individual Championship events shall have their class events comprising the Championship held on the same or consecutive days at the same Host range.

### **.1 RIFLE SPECIFICATIONS**

#### **3.1.1 CENTREFIRE**

##### **3.1.1.1 Calibre**

Any legal, registered centrefire rifle, up to and including .49 calibre, may be used.

If the range where the match is to be held is restricted to smaller calibres or not able to accommodate calibres up to .49, the match may have restrictions on calibres, but Match Organisers must

include this information in any advertising or notice of the match to be held.

#### 3.1.1.2 Other specifications

The rifle may have:

- any stock configuration
- any barrel
- any trigger (other than release type)
- any scope or sighting system

#### 3.1.1.3 **Maximum Weight**

- Heavy gun unlimited weight, but must be able to be lifted to the bench by a reasonably capable adult.
- Light gun (including bipod if fitted) limit 17 lbs (7.711 kgs)

#### 3.1.1.4 **Restrictions**

- No return-to-battery set-ups (e.g. rail guns)
- No muzzle brakes

### 3.1.2 RIMFIRE

#### 3.1.2.1 **Rimfire rifles**

- Any .22LR rimfire
- any stock configuration
- any barrel
- any trigger (other than release type)
- any scope or sighting system

#### 3.1.2.2 **Maximum Weight:**

- Rimfire 17 lbs (7.711 kgs)

#### 3.1.2.3 **Restrictions:**

- No return-to-battery set-ups (eg rail guns)

### 3.2 EQUIPMENT

**3.2.1** Light rifle is allowed to have a bipod, but the bipod is included in the weight of the rifle.

**3.2.2** Any scope, unlimited power or sighting configuration, including spotting scopes

**3.2.3** Rifles are to be shot from restricted rests. Restricted rests shall comprise a front rest to support the front part of the rifle, and a rear rest to support the rear part of the rifle; neither rest may be attached to the bench, the rifle or to the other rest, and each must be moveable independently of the other.

The front rest may be a block or pedestal, and may incorporate adjustments for windage and elevation, but shall not have any guiding means; it shall be

used in conjunction with a sandbag on which to rest the fore-end of the rifle; the section of fore-end contacting the sandbag need not contact for the full width of the fore-end.

The rear rest shall be a sandbag only, except that a vertical spacer shall be allowed between this sandbag and the bench top. Such a spacer shall not incorporate adjustments for windage or elevation, nor shall it contain any protrusions which can be inserted into the bench top or the sandbag and the top and bottom of the spacer shall be substantially flat. The rear sandbag shall not be contained in any manner.

A sandbag shall be a bag or combination of bags, without extra additions or devices, the covering of which shall be made of cloth, canvas, leather or any other similar materials that can be easily flexed by the fingers. The contents with which it is filled shall be a dry divided non-metallic substance, such as, but not limited to sand, gravel, grain or sawdust.

Neither the front nor rear rest shall be fashioned so that either or both, or in conjunction with the sandbag or any other part of the rest or rests, co-act with the rifle to restrain recoil, or twisting of the rifle after firing. The rifle must be capable of being lifted clear of the sandbags, or rests, without exerting more effort than would be required to support the rifle itself.

**3.2.4** Rests (sand bags) may have a stabiliser plate but no such attachments or devices designed to stabilise the rifle, reduce its recoil, or twisting torque after firing, by co-acting with the rests or sandbags, shall be fitted to the rifle after the rifle has been weighed, checked and cleared as meeting the requirements of the class.

**3.2.5** Cameras for the purpose of viewing targets will not be allowed forward of the firing line during the course of the match.

**3.2.6** Wind flags are allowed provided they do not hinder other competitors. Once the match has commenced, only the match organisers or approved persons may remove or lower any flags forward of the firing line to ensure they do not hinder another competitor. For the purpose this clause the match is deemed to have commenced once the first detail is called to the line for the "A" target.

