



National Standard Three-Position Air Rifle Rules **Summary of Changes in the 9th V2 Edition** **of the 2012-2104 Rules**

An updated “V2” version of the ***National Standard Three-Position Air Rifle Rules*** was produced for release in September 2013. It includes a few changes that were made to clarify issues and questions that have arisen from the first edition of the 2012-2014 Rules. This document provides a summary of those changes. All changes listed in this summary will go into effect as soon as the V2 version of the rules is posted and published.

Rule 2.7, 7.5, 7.8 & 10.3. Range Commands. The rule continues to require that after the **STOP-UNLOAD** command, all rifles must be unloaded, have CBIs inserted and be grounded on the bench or floor. The rule was clarified so that the command **STOP**, without the additional command **UNLOAD**, does not require that rifles be unloaded, have CBIs inserted or be grounded. This is because **STOP** is used to stop firing at the end of the sighting stage and initiate a brief pause before the **START** command for the record fire stage is given (Rule 7.5). This pause is normally just a few seconds. The **STOP** command alone is also used to stop firing for a final round shot and initiate a pause while score are announced (Rule 10.3.4). This normally lasts 20-30 seconds until the **START** command for the next final round shot is given. When the **STOP** command is given, athletes must simply remain in position and wait for the **START** command. They are not required to unload and clear their rifles until the **UNLOAD** command is also given.

Rule 4.3.1, d. & 4.3.4. Sporter Clothing. Sporter shooters may not use a belt buckle or doubled extension of the belt “to support the left arm or elbow in standing.” Sporter shooters may wear a glove on the left hand (right handed shooters) only.

Rule 4.4.1. Weights on Precision Rifles. Precision air rifles may continue to have weights added to the butt stock portion of the rifle as long as the weights do not project out beyond the normal dimensions of the stock. Devices or weights that project forward from the lower part of the butt plate are not permitted. The concern here is that too many of these devices or weights were being used as chest supports or rests.

Rule 4.6.1. Shooting Jackets. Some match sponsors are still running into older shooting jackets that do not comply with the rules. A provision to allow older highpower jackets was reinstated; match directors can permit these as long as they are not worn with special shooting trousers. There are also a few cloth shooting jackets that comply with padding, thickness and stiffness rules, but have adjustable strap closures. These can be accepted as long as the straps are taped with a loose-fitting closure.

Rule 4.6.2, i. Shooting Trousers. The use of seat pads on shooting trousers is now prohibited all over the world because oversized seat pads had become a way to add illegal support to trousers. The **2012-2014 Three-Position Rules** included this prohibition, but did not require seat pad removal until 1 January 2014. This deadline remains in the rules. It is important to emphasize that this rule does not require anyone to replace shooting trousers. All that needs to be done is to cut the seat pads off of existing trousers. The CMP Junior Rifle Camps worked with many campers this past summer to remove seat pads and bring them into compliance. This is a simple change that costs nothing and needs to be done before the first competitions in 2014.

Rule 4.6.4, Shooting Shoes. The use of special shooting shoes with square toes or heels has also been banned for similar reasons. The **2012-2014 Three Position Rules** incorporated this requirement with a 1 January 2014 deadline. This is another rule that does not require replacing any equipment. Modifying shooting shoes with square toes or heels is easy to do and costs nothing. All that is required is to use a belt sander or grinder to round off the square corners and leave the toes and heels slightly rounded. Many clubs and schools have already made this simple modification. The CMP Junior Rifle Camps worked with several hundred juniors this past summer to bring their shoes into compliance. The CMP will have equipment at its ranges in Anniston and Camp Perry so that shooters who attend 2014 matches there can quickly modify their shoes.

5.1.4. Athletes with Physical Impairments. The 2012-2014 Rules further opened the possibilities for participating to athletes with physical impairments, including possible participation by athletes who would be given IPC (International Paralympic Committee) SH2 classifications. New SH2 national records will be recognized. Ensuring comparability and fair competition is a difficult challenge, but the Council wants to encourage participation by all athletes insofar as this is possible. Coaches should encourage athletes with physical impairments to participate and if they have such athletes to contact Council Secretary Vicki Donoho, vdonoho@thecmp.org, to obtain more information.

Rules 5.3.1, 7.4 & 7.5 Range Procedures. The revised rules clarify that athletes must be called to their firing points with the command **TAKE YOUR POSITIONS** “a minimum of five minutes before” the Sighting Stage begins so that they can place their equipment on the line and begin their preparations. During this five-minute period, they may handle their rifles and get into the prone position, but they may not remove CBIs or dry fire. After five minutes, the Range Officer will give the **PREPARATION AND SIGHTING STAGE...START** command. Then they can complete their preparations, remove CBIs and do dry or live firing.

Rule 7.16.1. Malfunction Procedures. The 2012-2014 Rules stopped the practice of allowing extra time to athletes who experience malfunctions because this disrupts match schedules and is unfair to all of the other athletes who must

wait for them to finish. The V2 version clarifies that if an athlete cannot immediately repair or replace his/her rifle, there are three options: 1) if the interruption is short, the athlete may complete firing within the allotted time for that relay, but no extra time will be given, or 2) the athlete may be resquadded on a subsequent relay when he/she will have the amount of time remaining when the malfunction occurred, or 3) the Range Officer may conduct a “completion relay” at the end of the competition as long as this does not disrupt other scheduled activities.

Rules 10.3.1 & 10.3.2. Finals Procedures. The procedures for calling finalists to the line, introducing them and then allowing them to take their positions were clarified by specifying that there shall be a two (2) minute interlude between the end of the finalist introductions and the start of the Sighting and Preparation Stage.

Excellence-in-Competition Credit Points. The 2012-2014 Rules adopted the use of cut scores to award Junior Distinguished Badge credit points because the previous percentage cut-offs disadvantaged athletes who competed in matches with many top junior shooters. The initial precision class cut scores have proven to be somewhat too liberal and were adjusted accordingly.