

Competition Regulations

Scottish Historical Rifle Championships

Castlelaw 4 September 2022

INTRODUCTION

After a hiatus of two years, the Vintage Arms Scotland is hosting the fifteenth NRA Scottish Historical Championships at Castlelaw Range, Edinburgh. The aim of this open meeting is to foster an interest in shooting historical arms in Scotland, to facilitate communication between shooters in the more northerly reaches of the kingdom, and to be an annual competitive event.

Competition Conditions

The event will be governed by the regulations laid down by the National Rifle Association for the conduct of Historical Arms Competitions as defined by the rules of shooting for the Platinum Jubilee Imperial Meeting (The Bisley Bible), and The NRA Handbook Vol 7 Classic and Historic Rulebook amended as necessary by these regulations. The interpretation of these rules will be carried out by the Meet Director, whose decision will be final.

Classes

Eligibility for competitions will be determined by the classification of arms within the following age and ammunition classes:

Age/Type Classes:

Muzzle Loading Any rifle loaded solely via the muzzle

Black Powder

Issue iron sights

Contemporary Sling

Vintage Early Breechloader available prior to 1890

Black Powder

Issue iron sights

Contemporary Sling

Classic Service Smokeless Breechloader available prior to 1919.

Issue iron sights

Contemporary Sling

Veteran Service Firearms available between 1919 and 1945

Issue iron sights

Contemporary Sling

Cold War Service Firearms available between 1945 and 1991

Issue iron sights
Contemporary Sling
Necessary modifications to allow legal possession are permitted.

Historic Service Sniping Rifle

A sniping rifle as issued to any country's armed forces with a design date prior to 1946. (Includes Pre 1918 scoped sporting rifles of appropriate calibre fitted with contemporaneous sights). Slings of contemporaneous design permitted.

Historic Target Rifle

Any rifle (target rifle or military rifle) with a design date prior to the end of 1970 and fitted with contemporaneous target sights (iron). Slings of contemporaneous design permitted. (7.62x51 re-barrelling permitted)

Hunter

A centre fire hunting rifle fitted with a telescopic sight and a bipod rest. Loading to be compatible with the range regulations and **using non expanding ammunition.**

Open

Any rifle within the capability of the range or any of the above having modifications which render them ineligible within their class. Slings and bipods not permitted.

Ammunition Classes:

Miniature

Rim fire not exceeding .23" (5.84mm), or the following **low power** centre fire rounds: .297"/.230", .310 Cadet.

Small

Under 0.33" (8.38mm) centre fire.

Medium

Between 0.33" (8.38mm) and 0.476" (12.09mm) with a design ME less than 3319 ft/lbf (4500J). Specifically excluded rounds include:

.45/75 Winchester, .40/90 Sharps, .360" Gibbs, .375" H&H Magnum all of which are classified as small.

Large

Rounds with a calibre greater than .476" (12.09mm) with a design ME less than 3319 ft/lbf (4500J). Specifically excluded rounds include: .500" Nitro Express which is classified as medium bore.

No expanding ammunition or ammunition generating a muzzle energy of more than 4500J is to be used during this event.

COURSES OF FIRE

Seven courses of fire will be available, all from 200M:

Muzzle Loading

Best 10 from 13 shots

Target : HBSA Round Bull Scoring 5, 4, 3, 2

Position : prone unsupported/ standing in fire trench

All shots to be completed within 30 mins

Deliberate 2 Sighting shots (non convertible) +
10 to count (marked)

Target : HBSA Tin Hat Scoring X, V, 5, 4, 3, 2

Position : prone unsupported/ standing supported in fire trench

Eligibility – All Classes

These competitions will be shot in pairs, with each competitor marking each other's score. Each shot will be marked with a disk, with the score being indicated along the bottom of the target. Although there is no specific time limit, shooters are to complete the match within 30min.

Single Snap 2 Sighting shots (non convertible) +
10 to count

For Vintage Class

Target : "Kneeling Man" Scoring 5, 3

Position : prone unsupported/ standing in fire trench

Use of slings and gloves not permitted in any class

10 exposures of 3 seconds with an interval of 6 – 20 seconds.

