

USA SHOOTING GENERAL REGULATIONS



Edition 2011 (First Printing, 11/2008)

Effective 1 February 2011

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USA Shooting Rulebooks Are Published By:

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Edition 2011
Effective February 1, 2011
Printed February 1, 2011

INTRODUCTION

USA Shooting General Regulations and General and Special Technical Rules

USA Shooting is recognized by the world governing body of shooting, the International Shooting Sport Federation (ISSF), as its' United States National Federation member. USA Shooting is recognized by the United States Olympic Committee (USOC) as the national governing body for the Olympic sport of shooting in the United States. USA Shooting is the official rule-making and competition-sanctioning body in the United States with responsibility for the governance of competitions in the shooting events and activities recognized by and/or promoted by the ISSF and USOC.

USA Shooting General Regulations are established by USA Shooting to provide general conditions to govern the organization and conduct of shooting competitions in the ISSF events in the United States. USA Shooting General Regulations are based upon the organizing principles in the ISSF General Regulations. USA Shooting General and Special Technical Rules are established by USA Shooting to provide specific technical rules to govern the organization and conduct of shooting competitions in the ISSF events in the United States. USA Shooting General and Special Technical Rules incorporate the ISSF General and Special Technical Rules and additions to those rules.

All USA Shooting additions are preceded by **USA** and are printed in this typeface.

All ISSF General and Special Technical Rules are printed without change in this typeface.

USA Shooting General Regulations and USA Shooting General and Special Technical Rules must be followed by competition competitors and used by organizing committees to govern USA Shooting sanctioned competitions. These regulations and rules may also be used to govern competitions in developmental shooting events, which lead to participation in ISSF shooting events. All competitors, team leaders and officials must be familiar with all USA Shooting rules and must ensure that these rules are enforced. USA Shooting regulations and rules include the following (standard abbreviations for each section are given in parentheses).

Section A: USA Shooting General Regulations (GR)

Section B: ISSF General Technical Rules For All Shooting Disciplines, With USA Shooting Additions (GTR)

Section C: ISSF Special Technical Rules For Rifle, With USA Shooting Additions (R)

Section D: ISSF Special Technical Rules For Pistol, With USA Shooting Additions (P)

Section E: ISSF Special Technical Rules For Clay Target Shooting, With USA Shooting Additions (CT)

Section F: ISSF Special Technical Rules For Running Target, With USA Shooting Additions (RT)

1.0 PURPOSE AND AUTHORITY

USA Shooting General Regulations and USA Shooting General Regulations and Special Technical Rules are established to govern the conduct of shooting competitions in the Olympic and ISSF events in the United States. USA Shooting competition regulations and rules also govern special and developmental events to promote participation and athlete development in Olympic and ISSF events.

1.1 Purpose

The purpose of USA Shooting competition regulations and rules is to provide a national system of fair, uniform, enforceable standards for the conduct of shooting competitions in the Olympic and ISSF events in the United States and for the conduct of special and developmental events which promote participation and athlete development in the Olympic and ISSF shooting events.

1.2 Basis Of Regulations

USA Shooting General Regulations are based upon the organizational principles in the **ISSF General Regulations**. All **USA Shooting General and Special Technical Rules** utilize the complete current text of the **ISSF General and Special Technical Rules**, and add certain USA Shooting modifications to those rules to recognize unique situations regarding the conduct of shooting competitions in the United States. Appendix 1 to the ISSF General Regulations is not included with these rules.

1.3 Approval Authority

USA Shooting recognizes the **USA Shooting General Regulations** and **ISSF General and Special Technical Rules** with USA Shooting modifications, as the basic governing documents for all USA Shooting sanctioned competitions. **USA Shooting General Regulations** and **USA Shooting Additions to ISSF General and Special Technical Rules** must be approved by and can only be amended by the USA Shooting Board of Directors.

1.4 Changes To ISSF Rules

When the ISSF modifies its General and/or Special Technical Rules, such changes will be officially adopted by USA Shooting and become effective on the official ISSF effective date for the changes.

1.5 Changes To USA Shooting Regulations And Additions To Rules

When USA Shooting modifies its Regulations or Additions to Rules, such changes will be effective when those changes are published on the official USA Shooting website, www.usashooting.com, or the official effective date of such changes

2.0 COMPETITION SANCTIONING AND SUPERVISION

USA Shooting governs United States competition in the Olympic and ISSF shooting events by sanctioning competitions in events recognized by USA shooting, including competitions in special and developmental shooting events which promote participation and athlete development in ISSF shooting events.

