

**NZCTA DTL RULES  
(Excerpts)**

**2019 PACIFIC GAMES - SAMOA  
SHOOTING SPORT**

**DTL DISCIPLINE**

Single Barrel  
Double Barrel  
Points Score

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(Excerpts)**

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**SECTION 2 - - NZCTA CHAMPIONSHIPS, OFFICIAL MATCHES AND ASSOCIATION AWARDS**

**2-22 New Zealand Single Rise (Double Barrel) Championship.**

- a) The match shall be one of fifty (50) targets shot at from 15 metres in two rounds of twenty-five targets with shooters being permitted two shots at each target, each break counting as one point.
- b) The whole match shall be shot at one visit to the trap.
- c) Trophies and prize money where applicable shall be awarded to the HOA winner, three AA grade, three A grade, three B grade, three C grade winners and also to the optional (LVJ) category winners.
- d) In the event of a tie, shoot offs shall be decided on the first miss out basis.
- e) Family Teams event.
  - 1) Open to all family members, who must be at least a generation apart or of the opposite gender (e.g. father/ son, husband/ wife, father/ daughter, grandfather/ grandson).
  - 2) Team entry \$1.00 per person.
  - 3) Shoot offs will be 1 metre a break.

**2-23 New Zealand Single Barrel Championship.**

- a) The match shall be one of fifty (50) targets shot at from 15 metres in two rounds of twenty-five targets with shooters being permitted only one shot at each target, each break counting as one point.
- b) The whole match shall be shot at one visit to the trap.
- c) Trophies and prize money where applicable shall be awarded to the HOA winner, three AA grade, three A grade, three B grade and three C grade winners, and also to the optional (LVJ) category winners.
- d) In the event of a tie shoot offs shall be decided on the first miss out basis.

**2-25 New Zealand Points Score Championship.**

- a) This match shall be one of fifty (50) targets shot at from 15 metres in two rounds of twenty-five targets, with shooters being permitted two shots at each target, being scored three points for a first barrel break and two points for a second barrel break.
- b) The whole match shall be shot at one visit to the trap.
- c) Squads shall be a maximum of five competitors and competitors shall shoot five (5) targets per lane before moving to the next lane.
- d) Trophies and prize money shall be awarded to the HOA winner, three AA grade, three A grade, three B grade and three C grade winners, and also to the optional (LVJ) category winners.
- e) In the event of a tie, shoot offs shall be conducted in multiples of five targets, over five lanes, scored on a Points Score basis.

**SECTION 4**

**NZCTA GENERAL SHOOTING REGULATIONS**

**INTRODUCTION**

**4-01 General**

- a) This edition of the rules has been modified from previous editions of NZCTA rulebooks to allow for and recognise that referees who officiate in Association matches will be drawn from previous squads or appointed and approved by the shoot management.
- b) These rules apply to all disciplines of NZCTA shooting unless otherwise specified.
- c) Where current rules for ISSF and FITASC Sporting and Compak or other international disciplines exist, these specific rules shall apply and must be consulted.
- d) All shooters must familiarise themselves with these rules and ensure that they are enforced.
- e) It is the responsibility of every shooter to ensure evenness of application of these rules and thus ensure equity of competition.

**4-02 Safety**

- a) The safety of a shooting range depends to a large extent on local conditions and the shoot management may establish additional safety rules.

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- 1) The shoot management must know the principles of range safety and take the necessary steps to apply them.
- 2) The shoot management bears the responsibility for safety.
- b) The safety of shooters, range officials and spectators requires continued and careful attention to firearms handling and caution in moving about the range.
  - 1) Self-discipline is necessary on the part of all.
  - 2) Where such self-discipline is lacking, it is the duty of range officials to enforce discipline and the duty of shooters and other officials to assist in such enforcement.
- c) In the interest of safety, any recognised NZCTA official may stop the shooting at any time. All shooters are obliged to notify such officials immediately of any situation that may be dangerous, or which may cause an accident.
- d) No one except a referee or Jury member may pick up a shooter's equipment without their permission and only in their presence and with their knowledge.
- e) To ensure safety, all shotguns must be handled with maximum care at all times.
- f) After the last shot, the shooter must ascertain before leaving the shooting station that there are no cartridges in the chamber or magazine of their gun.
- g) When not on the shooting station the gun shall be carried with breech open and empty.
  - 1) Pumps and semiautomatics will have the bolt open.
  - 2) Fixed breech (double barrels including over and unders and side by sides) will be broken open and empty.
- h) Sighting exercises are permitted, but only with the permission of the referee and only on the shooting station or designated area.
- i) No gun shall be loaded, closed or sighted when operating personnel are forward of the firing line, or when traphouse safety flags are displayed.
- j) Shooting at a pattern plate may be permitted, but only when authorised by the shoot management.
- k) All shotguns must be kept unloaded except on the shooting station and after the referee has indicated that the squad may load.
- l) When the command or signal to 'CEASE FIRE' or 'UNLOAD' is given, shooting must stop immediately.
  - 1) All shooters must unload their shotguns and make them safe.
  - 2) Shooting may only be resumed at the appropriate command or signal.
- m) The referee or other appropriate range officials are responsible for giving the commands 'START FIRING' and other necessary commands.
  - 1) The referee must also ascertain that the commands are obeyed and that the shotguns are handled safely.
  - 2) Any shooter who handles a loaded gun after the 'CEASE FIRE' command has been given, without the permission of the referee, may be disqualified.
- n) Ear and Eye Protection. It is compulsory for all persons (including shooters, referees and trap personnel) to wear some form of recognised and adequate ear protection on a trap, Skeet, Sporting or Compak range plus safety or shooting glasses on a Skeet, Sporting or Compak range for eye protection. It has been proven that permanent hearing damage results from repeated exposure to noises such as shotgun blasts.
- o) Footwear. The wearing of 'Jandals', 'thongs' or bare feet while shooting is prohibited on the grounds of safety.
- p) The use of drugs. The use or taking of any drug, legal or illegal and including alcohol, shall prevent the competitor from taking any further part in that day's competition with the exception of the taking of prescription or non-prescription over-the-counter medications that do not impair a shooter's ability to perform safely.
- q) Specified danger area. In the interest of safety there shall be a specified danger area. Refer to the Range Standing Orders of the Club for specific detail.
- r) Smoking: Smoking is prohibited by any competitor, referee or scorer while shooting is taking place.

