

The CMP Guide To Rimfire Sporter Shooting



- © The CMP Games Shooting Sports Program
- © The Rimfire Sporter Match
- © Basic Rifle Marksmanship Skills for Rimfire Sporter
- © How to Fire the Rimfire Sporter Course of Fire
- © How to Conduct a Rimfire Sporter Match
- © How to Sanction a Rimfire Sporter Match
- © Official CMP Rimfire Sporter Rules
- © Official Program, 2008 National Rimfire Sporter Match

4th Edition, with 2008 CMP Rimfire Sporter Rules

The CMP Guide To Rimfire Sporter Shooting

Rimfire Sporter is a new shooting sports activity that the CMP introduced in 2002 after four years of testing this concept in CMP Rimfire Sporter rifle clinics. Any gun enthusiast or hunter can shoot Rimfire Sporter because it uses smallbore sporter rifles that almost all of them already own. You do not have to buy expensive target gear to shoot Rimfire Sporter. The Rimfire Sporter course of fire is designed so that every shooter who understands basic gun safety and rifle marksmanship can shoot it. Rimfire Sporter is also uniquely challenging; it tests shooters' skills in three different firing positions, at two different ranges, in both precision and rapid-fire shooting.

Rimfire Sporter stresses fun, accessibility and practical marksmanship skills. It is a great game for shooters who want a target event that does not require expensive match-conditioned rifles or gear. It is ideal for hunters who recognize that practicing rimfire rifle shooting through the year will make them more skilled marksmen when they pursue game. Rimfire Sporter can be a great way to introduce youth and adults to the excitement and fascinating challenges of rifle target shooting. And most importantly, Rimfire Sporter is perfect for the shooter who enjoys going out to the range to have a relaxed competition with friends.



All types of common rimfire rifles, semi-auto, bolt, pump and lever action, are used in Rimfire Sporter shooting. In Rimfire Sporter, competitors may use any .22 cal. rimfire rifle that weighs less than 7.5 pounds with sights. Shooters fire "precision" and "rapid-fire" series in prone, sitting and standing positions at 50 and 25 yard distances.

This ***CMP Guide to Rimfire Sporter Rifle Shooting*** provides detailed information about Rimfire Sporter, how to shoot it and how to organize matches. The contents of this guide includes:

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CMP GAMES SHOOTING SPORTS PROGRAM

FUN—FELLOWSHIP—HISTORY—MARKSMANSHIP FOR ALL!

The CMP Rimfire Sporter Match is part of a larger CMP shooting sports program called the CMP Games program. This program formally began in 1998 when the CMP inaugurated the John C. Garand Match. The Garand Match restricts competitors' rifles to historic "as-issued" military rifles and offers a short course of fire that makes it accessible to thousands of shooters who did not participate in traditional target competitions. The Garand Match also allows shooters to reenact military and marksmanship history. Rules are designed to make the match "new-shooter friendly." Experienced shooters are allowed and even encouraged to assist and coach new shooters. The competition features camaraderie and a relaxed, fun-filled, yet challenging experience as well as a chance to shoot in the National Matches.

The National Garand Match succeeded beyond all expectations. In just four years, it grew from slightly over 300 shooters to 1400 shooters and became the biggest single event in the National Matches. Soon American shooters and clubs also wanted to shoot Garand Matches at local shooting clubs. They were first given the opportunity to conduct "Club Garand Matches" in 1999.



Rimfire Sporter is a great way for young shooters to learn about target shooting and experience how much fun it is. Rimfire sporter rifles are light enough that new shooters and younger juniors can handle them. With scoring rings all the way out to a generous-sized one ring, all shooters are going to score hits.

The CMP now sanctions several hundred of these matches each year. In 2002, the CMP expanded the list of CMP Games events by inaugurating the new Rimfire Sporter Match, a Springfield Rifle Match and a Vintage Military Rifle Match. The CMP now sanctions Club Matches in all four of these events. An M1 Carbine Match was added in 2006. Here is a list of current CMP Games events.

NATIONAL CMP GAMES MATCHES. During the National Matches at Camp Perry, Ohio, competitions are staged in these CMP Games events:

- ⊙ National Rimfire Sporter Rifle Match
- ⊙ National Springfield Rifle Match
- ⊙ National Vintage Military Rifle Match
- ⊙ M9 EIC Pistol Match
- ⊙ National Garand Match
- ⊙ M16 EIC Match
- ⊙ M1 Carbine Match

SANCTIONED CLUB MATCHES. CMP-affiliated shooting clubs can use CMP rules to conduct sanctioned matches in these CMP Games events:

- ⊙ Rimfire Sporter Match
- ⊙ John C. Garand Match
- ⊙ Vintage Military Rifle Match
- ⊙ M1 Carbine Match
- ⊙ Springfield Rifle Match
- ⊙ As-Issued Military Rifle Match (Mixed)

THE RIMFIRE SPORTER MATCH

The CMP Rimfire Sporter Rifle Match gives shooters a recreation-oriented competition that allows them to use their rimfire sporters (plinking and small game rifles) on the range. To shoot this match, all you need is a rifle and ammo. Special competition gear is not required or permitted. Competitors use standard, sporter-type rimfire rifles that can weigh no more than 7 ½ pounds with sights. Rifles may be manually operated or semi-automatic. Shooters with manually operated actions are given extra time in rapid-fire. There are two classes of competition, "O-Class," where competitors use open-sighted rifles, and "T-Class," where competitors have telescopic or receiver sights on their rifles.

Rimfire Sporter firing is done at 50 and 25 yards on a specially designed target. 50-foot Rimfire Sporter targets are also now available for indoor shooting. Like the Garand and Springfield Matches, the Rimfire Sporter Rifle course of fire is challenging, but new shooters can successfully complete it. Shooters begin at 50 yards with a ten-minute sighting or practice series. Next they shoot ten shots for record slow-fire in the prone position, followed by two five-shot rapid-fire series in prone. This is followed by ten shots slow-fire and two five-shot rapid-fire series in the sitting or kneeling position. Most shooters choose to fire this stage in the sitting position. Targets are then placed at the 25-yard line where shooters conclude with ten shots slow-fire and two five-shot rapid-fire series in the standing position. A total of 60 record shots are fired.

RIMFIRE SPORTER RIFLE MATCH RULES. The rules that govern Rimfire Sporter shooting are simple and easy to understand. The official rules are published in this guide (see pages 29-37). A current copy of this guide and the official Rimfire Sporter rules are also posted on the CMP web site at <http://www.odcmp.com/Competitions/RFGuide.pdf>.

RIFLES ALLOWED. Rifles used in the Rimfire Sporter Rifle Match must be standard sporter-type rimfire rifles that meet the following requirements:

- ⊙ Overall weight of the rifle may not exceed 7 ½ pounds, with sights. If a sling is used, it may be removed when the rifle is weighed.
- ⊙ The stock may have a sling swivel, but it must be fixed in one location (rails with adjustable sling swivels are not permitted). Thumbhole stocks, adjustable butt plates, adjustable cheek pieces and rails or adjustable (moveable) sling swivels are not permitted.
- ⊙ Any safe rimfire rifle with any type of action may be used. Rifles must be chambered for the .22 cal. long rifle rimfire cartridges; magnum rimfire or .17 cal. rimfire rifles may not be used. Rifles should have a magazine capable of holding five rounds so it can be used during rapid-fire stages. Single shot rifles are permitted, but using a single shot to fire five shots in 30 seconds in rapid-fire is difficult. Rifles with clip, box or tube-type magazines may be used, however, tube magazines are slower to load quickly during rapid-fire shooting.

- ⊙ The trigger must be capable of lifting a three-pound weight when cocked.
- ⊙ Telescopic, receiver or open sights may be used. Shooters who use rifles with telescopic or receiver (aperture) sights compete in the T-Class. Scopes are limited to six power (6X). If a variable scope is used, the power adjustment may not exceed 6X and it must be taped in that location. Any rifles with receiver (aperture or 'peep') sights must be used in the T-Class. Shooters who use rifles with open sights compete in the O- Class.
- ⊙ A standard leather or web sling no wider than 1 ¼ inches may be used in the prone and sitting or kneeling positions. Slings may not be used in the standing position to provide support, but the sling may remain on the rifle.

AMMUNITION. Shooters in Rimfire Sporter Matches may use any .22 cal. long rifle ammunition they wish. Shooters must be sure to select ammunition that not only shoots accurately, but that functions reliably when fed from a magazine during rapid fire since there are no alibis or refires for malfunctions in Rimfire Sporter.

RIMFIRE SPORTER EQUIPMENT

Any type of .22 cal. rimfire rifle with a total weight, including sights, of no more than 7 ½ lbs. and with a trigger capable of lifting three pounds can be used in Rimfire Sporter. Any type of rifle action may be used, including semi-autos (top), bolt actions (middle) and lever or pump actions (bottom). Rifles should have magazines capable of holding five rounds. Rifles with open sights (top and bottom) are fired in the O-Class. Rifles with 6X or lower power telescopes are fired in the T-Class.



A simple web or leather sling may be attached to a fixed sling swivel and used in the prone and sitting or kneeling positions, but not the standing position.

Shooters who fire rimfire rifles are strongly urged to wear shooting glasses and hearing protection while on the firing line.



ORDERING TARGETS. Clubs and individual shooters may order Rimfire Sporter Targets directly from the CMP. In addition to full-face and replacement center targets for shooting at 50 and 25 yards, the CMP now offers two 50 foot targets for Rimfire Sporter shooting. To order targets from the CMP, go the E-Store at <http://estore.odcmp.com/Store/catalog/catalog.aspx> and search for "targets." CMP Rimfire Sporter Targets and prices:



Rimfire Sporter Target, 50/25 yds full-face, NLU049, \$8.00/25

Rimfire Sporter Target, 50/25 yds replacement centers, NLU050, \$7.25/100

Rimfire Sporter Target, 50 ft prone/sitting reduced, NLU10512RF, \$5.75/100

Rimfire Sporter Target, 50 ft standing reduced, N1321RF, \$7.25/100

RIMFIRE SPORTER TARGETS. The official 50/25 yard Rimfire Sporter target is a large target (21" x 24") that should normally be pasted or stapled on pistol target backers. The target has scoring rings large enough that beginning shooters can consistently score hits, but it has a 10-ring that challenges even the best shooters. The largest scoring ring, the "one ring," is 18" in diameter. The aiming bull or "black" (includes 10-9-8-7 rings) is 7 1/8" in diameter so it can be used as an aiming mark for open-sighted rifles with bead front sights. The "ten ring" is 1 3/4" in diameter and is printed white so it can serve as an aiming mark for shooters who use telescopic sights. The CMP also has 50 foot Rimfire Sporter targets available for use by clubs and shooters who want to fire Rimfire Sporter events indoors. The prone/sitting version of the 50 foot target has two aiming bulls; five shots are to be fired on each bull. The larger, standing version has one bull; ten shots are to be fired on it.



In Rimfire Sporter, competitors usually hang their own targets. In this match, targets were pasted on cardboard backers. Each shooter is issued seven targets (one sighter and six record). Match sponsors can also issue one full-face target and six replacement centers. Shooters must be sure their targets are properly identified.

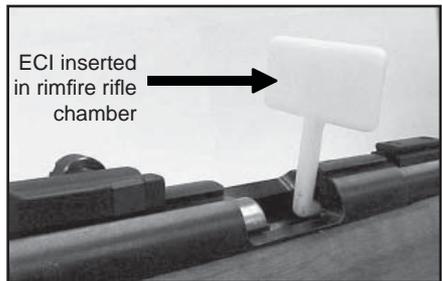
COURSE OF FIRE. The CMP Rimfire Sporter course of fire calls for firing an unlimited number of sighting or practice shots and 60 shots for record. Record firing is done in six stages of 10 shots each. A new target or replacement center is normally hung for each stage. The first four stages are fired at 50 yards distance. The last two are fired at 25 yards.