2.1 Definitions

The following definitions apply in the administration of USA Shooting sanctioned competitions.

Competition: A shooting contest offering competition in one or more events recognized by USA Shooting. USA Shooting sanctioning is awarded to a competition. A competition is the total activity offering opportunities to participate in one or more shooting events where rankings and awards are given, based on results in those events.

Event: A shooting event as defined by the ISSF and USA Shooting General Regulations (See GR 3.1). An event is a contest for a defined group of competitors in a specific course of fire.

Organizing Committee: The group of one or more persons who administer all phases of the competition.

Sponsor: The organization that provides the organizational and financial foundation for the formation of a competition organizing committee and the conduct of the competition.

Program: A document produced by a competition organizing committee to provide a list of events to be contested and other essential information regarding the competition. The program must be approved by USA Shooting and available to interested competitors before the competition.

Competition Director: The person designated by the organizing committee who is in charge of administering the competition staff.

Competition Official: A person who serves as a member of a competition organizing committee or jury to administer the competition.

Competitor: An individual competitor or participant in a shooting competition.

Team: A group of competitors participating in a team event listed in the competition program who meet the requirements for team membership.

Sanction: Official recognition by USA Shooting that a competition is proposed to be conducted in accordance with established USA Shooting regulations and rules and the general standards for fair competition.

Results List: A document produced by a competition organizing committee after an event or all events in a competition is concluded giving the names of participants and their mailing addresses and their results in order of place finish. A results list must be

provided each participant at the end of the competition. Results may be uploaded directly into RailStation by the match administrator.

2.2 Competition Sanctioning Requirements

Sanctioning requirements and procedures have been established to provide for effective administration of USA Shooting competitions.

2.2.1 Sanctioning Procedures

Organizing committees or competition sponsors may apply for USA Shooting sanction of a competition by submitting an application for sanction. Forms are available from USA Shooting.com or by using the RailStation online sanctioning system. Applications for sanctioned competitions must include a program for the competition. The competition is not an official USA Shooting sanctioned competition until USA Shooting approves the application and program.

2.2.2 Recommended Sanctioning

USA Shooting may sanction any competition, which includes Olympic, ISSF or special/developmental events, if the application submitted by the competition organizing committee is approved.

2.2.3 Required Sanctioning

USA Shooting must sanction any competition, which is a Preliminary Tryout (PTO), performance standard competition or team trial for qualifying for membership on the U.S. Shooting Team, National Team, National Development Team, National Junior Team, National Paralympic Team or other USA Shooting team. This includes all “protected competitions” as defined by the United States Olympic Committee.

2.3 Types of Competitions

USA Shooting sanctions the following types of competitions:

2.3.1 Team Selection Matches

Special competitions leading to appointment to the U.S. Shooting Team, National Team, National Development Team, National Junior Team, National Paralympic Team or other team supported with USA Shooting or USOC funding.

2.3.2 Preliminary Tryout Matches (PTO)

All USA Shooting sanctioned competitions are recognized as preliminary tryout matches for the USA Shooting National Championships provided ISSF events are conducted. Preliminary tryouts are open to all competitors meeting USA Shooting eligibility requirements. USA Shooting will establish qualifying scores, which must be met in preliminary tryouts to qualify competitors for automatic invitations to the National Championships.

2.3.3 National Championships

USA Shooting National Championships, the USA Shooting National Junior Olympic Championships and other competitions sanctioned by USA Shooting to award national championship titles and awards. National Championships may be designated by USA Shooting as selection matches.

2.3.4 Regional and Zone Championships

Competitions with awards or titles limited to competitors residing in a defined geographic area. Regional or zone championship programs may permit competitors outside that area to compete on an open basis, but those competitors are not eligible for regional or zone championship awards or titles.

2.3.6 State Championships

Competitions with awards or titles limited to competitors residing in a particular state. State championship programs may permit competitors outside that state to compete on an open basis, but those competitors are not eligible for state championship awards or titles.

2.3.7 Leagues

Competitions involving two or more repetitions of an event or events which take place on a continuing basis over a defined period of time of several weeks or months. Leagues may offer competition for individuals and/or teams.

2.4 Competition Organizing Committees

All USA Shooting sanctioned competitions must be conducted by an organizing committee that is appointed by a USA Shooting affiliated organization. All organizing committees applying for USA Shooting sanction must agree to comply with USA Shooting regulations and rules. When applying to conduct a USA Shooting sanctioned competition, the organizing committee agrees to assume all liability for actions or events occurring in conjunction with the competition.