**3.2.7** Competitors may spot for each other during the competition

**3.2.8** All rifles intended to be used in Light Rifle class or Rimfire class to be weighed prior to the commencement of the match.

### **3.2.9 BARREL TUNERS**

A muzzle attachment may be added to a rifle barrel when used as a tuning device. The rifle with the attachment in place, must still meet the rifle requirements. Once the command "Commence Fire" is given by the Range Officer or electronic audio device, adjustment of the muzzle attachments at the firing line may occur if the competitor removes their bolt from the rifle and maybe undertaken standing or seated. If a competitor does not remove their bolt prior to adjusting the tuner, they will be disqualified.

### 3.2.10 CHANGE TO RIFLE SPECIFICATIONS

Any proposed change that relates to rifle specifications of any Fly class shall be via referendum of all Fly competitors who have qualified for the class concerned by attendance and competition in two registered matches in that class, within two years prior to the date at which the referendum was called.

## 3.3 COURSE OF FIRE AND TIME LIMITS

### 3.3.1 Course of fire

- 3.3.1.1 Competitors will complete one competition target per detail.
- 3.3.1.2 Competitors may use a maximum of eight rounds per target; 5 rounds on the target for scoring, and a maximum of 3 rounds for sighting on a sighting target (paper, steel or other medium). No more than 8 rounds are permitted on the competitors bench during the course of fire. Rounds that misfire or fail to chamber may be replaced with the approval of the range officer during the course of fire.
- 3.3.1.3 Matches for Centrefire and Rimfire may consist of 10 or 5 targets, as decided by the Match Organisers plus an optional warmer target.
- 3.3.1.4 Competitors may enter in both centre-fire classes at the Match Organisers discretion but must indicate their primary class if insufficient places are available.
- 3.3.1.5 2 Gun matches (if conducted by host range) will consist of:  
Light Gun and Heavy Gun or alternative  
Centrefire Rifle and Rimfire Rifle

For the purpose of calculating the winner and placegetters in a Centrefire and Rimfire 2 Gun match the competitor's best score in either Light Gun or Heavy Gun is to be counted for the Centrefire component of the 2 Gun.

### 3.3.2 Time limits

Competitors will have ten (10) minutes to complete their warmer target. For all other targets competitors will have seven (7) minutes to complete each target.

### 3.3.3 Match Commands

#### FIRST MATCH GENERAL INSTRUCTIONS

**Prior to each relay of the first match of the day, general instructions shall be announced by the Range Officer. The instructions should be the same or similar to the following, and also acknowledge local requirements:**

**In an emergency local range safety rules apply.**

**During the match, should an instance arise which requires a cease fire, the command will be:**

**“CEASE FIRE – UNLOCK YOUR BOLTS”**

**This will permit all rifles to be in an unlocked condition without extracting the case from the chamber. The command will only be given in such cases that we cannot permit you to clear your rifle by firing.**

**If a condition should arise that requires temporary suspension by Firing, the command will be”**

**“HOLD YOUR FIRE-CLEAR YOUR RIFLE BY FIRING OR BY REMOVING YOUR BOLT”**

**Do not place any ammunition in the action until the command “Commence Fire” is given.**

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

Announce:            Display eight rounds

- 1)            No ammunition is to be placed in the rifle action before the Commence Fire is given.
- 2)            This is Relay.....Match.....
- 3)            Are all shooters ready
- 4)            You have .....minutes to complete this match.
- 5)            Place bolts in your rifle
- 6)            Commence Fire
- 7)            Half Time
- 8)            You have two minutes to complete your firing.
- 9)            You have one minute to complete your firing
- 10)          You have 30 seconds to complete your firing.
- 11)          five seconds
- 12)          “Sound of whistle” - Cease Fire
- 13)          Remove bolts from rifles.

And when determined as appropriate by the Match or Firing line captain they will announce:

- 14)    Clear the Benches
- 15)    Target Crew may go forward

#### **INTERPRETATIONS;**

- a) No live ammunition may be placed in the rifle until the Commence Fire command is given.
- b) Timing commences at the end of the words “Commence Fire”.
- c) Timing ceases at the end of the words “Cease Fire”. Any shots fired before the command “Commence Fire” or after the command “Cease Fire” will result

in the shooter being disqualified from and not taking part in the rest of the days shooting.