This competition will be shot as an individual. The first two shots will be marked with a disk after each shot. The targets will then be pasted up. Shooters will then load with up to 5 rounds, and made ready (one round in the chamber and a maximum of four rounds in the magazine). The command will be given "Watch and Shoot".

10 exposures – one round per exposure.

Rounds may be loaded using the approved method with charger clips, loose rounds or by exchanging magazines for rifles where this is the accepted drill. There may not be more than 5 rounds on the firearm at any one time. Strict adherence to range handling rules, particularly the 3 degree rule will be enforced. Dangerous weapon handling will result in instant disqualification.

Score cards will be completed by range staff.

Double Snap 2 Sighting shots (non convertible) +
10 to count
Target : “Kneeling Man” Scoring 5, 3
Position : prone unsupported/ standing in fire trench

Use of slings and gloves not permitted in any class

5 exposures of 5 seconds with an interval of 6 – 20 seconds.

This competition will be shot as an individual. The first two shots will be marked with a disk after each shot. The targets will then be pasted up. Shooters will then load with up to 5 rounds and made ready (one round in the chamber and a maximum of four rounds in the magazine). The command will be given “Watch and Shoot”.

5 exposures – two round per exposure.

Rounds may be loaded using the approved method with charger clips, loose rounds or by exchanging magazines*. There may not be more than 5 rounds on the firearm at any one time. Strict adherence to range handling rules, particularly the 3 degree rule will be enforced. Dangerous weapon handling will result in instant disqualification.

*Lee Enfield rifles are to be loaded using chargers or loose rounds and not by exchanging magazines.

Score cards will be completed by range staff.

**Rapid
(Mad
Minute)** 2 Sighting Shots (non transferable) +
As many shots as can be safely discharged in one minute.
Target : Fig 11 type on 4ft screen Scoring 5, 3
Position : prone unsupported/ standing in fire trench
Eligibility : All Classes
Use of slings and gloves not permitted

This competition will be shot as an individual. The first two shots will be marked with a disk after each shot. The target will then be pasted up. Rifles will then be loaded and made ready with a maximum of five rounds. The command will be given “Watch and Shoot”.

On the appearance of the target, the shooter may fire. Rounds may be loaded using the approved method with charger clips, loose rounds or by exchanging magazines*. There may not be more than 5 rounds on the firearm at any one time. Strict adherence to range handling rules, particularly the 3 degree rule will be enforced. Dangerous weapon handling will result in instant disqualification.

*Lee Enfield rifles are to be loaded using chargers or loose rounds and not by exchanging magazines.

Score cards will be completed by range staff

Sniping (McQueen) 2 Sighting Shots (non transferable) +
10 shots to count
Target : Fig 14 Scoring 5, 3
Position : Prone/ standing in fire trench (see Conditions)
Eligibility : Classic/Veteran – with contemporaneous optical sights
Open – any sight

Slings & Gloves permitted

Use of bipods prohibited in all but open class. Rifle may be rested on a sandbag or any suitable rest.

This competition will be shot as an individual. A single target on a screen will be exposed to the right hand side of the rampart. The first two shots will be marked with a disk after each shot. The targets will then be pasted up. Shooters will then load with up to 5 rounds, and made ready. The command will be given “Watch and Shoot”. The target will make a series of 10 exposures of three seconds over cover and through loop holes, with irregular intervals of between five and twenty seconds. The sequence will be varied between competitors. One round is to be fired per exposure.

Rounds may be loaded using the approved method with charger clips, loose rounds or by exchanging magazines*. There may not be more than 5 rounds on the firearm at any one time. Strict adherence to range handling rules, particularly the 3 degree rule will be enforced. Dangerous weapon handling will result in instant disqualification

*Lee Enfield rifles are to be loaded using chargers or loose rounds and not by exchanging magazines.

Score cards will be completed by range staff.

Fixed Bayonet 2 Sighting Shots (Non Transferable) +
5 shots in 30 seconds bare rifle +
5 shots in 30 seconds with bayonet fitted
Target Fig 11 type on a 4 ft Screen scoring 5,3
Position : prone unsupported/ standing in fire trench
Eligibility : Military classes fitted with correct bayonet

Use of slings and gloves not permitted

This competition will be shot as an individual. The first two shots will be marked with a disk after each shot. The target will then be pasted up. Rifles will then be loaded and made ready with a maximum of five rounds. The command will be given “Watch and Shoot”. On the appearance of the target, the shooter is to fire five rounds in 30 seconds. On the disappearance of the target, the RCO is to give the command “unload” and inspect the weapon.