2.4.1 National Championships and Team Selection Match Organizing Committees

USA Shooting National Championships and U.S. Shooting Team, National Team, National Junior Team, National Paralympic Team or National Development Team selection matches must be organized by USA Shooting or by an organizing committee formed under the supervision of USA Shooting.

2.4.2 State Championships Organizing Committees

A USA Shooting member club may organize state championships. The championships may be conducted at more than one site because of distance or range capacity with combined results to determine the champion. Only one open state championship per event may be conducted per state in any one calendar year.

2.4.3 Other Competition Organizing Committees

Other USA Shooting sanctioned competitions may be organized by a USA Shooting club or other organization, provided the competition includes one or more USA Shooting recognized events.

2.5 Competition Fees

Fees may be charged and collected from participants in sanctioned competitions to pay all or part of the costs of administering and conducting the competition, providing awards for competitors, fund raising and a reasonable profit for the organization conducting the competition.

2.5.1 USA Shooting Sanctioning Fee

The organizing committee will remit proper fees to USA Shooting within 30 days of the completion of the competition.

2.5.2 USA Shooting Special Fees

Additional fees may be charged by USA Shooting for events that have USA Shooting provided awards or have USA Shooting provided special benefits for the competitors; i.e., Regional matches, Junior Olympic State Championships, etc.

2.5.3 Entry Fees

The organizing committee may establish and collect entry fees, as required, on the basis of individual and/or team participation for use in paying competition expenses, providing awards, fund raising and making a reasonable profit. The amount of the entry fees, the award plan and any fund raising plans must be announced in the competition program.

2.6 Competition Administration and Supervision

Competition officials are responsible for the administration and conduct of shooting competitions in accordance with USA Shooting regulations and rules. Competition officials include both the competition staff and members of juries.

2.6.1 Application of Rules

It is the duty of all competition officials to know the competition regulations and rules and to apply them fairly, faithfully and impartially. In cases where ambiguity or doubt exists regarding a rule interpretation, the benefit of doubt must go to the competitor.

It is the intent of USA Shooting that competition officials have latitude to apply rules regarding shooting equipment with flexibility, to accommodate new or entry level

competitors only, if such decisions conform with the spirit of these rules. Variations regarding equipment are not permitted in team trials or national championships or when national records are recognized.

2.6.2 Competition Officials Training and Licensing

USA Shooting offers a program of training and licensing to persons who wish to improve their qualifications and ability to serve as competition officials. USA Shooting licenses or endorses the licensing of competition officials at four levels. All USA Shooting licenses are valid for a period of four years and may be renewed after each four-year period. All ISSF licenses are valid for a period of four years and may be renewed for additional periods of four years. USA Shooting will establish fees that must accompany USA Shooting license applications. All officials must be current members of USA Shooting as required in the bylaws. Licensing levels and qualifications are:

USA Shooting Level I. An official qualified to officiate competitions at club, state and regional levels. To be certified at this level, the official must pass a home study course established by USA Shooting. To be renewed, an official must provide a log confirming that he/she officiated in ISSF or USA Shooting sanctioned competitions of any type for a minimum of 20 hours per year.

USA Shooting Level II. An official qualified to officiate competitions at all national levels, including the national championships and team trials. To be certified at this level, the official must have served as a Level I Competition Official for a period of at least one year, shadowed an official at least one USA Shooting event and complete a course of instruction on competition officiating provided or sanctioned by USA Shooting. To be renewed, an official must provide a log confirming that he/she officiated in ISSF or USA Shooting sanctioned competitions of any type for a minimum of 20 hours per year.

ISSF B Judge. An official qualified to act as an official judge at all international competitions except the Olympic Games and World Championships. This license is approved and issued only by the ISSF. Applicants for ISSF B licenses must be licensed as a USA Shooting Level II Competition Official for a minimum of one year and must attend an ISSF Judges Training Course. Applications are submitted to USA Shooting who will submit the application to the ISSF. Applications for extensions or renewals are also submitted through USA Shooting.

ISSF A Judge. An official qualified to act as an official judge at all international competitions including the Olympic Games and World Championships. This license is approved and issued only by the ISSF. Applicants for ISSF A licenses must first be licensed as an ISSF B Judge. Applications are submitted to USA Shooting, which submits the application to the ISSF. Applications for extensions or renewals are also submitted through USA Shooting.

