

# LVAGC – General Field Target Rules, Jan 2009

## Rules

These rules act in conjunction with the normal LVAGC Constitution, Club Rules and Code of Conduct, all of which take precedence over these rules in the event of any conflict. The following rules must be strictly adhered to throughout any FT competition. Contravention of any rule may result in disqualification and club disciplinary proceedings if appropriate.

## Shooting Equipment

### ***Rifles***

Air Rifles of any type and calibre, which comply with all legal limitations and current club rules, may be used.

### **Ammunition**

For the purposes of Field Target competitions, only pellets made of lead or lead alloy may be used. Pellets may be of any design.

### **Chronographing**

In accordance with club rules, any club official or the Chief Marshall at any FT competition may chronograph the rifle of any competitor at any point before, during or after a competition.

All rifles are expected to comply with the law and meet the requirements of club rules at all times. All chronographing tests are to be conducted in accordance with club policy. Additionally, for the purposes of an LVAGC FT competition, any rifle being tested must be fired over the chronograph at least 3 times – if one single shot exceeds the 12ft/lbs limit the rifle has failed the test, resulting in disqualification and appropriate club disciplinary measures.

### **Stocks, Slings, Hooks & Supports**

Fully adjustable stocks are permitted. Additional attachments may not be added or removed at any point during a competition.

A single rifle sling and/or butt-hook are permitted but all other forms of support, including benches, bipods and tripods are forbidden. Guns fitted with a retractable/collapsible bipod (or other support) may be used in a competition, but only if the support is folded away and unusable throughout the event.

In the event of any query or uncertainty contact the Chief Marshall before the competition commences.

## ***Sights & Range Finding Equipment***

### **Field Target Rules**

Any form of sights may be used with the exception of laser sights. No separate range finding or target viewing equipment may be used whatsoever.

### **Sporting Target Rules**

The above Field Target rules apply, but additionally shooters in this category must ensure that the power of their telescopic sight does not exceed 12x (twelve times) magnification. Larger power sights may be turned down for the competition.

All adjustments on any sight (including magnification, distance, elevation and windage) must be set between lanes and before looking at any target. The sight must not be touched between shooting at targets in one lane. Competitors may adjust their sights between lanes.

## **Freestyle Rules**

Like the Sporting rules above, scopes may not exceed 12x (twelve times) magnification but scopes may be adjusted in any way and at any time during the competition, as they can in the Field Target rules.

## **Seats**

The maximum height for any form of seating is 4 inches (100 mm), including any backrest. Beanbags should be measured when flattened between 2 boards. The seat may only be used as an aid to sitting or kneeling shots and for no other purpose.

## **Clothing**

Any type of clothing, glove, or footwear is allowed provided it is not a hazard to the shooter or others. Clothing may be padded to reduce the pressure of the rifle stock resting on the arm or knee. The padding may be e.g. felt, or layers of cloth. The surface of the pad on which the stock rests must be flat and not shaped to provide lateral support to the stock. Separate pads may be worn over non-padded clothing provided that they conform to the above specifications.

## **Sharing of Equipment**

Competitors may only share equipment if they have obtained the permission of the Chief Marshall prior to commencement of the competition.

# **Marshalling of Competitions**

## **Chief Marshall**

Prior to any competition the organisers shall appoint a club member to act as Chief Marshall. In the event of any dispute regarding the implementation of, or adherence to, the rules will be settled at the discretion of the Chief Marshall, whose decision is final.

## **Competition Marshalling**

Unless otherwise specified, competitions shall be marshalled in accordance with the *BFTA (Lane) Marshalling System 2006 (Vers 02 - 04 - 06)*. All competitors are required to take their turn at lane marshalling and will be disqualified if they do not. While acting as a lane marshall a competitor is responsible for marking scorecards and ensuring that competitors adhere to all the rules of the competition.

## **Buddy Marshalling**

The competition organisers may specify that buddy marshalling is in operation for a given shoot, as an alternative to the BFTA marshalling system. It is likely that buddy marshalling will be used for the majority of LVAGC club shoots.

Buddy marshalling involves competitors being grouped into pairs (or three's where necessary) and then being responsible for ensuring their partners adhere to all rules and the marking of each other's score cards throughout the shoot.

# **Shooting in a Competition**

## **Firing Line Conduct**

All competitors are required to act in accordance with current statutory regulations and club rules at all times. Additionally, the following behaviour is strictly forbidden during any FT competition:

### **Barracking**

Any attempt to distract, irritate, annoy or otherwise interfere with a competitor is strictly forbidden.

