

I.C.F.R.A.

INTERNATIONAL CONFEDERATION OF FULLBORE RIFLE ASSOCIATIONS



RULES & REGULATIONS

for

F-Class RIFLE SHOOTING

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Foreword.

1. These rules, promulgated by the Council of the International Confederation of Fullbore Rifle Associations (hereinafter referred to as ICFRA) apply to all F-Class discipline shooting matches taking place under the auspices of the ICFRA Council, including the World F-Class Championships and all other matches sanctioned as international events under the auspices of the ICFRA Council.
2. Amendments. Proposals for amendments **MUST**, as a very minimum, be authenticated by the National Representative on ICFRA Council and be submitted to the Secretary General for the attention of the F-Class Committee and the ICFRA Rules Review Group.
3. No change may be made to these rules outside the 12 months following to a scheduled F-Class World Championship except as provided in the Management rules for World Championships Rule W6.9. *NOTE: For 2023/4 ONLY, by resolution of the FCC, adjustments may be made outside the above limitation SOLELY for the purposes of managing shooting if electronic targets are in use. See limitation at rule F 5.3.*

ICFRA TECHNICAL RULES OF F-Class RIFLE SHOOTING

F1. DEFINITIONS.

- F1.1. These Rules govern the conduct of international F-Class Rifle matches shot under the auspices or control of ICFRA or for adoption by a member NRA. Specific match conditions for F-Class World Championship Matches are set out in a separate section.
- F1.2. Unless inconsistent with the context, all words and expressions in these rules importing the masculine gender will include the feminine, and words signifying the singular number will include the plural, and *vice versa*.
- F1.3. “May”, “Must”, “Shall”, “Should” and “Will”: -In these rules:
- F1.3.1. “May” is to be construed as being permissive;
 - F1.3.2. “Should” is to be construed as being desirable; and
 - F1.3.3. “Must”, “Shall”, “Will” and “is to” are to be construed as being mandatory.
- F1.4. Units of measurement. Distances may be measured in yards or metres. Where the rules state a range of distances all metric and imperial intermediates are included. Target ring dimensions are measured in millimetres to the outside edge and, although often originally based on metrication of imperial measures, now stand in their own right.
- F1.5. CRO means the duly appointed Chief Range Officer, who will be in sole charge of the range, its safety and management. On all technical rule issues and protests relating to technical rules on the firing point, he will defer to the Match Referee, or Range Committee if either has been appointed under rule F1.5.2 or F1.5.3, but he remains responsible for implementing decisions taken by the Referee. His duties may be discharged in his absence by a duly appointed Deputy Chief Range Officer.
- F1.5.1. RO means a duly appointed Range Officer and assistant to the CRO. The RO will give immediate rulings on all matters arising on the firing point. If uncertain about a rule interpretation or application, the RO must consult with the CRO or his deputy.
 - F1.5.2. The Referee means any person as may be appointed under match conditions to receive and act on all protests concerning the application of these Technical Rules and/or Match Conditions. He has to observe the match in progress and act on any rule infringements he sees or has brought to his attention. Appointment of a Match Referee is obligatory world championships and other international team matches shot under ICFRA Rules, but is optional for national and domestic prize meetings. He will receive representations made during ICFRA matches for future amendments to Match Conditions.
 - F1.5.3. Match Committee means any committee as may be specified under match conditions to oversee the conduct of a match, including discipline and appeals. In the absence of a separately constituted body, or in the case of a prize meeting conducted under ICFRA Rules, it refers to the disciplinary apparatus of the host country NRA.
 - F1.5.4. A Match Director may be appointed under match conditions. His function will be to ensure that the host country has set everything in place for the match in accordance with the Rules and Regulations and the specific match conditions. He will act as official liaison between the organisers and the teams and should be present on the range or electronically contactable for the match period.
 - F1.5.5. Technical Officer (TO) means anyone appointed to manage, or assist with managing, Electronic Targets in use on the range; and multiple TOs may be appointed depending upon the number of targets in use. Such an appointee must be familiar with the equipment in use and must have the skills to assist shooters in setting up and using their monitors and assist (with the register keeper and/or RO) in dealing with any incidental difficulties which may arise in conducting their shoots. He must have:-

- F1.5.5.1. A timepiece synchronised as far as possible with ‘machine time’ (which itself should desirably be ‘local time’) in use by the equipment,
- F1.5.5.2. *Either* his own portable monitoring device *or* ready access to a monitor not in use by either a competitor or a Register keeper.
- F1.5.5.3. And *desirably* a fast charger if competitor-provided monitoring devices are in use.
- F1.5.5.4. A TO has access to the firing point at all times in the course of his duties. He may reset an Electronic Target or move a monitor and he may, after consulting the RO, cause a shot to be deleted from the record.
- F1.5.6. A Chief Technical Officer (CTO) may be appointed to manage all systems aspects of an Electronic Target installation, working with the CRO (and Match Referee if appointed) as appropriate. More than one CTO may be appointed on appropriately large ranges.
- F1.5.7. A Technical Butt Officer (TBO) (or if appropriate more than one) may be appointed if electronic targets are in use mounted in a traditional target pit. His role is to conduct all diagnostic, repair and/or maintenance tasks on the targets in use, and either change the target aiming marks or oversee their change by others when necessitated by a change of distance being fired. The TBO may also assist the (C)RO to try to resolve issues such as ‘missing shots’ that cannot be conclusively resolved by the officials at the firing point. He is to be provided with appropriate radio/communications equipment.
- F1.6. The CRO is responsible to the controlling authorities for all aspects of safety for the duration of the event. The CRO may summarily prohibit the use of any rifle, ammunition, equipment or shooting procedure which in his opinion is unsafe or being used in an unsafe combination or manner. It is desirable that suitable technical expertise should be available to the CRO in the event of dispute.
- F1.7. Any decision made by the controlling authority or the CRO for reasons of safety or security takes precedence over any other paragraph in these Rules with which it conflicts, as do the legislation and regulations of the host country with regard to the safety, handling, possession, transport, assembly and firing of ammunition and firearms, including those specific to a particular range.
- F1.8. It is the personal responsibility of each competitor to ensure that his rifles, ammunition and other equipment comply with the specifications laid out in these rules. He is also responsible for ensuring that his rifles are safe with the ammunition he will use and will not endanger himself or any other person or property. Any organisation conducting a match under these rules may require the competitor indicate in writing that the ammunition has been tested and found safe in the rifle/s to be used, and/or to indemnify ICFRA and the Match organisers against responsibility for any occurrence should his rifle or ammunition (or the combination of the two) fail.
 - F1.8.1. Provision may be made, at a major event, for a pre-check for safety and compliance with these rules of all, or any specified classes, of equipment. At any time during a meeting, a competitor must submit his rifle and/or ammunition for inspection and possible safety testing whenever required.
- F1.9. No competitor may use equipment or shooting methods that provide them with an unfair advantage or put any other competitor at an unfair disadvantage.
- F1.10. The spirit of the F-Class Rules is to encourage innovation, and Match Referees and Committees will bear this philosophy in mind in ruling on issues not covered by these rules.
- F1.11. No competitor will present himself to shoot with his faculties impaired by alcohol or drugs. The Chief Range Officer has the power summarily to prevent any competitor whom he judges for any reason to be in such condition from firing (or continuing to fire).
- F1.12. Changes to Technical Rules and Match Conditions must be complete within one year after the conduct of the relevant Match(es):-

- F1.12.1. Provided always that a change necessitated by safety, security or legislative pressures may be considered on the arising of the issue;
- F1.12.2. And provided that restrictions on a host nation for domestic legislative or insurance reasons are promulgated with match entry forms.
- F1.13. In relation to proposals to amend Technical Rules, proposals should be submitted 9 months in advance of the commencement of the World Championship at which the Committee concerned will meet. This is to allow preliminary consideration out of Committee and proper placing on Agendas.
- F1.14. Proposals for changes must be submitted to the Chairman of the ICFRA F-Class Committee with copies to the Secretary General and IRRG Members. Proposals for changes to (only) future Match Conditions may alternatively be lodged with the Match Referee as provided in F1.6.2.

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F2. TECHNICAL SPECIFICATION of RIFLES and AMMUNITION.

Attention is drawn to rule F1.8 concerning competitors' safety responsibilities

- F2.1. Two main rifle classes are recognized under F-Class rules, Open and F/TR. The differences are in the calibres, rifle maximum weight and rests allowed.
- F2.2. An 'F' Class Open (F/O) rifle may be of any calibre up to and including 8mm and the overall weight must not exceed 10kg including all attachments (such as, but not limited to, its sights and bipod, if any). NB: An 'attachment' is defined as including any external object (other than the competitor, his sling (if any) and his apparel) which recoils (or partially recoils) with the rifle, or which is clamped, magnetically or viscously held, or in any other way joined to the rifle for each shot, or which even slightly rises with the rifle when vertically lifting the latter from its rest(s). This includes rain protection material as described at F3.2.2.
- F2.3. An F/TR Class rifle is limited to .223 Remington or .308 Winchester calibre chambers or their commercial metrification equivalents. Chamber dimensions must conform to SAAMI or CIP dimensions. Bore, Groove and Throat dimensions may be selected to suit bullets used. Ammunition may be commercially made or hand-loaded as defined in Rule F2.20. There is no restriction on bullet weight. The overall weight must not exceed 8.25kg including all attachments (as defined above) such as, but not limited to, its sights, rain protection material and bipod, if any.
- F2.4. The F/O rifle may be supported by a front rest, bag or rest containing (a) bag(s), which may be fully adjustable for position but may not provide a positive mechanical method for returning the rifle to its point of aim for the previous shot; nor may the rifle be supported or guided during recoil by rollers, wheels, or any other mechanical device that comes in direct contact with it. 'Bag' is as defined at F2.8 below. The area of contact between the front rest and the rifle fore-end will not exceed 76mm x 76mm. The F/O front rest may be employed for either the rifle's fore-end or for the shooter's forward hand. If attached, clamped or held onto the rifle in any way, a front rest must be included in the rifle's overall weight. The front rest may have up to three "feet". Each such "foot" may terminate in a spike, which may be pressed into the ground by up to 50mm (about 2") provided this causes no significant permanent harm or indentation to the firing point.
- F2.5. The F/TR rifle may be supported by an attached bipod which may not provide a positive mechanical method for returning the rifle to its point of aim for the previous shot. Each "foot" may terminate in a single spike, which may be pressed into the ground by up to 50mm (about 2") provided this causes no significant permanent harm or indentation to the firing point. A "ski" facilitating free recoil is also permitted. The rifle or bipod may incorporate an integral mechanism for raising and lowering the fore-end. A sling may be additionally used in conjunction with a bipod.
- F2.6. No portion of the rifle's butt or pistol grip may rest on the ground or on any hard surface.
- F2.7. Either specification of rifle may additionally be supported by a rear bag which may be appropriately shaped but may not be attached, clamped or held onto the rifle in any way. It may not be placed on or in a mechanically adjustable base, nor may the rifle butt incorporate any height adjusting mechanism. The rear bag may not be joined to the front rest/bipod, nor may it be spiked to the ground.
- F2.8. The contents of front and rear bags will be a dry, finely (< 5 mm) divided substance such as, but not limited to sand, gravel, or grain, packed loosely enough so that the bag **must** be visibly deformable on sides and top by pressure of the range officer's fingers.
- F2.9. The use of 'tables' i.e. a single flat solid surface laid on the firing point and extending under both front rest and rear bag is prohibited. Carpet or similarly flexible matting may be placed under the front rest and rear bag. Separate rigid flat boards and/or plates not exceeding the dimensions of the individual rests by two inches on any given side may also be placed under the front rest and rear bag. In the case of a bipod the board or plate may be as wide as necessary to accommodate the bipod at its widest point plus 2 inches each side, but not be more than 12" front to rear. It is not permitted to provide tracks for the guidance of bipod feet nor allow the feet to create them. No levelling screws or protrusions are allowed on

these boards or plates. They must be flat on the top and bottom: a hole to facilitate carrying the plate is permissible but it may not be used, whether alone or conjunction with anything else, so as to prevent movement of the plate in the firing point. Nothing in this rule prevents the provision of a raised table at which a disabled competitor may sit pursuant to F2.22 or F6.1.

