



**MUZZLE LOADING
NATIONAL RULES**

ANNEX

LONG RANGE MLAIC RULES

Implemented 2018

No. 1

**THE FOLLOWING RULES ARE AN EXACT COPY
FROM THE
MLAIC LONG RANGE RULE BOOK**

LONG RANGE RIFLE CHAMPIONSHIP

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1.1 APPLICATION AND AMENDMENT OF THE RULES

a. Long World Rifle Championships (LRWC) are to be organised as an MLAIC event under the rules published in this chapter, supplemented by the remaining MLAIC rules where appropriate. The rules published in this chapter and as applied to Long Range Rifle Championships take precedence over other MLAIC rules.

b. In the event of an omission or a discrepancy regarding safety issues the rules of the host country shall apply, without prejudice to any competitor.

c. A Match Director shall be appointed by the host country of the Championship. The Match Director shall be responsible for the organisation and conducting of the Championship.

d. The Match Director shall appoint an Arbitration Committee. The Arbitration Committee shall comprise a Chief Arbitrator from the host country plus two other members selected from different member countries. The function and authority and of the Arbitration Committee is defined at Rule 1.9.

e. The Match Director shall appoint three Firearms Control Inspectors. These shall include one representative from the host country plus two other members selected from different member countries. The function and authority and of the Firearms Control Inspectors is defined at Rule 1.10.

f. The Team Captains meeting at the Long Range World Championship shall decide the rules they wish to have in place, these will be presented to the Delegates with the recommendation that they be approved.

2.1 DEFINITIONS

LRWC's shall be deemed to include the following:

- i) Long range: means events fired at distances greater than 600 metres.
- ii) Mid range: means events fired at 600 metres or less.

Note that:

1000 yards = 914 metres 1000 metres = 1094 yards
900 yards = 823 metres 900 metres = 984 yards
600 yards = 549 metres 600 metres = 656 yards
500 yards = 457 metres 500 metres = 547 yards
300 yards = 274 metres 300 metres = 328 yards

2.2 GENERAL

- a. Each MLAIC Member Country will be allowed an unlimited number of entrants in the individual events of which a maximum number of sixteen may use reproductions and an unlimited number may use original rifles.
- b. There shall be one team of four competitors in each of the team events per country.
- c. All Delegates shall register and pay their team's entry fees before any member of the team participates in practice or competition.
- d. Countries wishing to host a LRWC should submit a request to the SG no later than three months prior to the Committee Meeting immediately following the previous championship.

2.3 SHOOTING RULES

a. Coaching

- i) For individual events and team events when shot concurrent with individual events, competitors may receive coaching up to the time when their first scoring shot hits the target; from then on, no coaching or assistance from others, including other shooters, is permitted.
- ii) For team events, when shot as a team on the same target, coaching is permitted throughout the event. In addition, and in team shooting only, each team may have one (1 no.) non-shooting coach who may coach each shot fired by each of his team members.
- iii) Noise shall be kept to a minimum so as not to disturb other competitors.
- iv) Communications with the butt markers will be through the Range Officer only and limited to queries on standard messages as in Rule 7.12a.
- v) Spectators shall remain at least three metres behind the loading area and observe silence when shooting is in progress. It is strictly forbidden for any spectator to communicate by any means with any competitor for the duration of the relay.

b. Convertible Sighters

- i) The first scoring shot on the target will count as the first convertible sighter. The decision to convert sighters shall be made after all the sighters have been fired and before firing any further shots.
- ii) Sighters can only be converted in reverse order of firing, so that they form a continual sequence with the following scoring shots. It is therefore not possible to convert a sighter without including all the subsequent sighters. When sighters are converted the number of subsequent shots shall be reduced accordingly to give the correct total of shots for the competition

c. Fouling Shots

- i) Fouling shots/warming shots may be fired in to the stop butt, until the first convertible sighter has been scored. In the event of a foul load the shot may be fired into the backstop with the range officers permission. In the event of a delay to shooting additional fouling shots may be permitted at the discretion of the range officer. These shots shall be fired from the prone/supine position.

