



## INTERNATIONAL HUNTING RIFLE SHOOTING ASSOCIATION

This is the sport for the hunter, it's the closest you will find to real hunting. The purpose of the competition is to test and promote the following elements of a hunter's ability: his ability to judge distance, knowledge of his bullet's external ballistics, judging wind strength and the influence of the wind on the bullet's path, ability to shoot from various positions and also shooting under pressure (against time), and to achieve this, his or her rifle must be able to shoot a good grouping at a reasonable distance. The competition must be structured so that all the above elements are tested during the competition. It is a shooting contest of variable and non-standard format that examines practical marksmanship as it occurs in the hunting field.

The competition must be arranged in such a way that specialist rifles such as Single Shot Benchrest or Silhouette rifle do not enjoy an advantage over ordinary hunting rifles. This sport is designed exclusively as a test for hunters with hunting rifles. The object is to simulate field hunting conditions in order to test the ability of the hunter and not only the accuracy of the rifle.

### **RULES AND REGULATIONS FOR DOMESTIC COMPETITIONS**

The rules below shall apply for centrefire and rimfire hunting rifles, and the minimum caliber for hunting rifle (centre fire) will be .20

#### **GENERAL RULES**

- 1.1. The organizing committee shall, before commencement of the competition, appoint a panel of at least 3 experienced members to act as arbitrators (Dispute Committee) for any competition in case of any dispute regarding interpretation of these rules, or any other matter not covered by the rules.
- 1.2. Every competitor shall sign an indemnity before the commencement of any competition or shoot despite the fact that certain people have their own personal insurance.
- 1.3. A briefing will be held where competitors are briefed of the day's proceedings by the match organizers before the commencement of the match.
- 1.4. All National and Provincial (State) competitions shall consist of at least 30 shots divided over 6 events. The maximum point per shot shall not exceed 30 points. International Competitions will be conducted at conditions and at a standard of at least that of a National Championship, but may be expanded according to conditions determined by an International Governing Body. The targets to be used will be determined by the governing bodies of the countries competing.
- 1.5. Competitors may complete the course in any order, except when otherwise arranged.



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1.6. No competitor shall be allowed to compete if under the influence of alcohol or drugs or found consuming alcohol or drugs during a match. Depending on the severity of the offence, such a competitor may be suspended for a period of up to sixty months. Match fees for that competition will be forfeited.

1.7. A 100-meter sight in range, manned by a range officer, must be available for at least the first 2 hours of the competition.

1.8 Competitors will not be allowed to start shooting an event after the closing time set by the organizers for the day.

1.9 Range officers or other officials may be excluded from this rule. It is the responsibility of the competitor to provide for any delays and to make sure he/she completes all events in time. The fact that an entry was accepted does not mean the competitor may continue with events after the closing time. The closing time may be extended by the organizers for unexpected delays experienced during the competition.

1.9. Where an ambulance is not on standby, the following minimum arrangements should be made: There must be a dedicated vehicle, identified for this purpose, ready to transport the injured to the nearest medical facility. The route to this facility and the contact details thereof as well as a first aid kit must be available in this vehicle.

1.10. When the organizers of any provincial (state) or national competition publish a closing date for entries, no late entries will be accepted.

## **2. TARGETS AND SCORING**

2.1. A shot in a wrong target is regarded as a miss for the shooter, but the shot counts on the target of the competitor whose target is hit, and counts with the best result unless the unfamiliar shot can be distinguished. The range officer will make the final decision. There will be no way to repeat the event.

2.2 If found to practice misconduct in any way, including firing additional shots on his/her own target or on any other target to either benefit or to sabotage, or using or participate in using range-finding equipment for the purpose of enhancing anyone's performance in the competition, such competitor will be disqualified and can be banned from the sport for a period determined by the governing body.

2.3. No competitor may touch or advance to his/her target at a distance of closer than two meters before the target is scored or the score signed off by the competitor.

2.4. All shots fired before the command to commence shooting or after the command to stop shooting to paper targets, will be penalized by 30 points for each shot. If any competitor fires before the command to commence shooting or after the command to stop shooting to a steel plate, a miss will be scored to that plate.