1. Sighting Stage, 50 yards, unlimited sighting shots, prone position, 10 minute time limit. Competitors may fire as many sighting shots as they wish during the 10-minute time limit. The scorer or another competitor may spot shots and assist the competitor in sighting in his/her rifle as long as this does not disturb other competitors. A rest or support may be used in this stage only.
2. Stage 1, 50 yards, 10 shots for record, prone position, 10 minute time limit.
3. Stage 2, 50 yards, two series of five shots for record, standing to prone, rapid-fire, time limit is 25 seconds for semi-autos, 30 seconds for manually operated rifles. Rapid fire series are five-shots, both because more shots cannot be loaded in some rifles and because this tests the shooter's ability to quickly assume or stable firing position.
4. Stage 3, 50 yards, 10 shots for record, sitting or kneeling position, 10 minute time limit.
5. Stage 4, 50 yards, two series of five shots for record, standing to sitting or kneeling position, rapid-fire, time limit is 25 seconds for semi-autos, 30 seconds for manually operated rifles.
6. Stage 5, 25 yards, 10 shots for record, standing position, 10 minute time limit.
7. Stage 6, 25 yards, two series of five shots for record, standing position (shooter must start with rifle butt at the hip), rapid-fire, time limit is 25 seconds for semi-autos, 30 seconds for manually operated rifles.

ONE-HALF COURSE OF FIRE. Match sponsors have the option of conducting a "half-course" event where five shots are fired in each stage and a total of 30 record shots are fired.

EMPTY CHAMBER INDICATORS

(ECIs). ECIs are an important means of ensuring safety on shooting ranges. ECIs have a probe that is inserted into the rifle chamber and a yellow safety flag that projects out of the open action. When an ECI is inserted in a rifle, it unmistakably confirms that the action is open and the chamber is empty. In matches conducted by the CMP, all Rimfire Sporter shooters must keep ECIs in their rifles at all times



Rimfire Sporter rules require the use of Empty Chamber Indicators (ECIs) in all rifles.

except when they are on the firing line during a preparation or firing period. The use of ECIs is now required in all CMP-sanctioned competitions. ECIs may be ordered from CMP Sales (NLU244, \$3.99/12).

MALFUNCTIONS. If a rifle malfunctions or misfires during a precision stage, the shooter may clear the malfunction and attempt to fire again. If the rifle cannot be cleared, remain in position, keep the muzzle pointed down-range and raise your hand for assistance. No alibis or refires are allowed if a rifle or ammunition malfunction occurs. This means that it is essential to keep your rifle clean and in good working condition so that it will not malfunction during rapid-fire stages.

SCORING. In Rimfire Sporter, the match sponsor may appoint official scorers or competitors may be asked to score the targets of other competitors. If competitors score, each shooter should score the target of the shooter on his/her right. The official scorers or Range Officers must have .22 cal. scoring gauges for use in deciding doubtful shots. The score of gauged shots must be written on the target and initialed by the scorer. Scores from all targets are then posted on a bulletin board or computer file. Eagle Eye scoring aids are especially useful in detecting double shot holes.

COACHING. Shooters may coach or assist each other during the sighting or practice phase of the competition. You can have someone assist you in spotting your shots and zeroing your rifle, especially during the sighting series..

SPOTTING SCOPES. Competitors and coaches may use spotting scopes to spot the locations of their shots and assist in making sight adjustments.

SHOOTERS' CLOTHING. Shooting jackets, special shooting trousers or shooting boots may not be worn. A maximum of two sweatshirts or soft, pliable shirts may be worn. Regular work or hunting-type boots may be worn.

OTHER EQUIPMENT. Aside from a rifle, ammunition and spotting scope, there is very little additional equipment that is even permitted. One item of equipment that shooters can bring and use is a shooting mat. If you do not have a shooting mat, a 2' x 6' strip of carpet of similar material is quite adequate for protecting your elbows in prone and for keeping you dry if the ground is damp. Another item that many shooters use is a glove for the left hand (right-handed shooter). An ordinary work or sports glove can be used, but special shooting gloves or padded mitts or gloves are not legal.

PERSONAL SAFETY EQUIPMENT. All competitors and range personnel are urged to bring personal hearing and eye protection with them. Everyone on the firing line during Rimfire Sporter events is urged to wear shooting glasses or personal eyeglasses and ear plugs or muffs while firing takes place.

INSTRUCTIONS FOR INDIVIDUAL SHOOTERS

FIRING THE RIMFIRE SPORTER MATCH

This section of the ***CMP Guide To Rimfire Sporter Shooting*** gives detailed instructions for individual shooters to follow as they complete the Rimfire Sporter course of fire. Any shooter who has not previously fired this event is urged to carefully read these step-by-step instructions before going to the range. Clubs that sponsor Rimfire Sporter Rifle Matches where there are large numbers of new shooters are strongly encouraged to use the information in this section of the ***Guide*** as a basis for conducting a Rimfire Sporter Rifle Shooters' Clinic before their match begins.

ARRIVAL AT RANGE. After you arrive at the range, check in with match officials to confirm your entry. Plan to arrive at the range 30 to 60 minutes before the start time for the match. Find out which relay (group of shooters) you will fire with and what firing point you are assigned to fire on. When you know where and when you will fire, take your rifle and gear from the car to the ready area behind your firing point. As soon as you take your rifle out of your vehicle, check the action to be sure it is open; take any removable magazine out and insert an ECI in the chamber. No rifle, cased or uncased, should be carried anywhere on the range unless its action is open and an ECI is inserted.

CALL TO THE FIRING LINE. When it is time for your relay to fire, the Range Officer will call you to the firing line. If you have a shooting mat, lay it out on the firing point. Position your ammunition, spotting scope and any other gear that you will need on your firing point. Remember that your firing point extends from your firing point number on your left to the next firing point number on your right. If shooters are required to go forward to hang targets, the Range Officer will instruct you to ground your rifle before allowing anyone to move forward of the firing line. Unless the Range Officer instructs you to ground your rifle, you may handle your rifle, put on the sling and get into position after you are authorized to bring your equipment to the firing line. You may not, however, remove the ECI from your rifle until the Range Officer announces the beginning of the Preparation Period.

TARGET HANGING. You should normally have seven targets when you start a Rimfire Sporter Match, one sighter target and six record targets. Be sure your name, competitor label or other means of identification is on your targets. Some match sponsors will have match staff hang and change targets. Some match sponsors will have competitors hang and change targets. The Range Officer may have all targets hung before authorizing competitors to bring their equipment to the line. The Range Officer may, alternatively, have competitors bring their equipment up to the line, ground their rifles and then go forward to hang or change targets. Whenever anyone goes forward of the firing line to hang or change targets, all rifles must be grounded and no one may handle rifles while anyone is forward of the firing line.

PREPARATION PERIOD. The Range Officer will announce that your preparation period is beginning. Preparation periods are normally one minute, but may be as long as three-minutes. As soon as the RO makes this announcement you can complete your preparation, handle your rifle, put the sling loop on your arm (if you are using a sling) and get into the prone position. Align your position so that its “natural point of aim” points at your target. Remove the ECI and dry fire a few times. Be absolutely sure that you do not load the rifle or insert a magazine during the preparation period.

SIGHTING STAGE. When the preparation period ends, the Range Officer will give the command LOAD. To load for the sighting or precision stages of fire, you can either load one shot at a time by placing one round in the chamber or you can load a maximum of five shots at a time in the magazine. You must, however, leave the bolt or action open until the command START is given. After the Range Officer commands START, you can close the bolt and begin to fire. From the time START is commanded, you will have ten minutes to fire as many sighting or practice shots as you wish. You are permitted to have another shooter spot shots for you or assist you in sighting in your rifle.

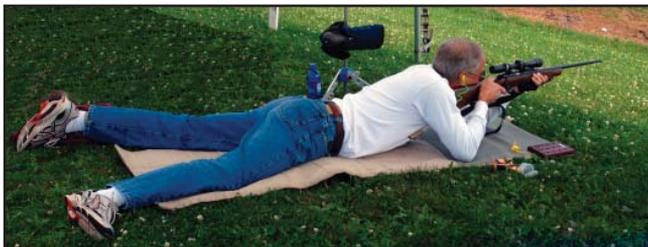
The primary purpose of sighting shots is to be sure your rifle is zeroed so that your shot group strikes the center of the target. Experienced shooters can adjust their sights after firing just one or two shots. If you are a new shooter, fire a group of three or four well-aimed shots. If the group is not centered on the target, make windage or elevation sight adjustments as needed to shift your shot group to the target center. Fire another three or four-shot group and check to see if those shots are centered. Make another sight adjustment if necessary. If you are not centered, continue by firing two or three more sighters and making yet another sight adjustment. When you finish firing your sighting shots and whenever you finish a prescribed series of shots in the match, immediately open your rifle action, insert an ECI and ground your rifle. Do not remove your rifle or equipment from the firing line until instructed to do so. You may, however, step back from the firing line when finished firing. When the sighting period ends, the Range Officer will command STOP, UNLOAD. Do not attempt to fire another shot after the command STOP. If you have not already done so, open your rifle action, remove the magazine (if removable), insert an ECI and ground your rifle. After the firing line is cleared, the Range Officer may then instruct you to go forward and hang your target for the prone precision stage that follows.

STAGE 1 – PRONE PRECISION. When you return to your firing point, wait until the Range Officer announces, “shooters take your position on the firing line.” After the Range Officer authorizes you to “take your position” you may handle your rifles, but may not remove the ECI until the preparation period begins. The Range Officer will then announce that the one-minute preparation period begins. Place the sling on your arm, if you are using one, and get into the prone position with your rifle. Align your prone position on your target, remove the ECI and dry fire a couple of shots. When the preparation period ends, the Range Officer will command LOAD. You can then place a round in

the chamber or insert a magazine loaded with not more than five rounds in your rifle, but leave the action open until the command START is given. Then you can close the action and prepare to fire your first shot. In this first record series, you must fire 10 shots, all on the same target. You can fire these 10 shots by loading them one at a time or you can load them from a magazine. Remember, however, that this is a precision stage where you can take plenty of time to fire the best shots you are capable of firing. Many competitors take their rifles down from their shoulders after each shot for a short rest before beginning the next shot. Note that your target should have a number that corresponds to your firing point number. Be sure to check your target number before each shot so that all your shots are on your target and not another shooter's target. Any shot that you fire at another shooter's target must be scored as a miss.

Carefully align the sights and smoothly press the trigger on each shot. If you have a spotting scope, check the locations of your shots. If your group starts to form off-center, make a sight adjustment to center the group. Keeping your shot group centered is essential to getting the highest possible score. When you finish firing all 10 record shots, open the action on your rifle, remove the magazine (if any) and insert an ECI. You can then place your rifle on the mat and get up out of position. When all competitors have fired 10 shots or when the 10-minute time limit has expired, the Range Officer will command STOP, UNLOAD. Any shots that you do not fire within the 10-minute time period must be scored as misses. After the Range Officer checks all rifles on the line to be sure they are grounded with ECIs inserted, he will instruct you to go forward and change targets.

STAGE 2 – PRONE RAPID-FIRE. When you return to your firing point, wait until the Range Officer announces, “shooters, take your positions on the firing line.” The Range Officer will then announce the beginning of the one-minute preparation period. Replace the sling on your arm and get back into the



Prone Position. Firing in the Rimfire Sporter Match begins in the prone position at targets placed at 50 yards. In prone, competitors lie on the ground or a shooting mat with their body at a slight angle to the line of fire. The rifle is placed on the shoulder and held with both hands. A loop sling may be placed on the left arm (right handed shooter) to help support the rifle. The stock should be placed well up in the shoulder so that the head is up and aiming is comfortable. The upper body is supported by the two elbows. To attain a steady hold in prone, try to hold the rifle with as little muscle tension in the arms as possible. Using a sling is strongly encouraged because a sling makes it possible to almost totally relax the arm muscles while keeping the rifle much steadier.



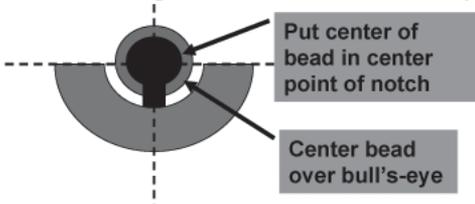
These shooters in the prone position are firing a rapid-fire series. In rapid-fire, try to keep the rifle in your shoulder while all five shots are fired. Shooters with manually operated rifles (see 2nd shooter from right) should also keep the rifle in their shoulder while they operate the rifle action between shots.

