



## Rules for Air Rifle Postal Competition.

### General Information:

The following information is based on World Rules for Air Rifle Benchrest Competitions amended to suit UK shooting

### Affiliation:

UKBR22 is affiliated to the **WRABF** (*World Rimfire and Air Rifle Benchrest Federation*) the **ERABSF** (*European Rimfire and Air Rifle Benchrest Shooting Federation*), **UKBRA** (*United Kingdom Benchrest Rifle Association*) and the **NSRA** (*National Smallbore Rifle Association*).

### Format:

There will be two Matches (Summer and Winter) each consisting of five rounds, one card per round for each class, all five rounds to count towards final aggregate score. The Summer Match will run from May – September, the Winter Match will run from November – March.

### General Rules of Shooting – Definitions

#### Match:

A match contests five main classes: Sporter, International Sporter, Light Varmint and Heavy Varmint class A and B. A competitor can compete only one time in each class at any Match.

#### Match Requirements:

- 1 .All matches will be shot at 25yd/m
- 2 Matches can be shot indoors or outdoors. If indoors then the time limit will be reduced from 30 minutes to 20 minutes. A covered shooting area does not constitute an indoor range if the targets are still in open air.
3. A club must have a minimum of one bench or mat where prone shooting is preferred.
4. If possible all competitors on each relay must be contesting the same class.

5. UK ranges must be Home Office, NSRA or NRA approved and insured, in the case of Air Rifle only clubs, the range must be suitably insured. Overseas competitors must shoot on ranges conforming to their own country/Association guidelines.

6. Where matches are shot by Teams, these Teams to be made up of three shooters with one in reserve. Reserve score only to count if one of the other members is unable to shoot. Team and reserve names to be registered before the season starts. Any number of Teams can enter and be Club, Regional or Country Teams as agreed by the Management Committee. Juniors can be included in the Team but where enough juniors are available a Junior Team is encouraged.

**Bench:**

A bench to be a solidly constructed table with chair or stool, prone shooting to be from mat.

**Position on the bench:**

The rifle shall be so placed that the muzzle extends forward of the bench and the entire receiver of the rifle is behind the firing line.

**Firing Line:**

The firing line shall preferably be coincident with the forward edge of the bench. If not, the line must be clearly marked on the bench.

**Equipment:**

**Rifle.**

Air Rifle - Rifles Chambered for .177, .20 or .22 and of power/velocity as stated in the Class designation section.

**Ammunition:**

Air Rifle ammunition must be a lead pellet in calibre .177 .20 or .22

**Wind Flags.**

Wind flags can be utilized. Flags must be no higher than level of bench top to bottom of target. Shooters must place wind flags in position before match begins. Wind flags cannot be moved or taken down until match is over. If a flag is in a shooter's line of sight, the Range Officer will lay the flag on the ground. This must be done before commence fire.

**Rests:**

A front rest shall only support the front portion of the rifle. The rear rest shall only support the rear portion of the rifle. Neither rest may be attached to the bench, the rifle or each other i.e.: Both parts shall be moveable independently of each other.

**Bi-pods:**

Bi-pods may be used in the Sporter/International Sporter Classes only, these to be commercially available items, fixed or locked during use, with a maximum height of 9" or 225mm. ***The Rules state that rests attached to the rifle will be weighed as part of the rifle.***

**Front Rest:**

Generally the front rest or pedestal does not have restrictions in terms of weight, material and design for these devices. The front rest must incorporate a pliable bag containing sand. The front portion of the rifle shall contact no portion of the rest (other than a stop at the front of the rest that can be used to locate the distance that the rifle is moved towards the target) other than the bag containing the sand. The bottom of the fore end of the stock must form a 100% contact with the top of the sand bag. The rest can incorporate vertical and horizontal adjustments, with any appropriate mechanism used to achieve this.

**Rear Rest:**

To be a bag containing sand. The rear bag can incorporate a vertical spacer (donut) as long as it does not contain horizontal or vertical adjustments. The vertical spacer shall not contain any protrusions which can be inserted into the bench top or the sand bag. The rear bag shall not be contained in any way.

**Sand Bag:**

Sand bags must be pliable, made of leather and/or cloth (i.e. Condura) which are filled with sand, and this material will be a maximum of 3mm or 0.12 inches in thickness across its general surface, the base only can be thicker for stability. Thickness can be tested at the seams of the bag. Solid leather, plastic or wooden bags covered in leather / material is not permitted.

Anti slip surfaces on the bags may be utilised. Talc or non slip compounds can be used to aid tracking of the rifle.

**Restraint of Rifles:**

When rifle is raised straight up, the front and/or rear rest must not rise up with rifle. If the front and/or rear rest raises up with rifle, the front and/or rear rest must be weighed with rifle to determine eligibility. The Rifle can also be slid back and forward to determine if it's being clamped in the rest. Front and/ or rear rifle rest cannot be used to restrain recoil of rifle. In general none of the competitor's equipment may be attached to the bench. Tape on the sandbag is legal.