The command “Fix Bayonets” is then to be given. The shooter will draw the bayonet and fix it to the firearm. The RCO is to then check that the bayonet is securely fixed. The command “With five rounds – load” is then given followed by “Ready - watch and shoot – watch and shoot”. The target with

then be raised for another 30 seconds at which a maximum of five rounds will be fired.

The RCO will then give the command “Unload”. Weapons will be checked and then the command “Unfix Bayonets” will be given at which time bayonets will be removed, sheathed and put away.

Notes:

The aim of the match is to test the ability of the shooter to compensate for the effects of fitting a bayonet to the rifle. In most cases this will cause the mean point of impact to change. A service rifle shooter was expected to be able to cope with this change without recourse to sighting shots. Service competitions reflected this need by incorporating matches with bayonets fitted.

Bayonets must be of the correct pattern for the firearm and be in good working order, as must be the bayonet fittings on the firearm.

Participants are to be aware that Bayonets can be considered to be “Offensive Weapons” under the Criminal Law (Consolidation) (Scotland) Act 1995 which prohibits the carrying of knives and other articles with blades or points in public places without ‘Good Reason’. We would therefore advise that bayonets are only taken along with firearms directly to a range for a **specific** practice under similar arrangements for the carriage of arms i.e. secured and out of public view. Shooters are to keep bayonets cased or sheathed off the firing point and are only to draw them on the firing point under the direct supervision of the Range Officer. The carrying of bayonets on belts and webbing on ranges by participants is specifically forbidden

CONDITIONS & CONDUCT

Personal Protection Equipment

All personnel before moving onto the firing point **must** be wearing both hearing and eye protection of an approved type.

Use of Aids to shooting etc.

The aim of historical shooting is to use firearms as closely as possible to the way they were originally used. Firearms which have been modified to improve performance by using modern materials do not comply with this “spirit of the original” and are not eligible to compete in their original class. The class to which a firearm belongs for the purposes of this meeting will be determined by the range officer, whose decision is final.

Competition is to be confined to shooting and weapon handling skills wherever possible. Regardless of the capacity of magazine rifles, no more than 5 rounds will be loaded at any one time in timed practices. Non-standard practices, such as exchanging magazines on Lee Enfield rifles are not permitted.

Slings may only be used on deliberate competitions. Slings are not to be used on timed matches with the exception of sniper matches.

Competitors are asked not to wear military uniform, or dress in such a way that would suggest to an observer that military training is underway.

Entries and Squadding

All entries will be unsquadded. Shooters are to present themselves at the appropriate firing point to shoot. Shooters may submit one card at a time to the manifester who will call them forward to shoot. Shooters must remain ready to shoot when called once a card has been submitted.

Butt Duty (if required)

Normally butts will be staffed by a dedicated marking crew for this competition, however all competitors are required to take a duty in the butts if required. Those shooters who are not able to work the target frames will be required to complete radio or scoring duties. If a shooter is unable to complete a butt duty then a substitute must be found and the change reported to the Registrar. Failure to report for butt duty will result in the individual being expelled from the meeting, and from such future competitions that the committee may decide.

Discipline

The NRA rules of shooting as defined for the 2022 Bisley Meeting will be used as the basis for adjudication. A panel of the Meeting Director, the Chief Range Officer and the Umpire will adjudicate on any matters of discipline. A deposit of £5.00 may be payable by any competitor who wishes to appeal to the panel.

The name of any competitor expelled or excluded from the meeting will be notified to the NRA Council.

Registration

On arrival at the range all competitors are to register with reception. The procedure for registration is as follows:

- Complete and sign declaration form & MOD range register.
- Present FAC and Competency Card for inspection if required,
- Be mustered for Butt Duty (if required).
- Have firearms scrutinised and competition cards issued.
- Hand completed cards to range manifest (max 1).