Once a USAS Level II license is obtained, renewal of the USAS Level I license is no longer provided. Once an ISSF B Judges license is obtained, renewal of USAS Level II licenses is no longer provided.

2.6.3 Competition Staff

The organizing committee appoints the competition staff. One or more members of each competition staff should be USA Shooting licensed officials. Competition staff members are responsible for the actual administration and conduct of the competition. The staff normally shall include a competition director, and such other competition officials as are identified in the rules, including range officers, classification officers, clay target referees and other staff necessary to properly, safely and effectively administer the competition.

2.6.4 Competition Juries

Juries are appointed to assure that USA Shooting competition regulations and rules are properly enforced and to rule on disputes and protests. The organizing committee may appoint one combined jury or separate juries for one or more of the rifle, pistol, running target, clay target and classification functions. A jury must include at least three members who may or may not be competition officials, competitors or team officials in that competition. If possible, the jury chairman should hold a current ISSF Judges License or be a USA Shooting licensed competition official. Juries in USA Shooting sanctioned competitions are responsible for advising competition officials and deciding protests, including scoring protests, but will not directly supervise the competition officials. Jury decisions must be based on applicable USA Shooting regulations and rules. Juries may not make rulings that violate current USA Shooting regulations and rules. The competition director will select the jury members to adjudicate any dispute and will name a replacement for a jury member who must excuse himself due to personal involvement. At USA Shooting sanctioned PTO matches the decision of the Jury is final and may not be appealed.

2.6.5 Jury of Appeal

The USA Shooting will no longer have a National Jury of Appeal. All protests and appeals are to be resolved during the competition by the appointed Competition Jury.

2.6.6 USA Shooting Technical Delegates

USA Shooting may, as its option, appoint a USA Shooting technical delegate for a specific sanctioned competition. Technical delegates must be ISSF licensed judges or USA Shooting licensed competition officials. Technical delegates are responsible for examining the preparations and facilities and for advising the organizing committee before the competition. The technical delegate will assist and support the competition staff before and during the competition. If a technical delegate is appointed for a sanctioned competition, the technical delegate will serve as the jury chairman for that competition.

3.0 RECOGNIZED EVENTS

Recognized shooting events are events that an organizing committee may include in its program for a sanctioned competition. Organizing committees may include one or several events from one or more disciplines on a competition program.

3.1 Recognized ISSF Events

USA Shooting recognizes most shooting events recognized by the ISSF, along with additional events not recognized by the ISSF.

3.1.1 Men's Events:

Name of Event	
300m Rifle 3 Positions Men	3x40 shots prone, standing, kneeling
300m Rifle Prone Men	60 shots prone
300m Standard Rifle Men	3x20 shots prone, standing, kneeling
50 m Rifle 3 Positions Men	3x40 shots prone, standing, kneeling
50m Rifle Prone Men	60 shots prone
10m Air Rifle Men	60 shots standing
50m Pistol Men	60 shots
25m Rapid Fire Pistol Men	60 shots
25m Center Fire Pistol Men	30+30 shots
25m Standard Pistol Men	3x20 shots
10m Air Pistol Men	60 shots
Trap Men	125 targets
Double Trap Men	125 targets
Skeet Men	125 targets

3.1.2 Women's Events:

Name of Event	
300m Rifle 3 Positions Women	3x20 shots prone, standing, kneeling
300m Rifle Prone Women	60 shots prone
50m Rifle 3 Positions Women	3x20 shots prone, standing, kneeling
50m Rifle Prone Women	60 shots prone
10m Air Rifle Women	40 shots standing
25m Pistol Women	30+30 shots
10m Air Pistol Women	40 shots
Trap Women	75 targets
Double Trap Women	120 targets
Skeet Women	75 targets

3.1.3 Junior Men's Events:

Name of Event	
50 m Rifle 3 Positions Junior Men	3x40 shots prone, standing, kneeling
50m Rifle Prone Junior Men	60 shots prone
10m Air Rifle Junior Men	60 shots standing
50m Pistol Junior Men	60 shots
25m Rapid Fire Pistol Junior Men	60 shots
25m Center Fire Pistol Junior Men	30+30 shots
25m Standard Pistol Junior Men	3x20 shots
10m Air Pistol Junior Men	60 shots
Trap Junior Men	125 targets
Double Trap Junior Men	125 targets
Skeet Junior Men	125 targets

3.1.4 Junior Women's Events:

Name of Event	
50m Rifle 3 Positions Junior Women	3x20 shots prone, standing, kneeling
50m Rifle Prone Junior Women	60 shots prone
10m Air Rifle Junior Women	40 shots standing
25m Pistol Junior Women	30+30 shots
10m Air Pistol Junior Women	40 shots
Trap Junior Women	75 targets
Skeet Junior Women	75 targets

3.2 Recognized Special Events

USA Shooting recognizes some additional special shooting events, which are variations of recognized ISSF events, to encourage participation, support competitions organized by USA Shooting constituent organizations, and to address unique competition conditions in the United States. Organizing committees may designate any event "Open" even though it may normally be "Men's" or "Women's"; i.e., 50M Rifle Three Positions Men.