- F2.10. Rest or bag may be adjusted after any shot, in order to change the point of aim and/or to compensate for the rifle's recoil having caused such things as rest movement and/or sandbag/beanbag settling.
- F2.11. Triggers will be manually operated: electronic, set or "release" triggers are not permitted.
- F2.12. The weight of the trigger pull is unregulated, but must be safe and conform to the requirements of rule F2.13.
- F2.13. A trigger will be deemed "safe" if the sear engages on each occasion when the bolt is slowly and gently closed three times in succession with the barrel pointing upwards. Any failure will lead to the trigger being deemed "unsafe" and the rifle may not be used pending rectification.
- F2.14. Any Range Officer may at his absolute discretion, or on instruction from the Chief Range Officer, test any trigger prior to a shoot.
- F2.15. Any sights may be used (including telescopic sights).
- F2.16. Barrel extensions of any length may be fitted to mount a foresight or act as counterweight, but will be weighed as part of the rifle and will conform to all safety requirements of the host country. Fixed or moveable barrel tuning weights are permitted.
- F2.17. Magazine: In countries where magazines are legal, a magazine - if fitted - will not be used except as a loading platform for single rounds.
- F2.18. Muzzle compensators or muzzle brakes are not permitted.
- F2.19. Sound moderators are not permitted.
- F2.19.1. Chronographs are not allowed while firing sighters or shots to count in any single individual match or distance of a team match or part thereof, as promulgated in a competition's programme, nor when shooting with a competitor who is so doing. Residual Velocity indications to competitors on electronic targets may be switched on on all competition targets subject to Annex B, B5.2.10.
- F2.20. Ammunition may be commercial or handloaded but loaded in a manner consistent with the ammunition industry's accepted standards; must be safe to fire in the rifle for which it is intended and must meet in all respects the limitations of any range regulations (e.g. calibre, velocity, muzzle energy etc.). Even if permitted thereunder, prohibited bullets will be those having a core consisting of steel, hardened material, depleted uranium, incendiary or tracer compounds. Also prohibited are bullets of monolithic construction or those having a discarding jacket/sabot.
- F2.21. Ammunition, once chambered, must be capable of being extracted without separation of bullet from case. In the event of a round of ammunition separating, the matter will be treated as a malfunction and will subject to the provisions of rule F8.3.
- F2.22. A host nation may on application permit such modification to the rifle, clothing or equipment of a physically disabled competitor as may assist him to compete on equal terms with other competitors. See also Rule F6.1.
- F2.23. Competitors are advised that some types of Electronic Target require rounds to remain supersonic when striking the target at the longer ranges and should load ammunition accordingly while recognising the requirements for safety. No relief will be given if his ammunition fails to trigger target sensors. If 'issue ammunition' is in use, it must be of an appropriate specification to remain supersonic at the longest distance of the competition in which it is being shot.

F3. DRESS AND AIDS TO SHOOTING.

- F3.1. Equipment boxes/bags may be taken onto the firing point provided they do not inconvenience other competitors and are not placed so as to shield the competitor, or his rifle, from wind or rain or sun. The maximum permitted height of such shooting box/bag is 300mm.
- F3.1.1. Boxes/bags may be taken to the firing point for the purpose of shading monitoring screens used for electronic targets. They may also be used as an equipment box (or in addition thereto), but are subject to the same restrictions as above. The screen must be in plain view.
- F3.2. Screening. A barrel mirage band is permitted and black or coloured adhesive tape may be applied to the top surface of the barrel. A flexible or rigid cover may be used to prevent dust or rain from getting into the action provided Range Officers can see whether the bolt is open or not. More general cover may be provided by a piece of transparent material not exceeding 1 metre square over the scope and action which:-
- F3.2.1. Similarly does not interfere with the RO's visibility over whether the bolt is open or not,
- F3.2.2. Is attached to the rifle in such a way as to ensure that the material cannot be blown away by wind or muzzle blast: its weight is included with that of the rifle at F2.2 and F2.3.
- F3.2.3. Does not interfere with the shooter's partner or his equipment.
- F3.2.4. Personal shooting 'tents' are not permitted, nor are transparent tunnels unattached to the rifle for cover against the weather.
- F3.3. Personal wind indicating or measuring devices of any description are forbidden on the firing point or visible from the firing point. "Wind Correction Tables" in printed form, or as "slide rules" are permitted. National or Team flags, flown at the back of the Team Area are not considered a contravention of this rule.
- F3.4. Any person within the butts, or close enough to the firing range to risk damage to their hearing, must use adequate ear protection (such as ear defenders or ear plugs) at all times when shooting is taking place.

F4. SQUADDING

- F4.1. Squadding will be done within a structure designed to equalise, so far as is possible, the variable effects of time of day and position on the range over all competitors and within an individual's schedule for the match or series of matches as the case may be. The same considerations apply to the squadding of teams.
- F4.2. Competitors in individual competitions may be squadded to shoot singly, or in groups of two or three occupying one target simultaneously according to the standing practice of the host country, unless match conditions state otherwise. (See Section F.13).
- F4.3. It is permissible to use a "seeded" squadding for the final of a major championship shot in stages *either* for presentational purposes *or* to ensure leading contenders are together and are subject to similar weather while not being at an advantage over others. Any seeded squadding method must be pre-approved by the Match Committee.

F5. TARGETS.

- F5.1. Targets will be as specified in the conditions of competition. World Records may only be set during World Championships on the targets specified for the World Championships.
- F5.2. Specifications for the ICFRA International F-Class Targets (IIFT) are laid out at ANNEX B. These will be used for all team and individual world championships, and other international team matches shot under ICFRA Rules.
- F5.3. Electronic targets may be used subject to the provisions of Annex F/B, B5 together with sufficient technical support. For a World Championship this is subject to prior explicit approval of FCC.

- F5.3.1. In respect of team and individual competition shooting in any form of squadding, a ten (10) second delay in the presentation on the monitor of the last shot fired should be used. See also Annex F/ B B.5.2.11.

F6. CONDUCT OF SHOOTING.

- F6.1. For Fullbore F-Class events the prone position only must be used, unless special provisions exist in the match conditions for disabled competitors and where range safety regulations so permit. The bipod legs or the rear leg/legs of a front rest must be behind, but (taking into account the condition of the firing point) as close as possible to the line or row of numbers defining the forward edge of the firing point. The muzzle of the rifle **MUST** protrude over the forward edge as defined, and must be well forward of the ears of neighboring competitors. While the shooter must present himself to the rifle in the normal prone position it is not a requirement for the butt plate to be placed in the shoulder.
- F6.2. A competitor may not screen himself or his rifle from the sun or weather while shooting, except as provided in rule F3.2. For team matches see Section F14. "While shooting" means "from the moment of presenting the rifle for his first (sighting) shot until after the discharge of his last shot to count excepting only periods when the target is unavailable by virtue of a (C)RO "cease fire" or a target malfunction notified from the butts." In team matches teams may provide shelter for coaches and shooters during such a suspension: such shelter must be removed when the (C)RO orders a resumption.
- F6.3. When on the firing point a competitor must comply with all orders given by the CRO or by any assistant acting under his orders.
- F6.4. No competitor may move himself or his equipment forward onto the firing point until authorised to do so by the CRO. In all competitions the CRO will allow a minimum of five minutes between calling competitors forward and giving the order to commence firing.
- F6.5. Firing may be suspended temporarily by order of the Chief Range Officer, if in his opinion the weather makes such suspension necessary; or for safety reasons. (Shooting **MUST** be suspended in the case of lightning.) Firing will be resumed as soon as possible, at the CRO's discretion. Rule F6.6. applies.
- F6.6. If a competitor's firing, through no fault of his own, has been interrupted in the opinion of the CRO for five minutes or more, the competitor may, after notifying the register keeper, fire one non-convertible sighting shot before resuming. In team shooting the sighting shot is **NOT** transferable to another team member.
- F6.7. The CRO may transfer a competitor to another target in the same detail, either before he begins to shoot or if the target breaks down. If the competitor has fired one or more shots (whether sighting or to count), he will be entitled to an optional, non-convertible sighter before resuming exactly where he left off. Squads shooting 'single string' may be redistributed to other targets at the RO's discretion.
- F6.7.1. If a competitor is transferred either before firing his first sighter or for a reshoot he does not get three sighters under F6.7 above.
- F6.8. **Coaching.** In individual competitions, competitors whilst on the firing point, may spot for each other but must **NOT** give or willingly receive any information or advice in the nature of wind coaching whether from a fellow shooter on the same target or from any third party. No personal electronic device(s) may be taken to the firing point except timers and electronic earmuffs (which must **NOT** be able to receive wireless transmissions). Electronic equipment provided by the organisers, or explicitly permitted by them, for the purposes of electronic targetry or spectator information systems are permitted, as are implanted medical devices. Where wireless personal devices are explicitly permitted for the receipt and display of electronic target information, the screens of such devices are liable to view by the Register Keeper or a Range Officer on demand and at any time.
- F6.8.1. It is **NOT** regarded as coaching to assist a competitor to obtain his first hit on the target, nor to spot for a strike for a shot following a 'miss' though **NO** advice may be given after the first hit has been obtained. It is permissible, providing only minimal delay is incurred, to make enquiry of a marker as to the position of a strike on the butt stop: but this is at the shooter's own risk.

- F6.8.2. If an allegation of receipt of unauthorised coaching is made during a shoot, and is contested, the CRO or Referee will allow the individual (or team) to continue ‘under protest’ until the Match Committee can meet. This Meeting must take place at the first possible opportunity.
- F6.9. The following only are allowed both within the Competitors’ Area and or on the firing points (see Annex A):
- F6.9.1. Staff on range duty,
 - F6.9.2. Competitors required for firing or otherwise taking part in the competition,
 - F6.9.3. Persons authorised to assist in the conduct of the competition,
 - F6.9.4. Officially accredited team members and reserves in accordance with the conditions of the match being shot,
- The following are allowed within the Competitors’ Area but are not allowed onto the firing point without the prior permission of the CRO:
- F6.9.5. VIPs and others with ‘Field of Play’ accreditation, escorted on behalf of the CRO.
 - F6.9.6. Officially accredited Media Representatives, who will be subject to rule F6.10 and all appropriate safety limitations.
- F6.10. No person is allowed to make any noise or disturbance likely to affect a competitor. The RO may have any person infringing this regulation removed from the vicinity of the firing point.
- F6.11. **“Retirement”**. A competitor ‘retires’ when he voluntarily ceases to fire before being required to do so by the rules or conditions of the competition. When a competitor retires from an individual competition he will not be allowed to resume firing at that distance but will be allowed to count the score that he has actually made. Retirement at one distance of the competition does not debar a competitor from firing at any subsequent distance(s). The competitor must notify the RO of his intention, and must hand in his scorecard suitably endorsed. Unless retiring due to some unforeseen emergency, the competitor must discharge his register keeping duties or, if squadded in threes, he may, with RO’s approval, switch scorecards so that the other two can act as register keeper for one another.
- F6.12. It is permissible for organisers to provide temporary or (if range conformation allows) permanent shelter for firers. This may only be provided if ALL shooters receive shelter for all details at the distance in question; and provided that there are no adverse implications for range or shooter safety. Whether or not shelter is provided, Rule F6.2 continues to apply. In providing such shelter organisers should ensure as far as possible that an artificial ‘wind break’ for upwind shooters is not created. Individual shooters or teams may not take up objects, such as umbrellas, onto the firing point for the provision of shelter for shooters, but see also F14.18 in respect of teams.
- F6.13. Any cables attached to Electronic Target Monitors must be laid flat on the ground. In single string firing, the individual(s) moving a monitor for a new firer MUST check that his rifle is unloaded and MUST NOT step over the firer’s body or rifle. If necessary to meet this requirement assistance should be sought from a second individual.