**Guiding means:**

Any device, addition, contour or dimension on a rifle, designed to co-act with any equipment to guide its return to the firing position, without the necessity to re-aim the rifle optically for each shot shall be deemed illegal.

**Tuners:**

Muzzle flip compensators, variable air strippers and custom brakes are permitted but will be included in the overall weight of gun.

**Course of Fire:**

Generally 25 record shots at 25y/m with a time limit for Matches of maximum 30 minutes outdoors and maximum 20 minutes indoors.

**Eligibility of Competitors:**

All competitors must have UKBR22 membership, UK competitors must be a member of a recognised Shooting Club, and overseas competitors must be members of a Shooting Club approved by their own country/Association. The Match Director has the right to deny the opportunity to compete to any person who they feel does not comply with the above, is incapable of safely completing the match, or to any person who violates Safety or Sportsmanship rules. The Match Directors decision is final; there are no rights of Appeal.

**Safety:**

The Range Officer or Club Official will be responsible to see that appropriate safety precautions are taken. It is expected that all competitors will exercise their best judgment to keep our sport safe for all that participate. The Range Officer to go over basic safety rules if appropriate before a match if there is any question that anyone in attendance may not be familiar with the rules in effect at that range. Recognised Club safety rules will apply.

**Sportsmanship:**

There shall be no boisterous conduct on, or near, the firing line during the firing of any match. Everyone should treat all shooters as they would like to be treated if they were about to shoot a new record score.

**Targets:**

Only Official UKBR22 targets to be used these consist of twenty-five (25) record bulls plus sighters.

**Target Marking Procedures: (All Scoring will be at .22)****Best Edge:**

Best edge scoring will be used throughout all score matches. (If the hole/plug touches the border of the next highest ring, the higher score will be awarded). **10 ring to be obliterated to score and X count.** The score is to be written in the box provided. A shot in the target box but missing the largest ring will be scored as four (4) points. Tears or distortions on the target will not be counted. Perfect score: 250 and 25X's.

**Missing Scoring box:**

All shots that do not enter or touch the scoring box will be awarded a zero.

**Scoring Plugs:**

All shots which cannot be scored by visual scoring will be checked by a certified .22 plug and marked on the target with a "P" to indicate.

**Multiple shots on Targets: \***

Should multiple shots appear on a scoring target, only the lowest score will be counted and will be penalised by subtracting 1 point as a penalty.

**Shots between target blocks:**

Should a shot appear between target blocks, the shot will be plugged and assessed for within which target block appears the majority of the pellet hole. The box with the majority of the pellet hole will be recorded as having been shot.

**First Shot error:**

If the first shot on paper unintentionally hits a record target, the Range Officer must be informed before the second shot is fired. The Range Officer must visually check the target and make a note on target when same is recovered. No penalty will be incurred.

**Weighing Guns:**

We recommend that all guns are weighed before the match begins so no one will get a rude surprise if their equipment is found to be overweight. If a rifle is found to be overweight after a match is fired, the score must be reported as "DQ" (same as any other disqualification). We also recommend that the guns of all winners of prizes, be weighed. ***Please note that if a Bipod is used then this will be weighed as part of the rifle.***

**Bench Drawing:**

If necessary a draw for bench assignments will be made before the first match of the day. Any fair method shall be allowed.

**Tied Score:**

If two, or more, competitors shoot the same score, the X-count will be used to break the tie. If, after including the X-count, the scores are still tied, the scores will be reported as a tie. The winner will be decided on count back from the final round based on scores first then X-count.

**Crossfire:**

In case of a crossfire, if the person making the crossfire reports it first, or admits to it immediately after it's being reported by the person whose target was accidentally fired on, the crossfire will not be counted on the target that was accidentally fired on. The shot will be recorded as if it had impacted on the target of the person making the crossfire. Adjustment to the score of the person making the crossfire, including both the score on that target and the number of shots on the target, will be made, and additionally, a minus ten (-10) point penalty will be added to the score of the person making the crossfire. If the crossfire impacts a bull on which a legitimate shot has also been fired, and it is not possible to determine which shot belongs to which shooter, the highest scoring hole will be counted for the legitimate shot, and the lowest scoring hole will be counted as the crossfire.

**Classes:**

Classes are a combination from various Worldwide Organisations adapted to suit the UK.