- d) The command “place bolts in your rifle” precludes the closing or working of the bolt until the “Commence Fire” command is given.

Should an unusual circumstance arise during the course of fire in a relay then the Range Officer or Match Director should use the commands and procedures as stated in Rule 3.3.3 of these Rules.

### **3.4 RANGE REQUIREMENTS AND SPECIFICATIONS**

A range for registered tournaments must have provision for the posting of targets at all measured distances from the firing line at which the tournament is to be conducted with secure benches that are covered by a roof to protect competitors from the elements such as sun and rain.

The layout of the range shall comply with the safety rules, such as effective butt stops and safety angles of fire, to comply with legal requirements of the State involved for that range.

The firing line shall preferably be coincident with the forward edge of the benches, but if it is to the rear of that line, then it shall be conspicuously marked on the top of the benches.

Any rifle range for the conduct of Fly tournaments must notify the Benchrest Chair of any range change or alteration made since the original range registration approval. Such notification in the year preceding the National Championship or at least three months prior to any registered match. This notice shall allow reasonable consideration and/or inspection of any proposed change or any change implemented prior to advising the Benchrest Chair in writing. Changes not formally ratified by the Chair may impact on the range registration for the conduct of registered matches under these rules.

A range for registered tournaments shall not have less than five benches that are dual handed to allow either right or left handed competitors to fire from the bench. A bench should be a rigidly constructed table being of a height to permit a competitor of more or less than average height to sit comfortably thereat, by merely increasing the height of a stool on which she or he sits.

It is recommended that the range provide a Public Address system and a timed electronic audio device to automatically announce all procedural commands in order that competitors can receive commands and time calls at the exact time and in an identical format and manner. It is recognised that such a requirement may not be possible to implement and is therefore not mandatory but every effort should be made by the host to comply.

A scale will be required that will weigh the equipment for the class being competed, and checked to have an accuracy within the limits of 0.5 ounces (14 grams). These scales should be available at all times so that competitors may check the weight of their rifles and associated equipment. The scale will be required during weighing procedures and during the match when spot check may be undertaken. A known test weight should also be available for scale verification purposes.

**3.4.1** Steel sighting plates for Centre-fire matches should be placed above or below the competition targets.

**3.4.2** Paper sighting targets may be placed above, below or to one side of the competition targets.

### **3.4.3 Target Distance**

**Centrefire match:** Targets will be at a distance of 500 metres with an allowed variation of +/- 2%

**Rimfire match:** Targets will be at a distance of 200 yards with an allowed variation of +/- 2%

### **3.4.4 REGISTERED MATCHES;**

A minimum of five (5) competitors in each class are required to constitute a Registered Match and all registered matches shall be held only on SSAA Rifle Ranges approved by the Benchrest Committee and must comply with the specifications and mandatory requirements laid down in Section 4 of these rules.

Registered matches (other than National Championships) may consist of any one, two or three of the classes and the host range may present any or all of the awards listed for the championships. The conduct of the match must be in adherence to this rule book. Registered match dates need approval of the National Chair and must be advertised or listed on the calendar hosted at [www.500mflyshooter.com.au](http://www.500mflyshooter.com.au) or similar web site a minimum of 21 days in advance. The state chairperson is required to either attend or appoint a proxy delegate to oversee that all rules are adhered to and to determine any matter relating to the rules. A copy of this rule book, along with a current list of National Records is to be available to all competitors at such a match. At every Registered match, a State Delegate from the state in which the match is held, must be in attendance. Should a State Delegate not be able to attend a proxy may be appointed, however such proxy will only be recognised if the proxy authorisation is in writing and signed by both State Delegates prior to the conduct of the match.