F7. SAFETY PRECAUTIONS.

- F7.1. Competitors MUST ensure the safety of their rifle and ammunition. The CRO or his staff must investigate the cause of difficult opening or closing of the bolt or cartridge extraction, blown primers, blow-back, case separation or splitting or any other signs of excess pressure.
- F7.2. A competitor MUST:-
- F7.2.1. stop firing immediately if he suspects that the ammunition he is using is producing dangerous pressures in his firearm.
 - F7.2.2. draw the attention of the Range Officer to the continued use of apparently dangerous ammunition by any competitor including himself. The cumulative effect of cartridges producing excessive pressures can lead to firearm failure

even in cases where one or more rounds have been discharged without apparent damage or danger.

- F7.3. At all times, the RO MUST, if he sees or has brought to his attention a competitor having difficulty because his ammunition is producing signs of excessive pressure or for any other reason, order the firer to cease firing temporarily and immediately report the matter to the Chief Range Officer and to the Match Referee (if one has been appointed). The CRO, or the RO at his direction, will:-
- F7.3.1. Ensure that the competitor does not inconvenience or endanger others, by making him wait until others on his target (if any) have completed their shoots;
 - F7.3.2. Examine the competitor's fired cartridge cases for signs of high pressures. If the cases show the signs of excessive pressure, the CRO must not allow the competitor to fire again unless he changes his ammunition. This does not preclude the CRO authorising completion of the shoot with safe equipment or ammunition. Changes of rifle are also governed by Rule F8.1.
- F7.4. All rifles, whether in bags/cases or not, must at all times and in all places on the range be carried in "safe condition". Dependent on the host country regulations, this can either be with bolt removed or by displaying an 'Empty Chamber Indicator' ("ECI", often called a breech flag) inserted (or both). An ECI MUST be of sufficient length to penetrate at least 20mm into the chamber and of overall length appropriate to the action.
- F7.5. No rifle may be loaded or fired until the CRO has given the order to load and carry on. Any RO may give an order to cease firing at any time for any safety-related reason. If any person on the range considers that there is a potential or actual breach of safety which urgently requires all competitors to stop firing he will immediately give the order "cease fire, cease fire". All competitors must immediately stop firing, take their finger off the trigger, unload or refrain from loading (as the case may be), and await further instructions. No-one may move off the firing point. The person ordering the stop, if not himself the Range Officer (RO), must immediately explain his action to the RO so that the RO may take effective control of the situation.
- F7.6. Neither aiming nor dry firing an unloaded rifle is allowed except when in the firing position on the firing point, and then only with the (C)RO's permission if it would be in all respects safe actually to fire, and provided it causes no delay.
- F7.6.1. If a shot is fired at a target exposed under the (C)RO's control for adjustment of sights prior to shooting:-
 - F7.6.1.1. The shot will not be marked, will be recorded as a miss first sighter and will not be repeated,
 - F7.6.1.2. A penalty of five points will be automatically deducted from the shooter's total score for the distance concerned,
- Rule F19.5.3 is available if there are any aggravating features.
- F7.7. A competitor who, whilst on the firing point, accidentally discharges his rifle will not be allowed to repeat his shot and the shot will be recorded as a miss. He may be considered to have acted in a dangerous manner under rule F19.5.4 if applicable.
- F7.8. Any competitor acting in a dangerous manner will be forbidden to fire until the CRO is satisfied that he will no longer act in a dangerous manner.
- F7.9. The rifle of every competitor must be inspected by the competitor's register keeper immediately after firing at every distance in accordance with rule F 10.7. A competitor who fails to present his rifle for inspection whether called on to do so or not, may be considered as "acting in a way that might prove dangerous".
- F7.10. If a live round is jammed in a rifle chamber, but the bolt can be removed, the competitor must leave the rifle pointed towards the butts and call for the RO to arrange for the removal of the cartridge. Under no circumstances should an attempt be made to remove the round with a cleaning rod. After removal of the cartridge, the competitor will be permitted to continue his shoot. If the action locks on a live round and the bolt cannot be removed, the rifle must be left on the firing point, pointed towards the targets, until the range is clear. An

armourer must then be called to make the rifle safe. A cartridge extractor, cleaning rod or other means may be used to extract a **spent** cartridge case, either by the shooter or some other person, with minimum disturbance to neighbouring competitors.

- F7.11. In the event of more than one failure under rule F7.1 or a need repeatedly to artificially extract spent cases, the Range Officer must consider the possibility (among others) of the use of unsafe ammunition as provided for under Rules F7.2 and F7.3.
- F7.12. If a misfire occurs, the competitor should be aware of the possible danger of a hang-fire. The RO must be called immediately, whilst the rifle remains pointed towards the targets. After waiting at least 30 seconds, the competitor may then turn the rifle on its side, so that the loading port faces the ground, and open the bolt. The competitor must ensure that his fingers and all other parts of his body are not behind the bolt. It is the responsibility of the RO to ensure that no one is standing behind, should the bolt be blown out. On no account must a round that has misfired be reloaded into the rifle. If the case is ejected without the bullet in place the RO MUST look down the barrel to ensure no projectile is lodged in the rifling.

F8. RIFLES and AMMUNITION – MISHAPS and TESTING.

- F8.1. During the course of an Individual Match, a competitor may not change his rifle unless it (or its sight) becomes unsafe or unserviceable and only if the RO or Referee verifies this to be so. Deteriorating grouping ability of the rifle due to barrel fouling or any other non visible cause will not be considered a malfunction.
- F8.1.1. In F(O) class the rifle may be replaced by another of any calibre allowed under rule F2.2 or the same calibre but different chamber.
- F8.1.2. In F(TR) a switch to the other permitted calibre (.223 REM or .308WIN) is allowed
- F8.1.3. If the switch occurs after the first shot to count in a string of shots, a further sighter is NOT permitted.
- F8.1.4. For changes of rifle in Team Matches see F14.12.
- F8.2. A shot has not been fired until the striker has functioned and the bullet has left the barrel. If a bullet exits the muzzle, it will, for scoring purposes, be considered as a shot properly fired, unless the shot has been discharged deliberately for safety reasons at the request of the RO or other Range official.
- F8.3. If a shooter suffers a malfunction (which includes separation of a round) when shooting as a pair he must pass his turn to his partner after 45 seconds from the (re)raising of the target. He may do so only once and if after 90 seconds he is unable to take his turn Rule F8.4 will apply. The consequent single-string firing by his partner and by himself on resumption will be conducted:-
- F8.3.1. If on electronic targets, with the standard delay applicable to single string, if any, or
- F8.3.2. If on manually marked targets with a minimum frequency of one shot on each 30 second period.
- F8.4. The CRO or RO, if satisfied that it can be done with safety, may permit a competitor to leave the firing point to rectify a mishap to his rifle, or to change his rifle or ammunition in accordance with rules F8.1 or F7.3.2 (as appropriate) and complete his shoot within the period of his detail or time available to his squad in single-string shooting, once the other competitors on his target have completed their shoot (or as the CRO may direct). An additional sighter will not be permitted. In single string shooting the time elapsed at the moment of rifle failure should be noted, and the shooter will have the balance of time remaining to him in which to fire his remaining shots. No extension will be given to a Team's allotted time in team shooting.
- F8.5. A competitor who suffers a malfunction to his rifle which cannot be rectified on or behind the firing point may, if timings and target availability permit, be re-squadded. This is at the absolute discretion of the CRO. The competitor's score to date will stand, and he will be permitted one optional non-convertible sighter.

- F8.6. A RO may at his sole discretion (or in accordance with the CRO's direction) test any trigger of any competitor's rifle immediately prior to him shooting or following a rectification under rule F8.4 above, or following a shoot before the scorecard has been accepted.
- F8.7. Before testing, both the competitor and the RO must check to see that the rifle is unloaded. A 'snap cap' may be inserted in the chamber under supervision.
- F8.8. All trigger tests are to be made by a RO or, under his supervision, by the competitor or some other person delegated by the RO or requested by the competitor. A shooter must be permitted to conduct the test under supervision if he so requests: but the RO has the subsequent right himself also to test if not satisfied. The format of the test is given at rule F2.13.
- F8.9. If a trigger fails the test, five penalty points will be deducted from the competitor's score and the RO will amend the scorecard accordingly.

F9. SIGHTING SHOTS and CONVERTIBLE SIGHTING SHOTS.

- F9.1. Sighting shots will be fired in accordance with the conditions of the match. The ICFRA standard is two convertible sighting shots at every distance of the match, both for individual and team competitions. The standard for tie shoots is two sighters excepting only if 'extra tie shots' are being fired immediately upon completion of the initial shoot in accordance with match conditions, when there will be none.
- F9.2. A competitor who cannot tell the position of a convertible sighting shot, owing to the display of two (or more) spotting discs, may elect to accept the one of higher value or, alternatively, may request permission from the RO to repeat the shot, which, if originally convertible remains convertible. If he does so, the RO will declare the previous shots on the target null and void. If any other shot is known to be a shot out of turn by another competitor squadded on the same target, that competitor will have no relief, and the value will be as in Rule F11.3. In respect of a non-convertible sighter, the shooter may carry on regardless or request permission from the RO to repeat the shot.
- F9.3. After a competitor has fired his second (or only if match conditions specify one) sighting shot, he may elect to count the sole sighting shot, or the second sighting shot, or both when there have been two, in his score. He must declare his intention to his register keeper BEFORE any further shot is fired by him. In the absence of such declaration, he will be deemed NOT to have converted his sighting shots. The register keeper is to acknowledge any conversions.
- F9.4. Except as provided at F9.1 above or F11.1 below, all extra sighting shots provided for in these rules are optional and non-convertible. Unless a competitor declares *before* shooting his shot, that he is taking a permitted extra sighter, he will be deemed to have fired 'on score'.
- F9.5. If 'blow-off' shots are called for under Match Conditions and can safely be provided, they are to be fired as aimed shots into the stop butt, the rifle having previously been safely loaded. They will be conducted under the control of the (C)RO and no targets should be displayed.
- F9.6. In the event of a break in shooting taking place after a shooter has fired his first convertible sighter of two, his non-convertible extra sighter remains non-convertible, but the original sighter retains its convertible status.

F10. REGISTER KEEPING.

- F10.1. In individual competitions, competitors squadded in pairs or threes will exchange scorecards and each will act as register keeper for the competitor firing immediately after him. In the case of a competitor firing by himself despite pairs or threes being in use, the RO must detail a register keeper. Arrangements for competitors shooting in single string will be in accordance with Section F13.

- F10.2. Unless using a monitor electronically displaying outcomes from the target in question every register keeper must use either the telescopic sight of his rifle (if appropriate) or a spotting telescope or binoculars powerful enough to clearly see the lines dividing the scoring areas on the target.
- F10.3. For each shot, the register keeper must first confirm that the spotting disc agrees with the value signalled. He must then call out the result, promptly, loudly and clearly, giving the target number, (or the competitor's name), followed by the shot number, the colloquial name for the scoring zone, and the points value. e.g. "Mr. Smith, third to count, bull(seye), five", or the equivalent in the local vernacular. If the spotting disc disagrees unmistakably with the value signalled, the competitor or the register keeper must at once inform the RO who will ascertain the value of the shot.
- F10.4. If the competitor decides to convert one or both sighting shots, the value/s must be struck through with a diagonal line and transferred to the boxes for the first, or first and second, counting shot(s) as the case may be. Any scoring spaces left blank, crossed through or written "C" will count zero: only the shots recorded in the scoring boxes will be counted. Examples are:-

V	V	V	V	5	5	4	V	V	5	4	5	48.4
4	V	V	5	V	5	4	V	V	5	4	5	48.4
V	4	V	V	5	5	4	V	V	5	4	5	48.4

(Line 1: both converted, Line 2: only second sighter converted, Line 3: Neither sighter converted).