Deliberate Shoots

Competitors are to present themselves to the RCO behind Firing Point 3 who will call them forward to the firing point. Competitors should have with them all the equipment they require to shoot. They will be marshalled onto the firing point in pairs, where they will take up positions to the left of the peg. Cards are to be exchanged between shooters and will be checked by the RCO. Shooters are to mark their partner's card as the shoot progresses. At the end of the shoot, shooters are to sign their own card to accept their score and the cards are passed to the RCO. RCOs are to pass completed cards to stats as soon as possible.

Unsquadded shoots.

Shooters are to present themselves to the RCOs in charge of each event at the points indicated:

| | |
|--------|------------------------|
| Snap | Behind Firing Point 7 |
| Rapid | Behind Firing Point 10 |
| Sniper | Behind Firing Point 12 |

Cards are to be handed to the manifestor who will call forward shooters to the line. On completion of a shoot, the card will be completed and presented to the shooter for signature. RCOs are to pass completed cards to stats as soon as possible

MISCELLANEOUS ADMINISTRATION

Car Parking

All Cars are to be parked in the car park at the entrance to the range complex. No competitors cars are allowed forward of the A range barrier. Overflow car parking is available at Castlelaw Farm.

Toilets

Toilets are available in the butts and in the range shelter by the car park.

First Aid

Minor First Aid will be available at the Stats Tent. Major incidents will be reported immediately to the Chief Range Officer. Ambulance/Accident will be summoned by the Range Staff. Competitors are not to summon the emergency services independently.

Drinking / Smoking

Smoking is not permitted on the firing point. The consumption of alcohol during the competition is expressly forbidden. Competitors are requested to place rubbish in the receptacles provided.

Match Finder

| Match | Calibre | Age | Course | Title | Notes |
|-------|---------|---------------------|---------------|------------------|--------------------------------|
| 1 | Large | ML | Deliberate | The Rev Forsyth | .577 |
| 2 | Med | ML | Deliberate | The Alex Henry | .451 |
| 3 | Large | Vintage | Deliberate | The Dreghorn | BP Breech - Snider |
| 4 | Med | Vintage | Deliberate | The Hunter's Bog | BP Breech - MH |
| 5 | Small | Classic | Deliberate | The Black Dog | Pre 1819 |
| 6 | Small | Vet | Deliberate | The Dechmont | Pre 1945 |
| 7 | Min | Vet | Deliberate | The Howmoor | .22/.310 |
| 8 | Small | Hist Tgt | Deliberate | The Blair Atholl | Eg .No4 PH sights |
| 9 | Pistol | Vet | Deliberate | The Longyester | Historic underlever |
| 10 | Small | Hist Sniper | Deliberate | The Castlelaw | As per Match 25 |
| 11 | Any | Hunter | Deliberate | The Balmoral | With scope + Bipod |
| 12 | Any | Any | Deliberate | The Kenstey | No Bipods |
| 13 | Med | Vint | Snap | The Farqharson | Single Snap |
| 14 | Small | Classic | Snap | The Danl. Fraser | Double Snap |
| 15 | Small | Vet | Snap | The McNaughton | Double Snap |
| 16 | Pistol | Vet | Snap | The Bryce | Historic underlever |
| 17 | Any | Hunter | Snap | The McKinley | Double Snap |
| 18 | Any | Any | Snap | The Dickson | No bipods |
| 19 | Med | Vintage | Rapid | The Alex Martin | |
| 20 | Small | Classic | Rapid | The Horton | |
| 21 | Small | Veteran | Rapid | The McCrirrick | |
| 22 | Pistol | Vet | Rapid | The Ingram | Historic underlever |
| 23 | Any | Hunter | Rapid | The Groat | Scope + Bipod |
| 24 | Any | Any | Rapid | The Malloch | No Bipod |
| 25 | Small | Classic/ Veteran | Sniper | The Ross | Historic Service Sniping Rifle |
| 26 | Small | Historic | Sniper | The Lee | Any Historic rifle |
| 27 | Any | Any | Sniper | The Graham | Optics and bipods permitted |
| 28 | Any | Any Eligible | Fixed Bayonet | The Onion | |
| 29 | Small | Cold War | Deliberate | The Stoner | |
| 30 | Small | Cold War | Rapid | The Jansen | |
| 31 | Small | Cold War | Snap | The Kalashnikov | |