CORRECT FIRING TECHNIQUE: The illustrations on this page are taken from slides used in the CMP Rimfire Sporter clinic. If you are a new shooter, study these illustrations to be sure you understand: 1) Correct sight picture, 2) Breath control, 3) Correct Trigger Release and 4) A Basic Shot Plan. Try to apply these techniques as you fire each shot in the Rimfire Sporter course of fire.

Correct Sight Picture

For open sight with bead front sight

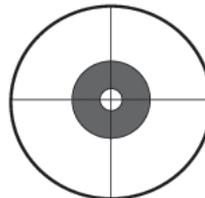
- Align front sight bead in center of rear notch
- Center front sight bead over 'black' bullseye



Correct Sight Picture

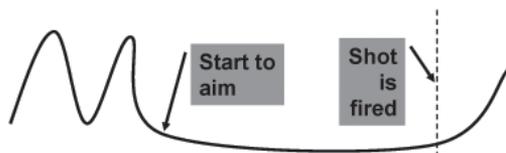
For telescope with crosshair

- Center crosshair or reticle over white dot in bullseye



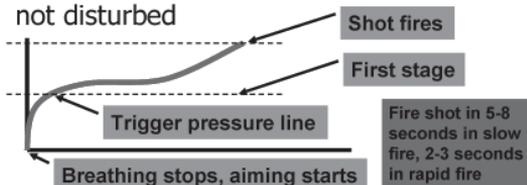
Breath Control

Breathe normally, exhale and stop breathing while aiming and shooting



Correct Trigger Release

- ✎ Press the trigger when sight picture movements are centered
- ✎ Press the trigger smoothly so the rifle is not disturbed



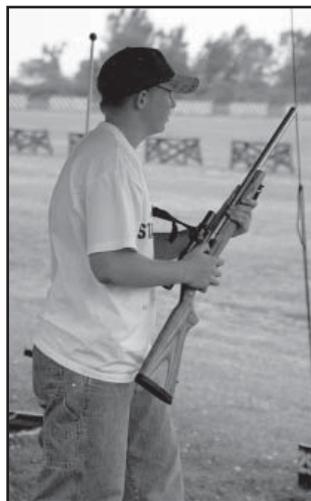
Basic Shot Plan

1. **Shoulder rifle**
2. **Relax as you exhale and stop breathing**
3. **Align sights on target's aiming point, add first stage pressure to trigger**
4. **Concentrate on centering sight movements over aiming point (mental focus)**
5. **Smoothly and gradually add trigger pressure until shot fires**

prone position. Align your position on your target; remove the ECI and dry fire to check your position. When the preparation period ends, the Range Officer will instruct all shooters to stand and then command WITH FIVE ROUNDS, LOAD. For rapid-fire, you must then load five shots in the magazine and insert it in the rifle if it has a removable magazine. DO NOT CLOSE the bolt or action of your rifle. When the Range Officer determines that all shooters have had sufficient time to load, he commands START. The amount of time that you will have to get into position, close the action on your rifle and fire five shots depends upon the type of rifle you fire. If you have a semi-auto rifle, you must do this in 25 seconds. If you have a manually operated rifle (bolt, lever, pump, single shot), you must do this in 30 seconds. It is common practice in most Rimfire Sporter Matches to have competitors with semi-auto and manually operated rifles fire their rapid-fire series separately.

When the Range Officer commands START, drop down into the prone position while being especially careful to keep your rifle muzzle pointed up or down-

Rapid Fire—Getting Into Position. Rapid fire shooting tests a shooter's ability to quickly and precisely get into the firing position from standing. The shooter on the right has received the LOAD command and is waiting for the START command. His sling is attached to his arm, the rifle magazine is loaded with five rounds and inserted but the action remains open. It is important here to keep the muzzle pointed up or downrange. It is also important to stand relaxed; there is no need to bend over in a tense position in an attempt to get a head start. When the command START is given, the shooter simply drops down to get into position where he can close the rifle action, place the butt plate in his shoulder and begin firing. When getting into a rapid fire position from standing, pay particular attention to keeping the muzzle pointed downrange and to lining up your position on your target (check your target number before starting to fire).



Rapid Fire Procedures. Shooters with semi-automatic rifles must fire their five-shot rapid-fire series in 25 seconds while shooters with manually operated rifles have 30 seconds. Competition officials may use one of two methods to manage the different time limits. One is to fire the shooters with semi-autos and the shooters with manually operated rifles separately. In this case, the semi-auto group is given 25 seconds and the other group 30 seconds to get into position, close their rifle actions and fire five shots. The second method is to separate the two types of rifles into different relays or different sections of the firing line and then to give the stop signals (usually a loud whistle) at 25 and 30 seconds, as appropriate for that group. When you fire Rimfire Sporter rapid-fire, be sure you know how the rapid-fire shooting is going to be conducted.

Unfired Shots in Rapid-Fire. In each rapid-fire series, the competitor must fire five shots within the allotted time limit. At the end of the time limit the Range Officer will command STOP or blow a whistle to signal STOP. Any shooter who does not fire all five shots is scored a miss for each shot not fired. If a shooter fires a shot after the command (or whistle) STOP, the highest scoring shot on that shooter's target must be nullified so that the late shot is scored as a miss. If you have not fired all five shots when the STOP command is given, do not attempt to fire a shot after the command since it will cause you to lose your best shot on that target.

Rapid-Fire Malfunctions. If you have a malfunction during a rapid-fire series, you should attempt to clear the malfunction and continue firing. This is because there are no allowable alibis in Rimfire Sporter. You will not be allowed to re-fire a series because your rifle or ammunition malfunctions. To prevent malfunctions, you need to keep your rifle clean and in good condition. Be sure to use reliable ammunition. If your rifle jams or malfunctions during a rapid-fire series and you cannot clear it, keep the muzzle pointed down-range, stay in position and raise your hand to request assistance from a Range Officer.

Sitting or Kneeling Position? The second firing position is the shooter's choice. It can be either sitting or kneeling. If you can get into a good sitting position, sitting is steadier than kneeling because it has a lower center of gravity and you are allowed to support both arms (only one arm can be supported in kneeling) on the legs. New Rimfire Sporter shooters should try sitting first. If you cannot get sitting to work for you, try kneeling. For almost all shooters, sitting is the best position choice.

Rapid Fire Reloading. A second special skill tested by rapid fire shooting is the shooter's ability to quickly reload and recover after each shot. This is a special challenge for shooters with manually operated rifles, who are given an extra five seconds for each five-shot rapid fire series to compensate for the time it takes to operate the rifle. Keep the rifle in the shoulder for all five rapid fire shots. Semi-auto shooters must simply allow the rifle to recoil and relax back onto the target



for the next shot. Shooters with bolt action rifles should use the reloading technique demonstrated in the photo (right). 1) Lift the right arm to grasp the bolt, 2) lift-pull-drop the bolt handle and 3) return the hand and elbow to their original position. Shooters with lever and pump action rifles should be able to keep their elbows in position while using the right (lever) or left (pump) hand to operate the action.

Standing Before Rapid Fire Rapid-Fire. Rimfire Sporter Rules permit competition officials to use their judgment in allowing shooters to remain in position to start a rapid-fire series when they cannot stand to load and start a rapid-fire series because of a medical condition, disability or age. Rimfire Sporter Rules allow anyone who is 60 years of age or older or who has a medical condition that makes it unsafe or difficult to stand to elect to remain in position at the start of rapid-fire series. Competitors who do this must notify the Range Officer before they begin firing. When the command load is given, shooters who do not stand may load in position and must keep the rifle out of their shoulder until the command START is given. They also must wait to fire their first shot until someone who was standing fires a shot—a competitor who remains in position to start rapid-fire cannot fire the first shot. This rule is intended to make Rimfire Sporter a game where all shooters regardless of age or physical limitations can continue to compete. However, it is also important that competitors who are able to stand do not take advantage of this rule.

Cross-Legged Sitting Position. If you try this position and have difficulty getting the rifle muzzle up to the level of the target while keeping the head up, you likely will have more success with the cross-ankled sitting position (see box below).



Cross-Ankled Sitting Position. In the cross-ankled position, sit with the body turned about 30 degrees from the target. Cross the left leg over the right leg (right-handed shooter) and extend both legs away from the body. The shoulder and arms support the rifle. Pull the left hand back on the fore end so that the rifle is up in the shoulder and the head is reasonably erect. The elbows should extend over the knees and relax down onto the outsides of the extended legs.

range. When you are in position, close the bolt or action on your rifle, place the butt plate in your shoulder and begin to aim and fire your shots. Even in rapid-fire, you must carefully align the sights and smoothly press the trigger for each shot. After each shot, follow-through and then operate the action on your rifle if you are firing a bolt, lever or pump action. Settle your position back on the target and continue firing.

When you finish firing your five record shots, open the action on your rifle and remove the magazine (if any). Do not insert an ECI after the first five rapid-fire shots. Just remain in position and wait for the Range Officer's instructions. The Range Officer will again instruct all shooters to stand and command WITH FIVE ROUNDS, LOAD. Load five shots in your magazine and insert it in the rifle if it is a removable magazine. Again, do not close the bolt or action of your rifle. When the Range Officer commands START drop down into position, close your rifle action and fire the next five shots within 25 or 30 seconds.

After you finish firing two five-shot rapid-fire series, open your rifle action, remove the magazine, insert an ECI and ground your rifle. After the Range Officer checks all rifles, he will instruct shooters to get up out of position to go forward and change targets.

STAGE 3 – SITTING OR KNEELING PRECISION. After you return to your firing point, the Range Officer will announce, "shooters, take your positions on the firing line. Your one-minute preparation period begins now." Pick up your rifle, replace the sling on your arm, if you use one, and get into your sitting (or kneeling, see box below) position. Align your position on your target, remove the ECI and dry fire. When the preparation period ends, the Range Officer will command LOAD. You can then load a single round in the chamber or insert a loaded magazine in your rifle, and after the command START, raise the rifle into position, close the action and prepare to fire. In this third record series, you will again fire 10 shots with a 10-minute time limit. Firing good shots in the sitting position depends upon how well you let your body relax. Make sure your arms relax down onto the legs as they support the rifle. Be sure to use both arms and both legs for support.



Kneeling Position. For stages 3 and 4, Rimfire Sporter competitors have the option of using the kneeling position. Shooters in kneeling can either use a kneeling roll or sit on the side of their foot (see photo on right). The rifle is held by both hands and the shoulder. The left elbow or arm rests on the left knee. A sling should definitely be used in kneeling.

After you fire 10 record shots, open the action on your rifle, remove the magazine (if any) and insert an ECI. After you ground your rifle on the mat, you can get out of position. When all shooters finish or when the 10-minute time limit expires, the Range Officer will command STOP, UNLOAD. After checking all rifles to be sure they are grounded with ECIs inserted, the Range Officer will instruct you to go forward and change targets for the next stage.

STAGE 4 – SITTING OR KNEELING RAPID-FIRE. When you return to your firing point, wait until the Range Officer announces, “shooters, take your positions on the firing line. Your one-minute preparation period begins now.” Get back into your sitting or kneeling position, align it on the target and prepare for rapid fire. When the preparation period ends, the Range Officer will instruct all shooters to stand and command WITH FIVE ROUNDS, LOAD. Load five shots in the magazine and insert it (if removable), but do not close the bolt or action. When all shooters are ready, the Range Officer will command START. The time that you will have to drop down into position, close the action on your rifle and fire five shots is the same as it was for prone rapid-fire, 25 seconds for semi-auto rifles and 30 seconds for manually operated rifles. When the Range Officer commands START, get into the sitting (or kneeling) position, being especially careful to keep your rifle muzzle pointing up or downrange. As soon as you are in position, close the bolt or action on your rifle, place it in your shoulder and begin to aim and fire your shots. Even in rapid-fire, you have plenty of time to relax, center your sight picture movements and squeeze the trigger. Follow through on each shot, working the action if you fire a manually operated rifle, and settle back on the target to fire your next shot.