- F10.5. The competitor must pay attention to the scores called out by the register keeper and immediately bring any error to the attention of the register keeper.
- F10.6. On completion of the shoot, the register keeper must record and call out the total score for that distance, including the number of V-Bulls. A decimal point must be used to separate the score and the number of Vs (e.g. 48.4). At the final distance of a match, he must also enter and call out the total score and total number of Vs. After conducting the safety check outlined in Rule F10.7 he must then sign the scorecard and complete any other required details.
- F10.7. Before handing the card to the competitor for checking and signature, the register keeper must visually confirm that the competitor's rifle is safe. The bolt MUST if possible be removed to allow the register keeper to look down the barrel from the breech end, failing which the register keeper MUST probe with special care with an ECI (breech flag). Once this is done, the competitor must either leave the bolt out, or replace it with an ECI (breech flag) inserted into the chamber (or both), according to the local rules. The register keeper will then certify the rifle as safe in the space provided on the competitor's scorecard. The competitor must check and initial his card as having been correctly filled in (see Rule F10.10). It is the responsibility of the competitor to hand his card to the RO or to some other person detailed by the RO immediately on completion of his shoot. If a competitor leaves the firing point with an "unsafe" rifle, both he and his register keeper are liable to be penalised.
- F10.8. Any alteration of a score must be initialled by the register keeper. The RO must verify all such alterations with the register keeper. No erasure is permitted on any score card. Errors must be corrected by striking them out, writing in the correct values, with the scorer initialling the changes.
- F10.9. Where a target with a bullseye value of 10 (or 6) is in use, a miss must be entered on the scorecard as the letter "M". This is to avoid the danger of a 0 being fraudulently altered to a 10 (or a 6, as the case may be).
- F10.10. Any objections to the score entered on the competitor's scorecard must be made by the competitor on the firing point at the time. No competitor has the right to object at any subsequent time.
- F10.11. The register keeper is responsible for ensuring that all scores are completed in ink. Pencil is not allowed, except when shooting in the rain.

F10.12. Where Electronic Targets are in use Register keepers are still to be provided/detailed, and a manual record must still be kept. The Register keeper (or a Range or Technical Officer) alone has the right to reset (or supervise the reset of) the scoring monitor after completion of a shoot and will do so **ONLY** after the score has been agreed and signed for. Where competitors are shooting singly, the Register keeper will initiate and as far as possible resolve shooting queries such as unexpected shots appearing or unexplained misses. He will work with the Range or Technical Officer as necessary. The scorecard or other record should be carefully endorsed if a competitor's score differs from the nominal electronic record (e.g. by the arrival of a cross-shot or a shot out of turn). The manual scorecard will have primacy in determining scores and outcomes, unless the target system in use has capability to compile scores and aggregates on-line, in which case the score entered into the monitor on the firing point shall take precedence.

F11. TARGET IRREGULARITIES.

F11.1. If at the moment at which a competitor fires, his target is moved in such a manner as to falsify the result of his shot and this can be evidenced to the satisfaction of the RO, he will cancel this shot and order the competitor to fire another in place of it. The Competitor **MUST** a) Make the claim before the target is re-exposed and b) immediately call the range officer. The range officer will make enquiry of the shooter's partner(s), register keeper or scorer as appropriate and may make enquiry of the butt marker through the butt officer. A high strike on the target will not, of itself, be evidence that the target moved. If the shot concerned is a convertible sighter, the replacement shot will also be convertible.

F11.2. In all competitions, a competitor who fires at the wrong target will be credited with a miss for each shot so fired.

F11.3. A competitor who fires out of his proper turn at his own target will have one point deducted from the value of the shot, so long as this does not create a negative score for that shot. A V-bull or bull will be scored as an inner. This applies both to counting and sighting shots. If in the circumstances of his shot out of turn two (or more) shots strike the target the value credited to him will be one point deducted from the shot of highest value unless the competitor, whose proper turn it was to shoot, has also fired during the same exposure. The deduction will then be from the shot of second highest value.

F11.4. Once the called value of a shot has been accepted, or any query has been resolved, it remains "final". If the target subsequently goes down and a new shot is signalled without any of the competitors allocated to it having fired, that value will **NOT** be credited to any of them, even if a cross-shot from a nearby target cannot be established.

F12. MARKING and SCORING.

A. Marking in the Butts

F12.1. The system of signalling commonly employed in the host country may be used. Where no system is already established in host country rules, or a country changes to ICFRA standard, one of the systems at Annex F/C is to be applied.

F12.2. A shot on the non-scoring area will be signalled as for a miss and by a spotting disc, if possible. If the shot is on the target but a spotting disc cannot be inserted it is permissible for the butts to inform the RO of its position and for the competitor to be informed thereof.

F12.3. A spotting disc that has been hit must be patched before it is re-used.

F12.4. A shot that misses the target will be signalled by the removal of the value panel and the target sent up "clear"(i.e. previous spotting disc removed and hole patched):-

F12.4.1. if the marker lowers the target, being sure (whether or not correctly) that a shot has been fired at his target, or

F12.4.2. after a radio or telephone message calling for the target and spotting disc to be examined. The Butt Officer should, if possible, supervise "examinations".

F12.5. A ricochet will be signalled as a miss. No spotting disc will be shown. A shot will not be deemed as a ricochet unless it gives evidence, by throwing sand or dirt against the target or into the gallery, that it has previously struck the ground. An elongated hole is not, by itself,

evidence of a ricochet. In all cases where a ricochet is suspected, the butt officer is to be called to adjudicate. In the event of an elongated hole the point closest to the centre of the target will determine the point of impact for scoring and marking purposes.

- F12.6. If, on lowering the target, two (or more) shot holes are apparent, that having the higher value will be signalled but all shots will be shown by spotting discs.
- F12.7. When a shot touches the line between two divisions of the target, the competitor will be credited with the higher value. In case of doubt a gauge of 7.82mm diameter (=0.308 inches) will be used (regardless of the actual calibre in use) to determine the value of the shot. The ruling by a Butt Officer will be final.
- F12.8. A competitor may challenge the signalled value of a shot, whether for a hit, a further hit or for different value, by so indicating to the RO (See also F12.15 and F12.16). On a challenge being received the target is to be lowered. The butt officer's disc/flag will be shown above the mantlet by the marker. The butt officer (whose decision is final) will then personally examine the target, gauging the shot hole if necessary, after which:
- F12.8.1. If a challenge for a hit, the shot (if found) or a miss will be signalled.
 - F12.8.2. If a challenge for a further hit, any further shot found will be marked and signalled. If no additional shot is found the target will be sent up with the original spotting disc in place.
 - F12.8.3. If a challenge for a different value, or a report that the spotting disc disagrees with the signalled value, the correct value will be signalled whether it has been altered or not.

The outcome will also be communicated to the RO who will relay it to the shooter.

- F12.9. Messages between firing point and butts should be in accordance with national practice. Where no standing practice exists, or following review, the system of abbreviated messages laid out at Annex F/D sets the ICFRA standard.
- F12.10. The only means of communication between the butts and the firing point is to be that formally used by the Range and Butts Officers. While firing is actually taking place no person in the butts is to use any other means of communication that could be contacted by any person in sight of the firing point. In particular, mobile/cell phones must be switched off (or put in 'airline mode') by all personnel in the butts and those within 20m of the firing point except those on the firing point as provided for in Rules T6.10 and T14.11 in respect of electronic target displays.
- F12.11. It is permissible for Butt Officers to redistribute markers between targets during a break in shooting.

B Scoring on the firing point

MANUALLY MARKED TARGETS

- F12.12. If the target shows two (or more) spotting discs the shot having the higher value will be signalled and credited to the competitor who has fired at the target in proper turn. If the shot in question is a convertible sighter, Rule F9.2 applies. If it is a shot to count or a non convertible sighter the competitor will be entitled to an optional, non-convertible sighting shot. In either case, if taken the additional shot is to be fired at once and **MUST** be nominated to the register keeper and any other competitors on the target before being fired.
- F12.13. If the spotting disc disagrees unmistakably with the value signalled, the competitor or register keeper must at once inform the RO who will ascertain the value of the shot by means of ICFRA Message 3. It is not permitted for the shooters on the target to agree amongst themselves that it is a marking error and score accordingly. No more shots are to be fired at that target until the value has been ascertained and signalled.
- F12.14. Anyone who sees such an unmistakable disagreement in the value of a spotting disc, on any target, to which there has been no call for rectification, is obliged to immediately call it to the attention of the RO.

- F12.15. If the target is not lowered after a shot is fired at it, the competitor, his register keeper, or the next competitor to fire must ask the RO to have the target marked.
- F12.16. The signalled value of a shot (or a miss if so signalled or notified) may be challenged once only before any other shot is fired at the same target. The competitor must notify the register keeper and the next competitor due to fire (if not himself) that he intends to challenge, and the register keeper must initial any consequent change in value recorded on the scorecard. An unsuccessful challenge may become liable for a Fee under Rule F12.19. When using manually marked targets provisions for a ‘provisional shot’ at Rule F12.28 do NOT apply.
- F12.17. If a competitor believes the shot marked on the target was not the one he fired he may call for the target and spotting disc to be examined for a further hit (ICFRA Message 6 or equivalent). If a second hit is found he will receive that value. If no additional hit is found he will receive the value of the original shot marked. If no additional shot is found he will be liable to a challenge fee as in F12.20.
- F12.18. If there is any uncertainty as to the true value of a shot, the RO will communicate with the butt officer by radio or telephone to confirm the true value, and the competitor will be credited with the true value. Where a spotting disc appears not to have moved, a competitor or register keeper may check that this reflects the arrival of a shot extremely close to its predecessor by means of ICFRA Message 8 or its equivalent.
- F12.19. If the circumstances are such that the signalled value of a shot cannot be verified at once, or without considerable delay, the competitor will, unless the RO decides otherwise, be credited with the signalled value.
- F12.20. It is the prerogative of the organisers to decide whether there should be a challenge fee and, if so, the amount. No fee is payable if the challenge is upheld.
- F12.21. No competitor may, under any circumstances, knowingly claim or accept points which he has not made, or connive at any such conduct by another competitor.
- F12.22. In all competitions all targets will remain fully exposed until the completion of all shooting at that distance. ICFRA Message 11 or its equivalent should then be given. The CRO may, however, order individual targets to be lowered on completion if the weather is such that the targets need protection.
- F12.23. The CRO or a RO may not go to the butts to inspect a target or allow an assistant or any competitor to do so.
- F12.24. All messages and results to and from the butts will be confirmed by radio or telephone.

ELECTRONIC TARGETS (NB: See also F10.12 regarding manual records)

- F12.25. Any Register Keeper who sees an unexpected shot appear on their monitor MUST warn his shooter that he must hold fire, and then MUST notify the Range Officer immediately. The value will NOT be credited to the shooter in question. The Register keeper will make a note of shot value and the number of the shot displayed as a consequence on the reverse of the card. As soon as the Range Officer has acknowledged the notification, the register keeper must allow his (or the next) shooter to continue.
- F12.25.1. If the shooter fires despite the warning, he will be credited with the value of the second (i.e. higher-numbered) shot to arrive.
- F12.25.2. If a shooter fires a shot and a second shot arrives following the audio and/or visual acknowledgement by the target, he is to receive the value of the first (i.e. lowest numbered) shot of the two displayed. If, and only if, the shots arrive in succession so quickly that the register keeper is uncertain as to which was fired first (and the ET administrative tools do not provide a decisive conclusion), then the shooter will be credited with the higher of the two values signalled. In either case the Register keeper MUST draw attention to the double hit in accordance with Rule F12.25 above.
- F12.26. The situation at F12.25.2 above is equivalent to the ‘display of two spotting discs’ and hence if the shot in question is a convertible sighter, Rule F9.2 applies. If it is a shot to count or a non-convertible sighter Rule F12.12 applies. In either case, if taken, the additional shot is to

be fired at once and MUST be nominated to the register keeper and any other competitors on the target before being fired.