States, Branches or affiliated Associations wishing to have their ranges accepted and approved for the conduct of Registered Tournaments, should make application to the Benchrest Committee, who shall make investigations to ensure the range facilities comply with the requirements of these Rules in Section 3.4 and that the State, Branch or affiliated Association had adequate measuring devices and all other necessary equipment and facilities; also enough personnel sufficiently versed in measuring targets and operating other equipment and devices required to conduct a Registered Tournament in keeping with the standards as laid down from time to time by the Benchrest Committee and these Rules.



At the time of nomination competitors may request sharing of equipment, and/or wind indicators with other competitors but this is to be at the discretion of the Tournament Organisers where range facilities permit.

As soon as possible after the completion of firing in any class, the Range Officer or their staff shall post the scores on a noticer board or other convenient place so that competitors may check their results.

### **3.5 SCORING**

Targets to be scored for group and score

**3.5.1** Best edge scoring. If bullet touches the border of the next highest ring, with no gap, the higher score will be awarded. All shots which cannot be scored by visual scoring will be checked in Centrefire class with a plug appropriate for the calibre used on the target. In Rimfire a .22 ISSF / USAS Inward gauge (5.60-5.65 mm or 0.2205-0.2205") and indicated on the target with a **P**. A target cannot be plugged more than once including as part of protest or score query.

**3.5.2** Any part of the Fly touched by a shot will count as 10.01

Group points for under 1" etc.

#### **3.5.3 Points for Group:**

Under one inch .....	10 points
Under two inches.....	9 points
Under three inches.....	8 points
Under four inches.....	7 points
Under five inches.....	6 points
Under six inches .....	5 points
Under seven inches .....	4 points
Under eight inches.....	3 points
Under nine inches.....	2 points
Under ten inches.....	1 point

#### **3.5.4 Breaking of tied scores:**

On a single Target:

For the breaking of ties on a single target the first tie-break will be the number of hits on the "Fly", if still unresolved then the number of tens, nines, eights, etc. will continue. If still unresolved the smallest group measured by the scorer on the relevant targets will break the tie.

On a Match:

The first tie-break will be the number of hits on the "Fly"; if still unresolved then a count back to the single highest target score (regardless of sequence) until all targets have been compared; if again unresolved then a tally of

individual shots for total number of tens, nines, eights etc. will continue until the tie is broken.

### **3.5.5 Extra Shots:**

Where a competitor has fired more than the permitted number of shots on the target, the highest valued shots will be struck out from the target, until only the permitted number of shots remain. Cross fired shots (other than sighters) are counted in this calculation.

### **3.5.6 Cross fires**

A competitor firing on another competitor's target shall lose all the shots cross-fired. The competitor whose target has been cross-fired on, shall not receive the benefit of the cross-fired shot when this can be identified. If the cross-fired shot cannot be identified, it is assumed to be the lowest valued shot on the target.

## **3.6 TARGET SPECIFICATIONS**

### **3.6.1 500 METRE EVENT**

The target is a 10 value target and in accordance with the appendix 1 drawing. Additional dimensions for production are:

- i) The overall dimensions of the target board are: Height 59.5 cm (23.4 inches) and width 42.0 cm (16.5 inches) with a variation of +/-3 mm.
- ii) The target is to be yellow, with scoring rings and printing in red
- iii) The Fly shall match the shape and scale of the appendix exactly and have a total height of 22.3 mm and a width of 20.0 mm to the extremities of the fly.
- iv) The 10 ring shall measure 46.7 mm outside diameter (OD)
- v) Scoring rings line thickness shall each be 0.44 mm for the 1 to 10 score rings. The outer zero/one score ring shall be 1.76 mm thick.
- vi) The annular dimensions of each of the 9 to 2 rings shall be 9.1 mm Inside to Inside (9.6 mm CTC, 10.0 mm OD)
- vii) The annular dimension of the one (1 score) ring shall be 10.5 mm outside to outside (8.3 mm ID, 10.0 mm CTC)
- viii) The total scoring area from outside to outside of the one ring is 220.0 mm
- ix) The dimensions of the printed score target (iii to viii) are allowed a production tolerance +/- 0.2 mm in all dimensions. This tolerance is for production variation only.
- x) Targets for all registered competitions must be sourced from an approved supplier. A sample must be checked and compared to the currently

approved sample by SSAA National for paper quality, thickness, printing accuracy and colour prior to approval being granted.