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2.5. If a bullet hole on a particular target touches a scoring line, the higher score will count. Touch means that there is no visible space between the caliber size hole and the line. THE EXCEPTION: If a bullet hole touches a scoring line between an area indicating a miss (zero score outside the target area) and a negative score area, the negative (lower) will count.

For example: The line between 30 and –15 scores 30, but the line between –15 and 0 (line on edge of target) scores –15. The line between 30 and 0 scores 30.

2.6. After signature of the scorecard, no adjustments to the score will be allowed.

2.7. The range officer's judgement is final, except for 2.10.

2.8. In the event that a competitor wishes to appeal the judgment of the range officer, the appeal in writing must be accompanied by a deposit of R50, which amount is refundable if the appeal is upheld.

2.9. The targets used in competitions will, as far as possible, be full color prints of Wild Game. Steel plates with a diameter of 200mm may also be used in countries where allowed. South Africa will use Springbuck, Impala, Blesbuck and Warthog. Steel plates will be used in areas where scoring is difficult like mountains etc.

2.10. The maximum shooting distance will be approximately 350 meters. The maximum shooting distance from a freestanding (offhand) position will be 100 meters. The minimum shooting range at steel plates for centre fire rifles will be 150 meters. To maintain standards the steel plates will be placed as follow: half of the total number of steel plates used at a competition should be closer than 250 meters and no more than 20% should be further than 300 meters. As range finding equipment may not be used to range these targets, these distances will be judged by the organizers and are an approximate.

2.11. Examples of the paper targets used for that specific range must be displayed at the shooting stations.

2.12. Steel plates must be visible to the naked eye, clearly marked and numbered for easy identification. Since some of the members are colorblind, the marking of the steel plates must be a shade of white/beige and at least A3 sized, like a black number on a white A3 paper, attached to the frame supporting the steel plate or standing next to it.

2.13. In case of a tie of any scores, the competitors will be counted out, starting from event 1 to 6, except if any other sequence was determined before the start of the competition.

### **3. SAFETY**

3.1. Rifle bolts will always be in the OPEN position, including when bagged. If the rifle does not fit into the container with an open bolt, the bolt must be removed. Live ammunition may only be placed in the rifle or magazine (when the magazine is fitted to the rifle) on the command of the range officer. Regulations provided by the shooting range where a shoot will take place, must be obeyed.



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- 3.2. Any competitor or spectator exhibiting behavior, which in the discretion of the range officer or competition organizers is considered unsafe, may be disqualified or requested to leave the shooting range immediately.
- 3.3. Competitors are not allowed to aim or load any rifles before the range officer has given the order to do so.
- 3.4. After starting an event, the bolt of the rifle may not be closed before or while going into the shooting position.

The bolt may be pushed forward to prevent the rounds from falling out, but must not be pushed down and closed before the body is settled into the shooting position.

- 3.5. Hearing protection is mandatory and eye protection is recommended at all shooting competitions.

### **4. EQUIPMENT**

- 4.1. If a breakage or malfunction occurs during any event, the competitor will not be allowed to re-shoot that event at a later stage and if a competitor's rifle becomes unserviceable (this must be verified by the organizers) he/she may shoot the remainder of the events with a different approved rifle.
- 4.2. With the exception of rule 4.1.; the competition must be completed with one rifle.
- 4.3. Any person, who is not the registered owner of the firearm he/she is using, will be required to be accompanied by the registered owner.
- 4.4. Gloves strengthening the wrists, are not permitted
- 4.5. Elbow protectors and shooting or hunting jackets will be allowed but no clothing with artificial support may be used.
- 4.6. Rifle slings must be attached to the rifle in front and behind the action. Slings may be adjustable.
- 4.7. No Bi-pods or any other attachments for steadying the rifle may be used, except than allowed by the match organizers.
- 4.8. The triggering mechanism of any rifle should be absolutely safe and will be subjected to a safety check by the range officer, if necessary. In the event of it being unsafe, the competitor will not be allowed to continue with that rifle. Rule 4.1. will then apply.
- 4.9. No Semi-Automatic or Pump-Action rifles are allowed.
- 4.10. There is no limitation to the magnification of telescopes.