- F12.27. In the event that a shot is fired which is not recorded by the Electronic Target, the register keeper must call the Range Officer.
- F12.27.1. If the electronics have the capability to record an off-target miss and so indicate in response to a shot, then a miss (0) will be credited to the shooter's sighters/score without further interrogation.
- F12.27.2. Failing which, the Range Officer or Technical Officer on his behalf, assisted if necessary by the register keeper, will make immediate enquiry of adjoining firing points as to whether any target has registered an unexpected shot. He will take particular note of any declarations already made under F12.25 or F12.26 above.
- F12.27.3. Any timely cross shot established under F12.27.1 above will result in a miss being awarded to the firer, who will continue his shoot with a score of 0 for the shot in question.
- F12.28. If 'Open Box' Electronic Targets are in use, the Range Officer must bear in mind the possibility of a shot having been fired on an adjoining target (either side) effectively simultaneously with (but, technically, fractionally before) the unrecorded shot. If, taking all the circumstances into account, he judges this to be a significant probability he will order the shooter to fire a 'provisional shot'. This shot will be immediate (single-string) or in due turn (Bisley Shooting) as the case may be. The card is to be marked with a 0 for the shot in question, with the value of the provisional shot (preceded by the letter "P") written immediately above it.
- F12.28.1. If the provisional shot hits the target the shooter will continue the shoot and the Range Officer will make a final determination on completion of the shoot. The order of counting the shots for scoring purposes is at F15.2.
- F12.28.2. If the provisional shot also misses but partners in Bisley Shooting are scoring hits, then the competitor will be deemed to have missed twice, and the shoot will continue. If Single-string is in use the Range Officer and/or Register keeper will check with the shooter a) that his sights are properly set and securely attached to the rifle and b) that he is using ammunition which may reasonably be expected to be supersonic on arrival at the target. Also, the range officer will check the monitor or with the TBO to ensure that the previous hit was not a 'frame hit' as determined by the electronics (in which case damage to the sound systems may have occurred). The shooter will be moved to a working spare Target and will fire a further shot. If this further shot ...
- F12.28.2.1. Hits: It will be regarded as a non convertible sighter, for the continuation of the shoot with scoring continuing from the point reached prior to the first miss, in accordance with rule T6.9.
- F12.28.2.2. Misses: The Shooter will, if range rules so allow, fire one only further shot, being required to retire under Rule F13.31 if it misses, and counting it as a single non-convertible sighter if it hits: in which case his previous misses will count for score.
- F12.28.2.3. The original target will be checked for functionality, preferably by firing one or more shots from an expert shooter with his sights properly set.

First Shoot of the day

- F12.29. In respect of any target for which the non-recorded shot is the first shot received by the target either in the day or since coming online, then such checks as are available to test functionality (which will include checking the shooter's sights and may include the firing of a shot by an expert shooter with correct elevation and wind adjustment set) should be carried out.

Missed first sighters

- F12.30. In respect of any target which has been previously recording and displaying shots.
- F12.30.1. If the shot in question is a first sighting shot and a cross shot is not established under the procedure at F12.27 the Range Officer and Register keeper will make the necessary enquiries to ascertain that the shooter has the correct elevation for the distance in question and is using suitable ammunition, together with an (approximate) suitable wind correction: and that the rifle sights are properly and securely attached to the rifle. If these are all correct (or have been corrected as a result of the enquiry) the shooter will be credited with a missed first sighter and directed to fire again (immediately in Single string; in due turn in Bisley Shooting): the register keeper and/or partners will be permitted to spot for an off-target strike. The shooter will carry on in due turn (provided this is permitted under range rules) until either a shot strikes the target and is registered or 4 consecutive misses have been scored when he is required to retire under Rule F13.31. See also F12.30.2 below. If, and only if, the target is subsequently found to be faulty and the programme of shooting allows the shooter will be given the opportunity of a reshoot from scratch.
- F12.30.2. If the second shot misses *and* there is a conventional manned target instantly available, the shooter may be transferred thereto to fire his third, fourth and any permissible subsequent shots. This is solely for the protection of the original electronic target.
- F12.31. There is NO possibility to ‘challenge the value’ of an individual shot: The electronics will not calculate a different outcome from the same set of input values. It is possible at certain magnifications on the display that a shot appears to touch the higher-scoring line when in fact it does not. In the event a shooter believes his target to be faulty he should reserve his position with the Range Officer or lodge a formal challenge. If a formal complaint of faulty target is received and not sustained upon testing the complainant will be fined two (2) points from his score in the Match in question.
- F12.32. Should the shooter’s firing of the next shot be interrupted through no fault of his own for longer than 5 minutes, the competitor may elect to fire one extra non-convertible sighter. ‘No fault’ in this context means: a) an extended delay in resolving the issue in respect of a shooter firing single-string, or b) delay caused by the need to resolve a partner’s issue if firing Bisley-style.
- F12.33. Faulty target or display. If initially or subsequently during the investigation of one of the events above the target and/or display is deemed by the RO or Technical officer to be unserviceable and cannot be replaced in good time, it must be withdrawn from further use. The shooter at the time will be assigned another target either to complete the shoot with the option of firing a non-convertible sighter to commence, or to reshoot the full distance but only if the target is deemed to have been affecting the shooter’s results continuously prior to the event which led to the assessment. Previous shooters on the target in question will be offered a reshoot if it is deemed that the target was faulty when they shot, and providing time and/or range space permit.

F13. CONDUCT OF INDIVIDUAL COMPETITIONS.

- F13.1. Three styles of conduct of individual competition are recognised, defined as follows.
- F13.1.1. Single string. In this, the competitor fires his sighters and counting shots in a string subject only to an overall time limit determined by the number of shots and the distance. How long he takes over each individual shot is a matter for him. The competitor acts as check scorer (Rule F13.16) for his successor and register keeper for the next competitor thereafter.
- F13.1.2. ‘Bisley’ style. In this two or three competitors are detailed to fire at the same target. They fire in rotation (or alternately, as the case may be) starting with the right hand competitor, and register keep for one another.
- F13.1.3. Single string in pairs (“SSIP”). Designed to facilitate competitor marking, shooters are squadded in pairs shooting one after the other, and each scoring for

his partner. Typically the pair will then swap places with a pair of shooters who have been in the butts.

F13.2. At a Championship Meeting shot under ICFRA Rules, if both Target Rifle and F-Class Rifle are being shot concurrently, then the style of shooting will be the same for both disciplines, but with separate and distinct provision for squads and targets.

F13.3. Match conditions require some matches to be fired “in Stages”. Each Stage is distinctly defined; and a specified number of shooters (which may be “all” but typically is a reduced number based on scores) will qualify to shoot in the next, or final, Stage.

A. Single String

F13.4. In line with the general principles of squadding outlined at Rule F4.1. Organisers should allocate competitors to squads of no less than 4. Each squad should have one experienced competitor allocated to it to act as ‘squad leader’. Where target and entry numbers imply squads of 10 or more, consideration should be given to the creation of two ‘sub-squads’ in order to allow respite for competitors.

F13.5. Squads should be allocated positions on the range which move between distances in a predetermined pattern designed so far as possible to equalise the effects of any favourable or unfavourable range configurations or times of day.

F13.6. At each change of distance (or on completion of a match if the next match is to be at the same distance) the competitors will rotate in otherwise unaltered order such that the first man at the previous distance shoots last at the next, with the remaining squad members moving up the list accordingly. If sub-squads are in use, they will rotate within themselves, and when one full rotation is complete (in the smaller if of unequal size) the sub-squads themselves will swap order of firing.

F13.7. While a competitor is firing, his successor should get down onto the firing point without disturbing the competitor and prepare to fire in his turn so that shooting is more-or-less continuous. Squads will arrange among themselves the accommodation of left handed competitors.

F13.8. Prior to the commencement of firing, when instructed by the RO to move forward onto the firing point, the first competitor will be given a preparation time of 5 minutes. On command of the RO, the targets will be exposed to allow sight setting and dry-firing. At the end of the preparation period, the targets will be lowered. Timing for the first competitors will commence from the moment they are re-elevated.

F13.9. If the first competitor is not present at the commencement of firing the second competitor will fire (after due allowance to prepare). Any late competitor will explain his reasons for absence to the CRO and a five point penalty will be imposed unless the CRO rules that the absence arose for reasons beyond the competitor’s control. He will be accommodated as ruled by the squad leader on receiving authority from the CRO.

F13.10. As soon as a competitor completes his string he should quit the firing point as rapidly and unobtrusively as possible and immediately settle his scorecard with the register keeper. As soon as the scoring process is complete, the check scorer will swap with the register keeper to allow the new competitor to commence on the register keeper’s command. The competitor who has just left the firing point will relieve the (now) temporary check scorer as soon as practicable. The last to shoot will check score for the first and register keep for the second; and the last-but-one competitor will register keep for the first.

F13.11. Timing for the second and subsequent shooters will start on the instruction of the register keeper (having come forward from check-scoring and a sufficient pause having been given to allow the previous shooter rapidly to clear the firing point.)

F13.12. Should a squad member be absent, the RO must be informed. Squads may then be reorganised by the RO to even out the number of competitors per squad.

F13.13. The time allowed for the string irrespective of distance is the number of sighting and scoring shots to be fired times 1 minute – e.g. 17 minutes for 2 sighters and 15 shots to count (or as the number of shots may dictate). The register keeper for the relevant shooter will also act as timekeeper. The register keeper must position himself immediately to the rear of his

competitor. He must be equipped with a telescope or strong binoculars and a watch on which he can accurately time the competitor.

- F13.14. Unless there is a target/marker problem (which must be brought to the attention of the RO immediately it happens/starts), timing must be strictly enforced. If the marking on a target is particularly slow, despite a message to the butts, the RO will decide, after observing the target, whether (and if so, how much) extra time will be allowed.
- F13.15. The register keeper (whose timing is authoritative in the event of a dispute) must warn the competitor when he has three minutes left. At the end of the period of 3 minutes from the warning (even if the warning was given 'late'), any remaining shots will be fired and penalised at the rate of 2 points per shot.
- F13.16. If the time taken is more than that allocated, the scorecard must be countersigned by the RO, who must annotate the reason/s for extra time being allowed, or amend the card according to the penalty ruling.
- F13.17. The check-scorer will stand further back, alongside the scoreboard, which must face away from the firing point, for the benefit of the RO and spectators. He must also use a telescope or strong binoculars to verify shot values. Upon confirming the shot value, the check-scorer will repeat the register keeper's call and enter the value on the board.
- F13.18. As soon as the competitor finishes, the register keeper and check-scorer will confirm the score, including V-Bull count, and both will sign the competitor's scorecard. The register keeper will also enter the time taken.
- F13.19. If, from observation of the scoreboards, a RO finds that one target is lagging behind the others in his section, he may temporarily reallocate one or more competitor/s to a faster group in order to save time. Any competitor thus moved will normally revert to his own squad at the next distance.