After you finish your five record shots, open the action and remove the magazine (if any). Do not insert an ECI after the first five shots. Remain in position and wait for the Range Officer’s instructions. The Range Officer will again instruct all shooters to stand and command WITH FIVE ROUNDS, LOAD. Load your magazine and insert it in the rifle if it is a removable magazine, but do not close the bolt or action until you are down in position. When the Range Officer commands START, drop into position, close your rifle action and fire the next five shots within 25 or 30 seconds.

After you finish firing two five-shot rapid-fire series, open your rifle action, remove the magazine, insert an ECI and ground your rifle. After the Range Officer clears the line, he will instruct you to go forward to change targets.

STAGE 5 – STANDING PRECISION. After you hang your standing position target, the Range Officer will instruct shooters to pick up their rifles and ammunition and move forward to the 25-yard firing line to prepare for the standing position. As soon as shooters are lined up on the 25-yard line, the Range Officer will begin the preparation period for standing. Align your position on your target, remove the ECI and dry fire a couple of shots. When the preparation period ends, the Range Officer will command LOAD. You can then load a single round or insert a loaded magazine in your rifle. After the command START, you can raise the rifle into position, close the action to chamber one round and pre-

Standing Position. The shooters in this standing relay demonstrate good positions. In standing, the body should be turned 90° from the target, the feet should be shoulder width apart and the left arm should rest on the side of the body while supporting the rifle. It is important to place the rifle high enough in the shoulder that the head remains reasonably erect.



pare to fire your first shot. In this stage, you again fire 10 shots in 10 minutes. A key to firing good shots in the standing position is to center your rifle's sight picture movements over the target center and to smoothly press the trigger for each shot. Center the movements and squeeze; don't try to grab the trigger when the sight goes flying by the center.

When you finish firing 10 record shots, open the action, remove the magazine (if any), insert an ECI and place your rifle on the bench or ground. When firing is complete, the Range Officer will command STOP, UNLOAD and then check all rifles to be sure they are cleared. The final target change will be made after that.

STAGE 6 – STANDING RAPID-FIRE. When you return to your firing point, wait until the Range Officer announces, “shooters, take your positions on the firing line and prepare for the standing rapid-fire stage.” The Range Officer will then announce the one-minute preparation period. Align your position on your target and prepare for the rapid-fire stage. When the preparation period ends, the Range Officer will command, WITH FIVE ROUNDS, LOAD. For standing rapid-fire, you must then load five shots in the magazine and insert it in the rifle (removable magazines), leave the bolt or action open and hold the butt



Standing Position Keys. One of the most important keys to a steady standing position is to rest the left arm on the side or hip, directly below the rifle. Start with the left wrist straight and the rifle on top of a closed fist or up on the fingers and thumb. A second key is to turn the body 90° from the target so the left side faces the target. This keeps the left hip directly under the rifle. A third key is to remember “rifle up-head up.” Keep the rifle high enough in the shoulder to allow the head to remain nearly erect.



Free-Arm Standing. A few shooters have had success using the free-arm standing position in Rimfire Sporter. In this position, which is required in muzzle-loading and running target shooting, the arm that supports the rifle is held away from the body and muscular effort is used to support the rifle. The shooter shown here is Ron Springsteen, Otsego, Michigan, who fired the highest T-class scores in the 2003, 2004 and 2005 National Rimfire Sporter Matches.

of the rifle at waist level so that the bottom of the butt plate is below the waist (belt) line. When the Range Officer determines that all shooters have loaded their rifles and are in the 'ready' position, he will command START. You must raise the rifle to your shoulder, close your rifle action and fire five shots in 25 seconds (semi-auto rifle) or 30 seconds (manually operated rifle). In standing rapid-fire, it is especially important that you relax your body and let your left arm (rifle support arm) down onto your side, center the sight picture movements on your target and smoothly press the trigger. After each shot is fired, follow-through, operate the action if required, and recenter your sight picture movements back on your target to fire each successive shot.

When you finish firing five rapid-fire shots, open your rifle action and remove the magazine (if any). Wait for the Range Officer to give the next command, WITH FIVE ROUNDS, LOAD. Load five shots in the magazine and bring your rifle to the ready position at your hip. When the Range Officer commands START, lift your rifle into position, close your rifle action and fire the next five shots within 25 or 30 seconds.

After you finish firing two five-shot rapid-fire series, open your rifle action, remove the magazine, insert an ECI and place your rifle on the bench or ground. After the Range Officer has checked all rifles, you will be instructed to remove it from the firing line and place it in a gun rack or return it to its gun case. You will then be instructed to go forward to retrieve your target.

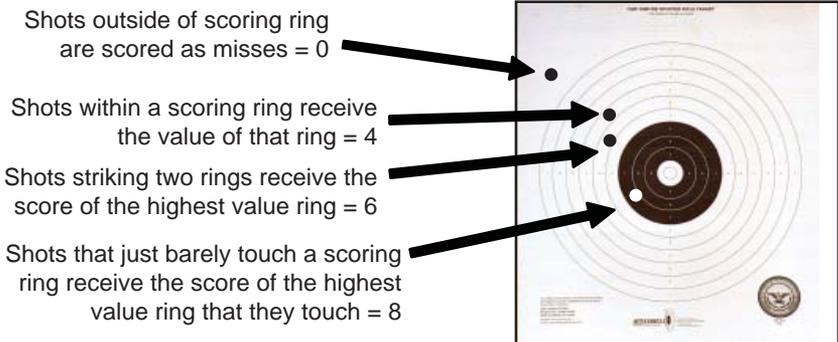
SCORING. A Range or Results Officer will also give instructions on how and when targets are scored. In many Rimfire Sporter Matches, shooters will score the targets of the shooter on their right (last shooter scores target #1). This

may be done after each stage or it may be done after all 60 record shots are fired. Scores may be written on the target or on a scorecard that the match sponsor furnishes for each shooter. To properly score the six record targets, follow these procedures:



Competitors often score other shooters' targets.

1. Count the shots on each target. If there are 10 shots, score them. If there are fewer than 10, check with the shooter who fired on that target to see if he/she agrees with your count. If there is a disagreement, ask the Range or Results Officer for assistance.
2. Write the values of each of the 10 shots in a column on the side of the target or on the scorecard (including zeros for any shots not fired). Follow the scoring rules shown below to determine the correct value of each shot.
3. Total the scores of the 10 shots on that target and write the total on the target and scorecard.
4. Score the remaining targets and total them.
5. Turn the scored targets and scorecard (if any) in to the Results Officer who will post the scores on a bulletin board or enter them in a computer database to produce a results list.
6. Return the scored targets to the shooters so they can check the scoring.



SCORING DOUBTFUL SHOTS. If you cannot determine whether a shot hole touches a higher value scoring ring, ask a Range or Results Officer for assistance. They will use a scoring gauge to accurately determine whether the shot hole touches the scoring ring and receives the higher value. A competitor who does not agree with a score that you have given a shot may “protest” that score by asking a Range or Results Officer to check and gauge it if it has not been gauged. See Rimfire Sporter Rule 6.0 for detailed rules on how to score.

INSTRUCTIONS FOR MATCH SPONSORS

HOW TO CONDUCT A RIMFIRE SPORTER MATCH

This section of the *CMP Guide to Rimfire Sporter Shooting* gives additional instructions for clubs or Range Officers to follow so that they can conduct safe, enjoyable Rimfire Sporter Matches. All competition officials and Range Officers responsible for the conduct of a match must review these instructions before starting a competition match.

STEP 1 – IDENTIFY REQUIRED RESOURCES. To conduct a Rimfire Sporter competition, it is first necessary to identify the resources that will be required to conduct the competition.

- ⊙ **Range.** A 50-yard range that is safe for firing smallbore rifles is required. The number of firing points depends upon the number of shooters expected. Each relay of shooters takes about two hours to complete the sighters and the 60-shot course of fire so four relays of shooters is a practical maximum for the number of relays of shooters that can be accommodated in one day.
- ⊙ **Target Frames.** Sufficient target frames should be available for the number of firing points that will be used. Target frames should be large enough to hold the full-faced Rimfire Sporter Target.
- ⊙ **Range and Results Officers.** Be sure there are enough qualified Range Officers to safely conduct firing. Range Officers must also be familiar with Rimfire Sporter rules so they can resolve any problems that arise. There should be one qualified Range Officer for every 10 active firing points. If all or most of the competitors are new, inexperienced shooters, a ratio of one to five is recommended. There should also be a Results Officer who is responsible for recording match entries, registering shooters at the beginning of the competition and recording scores to produce a final results list at the end of the competition.

STEP 2 – SET UP THE COMPETITION AND APPOINT MATCH OFFICIALS.

The next step in conducting a competition is for the sponsoring club or range to decide to conduct the competition. When the range has been scheduled and a date selected, appoint the match officials who will organize and conduct the competition.



A Range Officer must be in charge of firing during all competitions. If there are more than 10 shooters on the firing line at one time, there should be one Chief Range Officer and one Range Officer for each 10 active firing points (firing points where shooters are firing). The Chief Range Officer is responsible for controlling all activities on the firing line by giving instructions and COMMANDS to the shooters.

STEP 3 – PRODUCE MATCH PROGRAM. Once the match location, date and competition officials are determined, prepare a “match program” that provides essential information about the match. Match programs typically provide information on:

- ⊙ Location: Where the match will be held; provide specific directions to find the range.
- ⊙ Date: Date of match.
- ⊙ Sponsor: Name of club or organization conducting match.
- ⊙ Time Schedule: Exact times when firing will take place.
- ⊙ Course of Fire: Will the regular Rimfire Sporter course of fire be fired or will there be other special events.
- ⊙ Rules: The program should specify that CMP Rimfire Sporter Rules will be used. If there are any special rules that will be applied by the match sponsor, they should be described.
- ⊙ Awards: What awards will be given.
- ⊙ Entry Fees: What is the cost of the match.
- ⊙ How to Enter: Give specific instructions on how to enter the match. Is there an entry form to be filled out? Can shooters “walk-on” at the match or is advanced entry required? List the name, address, email address and phone number of the person to contact to submit entries.
- ⊙ Other. Is there any additional information that shooters will need to know to participate in the match?

This photo shows match officials weighing triggers on competitors’ rifles before a National Rimfire Sporter Match at Camp Perry. Not all matches will be able to weigh competitors’ rifle triggers, but a check-in procedure for competitors must be set up. This should include confirming that each competitor is entered and has paid the correct entry fees, informing the competitor about his/her relay/firing point assignments and issuing targets for the competitor.



STEP 4 – APPLY FOR CMP SANCTIONING. As soon as you have a program ready, apply to the CMP for sanctioning. It costs just \$20.00 to sanction the match. Instructions and a downloadable Application to Conduct a CMP-Sanctioned Match or Clinic is posted on the CMP web site at <http://www.odcmp.com/Competitions/Sanction.htm>. Your match will then be listed on the

CMP web site in the CMP's list of upcoming sanctioned matches, clinics and EIC matches. CMP staff will also be available to answer questions and provide advice in organizing your match (competitions@odcmp.com or (419) 635-2141 ext. 1101).

STEP 5 – PROMOTE PARTICIPATION. Once your match program is ready, it is important to publicize your match to shooters who might be interested in participating. Make sure the members of your club know about it. If the match is CMP sanctioned, it will be listed on the CMP web site. Rimfire Sporter matches appeal to lots of shooters and gun enthusiasts who do not attend conventional matches, so posting notices at local sporting goods sales locations or gun shows will reach many additional potential participants.

Rimfire Sporter Supplies Available from CMP

The following items needed to conduct Rimfire Sporter Matches can be ordered from the CMP (catalog or E-Store, <http://estore.odcmp.com/Store/catalog/catalog.aspx>):

- Ⓞ Empty Chamber Indicators (ECI), NLU# 244, \$3.99/10
- Ⓞ Rimfire Sporter Target, 50/25 yds full-face, NLU049, \$8.00/25
- Ⓞ Rimfire Sporter Target, 50/25 yds replacement centers, NLU050, \$7.25/100
- Ⓞ Rimfire Sporter Target, 50 ft prone/sitting reduced, NLU10512RF, \$5.75/100
- Ⓞ Rimfire Sporter Target, 50 ft standing reduced, N1321RF, \$7.25/100

STEP 6 – OBTAIN SUPPLIES. Make a list of all the supplies and materials required to conduct the match including target frames, targets, scorecards, scoring gauges and awards. Be sure all necessary supplies are ordered so that they are available well in advance of the match date.