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**COMPETITION OFFICIALS**

**4-03 The Field Referee.**

- a) The shooting will be conducted by a referee drawn from the previous squad, or appointed and approved by the shoot management. Their main function is to release the target(s) and to make immediate decisions regarding 'SCORED' or 'LOST' targets. The referee must also make decisions on disabled guns or malfunctions.
- b) The referee shall announce distinctly 'BREAK', 'LOST' or 'NO TARGET', as the case may be, for each target that has been called, thrown, or fired upon. In Points Score matches, the referee shall call 'BREAK ONE', 'BREAK TWO', 'LOST', or 'NO TARGET' as the case may be. In Double Rise the alternative calls 'ONE', 'OH', and 'NO TARGET' may be used. For standard skeet, only losses and no targets need to be called; see rule 6-15.
- c) The referee must make an immediate decision whether targets are 'SCORED', or 'LOST', whether a repeat target is to be thrown, whether there are irregular targets, or whether there are other deviations from the rules.
  - 1) If possible, he must call 'NO TARGET' or give some other signal before the shooter fires.
  - 2) Irregular targets require an immediate and very accurate decision by the referee.
  - 3) If the shooter fires at an alleged "slow" or "quick" pull before the referee has declared it "No Target", the result of the shot is to be scored.
- d) When the targets thrown from any machine are repeatedly irregular or emerge broken, the referee shall suspend shooting and have the machine adjusted or repaired.
- e) A target declared "NO TARGET" by the referee prior to the shooter firing must always be repeated but subject to Rules 5-28 and 5-29.
- f) The referee must always make the final decision himself.
- g) The referee's decision may be appealed in matters concerning interpretation and application of the rules. The referee's decisions are final and no appeals are permitted in matters concerning 'SCORED', 'LOST' or irregular targets.
- h) The referee, under the Jury or shoot management's control, is responsible for the application of the safety rules and for the correct conduct of the competition.
- i) Any shooter who refuses to act as a referee when drawn from the previous squad shall be subject to the disciplinary penalties of rule 4-49.
- j) A relief referee shall not take over a field until competitors have completed the round being fired, except in the case of emergency.

**4-04 The Scorer.**

- a) One scorer shall be used who shall be appointed in rotation from among the competitors, generally from those who have shot in the previous squad.
  - 1) It is recommended that the scorer shall stand close enough to the referee so that the referee can see the score sheet.
- b) All competitors, other than match officials, are obligated, upon request, to function as scorers. The referee may accept a substitute at his or her discretion.
- c) Any competitor who refuses to perform this task when required shall be subject to the disciplinary procedures of rule 4-49.
- d) The scorer shall be responsible for recording the scores accurately for each shooter on the official score sheet and for announcing the end of the round.
- e) When a round has been completed and the results have been compared and read aloud, the referee and each shooter must sign or initial the score sheet so that it can be returned to the classification office quickly. Note: Failure to sign the score sheet before it leaves the field eliminates all right to protest scores other than scores erroneously posted from the score sheets.

**4-05 The Official Referee(s).**

- a) There shall be at least 24 official referees appointed by the Council, with at least 12 in each Island.

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- b) The official referees shall be appointed annually. They shall have the right to be reappointed at the expiry of their term, and may relinquish their position by resignation in writing to the Association at any time.
- c) The official referee shall be invited to officiate by the shoot management during the course of a day's shooting.
- d) The official referee shall be responsible for overseeing the setting of the traps prior to the commencement of any competition.
- e) The official referee shall be responsible for allocating the drawn referee and scorer from each squad.
- f) The official referee shall be responsible for patrolling the shooting fields and shall be available for advice if requested.
- g) The official referee shall consult with the field referee on any matter or aspect of safety when circumstances deem such action necessary.
- h) The official referee shall be responsible for officiating at any shoot offs where required.

**TARGET STANDARDS**

***4-08 Standard clay targets (for Skeet and Trap events).***

- a) Targets that may be used for standard DTL and Skeet events may have a diameter no larger than 110mm (plus 1mm, minus 3mm) with a height of 29mm (plus 1mm, minus 4mm).
- b) Target weight must not exceed 105 grams and not less than 95 grams, with a variation of not more than plus or minus 5 grams per target batch lot. (Targets with the same batch number).
- c) Targets used in competition must be consistent, with a variation of no more than 1% in target diameter and height, across all fields used for an event.
- d) The colour of the targets may be all black, all white, all yellow, all orange; or the full dome may be painted white, yellow or orange; or a ring may be painted around the dome in white, yellow or orange.
- e) The colour of a target that is selected for all championships must be clearly visible against the background of the range under all normal lighting conditions. The same colour target must be used for training.
- f) For all events, the conducting club must have sufficient satisfactory targets, both checked and stored at the ground in ample time for the event.

**GUNS, EQUIPMENT AND AMMUNITION**

***4-10 General.***

All devices, ammunition or equipment which are not in these rules, or which are contrary to the spirit of these regulations and rules are not allowed. The referee, shoot management or Jury has the right to examine the shooter's guns and ammunition at any time.