B. 'Bisley Style' Shooting

- F13.20. Competitors will be squadded either two or three to a target. As the shooting space is generally fairly narrow, when squadding is in threes, left-handed competitors will be squadded together to the right of each butt or on a separate butt.
- F13.21. Squadding will be in accordance with section F4.
- F13.22. When called forward by the RO, competitors on each target will position themselves on the firing point, in relation to the target number marker as specified in local regulations.
- F13.23. ROs will then check for any target on which there is only a single competitor and rectify the situation by moving one or more competitors. Only in exceptional circumstances may a competitor fire on his own, in which event the RO must detail a register keeper to keep score. Every reasonable effort should be made to avoid creating a trio, when pairs squadding is in use.
- F13.24. The CRO will allow a minimum of five minutes preparation time before the "commence firing" order. Providing it would otherwise be safe to fire, one or more targets may be previously exposed for sighting and dry-firing purposes in accordance with local practice.
- F13.25. A competitor who arrives during or after that preparation period, forfeits his right to shoot and may *only* be permitted to shoot if it does not inconvenience the other competitors on his target, and on penalty of 1 point deducted from his final score. No competitor is to be allowed to get down to shoot after the first shot has been fired on the target in question. The CRO (or his Deputy) alone has the absolute discretion to allow a competitor who has missed his detail to shoot in another; and will bear in mind the undesirability of allocating a detail or range position which might be thought to be more favourable to the competitor. A five point penalty will be imposed unless the CRO rules that the absence arose for reasons beyond the competitor's control.
- F13.26. The time allowance, per shot, is 45 seconds. Timing starts when the Register Keeper announces the value of the shot or the value and position have been displayed on an electronic target *and* the shooter signals acceptance thereof (which he should do promptly), or the point at which any query as to the shot value, protest or challenge has been disposed of by the RO.

- F13.27. If the targets have been pre-exposed, to allow sight adjustments, etc., timing for the first shot will be from the order to commence firing. If the targets have not been pre-exposed, timing will commence when the competitors on the target signify that they are ready and in any case within 2 minutes of first exposure.
- F13.28. A competitor, timed by a RO and found to have taken too long, will be given one warning. Thereafter, he will forfeit two points (and the 'Vee' if a V-Bull) for the first shot which the RO has personally timed and found to have exceeded the time limit. For each subsequent shot outside the time limit he will forfeit the value of the shot in question. The accumulation of these penalties applies only within the distance being shot: the facts of having previously been warned or forfeited (a) shot(s) are not 'carried forward' to subsequent shoots. In the case of a localised disturbance such as a whirlwind or dust storm, a RO may use his discretion in allowing shooters a short relief from the 45 second time limit.
- F13.29. Competitors on each target will act as register keepers for one another. In each case, a competitor will score for the competitor who fires immediately after him. This means that, with threes, the left and middle competitors will pass their scorecards to the right and the competitor on the right will pass his to the competitor on the left. If there are two competitors, they will just exchange scorecards.
- F13.30. Competitors on a target will fire single shots alternately, or in rotation, starting with the competitor on the right.
- F13.31. In individual competition a competitor who misses the target with four consecutive shots (whether including sighting shots or not) must stop firing until the others on the target have finished. He may then complete his shoot, but will not be allowed an extra sighting shot. The detail will not be extended to facilitate this, however. Per Rule F6.8.1 target companions may then assist the shooter to get his first shot onto the target.
- F13.32. Competitors must remain in position until all on their target have completed the shoot. They may then retire from the firing point, after completing their register keeping duties and rifle safety checks, provided they do not disturb competitors who are still firing on adjacent targets.

C String shooting in pairs

- F13.33. Organizers should allocate competitors into squads of an even number of shooters being not less than 4, organised into two (or more) details of two shooters who act as a pair acting alternately as shooter and register keeper. The firing period allocated to each firer is designated a "relay"; so the first pair (detail) use relays 1 & 2, the second pair relays 3 & 4 and so on. Each pair is allocated a firing point and an instruction as to who will fire first.
- F13.34. At the beginning of the detail, the shooters will exchange cards and, at the instruction of the CRO, the first firer will be called forward. He will be given a preparation time of 5 minutes. On command of the CRO the targets will be exposed to allow sight setting and dry firing. At the end of the preparation period, the targets will be lowered. Timing for the competitor will commence from the moment they are re-elevated. The time allowed for the string is the number of sighting and scoring shots to be fired times 1 minute – e.g. 17 minutes for 2 sighters and 15 shots to count (or as the number of shots may dictate).
- F13.35. On completion of his shoot, the shooter will agree his score (including V (or X) -bulls) with his partner, his card will be signed and countersigned, and his rifle will be checked immediately for safety (i.e. unloaded) by Register Keeper and an ECI (empty chamber indicator) inserted. The competitors will exchange roles, but will not 'carry on'. The CRO will call for a 'cease fire' in respect of the first firers when all firing by them is completed or the allowed time elapses, and will lower the targets. The second competitor will then receive preparation time of 5 minutes prior to his firing his string.
- F13.36. Timing for each shooter will be as in Rule T13.12 The CRO will determine what extra time, if any, is to be allowed for a general cessation of firing in accordance with Rule T6.7. In respect of individual firers, if there is a target/marker problem it must be brought to the attention of the RO immediately it happens/starts. If the marking on a target is particularly slow despite a message to the butts, the RO (alone) will decide, after observing the target, whether (and if so, how much) extra time will be allowed. Rule T6.8 applies in respect of target breakdowns. If the period of extra time allowed extends beyond the overall time

allowed for the relay, the RO will arrange with the CRO for the target, together with one or more either side, to remain available to the shooter.

- F13.37. If the first competitor is not present at the commencement of firing the second competitor will fire (after due allowance to prepare and for the RO to allocate a temporary register keeper). Any competitor who is late for his detail forfeits the right to shoot at that distance. He will explain his reasons for absence to the CRO who may re-squad him at his sole discretion. If the absence was for reasons within the competitor's control, a five point penalty will be applied. If a competitor has missed a properly allocated marking detail, penalty will be in accordance with local custom.
- F13.38. Typically the first pair will then swap roles with a second pair who have been marking in the butts (or will mark as designated if squads of more than 4 are in use). The second pair will fall back and fire first at the second distance of the day and so on alternating.
- F13.39. SSIP on Electronic Targets: It is permissible for details to be managed so that the second shooter follows the first without the range being stopped and restarted. The RO must authorise the first shooter's score in accordance with Rule T10.12 and the second shooter has up to 5 minutes to fire his first shot.

F14. CONDUCT OF TEAM MATCHES.

- F14.1. Target positions for teams will be drawn by lot. For international matches involving more than one distance, teams should be moved at subsequent distances on a predetermined plan so as to minimise the effect of weather or favoured locations on the range. When squadding team matches, a team should not be squadded 'astride' a line of flags, thus preventing firers and coaches from being deployed to optimum effect, unless this is absolutely unavoidable.
- F14.2. If at all possible, in matches where each team has multiple targets, at least one vacant lowered target should separate the team sets.
- F14.3. No one may be a member of more than one team in the same competition.
- F14.4. Every team captain must, if called on to do so by the Organisers, furnish evidence that he has been appointed by competent authority.
- F14.5. Subject always to match conditions, each team will be permitted the following non-shooting officials: captain, adjutant, chief coach/co-ordinator and one coach for each target allocated to the team: these are all members of the team. All members of the team may coach, spot or plot for each other. Any function discharged by the captain may be discharged on his behalf by the adjutant or chief coach.
- F14.6. Subject always to match conditions, up to one reserve per target may be appointed. Reserves may carry out any function proper to a member of the team save that they will only fire if called upon as replacement(s) under the rules (See F14.13).
- F14.7. There is no limit to the number of team members on the firing point at one time, provided there is no interference with safe range operation, or with any member of another team, or the register keepers.
- F14.8. No other person is allowed to give advice to the competitors on the firing point.
- F14.9. Each captain is to allocate the members of his team to the targets allotted to it. He may at any time order a member to suspend his firing and another to start: such member will not be entitled to any extra sighting shot when resuming. Without prejudice to the normal orderly conduct of shooting, any member of the team may direct any shot at any target belonging to the team provided always that the captain or a coach must ensure that the register keepers are informed before any change of target or order of firing is made. A member will be scored a miss if he fires at a wrong target or a target which has not been nominated, even if this target is one allotted to his team.
- F14.10. At each distance of a match:
- F14.10.1. There will be a time limit for the whole team and each captain is responsible that all members of his team complete their firing at that distance within the time allowed.

- F14.10.2. At the expiration of the time allowed all firing at that distance will cease, whether the team has completed its firing or not.
- F14.10.3. The RO will report to the CRO if there has been any exceptional delay not occasioned by any act or neglect of a member of the team. The CRO may extend the time allowed.
- F14.10.4. The captain or adjutant is responsible for calling the attention of the RO to any such delay immediately it occurs.
- F14.11. The receipt of any external information by way of coaching is strictly forbidden under pain of disallowance of score under Rule T19.4.7. See also Rule F6.8.2 which applies equally to teams. Networked Communications within a Team for the purposes of coaching and shooting management are permitted and may be wireless in nature. A wireless network system MUST be switchable and capable of working on more than one frequency (F14.11.1 below refers) and, if being used overseas, must conform with the public radio frequency allocations of the host country and also must not interfere with frequencies used by Electronic Targets, if in use. Headsets/microphones may ONLY be issued to Team Members as defined at F14.5 & F14.6 above or as are specified in Match Conditions (if different). No Team Member may leave the Team Area while equipped for such network communications, and issue thereof to any third party is strictly forbidden (except a Range Officer or Match Referee on request). Wired Networks remain permitted.
- F14.11.1. While it is impossible to prevent 'listening in' by other teams when analogue wireless voice communications on public frequencies is in use, the use of any artefact whatsoever to interfere with another team's communications is forbidden. Any eavesdropping is at the listening team's own risk. In the event of two networks naturally interfering with each other the matter is to be resolved by mutual co-operation. Networks may be tested for compatibility at any time in the run up to the first detail of a match; but commencement of shooting must not be delayed. The Meeting organisers have the right to specify which channel a Team may use and to prevent the use of a system which interferes with the functioning of Electronic Targets.
- F14.11.2. A Range Officer or the Match Referee must be supplied with the waveband information of a wireless network on request and has the right to 'listen in' on the least inconvenient headset of a network for the minimum time necessary to discharge his purpose.
- F14.11.3. Electronic devices used for the display of Electronic Target information are liable for inspection by a Register Keeper or Range Officer at any time, including viewing of the display screen.
- F14.12. A Team Member may change his rifle at any time and may use any of the team rifles that start the match for shooting members plus designated reserves i.e. normally 5 or 10 (4+1 or 8+2) - or such number as the match conditions for the day require. "The rifle" means the actual rifle with which the loaning Member is shooting the match or which the reserve(s) has/have brought with him/them and will shoot if called upon. A sighting shot is not permitted if the alteration is made after the second sighter of a string: both sighters are available if the change is made between distances.
- F14.13. Should a member of a team be prevented from continuing to fire by any cause both imperative and unforeseen his place may, with the prior approval of the RO, be taken by a reserve to fire in the place of the retiring member and to take up the firing at the stage when such member retired. He will not be entitled to any extra sighting shots. The RO will notify the CRO of the substitution. Any such incapacitated shooter who is replaced may not participate in the match again as a shooter on the same day as his withdrawal. If he is subsequently restored to the team, the reserve who replaced him will revert to reserve status.
- F14.13.1. A reserve, if called upon to shoot, may use his rifle (of whatever calibre). A reserve may ONLY be called on to shoot should a Team Member be physically unable to shoot and not in respect of his equipment failing.
- F14.14. The disciplinary rules applicable to individual matches also apply, where appropriate, to team matches. Misconduct or failure to comply with the rules by any team member may

lead to the disallowance of his score, or his personal disqualification, or disqualification for the whole team. If disqualified on a personal basis, a team shooter may NOT be replaced during the match in question. Rule F6.8.2 applies in respect of unauthorised coaching.

