

**INTERNATIONAL BLACK POWDER MATCH NSWAPA
21 March 2008**

1. Preamble

This match was accepted by Pistol Australia as from 1st July 1984, to enable Black Powder enthusiasts to practice, compete and familiarise themselves with popular International Matches presently being shot.

These rules should be read in conjunction, . *Pistol Australia General Regulations and General Technical Rules for Pistol Shooting* and *Special Technical Rules for the Pistol Australia 25 m and 50 m Black Powder Matches*. These rules as such have no relevance to MLAIC matches and should not be compared to such rules.

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2.0 SAFETY

- 2.1 Smoking or naked flames are not permitted within 10 metres of the firing line. 'NO SMOKING' signs must be clearly exhibited.
- 2.2 Protective Glasses must be worn at all times by competitors and spectators and cannot be taken off until the match is completed.
 - 2.2.1 Common sense to be used here, you can change glasses, remove glasses to look through your scope, but do so within the confines of your shooting bay and replace them immediately. Glasses must be worn at all times while decanting powder
- 2.3 Both eyes must be protected during the loading and firing process regardless of the type of glasses being used. Lifting an occluder or tilting the head to see under the device is not acceptable.
- 2.4 Special shooting glasses with adjustable iris must have a lens to protect the shooting eye.
- 2.5 Other safety protocols can be found in the PA Black Powder rules.
- 2.6 Some clubs may have additional safety rules they wish to implement, these should be stated on the entry form.

3 RANGE AND TARGET STANDARDS.

3.1 SHOOTING DISTANCES

- 3.1.1 The shooting distance is 25.0 m

3.2 TARGETS

- 3.2.1 The ISSF 25/50m precision pistol target will be used
- 3.2.2 Each shooter will have 2 targets.
- 3.2.3 Targets will be set one above the other or side by side so that both are visible at all times.
- 3.2.4 Targets will **not** be marked top, bottom, left, right or 1, 2, targets must be marked with the shooter's name, calibre, and category.

4.0 PISTOLS EQUIPMENT AND AMMUNITION

4.1 Replica Single Shot.

- 4.1.1 Firearm must be a percussion cap single shot pistol with rifled barrel which is an original or a replica of a pre 1900 model pistol. Fore-sight should be pinhead, narrow blade, narrow pyramid or similar. Broad partridge type sights prohibited. Rear sights should have V or U form sight notches. The front sight may be any height to assist aiming but the original profile must be maintained. Sleeved barrels are not permitted.

4.2 Fixed Sight Revolver

- 4.2.1 Firearm to be used must be percussion cap revolver with fixed sights. Production fixed sight percussion cap revolvers are eligible for this category. The sights must be original factory sights. (no modifications allowed except as in (4.2.2)
- 4.2.2 The sights may be altered so that the pistol shoots to the target. Front sight can be adjusted for windage and locked in position before competition.

4.2.2.1 The intent is the groove in the rear of the frame or in the hammer may also be modified but not so as to change its original shape.

4.3 **Adjustable sight revolver.**

4.3.1 Firearm to be used must be a percussion cap revolver which has adjustable sights. A fixed sight percussion cap revolver may be used in this category. If the same pistol is used for both categories the fixed sight match must be shot first.

4.4 **Modern Single Shot.**

4.4.1 Firearm must be a percussion cap single shot pistol which has been altered to exclude it from the Replica Single Shot category. A replica single shot percussion cap pistol may be used in this category. If the same pistol is used for both categories the replica single shot match must be shot first.

4.5 **Flintlock Smooth Bore**

4.5.1 Any original or replica flintlock smooth bore pistol. Sleeved barrels are not permitted.

4.6 **Ammunition**

4.6.1 Projectiles must be "soft" lead.

4.6.1.1 **Explanation** "Soft" lead is used because it can be relatively easily deformed so that chambers are sealed when the projectile is seated. In the case of muzzle loading pistols it can be rammed all the way home onto the powder charge.

4.6.1.2 "Soft" lead will be determined by the Jury member if there is doubt in the mind of the Equipment Control Officer, Range Officer or Competitor. If the Jury member cannot easily groove the projectile with his/her thumb nail then the projectile will be deemed not to be "soft" lead.

4.6.2 Only round ball or traditional conical projectiles may be used.

4.6.2.1 A traditional conical bullet should be of the "Picket" design which has a curved surface tapering to a point from a parallel section which is the bullets major diameter. There is no shoulder of any kind where the curve meets the parallel section.

4.6.2.2 Modern style conical projectiles which are truncated cones which have a small shoulder where the cone meets the parallel section are not permitted.

4.6.2.3 True Round nose projectiles which have no shoulder where the round nose meets the major diameter of the projectile will be allowed.

4.6.2.4 Wadcutter and semi-wadcutter type projectiles are not allowed.

4.7 **BLACK POWDER**

4.7.1 Only factory made Black Powder may be used.

4.7.2 Muzzle loading single shot pistols **must not** be loaded directly from a powder flask or bulk container. Each powder charge must be transferred by separate charge container to muzzle loading pistols.

