



Rulebook of the Hungarian Field Target Association

FIELD TARGET COMPETITION RULES

5th edition
Valid from 15th January, 2010

Equipment

1. Airguns

- 1.1** Any airgun which comply the Hungarian Statutory Limitations may be used. All rifles shall be in good working condition and safe in handling.
 - 1.1.1** Any airgun declared to be unsafe to people and/or property (including targets) will be barred from use by the Shooting Director.
- 1.2** The calibre of the air rifle can not exceed 6,35 mm of maximum.
- 1.3** All type of airguns can be used (classic, 10m target rifle, etc.) except of air rifles which are able to shoot shot shells (multiple pellets).
- 1.4** Multi shot air rifles can also be used. Before shooting only one pellet must be loaded into the magazine, and it must be reloaded before every shot.
- 1.5** The use of more than one airgun is not permitted during the competition, except in the event of malfunctioning of the equipment and with the permission of the Director of Competition. In this case the rifle can be exchanged only to the same category air rifle.
- 1.6** Adjust of muzzle energy is prohibited after the first shot of the competition. Adjust of rifle stock is permitted just in the firing line within the time which is allowed for shooting in the line. Competitors should inform the Shooting Director (or his Deputy) in case of any equipment break down. The competitor may fix the fault only with the permission of the Shooting Director. The competitor may continue the competition only with the permission of the Shooting Director.
- 1.7** According to the current Hungarian Statutory Limitations air rifles below 7.5J muzzle energy can be possessed without any permit.
- 1.8** There is an acceptance limit for the 7,5 J muzzle energy category rifles (+6.5% energy is permitted). See the attachment
- 1.9** For the category PCP 16 and Spring 16 the maximum muzzle energy can not exceed 16,3 Joule. The +6.5% energy acceptance limit is valid for those airguns too. In this category only those shooters can participate who have a valid firearm licence for their rifle (or rifle import permit).

2. Classification of the rifles

- 2.1.** Categories:
 - Spring 7,5: air rifle with a spring, that operates the piston which compresses the air during the shot, below 7,5J of firing energy.
 - PCP 7,5: every kind of air rifle, where the shot is performed by a previously compressed gas, below 7,5J of firing energy (PCP, PCA, CO₂, N₂)
 - Spring 16: air rifle with a spring, that operates the piston which compresses the air during the shot, below 16,3J of firing energy.
 - PCP 16: every kind of air rifle, where the shot is performed by a previously compressed gas, below 16,3J of firing energy (PCP, PCA, CO₂, N₂)
- 2.2.** When this Rulebook takes into force the HFTA uses these categories: Spring 7,5; PCP 7,5; PCP 16. (The category Spring 16 is included in the PCP 16 category.)
- 2.3.** The order of power of the categories is as follows: Spring 7,5 < PCP 7.5 < Spring 16 < PCP 16

- 2.4.** The rules for the Hungarian competitions include the possibility for contraction of two categories. The contraction is possible if only less than 5 shooters register regularly in any of the categories. (The contraction is not valid for the FT Worlds 2010.)
- 2.5.** The Organizer of the competition can decide on any other Rifle Category if the HFTA previously agrees.

3. Sights

- 3.1** Any form of sighting system may be used with the exception of Laser sights.
- 3.1.1** No separate device designed especially for or used for range-finding may be used to view the targets (digital or laser).
- 3.1.2** Only the scope can be used for range-finding.

4. Ammunitions

- 4.1** Any design of pellets (except of pellet shells) that is completely made of lead, lead alloy, zinc or zinc alloy, or other soft material may be used.

5. Other equipment:

- 5.1** Bean bag: The seat may be used as an aid to sitting or kneeling shots. The maximum height of the bean bags must not exceed 125 mm. (Bean-bags should be measured when flattened between 2 boards.)
- 5.2** List of accessories that can be mounted onto the rifle or the scope:
- spirit level
 - sunshade
 - rubber scope enhancer
 - thermometer
 - wind measuring device (classic or digital)
 - photometer
 - hygrometer
 - barometer
- 5.3** Glove: any type of short gloves can be used that's support is not exceeding the wrist.
- 5.3.1** The glove can not contain steel or any other hard material. (ISSF gloves are permitted.)
- 5.4** A single rifle sling is permitted as a means of steadying the aim. The sling could not be attached to the clothing of the competitor.
- 5.4.1** Any other type of rifle sling, or strap are forbidden to steadying the rifle (no harnesses).