### **3.6.2 200 YARD EVENT**

The same approved target is used for 500 metre centrefire and 200 yard rimfire.

## **3.7 CONDUCT OF MATCHES**

**3.7.1** After the 2016 National Fly Championship held annually at the SSAA ACT range in Canberra the event shall move to the rotation calendar for Benchrest events. This period will allow other State Branches to develop ranges and experience with the match.

**3.7.2** If the range where the match is to be held has restrictions on calibre and is not able to accommodate calibres up to .49, the Match organisers must include all appropriate information in advertising and notices of the match in the appropriate Association media.

## **3.8 MEDALS AND AWARDS**

**3.8.1** The highest scorer in either LG or HG will be declared the 500 metre Fly Champion and at the National Event each year this will be awarded a Perpetual trophy called "THE JIM MCKINLEY TROPHY". This trophy will be established and maintained in accordance with SSAA guidelines.

The highest scorer in Rimfire will be declared the 200 yard Fly Champion and at the National Championships each year will be awarded a Perpetual Trophy called "THE STUART ELLIOTT TROPHY". This trophy will be established and maintained in accordance with SSAA guidelines.

A register shall be established of perpetual trophies awarded at National Fly events and maintained by the National Awards Secretary. The register shall be reviewed annually at the annual general meeting of the discipline.

**3.8.2** National medals will be awarded as follows:

- Gold for small group in both Light and Heavy Gun
- Gold for highest score in both Light and Heavy Gun
- Gold for small group in Rimfire
- Gold for highest score in Rimfire
- Gold, Silver and Bronze for Grand in Heavy Gun
- Gold, Silver and Bronze for Grand Aggregate in Light Gun
- Gold, Silver and Bronze for Grand Aggregate in Rimfire
- Gold, Silver and Bronze for 2 Gun Grand Aggregate in Light and Heavy Gun
- Gold Silver and Bronze for 2 Gun Grand Aggregate in Centrefire and Rimfire
- Gold, Silver and Bronze for 3 Gun Aggregate in LG, HG Centrefire and Rimfire
- Gold for highest placed Junior under 15 years (as defined by National

membership category at time of competition) in Centrefire (regardless of class).

Gold for highest placed Junior over 15 and under 18 years (as defined by National membership category at time of competition) in Centrefire (regardless of class).

Gold for highest placed Junior under 15 years (as defined by the National Membership category at time of competition) in Rimfire

Gold for highest placed Junior over 15 and under 18 years (as defined by the National Membership category at time of competition) in Rimfire

State, Club or Branch Fly shoots may use the National Awards as a guide but it is the prerogative of the State, Club or Branch what awards will be presented.

- 3.8.3** A Fly patch is awarded for a hit on a Fly. If a competitor records more than one hit on a Fly, the Fly Patch awarded will carry a number representing the total number of hits on the Fly for that competition. Expenditure incurred for Fly patches is the responsibility of the Host.

### **3.9 NATIONAL RECORDS**

- 3.9.1** There shall be records of the best total score, best single target score and smallest group in each of Light Gun, Heavy Gun and Rimfire. All records irrespective of category must comply in every way in accordance with these Rules.

- 3.9.2 The Records Committee shall comprise a Chairman, who shall be the Official National Scoring Officer, and two other persons selected by and approved by the Fly Committee, shall be entrusted with the task of measuring and keeping the SSAA Inc. National Fly Records.

- 3.9.3 A group or score shot on a Warm Up target shall NOT be allowed for an individual record or any overall record.