d. Misloads

- i) Misloads shall be reported to a range official prior to clearing. Discharging the rifle without reporting a misload will result in the score of the shot being recorded.
- ii) Firing an aimed shot at the target, and in the event of failing to have loaded a bullet, counts as a miss.

e. Shooting on the wrong target

- i) A bullet fired into another competitor's target shall be counted as a miss.

f. Squadding

- i) A competitor shall shoot at the time and at the target for which he has been squadded, and in general sequence with the other competitors squadded on the same target. The competitor shall fire from the allocated position on the firing point and allow other competitors sharing the same firing position to compete with the minimum of hindrance.
- ii) Where range space is restricted consideration should be given to squadding left handed shooters on the right side of the firing point so that no undue delay is caused to any shooter.

g. Team Shooting

- i) Team Matches shall preferably be fired separately from individual events. Mid and long range team entries identifying team members and coach shall be presented to the Match Director one hour prior to the commencement of the respective matches and by times to be published in the programme of events. Timing shall permit the completion of individual events at mid range and long range before the respective teams are named.
- ii) If for any reason the completion of a team match is not possible, then the Match Director (in consultation with all Team Captains and the Range Supervisor) will determine the course of action. If the match is to be cancelled or abandoned the following shall apply to team match placings:
 - aa) Scores achieved by the completion of two distances by all competing countries at mid-range.
 - bb) Scores achieved by the completion of one distance by all competing countries at long range.

- iii) In the event that (ii) or (iii) cannot be achieved then a sealed envelope procedure shall apply in the following manner.
 - aa) After any practice but before the commencement of the individual matches at mid and long ranges and at a time to be published in the programme of events, the team captain of each competing country shall submit to the Match Director a sealed envelope containing the names of that country's designated mid and long range teams, including coach(s).
 - bb) The sealed envelopes shall be retained by the Match Director and shall only be opened by him in the event of team match placing being unable to be achieved through complete team events or through application of paragraphs ii, aa and/or ii, bb.
 - cc) Team match placing shall then be determined by the individual scores achieved by those competitors named in the sealed envelopes.

h. Time allowance

- i) The time allowed to a competitor in individual competition within which to fire a shot is 90 seconds. The time allowed counts from the time the competitor takes up the shooting position and the previous shooter's score is agreed. The only acceptable reason for delay is a misfire.
- ii) A competitor timed by a Range Officer and found to have taken too long will be given ONE warning and thereafter will forfeit the value of any shot which a Range Officer in person has timed and found to have exceeded the time allowed.
- iii) The Range Officer will, in these circumstances, amend the scores on the register, endorsing it with the reason.
- iii) The competitor will not forfeit a score for failing to fire the shot within the specified time, provided the firing point is vacated safely and his shooting partner(s) permitted to continue.
- iv) If a competitor has a mechanical problem, the range officer will be notified. The other competitors sharing the firing point will be allowed to shoot until problem is resolved.
- v) Any competitor sharing a firing point shall allow the other competitors to shoot through, if he wishes to take longer to complete his shot.

2.4 SAFETY

- a. Smoking is absolutely forbidden on the range.
- b. No competitor may move himself or his equipment forward onto the Firing Point until authorised to do so by the Range Officer.
- c. The snapping of caps or loading of firearms before the 'Open Fire' signal is not permitted. Firearms may only be capped with the barrel pointed down range.
- d. Fouling/warming shots shall be fired from the prone/supine position.
- e. Powder charges shall be in pre-measured single charge containers.
- f. The use of eye and hearing protection is mandatory.