4.7.3 Pre measured single charge containers may be used.

- 4.7.4 Where filler is used to facilitate the use of reduced charges of black powder, the filler must be an approved inert material. ie: It is not a fire risk.
- 4.7.5 Bulk containers are not permitted on the firing line during the match.
- 4.7.7 Only enough black powder for immediate reasonable use may be brought to the firing line.
- 4.7.8 Unused caps must be covered when firing is in progress.
- 4.7.9 Patching material or wads may be used in single shot pistols but for safety reasons may not be used in revolvers.
- 4.7.10 The loaded chambers of revolvers must be sealed with grease or similar before they are capped.

5.0 **Competition Officials**

- 5.1 Refer *Special Technical Rules for the Pistol Australia 25 m and 50 m Black Powder Matches*

6.0 **SHOOTING PROCEDURES AND COMPETITION RULES.**

- 6.1 The match consists of 13 shots in 30 minutes including loading time.
- 6.2 Best 10 shots to count.
- 6.3 It is suggested that 6 shots will be fired at one target and 7 shots will be fired at the other target but any combination is permitted. ie: 4 on one and 9 on the other but the target may be difficult to score with excessive shots on it. In such cases the decision of the classification office is final.
- 6.4 For muzzle loaders, one fouling shot may be fired (after notifying the Range Officer) at the start of the 30 minutes
- 6.5 Preparation time of 10 minutes will be allowed prior to the start of the competition.
- 6.6 Dry firing and aiming exercises are permitted during preparation time.
- 6.7 No shot or cap may be fired or pistol loaded before the command **“Start”**.
- 6.8 If any series is interrupted, the hammer must be placed in the half cock position and/or pistol made safe. Flintlock pistols must have the powder removed from the pan. The competitor must await further instructions.
- 6.9.# If a shot is fired before the command **“Start”** the competitor **will** be disqualified.
- 6.10# If a shot is fired after the command **“Stop”** the competitor **may** be disqualified.
- 6.11# The timing for each series commences on the command **“Start”** and ceases on the command **“Stop”**.
- 6.12 The shooter must stand free and without support totally within the space provided.
- 6.13 The pistol must be held and fired with the one hand only.

6.14 The wrist must be visibly free of support. Bracelets, wrist watches, wrist bands or similar items which might provide support are prohibited on the hand or arm which holds the pistol.

7.0 **Pre-Match Administration**

7.1 Refer *Special Technical Rules for the Pistol Australia 25 m and 50 m Black Powder Matches*.

7.2 Blank

8.0 **MALFUNCTIONS AND MISFIRES**

8.1 In the event of a misfire the competitor must point his pistol in a safe direction for at least 5 seconds before re-cocking. Revolvers must not be recapped until a total of three attempts have been made to discharge the pistol. All other chambers must be fired before attempting to recap a faulty chamber. No pistol can be recapped before waiting at least 15 seconds.

8.2 Misfires or malfunctions may be cleared by the competitor but if a loaded and capped cylinder needs to be removed to rectify the problem then the Range Officer must be notified so that he can supervise the safe removal and storage of the loaded cylinder.

8.3 Failure to comply with 8.1 will result in a **warning** for the first offence then **disqualification**.

8.4 Failure to comply with 8.2 will result in **disqualification**

8.5 If the competitor cannot clear the problem himself he must notify the Range Officer.

8.6 No extra time is allowed for misfires or malfunctions. Only shots fired will count.

8.7 Unfired shots remaining at the completion of the series/event will be discharged or extracted as directed by the Range Officer.

9.0 **Rules, Conduct, Shooters and Team Officials.**

9.1 Refer *Special Technical Rules for the Pistol Australia 25 m and 50 m Black Powder Matches*

10.0 **Equipment Control**

10.1 When examining pistols, officials should ensure the safety features of the pistol are in working order. ie: Half cock position, the hammer block on Thompson Contenders, (modern single shot) is operating correctly and etc.

11.0 **SCORING Procedures**

11.1 A bullet hole must be at least 50% by diameter across a scoring line to count to the higher scoring zone.

11.2 In discarding the three lowest shots, if a competitor has 9 tens and 4 nines, the three nines **farthest** from the centre of the ten ring are discarded and **marked** so as to ease scoring in a count back situation. ie: **All** discarded shots must be **marked**.

11.3 **EXCESSIVE HITS**

- 11.3.1 Should a competitor fire more than 13 shots on his targets, the highest valued shot/shots will be deducted from one or both targets. The targets will then be scored in the normal manner and a two point penalty deducted for each excessive hit.. The two point penalty/penalties will be deducted from the lowest scoring shot/shots on either target.

11.4 **Gauges**

- 11.4.1 The use of an outward scoring gauge with a flange diameter of 50 mm + 0.05mm - 0.0 mm and a spindle size to suit the calibre will make the scoring of 50% shots quick and accurate.
- 11.4.2 When multiple shots make it difficult to use the outward scoring gauge an approved transparent overlay should be used to reconstruct the line and to score individual shots.

12 **Tie Breaking**

- 12.1 Ties will be broken according to ISSF count back rules, ie: most number of tens, most nines, most eights etc. If the scores are still equal the **farthest scoring** shot from the centre of the ten ring loses.

13 **Media Relations**

- 13.1 Refer *Special Technical Rules for the Pistol Australia 25 m and 50 m Black Powder Matches*
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