***4-11 Guns.***

- a) All types of shotguns, including semi-automatics, may be used provided their calibre does not exceed 12 gauge. Guns smaller than 12 gauge may be used.
- b) Guns which will accept more than one gauge of shell at the same time are not permitted to be used in any competition.
- c) Slings or straps on guns are prohibited.
- d) Guns with magazines must have the magazines blocked so that it is not possible to put more than one cartridge in the magazine at one time.
- e) Changing guns or functioning parts of a gun is not permitted between stations of the same round unless the referee declares a malfunction that cannot be remedied quickly.
- f) No gun will be permitted to be used which has a barrel length shorter than 635mm (25in.).
- g) The use of Damascus barrel guns or any other shotgun incorporating any form of twist steel barrel is strictly prohibited in all competitions conducted by a club or under the auspices of the NZCTA.
- h) Spent shell catchers on the breech opening of automatic and similar shotguns must be removed after causing a malfunction (the first being an allowable malfunction) or the shooter



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may continue with the shotgun assembled with the attachment fixed but will not be allowed any further such malfunction during the day's programme.

- i) No sighting devices, other than conventional sights, shall be permitted without dispensation from the Council.
- j) Compensators or similar devices are permitted, but shooters wishing to shoot with such a modified gun will be placed in a squad of shooters who have no objection to these devices being used.
- k) Release trigger guns.
  - 1) A shooter shall not be allowed to use a gun with a release-type trigger unless the referee and other members of the squad are notified.
  - 2) Failure to make the referee aware of the release trigger shall render the shooter liable to disqualification.
  - 3) Extra caution must be exercised if a malfunction occurs with a release trigger gun (see rule 4-31 (b)).
  - 4) Guns with release triggers must be clearly marked to that effect.

**4-12 Cartridges.**

- a) Before shooting the length of the cartridge must not exceed standard specifications of 70mm. This restriction applies to all gauges of shell.
- b) Shot loads must not exceed 28 grams. A loading tolerance of 0.5 grams will be permitted.
- c) Pellets must be only spherical in shape, made of lead or lead alloy, and not larger than 2.5mm nor smaller than 2.0mm, for all disciplines. Shot may be plated.
- d) Black powder, tracer, incendiary or other specialty type cartridges and steel shot are prohibited.
- e) Cartridges must be of normal loading. No internal changes may be made which will give an extra or special dispersion effect, such as the inverse loading of components, crossing devices, etc.
- f) The referee, shoot management or Jury member may remove an unfired cartridge from a shooter's gun for inspection.
- g) Reloaded ammunition shall be permitted to be used in all matches conducted under the auspices of the NZCTA.
- h) In instances of a competitor using reloads (hand-loads) suspected of being dangerous, the referee, shoot management and/or member of the Council or Jury may take ammunition in the possession of the competitor concerned and arrange for it to be tested by the Association agents authorised and qualified to perform such a task.
  - 1) A competitor whose cartridges have been taken in such circumstances is prohibited from any further competition unless he uses only factory manufactured cartridges on the grounds of any club at which he may desire to compete.
  - 2) This restriction on their competition shall remain in force until such time as a satisfactory test result on their cartridges has been obtained.

**CONDUCT OF COMPETITIONS, PREMATCH RESPONSIBILITY OF SHOOTERS AND SQUADDING**

***4-13 Conduct of competitions and definitions. For all regulation shooting and at all open shoots and championships, competition is to be conducted on a one visit, one trap basis, up to a maximum of 25 targets per round.***

- a) Exceptions to the 25 target maximum are:
  - 1) DTL Triples; maximum 45 Targets
  - 2) Double Rise; maximum 25 pairs of targets.
  - 3) Skeet Doubles; maximum 25 pairs of targets
- b) This shall define a round.

*Note:* Team shooting is specifically excluded from this definition.

- c) Competition may be conducted in rounds, or by shooting at a series of rounds of targets consecutively.
- d) The trap on which squad one will shoot the first round or series will be decided by lot, or as otherwise determined by the shoot management.

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- e) The number of targets comprising the competition at all open shoots and Association championships will be as approved by the NZCTA Executive Officer, and the Council
- f) Once shooting has been started it must continue according to the programme without interruption, except for mechanical breakdown. In the event of darkness, foul weather or other cause, the shooters' representative, in consultation with shoot management, shall have the right to decide when and how the competition shall be completed.
- g) At National, Island, Provincial or Zone competitions, if any shooting is carried over from one day to the next, no shooter involved shall be required to be on the mark before 08.30am. This may be over-ridden by the shooters representative, but only when deemed absolutely necessary.

### **4-14 Shooter's pre-match responsibilities.**

It is the shooter's responsibility to be on the proper station at the right time with sufficient ammunition and the necessary equipment to compete.

### **4-15 Squadding**

- a) For regulation shooting, squads will be filled by the shoot management, in order of nomination, on the day of competition, or as otherwise announced.
- b) Squads shall consist of a maximum of six shooters.
- c) Shooters may enter full squads, but must accept the next vacant number.
- d) The shoot management shall have the right to enter match officials only, (referees, handicappers, etc), at any time, to assist in the organisation of the competition.

## **GENERAL RULES OF CONDUCT FOR SHOOTERS**

### **4-16 Personal attire.**

- a) It is the responsibility of the shooter to appear at the shooting station dressed in a dignified manner appropriate for a public event.
- b) Shooters are requested to dress in a dignified and appropriate manner when they are to be presented with any prize or trophy.

### **4-17 General. General Shooters competing in, and clubs staging clay target shooting matches under the auspices of the NZCTA, (including international competitors from outside New Zealand) render themselves liable for disqualification from any match or suspension from any Association matches and events, should any of the following rules not be faithfully observed:**

- a) Shooters will comply with:
  - i) These regulations in their entirety;
  - ii) Any applicable Code of Conduct issued by the Association or any Club; and
  - iii) Any reasonable direction or instruction of the Council, any host Club or Shoot Management.
- b) Shooters should be courteous to field personnel and conduct themselves in a sportsmanlike manner at all times.
- c) All shooters must pay constant attention to safety, must apply self-discipline on the shooting station, must accept the authority of these rules, and must ensure that fairness of competition is maintained at all times.
- d) Cell phones – The use of mobile telephones or similar devices by competitors and range officials while within the competition areas is prohibited. All mobile telephones must be switched off. (See "Interference")
- e) No alcohol shall be taken onto or consumed by competitors or range officials while within the competition area.

