

.22 Black Powder Cartridge Rifle Association

Rules and Guidelines

These rules govern 22 BPCRA National Championships as well as any regional or state matches supported by the 22 BPCRA. In the event our rules conflict with local club safety rules and/or due to local range conditions a Match Director may make allowances to our rules to meet local standards.

1. 22 BPCRA Rifle - A single shot rifle, originally made for black powder cartridges, of United States manufacture prior to 1896 and being typical of the era. Replicas thereof, regardless of origin of manufacture, are permitted. Hammer must be exposed. If replacement barrels, stocks, or other parts are used, they must be as original. No Schuetzen style rifles permitted. One rifle will be used during all phases of the match.

(a) Barrel liners: .22 caliber removable liners that fit into approved rifles with larger caliber barrels are permitted to convert a center fire rifle to a .22 caliber.

(b) Rear sights will be of Vernier or ladder type, typical of the era, either open or peep, mounted on the tang or barrel. No modern style receiver, glass, or tube sight permitted. Front sights must be typical of the era, and may be shaded. No modern or Olympic type sights permitted.

(c) Trigger typical to the rifle and not subject to accidental discharge.

(d) Cartridges: 22 Long Rifle only.

(f) Stock: Original style sporting rifle butt stock, fore stock, and butt plates only. No target rifle configurations. Cheek pieces are permitted, but no roll over. Pistol grips are permissible, but no flared or hand-contoured styles. Crescent style buttplates are permissible, but cannot be over 1 1/8 inch deep when measured from a straight line from points of the buttplate. Stocks and forearms must be made of natural wood and must be in keeping with designs of stocks of the era.

2. Scoped 22 BPCRA Rifle - Identical to the description of the 22 BPCRA (Rule 1) with the following exceptions:

(a) No length or power limitation. Scope tube body to be 3/4" or less in diameter and any ocular or objective lens 1" or less measured from the inside of the lens opening (I.D.). (Adjusting or assembly rings are not included in these measurements.) No recoil/return springs are allowed on scopes.

(b) No Internal scope adjustments for windage or elevation.

(c) Mounts are to be of the traditional style of the period, and contain the windage and elevation adjustments for the scope in either, or both, the front or rear mounts. No click adjustments in the mount. Either dove tail mounting or scope block mounting is allowed. Original scope mounts of either the Cataract or Malcom style or variations thereof, or replicas or derivatives of either style, are allowed provided the replica or derivative conforms to the criteria of paragraph (c) above.

(d) Cheek pieces may be used and may be of any height.

3. Cross Sticks-Two wooden legs, no greater than 1 inch by 2 inches in thickness and width or 1 1/2 inches in diameter, and bolted or tied so that the two legs are hinged and capable of pivoting. The end of the legs may be equipped with spikes no more than 3 inches in length and no wider than the edge of the crossed stick. One layer of protective material may be suspended or inserted in the “V” of the crossed sticks to protect the rifle. The non-trigger hand is considered artificial support when in contact with the ground and the rifle butt stock simultaneously and is not permitted.

4. Firing Position, 22 BPCRA Iron and Scope 50 meters - Any standing position without artificial support. The rifle will be supported by the hands and one shoulder. All parts of one hand must be forward of the pistol grip. 100, 150 and 200 meters - Any position, including crossed sticks, but excluding bench rest.

(a) A “crossed stick” position is one where the shooter is in a prone, sitting, kneeling or standing position with the barrel or forearm resting in or above the “V” of the crossed sticks in such a manner that no competitor or range personnel are endangered.

(b) At the discretion of the match director or match sponsor, a shooter may be allowed to sit on a stool and use tall cross sticks to shoot the three “any position” targets. It is suggested that the stool be used and not a chair with back and arms that may be considered “artificial support”.

5. Time Allowances – 22 BPCRA Iron and Scope

(a) Ready Time - Fifteen (15) seconds will be allowed after the command READY is given before the command FIRE.

(b) (40 Shot-10 in a row) Eight (8) minutes will be allowed to fire unlimited sighters and one shot on each target of a bank of ten targets.

(c) (40 Shot- 5x5) Five (5) minutes will be allowed to fire unlimited sighters and one shot on each target on the first banks of 5 targets. Three (3) minutes will be allowed for one shot on each target on the second bank of 5 targets. No sighters are allowed on the second bank.

(d) (60 Shot- 15 in a row) Eleven (11) minutes will be allowed to fire unlimited sighters and one shot on each target of a bank of fifteen targets.