6. Clothing

- 6.1. Any type of clothing, glove, or footwear is allowed provided it is not a hazard to the shooter or others.
 - 6.1.1. Shooting glove is permitted based on rule 5.3
- 6.2. The shooter is obliged to wear the same clothing during the whole competition. This rule does not valid for the clothing that is protecting the shooter from the rain, or that is taken on or off due to the high temperature changes.
- 6.3. The clothing can be stuffed in order to reduce the press of the rifle on the arms or on the knees. The filling material can be felt or an extra layer of clothing.
- 6.4. No surface can be formed on the clothing that is suitable to hold the rifle. The fully adjustable fore-stock of the rifle can be used in any shooting position; there is no restriction on these fore-stock modifications.
- 6.5. The shooter must not lean on any outer aid (natural or artificial).

7. Equipment Testing

- 7.1. Before, during and after the competition, the Shooting Director may verify the equipment of any competitors – e.g.: rifle, bean bag, etc.
- 7.2. The Organisers reserve the right to chronograph any rifle used at any shoot that is subject to the HFTA rules, to ensure compliance with the legal requirements. This can be done before, during, or after the shoot at the Shooting Director's discretion.
- 7.3. The following formula should be used to determine the muzzle energy of the rifle: $E = \frac{1}{2} m * v^2$. Since the measurement in the open air environment cannot meet the laboratory requirements, the maximum muzzle energy can exceed the legal category limit with maximum of 6,5 %.
- 7.4. **Process of the speed/power measurement:**
 - The competitor gives the type of the used pellet to the Marshal. The measurement of the muzzle energy is governed by the average (or nominal) pellet weight specified by the manufacturer.
 - The competitor handles over his weapon and the pellets to the Marshal.
 - The Marshal loads one pellet into the competitor's gun and shoots through the chronometer.
 - If the energy (calculated from the speed and the weight) is within the tolerance range, the Marshal places a certification sticker on the gun, and validates the scoring sheet by his signature.
 - If the speed is above the tolerance range during the first shot, the shot must be repeated. If the second shot is appropriate, a third (confirmation) shot is needed to justify the rifle energy. If this third shot is also within the tolerance range, the Marshal places the certification sticker on the gun, and validates the scoring sheet by his signature.
 - If the second and third shots both are also above the tolerance range, the rifle is not considered to be appropriate.
- 7.5. If the rifle is not certified, it is still possible to modify the rifle energy, and to certify the rifle before the first shot of the competition. But if the measurements carried out

during or after the competition show inappropriate values, the shooter will be disqualified.

- 7.6. The corresponding speed table can be found in the Attachment.

Rules about the organization of competitions and about the participation in the competitions

8. Safety Regulations

- 8.1. Shooting line / firing line, shooting point: There must always be a shooting line on shooting ranges or on Field Target competitions. This shooting line is mostly the safety band in the woods or in the fields. The shooting line may only be crossed by anybody after announcing cease-fire. The shooting lanes are set up according to special rules that are controlled by the Shooting Director before the competition starts.
- 8.2. When being in the shooting line the following rules must be kept:
- 8.2.1. The rifle may only be cocked and loaded if the shooter in the shooting line is ready to shoot.
- 8.2.2. The cocked and loaded rifle may only be unsecured if the bore is pointing towards the target.
- 8.2.3. If the Shooting Marshal orders the shooter, the safety-pin of the rifle must be secured, the loading port must be opened, and if possible the bore must be emptied, or the pellet must be shot into the ground in front of the shooter immediately.
- 8.2.4. Aiming with the rifle, looking through the scope is only allowed for the shooter in the shooting point. So it is forbidden to anyone else to aim with the rifle or look through the scope if she/he is not in the shooting point.
- 8.2.5. Should any dispute be raised on safety questions, the Shooting Marshal has the right to decide in all cases.
- 8.2.6. Children must not be in the shooting line. Parents are obliged to take care of their children or they are obliged to organize appropriate supervision in all circumstances. Junior shooters must be aware of the safety regulations.
- 8.2.7. Pets are not allowed near the shooting line.
- 8.2.8. Spectators can accompany the shooters, but they are not allowed to go closer than 2 meters from the shooting point. Spectators are not allowed to measure distances, and cannot shoot on the empty lanes. They must not disturb the shooters. If they violate the rules, they can be banned from the Shooting Range. If the spectator is a competing shooter at the same time, he can be disqualified.
- 8.2.9. The shooters who are not in the shooting point, and waiting for their turns must control if the rules of the competition are kept by others. If any violation of the rules occurs they have to remind the Shooting Director, or his Deputies. If the infringement of the rules is tolerated, its consequence can affect the whole shooting group. Each violation of the rules will be marked onto the Score Sheet of the shooters by the Shooting Director or his Deputies.
- 8.3. Transport and operation of the rifles.
- 8.3.1. Rifles can be transported only if emptied. It must be clearly visible if the rifle is empty. The rifle must be always unloaded, except when sitting in the shooting point.
- 8.3.2. The rifle can be transported only in a case, or if the rifle is supplied with shoulder strap, it can be transported on the shoulder with the barrel facing upwards or