## **RULES FOR HANDLING SHOTGUNS**

### **4-18 Rules for Handling Shotguns modified 4.18**

The rules contained herein at 4.19 to 4.29 (inclusive) shall apply to the handling and use of any firearm at any event conducted on the grounds of any Club affiliated to the New Zealand Clay Target Association including (but not limited to) club competitions, open shoots and any championship event.

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**4-19 All individuals (regardless of whether or not they are a competitor in an event) must comply with the following principles of safe firearms handling:**

- (a) All firearms, even when unloaded, empty, or thought to be safe, must be handled with the greatest care and in a safe manner as if the firearm were otherwise ready to be fired.
- (b) Conventional double barrel firearms must be carried with the breech open and empty of ammunition. Gun slips are permitted at Sporting and Compak events only, where approved by shoot management. The onus is on the shooter to ensure the gun is unloaded and safe.
- (c) Semi-automatic and pump action firearms must be carried with the breech-bolt open, empty of ammunition and the muzzle pointed in a safe direction.
- (d) It is forbidden for any individual to touch or handle another shooter's gun without first obtaining the owner's express permission to do so.
- (e) It is the shooter's responsibility to be aware of their obligations for gun handling, security and storage as required by the Arms Act, and to adhere to those obligations at all times.

**4-20 All individuals (regardless of whether or not they are a competitor in an event) must comply with the following principles of shooting, test firing and sighting or patterning of firearms:**

- (a) Sighting (the closing of a firearm and shouldering the firearm to test the firearm's fit and "sighting" for the shooter) a firearm is permitted only on the shooting station or in an area designated by shoot management for that purpose but sighting a firearm shall not occur during any competition without the express permission of the referee.
- (b) Patterning (the discharge of a firearm against a pattern board or a designated wall to assess the firearm's shot pattern) may only be conducted in an area designated by shoot management for that particular purpose and upon the express permission of shoot management.
- (c) Shots may be fired by a competitor only when it is the shooter's turn and the target for that competitor has been thrown.
- (d) The test firing of guns may be conducted only with the permission of the referee as follows:
  - (i) on the range prior to the beginning of a round; or
  - (ii) after the malfunction of a firearm; or
- (e) The sighting of or shooting at another competitor's target by any other individual is prohibited.
- (f) Deliberately sighting or shooting at live birds or other animals at any time is prohibited. (g) The deliberate shooting by any individual of any hat or any other item of clothing at any time whatsoever is expressly prohibited. For the sake of clarity, individuals are expressly prohibited from discharging their firearm in a celebratory manner whatsoever and there shall be no discretion reserved in favour of shoot management in respect of any such conduct.

**4-21 Ammunition must not be placed in any part of the gun until the shooter is standing on the shooting station, facing the live shooting or firing zone with the gun facing the target flight area, and after the referee has given permission to load.**

**4-22 In addition to rule 4.21 shooters using a semi-automatic shotgun shall not put ammunition in any part of the gun until it is their turn to shoot.**

**4-23 The shooter must not move or turn from the shooting station or the live firing or shooting zone before their gun is opened and ammunition or spent shells have been removed from the breech.**

**4-24 During any competition when shooting is interrupted:**

- (a) every competitor's gun must be opened and ammunition removed; and
- (b) no gun may be loaded with ammunition and closed until the order to continue shooting has been given by the referee.

**4-25 Whilst a competitor is preparing to call for his/her target and while that individual is completing his/her shooting, all other shooters must remain silent and must not cause any interruption of the shooting other than those instances permitted in these rules. During competition, squad members must restrict their conversations to calling for their targets, reporting 'READY' to the referee, making a protest, or answering the questions of the referee.**

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**4-26 Shooters must not close their guns before it is their turn to shoot**, and in handicap by distance matches, the gun must not be closed until all other shooters have retired to a mark at least equal to the shooter's distance mark.

**4-27 The shooter must always close the action of their gun in a safe manner** and in accordance with the manufacturer's instructions.

**4-28 In DTL events, all guns must be carried open when moving between stations 1 and 5**, and must be carried open and unloaded without ammunition when moving from station 5 to station 1.

**MALFUNCTIONS, DOUBLE DISCHARGES AND DISABLED GUNS**

**4-30 Malfunctions.**

A malfunction shall be defined as any failure of a gun or ammunition to fire for any reason whatsoever which is not attributable to the shooter.

- a) The following are not considered malfunctions:
  - 1) Faulty manipulation of the gun by the shooter.
  - 2) Failure to place the cartridge in the proper chamber of the gun.
  - 3) Empty shells in the chamber or chambers.
- b) The following are considered ammunition malfunctions when the firing pin indentation is clearly noticeable:
  - 1) and only the primer fires.
  - 2) and the powder charge is omitted.
  - 3) and the powder charge is not ignited.
  - 4) and the components of the load remain in the barrel.
- c) Cartridges of the wrong size are not considered defective ammunition.

**4-31 Double discharge.**

Two shots discharged simultaneously or in rapid succession shall be considered to be a double discharge.

- a) If a double discharge occurs, a "NO TARGET" shall be declared whether or not the target was hit (but subject to skeet rule 6-66)
- b) A shooter shall be permitted two double discharges in any one round, but the gun shall be declared disabled at the time of the second such occurrence.
- c) Any third or subsequent double discharge by the same shooter in the same round shall be declared 'LOST'.

**4-32 Disabled shotguns.**

- a) A shotgun must be considered disabled if:
  - 1) it cannot be fired safely.
  - 2) it does not ignite the powder charge.
  - 3) being an automatic, it fails to eject due to a mechanical defect.
  - 4) it has had two double discharges in any one round.
- b) Decisions on disabled guns, gun malfunctions, ammunition malfunctions or double discharges must be made by the referee.