3.3 Recognized Developmental Events

USA Shooting recognizes shooting events with courses of fire similar to ISSF events, which utilize special equipment and targets designed for new and recreational competitors. These events are intended to promote mass participation in shooting competitions that offer junior and grassroots development opportunities and which lead to participation in ISSF shooting events.

50 Feet Rifle 3 Positions Men & Women	3x20 shots prone, standing, kneeling
50 Feet Rifle Prone Men & Women	60 shots prone
50 Feet Pistol Men	60 shots
50 Feet Rapid Fire Pistol Men	60 shots
50 Feet Center Fire Pistol Men	30+30 shots
50 Feet Standard Pistol Men	3x20 shots
50 Feet Pistol Women	30+30 shots
Trap Men & Women	250 Targets
Double Trap Men & Women	300 Targets
Skeet Men & Women	250 Targets
10M Air Pistol Standard 5 Shot Women	30 shots
10M Air Pistol Standard 5 Shot Men	40 shots

3.4 Team Events

USA Shooting recognizes three member teams for team events.

4.0 ELIGIBILITY TO PARTICIPATE

Eligibility regulations determine who is eligible to participate in sanctioned competitions or compete in different groups, classes, categories or types of competition. Competitors who meet specific eligibility requirements for groups, classes, categories or types of competition are eligible to compete in those groups, classes, categories or types of competition.

4.1 Membership Requirements

To be eligible to participate in USA shooting sanctioned individual and team competition, participating competitors must fulfill USA Shooting membership requirements.

4.1.1 USA Shooting Membership

All participants in USA Shooting sanctioned matches must be individual members of USA Shooting.

4.1.4 Non-US Citizens

Non-resident, non-U.S. citizens may participate in all USA Shooting sanctioned competitions. They are not required to be USA Shooting members if they are current members of their own national shooting federation. Competition programs may restrict eligibility for awards and championships to U.S. citizens and may provide for special awards for visitors when such restrictions are applied. Resident aliens must meet U.S.

citizenship requirements before they are eligible for membership on the U.S. Shooting Team, National Team, National Development Team or Junior Olympic Team. Non-US citizens are not eligible for championship awards at the USA Shooting National Championships, State or National Junior Olympic Championships or USA Shooting Selection matches. Visitor awards may be provided at these competitions.

4.1.5 Club Team Members

All members of club teams must have been active, fully-paid members of the club or organization which the team represents for a period of at least 30 days immediately prior to the competition.

4.2 Residency

Participants in competitions restricted by these regulations or the competition program to residency in a defined geographic area must fulfill applicable residency requirements.

4.2.1 Residency Restrictions

The residency of competitors is determined by their “permanent legal residence.” Temporarily attending a college or university does not constitute permanent residency. Competition organizing committees may provide for exceptions in the competition program.

4.3 J1/ Intermediate (age 18-20)

USA Shooting recognizes and encourages competitions with junior events or special junior awards in open events to promote youth shooting and competitor development. Juniors are competitors who will be under the age of 21 on December 31 of the year of the competition. USA Shooting recognizes two additional junior age groups that may be used by competition organizing committees. Special age designations may be provided for based on the competition.

4.3.1 J2/ Junior (age 15 - 17)

Competitors who will be under the age of 18 and over the age of 15 on December 31 of the year of the competition.

4.3.2 J3/ Sub Junior (age 14 And under)

Competitors who will be under the age of 15 on December 31 of the year of the competition.

4.3.3 Eligibility For Awards

When junior age group competition is provided in an event, competitors in those age groups are eligible to win junior and open awards in events that have those awards in addition to any awards they win in their junior age group. USA Shooting recommends that local organizing committees pass down age group awards to promote interest and participation; i.e., if a J2 is high junior, then the next highest J2 receives the high J2 award in that event.