- downwards, and the loading tray must be opened and/or a load indicator must be inserted.
- 8.3.3. The barrel must never be pointed to any person. This rule excludes the use of the open rifle carrying boxes!
- 8.3.4. If a single whistle is heard the competition must be stopped **at once**. Shooters must empty their rifles by shooting into the ground in front without any delay. The competition can be continued only after a double whistle is heard. The competition can be stopped and re-started only by Shooting Marshals.
- 8.3.5. Multi shot air rifles can also be used, if the magazine is removed during the transportation between the shooting points. Before shooting only one pellet must be loaded into the magazine, and it must be reloaded before every shot.
- 8.4.** Promoting safety is compulsory for all of the shooters. If anyone experiences a not safe rifle handling, or infringement of the safety regulations it must be remembered to the Shooting Marshals or the Shooting Director.
- 8.5.** It is strictly forbidden to drink alcohol, use any drugs or medicines that can influence the consciousness of the shooters. It is even forbidden to be present in the Shooting Range under the influence of those substances.

9. Officials at the Competitions

- 9.1.** The Shooting Marshal Committee of the HFTA delegates shooting marshals to the competitions. They cooperate with the Organizer of the competition. The Organizer and the Shooting Director take full responsibility during the competition.
- 9.2.** The Official persons on the competitions:
- Shooting Director / Director of Competition
 - Shooting Marshal for Rifles and Equipment Control
 - Lane (sector) Shooting Marshal
 - Organizer (committee) of the Competition
 - Other officials
- 9.3.** The Shooting Director is responsible for making the rules to be kept, for successful and safe performance of the competition, and for the scoring. In situations, where this rulebook cannot be applied, the Shooting Director has the right to make the decision. His decision is final, there is no right to appeal. He has the right to appoint Deputy Directors of Competition, or Lane (sector) Shooting Marshals.
- 9.4.** The number of the Shooting Marshals is decided according to the circumstances of the competition (safety, ease of operation). The Shooting Marshals must be supplied with identification signs. The Lane (sector) Shooting Marshal is responsible for the appointed lanes, he has to control the shooters in that sector, and responsible for the safety of the shooters and the spectators who are moving from one lane to the next one, and responsible for making the rules to be kept.
- 9.5.** The Shooting Marshal Director and his Deputies have the right to notice the shooters, to order the shooters to keep the rules, to make a note on the Score Sheet of the shooters, if the rules are repeatedly or seriously not kept. They also have the right to disqualify a shooter.

10. Registration, orders, group formation during a competition

- 10.1.** By filling the entry forms, the competitor accepts the Hungarian Field Target Association rules.
- 10.2.** The Shooting Marshal shall hold a Shooter's Meeting prior to each competition to discuss information pertinent to the match. This is an opportunity to welcome contestants and introduce Marshals, and other officials. The members of the shooting groups are announced there. A team can not consist of only underage competitors (except junior tournaments, where each group needs an adult company).
- 10.3.** Each group consists of minimum 2 (two) - maximum 4 (four) shooters.
 - 10.3.1.** The shooting group can be selected either by drawing or by personal selection of the organizer. The selection method depends on the level of the competition or the number and classification of the shooters.
- 10.4.** The Shooting Director has the obligation to place a copy of the rulebook in an accessible place. If during the competition other nations than Hungarian will attend, an English copy of the rules must be displayed as well. Any competitor shall be helped to know and understand the legal regulations, and the safety and HFTA rules.

