**VINTAGE RIMFIRE BENCHREST**

Goals (In order of importance)

SAFETY

Affordable to participate

FUN

Attract more people to competitive shooting (Especially females & juniors)

Not turn away shooters due to equipment rules

Use minimal range resources

**Equipment Rules**

**Common to all rifle classes**

1) No one piece rests are allowed.

Two configurations are allowed:

A) Two piece rest set up using a front rest with separate rear sand filled sand bag. If the shooter uses a two piece set up, the gun must be supported by sand filled bags at both front and rear. No hard surface supports are allowed and the rear sand bag can range in shape from a simple shot bag filled with sand to a traditional design made of leather or synthetic fabric (e.g. Protektor, Caldwell, Sinclair, Edgewood, etc.).

Additionally, for front rests that use a sand bag to support the forearm of a rifle, the sand bag can be of a one piece design or a three piece design. Many front rests provide adjustable side plates to allow some adjustment of the ears of the front bag. These side plates are acceptable as long as they are used to adjust fitment to the sides of the fore end of the stock. In other words, side plates or bolsters that exert a downward rather than side support to the bag are prohibited. Three piece front bags that have separate movable side bags (e.g. Fulghum or Fudd style tops) must also comply with the provision described above. Any ruling on conformance with the above described provision will be left to the discretion of the match directors.

B) The term “sand bag” as used within these rules is a generic term. The material used to fill ”sand bags” can be most any granular type material such as rice, plastic pellets, corn cob media, etc.

C) Bi-pods can be used to replace front rests and if used with a rear support it must be a filled “sand bag” as described in (A &B) above.

2) No Wind Flags

No flags, propellers, wind probes, ribbon or any other device or material judged to aid in the determination of wind movement.

3) No barrel tuners allowed

4) 22 Long Rifle Rimfire ammo only

5) All iron sights and scopes are legal

6) Free floating the barrel and glass/pillar bedding is allowed.

7) Upward pressure on the barrel with shims/glass is allowed.

8) Rebarreling is permitted in the target and super sporter classes if barrel remains close to factory contour (i.e. sporters cannot be rebarreled with target contour barrels not offered by the factory even if the rifle still makes weight.) Regarding the semi auto sporter class where rebarreling is quite common, barrel contours must either resemble the factory Ruger 10/22 tapered sporter profile or the straight cylinder target profile of approximately .900 inches in diameter. Barrel length must be at least 16 inches from the breech to muzzle. Barrel fluting is permitted. Aftermarket or modified factory barrels with contours other than the two described above are not permitted.

9) Triggers must be safe (must pass the bump test).

10) After market triggers are allowed (must adhere to rule#9).

**Class specific rules**

**Bolt Sporter Class**

Weight must not exceed 9.0 lbs with scope or iron sights attached. Bi-pod and magazine weight is not included in weight of the rifle.

Only factory barreled rifles will be allowed in this class starting in 2016.

Too keep this class affordable; rifle cost must be under $800 per recognized values. Internet/catalog pricing is recognized as standard value. This class is specifically tailored for entry and mid-priced sporting class guns. Accordingly, higher end guns such as Cooper, Kimber, ULA, Sako, and Anschutz do not qualify for this class. Valuation of discontinued or older models of current guns will fall under the discretion of the match director with guidance from recognized sources including, but not limited to, the latest edition of the “Blue Book of Gun Values”. It is beyond the scope of these written rules to attempt to specify every make and model of gun that might possibly qualify for this class beyond the general guidance described above. It remains the responsibility of the shooter to inquire of the match director before the match regarding any questions as to whether a gun qualifies for this class.

Barrel tuners are not allowed. This includes any means to modify the barrels harmonics including but not limited to weights added to the barrel and or any screw or spring adjustable means to add pressure or up-force to the barrel. As mentioned earlier, shims or a nonadjustable pressure point is acceptable. After market triggers or parts are allowed if the cost stays within this limit. Triggers must be safe.

Any labor charge by a gunsmith will not be included in the $800.00 limit.

No metal, wood, or composite accuracy assets (flat forend enhancements) may be attached to the forend of stocks in this class.

Auto Loaders

Class to include Ruger 10/22’s, Remington 597’s, Thompson/Center R-55’s and similar.

Exempt from cost, weight and stock shape limits.

Any stock can be used.

No stock tape allowed.