4.4 Senior Age Groups

USA Shooting recognizes and encourages competition in senior age groups, as a means of promoting life-long participation in the shooting sports. To enhance sighting, an optical assistance device up to 1.5x enhancement is permitted in either the front sight or rear sight, or on the shooting glasses, in the senior age categories only. The rule allows the use of “Eagle Eye” or similar commercial front sight or diopter rear aperture to aid the competitor in obtaining a better sight picture. Telescopic sights or enhancement greater than 1.5x are not permitted. Using this type of system must be declared during registration. If so registered, competitor is not eligible for finals or team selection positions.

4.4.1 Intermediate Senioir (age 55-64)

Competitors who will be at least age 55 but no over age 64 anytime during the calendar year of the competition.

4.4.2 Veteran Senior (age 65+)

Competitors who will be age 65 and up.

4.5 Categories

USA Shooting recognizes competitor categories that may be used by competition sponsors to promote participation and recognition of competitors in those categories.

4.5.1 Collegiate

Regularly enrolled undergraduate students who carry 12 or more semester hours or the equivalent in an accredited two or four-year college or university and who have not received a bachelor's degree. Eligible collegiate competitors who receive their bachelor's degree in the spring may compete as collegiate competitors that year. Eligibility to compete as a collegiate competitor shall extend for a maximum of four years within a five-year period beginning when a student first attends any class as a full-time (12 or more credit hours) student. The five-year period begins no later than the year of the 20th birthday and may only be interrupted by extended military service (60 consecutive days or more), service with a recognized foreign aid agency of the U.S. Government or a certified missionary service.

4.6 Team Competition

Organizing committees may offer competition in team events for club or open teams as defined in GR 4.6.1 and GR 4.6.2 below. They may also offer team events in age groups and/or in categories. Organizing committees have the option of offering events or awards restricted to club teams as a means of promoting and encouraging the development of club shooting activities.

4.6.1 Club Teams

Club teams are teams made up of competitors representing USA Shooting affiliated clubs, where all team members reside in the geographic proximity of the club and are regular participants in ongoing club activities. In cases of doubt, the competition manager and jury shall decide whether a team in question is eligible to compete as a club team.

4.6.2 Open Teams

Any team representing a USA Shooting affiliated club or having any organization in common.

4.6.3 Eligibility To Participate In Team Events

No competitor may fire on more than one team in any one event. An individual competitor may fire in both a 2-person team and a 3-person team in the same event. Teams representing USA Shooting affiliated state associations, leagues and other associations (composed of more than one club) are not club teams, but may participate as open teams.

4.7 Disabled Competitors

USA Shooting sanctioned competition organizing committees are encouraged to accommodate disabled competitors in their competitions. Disabled competitors may participate as regular participants or in special disabled shooting events.

4.7.1 Special Positions

Shooting positions, disability classifications, special adaptations and special equipment for disabled competitors are permitted as defined by the various international or national organizations sponsoring shooting programs for the disabled.

4.7.2 Eligibility For Awards And Records

Competition programs must state whether disabled competitors are eligible to win championship awards or special awards in that competition. Disabled competitors are not eligible to establish national records unless national record categories for disabled competitors are provided.

4.7.3 Temporary Disabilities

Competitors with a temporary physical disability that prevents using a specified shooting position may, with the approval of the competition manager, use a more difficult position in lieu of that position. The standing position is defined as the most difficult, followed by the kneeling position, followed by the prone position. Temporary disability authorizations cannot be given for participation in team trials, State Junior Olympic competitions, or national championships. National records will not be recognized when such authorizations are used.

5.0 COMPETITOR CLASSIFICATION

USA Shooting administers a competitor classification system that may be used by organizing committees to permit competitors to compete for awards among others of similar abilities. The USA Shooting classification system provides uniform national standards for classifying competitors. It also gives organizing committees flexibility to adapt the classification system to accommodate the numbers and skill levels of competitors in their area. Competition programs must state whether a classification system will be used.

5.1 National Classification Administration

USA Shooting will maintain a national classification registry with the names, addresses, competitor information and scores fired by competitors in USA Shooting sanctioned competitions. Organizing committees must report scores using the online RailStation system to USA Shooting on the USA Shooting website within 30 days after each competition. The report must include the name, address and USA Shooting membership number of each participating competitor, and all scores fired by that competitor in each event of the competition. Scores fired in event *finals* will not be reported for classification purposes.