## Classifications:

**1. Sporter Air Rifle** - is any rifle having a manually and mechanically (including electronic triggers) operated firing mechanism, max weight not more than **10<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub>** pounds (4.762 Kg) inclusive of scope (and bi-pod if used). Factory stock or stocks that meet 'Stock Clarification' rules may be used. The action can be either spring or pneumatic; air regulators, muzzle flip compensators, variable air strippers and custom brakes are permitted but will be included in the overall weight of gun. Any scope may be used with max magnification of **12X**; scopes with more power will have to be taped in position for duration of match. The trigger can be reworked (or replaced). Return to battery shall NOT be permitted. Power to be restricted, **15 Joules / 12 ft lbs maximum**

**2. International Sporter Air Rifle** - is any rifle having a manually and mechanically (including electronic triggers) operated firing mechanism, weighing not more than **10<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub>** pounds (4.762 kg) inclusive of scope (and bi-pod if used). Factory stock or stocks that meet 'Stock Clarification' rules may be used. The action can be either spring or pneumatic; air regulators, muzzle flip compensators, variable air strippers and custom brakes are permitted but will be included in the overall weight of gun. Any scope may be used with max magnification of **6.5X**; scopes with more power will have to be taped in position for duration of match. The trigger can be reworked (or replaced). Return to battery shall NOT be permitted. Power to be restricted, **8.13 Joules / 6 ft lbs maximum**

**3. Light Varmint Air Rifle** - is any rifle having a manually and mechanically (including electronic triggers) operated firing mechanism, weighing not more than **10<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub>** pounds (4.762 kg) inclusive of sight. The action can be either spring or pneumatic; any air regulator can be used as long as it is integral within the air cylinder. Any modification may be made to the rifle and **any magnification** scope may be used. Factory stock or stocks that meet 'Stock Clarification' rules may be used. Return to battery shall NOT be permitted. Muzzle flip compensators, variable air strippers and custom brakes are permitted There is no restriction on cylinder size or capacity as long as **15 Joules / 12 ft lbs maximum** power is retained and it is integral within the rifle. (Separate Air Cylinders are not allowed, the cylinder must be part of the rifle and the overall weight).

**4. Heavy Varmint Air Rifle Class A** - is any rifle having a manually and mechanically (including electronic triggers) operated firing mechanism, weighing not more than **15** pounds (6.8 kg) inclusive of sight. The action can be either spring or pneumatic; any air regulator can be used as long as it is integral within the air cylinder. Any modification may be made to the rifle and **any magnification** scope may be used. Factory stock or stocks that meet 'Stock Clarification' rules may be used. Return to battery shall NOT be permitted. Muzzle flip compensators, variable air strippers and custom brakes are permitted There is no restriction on cylinder size or capacity as long as **8.13 Joules / 6 ft lbs maximum** power is retained and it is integral within the rifle. (Separate Air Cylinders are not allowed, the cylinder must be part of the rifle and the overall weight).

**5. Heavy Varmint Air Rifle Class B** - is any rifle having a manually and mechanically (including electronic triggers) operated firing mechanism, weighing not more than **15 pounds (6.8 kg)** inclusive of sight. The action can be either spring or pneumatic; any air regulator can be used as long as it is integral within the air cylinder. Any modification may be made to the rifle and **any magnification** scope may be used. Factory stock or stocks that meet 'Stock Clarification' rules may be used. Return to battery shall NOT be permitted. Muzzle flip compensators, variable air strippers and custom brakes are permitted. There is no restriction on cylinder size or capacity as long as **15 Joules / 12 ft lbs maximum** power is retained and it is integral within the rifle. (Separate Air Cylinders are not allowed, the cylinder must be part of the rifle and the overall weight).

#### **Stocks Clarification:**

**Sporter, International Sporter Class:** Stock can be wood or synthetic and must be designed to be shoulder fired, the action area may contain bedding material. The action may be glued into the stock. The Stock must be 57.15 mm (2.25") or under at its widest point, *'unmodified'* manufacturer provisions and/or adjudicated replacements, *in keeping with the original specification*. No stock tape allowed. Forearm and butt of stock that comes in contact with front and rear sandbags must be convex. Convex will be determined by placing a 22mm disc on the stock that comes in contact with sand bags. The outer edges of the disc cannot come in contact with the stock. There must be visible space underneath the outer edges of the disc.

**Light / Heavy Varmint Classes:** the forearm of stock must be either convex or flat, maximum 76.2mm (3") or under at its widest point, this can be a specialist stock or via a flat plate attached to the bottom of the stock, any material can be used. The bottom of the butt of the stock that comes in contact with rear sandbag must be either convex or flat. If flat, the bottom of the butt of stock must be 25mm or under in width.

#### **UK based shooters only:**

Competition stickers will be provided to each competitor, one sticker should be placed on the rear of each competition target so that one of the record shots also passes through the sticker. Each competition target must then be signed by both the competitor and the witness. It would normally be expected that the RCO on duty will act as witness.

Shot targets will be sent to the nominated scorer to arrive by no later than the 10<sup>th</sup> of the month after shooting. Official scores will be posted on the UKBR22 web site. All scores will become final one (1) calendar month later; this is to allow for protests or queries.

#### **None UK bases Shooters:**

Please ensure that your scores are passed to the Competition Secretary promptly.

\* To clarify multiple shots on target:

1) 2 shots on one diagram, correct number of shots on card: 1 penalty point deducted.

2) Unaccounted multiple shots on the card: 25 lowest scoring shots to count, 1 penalty point deducted.