2.5 FIREARMS AND AMMUNITION

a. Firearms

- i) Original rifles are to be either original British long range match or military match rifles as in the style of those used at Wimbledon in the 1860's and 1870's, or those of that same era from other countries, suitable for long range shooting. Reproduction rifles shall also be in the spirit of these original rifles. Reproduction rifles may be side lock or underhammer. No heavy, bench rest or modern in-line style rifles will be permitted even though they may be permitted in any other sanctioned National Shooting Contest.
- ii) For reproduction rifles the rifling pitch and number of grooves will be similar in the style of the pattern developed for muzzle loading rifles prior to 1900.
- iii) Rifles, either original or reproduction shall conform to the following specification:
 - aa) Maximum weight (including sights but excluding sling), 13lbs (5.90kg)
 - cc) Minimum bore: .400" (10.16mm)
 - bb) Maximum bore: .470" (11.94mm)
- iv) Set triggers, single or double, on original rifles will only be allowed if they can be proven original to the rifle.
- v) There is no minimum trigger pull, however the lock/trigger shall be deemed to be safe by the Firearms Control Inspectors.
- vi) The use of modern bedding compounds, such as any epoxies, either in the barrel channel or to fit the hook breech is strictly forbidden. Winning rifles are to be presented for inspection after the matches and if found to be bedded with modern materials, will be subject to disqualification.

b. Ammunition

- i) Only commercially manufactured black powder may be used.
- ii) Only commercially manufactured percussion caps may be used.
- iii) Bullets shall be of a contemporary style and may be lead or lead alloy, greased or paper patched. Gas checks are not permitted.
- iv) Bullets weights shall conform to the following specification:
 - aa) Minimum bullet weight: 400 grains (25.92 grams)
 - cc) Maximum bullet weight: 600 grains (38.88 grams)
 - dd) Weights stated exclude grease or paper patching.
- v) No plastic wads are permitted. Wads may be made from natural organic materials.

1.7 ACCESSORIES

a. Butt Attachments

- i) The addition of artificial or synthetic friction material to the butt plate is not permitted.
- ii) Rubber butt plates, typically solid rubber pads with no stock overlap and in the spirit of the times, are permitted.

b. Cheek Pieces

- i) The use of an attachable cheek piece is allowed, provided it is in the spirit on the times, such as leather or wood and attached with laces or straps. The use of modern Velcro fastenings or similar is not acceptable. Other examples of unacceptable cheek pieces are those made of uncovered sponge rubber or cardboard, attaching with duct or masking tapes.

ii) Stocks fitted with adjustable cheek pieces in the spirit of the times are permitted.

c. Rests

i) No artificial rest or attachment for steadying the rifle or arm, other than the sling, is allowed when shooting at mid range.

ii) The use of a rest to support the wrist of the forward hand is permitted when shooting at long range. The rest shall not touch the rifle nor the butt rest on the ground or a support of any kind. A sling may be used in conjunction with a rest at long range.

d. Sights

i) It is recognised that many original rifle sights are missing or worn out; replacement sights of the period 1860-1899 may therefore be used.

ii) Aperture sights (front and rear) are permitted if consistent with the period.

iii) Rear sights with or without windage adjustments, and with or without Vernier or other scale markings are acceptable.

iv) Magnifying or telescopic sights are not permitted.

v) No sights with click adjustments may be used. Modern sights, after the year 1899, will not be accepted and a rifle so equipped will be disqualified.

e. Slings

i) Slings shall be original or a reproduction of a contemporary type. Modern adjustable target type slings, including single-point slings, are forbidden.

ii) Slings shall be manufactured from leather, canvas or other suitable material available in the 19th century. No modern material such as nylon may be used. No part of the sling may exceed 2.5 inches (63mm) in width or 0.25 inches (6mm) thickness.

iii) Slings shall be attached to two positions on the rifle and not closer than 8 inches (203mm) of each other measured from the inside of the attachment points.

iv) Sling attachments (fittings) may be added to original rifles, if desired, however these attachments shall be of the 1860's/1870's period styles (e.g. sling eye/swivel for hook) and cause no damage to the rifle.

v) Original military match rifles shall use original military style swivels as usual for military rifles of the 1860's/1870's.

vi) Reproduction rifles may be fitted with mechanical sling attachment points, including sling eyes/swivels, fitted to the stock, trigger guard or barrel.

vi) The tying of slings to the trigger guard is not permitted.

vii) It is not permitted to wrap the sling in such a way that it prevents equal tension being applied to the sling attachments on the rifle.

f. Wind Indicators

i) The use of a personal, non-electronic wind indicator, is allowed, as long as said device is not forward of the firing line, nor of any interference to other competitors. The use of modern, electronic wind devices is prohibited.