**4-33 Actions after any malfunction or double discharge have been declared.**

- a) In the event of a malfunction, for whatever reason, the shooter must remain standing with the gun pointed to the target flight area without opening the gun or touching the safety catch until the referee has inspected the gun or has otherwise instructed the shooter.
- b) If the shooter is using a release trigger gun, the referee will ask the shooter to test fire the gun once only. Under no circumstances will the referee attempt to test fire it.
- c) If a gun or ammunition malfunction occurs, the referee shall instruct the scorer to mark the score sheet with a 'M' so that the number of allowable malfunctions is recorded.
- d) If a double discharge occurs, the referee shall instruct the scorer to mark the score sheet with a 'D' so that the number of allowable double discharges are recorded.

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- e) If a gun has been declared disabled, it must not be used again in competition unless it has been satisfactorily repaired. If a shooter uses such a gun without having had it repaired, and it subsequently malfunctions in the same manner that previously caused it to be declared disabled, then any such targets fired upon shall be declared 'LOST'.
- f) If the disabled gun is not repairable quickly enough, the shooter may use another approved gun, provided one can be obtained within 3 minutes after the gun has been declared disabled.
- g) If the shooter has had ammunition declared faulty, he may change it, providing replacement ammunition can be obtained within 3 minutes after the original ammunition has been declared faulty.
- h) Or the shooter may, after obtaining the permission of the referee, leave the squad and finish the remaining targets of the round at a time determined by the referee or shoot management.

**4-34 Number of malfunctions or double discharges allowed.**

- a) The shooter is allowed a maximum of two malfunctions (gun or ammunition) in total per round whether or not he has changed their gun or ammunition, (but subject to skeet rule 662.) For the definition of a round see rule 4-14
- b) The shooter is allowed a maximum of two double discharges per round whether or not he has changed their gun.
- c) Any regular target on which any additional malfunction of gun or ammunition, or double discharge, occurs will be declared 'LOST', or 'LOST' and 'LOST' as the case may be.

**4-35 A "No target"** shall be allowed for the shooter's first target of the day if a safety catch is engaged.

**TIE BREAKING**

**4-36 For events requiring a shoot off to determine placings, the following tie breaking rules shall apply.**

- a) Single Rise (Double Barrel), Single Barrel, Ball Trap and Skeet individual ties shall be shot off on a first miss out basis. If two or more competitors miss the same target, a new shoot off round shall be commenced, where necessary.
- b) Double Rise shoot offs shall be determined by shooting at multiples of five (5) pairs of targets over five (5) lanes.
- c) Points Score shoot offs shall be determined by shooting at multiples of five (5) targets over five (5) lanes.
- d) Double Rise and Points Score shoot off competitors shall shoot at all their respective targets, and may not retire before doing so.

**4-37 Expedient shoot offs:** For expediency in shoot offs, competing shooters may approach shoot management (or Shooters' Rep for Association matches) with a suggested alternative shoot off format. If such format is deemed acceptable by shoot management (or shooters rep) and implemented, any result so established shall be binding on all parties.

**4-40 Re-squadding during shoot offs shall be the responsibility of the shoot management.**

- a) Squads shall be closed up during shoot offs, at each new trap, or at the end of each series of targets.
- b) Where empty lanes have been created using this system as with five or less competitors, a shooter may move onto the next empty lane after their target has been shot at and scored.
- c) The following formula will be used:
  - Five shooters ..... Lanes 1, 2,3,4,5.
  - Four shooters ..... Lanes 1,2,3,4.
  - Three shooters..... Lanes 1, 3,5.
  - Two shooters ..... Lanes 2 and 4.
  - One shooter ..... Lane 1.

**4-41 Shooters to view targets.** Before the beginning of each round and after each subsequent ammunition break, on the first shooter's call, the referee shall show the squad one regulation target or pair of targets in Double Rise, or two targets from each house in skeet. (This allows for a single from each house and a double to be thrown.)

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**4-42 Ammunition breaks during shoot offs shall not be taken until the end of each round or series of targets.** Such Ammunition breaks shall take no longer than 5 minutes, unless the shoot management specifies otherwise or unless the referee gives specific permission.

**4-43 For shoot offs,** a round of targets shall be defined as 25 DTL or ball trap targets, whether shot over one or more traps, 30 triple or high gun targets, 15 pair of double rise targets, 25 skeet targets or 12 pair skeet doubles targets.

**4-44 Over runs:** Any targets shot at by inadvertently over-running the end of a shoot off round shall be declared 'NO TARGET'.

### DISCIPLINARY REGULATIONS AND PENALTIES

**4-47 The practice of gun sharing by more than one shooter in a squad,** is prohibited at all DTL, Ball Trap and all ISSF events, from open shoot level and upwards. The only exception to this is where a gun breakdown has occurred during a round. If it is expedient, and if both the referee and the balance of the squad members have given their permission, then a gun may be shared to allow that round to be completed.

#### **4-48 Shooter Absent**

- a) If a shooter is not present at the station when their name is called, the referee shall call the shooter's name loudly three (3) times within one (1) minute.
- b) If the shooter does not appear within the three calls, the referee must declare him 'ABSENT'.
- c) From that moment the shooter declared 'ABSENT' must not be allowed to join the squad and shooting shall begin without him.
- d) He may be permitted to shoot the missed round at a time and on the field decided by the shoot management but the shooter will be penalised with a deduction of one (1) target.
- e) The penalty will be deducted from the result of the make-up round.
- f) He must present himself before the shoot management to obtain permission to shoot the missed round before the qualifying rounds are finished.
- g) Failure to do so may result in disqualification from the competition.

**4-49 If a shooter uses guns or ammunition that are not in accordance with these rules, all shots fired with such guns or such ammunition are to be scored as "lost".**

- a) If the Jury finds that the shooter has committed such a violation deliberately, it may disqualify him from the competition.
- b) If, however, the Jury finds that the shooter could not reasonably be aware of the fault and that he, through the fault, has attained no essential advantage, the Jury may decide to ignore the fault.

