

COSSA Practical Shooters

Rifle, Shotgun, Precision Rifle Rules

November 1, 2010

The term “long-gun” applies to any non-handgun firearm.

The following rules are derived from the 2009 revised USPSA Rifle, Shotgun and Precision Rifle Rules.

1. **CPS SAFE GUN HANDLING:** CPS Rules and match DQ penalties apply.
2. **UNLOADED CONDITION:** Action open; safety engaged (if possible); magazine empty or not attached; no ammunition attached to exterior of shotgun (i.e. Side Saddle™, Redi-Mag™, etc).
3. Long-guns carried anywhere on the range and/or placed or handled in the staging area **MUST BE UNLOADED** and carried:

 With the muzzle straight up and above the head of the tallest person, with either: **A)** action open, safety engaged or **B)** Visible chamber flag inserted, bolt closed, safety engaged.

 OR

 Cased (and carried muzzle angled down).
4. **STAGING AREA:** Each stage will provide a Staging Area for the competitors to place their long-guns. The Staging Area can be a rack or a table facing into and oriented to the side berm so that no person can walk in front of the muzzles.

5. **SAFETY AREA:** The same rules apply as handgun. No ammo or dummy round possession or handling. Dry fire and manipulation is OK.
6. **PRE-LOADING AREA:** The Match Director may designate a Pre-Loading Area for a specific stage. Competitors may pre-load only on designated stages. The Pre-Loading area shall be supervised by a designated Range Officer. The Pre-Loading Area will be sited facing into the berm and outside the active stage boundaries. Except for the competitor and range officials, all other persons must remain up-range of the Pre-Loading Area.

The on-deck competitor will bring his or her long-gun from the staging area to the Pre-Loading Area. Upon the command "MAKE READY" from the Range Officer, the competitor will prepare the long-gun for the stage by engaging the safety and loading the magazine (and attached external ammunition carriers like the Side Saddle if so equipped).

The chamber will remain unloaded until the competitor moves to the line and receives the final Make Ready command. All safe gun handling rules will apply in the Pre-Loading area, and violation will result in Match DQ.

7. **LONG-GUN READY CONDITION:** Generally, the long-gun Ready Condition to begin the course of fire will be: round chambered, safety engaged and magazine loaded as prescribed by the stage description.
8. **COMPETITOR READY POSITION:** Unless otherwise required by the stage description, the competitor's posture prior to the beginning of the stage will be standing erect and relaxed, with the long-gun in ready condition held in both hands, stock touching the competitor at hip level, muzzle pointing down-range, and with the fingers outside the trigger guard.

9. **CARRYING THE LONG-GUN TO OR FROM THE LINE:** When carrying the long-gun to or from the pre-loading area or the line, the competitor must carry the long-gun action open, safety engaged and muzzle up, OR in a case. If the competitor wants to case the long-gun at the end of the stage, then the Assistant RO (scorekeeper) follows with the case.

 10. **IF YOU ARE FINISHED, UNLOAD AND SHOW CLEAR:** If the competitor has finished shooting the course of fire, he/she must unload the long-gun, including any attached external ammunition carriers (Side Saddle™, Redi-Mag™, etc) and then present it for inspection by the Range Officer with the muzzle pointed down-range, fixed magazine empty or detachable magazine removed and chamber(s) empty, action open.

 11. **IF CLEAR, HAMMER DOWN, OPEN ACTION:** Upon receiving this command the competitor must not resume shooting. Pointing the long-gun down-range the competitor must close the action, pull the trigger to release the hammer and then open the action again. The safety must then be engaged (if the action type allows).
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- A. RIFLE REQUIREMENTS:**
- a) Steel core or steel jacketed bullets will damage metal targets and are not allowed. Tracer ammunition is not allowed due to fire hazard.
 - b) Minimum distance for 5.56mm/.223 rounds or larger on metal targets is 164 feet. Minimum distance on metal targets engaged from a fault line is 180 feet in case the shooter over-runs the fault line.
 - c) Minimum distance on metal targets in matches limited to pistol caliber carbines is 26 feet.
 - d) All rifles must have a shoulder stock. No pistol-grips only.
 - e) Ready condition for rifles with an exposed hammer is hammer down.

- f) Limited/Tactical Division is for factory guns, any action type with conventional, non-optical or electronic sights. No limit on ammunition load unless specified by stage description.
- g) Open Division is any action type, any sights.

B. SHOTGUN REQUIREMENTS:

- a) Minimum gauge is 20. Only lead or bismuth birdshot or slugs (buckshot may be designated as the ammo required on a stage). No steel shot or other metal is allowed. Birdshot must be #4 or smaller.
- b) Minimum distance for birdshot on metal targets is 16 feet with fault lines set at 20 feet. Minimum distance for slugs on metal targets is 131 feet with fault lines set at 148 feet.
- c) All shotguns must have a shoulder stock. No pistol-grips only.
- d) Ready condition for shotguns with an exposed hammer and no safety (M1897 or M1887 and similar) is hammer down.
- e) Limited/Tactical Division is for factory guns, any action type with conventional, non-optical or electronic sights, and a maximum ammunition load of 9 rounds.
- f) Open Division is any action type, any sights, and a maximum ammunition load of 10 rounds.

C. PRECISION RIFLE REQUIREMENTS:

- a) Steel core or jacketed bullets will damage metal targets and are not allowed.
- b) Minimum distance on metal targets is 164 feet. Minimum distance on metal targets engaged from a fault line is 180 feet in case the shooter over-runs the fault line.