(e) (60 Shot- 5x5x5) Five (5) minutes will be allowed to fire unlimited sighters and one shot on each target on the first banks of 5 targets. Three (3) minutes will be allowed for one shot on each target on the second bank of 5 targets. No sighters are allowed on the second bank. Three (3) minutes will be allowed for one shot on each target on the third bank of 5 targets. No sighters are allowed on the third bank.

6. In all 22 BPCRA silhouette matches, ties will be decided at the discretion of the match director/match sponsor. This will be either by shoot offs or reverse animal count. For class awards, Master and AAA shooters will shoot off on chickens, AA shooters will shoot off on turkeys, A shooters on rams and B shooters on pigs.

7. Classes:

	40 Shot	60 shot
Master	31 to 40	46 to 60
AAA	26 to 30	39 to 45
AA	21 to 25	31 to 38
A	16 to 20	24 to 30
B	0 to 15	0 to 23

8. Establishing Classification

A new shooter who is shooting for the first time at a one day match will receive their first classification on the basis of the first match fired. The competitor would also be eligible for any class awards for that match.

A new shooter who is shooting for the first time at a multi-day National, State or Regional championship match will be classified in the Master class for the first day of competition. The shooter's first day score will determine his/her class for the second (and subsequent) day(s) of competition. The competitor would be eligible for any class awards for each match and the aggregate.

9. Retaining Classification

Classification, once achieved, shall not change until reclassification criteria have been followed as in Rule 10 or Rule 11.

10. Reclassification during a Club match

Competitors will be reclassified to a higher classification when they fire two scores in any higher classification to go from B class upward or three scores in any higher classification to go from A, AA, or AAA upward. If the two or three higher scores are in different classifications, reclassification shall be to the lower of the one or two; the higher scores will also be used toward any subsequent reclassification. Previously carried forward high scores will be used to reclassify upward.

11. Reclassification during a Championship Match (22 BPCRA supported). If a competitor shoots a score which is two or more classes above the currently held classification, that competitor shall be reclassified to one class below the class in which such high score falls, for that match and thereafter. Example: If a Class A competitor shoots a AAA score, that competitor will immediately be reclassified to AA for that match and thereafter.

12. Special Categories:

Super Sr.

A person may compete as a Super Sr. beginning on their 70th birthday.

Sr.

A person may compete as a Sr. beginning on their 60th birthday.

Jr.

A person may compete as a Jr. until their 17th birthday occurs.

13. Jury

The Match Director may appoint a Jury to be composed of persons who may or may not be competitors in the match, who are recognized as 22 BPCRA silhouette shooters and who are familiar with the 22 BPCRA and NRA Rules governing Silhouette matches. Tournament Officials may not serve as members of the Jury. This Jury shall act on any protest or dispute concerning procedures, equipment or any other question which may arise during the tournament.

14. Disabilities

A competitor who has a physical disability and needs an exception or modification to equipment or position for the 22 BPCRA National Championship should send a request prior to the match to the Board to be reviewed. It is suggested the request be sent with Nationals entry form, e-mail, letter or phone. The competitor making the request will be notified of approval or non-approval as soon as possible.

At the local Club Match level: Club Match Directors know the competitors that attend their matches. The Director may allow a change of position (i.e. a small stool with no back support due to health issues such as a bad back) or an equipment modification to a competitor with a known disability. It is suggested that these allowances be honored by other Match Directors at any other 22 BPCRA Club Matches the competitor may attend.

Local gun club safety rules usually take precedence and the Match Director should notify the competitors of such Club rules. It is suggested that 22 BPCRA competitors use eye and ear protection and use open bolt indicators.

At 22 BPCRA sponsored matches eye protection and the use of open bolt indicators is mandatory. Hearing protection is highly recommended.

22 BPCRA targets and target dimensions can be seen and printed at:

<http://www.22bpcra.com/>

Note: While the 22 BPCRA is not affiliated with the NRA, the Association has historically closely followed the NRA Rifle Silhouette Rules and Regulations as they pertain to Black Powder Cartridge Rifle and Black Powder Rifle Cartridge Scope. Should a situation arise during a 22 BPCRA match that is not covered in the above rules and guidelines the Match Director may consult the NRA Rules to assist in resolving the situation.

Another note: 22 BPCRA is meant to be a fun competition that would include women, children, guys, gals, wives, friends and even old guys. The above rules are meant to be the guides for the National and Regional Championships. On a local Club level the Match Director may use a degree of discretion to help attract and encourage participation. Match Directors may wish to add a class for a non-legal rifle to get a new shooter interested in our sport. Those shooters may compete for 5 and 10 in a row pins and as class winners. They will not be eligible as HOA Match Winners.