- F14.15. In the event that register keepers are not provided by the organisers, each team must be prepared to provide register keepers to be exchanged between adjacent pairs or threes of teams as may be directed by the RO. Register keeping may be done by volunteers who are not team members. The safety check of a competitor's rifle on completion of his shoot is to be conducted by the competitor's coach or a team member nominated by the captain for the purpose; and the check is to be carried out *before* the competitor removes his rifle from the firing point.
- F14.16. It is the responsibility of the team captain to ensure that score registers are correct in every respect and to sign them accordingly.
- F14.17. In team matches a total time per team allowed for each distance will be based on the number of shots to be fired at a target times 1 minute and 15 seconds.
- F14.18. Rule F6.1 (position of the shooter on the firing point) applies. If sitting, coaches and shot plotters may have their feet and spotting telescope tripod legs ONLY forward of the line/markers indicating the front of the firing point, provided they are well behind the rifle muzzles on either side. Incidental shielding of firers by coaches and plotters is not in contravention of the prohibitions against 'sheltering' in F6.2, but artefacts (e.g. umbrellas) may NOT be brought to the firing point for that purpose. Provided always that for Team Matches ONLY, and subject to UNANIMOUS agreement of all the Captains and the Referee, shade may be provided under conditions of extreme heat.

F15. PROTESTS.

- F15.1. Any claim or complaint by a competitor or team arising on the firing point must be made at once by way of protest to the RO. If his decision is disputed, or if the protest is not resolved on the spot, the matter must immediately be referred to the CRO, who (in accordance with rule F1.6) will consult the Match Referee if one has been appointed.
- F15.2. ROs will deal with all minor infractions of the rules. For violations potentially meriting disallowance of score or disqualification, the RO will summon the CRO, who will consult the Referee (if any). The CRO or Referee may impose any penalty up to and including disallowance of score, and will report any offence potentially meriting disqualification to the Match Committee, while taking any appropriate interim action, which could include ordering the firing of provisional shots. If provisional shots are ordered, the RO is to be clearly briefed as to the ruling and must annotate full details on the competitor's scorecard, identifying the provisional shots. If (a) provisional shot(s) is/are subsequently allowed on score it/they represent the next shot(s) on score after the award and any surplus shots are discounted from the last shot of the shoot backwards.
- F15.3. The CRO has absolute discretion to deal with all matters involving safety or security in accordance with Rule F1.7.
- F15.4. The ruling by the CRO/Referee as to outcomes on the range will be final. In the event that a ruling cannot be given on the spot or immediately on completion of the competitor's shoot, the circumstances must be put in writing by the competitor or team captain concerned and handed to the CRO or the secretarial office within 30 minutes of the end of the match, for subsequent resolution by the Match Committee. The Match Committee will also rule on the admissibility of any associated provisional shots fired in accordance with Rule F15.2. Appeals will only be allowed in respect of penalties imposed (see Rule F16.1.).
- F15.5. Protests not directly related to occurrences on the firing point, must be made, in writing, to the secretarial office, for resolution by the Match Committee or Organisers, as appropriate.
- F15.6. Provisional Prize lists may be posted and, if posted, must specify a time limit for protests against the results or a result/score therein. Protests submitted after the cut-off time may be barred on grounds of untimeliness.

F16. APPEALS.

- F16.1. An appeal against disallowance of score or any other penalty (or lack thereof) imposed by the CRO/Referee will be referred to the Match Committee. Such appeals must be lodged verbally with the CRO/Referee within 30 minutes, and put in writing at the earliest possible opportunity and may be made by the competitor in person or a team official. Any appeal fee as set by host country regulations must accompany the appeal. The fee must be returned if the appeal is upheld.
- F16.2. The organisers of any matches held under ICFRA Rules must use their best endeavours to ensure the prompt resolution of protests and appeals, consistent always with the principles of fair hearing under “due process.”

F17. BRIBES.

- F17.1. The offer of any money or a bribe of any kind to any match official, register keeper, butt marker (or anyone in a position to affect either true marking or scoring) or other competitor is strictly forbidden.
- F17.2. Any person knowing of any such offer, or of any attempt to defraud the host country or an official or any competitor, must report the same without delay in writing to the CRO, who will arrange for the matter to be dealt with by the appropriate authority. Failure so to do leaves the individual open to sanction under rule F19.5.9.

F18. DOPING CONTROL

- F18.1. The ICFRA procedures and policy in respect of Anti Doping are laid out in the separate ICFRA Anti-doping Rules. No competitor may take, use, advocate the use of, have in his possession, or attempt to have in his possession, substances referred to on the prohibited drug list of ICFRA except in accordance with a Therapeutic Usage Exemption Certificate granted in accordance with ICFRA Policy.
- F18.2. Any competitor must, if requested by an official designated by the host country for the purpose of doping control, submit to a drug control test. Failure to do so will be taken as if a positive result had been obtained and dealt with accordingly.
- F18.3. The identification of a forbidden substance forbidden under RuleT18.1 and not exempted thereunder and/or one of its metabolites, or the presence of specified amounts of endogenous substances subject to quantitative analysis, in a body fluid will constitute an offence and the offender may be subject to disciplinary action.
- F18.4. Any person assisting or inciting others in the contravention of these regulations will be considered as having committed an offence against these rules, and may be subject to disciplinary action.

WARNING

- F18.5. It could be highly dangerous for a competitor to give up or reduce a therapeutic drug regularly taken. No competitor should take this course of action without medical advice.
- F18.6. Many of these prohibited drugs appear either alone or as mixtures in medications under a commercial title. It is advisable that, should there be any doubt, expert advice be sought by the competitor before taking any medication.

F19. PENALTIES.

- F19.1. There are five levels of penalty:
- F19.1.1. Discretionary penalties for minor offences.
 - F19.1.2. Deduction of points.
 - F19.1.3. Disallowance of score.
 - F19.1.4. Disqualification from further participation in the meeting.

- F19.1.5. Suspension, which carries with it a period of suspension beyond the meeting, and which is reportable to ICFRA.
- F19.2. Discretionary Penalties. For any minor or technical infringement, which does not expose anyone to danger, or give the offender any material benefit or advantage over other competitors and for which no penalty is specifically laid down in these rules, the Match Committee has full discretion to impose what it considers an appropriate penalty.
- F19.3. Deductions of points. Various rules dictate that points should be deducted for specific offences. These include firing on the wrong target, or out of turn, exceeding the time limit, trigger test failure etc. Details are given in the respective rules, and they are automatic.
- F19.4. Disallowance of Score. The following offences may lead to the disallowance of a competitor's score by the CRO (or Referee if appointed). If the score is disallowed, the competitor concerned will have the right of appeal under Rule F16.1. to the Match Committee, whose decision will be final.
- F19.4.1. Failure to hand in his scorecard.
- F19.4.2. Refusal to obey valid instructions given by a RO, whether for safety purposes or for the due carrying out of these rules.
- F19.4.3. Failure to comply with the specific conditions laid down for a particular match or the general regulations for the conduct of the meeting.
- F19.4.4. Use of a rifle that does not comply with the requirements set out in these Rules.
- F19.4.5. Continued use after warning of rifle attachments, shooting aids, or other equipment which, although not specifically prohibited by the Rules, are considered by the Referee (CRO if no Referee has been appointed) to give the user an unfair advantage over other competitors.
- F19.4.6. After completing a shoot, leaving the firing point with an "unsafe" rifle (bolt still in or no ECI/breech flag). In this event the penalty may apply to both the competitor and his register keeper.
- F19.4.7. When coaching is not allowed, giving or requesting any advice in the nature of coaching whilst on the firing point in contravention of rule T6.10. A Team or individual found to be receiving external information contrary to rule T14.11 will have its/his score to date disallowed, and will not be permitted to continue the match. An offence in an ICFRA International or World Championship Team Match will be reported to ICFRA Council, which may consider further sanction. Rule F6.8.4 applies in respect of allegations made during firing.
- F19.4.8. In an individual match persistent infringement, despite earlier warnings and deduction of points, of the 45 second shot time limit.
- F19.4.9. In an individual or team match, changing rifles during the firing at any one distance, without satisfying the RO that the first rifle is unserviceable.
- F19.4.10. Unfairly screening himself or his rifle, or allowing anyone else to do so.
- In each of these cases, the CRO or Referee will have the authority to impose a lesser penalty should he consider that there are mitigating circumstances.
- F19.5. Disqualification. Any competitor may, on the occurrence of any of the following offences being proved to the satisfaction of the Match Committee, be excluded from all further competitions during the meeting and forfeit all entrance fees and any prizes won subsequent to the offence. The imposition of such a penalty by the Match Committee will automatically be reported by the Chairman of the Match Committee to the Chairman of the disciplinary body of the host country, to which the competitor concerned has right of appeal. Whether or not there is an appeal the disciplinary body may at its discretion consider recommending to ICFRA a penalty of "Suspension" (Para 19.6.) following a further hearing.
- F19.5.1. Discharging a firearm anywhere in the range area or camp, other than on a shooting range that is under control of a RO.

- F19.5.2. Being found with a loaded rifle except at his proper firing point during a match or practice.
 - F19.5.3. Loading or firing a shot when the danger sign is up or before the order to commence fire has been given [but see rule F 7.6.1]; or intentionally firing a shot out of turn or at the wrong target, or at any object other than his proper target.
 - F19.5.4. Accidentally discharging his rifle on the range, in a direction other than towards the stop-butt.
 - F19.5.5. Acting in any other way that might prove dangerous, either on the range or elsewhere in the range area.
 - F19.5.6. Knowingly shooting for a team for which he is not eligible.
 - F19.5.7. False entry, viz. Shooting under a false name or that of another competitor or using a register scorecard other than one issued to him or knowingly shooting in a competition for which he is ineligible.
 - F19.5.8. Contrary to the provisions of these rules, deliberately modifying his rifle or applying his shooting aids in such a way as to obtain an unfair advantage.
 - F19.5.9. Offering, or accepting, a bribe of any kind to overlook a breach of the rules, or to falsify a scorecard, etc. Also, knowing of such a bribe, offer, or of any attempt to defraud the organisers or any competitor, failing to report it without delay to the Match Committee.
 - F19.5.10. Deliberately altering his scorecard or otherwise knowingly claiming or accepting points that he has not scored, or conniving at such conduct by another competitor. This includes deliberate failure to draw the RO's attention to a spotting disc which unmistakably disagrees with the score indicated.
 - F19.5.11. Theft of equipment belonging to the association or another competitor, or any other criminal activity.
 - F19.5.12. Conduct that the Organising Committee may consider to be discreditable or detrimental to the Host Association or ICFRA.
 - F19.5.13. Violation of the requirements of the host country in respect of security or Firearms legislation.
 - F19.5.14. Having been reported to the Organising Committee as still being under suspension by another ICFRA member Association.
- F19.6. Suspension. Following a report of disqualification to the disciplinary body of the host nation by the Match Committee under Rule F19.5, the disciplinary body will convene to consider any appeal and whether a period of domestic suspension from all fullbore FC activities should additionally be imposed. In respect of an ICFRA Match, if a period of suspension is recommended the matter must be reported in writing, with full details, to the Secretary General of ICFRA, who will cause an ICFRA Panel to be constituted to determine whether the suspension should be ICFRA-wide, applying to ICFRA Matches. If suspension is imposed the Secretary General will advise all member associations. All ICFRA member countries must observe the suspension period.
- F19.7. Offences against Rules F18.1 to F18.4 will be considered under the ICFRA Anti Doping Rules.

F20. TIES FOR INDIVIDUAL EVENTS.

- F20.1. Ties in individual matches will be shot off under the following circumstances:-
 - F20.1.1. For a trophy,
 - F20.1.2. (Subject to exception in Match Conditions) For a top-three medal where these are of distinctive metal/colour
 - F20.1.3. (Subject to match conditions) For the lowest qualifying place(s) in the subsequent stage of a match shot in stages. A Match shot in stages is one so

defined in Match Conditions. Each Stage is distinctly defined; and a specified number of shooters (which may be “all” but typically is a reduced number based on scores) will qualify to shoot in the next, or final, Stage.