STEP 7 – RECEIVE AND CONFIRM ENTRIES. When shooters register to shoot in your match, it is a good idea to confirm their entry and let them know that you look forward to welcoming them to your match.

STEP 8 – THE SAFETY CLINIC. All clubs or ranges that sponsor CMP sanctioned Rimfire Sporter Matches should conduct a safety clinic or briefing before firing begins. The Safety Clinic must cover the safety procedures that are to be followed during the competition. Use the **“SAFETY PROCEDURES”** chart below as a guide to prepare the specific information that will be presented in your safety clinic.

SAFETY PROCEDURES. Safety is paramount in all target shooting competitions and range firing activities. The safety rules for Rimfire Sporter are strict, but easy to follow. Here are safety rules that must be enforced during Rimfire Sporter events:

- ⊙ Any rifle brought to the range must be unloaded, removable magazines must be removed and the action must remain open with an ECI inserted at all times except when the rifle is on the firing line and a preparation period has begun or the commands LOAD and START have been given.
- ⊙ All rifles must have empty chamber indicators (ECIs) inserted in the open actions and chambers. ECIs may only be removed after the rifle is on the firing line and the preparation period has begun.
- ⊙ When shooters are called to the firing line, they may handle their rifles, put on a sling or get into position, but they may not remove the ECI until the preparation period begins.
- ⊙ After the Range Officer begins the preparation period, the shooter may remove the ECI, close the rifle action and dry fire the rifle. No live rounds may be loaded in the rifle or magazine during the preparation period.
- ⊙ When the command LOAD is given, the shooter may load one round in the chamber or charge the magazine with five rounds and insert it in the rifle, but the bolt or action must remain open (precision and rapid-fire).
- ⊙ When the command START is given, the shooter may bring the rifle into position and close the rifle action. The shooter's index (trigger) finger must remain outside of the trigger guard until the rifle is fully in position and the shooter has begun to aim at the target.
- ⊙ Shooters may continue to load and fire until the five-shot (rapid-fire) or ten-shot (precision fire) stage is complete. As soon as the last shot is fired, they must open the actions of their rifles, remove any removable magazines, insert ECIs and bench or ground their rifles. Competitors may not remove their rifles from their firing points until instructed to do so.
- ⊙ Range officers must check to be sure each rifle is open and unloaded, with an ECI inserted before shooters can remove their rifles from the firing line.

STEP 9 – CONDUCT MATCH FIRING. The work of the Range Officer is critical to the safe conduct of every competition and to the success and enjoyment that competitors have at the match. Here is a list of the commands that the Range Officer should use in conducting the sighting, precision and rapid-fire stages of the match:

COMMAND or Instruction to Shooters	Action
Shooters, you may move your equipment to your firing points to prepare for the (Sighting, Prone, Sitting or Kneeling, Standing) precision stage of the Rimfire Sporter Match.	Shooters may move rifles, shooting mats, ammunition and other necessary gear to the firing point assigned to them. After shooters are called to the firing line and have their equipment in place, they may handle their rifles, put on a sling or get into position, but they may not remove the ECI until the preparation period begins.
Your one-minute preparation period begins now.	The RO announces the preparation period after the shooters have had time to move their equipment to their firing points. During preparation, shooters may remove ECIs and dry fire. Shooters may not load the rifle or magazine.
Your preparation period has ended, LOAD	At the end of one minute, the RO announces the end of the preparation period and commands shooters to load. Competitors may load one round in the chamber or five rounds in the magazines. Bolts or actions may not be closed until the START command.
START	Shooters may close their rifle actions and fire the prescribed number of shots. Once the command START is given, shooters may continue firing until finished. Shooters have 10 minutes to complete firing precision stages.
<i>After firing is complete</i>	When a shooter completes a series of 10 shots, he/she must immediately open the rifle action, remove any removable magazine, insert an ECI and ground or bench the rifle. The shooter may then get out of position, but may not remove the rifle or equipment from the firing line until instructed to do so.

COMMAND or Instruction to Shooters	Action
STOP, UNLOAD, insert ECIs and ground all rifles.	The command STOP must be given at the end of each 10-minute time period. If the RO confirms that all shooters have finished firing (the RO may ask, "Does anyone require additional time?"), the command STOP may be given if all competitors are finished.
Is the line clear? The line is clear. Shooters, go forward and change your targets.	After the RO confirms that all rifles have been cleared and grounded, with ECIs inserted, the shooters are instructed to go forward and replace their targets to prepare for the next stage.
Shooters take your positions on the firing line and prepare for the (Prone, Sitting or Kneeling, Standing) rapid-fire stage.	After all shooters return to the firing line, the RO gives instructions for shooters to prepare for the next firing stage. If the sighting stage was just completed, return to the second command above (start preparation period for prone) and follow the first command series again. If a precision record series was just completed, the next stage will be a rapid-fire stage. Continue with the commands below.
Your one-minute preparation period begins now.	The RO starts the preparation period after the shooters have returned to their firing points.
Your preparation has ended, SHOOTERS STAND, (PAUSE) WITH FIVE ROUNDS, LOAD	At the end of one minute, the RO announces the end of the preparation period, instructs shooters to stand (except standing rapid-fire) and commands them to load their rifles. Five rounds may be loaded for rapid-fire. Bolts or actions may not be closed until START is commanded.
START	After determining that shooters have loaded their rifles, the command START is given. Shooters then have 25 or 30 seconds to get into position, close their rifle actions and fire five shots.
STOP, UNLOAD	A loud whistle or other clearly audible signal may be used to signal the end(s) of the rapid-fire time period. The RO or Assistant RO must record the firing point numbers of any competitors who fired shots after the command stop. They must record the number of late shots on that shooter's target with their initials or signature.

COMMAND or Instruction to Shooters	Action
SHOOTERS STAND, (PAUSE) WITH FIVE ROUNDS, LOAD	Shooters are again instructed to stand (except standing rapid-fire), load five rounds, with their actions remaining open, to be ready for their second rapid-fire series.
START	After determining that shooters have loaded their rifles, the command START is given. Shooters then have 25 or 30 seconds to get into position, close their rifle actions and fire five shots.
STOP, UNLOAD, insert ECIs and ground all rifles.	Signal the end(s) of the rapid-fire time period. The RO or Assistant RO must record the firing point numbers of any competitors who fired shots after the command stop. They must record the number of late shots on that shooter's target with their initials or signature.
After firing is complete	When a shooter completes a series of 10 shots, he/she must immediately open the rifle action, remove any removable magazine, insert an ECI and ground or bench the rifle. The shooter may then get out of position.
Is the line clear? The line is clear. Shooters, go forward and change your targets.	After confirming that all rifles are cleared and grounded, with ECIs inserted, the shooters are instructed to go forward and replace their targets to prepare for the next stage.
<p>After completing a rapid-fire series and hanging targets for the next stage, the RO should return to the precision commands (start at box #2 above) to continue giving commands for the next position. Before starting the standing position, it will also be necessary to instruct shooters to pick up their rifles and move forward to the 25-yard line. When all shooters are at 25 yards, the RO can begin the preparation period there. When the standing position precision and rapid-fire stages are finished, shooters can be instructed to remove their equipment from the firing line and stand by to score targets.</p>	

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INSTRUCTIONS FOR MATCH SPONSORS

HOW TO SANCTION A RIMFIRE SPORTER MATCH

Any shooting club that plans to conduct a Rimfire Sporter Match is encouraged to apply to the CMP Competitions Department to sanction the match. CMP sanctioned matches and clinics are listed in the CMP upcoming events on the CMP web site at clubs.odcmp.com/matches. This list helps clubs and match sponsors publicize their matches. Shooters looking for matches to compete in also use this list to find matches in their area. All competitors who participate in sanctioned CMP matches become eligible to participate in the CMP Sales Program that offers government surplus rifles, ammunition and parts. The CMP provides certificates for match competitors, on request, that they can use to verify eligibility to purchase CMP government surplus items. The fee for sanctioning a match or clinic with the CMP is \$20.00. There are no other fees or membership requirements for individual shooters.

To apply to conduct a CMP Sanctioned Rimfire Sporter Match, use the ***APPLICATION TO CONDUCT A CMP SANCTIONED RIMFIRE SPORTER MATCH*** that is available on the CMP website at <http://www.odcmp.com/Competitions/Sanction.htm>.

The CMP awards gold, silver or bronze achievement medals at the National Rimfire Sporter Match. Sponsors of CMP-sanctioned Rimfire Sporter matches may purchase gold, silver and bronze achievement pins to award to competitors in their matches. Achievement pins may be presented to Rimfire Sporter competitors if they equal or exceed established achievement award scores for that competition year. Gold, silver and bronze achievement awards are presented to approximately the top 40 percent of all competitors in each rifle class on the basis of achievement scores derived from the previous year's National Rimfire Sporter Match scores. Achievement scores are calculated so that approximately the top one-sixth of the top 40% of all shooters receive gold medals, the next two-sixths receive silver medals and the remaining three-sixths receive bronze medals. Rimfire Sporter achievement award scores for the 2008 competition year are:



- ⊙ **Gold: T-class, 577 or higher; O-class, 552 or higher**
- ⊙ **Silver: T-class, 564-576; O-class, 542-551**
- ⊙ **Bronze: T-class, 548-563; O-class, 520-541**

Gold, silver and bronze Rimfire Sporter Achievement Pins can be ordered from CMP Competitions for \$1.00 each. The match sponsor may present them to the competitors who shoot qualifying scores, or make them available for sale to competitors who shoot qualifying scores.



CMP Rimfire Sporter Rules

These rules govern CMP sanctioned Rimfire Sporter Rifle Matches. Rule changes from the 2007 edition of these rules and any new rules for 2008 are underlined. The CMP welcomes input and recommendations from competitors and match officials that will lead to the further improvement and development of Rimfire Sporter. Submit recommendations to CMP Programs, PO Box 576, Port Clinton OH 43452 or email them to programs@odcmp.com.

1.0 Intent and Spirit of Sporter Rules

The intent of CMP Rimfire Sporter rules is to promote target competitions that are restricted to low-cost, readily available sporter-type, .22 caliber rimfire rifles typically used in informal target shooting and plinking or small game hunting. Any rifle configuration or item of equipment that is not mentioned in these rules or that is contrary to the intent and spirit of these rules is prohibited.

2.0 Rimfire Sporter Rifle

Any .22 cal. rimfire rifle that complies with the following requirements may be used in CMP Rimfire Sporter Matches.

2.1 General Rifle Configuration

The rifle must be a standard sporter-type rifle of conventional appearance that is chambered for the “.22 Long Rifle” cartridge (Note: Magnum rimfire or .17 cal. Rimfire rifles may not be used.) The barrel may be tapered or straight, but fluted barrels may not be used.

2.2 Overall Weight

The overall weight of the rifle, including sights, may not exceed 7.5 pounds. T-class rifles must be weighed with the telescope and mount attached; if a sling is used, it may be removed for weighing. External or internal weights may be added to the barrel or stock as long as the overall weight of the rifle, with sights, does not exceed 7.5 pounds. External weights may be added to the barrel only and must be concentric in appearance.

2.3 Stock

The rifle must have a standard sporter-type stock that is constructed of wood or synthetic material. The stock may have a Monte Carlo cheek piece, but may not have an orthopedic or asymmetrically shaped pistol grip. The stock may have a fixed sling swivel on the fore end. Thumbhole stocks, stock adjustments of any type (adjustable butt plate, adjustable cheek piece, etc.) and rails or adjustable sling swivels are not permitted.

2.4 Action Types

Sporter rifles may have any type of action, semi-automatic or manually operated. Rifles should be repeater-type rifles with magazines capable of holding a minimum of five rounds. In rapid-fire stages, shooters with manually operated rifles are given additional time to compensate for the slower operating cycle of those actions (see Table 1).