## **Coaching**

All forms of coaching are forbidden during a competition. Competitors may not provide advice or assistance to each other at any point during a competition if it is likely to result in that competitor gaining an unfair advantage – particularly regarding range finding or estimation of windage.

## ***Shooting Positions***

Any shooting position, including sitting or prone, is allowed for “free position” targets. Targets specifically designated as either “Standing” or “Kneeling” must be shot in that position, in compliance with the following definitions. Competitors unable to comply with either standing or kneeling shooting positions must notify the Chief Marshall before commencement of the shoot.

Regardless of the shooting position adopted, competitors and their equipment must be located entirely behind the firing line but close enough to touch it if required to do so.

### **Prone – Field Target & Sporting Rules**

The Gun and forearm from elbow to fingertips must be clear of any artificial or natural support. No form of seat or additional support is allowed.

### **Prone – Freestyle Rules**

The butt of the rifle may touch the ground, and any nearby supports such as posts or branches may be used for additional support. However no part of the rifle forward of the trigger may touch the ground or be directly supported in any way other than by the leading hand. No form of seat or support equipment may be used.

### **Sitting**

A seat may be used to protect the shooters bottom only.

### **Kneeling**

There shall be only 3 points of contact with the ground (2 feet and 1 knee). The rear foot shall be upright and straight in line with the knee. A legal seat may only be used to support the rear foot and/or ankle, or to keep the knee clean provided that the foot has contact with the ground. Only the leading hand may support the gun and the leading hand must be unsupported from the wrist forward. The wrist is deemed to be the centre of the hinged joint between the forearm and the hand.

### **Standing**

Shots taken in a standing position without the aid of any support other than the ones previously mentioned in these rules (slings, butt-hooks etc.). No form of seat or additional support is allowed.

### **Supports**

Competitors may not gain extra support by resting any part of their body or equipment on posts, trees or anything else that forms part of the surrounding environment.

## **Competition Courses**

### ***Targets***

Knockover targets shall be used, to be reset by string. The exact number, size and range of targets will vary from one competition to another. However, the following rules shall apply to all LVAGC competitions.

### **Target Sizes**

The size of a standard target kill zone is 40-45mm. A limited number of reducer targets may be used, depending on the rules of the competition.

BFTA rules state that 25mm reducer targets may not be used in lanes designated as either “kneeling” or “standing”, may not be placed further than 35yds, and that no reducer targets with a

kill zone of less than 25mm may be used. However, for LVAGC club competitions we will enforce no such restriction.

## **Ranges**

Targets should be placed between 10yds and 55yds from the firing line.

## **Positioning**

Targets must be positioned facing the position from where they are to be shot. Target kill-zones must be painted in a contrasting colour to the face plate, must not be obscured and the use of simulated (i.e. fake) kill-zones is prohibited.

## ***Target Sequence***

### **Lanes & Numbering**

Targets in a course should be equally divided into a series of lanes. The standard number of targets in a lane is two, however other configurations may be used for LVAGC club competitions.

Targets or lanes must be numbered. Either every target in a course must have a number assigned to it, thus specifying that targets are to be shot in numerical order, or else every lane must have a number assigned to it, thus specifying that lanes must be shot in numerical order but targets within any given lane may be shot in any order.

In any event, only one shot per target is permitted. The total number of shots taken while in a lane must not exceed the number of targets in the lane.

### **Target Numerical Order**

Targets must be shot in numerical order wherever one has been specified. If a competitor shoots a target out of sequence then they must forfeit the omitted target and resume shooting with the next target in sequence. If the next target in sequence has already been hit, it must be reset and shot again. If a shooter hits both targets in a lane, but has shot them out of sequence, both targets are forfeit.

### **No Target Numerical Order**

If no specific numerical order has been specified for targets then the competitor must nominate which target they are shooting at before taking each shot. Failure to nominate a target before shooting it results in forfeit of that target and the competitor should continue to nominate and shoot the remaining targets in the lane.

### **Shotgun Starts**

Where necessary the organisers of a competition may specify a shotgun start. This means that competitors will each be assigned to a different starting lane for the beginning of the competition and all will start shooting simultaneously. Competitors should then progress through the rest of the course in numerical order and upon reaching the end of the course return to the beginning and shoot those targets they skipped.

## ***Scoring***

Scoring is on the basis of one point for a kill-zone hit and zero for a miss. There are no points awarded for hitting the face plate. Hits should be marked on the scorecard with an 'X' and misses with a 'O'. A target is deemed to have been hit if the face plate falls over. If there is any dispute over whether a target has been hit, the dispute shall be settled by the Chief Marshall *before any attempt to reset the target has been made.*