- F20.2. A tie occurs when two or more individuals make the same total score and total V-Bulls – i.e. 50.7 beats 50.6 beats 49.9.
- F20.3. It is the responsibility of the competitor to ascertain whether he is likely to be required for a tie shoot, and the time and place where it will be conducted. Any competitor who fails to attend the tie shoot will be awarded the lowest place being contested.
- F20.4. Tie shoots will comprise two convertible sighters and 5 shots to count at the longest distance of the match. If a tie for one of the awards still remains unresolved, those competitors still tying will fire shot for shot sudden death (with “V” counting higher than bull 5) until the tie is broken.
- F20.4.1. Numbers permitting, each contestant will fire on a separate target. Adjacent targets will be used and exactly the right number will be exposed and remain exposed until the whole tie shoot is complete.
- F20.4.2. Unless firing in pairs, each contestant must have a register keeper, who will position himself behind his competitor, at the rear of the firing point.
- F20.4.3. The time allowance, per shot, is 45 seconds. Timing starts when the Register Keeper announces the value of the shot or the value and position have been displayed on an electronic target *and* the shooter signals acceptance thereof (which he should do promptly), or the point at which any query as to the shot value, protest or challenge has been disposed of by the RO.
- F20.5. Immediately the place(s) subject to the tie shoot have been resolved, the tie shoot will be stopped and the order of merit of all other participants in the tie shoot will be decided by count out.
- F20.5.1. By the total score in the tie shoot including V-Bulls;
- F20.5.2. If still a tie, by counting out on the tie shoot;
- F20.5.3. If still a tie, by counting out on the original match score under F20.6. below.
- F20.6. Counting out: All other Ties will be counted out as follows.
- F20.6.1. (For competitions conducted in one or more stages) By the aggregate of the scores in each successive stage, commencing with the last.
- F20.6.2. If still a tie by range totals in order of distance, commencing with the longest. If any distance has been shot more than once, all scores at that distance will be added together.
- F20.6.3. If still a tie, by the value of each shot at the longest distance of the match, in the reverse order of their firing.
- F20.6.4. If still a tie, by the value of each shot at the next-to-longest distance, in the reverse order of their firing and so on, until the tie is broken.
- F20.6.5. In steps F20.6.3. and F20.6.4., a V-Bull will be deemed to be of higher value than a bull 5.
- F20.7. Where a tie shoot is not specified, and application of the tie-breaking steps does not resolve a tie, prize money will be equally divided.

F21. TIES FOR TEAM EVENTS.

- F21.1. All team ties will be counted out by range totals in order of distance, commencing with the longest. If any distance has been shot more than once, all scores at that distance will be added together.
- F21.2. If still a tie, by value of the aggregate of the shots (by shot number) of all the firers in the team at the longest distance, in reverse order of firing, until the tie is broken. If still

necessary thereafter, by the application of the same principle to the next-longest distance and so on.

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ANNEX F/A

FIRING POINT LAYOUT

A1. The Firing Point in respect of Team Matches and World Championship Individual Events will be defined by the line or line of markers defining the front of the firing point and a 'whitewash' line 4 metres behind it denoting the rear of the firing point. The Competitors' Area lies between that line, and a line a further 6 metres to the rear. The whole is the "Field of Play" and is the Team Area for Team Matches. These dimensions may be sensibly adjusted if natural features such as ditches so suggest, and those features may substitute for lines. Lines should also define the extent of a 'Team Area' to the left and right. For major team matches, it is preferable that ropes should be used at the rear of the team areas to prevent intrusion by spectators or members of other Teams.

A2. Access to the 'Field of Play' will be controlled in accordance with Rule F6.9.

DIMENSIONS OF ICFRA TARGETS.**B1. Targets: General**

B1.1. Form. All targets will consist of a circular black aiming mark centred on a white or off-white background. Scoring rings must be of a thickness and whiteness to be readily visible through a rifle scope. A white circle instead of a white ring is acceptable in *domestic* competition for the V-bull.

B1.2. Frame Sizes. The standard dimensions are (height x width):

300yds/m: 1.2 x 1.2 metres (4 x 4 foot)

500-700yds: 1.8 x 1.8 metres (6 x 6 foot)

Long Range: The target frame will not be less than 1.8m square. Target widths of 2.4m or 3.0m (or their imperial equivalents) are permissible.

It is also permissible to use an oversize target providing the frame dimension specified above is inscribed on it, outside of which any shot is designated a "Miss" but may be shown by a spotting disc. 400yd/m frames may be "4ft" or "6" as may be desired.

B1.3. Target numbering. Each target must be clearly numbered. These numbers must be of such size that they are clearly visible, to the naked eye, at the furthest distance to be shot on the targets in question. Corresponding number markers (pegs) will be placed on the forward edge of each firing point.

B2. The ICFRA International F-Class Target (Short Range)

B2.1 A V-bull ½ the size of the TR V-bull within the ICFRA International Match Target for short range, with the original v-bull counting bull-5 and so on viz:-

(All measurements in mm to the outer edge of the scoring line)

Distance	300 yds	500yds	600yds	300m	500m	600m
Aiming Mark	560	915	915	600	1000	1000
V-Bull	32	65	72	35	72	80
Bull	65	130	145	70	145	160
Inner	130	260	290	140	290	320
Magpie	260	600	600	280	660	660
Outer	390	915	915	420	1000	1000
Hit	ROT	ROT	ROT	ROT	ROT	ROT

The bull will count 5 points unless the conditions of the match specify otherwise. The other rings score successively one point less.

B2.2 Where electronic targets are in use, the mask must display the scoring rings for the distance in question.

B2.3. The target for 700 yds will be that for 600 m. If a 400yds or 400m target is required, the 300yds or 300m target (as appropriate) may be used, with aiming mark and rings increased proportionately - i.e. x4/3 in diameter.

B3 The ICFRA International F-Class Target (Long Range)

B3.1 In mm - Targets printed in Imperial Units are acceptable

Distance	700m – 1000 yds
Black	1118 (44")
V-Bull	128 (5")
Bull	254 (10")
Inner	508 (20")
Magpie	815 (32")
Outer	1118 (44")
Hit	ROT*

The bull will count 5 points unless the conditions of the match specify otherwise.

Countries using targets with wooden outer frames MUST have a 25 mm (1 inch) non-scoring zone drawn on the outer edges of the targets.

B4. Electronic Targets - specification

B4.1 Electronic scoring targets are authorized for all events. When electronic scoring targets are used for National Meetings or World Championship events (see F5.3), targets must have been checked for functioning and calibration under the supervision of the Match Director or Chief Technical Officer, if appointed. The targets must be set to employ a bullet diameter of 7.82mm. Targets used for ICFRA World Championships MUST have previously¹ been used for a Host Nation National Championship or championship of similar scale, to the satisfaction of a substantial majority of the contestants. In addition, for a World Championship, the approval of FCC must be obtained.

B4.2 Any electronic target system that meets the following requirements may be used for ICFRA events:-

B4.2.1 The System must be capable of successful operation at temperatures reasonably expected for the season and geographic location of the range.

B4.2.2 The Manufacturer of each System must divulge the frequency and power ranges of all Radio transmissions to ensure that the System can be configured so as NOT to interfere with any existing local transmitting or receiving facilities, and must be capable of continuous successful operation in the presence of any local radar, radio, television or other common electronic transmission or emissions.

B4.2.3 The manufacturer of each system must specify the minimum remaining velocity required for the system to plot shots accurately at 1000 Yards (900m).

B4.2.3 The System must be capable of successful operation in conditions of heavy rain.

B4.2.4 Targets must have been calibrated in accordance with the manufacturer's guidance and processes.

B4.2.5 All target units must provide a black aiming area corresponding in size to the black areas of the respective competition targets (Section b4 Targets) and show a non-reflective, contrasting white or off-white area surrounding the black aiming area. Aiming marks used for F-Class competition must in addition display the scoring rings specified in Section B4 visible to the competitor through the rifle scope (and the white aiming mark if in use).

B4.2.6 Scores recorded must be determined according to scoring ring dimensions for competition targets (B3, B4 and B5.1 above).

B4.2.7 Every shot hitting an electronic target must have its result, with its location and value, displayed on monitors placed on the firing point for both the shooter and the register keeper; or on personally-provided devices such as computer tablets. If the latter are in use the organisers MUST provide a sufficiency of such devices to equip shooters or register keepers who do not possess their own, or for temporary 'loan' to a shooter where the shooter's own device experiences a problem while in use on the firing point, and which may delay the shooting on that target. The switching, at or on the firing point, of a device used in ET display mode to its communication mode will constitute an infringement of Rule F6.10 on unauthorised communication ability.

B4.2.8 Electronic targets may, but are not required to, use a paper strip or other form of witness sheet behind the target face to allow a determination that a shot fired did, or did not, hit the target.

¹ "Previously" being within the calendar year before the World Championship. Additional targets to the same specification and manufacturer subsequently added will qualify.

B4.2.9 For those systems with the relevant capability, a printout of each competitor's results or the facility to download them for storage on a personal device must be available immediately after completion of the competitor's shoot.

B4.2.10 The capability to display an indication of the velocity remaining when the bullet strikes the target may be switched on at the organiser's absolute discretion on targets in use for competition provided *firstly* it is nominally made available on all targets and *secondly* that no complaint or protest whatsoever will be entertained regarding the accuracy of the indication provided nor as to its absence on any particular target(s). The capability to show shot locations on neighbouring targets should normally be switched on.

B4.2.11 The system should be programmed so as to give an audio signal of arrival of the shot and/or display the word "Waiting" during the 10 - second delay and (if possible) to show a digital count-down of the seconds. If (an) additional shot(s) arrive at the target during the "Waiting" period, those shots as well as the initial shot should be displayed at the completion of the 10-second interval caused by the first shot to arrive to assist with the shot value determinations in cross-fire situations.

B4.2.12 If ETs are in use for scoring and results purposes the scoring system must be capable of recording sighting shots and transferring sighting shots to shots of record in response to competitor input when convertible sighters are used.

B4.2.13 Meeting Organisers should ensure availability of spare targets in quantity determined by experience of the failure rate of the target systems in use. For an ICFRA World Championship the scale should be 1 for every 20 targets in use or such other figure as is agreed between the Organisers and the Match Referee.

ANNEX F/C

ICFRA STANDARD TELEPHONE AND RADIO MESSAGES

The ICFRA Standard list of abbreviated messages for communication between butts and firing point - when manual targets are in use - Rule No T12.11. refers – is as follows

1. Firing about to commence.
2. No spotting disc visible.
3. Spotting disc unmistakably disagrees with the signalled value. Check that spotting disc shows LAST shot and signal its correct value.
4. A shot has been fired but no signal has been made. Examine target and spotting disc carefully and signal the shot if found or a miss.
5. Competitor has challenged for a higher value for his shot. Recheck the shot hole (using a gauge if necessary) and signal the correct value.
6. It is suspected that there is a second shot on the target. Inspect the target for a second shot. If found mark and signal it, if not leave the spotting disc in the original hole.
7. A miss has been signalled but competitor has challenged for a scoring shot. Re-examine the target carefully and signal the shot if found or a miss.
8. The spotting disc appears not to have moved. Butt Officer is to consult marker and confirm that the spotting disc is in the latest shot hole. If successive shots have been very close to each other, the RO to be advised accordingly.
9. Marking appears to be unduly slow. Butt Officer to check and correct where necessary.
10. Finished with target. Patch the target. Half-mast it, or re-rig for the next distance or put away, as the programme demands.
11. Stand easy. Lower target, patch out and put target back up.

The results of all challenges and marking queries from the Range Officer are to be confirmed from the Butts by radio or telephone.