**4-50 If the shooter leaves their squad without one of the reasons cited in these rules,** or without a reason accepted and approved by the referee, all remaining targets of the round must be scored 'LOST'. Unsportsmanlike conduct or serious violations of the rules of conduct can cause the shooter to be disqualified from the competition by the decision of the Jury.

**4-51 All other violations that are not included in the preceding rules** or the specific rules must be cause for a warning to be given to the shooter who has committed them for the first time. Subsequent occurrences during the same round must be penalised by a deduction of one target each.

**4-52 Unsportsmanlike conduct or deliberate attempts to evade the spirit of these rules** may incur a warning, a penalty, or disqualification from the competition based on the decision of the Jury or shoot management.

**4-53 Shooting under an assumed name is prohibited.** Any shooter violating this rule shall be disqualified from all competition, and the conducting club shall notify the Executive Officer immediately of the circumstances of such violation.

### PROTESTS AND APPEALS

#### **4-54 Protest Process**

- a) If a shooter disagrees with a referee's decision, a protest may be initiated by raising an arm and saying 'PROTEST'.
- b) The referee must then interrupt the shooting temporarily and make their decision.

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- c) There is no appeal against a decision on a hit or missed target and the referee's decision is final
- d) Such protests must be initiated before the shooter involved shoots at their next target.
- e) If the shooter is not satisfied with the final decision of the referee he must not delay the shooting.
  - 1) A notation will be made on the scorecard that the shooter is continuing under protest.
  - 2) A "protest target" may be shot at the time and the result recorded. Should the shooter lodge a protest which is upheld, the result of the protest target shall be binding. If a protest is not lodged, or is lodged but not upheld, the protest target is declared a "no target" and is to have no part in the competition.
  - 3) The shoot management must resolve the protest.

**4-55 Protests shall be lodged in writing within a period of thirty (30) minutes following termination of the round in which the dispute arose**, together with an appeal deposit of such sum of money as determined from time to time by council.

- a) The Jury or a minimum of three members of the shoot management shall form a committee to hear, consider and decide upon, such an appeal.
- b) The appellant(s), the referee(s) affected, and the shooters' representative(s) shall have the right to be present during the hearing.

**4-56 If the committee adjudicating upon the appeal deems it to be frivolous**, and/or the appeal is lost, the appeal fee may be forfeited to the club conducting the shoot.

**4-57 The decision of the body so deciding shall be final unless such a body considers the matter of sufficient importance to grant leave for higher appeal.** If such leave is granted, the matter shall be governed by the following:

- a) Any competitor who considers himself aggrieved by any act of the shoot management may, within seven days, appeal in writing to the Council of the NZCTA
- b) Likewise, the executive of any gun club which considers itself aggrieved by any matter may, within fourteen (14) days of the matter arising, appeal in writing to the Council of the Association.

**4-58 The decision of the Council**, on any appeal lodged before it, shall be final and binding on all parties concerned.

**4-59 The wellbeing of the NZCTA and the sport of clay target shooting** shall be considered of paramount importance in all decisions made by any group or body adjudicating upon an appeal lodged with it.

## **RANGE STANDARDS**

### **5-04 General.**

Ranges which are constructed in the Southern Hemisphere should be laid out so that the direction of shooting is towards a south to south-easterly direction. This places the sun to the back of the shooter as much as possible during the shooting day.

### **5-05 The trap house.**

- a) All trap houses constructed after 1st January 2007 shall be 800 mm high in the front, tapering or sloping to 650 mm at the back and shall be 2.0 metres from back to front and 2.5 metres wide.
- b) A tolerance of 100 mm either way is permissible on these dimensions.
- c) All height measurements shall be taken from the level of the centre lane.
- d) The trap shall be mounted in a manner that will bring the top centre pivot point of the throwing arm 250 mm above the level of the centre lane and 500 mm from the front of the traphouse and 300 mm left of centre.
- e) A tolerance of 100 mm either side of these dimensions is permissible
- f) These dimensions allow for a 76mm concrete roof.

### **5-06 The shooting stations.**

Trap layouts constructed after 1 January 2014 shall comply with the following specifications with dimensional tolerances of +/- 25mm.

## NZCTA DTL RULES (Excerpts)

- a) A standard trap layout shall consist of five firing points arranged on an arc of a circle of 15 metres radius, the centre of which is the middle of the front edge of the traphouse.
- b) Firing point 3 is located on the intersection of a line perpendicular to the front edge of the traphouse and the 15 metre arc; firing points 2 and 4 are points on the arc 2.812 metres (on chord) left and right respectively of station 3; Firing points 1 and 5 are situated on the arc 2.812 metres (on chord) left and right respectively of firing points 2 and 4.
- c) Further shooting stations shall be arranged on the lines extending from the centre of the front edge of the traphouse through the 15 metre marks at one metre intervals from 15 metres to 25 metres. Shooting stations shall be clearly marked to indicate the forward limit of each firing point.
- d) Each shooting station is to be a minimum of 900mm wide by 1 metre deep, situated so the firing point is located at the centre of the front edge of the square, and with the sides parallel to the centre line of each lane.

### **5-07 The trap or throwing device.**

- a) The Trap House shall be equipped with a single horizontally oscillating mechanical or electrically operated trap.
- b) It may be either manually or automatically loaded.
- c) Targets may be released manually, electrically, or microphone-electrically.

**5-08 Trap construction:** The trap will be so constructed and mounted that it will throw, at random, with continuously varying angles, an unbroken target within the vertical and horizontal limits stated in these rules.