11. Lanes

- 11.1** On the location where the competition will be held, the practice area, the check point and the lanes should be marked clearly.
- 11.2** The route between the lanes must not cross the firing line.
- 11.3** On each lane, the firing point shall be marked with two sticks, or some other object. Trees or other local objects can be used if they are clearly marked. The firing lane width should be between 70-120 cm .
- 11.4** In a 50 targets match, 13-25 lanes shall be placed and every lane should have 2 to 4 targets.
- 11.5** The course can be planned longer than one day. In this case, the lanes for each day must not be the same, the competitors should not shoot the same lanes twice. The total of each day scores will be the final result.
- 11.6** On every lane the followings should be clearly marked: lane number, number of targets, and the mandatory shooting position if any. In case of an international competition, every target should be numbered from 1 to 50.
- 11.7** Any modification on the lanes by a competitor is forbidden.
- 11.8** Before the start of the competition, competitors are not allowed on the lanes area.
- 11.9** During shooting the gun barrel shall be between the markers exceeding the firing line, pointing to the targets, and the trigger shall not cross the fire line.

12. Practice area

- 12.1** A safe practice area shall be provided for the competitors at least 1 hour before the competition. The practice area shall be in the same area where the competition will take place.
- 12.2** The safety rules are mandatory in the practice area as well.
- 12.3** At the practice area targets have to be placed on different distances. The distances have to comply with the minimum and maximum possible distances of the

competition. The number of these targets has to be in accordance with the number of the shooters.

- 12.4** The practice area shall be used only before the match. During the competition the practice area can be used only with the Shooting Director's permission.

13. Targets and their placements

- 13.1** Silhouette: "fall-when-hit" targets resettable from the firing point are used.
- 13.2** The kill zones diameters of the targets are in accordance with the distances where they are placed. The kill zones have to be 15 mm, 25 mm and 40 mm. The kill zone has a round shape.
- 13.3** The targets can be placed under and above the firing line level and in variable lighting conditions as well.
- 13.4** The Shooting Director has the obligation to control that each target has a clearly marked firing point.
- 13.5** Targets shall not be closer than 7m and not further than 50 m from the firing point.
- 13.6** Target placement for 16,3 J category:
- the 15mm kill zone targets may be placed not further than 20m;
 - the 25mm kill zone targets may be placed not further than 35m;
 - the 40 mm kill zone target may be placed not further than 50 m.
- 13.7** Target placement for 7,5 J category:
- the 15mm kill zone targets may be placed not further than 20m;
 - the 25mm kill zone targets may be placed not further than 35m;
 - the 40 mm kill zone targets may be placed not further than 40 m.
- 13.8** If the competition for the 16,3 J and 7,5 J category are take place in the same area, then on the lanes where the targets are placed further then 40m, an equal number of targets shall be placed closer then 40m for the 7,5 category shooters. The targets for only the 16,3J category shooters has to be painted in blue, and the targets for the only 7,5 J category has to be painted in yellow, whereas the common targets are painted in black.
- 13.9** On 5-10% of the lanes compulsory standing position, and on 10-15% of the lanes compulsory kneeling position must be defined.
- 13.9.1** The number of targets for standing and kneeling positions must not exceed 20% of the total targets used in the competition.
- 13.10** A clear and unobstructed view of the kill zone of all targets must be afforded from at least one shooting position.
- 13.12** If the target's kill zone cannot be seen from any shooting position, the Shooting Director must be announced.

14. Target sequence

- 14.1** The targets shall be shot in the numbered order. If the targets are not numbered, they must be shot in the following sequence:
- from left to right
 - if the targets are on the same line then from close to far
 - if the targets are on the same line and same distance then high to low

- 14.2** In the event of a target being shot out of sequence, the competitor shall forfeit the omitted target, being credited with a “miss” and resume shooting at the target immediately following it.