2.5 Trigger Pull

Sporter rifle triggers must be capable of lifting a three-pound weight when cocked.

2.6 Sights

There are two competition classes that are determined by the type of sights on the competitor's rifle:

- (1) O-Class (Open sights). The rifle must be equipped with an open rear sight (U, V or square notch) and an exposed bead or post front sight. Hooded front sights may be used in the O-class, but a target-type with interchangeable inserts may not be used. The rear sight may be adjustable for windage and elevation.
- (2) T-Class (Special sights). The rifle may be equipped with an adjustable aperture receiver sight or with a telescope that does not exceed 6X magnification. Variable power telescopes may be used if they are adjusted to no more than 6X magnification. The adjustment device on variable telescopes must be secured with tape or other similar means so that it cannot be changed during firing. Rifles with aperture-type receiver sights are T-Class rifles. Match sponsors may, at their option, divide T-Class competitors into a T-Class for scope-sighted rifles and an A-Class for rifles with receiver sights.

3.0 Equipment

3.1 Slings

A sling, not more than 1 ¼ inches wide, may be attached to the rifle using a fixed, non-adjustable sling swivel (no adjustable hand-stops). The sling must be a simple leather, synthetic or web strap. The sling may not have any special padding, lining or asymmetrical construction. The sling may be used to support the rifle in the prone and sitting or kneeling positions. The sling may not be used to support the rifle in the standing position, but it may remain attached to the rifle or it may be detached from the rifle during standing.

3.2 Clothing

Competitors may wear no more than two layers of ordinary casual or sports clothing (shirt, sweatshirt, etc.). Shirts or sweatshirts must be made of single layers of soft, flexible clothing. The addition of shoulder or elbow pads or double layers (except normal pockets) is not permitted. Jackets or heavy winter clothing are not permitted (an exception may be made during unusually cold weather). Special shooting jackets, shooting trousers or special shooting boots are prohibited. Shoes may be ordinary low-cut shoes or work or hunting-type boots may be worn.

3.3 Telescope or Field Glasses

Competitors may use a spotting telescope or binoculars to spot fired shots during firing.

3.4 Glove

Competitors may wear one ordinary work glove on the hand that supports the rifle. Padded gloves or mitts or special shooting gloves are not permitted.

3.5 Shooting Mat

Competitors may use a shooting mat or ground cloth, provided it does not provide artificial support.

3.6 Kneeling Roll

If the shooter elects to fire in the kneeling position, one kneeling roll that is not more than six inches in diameter may be used. The kneeling roll may be placed under the foot or ankle or between the foot and buttocks.

4.0 Safety Procedures

Rimfire Sporter Matches must be conducted so that all shooters fully comply with these safety rules and procedures to assure the safety of all competitors, officials and other persons on or in the vicinity of the range. The following safety rules shall be enforced at all times:

4.1 Muzzle Control

All rifle muzzles must be controlled so that they are always pointed in a safe direction. On the range, muzzles must be pointed up or downrange.

4.2 Actions Open, Mandatory Use of ECIs

As soon as a rifle is removed from a vehicle, gun case or container on the range, its action must be opened, magazine removed and an Empty Chamber Indicator (ECI) inserted. Rifle actions must be kept open, with ECIs inserted, at all times except when the rifle is on the firing line, between the beginning of the preparation period and the end of the shooting time. As soon as firing is completed, the rifle action must be opened, an ECI must be inserted and the rifle must be grounded or benched on the firing point. Rifles may not be removed from the firing line until the Range Officer gives instructions to remove them.

4.3 Magazines

Non-removable rifle magazines may not be loaded at any time when a rifle is on the range except after the command LOAD is given. If a magazine is removable, it must be removed from the rifle and may not be inserted in the rifle until the command LOAD is given. Removable magazines may be pre-loaded as long as they do not come in contact with the rifle until the command LOAD is given.

4.4 Carrying and Handling Rifles

Shooters may carry rifles, with actions open, magazines removed and ECIs inserted, on the range area behind the firing line. With the exception of carrying a rifle on the range, shooters may not handle their rifles behind the firing line. Handling is defined as closing the action, dry firing, pointing the rifle or holding it in a firing position. Adjusting sights, adjusting slings without placing them on the arm or making minor adjustments to the rifle in the ready area or behind the firing line is not regarded as handling and is permitted as long as an ECI remains inserted. Competitors may load removable clips or magazines in the ready area. The handling of rifles is permitted only on the firing line after competitors have been called to the line. ECIs may not, however, be removed until the preparation period begins.

4.5 Range Officer

A Range Officer(s) will be in charge of firing at every range. The commands and instructions of the Range Officer must be obeyed. Range Officers must check rifles brought to the range to be sure actions are open and magazines

are unloaded. When firing is finished, Range Officers must check grounded rifles to be sure actions are open and ECIs are inserted before competitors may remove their rifles from the firing line.

4.6 Range Commands

The following firing procedures and Range Officer commands will be used to conduct firing. A violation of any of these procedures or commands will result in a warning. In the case of repeated violations or a serious safety violation that endangers others, a competitor may be disqualified.

1. **Call to Firing Line.** The Range Officer announces that competitors may move their equipment to the firing line. Rifle actions must be open, with ECIs inserted, when they are carried on a range. After shooters are called to the firing line, they may handle their rifles, put on a sling or get into position, but they may not remove the ECI until the preparation period begins.
2. **Preparation Period.** The Range Officer gives competitors a brief preparation period of a minimum of one minute and a maximum of three minutes during which competitors may handle their rifles and assume their firing positions. After the Range Officer announces the beginning of the preparation period, shooters may remove ECIs, close the actions of their rifles and dry fire. Loading a rifle or non-removable magazine during the preparation period is not permitted.
3. **LOAD.** When the preparation period is over, the Range Officer gives the command, **LOAD**. After the command **LOAD**, competitors may insert a round in the chamber (slow fire), charge a non-removable magazine or insert a charged magazine (slow or rapid fire), but rifle actions must remain open until the command **START** is given. No one is permitted to place a cartridge in the chamber, charge a non-removable magazine or have a loaded magazine in the rifle until the command **LOAD** is given.
4. **START.** After competitors are given sufficient time to load, the Range Officer authorizes the start of firing by giving the command **START**. Timed stages begin with this command. After the command **START** is given, competitors may close their rifle actions and begin firing. No one may fire a shot until the command **START** is given. After the command **START** is given, competitors may continue firing until they finish a firing series or the command **STOP** is given. When they finish a firing series, they must open the rifle action, insert an ECI and ground the rifle so it can be inspected by the Range Officer.
5. **STOP-UNLOAD.** The commands to **STOP** and **UNLOAD** are given by the Range Officer to stop firing when all competitors have finished firing or at the end of the shooting time. The Range Officer or anyone on the range may command **STOP** at any time if a serious safety hazard occurs. No one is permitted to fire a shot after the command **STOP**. Shots fired after the command **STOP** must be scored as misses (see Rule 5.8). When the command **STOP** is given, all firing must cease, competitors must open the actions of their rifles, remove any cartridges from the chamber and magazine, insert an ECI and ground their rifles.

6. **After Completing Firing.** If a competitor completes the firing of a slow-fire series before the time expires or the command **STOP** is given, he/she must open the action, insert an ECI and ground the rifle. Competitors may not remove their rifles and equipment from the firing line, but they may step back from the firing line after grounding their rifles.
7. **Removing Equipment from Line.** After the Range Officer inspects the firing line to be sure all rifle actions are open with ECIs inserted, the Range Officer will instruct competitors as to when they may remove their rifles and equipment from the firing line.

5.0 Competition Conditions

The following conditions control the conduct of Rimfire Sporter rifle competitions.

5.1 Competition Classes

Competitors are divided into two classes, T-Class and O-Class, according to whether their rifles are equipped with telescopic sights (T-class) or open sights (O-class). The official results list must rank competitors in each class separately.

5.2 Course of Fire

The course of fire for the CMP Rimfire Sporter event is given in Table 1.

Table1 - CMP Rimfire Sporter Course of Fire					
Stage	Distance	Type of Fire	Firing Position	Number of shots	Time Limit
Sighters	50 yds.	Slow	Any, a rest may be used	Unlimited	10 min.
1	50 yds.	Slow	Prone	10	10 min.
2	50 yds.	Rapid	Prone	10, fired in 2 series of 5	Semi-auto-25 sec. Manual-30 sec.
3	50 yds	Slow	Sitting or Kneeling	10	10 min.
4	50 yds.	Rapid	Sitting or Kneeling	10, fired in 2 series of 5	Semi-suto-25 sec. Manual-30 sec.
5	25 yds.	Slow	Standing	10	10 min.
6	25 yds.	Rapid	Standing	10, fired in 2 series of 5	Semi-auto-25 sec. Manual-30 sec.

Note 1: Match sponsors may also schedule a 30-shot reduced or “half course” event where five shots are fired in each stage. Slow-fire time limits for half-course events are 5 minutes per stage.

Note 2: Match sponsors may also fire the Rimfire Sporter Course of Fire at 50 feet, indoors or outdoors, using the CMP Rimfire Sporter Targets reduced for firing at 50 feet.

5.3 Targets

The **CMP Rimfire Sporter Target** is used at 50 or 25 yards. **CMP Rimfire**

Sporter Targets Reduced for 50 Feet are used for Rimfire Sporter events fired at 50 feet, indoors or outdoors. One reduced target simulates the firing of stages 1-4 at 50 yards while the second reduced target simulates the firing of stages 5-6 at 25 yards.

5.4 Firing Positions

- ⊙ **Prone.** The shooter lies on the ground with the rifle supported by both hands, the shoulder and cheek. A sling may be used in the prone position. The rifle may not touch the ground or rest on any object or support. No part of the arm ahead of the elbow may touch the ground.
- ⊙ **Sit/Kneel.** The shooter may elect to shoot in either the sitting or kneeling position. In the sitting position, the shooter sits on the buttocks while supporting the rifle with both hands, the shoulder and cheek. The legs may be crossed or extended. Both elbows may rest on the legs that are extended or crossed in front of the shooter. In the kneeling position, the shooter sits on one foot, which may be supported by a kneeling roll, while supporting the rifle with both hands, the shoulder and cheek. One elbow may rest on the knee opposite the leg/foot on which the shooter is sitting. A sling may be used in either the sitting or kneeling position. No other part of the body or rifle may rest on any object or support.
- ⊙ **Standing.** The shooter must stand on both feet while supporting the rifle with both hands, the shoulder and cheek. The arm that supports the rifle may rest on the hip or side of the body. The other arm must grasp the rifle at the pistol grip. A sling may not be used to support the rifle in standing, but the sling may remain attached to the rifle.
- ⊙ **Supported Prone.** During the firing of sighting shots only, the shooter is permitted to place a kneeling roll or other type of support under the rifle, fore end or arm that supports the rifle. No artificial support may be used in the prone, sitting, kneeling or standing positions during competition firing.

5.5 Slow-Fire Procedures

- ⊙ **Time Limits.** In slow-fire stages, shooters have 10-minute blocks of time to fire unlimited sighting shots or a maximum of 10 record shots. During these periods, they may fire at their own pace. Competition shots not fired within the time limit must be scored as misses.
- ⊙ **Sighting Shots.** The course of fire begins with unlimited sighting shots where the competitor can determine whether sight adjustments are necessary. Sighting shots do not count for score. A Range Officer or other non-firing competitor may assist or coach a competitor in making sight adjustments.
- ⊙ **Loading in Slow Fire.** Competitors may load slow fire shots one cartridge at a time directly into the chamber or they may load a maximum of five shots into a magazine and chamber slow fire shots from the loaded magazine.

5.6 Rapid-Fire Procedures

- ⊙ **Time Limits.** When rapid-fire stages are fired, shooters with semi-automatic rifles and shooters with manually-operated rifles normally will fire

at different times so that shooters with manually-operated rifles can be given longer time limits to complete their rapid fire series. See Table I for the rapid-fire time limits. Competitors with semi-automatic and manually-operated rifles may also fire simultaneously, provided the Range Officer has a clearly audible signal device that informs all competitors when 20, 25 and 30 seconds have elapsed. During rapid-fire series Range Officers must be alert to identify any shooters who fire shots after the command **STOP** is given. After the line is cleared and targets are retrieved, any late shots must be marked on the competitor's target. Late shots must be penalized by nullifying the highest value_shot(s) on the competitor's target (see Rule 5.9).