**5-09 Protection to staff:** Trap houses shall be used to give full protection to the trappers.

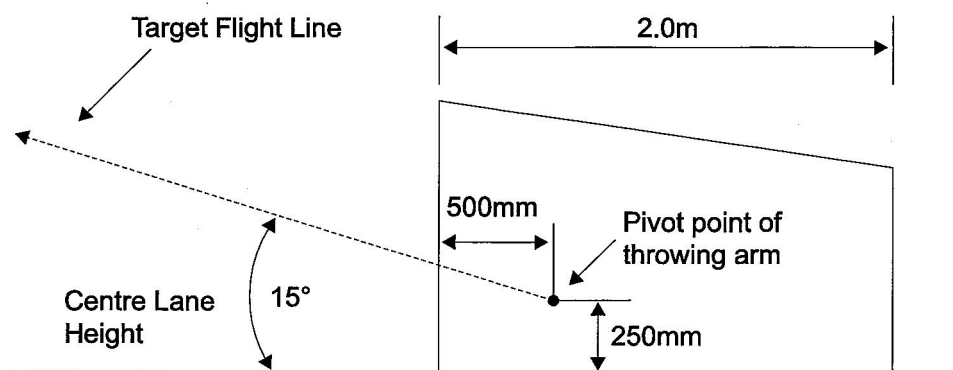


Diagram 5.1 Trap Construction

### **CONDUCT OF A ROUND OF TRAP**

**5-10 Foot position:** The shooter must stand with both feet within the limits of the shooting station.

**5-11 The Call:** When the shooter is ready to fire, he must raise the gun to their shoulder and call crisply and loudly 'PULL', 'GO', or some other signal or command, after which the target must be thrown.

**5-12 Time limit:** Shooters must position themselves, load their gun and call for their target within 10 seconds after the shooter to their left has fired at a regular target or after the referee has given the signal to start firing. In case of non-compliance with this time limit, the penalties provided in rule 4-49 shall apply.

**5-13 Squad to view target:** Before the beginning of a round and after each subsequent setting of the traps, the referee shall show the squad one regulation target, or pair of targets in Double Rise. A shooter may also ask to have one regular target, or pair of targets in Double Rise, thrown after each irregular target.

**5-14 View target after interruption:** If the shooting is interrupted within a round for more than 5 minutes because of technical malfunction that is not the fault of the shooter, the squad must be allowed to view one regular target, or pair of targets in Double Rise, before commencing the competition again.



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**5-15 Targets must be thrown for each shooter according to these rules.**

**5-16 Number of shots:** Two shots may be fired at each target except for Single Barrel and Double Rise shooting, where only one shot may be fired at each target.

**5-17 Progress across lanes:**

- a) At the beginning of each round the first five shooters must take positions on stations 1 to 5, the sixth shooter must remain behind station 1 ready to move in as soon as shooter No 1 has vacated that station.
- b) After shooter No 1 has fired at a regular target he must move to station 2 as soon as the shooter on that station has fired and the result has been declared, and so on.
- c) When the shooter on station 5 has fired, he must immediately move around the rear of the firing line and return to Station 1 continuing the rotation until each shooter has completed the round.
- d) No shooter having shot on one station shall proceed toward the next station in such a way as to interfere with another shooter or match officials (but see also tie breaking rule 4-38 b).
- e) In Points Score events, each shooter will visit each lane once only, shooting an equal number of targets on each of the five lanes. After the appropriate number of targets has been shot on each lane by all shooters, the referee will call "Change", and the shooters will then move to the next lane.

**5-18 Target release:**

- a) When the shooter has called for their target it must be released immediately, allowing only for human reaction time to press a button, whether the release is manual, electrical or mechanical.
- b) If a target is not thrown immediately after the shooter's call, the shooter may refuse the target. See also Rule 4-03 c)
- c) If the shooter fires at an alleged "slow" or "quick" pull before the referee has declared it "No Target", the result of the shot is to be scored.

**5-19 Reserved**

**5-20 Traps to be set:** Traps must be set before the beginning of competition. The settings must be examined and approved by an official referee, member of shoot management or shooters' representative.

**SINGLE RISE (DOUBLE BARREL) SHOOTING**

**5-21 Target distances, angles and elevations.**

- a) For standard target shooting, the throwing elevation above the level of the shooting stations at 22.86m forward of the trap will be 4.9 metres (plus or minus 500 mm), and a properly released target will carry 48 metres (plus or minus 2 m) if measured over level ground in calm weather conditions.
- b) The targets shall be thrown within an area bounded by angles of not less than 22 ½ degrees or more than 45 degrees left and right of the imaginary centre-line drawn through the centre of the trap house and station 3. Note: The horizontal angles will be measured 762mm back from the front edge of the trap house.
- c) The height stick or setting peg shall have a horizontal bar 2 metres long at 4.9 metres high, and two further horizontal bars each 1 metre long, at 4.4 and 5.4 metres high respectively. The trap shall be mounted in such a manner that a target, which has been correctly set for height and distance, shall, when thrown the maximum angle, appear above the front edge of a regulation 2.450m trap house no closer than 300mm to the left or right-hand extremity, when viewed from the 15m station 3 mark.

**DEFINITIONS**

**5-22 Regular target.** A regular target is any target called by the shooter and released according to these rules.

**5-23 Irregular target.** An irregular target is any target flying along a path other than that specified in rules 5-21 a) & b) this section in angle, elevation and distance and/or not released according to these rules.

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(Excerpts)**

**5-24 Broken target:** A broken target is any target that is not whole when released. The shooter receiving a broken target must repeat the shot on a regular target, or pair of targets in Double Rise, regardless of whether the target is hit or missed.

**5-25 Scored target:** A target is declared "SCORED" when it is thrown and hit according to the rules and at least one visible piece is broken from it.