Given the unrestricted nature of this class, auto loaders are restricted to competing within the sporter auto class only not against vintage target class guns. Some restrictions do apply to this class when it comes to rebarreling (refer to item #9 under “Equipment rules – common to all classes).

Bolt Action Sporters

Stock must be 2.25" or under at its widest point. No stock tape allowed. Any area of the stock that comes in contact with front and rear sandbags must be convex. (Convex will be determined by placing a penny on the stock where convex shaping is required. The outer edges of the penny can not come in contact with the stock in the dimension being measured). There must be visible space underneath the outer edges of the penny. If the outer edges of the penny exceed the width of the dimension in question the area must be clearly convex. The underside of the forend that contacts the sandbag must be convex across the entire width.

 Insert diagram

To further clarify the sporting nature of this class, sporters should have the provision to be either clip fed or tube fed. Single feed clips are allowable, however the gun should be able capable of shooting from a multi round clip or tube. Modification to this provision may be granted at the discretion of the match directors if the shooter contacts the match directors prior to the match to discuss the gun in question.

**Super Sporter Class ( New For 2016)**

This class is for sporter rifles that do not fit into the present “Bolt Sporter class” classification because of cost. Additionaly, bolt sporters that have had the barrel changed will now fall into this classification. More specific rule requirements are detailed below.

The weight of the rifle without magazine or bipod but including scope and rings must not exceed 9lbs 8oz.

The stock must be a sporter stock and meet specifications listed for sporter rifles.

The rifle must be capable of shooting from a magazine. NO single shot rifles.

This class of sporters will shoot the RBA target which is the same target shot in target class.

This is not a class for light weight “target” rifles and the match directors reserve the right to determine if a gun meets the specifications of this class. If a shooter is unclear about whether their gun meets the requirements of this class, they should contact a match director BEFORE coming to a match to make sure they will be able to compete with it. While the majority of clip or tube fed guns will meet the requirements of this class if they make weight, there are a few guns that were never intended as “sporters” such as the Anschutz model 54.18 which is singled out here as being classified as a Target Class gun NOT a sporter. The more common brands we anticipate for this class are Sako, Kimber, Krico, Walther, and Anschutz to name a few.

**Target Class**

This class is intended to encourage the use of Small Bore Prone Vintage rifles such as the Remington 40x, Winchester 52, H & R Model 12, Anschutz Super Match 54, Suhl 150’s, Cooper Rifles, Vostock’s and CM-2’s. Some factory composite stocks such as the Cooper Jackson Hunter are allowed in this class.

In keeping with the vintage spirit of this game, purpose built benchrest models with flat forearms such as the Anschutz BR50 in either 2013, 1907, or 64 action models as well as Cooper TRP model actions are prohibited. The 64 Action Anschutz MPR will be allowed.

Guns should be stocked in factory configuration wooden stock. Re-stocking is permitted if the wooden stock is clearly designed for position shooting (e.g. fore end rail, round or contoured to fit the hand and no flat benchrest style forearms).

Barrel tuners are not allowed. This includes any means to modify barrel harmonics including but not limited to weights added to the barrel and or any screw or spring adjustable means to add pressure or up force to the barrel. As mentioned earlier, shims or a non-adjustable pressure point is acceptable. Some vintage guns were supplied from the factory with barrel tuning screws mounted in the forend of the stock. If your gun came from the factory with barrel tuning screws they are allowable.

Guns may have trigger jobs and/or replacement triggers. All triggers must be safe.

**Results**

Sorted by class only. Never sorted overall.

**Targets**

Target Rifle: 25 bulls per target. Unlimited sighters.

20 minutes per card. Target worth 250 points.

Target rifle will use the RBA target.

Sporter rifle/Autoloader: 25 bulls per target. Unlimited sighters.

20 minutes per card. Target worth 250 points.

Sporter/autoloader will use the IBS Rimfire 50yd target.

Scoring Procedure

Each Target Block is worth ten points. The inner most ring counts ten points, the next ring out counts nine points, and each succeeding ring counts one point less. If a bullet hole touches a line or X, the shooter receives the highest point (best edge scoring). On the Target rifle target the score (or points lost) is to be written in the block provided in the lower right corner of the target square. If a plug is used, the letter (P) will be written in the block provided in the upper right hand corner of the target square.