- Ⓢ **Assuming Position.** Competitors begin all rapid-fire stages from the standing ready position. In the ready position, the competitor holds the rifle with both hands and with the toe of the butt placed below the belt line. When the Range Officer gives the command **LOAD**, competitors may load five rounds in the magazine of their rifle, but the rifle action must remain open. After the range officer gives the command **START**, shooters may then assume their firing position, close the action to load the first round and fire five shots within the time limit. Range Officers and competitors must take particular care while competitors get into position to be sure muzzles remain pointed up or downrange. Competitors who are 60 years of age or older or who have a medical condition that makes it difficult or unsafe for them to readily assume the firing position from standing may elect to begin the rapid fire stage from a prone, sitting or kneeling ready position, provided they notify the Range Officer prior to firing. Competitors who are authorized to begin a rapid fire series from a firing position, must begin the series with the butt plate off of their shoulder and may not fire the first shot in a rapid fire series.

5.7 Coaching or Assisting Competitors

It is permitted for a Rimfire Sporter competitor to be coached or assisted by another competitor or other person, provided the coach or assistant does not interfere with other competitors.

5.8 Alibis or Malfunctions

No alibis or refires for rifle malfunctions or for other equipment or ammunition failures are allowed. If a shooter is unable to complete a series because of equipment or ammunition malfunctions, the competitor may attempt to clear the malfunction and resume firing, but all shots not fired must be scored as misses.

5.9 Unfired or Late Shots

Any shots not fired in any 5-shot or 10-shot series must be scored as misses. Any shots fired after the command **STOP** must be scored as misses by deducting the highest value shots on the target equal to the number of shots fired after the command **STOP**.

5.10 Crossfire Shots

A crossfire is a shot fired by one competitor onto another competitor's tar-

get. Any competitor who fires a crossfire shot on another competitor's target must be scored a miss for that shot and may not fire another shot on his/her target. A competitor who receives a crossfire shot(s) that cannot otherwise be identified must be scored the 10 highest value shots on his/her target.

6.0 Scoring and Results

The following rules control the scoring of targets and the ranking of competitions.

6.1 Scoring

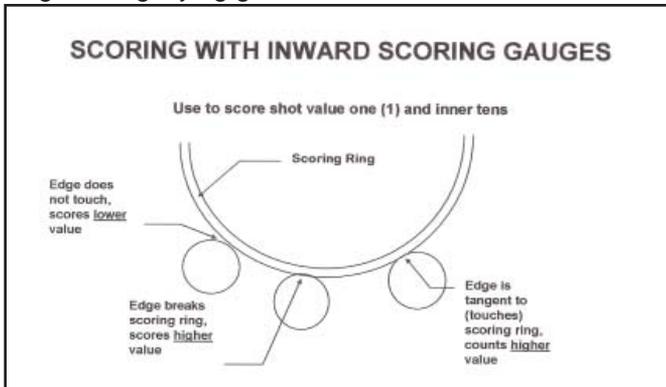
After fired targets are retrieved, official scorers must score them. Match sponsors may appoint two or more official scorers or may have competitors score each other's targets. Competitors may not score their own targets. After targets are scored, the scores of all competitors must be posted so that competitors can see how their targets were scored.

6.2 Determining Shot Values

Each shot is given the score of the highest value scoring ring that is hit or touched by that shot. A shot that is within a scoring ring, breaks a scoring ring or just touches a scoring ring receives the value of that scoring ring.

6.3 Scoring Doubtful Shots

A shot whose value is doubtful must be scored with a scoring gauge ("plug" gauge) with a flange diameter of .2225-.2240 inches. The scoring gauge is inserted in the shot hole. The scorer views the gauge from an angle to determine whether the inside edge of the gauge's flange touches or breaks a scoring ring. A magnifying glass should be used as an aid to see whether



the edge of the gauge's flange touches or breaks a scoring ring. Shots that have been gauged must be marked with a "P" and a plus (+) if that shot is scored as the higher value or with a minus (-) if that shot is scored as the lower value. See diagram below for how to read scoring gauges.

6.4 Scoring Groups of Two or More Shots

When two or more shots form a group where single complete shot holes are not visible, the scoring gauge should not be used to determine the score of each shot in the group. A scoring template or overlay (the Eagle Eye scoring aid may be used should be used to determine the values of the shots. If

a competitor fired all shots in a series and there is no evidence that a shot was fired on another target or off the target, the competitor must be given the benefit of the doubt in cases where it is possible that one of his/her shots could have gone through an existing shot hole or group of shots. When one shot doubles another shot hole, there almost always is some evidence of the double in the form of a slightly enlarged shot hole or a shot hole that provides less resistance when a scoring gauge is inserted. Scorers must check carefully for this evidence by using a scoring overlay, magnifying glass or scoring gauge. Note: The Eagle Eye scoring aid is recommended for use in detecting double shot holes because it combines a magnifying capability with a .22 cal. shot hole overlay ring.

6.5 Scoring Protests

A competitor may request that match officials recheck the scoring of his/her targets, except that shots scored by two or more scoring officials by using a scoring gauge may not be rescored. A match sponsor may charge a challenge fee of no more than \$3.00 per target for checking scores. Decisions by scoring officials regarding a protested score are final.

6.6 Results Lists

After targets are scored, the results must be posted so that they are available to all competitors. At the end of a competition, a final results list must be prepared that lists all competitors by class with their scores. The final results list must be available to all competitors.

6.7 Breaking Ties

Ties between two or more competitors must be broken as follows:

- By the greater number of inner 10s for the entire competition.
- By the higher score in the last 10-shot series.
- By the higher score in the next to the last 10-shot series, etc.
- By the greater number of 10s, then 9s, then 8s, etc.

7.0 CMP Achievement Awards

The CMP provides achievement medals or pins that may be presented to Rimfire Sporter competitors if they equal or exceed established achievement award scores for that competition year. The CMP will award gold, silver or bronze medals as achievement awards for the National Rimfire Sporter Match. Sponsors of CMP-sanctioned Rimfire Sporter matches may purchase gold, silver and bronze achievement pins to award to competitors in their matches. Gold, silver and bronze achievement awards are presented to approximately the top 40 percent of all competitors in each rifle class on the basis of achievement scores determined by the DCM on the basis of previous year's Rimfire Sporter match scores. Achievement scores are calculated so that approximately the top one-sixth of the top 40% of all shooters receive gold medals, the next two-sixths receive silver medals and the remaining three-sixths receive bronze medals. Rimfire Sporter achievement award scores for the 2008 competition year are:

- Gold: T-class, 577 or higher; O-class, 552 or higher
- Silver: T-class, 564-576; O-class, 542-551
- Bronze: T-class, 548-563; O-class, 520-541

OFFICIAL PROGRAM

2008 CMP NATIONAL RIMFIRE SPORTER MATCH



The 7th National Rimfire Sporter Match

Sunday, 20 July 2008, Camp Perry, Ohio

GENERAL INFORMATION. The CMP Rimfire Sporter Rifle Match offers shooters a recreation-oriented competition where they can use smallbore sporter rifles (plinking and small game rifles) commonly owned by almost all gun enthusiasts. This is a unique match where all you need is a rifle and ammo. You fire with standard sporter-type rimfire rifles that can weigh no more than 7 ½ pounds, with sights and sling. Rifles may be manually operated or semi-automatic; shooters with manually operated actions are given extra time in rapid-fire to compensate for the difference. There are two classes of competition,

an “O Class” for open-sighted rifles and a “T-Class” for telescopic or receiver (aperture) sighted rifles. Firing is done at 50 and 25 yards on a target with a ten-ring that is 1.78 inches in diameter and a large outer one-ring 18 inches in diameter. The Rimfire Sporter course of fire is challenging, but both new and experienced shooters can successfully complete it. Shooters begin at 50 yards with a sighting or practice stage and then shoot ten shots for record slow-fire in the prone position, followed by two five-shot rapid-fire series. This is followed by ten shots slow fire and two five-shot rapid-fire series in the sitting or kneeling position. Targets are then placed at the 25-yard line where shooters conclude with ten shots slow fire and two five-shot rapid-fire series in the standing position.



The National Rimfire Sporter Match is fired on Viale Range at Camp Perry during the Annual National Matches.

Shooters begin at 50 yards with a sighting or practice stage and then shoot ten shots for record slow-fire in the prone position, followed by two five-shot rapid-fire series. This is followed by ten shots slow fire and two five-shot rapid-fire series in the sitting or kneeling position. Targets are then placed at the 25-yard line where shooters conclude with ten shots slow fire and two five-shot rapid-fire series in the standing position.

DATE AND LOCATION. The 2008 National Rimfire Sporter Match will take place at Camp Perry, Ohio on Sunday, 20 July, during the Annual National Matches.

TIME SCHEDULE. A tentative time schedule for the Camp Perry match is given here. The shooters’ clinic will be on Saturday afternoon, 19 July. Four relays with a maximum of 80 competitors each will be fired. Competitors will be notified if the schedule changes.

Sat, 19 July	2:00-6:00 PM	Check-in at range, rifle inspection
	4:00-6:00 PM	Rimfire Sporter Clinic
Sun, 20 July	7:00-8:00 AM	Check-in at range, rifle inspection
	8:00-8:30 AM	Safety Briefing (relays 1-2)
	8:30-10:30 AM	1st relay
	10:30AM-12:30 PM	2nd relay
	12:30-1:00 PM	Safety Briefing (relays 3-4)
	1:00-3:00 PM	3rd relay
	3:00-5:00 PM	4th relay
	5:00 PM	Match Closing, medal presentations, cook-out for competitors

ENTRIES. Entry in CMP Rimfire Sporter matches is open to all persons, regardless of previous competition experience, age or sex. CMP or NRA membership is not required. Entry is limited by range capacity so it is important to send your entry in as soon as possible. Competitors can register on-line on the CMP web site by opening clubs.odcmp.com/matches. Click on “Upcoming Matches and Events.” Under the “National Matches” listing, click on “Information” for the National Rimfire Sporter Match. Then follow the instructions to complete your registration.

ENTRY OPTIONS. The Rimfire Sporter Match offers competition in two classes, the T-Class, for competitors who fire rifles with telescopic or receiver sights, and the O-Class, for competitors who fire rifles with open sights. Competitors may elect to fire in one of the two classes, or they may enter the competition in both classes. If they enter both classes, they will fire one class on relays one or two and the other class in the afternoon on relays three or four.

MINIMUM AGE. There is no minimum age for Rimfire Sporter participation, but all competitors must be capable of safely completing the 60-shot course of fire. A parent or other adult may be present on the firing line to coach or assist a junior shooter.

ENTRY FEES. The entry fee for one event in the National Rimfire Sporter Match is \$25.00 for adults. As a special incentive to encourage more juniors to participate in the National Rimfire Sporter Match, junior entries are free (juniors are anyone born in 1988 or later). If you elect to compete in both the T-Class and the O-Class (two events), the entry fee is \$35 for adults; while junior double entries are free. If you register on-line you can pay by credit card or send a check, payable to CMP, separately. If you register by mail you can send a check or provide credit card information on your entry form. Mail entry forms and fees to:

**CMP Competitions
P.O. Box 576
Port Clinton, OH 43452**

ENTRIES CLOSE. Entries received at least one week before the day of the competition will be confirmed by CMP. The CMP will attempt to confirm entries sent after that, but cannot guarantee that this can be done. Early registration is strongly encouraged.

WALK-ON ENTRIES. Walk-on entries on the day of the match will be accepted if range space is available. Walk-on entries must be prepared to pay entry fees with cash or check as credit cards cannot be processed on the range. To find out if range space is available, call 419-635-2141, ext. 1107, not later than 4:00 PM on Friday before the match.