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4.11. No electronic or mechanical distance ranging equipment is allowed on the competition premises or in a vehicle of any competitor or visitor, except by organizers of the day, by prior arrangement, for official use only.

Infringement of this rule may lead to immediate disqualification and suspension.

**5. AT FIRING POINTS**

5.1. Firing points for each event must be clearly demarcated.

5.2. The range officer at every shooting point will brief each competitor thoroughly before commencing with the event. No competitor will be allowed to repeat an event due to the fact that he/she did not clearly understand what was required.

5.3. The range officer will call out the names of the competitors who are next in line to shoot and they will prepare themselves to be ready by the time the competitor preceding them has completed the event.

5.4. The standard range officer command will be:

a) Are you ready or are there shooters who are not ready (at which point the competitor must indicate his/her readiness to start)

b) Stand by

c) 3 to 5 seconds later the range officer will give the START signal.

d) 120 Seconds will be allowed for steel plate ranges and 90 seconds for long range target ranges (excluding short, rapid fire target ranges).

e) During any event the time remaining will be read out to the competitor where applicable as: 90 seconds remaining, 60 seconds remaining, 30 seconds remaining and 15 seconds remaining. Organizers are urged to make use of the association's RO Commands available on CD or electronic media.

5.5. No coaching will be allowed while a competitor is busy shooting an event.

5.6. No disturbing comments, remarks or noise are allowed at any shooting point while a competitor is shooting.

5.7. Where shooting is to commence over stones or something that may damage the competitors equipment, a thin, blanket type for protection may be supplied by the organizers. This supplied coverage must stay on the shooting point for the duration of the competition and is the only coverage that is allowed. Where no coverage is supplied the competitor may remove his/her hat or cap and use it as protection.



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5.8. Targets may not be scrutinized through any optical devices while not shooting. This includes telescopes on rifles and binoculars.

**6. CLASSIFICATION**

6.1. Competitors can compete in the following classes:

a) Performance Classes. (Determined by previous performance as recorded on National Ranking List)

For members only.

i. Bronze (below 30% or first time entrants) (0 – 300)

ii. Silver (30% to below 60%) (301 – 600)

iii. Gold (60% and above) (601 -900)

b) Demographic Classes. For all competitors. May enter in only one of the following:

i. Juniors (16 years and younger on the day of the competition)

ii. Ladies

iii. Men

iv. Seniors (50 years up to 59 years old)

v. Veterans (60 years and older)

All competitors qualify to be overall winners on a specific day and for overall ranking. Members may enter into a) and

b) Simultaneously and non-members may enter into b) only.

6.2. Awards per class will depend on the number of entries for that class.

6.3. New members competing in their first competition will compete as Bronze shooters.



## INTERNATIONAL HUNTING RIFLE SHOOTING ASSOCIATION

Each national association will pay an annual fee of € 100. to the IHRSA

By payment the national association will gain access to information on targets and shootings  
[A password to the web-site has to be discussed] (Every paid up member will have a  
password)

Payment of all activities, such as targets, badges, clothing's, fees of participating in any  
events etc. will not be made by IHRSA.

An IHRSA membership certificate will be issued to the national association.

### COMPETITION

Shooters can compete in an authorized IHRSA Scheduled shooting (identified with a number  
and a description on the web-site:

A shooting arranged under the purpose of IHRSA; and afterwards described in the fixed  
schedule, given an IHRSA number and exposed on the web-site can be used as a competition  
set-up.

### EXERCISE

Ditto

### MARKETING

SAHRSA and NSK will be the founders and the first two member associations in IHRSA.



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IHRSA SCHEDULE CONECP

IHRSA SHOOTING manual no. XXX

TARGET	IHRSA target No. "Impala"						
DISTANCE (IF informed: In meters)							
SHOTS							
SECUNDS							
POSITION READY							
POSITION SHOOTING							
AID							
COMMENT							
Association responsible for IHRSA Schedule No. XXX: (Association name, web-site)							
Contact person: (name, cell phone, email, web-site of Association)							