15. Target failure

- 15.1** If the resetting cord brakes or other mechanical problem occurs the Shooting (Lane or Sector) Marshal should be informed who will solve it.
- 15.2** Any disputed score should be indicated to Shooting Director and
- the target will be used for other competitors;
 - if the target will fall at least one time the protestation will be refused.
- 15.3** If the target is really malfunctioning the Shooting Director shall exclude it from the competition.

16. Shooting positions

- 16.1** Any position is allowed unless mandatory position is specified. Any support for supporting the body or the weapon (bipod, tripod, chair, artificial or natural support) is prohibited. Competitor can support the gun only with his/her hand and body.
- 16.2** In prone position the gun and the forearm must be clear of any artificial or natural support. Bean-bag is prohibited, blanket allowed.
- 16.3** In seating position: bean-bag is permitted.
- 16.4** In kneeling position: There shall be only 3 points of contact with the ground – one sole, one knee, and toes of the kneeling leg. Bean-bag may be used to keep the knee clean and should support the ankle. Seating to foot is allowed when the peg and leg are in 90 degrees.
- 16.5** In standing position: only soles are connecting to the ground.

17. Time per line, time measurement

- 17.1** There is a time limit for the completions of the lanes. Competitors shall be informed about the time limit before the competition starts.
- 17.1.1** The time measurement is continuous, the length corresponds the number of the targets in that line.
- 17.1.2** Time limit is typically 1 minute per target plus 1 minute for preparation (i.e. for a 2 targets lane there are 3 minutes, for a 3 targets lane there are 4 minutes) Timing is mandatory for all HFTA events.
- 17.2** The preparation time is the part of the timing, and should start when the competitor enters the shooting line.
- 17.3** If it takes too much time for the shooter to occupy the firing point on purpose, he can be penalized by the Shooting Marshal with shooting time reduction.
- 17.4** Shot after time limit shall be credited as “miss”.
- 17.5** In the event of a ‘cease fire’ order, guns will be discharged safely into the ground. Timing shall be stopped. After the ‘cease fire’ event finished, the timing shall be continued.

- 17.6** The stopwatch shall be placed in a clearly visible place (i.e. on the lane number indicator board or on the ground, near the shooter). The stopwatch can't be keep in hand.
- 17.7** If the stopwatch is not started at all, the whole line results in zero point. It is the ethical obligation of the group mates to control if the stopwatch is started, they also can help to indicate as the time passes.

18. Score Sheet

- 18.1** The shooter is allowed to enter the course only if the score sheet is filled prior to shot with personal data. Score sheet has to contain the following information: name of competitor, type of airgun, scope and pellet, class of rifle.
- 18.2** Competitors control each other, Marshal must be involved only in case of disputed issues.
- 18.3** During the competition, the score sheet is filled with the results of the shooter (1: means hit, 0: means miss). The completed Score Sheet must be returned to the Shooting Director immediately after the competition. Competitor and his/her partners must sign the Score Sheet. Not fully filled or unreadable Score Sheet shall be rejected. If a competitor does not return his Score Sheet to the Shooting Director, his/her result will be "0".
- 18.4** No correction can be made on the Score Sheet. If – by mistake – a correction is not avoidable, the nearest Range Marshal has to sign the correction. If there is no Range Marshal in the near, all members of the shooting group must sign the correction.

19. Scoring

- 19.1** Shot means when compressed air leaves the weapon through the barrel or breech with ammunition or without ammunition except of "cease fire" situation or un-aimed shots with the knowledge and consent of partner/s or Marshal.
- 19.2** Only one shot is allowed at each target.
- 19.3** One point for each hit and zero for a miss.
- 19.4** A hit shall be awarded only when the target is hit in the kill-zone and falls.
- 19.5** Additional shot to targets must be penalised.
- 19.6** Penalty means minus one point/additional shots.
- 19.7** Results shall be announced immediately after the competition. Challenging can be passed within 30 minutes after the annunciation.
- 19.8** That competitor who has most points wins.
- 19.9** The ceremony must be held before the removal of the targets. The removal of the targets is the duty of the organizer.