1.8 CLOTHING

a. Shooting Glasses

i) Correction glasses, and/or filters may be worn by the competitor.

b. Shooting Gloves

i) The use of a modern style shooting glove is allowed on the hand supporting the rifle.

c. Shooting Jackets

i) The use of modern style shooting jackets is allowed.

ii) A sling supporting hook or similar attachment to the shooting jacket is permitted; provided that it does not clamp the sling or otherwise prevent equal tension being applied to the sling attachments on the rifle.

1.9 TARGETS

a. Targets are white with a circular black aiming mark

b. The standard target dimensions for shooting distances in yards are:

Divisions	Diameter in Inches	Score			
Long Range	600 yards	500 yards	300 yards		
Aiming Mark	48	39	39	22	-
V-Bull	14.4	7.8	6.3	3.3	5.1
Bull	24	13	10.5	5.5	5
Inner	48	26	26	11	4
Magpie	72	39	39	16.5	3
Outer	96	52	52	22	2

Hit

W = Wide

H = Height Rectangle or Square measuring

118"W x 70"H

x 70" high 70" W x 60" H 46" square 1

The V Bull is indicated on the target by a broken line.

c. The standard target dimensions for shooting distances in metres are:

Divisions	Diameter in Inches	Score		
Long Range	600 metres	500 metres	300 metres	
Aiming Mark	45	35	23.5	-
V-Bull	See note below	5.1		
Bull	22	14	6.3	5
Inner	45	35	15.8	4
Magpie	71	53	23.5	3
Outer	Rest of Target	2		

Target Frame Sizes

W = Wide

H = Height Rectangle or Square measuring

96"W x 72"H

x 72" high 72" W x 72" H 47" x 47" -

At all distances the V-Bull diameter is approximately 2/3 that of the bulls eye.

d. Shots striking the target but outside of lines drawn to define the Hit Division or Target Frame Size count as a miss.

e. Target dimensions to be used during a Long Range Rifle Championships shall be recorded in the invitation document as well as the shooting program circulated to all competing country teams before the match.

f. Host countries shall make all reasonable effort to provide targets to the above dimensions. Those unable to provide such targets may use those by their local bodies closest to these dimensions.

g. Scores achieved on targets that do not comply with the above defined target dimensions will not be eligible for World Record recognition.

1.10 MARKING AND SCORING

a. Marking

i) The position and scoring value of each shot will be separately signalled. In addition to a spotting disk placed in the shot hole, the value of the shot will be indicated by a coloured marker positioned along the lower edge of the target frame as follows:

Black Outer = 2 Magpie = 3 Inner = 4 Bull = 5

Fluorescent Hit = 1 - - V Bull = V

No Marker Miss

ii) Hosting countries shall always endeavour to have non-shooting target pullers on duty during Long Range Rifle Championships. Competitors shall share butt marking duties and perform all other requirements of the Match Director if required to do so. Anyone failing to carry out butt marking duties conscientiously shall have his score in the event deleted. Also refer to 7.11 – Register Keeping.

b. Scoring

i) When a shot touches the line between the scoring divisions on a target, the competitor shall be accredited with the higher score.

ii) In the event of a tie in individual events the winner will be decided by the highest number of V-Bulls. If still a tie, the winner shall be determined by having the higher score on count back (for example, a competitor whose final shots are 4, 3, 5 beats someone who finishes 2, 3, 5).

iii) In the event of a tie in team events the winning team will be decided by the highest number of V Bulls. If still a tie, by the range totals (including V-Bulls) in order of distance commencing with the longest. If still a tie, by the aggregate of the last shots of all the firers in the team, at the longest distance, followed by the aggregate of the penultimate shots, and so on.

