

OFFICIAL RULES FOR THE NHSRA SHOOTING SPORTS EVENTS

LIGHT RIFLE & TRAP SHOOTING

I. Qualifications:

- a. This event is open to both boys and girls.
- b. **Junior High** – The State/Province contest shall be the qualifying event for contestants entered in the Rifle Event. If State/Province conducts other shooting event (s) in advance of their State/Province Finals Rodeo, those points may be used to qualify the state finals contestant(s). National Finals qualification would come from the State/Province Finals.
- c. Each state/province may send the top four (4) contestants at their State/Province Finals for the National Finals Event(s). If a tie occurs in the fourth (4th) place, those contestants will be qualified for the National Finals Event(s) also. If, in any case of the top four (4) qualifying contestants, for the National Finals Rodeo cannot compete in an event they qualified in, for “finals”, for any reason, the fifth (5th), sixth (6th), seventh (7th) or eighth (8th) place qualifying contestant only, would be an alternate to fill these positions and may move up and attend the National Junior High Finals in the event they qualified in, of that year, with the information from the State/Provincial secretary and entry form.
- d. **High School** – The State/Province contest shall be the qualifying event for contestants entered in the Rifle and/or Trap Event(s). If State/Province conducts other shooting event (s) in advance of their State/Province Finals Rodeo, those points may be used to qualify the state finals contestant(s). National Finals qualification would come from the State/Province Finals.
- e. Each state/province may send the top four (4) contestants at their State/Province Finals for the National Finals Event(s). If a tie occurs in the fourth (4th) place, those contestants will be qualified for the National Finals Event(s) also. If, in any case of the top four (4) qualifying contestants, for the National Finals Rodeo cannot compete in an event they qualified in, for “finals”, for any reason, the fifth (5th), sixth (6th), seventh (7th) or eighth (8th) place qualifying contestant only, would be an alternate to fill these positions and may move up and attend the National Junior High Finals in the event they qualified in, of that year, with the information from the State/Provincial secretary and entry form.
- f. Shooting sports contestants must be a member of the NHSRA in good standing.

II. Event Rules:

- a. All rules are published in the Guidelines/Rules for NHSRA Shooting Sports Rulebook that can be located on the NHSRA website or requested from the National Office.

III. Equipment:

- a. **Light Rifle** – Any .22 caliber rimfire .22 short, .22 long, or .22 long rifle with not less than a 2-pound trigger pull, and which weighs no more than 8 ½ pounds when equipped with sights. No portion of the rifle or any attachment to the rifle shall extend more than 3 inches beyond the rear of the shooter’s shoulder. The same rifle must be used throughout all stages of any one match (except aggregate) except in the case of a malfunction or disabled rifle when the competitor may change rifles with permission of the Chief Range Officer.

- b. Rimfire cartridges commercially catalogued as the “.22 Short, “.22 Long, or “.22 Long Rifle which have an over-all length not more than 1.1 inches and loaded with a lead or alloy bullet of not larger than .23-inch diameter. *Hollow point, tracer, incendiary or explosive bullets are specifically excluded from ammunition authorized for match use.*
- c. **Trap** – A contestant cannot use: A gun with a chamber larger than 12 gauge. A contestant may not use a gun capable of chambering more than one gauge of shells at the same time. For example, chambering 12 gauge and 20-gauge shells in the same gun at the same time is prohibited. The same shotgun must be used throughout all stages of any one match (except aggregate) except in the case of a malfunction or disabled shotgun when the competitor may change shotguns with permission of the Chief Range Safety Officer or Arena Director.
- d. A Contestant **MAY NOT USE** loads that contain nickel or copper coated shot or tracer loads. However, the use of lead, steel, bismuth, or other composite non- toxic shot materials shall be allowed. A contestant **MAY NOT USE** any load with a velocity greater than 1290 FPS (Feet Per Second) with maximum shot charge of 1 1/8 ounces, or 1325 FPS with a maximum shot charge of 1 ounce, or 1350 FPS with a maximum shot charge of 7/8 ounces or less, as measured in any individual shot shell. These velocities are maximum, and no individual shot shell shall exceed these limits for the designated shot charge. In addition, no load containing more than 1 1/8 ounces or any shot larger than Number 7 1/2 can be used. Shot charges are maximum and no charge may exceed the charge amount by more than 3%. Steel shot in Number 7 will be acceptable as long as velocity criteria are the same as for lead shot shells. A contestant **MAY NOT USE** any shell loaded with black powder. **NO reloaded ammunition is allowed.**

IV. Dress Code:

- a. Following is the dress code for contestants while competing at the shooting sports competition. Please refer to the current **Rules, By-Laws & Constitution Rulebook** for dress code requirements for all other times during the National Finals event. This is found under ‘**Contestant Disqualification**’ heading under the **Attire** specifications.
- b. Shooting sports contestants **are required** to wear contestant back numbers at all times. If a competitor is not wearing their contestant/back number, the contestant **WILL** be disqualified.
- c. Jeans/long pants or trousers are required. Leggings, yoga pants, capris or shorts are not acceptable.
- d. All footwear must be closed toe.
- e. T-Shirts with crew neck collars and sleeves may be worn. Collared shirts are preferred. **ABSOLUTELY NO LOW CUT, CUT OFF, MIDRIFF OR TANK TOPS OF ANY KIND ARE ALLOWED.**
- f. Any messages on clothing **MUST** be positive and cannot advertise alcohol or tobacco products.
- g. Western boots and hats are optional during the competition. **Spurs are highly discouraged. If it is determined that a spur causes a contestant to be out of position or is a means of artificial support, the contestant may be asked to remove them.**

- h. Baseball caps are acceptable.
- i. **Western attire must be worn when accepting awards during the year-end awards ceremony to include jeans, long sleeved shirts buttoned at the wrist, belt, boots, and cowboy hat.**

V. Contestant Disqualifications:

- a. Any situation that may result in a contestant disqualification is listed in the section of this rulebook under 'Contestant Disqualifications.'
- b. Disqualifications specific to this event are listed in the Shooting Sports Rules/Guidelines Rulebook.

VI. Scoring:

- a. Individual scores are done using the procedures listed in the Shooting Sports Rules/Guidelines Rulebook.
- b. No Points toward the All-Around shall be allowed from the Shooting Sports Contest.
- c. Team points awarded at the National Finals competition(s) shall be added one (1) time. 2100 points in (20) twenty places will be offered. 200 pts. for Champion, 190 pts. for Reserve Champion, 180 pts. for 3rd place and etc.

VII. Officials:

- a. Official positions and descriptions are located in Section eleven (11) of the Shooting Sports Rules/Guidelines Rulebook under the **Competition Officials** section.