20. Disputed scores, protestation

- 20.1** Any disputed score must be announced prior to leaving the target. Under no circumstances should the competitor touch the reset cord until the dispute has been resolved by the Range Marshal.
- 20.2** If the Range Marshal cannot solve the problem the Shooting Director shall be informed, who must decide. This decision is final.

- 20.3** Challenging can be passed only in written form to Shooting Director within 30 minutes after the annunciation. Competition Director has to investigate it. Charge of challenge is 3000 HUF. Charge will be given back if the Competition Director accepts the challenge.

21. Tied Scores

- 21.1** In the event of tied scores a shot-off shall decide the final rankings. The course of fire and targets shall be decided by the Shooting Director.
- 21.2** Shot-off is running following these rules: The Shooting Director shall select any firing line. Competitors will shoot to these targets first seated, then in kneeling and in standing positions. If these shots cannot decide, the Shooting Director shall select additional lanes, until the rank is decided.
- 21.3** Shot-off shall be applied only for 1st, 2nd and 3rd places.
- 21.4** From the 4th position the competitors who have equal points will get equal place (I., II., III., 4., 4., 5., 6., 7., 7., ...)

22. Interruption of the Competition

- 22.1** The Shooting Director has the right to interrupt the competition due to substantial reasons. If this happens, all shooting activities must be stopped at once. The scores must be written on the Score Sheet whether the lane was finished or not.
- 22.2** The maximum time for an interruption is 1 hour. If the interruption is longer than 1 hour, the competition must be considered to be finished.
- 22.3** If the circumstances change within 1 hour, the Shooting Director orders the competition to be continued. The shooter who was in the shooting lane at the interruption has to continue the competition from the point it was finished. The shooting time must be set according to the number of the targets (i.e. if 2 targets left, then the shooting time is 2 minutes).
- 22.4** One competition can be continued only once. If the competition was interrupted 2 times, then the competition must be considered to be finished after the 2nd interruption. If the competition was finished due to interruption, than the following rules apply for score calculation:
- 22.4.1** The number of the targets of the competition equals the number of targets of that Shooting Group who performed the least complete lanes (since there can be lanes with different number of targets).
- 22.4.2** The result of each member of the Shooting Groups must be calculated from their first shooting lane, and only the above calculated number of targets must be included in the scoring.
- 22.4.3** The Score Sheets where the lanes are not consecutive (so there are lanes missed) cannot be accepted. The shooter's score is invalid. The Score Sheet is also rejected, if the filling of the Score Sheet was incorrectly started i.e. from the 1st lane although the Shooting Group started i.e. from the 5th. lane. (This mistake may not be revealed if the Competition is finished without interruption. But if interruption occurs, this method of filling can be misleading.)
- 22.5** If there are tied scores in positions I-III, the shooting off must be performed within 1,5 hours after the interruption of the competition.

23. Penalties

- 23.1** The shooter, who deliberately violates the shooting rules or the safety regulations, or cheats must be disqualified immediately. The shooter who behaves unsportsmanlike, or slightly offenses against the rules, must be notified. The notification must be recorded on the Scoring Sheet by the Marshal. After the second notification the shooter must be disqualified.
- 23.2** If the shooter is disqualified he is not allowed to register for the next event of the same tournament.
- 23.3** The members of the shooting groups are judges at the same time. If these judges (group members) are not making other group members to keep the rules, and don't punish the mistakes (i.e. missing the target order, doubling the same target, malfunction shots, bad shooting positions, etc) and a member of an other shooting group reminds this to the Marshal, then they must be punished by 1-1 point reduction from the final score.

ATTACHMENT

Pellet speeds in cases of the most frequently used pellets according to their weights, and according to the appropriate rifle energies:

Weight (gramm)	Speed (m/s) [Energy = 7,5J]	Max speed (m/s) [Energy (7,5J + 6,5%)*]	Speed (m/s) [Energy 16,3 J]	Max speed (m/s) [Energy (16,3J + 6,5%)*]
0,49	175	181	258	266
0,51	172	177	253	261
0,53	168	174	248	256
0,55	165	170	243	251
0,56	164	169	241	249
0,67	150	154	221	228
0,69	147	152	217	224

* the +6,5 % tolerance is meant on the energy and not on the speed!