

Appendix 2: High Muzzle Energy Procedures

From 1st July 2008, National Rifle Association and MoD approved procedures must be used on MoD ranges when civilians are shooting with firearms where muzzle energy is greater than 4500 joules. These are:

1. The shooter is to be authorised in writing by the Chairman of the appropriate club to fire the specific type of firearm using ammunition generating over 4500J muzzle energy. This will be satisfied by the Certification process that is being implemented from 1st January 2009,
2. For the Zeroing procedure outlined below, the RCO is to be qualified under the NRA RCO (HME) course to conduct civilian shooting on ranges involving firearms and ammunition which generate muzzle energy in excess of 4500J. (Note: no firearm using ammunition with a muzzle energy exceeding 7000J may be used on an MoD range).
 - a) The RCO (HME) is to record in the MoD Form 906, Land Range Log, when a firearm is being used which generates a muzzle energy of more than 4500J.
 - b) Only the issued NRA / MoD approved target is to be used at 200 yds / m or the Bisley Zero Range as appropriate.
 - c) The target is to be attached such that the target centre line is set on the target screen centre line.
 - d) The shooter is to clarify to the RCO (HME) the rifle type and technique he is using.
 - e) A spotter must be appointed to observe the initial fall of shot until the initial strike on the target screen is identified:
 - i. If the strike off the target screen is clearly identified the shooter may adjust and re-fire.
 - ii. If no strike is identified the shooter is to cease fire and report to the RCO (HME) who will not allow the shooter to continue until the weapon has been re-collimated or bore sighted to the RCO (HME)'s satisfaction.
 - f) Rounds on target may be adjusted but only the 5 final rounds are to be counted for the group, one of which may include the final adjusting round.
 - g) All 5 rounds of the final group must be within the box before the shooter may move to a different distance.
 - h) The butt marker is to identify clearly and mark those rounds which were used as sighting rounds and not to be included in the qualifying group.
 - i) Guidance is provided on the NRA / MoD approved target for sight adjustment for different distances subject to achieving a successful group.
 - j) The zeroing procedure is to be carried out on each day the shooter wishes to shoot unless the zeroing is part of an official competition or training where firing is carried out on consecutive days.
 - k) After qualification the target is to be completed and signed by the shooter and the RCO (HME) and retained by the Club for 12 months.
3. Once zeroed using the procedure in 2, the shooter can shoot under the direction of a qualified NRA RCO who may or may not have the HME qualification.