

Significant Changes/Clarifications January 2014

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SHOOTER'S HANDBOOK & RO2

ALL FIREARMS

- Slings are allowed on long guns. Lanyards are allowed on handguns.

SHB p.4

HAMMERS

- ...
- ~~Bisley style~~ revolver hammers may only be used when mated with a ~~Bisley~~ style grip frame.

TRIGGERS AND TRIGGER GUARDS

- Triggers may be profiled.

STOCKS AND GRIPS

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- A piece of leather or similar natural material may be attached to the buttplate or butt stock. This includes the "wrist"/grip portion of the buttstock.

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- A slide on leather cover to protect the offhand from barrel heat or as a repair is allowed on side by side, lever action, and single-shot shotguns.

SHB p.5

REVOLVER GRIP FRAMES

- Bird's head grip frames and grips may be installed on any SAA or its modern replicas. ~~but may not be used with Bisley style hammers.~~

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- ~~Bisley style~~ grip frames may only be used when mated with a ~~Bisley~~ style hammer.

SHB p.8

- Revolver and rifle ammunition may not be jacketed, semi-jacketed, plated, gas checked, or copper washed. It must be all lead. Molydisulfide, polymer coated bullets, or equivalent are acceptable.

SHB p.12

GUNFIGHTER

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A Gunfighter may utilize any sequence that might be available for use by any other shooting category

SHB p.14 / RO2 p.10

...Stage instructions that specify **separate** revolvers such as "first pistol/second pistol"; "left revolver/right revolver"; or "with each handgun" are considered as **"1st five shots/2nd five shots"** when shooting **GUNFIGHTER-STYLE**.

RO2 p.10

Add **single-shot shotguns** to Frontier Cartridge, Frontiersman, **Classic Cowboy** & Plainsman

SHB p.15

Classic Cowboy

- Costuming:

... **Western** spurs **with spur straps**, cuffs, tie or scarf worn loosely around the neck or with scarf slide, vest, pocket watch with full length chain, jacket, sleeve garters, knife (**screw knives do NOT qualify**), botas...

SHB p.15 / RO2 p.11

"B" WESTERN

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Shield shirts are also allowed if **the shield/bib** has piping or embroidery.

- ...

- Pants must be worn with a belt. **Ladies may wear skirts or split riding skirts**. Suspenders are not allowed. Felt hats only, no straw, **or palm leaf** hats. Hats must be worn.

- Boots are required and must be of traditional design **and embellished with fancy stitching, multi-color fancy design, conchos or spots**. Soles must be non-grip enhancing (i.e., "NO Lug") soles. Lace up boots and moccasins are not allowed.

- Western Spurs **with spur straps** are required for men.

SHB p.16 / RO2 p.12

SCORING AND TIMING

At END of TRAIL, Winter Range, SASS Regionals, and at the discretion of each affiliated club, rank scoring is used. Rank scoring is recommended when all the stages in a match are not of approximately the same duration and degree of difficulty. The alternative to rank scoring is scoring based upon total time (total raw time plus penalties). **Stage Point Scoring may also be used.**

SHB p.19

SAFETY PRACTICES

6. Long guns will be discarded open and empty with their barrels pointed safely down range. If the action of a long gun closes after being opened and emptied, the shooter will, at the conclusion of the stage, show it to be clear to the T/O or spotter. Appropriate additional penalties will be applied if it is not clear.

SHB p.21 (Stage Conventions)

17. Long guns will have their actions left open and the actions/magazines/barrels empty at the conclusion of each shooting string. A 10 second minor safety penalty will be assessed if the firearm is not cleared or opened. This condition may be corrected prior to the next round being fired. If the long gun is the last firearm used, it must be cleared prior to it leaving the shooters hand(s) at the unloading table. This does not apply to guns shot out of sequence, made "safe" and then restaged.

If the action of a long gun closes after being discarded open and empty, the shooter will, at the conclusion of the stage, show it to be clear to the TO or a spotter. Appropriate penalties will be applied if it is not clear. No one other than the competitor may handle the gun in question. See RO1 for further clarification.

SHB p.23

RANGE OPERATIONS BASIC SAFETY COURSE (RO1)

Coaching

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Proper coaching is not considered RO interference and, therefore, will never be grounds for a reshoot. Improper coaching that either impedes the shooter's progress or results in a procedural penalty may be grounds for a reshoot.

RO1 p.4

5. Timer Operator

C) The Timer Operator does not have the authority to overrule the spotters in regard to misses, but can question spotters as to location of misses. The Timer Operator is often in the best position to see the direction the muzzle is pointed, which is helpful in determining edge hits.

RO1 p.6

G) The Timer Operator should not count misses, but watches the shooter for unsafe acts, correct target engagement, and stage procedures in addition to counting shots fired, if possible. However, the Timer Operator is often times in the best position to evaluate hits or misses if in question.

H) The Timer Operator holds the timer in a manner ensuring the last shots fired in a stage are recorded. This is especially true if the last gun being used in a stage is a rifle, which is always considered poor course design, since rifle reports are often not loud enough to reliably record on a timer.