5.2 Official Classification

Competitors will be officially classified by USA Shooting using one of the six classifications that are established for event groupings within each of the four shooting disciplines. Classifications will be based on the average of the last three courses of fire in sanctioned competition. Women will receive classification cards in women's events only and men will receive classification cards in men's events only.

5.2.1 Classification Update

Classification Cards are available to each competitor who has shot three courses of fire in Olympic style events. A minimum of three (3) Olympic courses of fire per event is required for issuance of a classification card. The classification card will give the official classification of each competitor based on his or her average score in each event. Classification cards can be printed online once a member has logged on to the Rail Station system at www.usashooting.org. A competitor's classification is updated automatically based on submitted scores.

5.2.2 Use Of Classification Record Card

Competitors should keep their classification card with them to present at all competitions. This will assist match directors at local competitions with putting the competitor in the proper class.

5.2.3 Changes in Official Classification

Each competitor should keep a record of matches with scores shot on the back of their classification card. Competitors should use their last three courses of fire in any event to determine proper classification. Classification designation can be moved to the next higher or lower class based on the average of the last three courses of fire shot. This

will show if a higher or lower classification is warranted other than what was issued by USA Shooting.

5.2.4 Unclassified Competitors

Competitors who do not have a USA Shooting classification are considered unclassified. They will be assigned by the competition manager to shoot in a classification based on their known ability (see the standards for “known ability” in 5.6.1). The unclassified competitor should immediately begin tracking and calculating his or her average after each competition for each event group. Until the competitor fires 120 competition shots (125 targets in shotgun events) in an event group, the classification will be based on his or her current average. Once a competitor reaches a minimum of 120 shots at the end of a competition, his or her average will be the official classification and will then change in accordance with 5.2.3.

5.3 Classification Averages

Official classifications are established in each of the following groups of events within a discipline. Score averages should be based on the equivalent of the last three courses of fire. When calculating averages the numbers are not rounded.

5.3.1 Rifle Three Position Classification

For competition in 300m, 50m, 50 yard and 50 foot, outdoor and indoor three position events.

AA.....	95 and above
A.....	93 to 94.99
B.....	91 to 92.99
C.....	87 to 90.99
D.....	86.99 and below

5.3.2 Rifle Prone Classification

For competition in 300m, 50m, 50 yard, 50 foot outdoor and indoor prone events.

AA.....	98 and above
A.....	97 to 97.99
B.....	95 to 96.99
C.....	92 to 94.99
D.....	91.99 and below

5.3.3 Rifle Air Classification

For competition in 10m standing events (to be used when standing is the only position in the match).

AA.....	95 and above
A.....	90 to 94.99
B.....	85 to 89.99

- C.....80 to 84.99
- D.....79.99 and below

5.3.5 Free Pistol Classification

For competition in 50m, 50 yard and 50 foot, free pistol events.

- AA.....90 and above
- A.....86 to 89.99
- B.....80 to 85.99
- C.....74 to 79.99
- D.....73.99 and below

5.3.7 Air Pistol Classification

For competition in 10m air pistol events.

- AA.....92 and above
- A.....88 to 91.99
- B.....84 to 87.99
- C.....78 to 83.99
- D.....77.99 and below

5.3.8 Rapid Fire, Standard, Sport and Center Fire Pistol Classification

For competition in 25m, 25 yard and 50 foot rapid fire, standard, sport and center fire pistol events.

- AA.....93 and above
- A.....90 to 92.99
- B.....87 to 89.99
- C.....83 to 86.99
- D.....82.99 and below

5.3.11 Trap Classification

For competition in trap events.

- AA.....91 and above
- A.....85 to 90.99
- B.....79 to 84.99
- C.....75 to 78.99
- D.....74.99 and below

5.3.12 Double Trap Classification

For competition in double trap events.

- AA.....87 and above
- A.....81 to 86.99
- B.....75 to 80.99
- C.....69 to 74.99
- D.....68.99 and below

5.3.13 Skeet Classification

For competition in skeet events.

AA.....	92 and above
A.....	86 to 91.99
B.....	80 to 85.99
C.....	74 to 79.99
D.....	73.99 and below

5.4 Insufficient Competitors In A Class

When there are insufficient entries in any class to warrant an award in that class according to the competition program conditions, a classification may be combined with the next higher class until there are enough for an award. They may not be combined downward; i.e., "A" could be combined with AA if "A" did not have enough entries, and C could be combined with B if C did not have enough entries, etc.