1.11 REGISTER KEEPING

a. Unless otherwise directed by the Match Director the recording of scores will be carried out by range officers and/or designated competent persons. No participant will be allowed to record scores on the official score sheets for himself. Protests over the value of the score or a challenge in the event of a miss shall be made to the range officer by the competitor before the next person on that target fires.

b. At the discretion of the Match Director, and in the event of two details per distance (4 competitors on one target), the two non-shooting participants during a detail will keep score for the two shooting participants. In event that target pullers are not provided, then one non-shooter will pull target and the other non-shooter will record scores for the two competitors in the relevant details.

1.12 COMMUNICATION

a. The following Code Messages will be used to communicate between the Range Officers on the firing point and the butts. The target number will be given, followed by the message number, viz

Message 1 Firing is about to commence. Raise target.

Message 2 No spotting disc is visible.

Message 3* Spotting disc unmistakably disagrees with signalled value. Verify that the spotting disk shows the LAST shot and signals its correct value."

Message 4* A shot has been fired but no signal has been made. Examine the target carefully and signal shot if found or a miss.

Message 5* Firer has challenged for a higher value for his shot. Examine the whole target and signal the correct value.

Message 7* A miss has been signalled but firer has challenged for a scoring shot. Re-examine the target carefully and signal shot if found or a miss.

Message 9 Marking/shooting appears to be unduly slow. Butt/Range Officer to check and correct where necessary.

Message 10 Stand easy. Half mast target.

Message 11* It is suspected that the wrong shot hole has been patched out. Butt Officer is to consult marker and confirm correct value.

* The result shall be confirmed by the Butt Officer by radio to the firing point.

1.13 EVENTS

a. Individual Events

i) No. 1: 300 yards/metres.

Two separate categories; Original and Reproduction.

Position: Prone (sling permitted)

Shots: 3 convertible sighters, 10 shots to count

Duration: 1 hour detail.

ii) No. 2: 500 yards/metres.

Two separate categories; Original and Reproduction.

Position: Prone (sling permitted).

Shots: 3 convertible sighters, 10 shots to count

Duration: 1 hour detail.

iii) No. 3: 600 yards/metres.

Two separate categories; Original and Reproduction.

Position: Prone (sling permitted).

Shots: 3 convertible sighters, 10 shots to count

Duration: 1 hour detail.

iv) No. 4: 900 yards/ 800 metres.

Two separate categories; Original and Reproduction.

Position: Prone (sling and/or rest permitted) or supine.

Shots: 5 convertible sighters, 15 shots to count

Duration: 1 hour 30 minute detail.

v) No. 5: 1000 yards/ 900 metres.
Two separate categories; Original and Reproduction.
Position: Prone (sling and/or rest permitted) or supine.
Shots: 5 convertible sighters, 15 shots to count
Duration: 1 hour 30 minute detail.

b. Team Events

i) No. 6: Mid Range Aggregate

Teams of four competitors plus one coach.
No distinction between Originals and Reproductions.
Distance: 300, 500 and 600 yards/metres
Shots: 3 convertible sighters, 10 shots to count for each team shooting member.
Score: All scores to count.
Duration: 1 hour detail for each distance fired at.

ii) No. 7: Long Range Aggregate

Teams of four competitors plus one coach.
No distinction between Originals and Reproductions.
Distance: 900 and 1000 yards or 800 and 900 metres.
Shots: 5 convertible sighters, 15 shots to count for each team shooting member.
Score: All scores to count.
Duration: 1 hour 30 minute detail for each distance fired at.
A country unable to raise four (4 no.) shooting team members may still participate in the international Team Events.

1.14 AWARDS

a) Medals shall be awarded to the three first places in each individual event in each category Original and Reproduction. Certificates shall be awarded to the first six places in each individual event in each category Original and Reproduction.

b) Medals and certificates shall be awarded to each member (including the team coach) of the first three places in each team event.

c) A gold medal for the highest aggregate score in each category Original and Reproduction will be awarded for

i) Mid Range Aggregate: Competitions numbers 1, 2 and 3.

ii) Long Range Aggregate: Competitions numbers 4 and 5.

iii) The Grand Aggregate: Competition numbers 1, 2, 3, 4, and 5.

d) Should a host country wish to present additional prizes then this shall be identified in the Championship programme along with the details of the events for which the awards will be made