CANCELLATIONS. Anyone who is entered in the match, but who is unable to attend is urged to contact CMP as soon as possible. Cancellation requests must be sent in writing (mail or email) and be received before the date of the match. A \$10.00 cancellation fee will be deducted from the refund.

COMPETITOR RECOGNITION. All competitors who fire in the National Rimfire Sporter Match will receive a commemorative T-shirt imprinted with the 2008 CMP Rimfire Sporter Rifle Match logo, 100 rounds of rimfire ammunition provided by Lapua, the 2008 National Rimfire Sporter Ammunition Sponsor, a copy of the 2008 CMP National Matches rifle results bulletin and a ticket to the cook-out after the match.

RIMFIRE SPORTER RANGE. The National Rimfire Sporter Match will be fired on Viale Range, one of the four world-famous Camp Perry Ranges. The range

will have 80 covered firing points for 50 yard firing. When shooters move forward for 25 yard firing, pistol benches will be available for competitors to use.

SQUADDING. Shooters may request to fire in the morning (relays 1 or 2) or afternoon (relays 3 or 4) and will be accommodated to the extent possible. Squadding (relay and firing point assignments) will be issued at the range when the competitors check in for the match. Competitors may request to be squadded on the same or adjacent firing points so they can share rifles or shoot together. Competitors who want special squadding must check in together at the range.

DIRECTIONS TO CAMP PERRY RANGE. Camp Perry is an Ohio National Guard installation located on Ohio Highway 2, approximately five miles west of Port Clinton, Ohio. The entrance to Camp Perry is on the north side of Highway 2. All competitors in the National Matches must first check-in at the National Matches **In-Processing Center** (ask the guard at the Main Gate for directions). After checking in at National Matches In-Processing, proceed to Viale Range where check-in, the clinic and competition will be conducted. To find Viale Range, go straight ahead to the flag pole where the road forms a T. Turn left and proceed to the last range.

CMP ELIGIBILITY AFFIDAVITS. All competitors in CMP-sponsored events are required by federal law to sign a **CMP Eligibility Affidavit and Liability Release** prior to participating. Competitors who participated in previous CMP Rimfire Sporter, EIC or National Matches events have already signed an affidavit and are not required to sign again. A Notary will be available at the **In-Processing Center** to execute Eligibility Affidavits for competitors who need them. Competitor packets with additional match information will be available at the Competitor Check-In location on the range.

COMPETITOR CLINIC AND SAFETY BRIEFINGS. There will be a special Rimfire Sporter Clinic and Safety Briefing on Saturday afternoon before the match (4:00 – 6:00 PM) at Viale Range. Clinic instruction covers Rimfire Sporter rules, safety instructions and competition procedures. The clinic also offers lots of tips on how to shoot the Rimfire Sporter course of fire. Shooters who have not previously attended a CMP Rimfire Sporter Match are strongly encouraged to attend the clinic. There will also be short, mandatory safety briefings at 8:00 AM and 12:30 PM on the day of the match. All competitors are required to attend one of these safety briefings.

SPONSORS. Two major companies are providing sponsorship support for the 2008 National Rimfire Sporter Match. Lapua, a world-renowned ammunition manufacturer with plants in Finland and Germany, is the Official Ammunition Sponsor for the match and will provide 100 rounds of rimfire ammo for each competitor. Remington Arms has become an Award Sponsor and is providing two rifles to be presented to competitors in the Match.



RIMFIRE SPORTER ACHIEVEMENT MEDALS.

Special gold, silver and bronze Rimfire Sporter Achievement Medals, with neck ribbons, will be presented on the range to competitors who shoot qualifying scores in this year's match. Achievement medal cut scores are based on scores fired in previous Rimfire Sporter matches.



2008 achievement award cut scores are:

Gold: T-class, 577 or higher; O-class, 552 or higher

Silver: T-class, 564-576; O-class, 542-551

Bronze: T-class, 548-563; O-class, 520-541

The DCM may adjust the award cut scores downward if firing conditions on the day of the match are unusually difficult. This was done for the 2004 National Rimfire Sporter Match.

AWARDS. Plaques will be presented to the Overall High Competitor in the T and O Classes, to the Overall High Junior in the T and O Classes and to the High 4-H Competitor in the T and O Classes.

CMP RIMFIRE SPORTER GUIDE. The CMP's 44-page **Guide to Rimfire Sporter Shooting** is available on request and without cost from the CMP. The guide explains the game, its rules and provides detailed instructions on its shooting positions and firing techniques. The guide gives step-by-step instructions on how to complete the Rimfire Sporter course of fire. Additional copies of the guide with this program may be requested from CMP Competitions, competitions@odcmp.com or a copy can be downloaded from the CMP web site at <http://www.odcmp.com/Competitions/rimfire.pdf>.



Junior entry in the National Rimfire Sporter Match is free. This event is a great way to get young shooters started in the exciting world of target rifle shooting.

RULES. **2008 CMP Rimfire Sporter Rules**, which are printed on pages 29-37 of the **CMP Guide to Rimfire Sporter** will govern the competition.

RIFLES ALLOWED. Rifles used in the Rimfire Sporter Rifle Match must be standard sporter-type rimfire rifles that meet the following requirements:

- Ⓞ Overall weight of the rifle may not exceed 7.5 pounds, with sights.
- Ⓞ The stock may have a fixed sling swivel. Thumbhole stocks, adjustable butt plates, adjustable cheek pieces and rails or adjustable sling swivels are not permitted.

- ⊙ Rifles with any type action may be used. Rifles should have a magazine capable of holding five rounds so it can be used during rapid-fire stages.
- ⊙ The trigger must be capable of lifting three pounds when cocked. Triggers will be weighed before the match and seals will be affixed to rifles that pass inspection.
- ⊙ Telescopic, receiver or open sights may be used. Competitors who use rifles with telescopic or receiver (aperture) sights compete in the T-Class. Scopes are limited to six power (6X). If a variable-power telescope is used, the adjustment must be taped. Competitors who use rifles with open sights compete in the O-Class.
- ⊙ A standard leather or web sling no wider than 1¼ inches may be used in the prone and sitting or kneeling positions. Slings may not be used for support in the standing position, but may remain on the rifle.
- ⊙ Anyone with questions about whether a rifle is legal should contact CMP staff at 419-635-2141, ext. 1112 or competitions@odcmp.com.
- ⊙ A rifle inspection will be conducted during the check-in period prior to the match.

AMMUNITION. All competitors will be issued 100 rounds of Lapua smallbore ammunition. This ammunition may be fired in the competition or competitors may use their own ammunition.

TARGETS. The CMP Rimfire Sporter Target (designated as CMP Rimfire Sporter Target, 50/25 Yards) will be used for all firing. Competitors who wish to order these targets for practice before the matches may purchase them from the CMP. The cost is \$8.00 for 25 full-faced targets and \$7.25 for 100 repair centers.



Robert Elka, Willis, Michigan, won the O-Class Championship in 2007 with a 575-12X score. Elka's 584-23X score was second to John Merges' winning 587-24X total in the T-Class.

COURSE OF FIRE. Unlimited sighting shots and 60 shots for record on the CMP Rimfire Sporter Target.

Sighter Stage, 50 yards, Unlimited sighting shots, prone position (a rest or support may be used only during sighting shots), time limit 10 minutes (another shooter or coach may assist the competitor in adjusting sights).

- ⌘ Stage 1, 50 yards, 10 shots for record, prone position, time limit 10 minutes.
- ⌘ Stage 2, 50 yards, two series of five shots for record, standing to prone, rapid fire, time limit 25 seconds for semi-autos, 30 seconds for manually operated rifles.
- ⌘ Stage 3, 50 yards, 10 shots for record, sitting or kneeling position, time limit 10 minutes.

- ⚡ Stage 4, 50 yards, two series of five shots for record, standing to sitting or kneeling position, rapid fire, time limit 25 seconds for semi-autos, 30 seconds for manually operated rifles.
- ⚡ Stage 5, 25 yards, 10 shots for record, standing position, time limit 10 minutes.
- ⚡ Stage 6, 25 yards, two series of five shots for record, standing position (shooter must start with rifle butt at the hip), rapid fire, time limit 25 seconds for semi-autos, 30 seconds for manually operated rifles.

ALIBIS. No alibis or refires are allowed during any stage of this match because of rifle or ammunition malfunctions. It is important that the rifle used be clean and in good working condition so that it will not malfunction during rapid-fire stages. If a rifle malfunctions or jams, shooters may attempt to clear the malfunction and continue firing, but no extra time is allowed for firing.

SCORING. Scoring in this match will be done by CMP scorers. Results will be posted on the CMP Competitor Tracker web site at clubs.odcmp.com/results as soon as targets are scored. Results will also be printed and posted on the range.

SPOTTING SCOPES. Competitors may use spotting scopes or binoculars to spot shots during shooting.

OTHER EQUIPMENT. Shooting jackets, special shooting trousers or shooting boots may not be worn. A maximum of two sweatshirts or soft, pliable shirts may be worn. Regular work or hunting-type boots may be worn. An ordinary leather or other work glove may be worn on the hand that supports the rifle; special target shooting gloves or mitts may not be used.

SAFETY EQUIPMENT. All competitors and range personnel are urged to bring personal hearing and eye protection with them and to wear them whenever shooting takes place.

COMPETITOR COOK-OUT AND AWARDS. Immediately after the last relay finishes firing on Sunday afternoon, there will be a cook-out prepared by CMP staff on the range for all competitors and match staff. Everyone who enters and fires in the match will receive a ticket to the cook-out. Tickets for any family members or friends who did not fire in the match are \$10 each and may be purchased at the range. As soon as results are compiled, there will be an informal award ceremony where the shooters with the high scores will be recognized and all shooters who earned Achievement Medals will be recognized.

ENTRY FORM

2008 CMP National Rimfire Sporter Match

You may also enter on-line at clubs.odcmp.com/matches

Name		
Mailing Address		<input type="checkbox"/> Check here if you recently moved
City	State	Zip
Email (will be used for entry confirmation)		Phone (day)
Date of Birth:		
<input type="checkbox"/> 4-H Club Entry Club Name & State: _____		
T-Shirt Size: <input type="checkbox"/> Small <input type="checkbox"/> Medium <input type="checkbox"/> Large <input type="checkbox"/> XL <input type="checkbox"/> XXL		
Please provide information about the rifle(s) you plan to fire:		
<input type="checkbox"/> T-Class: Make/Model _____ Type of rifle action: _____ Semi-auto _____ Manually operated		
<input type="checkbox"/> O-Class: Make/Model _____ Type of rifle action: _____ Semi-auto _____ Manually operated		
Check any applicable boxes below to indicate prior signing of a CMP Eligibility Affidavit and Liability Release:		
<input type="checkbox"/> I have previously attended a CMP Rimfire Sporter Match.		
<input type="checkbox"/> I have previously fired in CMP EIC or National Matches Events.		
<input type="checkbox"/> I have purchased a government-surplus rifle from the CMP.		
Squadding Request--I wish to fire on:		
<input type="checkbox"/> a morning relay, <input type="checkbox"/> an afternoon relay		
<input type="checkbox"/> morning & afternoon (2 events)		
Payment Amount:		
ONE EVENT: <input type="checkbox"/> \$25.00 (Adult) <input type="checkbox"/> Free (Junior)		
TWO EVENTS: <input type="checkbox"/> \$35.00 (Adult) <input type="checkbox"/> Free (Junior)		
<input type="checkbox"/> Visa <input type="checkbox"/> Master Card <input type="checkbox"/> Discover <input type="checkbox"/> American Express		
Number _____		CVV2#. _____
Name _____		Exp. _____
Mail to: CMP Competitions, P.O. Box 576, Port Clinton, OH 43452		

Any shooter or gun enthusiast with a .22 caliber rimfire sporter who wants some great experiences on the range shooting a challenging, enjoyable, recreation-oriented competition game should try Rimfire Sporter shooting!



Civilian Marksmanship Program

Camp Perry Training Site

P.O. Box 576

Port Clinton, Ohio 43452-0576

Phone: (419) 635-2141

Fax: (419) 635-2573

Email: competitions@odcmp.com

**Web Site: <http://www.odcmp.com> or
<http://www.odcmp.com/Competitions.htm>**