If a shot is in the target square but misses the largest ring, the score is four (minus 6) on the target rifle target and a score of 2 (minus 8) on the Sporter IBS target. If a target is not shot at all the score is zero (minus 10). If more than one shot appears in a target square, the shooter receives the lowest score minus (1) point. Perfect score: 250 and 25X. If the first shot on target unintentionally hits a record target, the shooter must notify the match director before the second shot is fired who will make a notation on the target upon completion of the match before it is officially scored and the shooter will not be charged for that shot. Any shot touching the target squares inside or outside border lines will be counted in that block. A plug is to be used if visible determination cannot be made by the scorer. Any bullet hole between blocks shall be plugged. The block that contains the majority of the plug shall be charged with the shot.

Scoring protest.

After targets are scored, targets will be handed out for competitor review. Targets are not to be handled by shooters until the targets scored. Upon completion of scoring the final match, the match director will allow ten minutes for competitors to file any scoring protests with the scoring team. These protests can include issues such as a math error in tabulation of the score, or a request for the use of a scoring plug on an unplugged bull. Once a bull has been plugged and scored, it cannot be challenged. No protests are allowed after the 10 minute protest period and all scores are final.

Ties

If after the protest period is concluded a tie exists (same score and x count) the referees will check the targets starting with the #1 target block of the first match target. The first target block with the higher points shot wins. If a tie still exists after checking target blocks 1 through 25, go to # 1 target block and check X’s. The first one who gets an X and the other does not, wins.

**Match Schedule**

Matches will be shot at night.

**A Complete Match will consist of 4 cards**

The course of fire will be two targets shot back to back which are totaled for a possible 500 points. Shooters may choose to shoot 2 cards in 2 different classes. They may also choose to shoot 2 cards within the same class. If a shooter is shooting only one class, the highest individual 2 card score will be used for ranking purposes within the match. Winners will be recognized in each class individually.

**Season Champion Rankings**

Points awarded by how the shooter places.

Points will be awarded to the top ten places regardless of the actual number of participants. For Example: 1st place = 10 points, 2nd = 9 points, 3rd = 8 points, etc. Total points awarded thru the season will determine the club champion for Sporter Bolt, Sporter Autoloader and Target Rifle classes. For this calculation the shooter who attended all 6 matches will have the 2 lowest scoring matches drop out. A shooter who attended 4 matches could still compete for the championship. In this case, all four matches would be counted.

In the event of a tie in points at the end of the season, the shooter with the highest aggregate score for their top 4 matches will be declared the class champion. In the case of a tie in points AND aggregate score, the shooter with the highest aggregate x count of their top four matches will declared the season champion. In the unlikely event that a tie still exits after the above procedures, the shooters will be declared co-champions.

**The emphasis of these matches is fun and low cost. Even when having a great time, safety is the highest priority**.

To keep these matches affordable each shooter will help with some of the work. These duties are pretty mundane such sweeping up our own brass and cleaning up the club house before we depart. If everyone chips in, these tasks are accomplished very quickly and easily.

Attitude

 Maintaining a friendly and family oriented atmosphere is very important to this game. There is no official sanctioning. Despite the competitive nature of the events, results are for bragging rights only at our club level. With that in mind, please be respectful of the scorers. They always give the scoring their best effort and our game depends upon their continued support. Although it remains rare, the match directors retain ultimate discretion in handling any displays of poor sportsmanship or offensive behavior in general. This discretion can range from an informal chat with the party(S) involved to, in serious cases, and unconditional ban from the game.

Match protocol - Some nuts and bolts

At the beginning of the first relay, before the actual 20 minute time limit commences, the match director will ask everyone to shoot one shot in the sighter section of their target. Shooters will then confirm that they have one and only one shot showing on the sighter section of their target. This will confirm that all shooters are on the correct target and minimize the chance of a crossfire once the official match commences. This only needs to be done once per class.

When the command “Cease Fire, Unload your Weapons and Make the line safe” is given, magazines will be removed from the shooters rifle, bolts will be removed if easily removable. In the instance of autoloaders and guns with non-removable bolts, these guns will require an empty chamber indicator. A small light or lamp is required for night matches. An expected etiquette is to cross check your neighbors on the left and the right. We have repeaters and autoloaders on the line, so we will borrow some rules from our High Power brothers.

Food and Fellowship

After those mundane work duties on the line, it is customary that competitors and visitors assemble in the clubhouse to wait for the final scoring. A simple spread of light food, snacks and beverages is provided as part of the match fee. The gathering provides the opportunity to share experiences and frustrations, make some new friends and commiserate with old ones. Once the scores are finalized, winners and top finishers in each class are recognized.