**5-26 Lost target:** A target is declared "LOST" when:

- a) it is not hit during its flight.
- b) it is only 'dusted' and no visible piece is broken from it.
- c) the shooter does not fire at a regular target for which he has called.
- d) the shooter is not able to fire their gun because he has not released the safety (subject to this not being their first target of the day), has forgotten to load, has failed to cock their gun or to set the trigger of a release trigger gun.
- e) the first shot is a miss and the shooter fails to fire their second shot because he forgot to place a second cartridge in the gun, because he failed to release the stop on the magazine of a semi-automatic shot-gun, because the safety-catch has slipped to the 'safe' position by recoil of the first shot, because when using a single trigger gun, the shooter has not released it sufficiently, or for any other reason what-so-ever which is attributable to the shooter.
- f) a malfunction of the gun or the ammunition occurs and the shooter opens the gun or touches the safety catch before the referee has examined the gun or has otherwise instructed the shooter.
- g) it is the third or subsequent malfunction of the gun or ammunition, or double discharge, for the same shooter in the same round.
- h) The shooter does not fire for any other reason whatsoever that is attributable to the shooter.

**5-27 No target:**

- a) A 'NO TARGET' target is one that is not thrown according to these rules.
- b) The 'NO TARGET' decision is always the referee's responsibility.
- c) A target declared "NO TARGET" by the referee must always be repeated subject to Rules 5-28 and 5-29.
- d) If, during a competition or shoot off, there are inadvertent over-runs at the end of a round, all such targets shall be declared "No Target" and are to have no part in the competition.

**5-28 Another target is to be thrown:** Another must be thrown (WHETHER OR NOT THE SHOOTER HAS FIRED) when:

- a) a broken target emerges.
- b) two or more targets are thrown simultaneously in single target events.
- c) the target is of a colour manifestly different from that of the others used in the competition.
- d) a shooter shoots out of turn or from the wrong lane.
- e) a double discharge occurs. After two repetitions during the same round, the gun shall be declared disabled, and any subsequent double discharge by the same shooter in the same round shall be declared 'LOST', or 'LOST' and 'LOST' as the case may be.

**5-29 Another target is to be thrown:** Another target must be thrown (PROVIDED THE SHOOTER HAS NOT FIRED) when:

- a) the target is thrown before the shooter calls.
- b) the target is not thrown immediately after the call.
- c) an irregular target emerges.
- d) in single target events, the shooter's first shot misfires due to a malfunction of either gun or ammunition and he does not fire the second shot, provided such malfunction is allowable. If the second shot is fired the result shall be scored.

**5-30 Another target is to be thrown:** Another target must be thrown (EVEN IF THE SHOOTER HAS FIRED) when:

- a) in single target events, the first shot is a miss and the shooter's second shot misfires due to malfunction of either the gun or the ammunition.
  - 1) In this case the target must be a 'MISS' for the first shot and hit only for the second shot.
  - 2) If the repeat target is hit with the first shot, it must be declared 'LOST'.

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(Excerpts)**

- b) If, in the opinion of the referee, the first shot was fired before the target was visible, "Lost target" shall be scored. NOTE: A shooter using a double barrelled gun with a single trigger must declare to the referee, before the beginning of the competition, which barrel he is going to fire first. If he fails to make this declaration it will be assumed that the lower barrel is being fired first in the under and over guns, and the right-hand barrel first in side by side guns.
- c) the shooter has been visibly disturbed and he appeals. (See "Interference" rule 5-31)
- d) another shooter has fired at their target.
- e) the referee is unable, for any reason whatsoever, to rule whether the target is 'SCORED', 'LOST' or 'NO TARGET'.
- f) the shooter's turn comes and he discharges a shot involuntarily before he has called for the target. NOTE: If, in these circumstances in single target events, after the first shot the target is thrown, and the shooter fires at the target with the second, the result shall be scored. NOTE: Accidental discharges may be cause for penalty or disqualification from a competition for unsafe gun or gun handling.

**5-31 Interference (Balk)**

- a) Interference is any occurrence, which in the opinion of the Referee materially handicaps the competitor after the call of "Pull" or any other verbal remark, but then only if it deters the competitor from shooting or distracts at the moment of shooting
- b) The sun shall NOT be considered as interference, but must be accepted as a normal hazard.
- c) A cell phone ring may be considered interference, except if it is the shooter's own.
- d) The Referee will make any judgment on a claim for interference from any Competitor.
- e) Only the competitor directly concerned may claim interference.
- f) Any claim must be made immediately after the incident in question. Later claims, however presented, will not be permitted.
- g) A claim for interference which is upheld constitutes a "No Target" and will entitle the competitor to a repeated target(s),
- h) A claim for interference which is not upheld will be marked accordingly.

**POINTS SCORE SHOOTING**

**5-32 All rules are as for the Trap Event section 5-10 to 5-31** above except for the following:

**5-33 Scoring:** Points are awarded as follows:

- a) 3 points are awarded for a first barrel break,
- b) 2 points are awarded for a second barrel break
- c) no points are awarded for a target not hit by either shot.

**5-34 Tie breaking:** Points Score tie breaking will be conducted over multiples of 5 targets shot one target per lane.

**5-35 International Points Score Shooting.** This is the format used between competing nations to shoot international events in the domestic DTL disciplines. The procedure is detailed under "Points Score Shooting" above, but the format is strictly multiple rounds of 25 targets, shot 5 targets per lane before shooters change lanes. (See rule 2.69 Mackintosh Teams Match).

**SINGLE BARREL SHOOTING**

**5-44 All rules for the Trap Event** section 5-10 to 5-31 above apply except for the following:

**5-45 Ammunition:** Only one cartridge may be loaded into the gun at any time. The second barrel must remain empty.

**5-46 In Single Barrel shooting,** a target is also declared lost when:

- a) a competitor loads more than one cartridge for any target.
- b) a competitor using a double barrel gun does not have the second barrel empty.

**5-47 Should, in any instance, a target be fired at with a second barrel,** the target will be scored "lost" irrespective of whether or not it was hit with the first shot.

**5-48 Tie Breaking.** Shoot offs will be conducted one target per lane on a first miss and out basis.

*(Excerpts taken from the NZCTA Rule Book)*