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J) Once the stage begins, the Timer Operator stays within arm's length of the competitor until the stage is finished. The Timer Operator then immediately announces the stage time to the shooter. Any firearms with unfired rounds remaining should be cleared while still on the stage, if possible. Only after revolvers are holstered and long guns are retrieved by the shooter with actions opened, muzzles pointed in a safe direction, and the shooter is heading towards the

unloading table does the Timer Operator, declare “Range is Clear” and conveys the time to the Score Keeper in a loud, clear voice.

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L) It is up to the Timer Operator to verify at least two of the three Spotters agree on misses. The Timer Operator should consider input from the Spotters regarding procedurals and/or safety violations as well as personal observations during the stage. Final determination regarding assessment of penalties is made by the Timer Operator.

RO1 p.7

7. Score Keeper

A) Score Keepers must never record scores for a family member.

B) Calls out shooting order and records times and penalties as received from the Timer Operator.

RO1 p.8

8. Spotters

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E) Always give the shooter the benefit of any doubt. Spotters should also consider the Timer Operator’s observations and input regarding hits and misses due to the TO’s position near the shooter.

F) There should always be three Spotters—the majority (two out of three) breaks the tie in regard to misses. As mentioned before, bandanas or batons are a good idea.

G) Remember, the Timer Operator is not relied upon to count shots and misses. His main function is to safely assist the competitor through the course of fire, and his memory can easily be altered if something out of the ordinary happens or if he becomes occupied coaching a newer shooter through a stage.

H) It is up to the **Timer Operator** to verify at least two of the three Spotters agree on misses

RO1 p.9

APPENDIX A - RANGE SAFETY RULES

6. Long guns will be discarded open and empty with their barrels pointed safely down range. If the action of a long gun closes after being opened and emptied, the shooter will, at the conclusion of the stage, show it to be clear to the T/O or spotter. Appropriate additional penalties will be applied if it is not clear.

No one other than the competitor may handle the gun in question.

RO1 p.13 (Stage Conventions)

RO1 Instructor Version p.12 (Stage Conventions)

17. Long guns will have their actions left open and the actions/magazines/barrels empty at the conclusion of each shooting string. A 10 second minor safety penalty will be assessed if the firearm is not cleared or opened. This condition may be corrected prior to the next round being fired. If the long gun is the last firearm used, it must be cleared prior to it leaving the shooters hand(s) at the unloading table. This does not apply to guns shot out of sequence, made “safe” and then restaged.

Examples:

A. Shooter returns to the long gun and opens it before firing the next gun and there is no UNFIRED round in the chamber — NO CALL.

B. Shooter returns to the long gun and opens it at the end of the stage and an empty case/hull is ejected or found in the action or chamber — Minor Safety Violation.

C. Shooter returns to the long gun and opens it, and a live/unfired round is ejected or in the chamber — Stage DQ for a long gun having left the shooter’s hand with the action closed, hammer cocked with a live round in the chamber. In this case there is no opportunity to return to open it if called back before being committed to the next firearm — the penalty applies the moment it left the shooter's hand.

Should someone other than the competitor open the action of the gun, any penalties that would have been incurred will still be applied.

RO1 p.17

RO1 Instructor Version p.16

RANGE OPERATIONS SUMMARY

1. It is expected the Range Officers will have the primary responsibility for observing and resolving all safety-related matters occurring in the loading, unloading, and firing line areas. The Chief Range Officers will make the final determination of penalties and scores. Due care and diligence by the shooter will be taken into consideration when determining whether or not a penalty is valid, based upon factors such as a range equipment or prop malfunction

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5. A safe and sturdy place should be provided at each stage to position the shooter’s firearms and is mandatory to use. Whether or not they are available, it is the shooter’s responsibility to take reasonable care in putting down the gun. If the gun falls **or closes**, the Range Officer shall make the determination of fault: either Prop Failure or Safety Violation as appropriate.

RO1 p.21

PENALTY OVERVIEW

5-SECOND PENALTIES

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• **Inadvertently leaving unfired rounds in a revolver are misses unless there is an unfired round under the hammer, then it is a stage disqualification.**

RO1 p.23

Minor Safety Penalties

- Not leaving a long gun action open at the end of the shooting string or before the next firearm is fired.
- Leaving empty or live rounds in magazine or carrier of the long gun in which it was loaded.
- Not returning revolvers to leather unless otherwise specified.
- Open, empty long guns that slip and fall but do not break 170° safety rule or sweep anyone.
- Retrieving a dropped “dead” round.
- Cocking a revolver before it reaches 45 degrees downrange.

RO1 p.24

RO1 Instructor Version p.23

STAGE DISQUALIFICATION

- Changing location with a live round under a cocked hammer or a gun with the hammer down on a live round. Changing location with a long gun with action closed and hammer cocked.

RO1 p.25

GLOSSARY OF TERMS

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Action Closed (lever & pump action long guns) – BOLT in “full battery” e.g. unable to further close by manipulation of the lever or pump mechanism.

Action Closed - (SxS & single-shot firearms) functional firearm that requires manipulation of the opening mechanism (e.g. top/side lever/button)

Action Open (lever & pump action long guns) – BOLT not closed completely.

Action Open– (SxS & single-shot firearms) – functional firearm that opens without manipulation of the release mechanism (e.g. top/side lever/button)

RO1 p.29