5.6 Adapted Classification System

At local level PTO matches, organizing committees/match directors have the option of using the official USA Shooting classification or establishing an adapted classification system of their choosing. If an adapted classification system will be used it must be announced in the program for that competition.

5.6.1 Known Ability

To arrive at known ability a competition director may consider, in the order listed:

1. The official classification of the competitor
2. The competitor's average for the previous year as printed in the **Classification Record Card**.
3. The competitor's average for the current year as posted in the **Classification Record Card**.
4. Classifications and score averages in other shooting events or event groupings in the same discipline; i.e., a standing classification could be used to classify a competitor who has no three position rifle classification.
5. Scores or classification in events sanctioned by other shooting organizations.
6. Scores in non-sanctioned events.

5.6.3 Competing In A Higher Class

A competitor may elect, before competition begins, to compete in a higher class than the one in which classified. The competitor must fire in the higher class throughout the competition for all events in that event grouping.

6.0 NATIONAL RECORDS

USA Shooting recognizes national records for each ISSF, special event, and developmental events recognized by USA Shooting. For the junior category, records will be recognized for Junior (open), J2, and J3. Intermediate and Veteran Senior category records will also be recognized. Three-person team records will be recognized along with 2-person team records in those events that allow 2-person teams. (See GR3.3 for list of special/developmental events.)

6.1 Requirements For National Records

To be recognized as a national record, the score must be fired in a USA Shooting recognized special or developmental event or an ISSF event in a USA Shooting sanctioned competition. The competition must have been conducted on facilities that meet all technical requirements for distances, timing, etc. The competitor who fired the record score must be a current USA Shooting member and have used only equipment that completely fulfills all requirements for that event as per the General Technical Rules. If equipment control was not conducted at the beginning of the competition, the competition director may conduct a special equipment control to certify that the competitor's equipment fulfilled these conditions. National records may not be set in leagues or postal competitions.

Individual records may be set in those events that contain a minimum of 5 competitors for all 10m events and 50m events and a minimum of 4 competitors in all 25m events and shotgun events. Any event fired at a reduced distance with reduced distance targets, must follow all requirements of the official event. (i.e. 50-meter events reduced to 50-feet must follow requirements for the 50-meter event.) Team records may be set in only those events that contain a minimum of three (3) teams. Two-person team records can be established in Clay Target events. All other team records consist of three-person teams.

National records will be recognized if the score is fired in an international competition supervised by the ISSF. The competitor must have been a member of the USA Shooting sponsored team for that activity.

6.2 Reporting National Records

When a national record is equaled or exceeded, the organizing committee must report this on a national record application form (available on USA Shooting web site at www.usashooting.org) provided by USA Shooting. The competition director and jury chairman must certify that the requirements for national records were fully met by each competitor who established a record score. When organizing committees fail to report national records, competitors who fire possible records may send a National Record application to USA Shooting to have their record recognized. An official results list for the competition should be sent in with the application.

6.3 Recognition Of National Records

No national record is official until recognized by USA Shooting and a national record certificate issued. USA Shooting will maintain national record lists that will be available to competition organizing committees and posted on the official web site.

7.0 ANTI-DOPING CONTROL

The United States Anti-Doping Agency (USADA) or USA Shooting will normally conduct testing for banned substances during the USA Shooting National Championships and Team Trials. Testing for banned substances may be conducted by USADA or USA Shooting at other USA Shooting sanctioned competitions at the option of USA Shooting.

7.1 Drug Testing Procedures

Testing procedures will follow procedures and requirements established by USADA and ISSF.

7.2 Banned Substances

All drugs on the current IOC and ISSF prohibited substances lists are banned, and positive tests for any drugs on these lists are grounds for penalties (7.5).

7.3 Competitor Responsibility

All competitors subject to drug testing are responsible for assuring that any drugs or medications they take do not contain banned substances. Competitors or their physicians wanting assistance in checking medications may contact the US Anti-Doping Agency (USADA) Drug Hotline (800-233-0393). Competitors are strongly urged to use USADA or other available assistance in checking medications before taking them; but regardless of any advice given by medical professionals, the competitor is responsible for any banned substances detected during drug testing. Failure to comply with testing or to appear for a drug test can result in the same penalty as a positive drug test.

7.4 Competitors to Be Tested

USA Shooting and/or USADA will determine the number of tests to be conducted and the method of selecting competitors to be tested.

7.5 Penalties

Competitors testing positive may be suspended from participating in USA Shooting sanctioned competitions or ISSF and USOC events for periods to be determined by USADA or the World Anti-Doping Agency (WADA).