- 3.9.4 If at any registered tournament, the organiser, State delegate, or a competitor believes any group, score or scores could constitute a records, the host, in co-operation with the State Delegate/s should send the target or targets (all record targets in a total score to the Official National Scoring Officer with the prescribed form.

- 3.9.5 Prescribed forms are available from the National Benchrest Chairman and must be completed in full, duly signed by the State delegate or Delegates in attendance and accompany the targets. In the event of a proxy delegate being in attendance this person should sign the form and attached thereto, a copy of the written proxy authorisation as laid down in Section

- 3.9.6 The three members of the Records Committee shall each separately measure and/or score any Record Target, or targets submitted for records. The three separate scores or measurements for each record target submitted shall be added together and the sum divided by three and in the case of a measurement calculated to four (4) decimal places. This average

measurement will then be deemed to be the official group size of the record target or record targets.

3.9.7 For all records, the measurement/s or score/s plus the details, the Chairman shall enter in his/her register the following details, the competitor's name, date shot and location of the range.

### 3.10 HALL OF FAME

A Hall of Fame shall be conducted on a point score basis in the Light Gun, Heavy Gun and Rimfire classes and the 3 Gun at the National Fly Championships.

For points to apply the minimum entry numbers in each class and 3 Gun will be:-

Light Gun	minimum of	30 competitors
Heavy Gun	minimum of	25 competitors
Rimfire	minimum of	25 competitors
3 Gun	minimum of	60 competitors

In the three classes applicable and this entry number can be achieved by any combination of class entry numbers.

Points will be allocated as follows after the above mentioned provisions and parameters are met.:

Winner of Light Gun	2 points
2 <sup>nd</sup> Place in Light Gun	1 Point
Winner of Heavy Gun	2 points
2 <sup>nd</sup> Place in Heavy Gun	1 Point
Winner of Rimfire	2 points
2 <sup>nd</sup> Place in Rimfire	1 Point
1 <sup>st</sup> , 2 <sup>nd</sup> and 3 <sup>rd</sup> in 3 Gun	– 3, 2 & 1 point respectively

Maximum number of points able to be awarded to any individual at any one National Fly Championship is 9. A competitor must amass a total of 12 points for entry into the Fly Hall of Fame.

### 3.11 ADDITIONAL REQUIREMENTS

#### 3.11.1 Random Bench Draw

The Host Branch / Club is to conduct a bench draw in a non-discriminatory (random) manner that neither favours nor disadvantages any competitor deliberately. This bench draw is to be published / posted at least 24 hours prior to the commence of the match, unless otherwise agreed by all competitors at the time of lodging their entries

## **3.12 SPOTTING OR COACHING**

### **3.12.1 A spotter may,:**

Call fall of shot, bring attention to changes to wind flags, weather or mirage conditions, advise the shooter to correct elevation or windage settings on their scope, advise a shooter to stop shooting or continue shooting ("Stop, that third flag has changed" or "It's in the 10 ring! Keep doing that!" "it is 2 inches left & 1 inch low" etc) and draw the shooters attention to remaining time.

### **3.12.2 A spotter may not, without the permission of the Range Officer:**

Coach a shooter, ie adjust the elevation, windage or parallax settings of a shooters rifle scope, advise the shooter specifically where to aim or give specific adjustment advice (i.e. wind 3 clicks left, 1 click up and hold the fly) give the shooter specific firing instructions by spoken word or physical signal ("Shoot Now", "Go On", a shoulder touch or other signal)

3.12.3 Where, in the opinion of the Range Officer or match organisers it is deemed that a shooter has taken advantage of any instruction provided by a spotter in contravention of rule 3.12.2, the Range Officer shall caution those involved once, and, if there is any repetition of the conduct, the competitor/s may be asked to immediately leave the firing line. The matter shall then be referred to the disputes committee by the Range Officer and dealt with under Rule 2.4.2.

APPENDIX 1:

Illustration of FLY target – Note all dimensions are rounded to nearest 0.1mm.  
Target Board 200 GSM Matt

# 500m FLY TARGET

