

Hungarian Field Target Association - Rules

FIELD TARGET COMPETITION RULES



Valid from 01.08. 2009.

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1. Airguns

- 1.1 Air rifles. Any safe airgun of any configuration shooting a single pellet.
- 1.2 All rifles shall be in good working condition and safe in handling.
 - 1.2.1 Any airgun declared unsafe to people and/or property (including targets) by the Shooting Marshall Director will be barred from use.
- 1.3 The calibre of the air rifles can't exceed 6,35 mm of maximum.
- 1.4 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.
- 1.5 Any kind of modification (velocity settings, butt plate settings) on the rifle is not allowed during the competition. Every malfunction of the gun should be announced to the Range Marshall or his Deputy. The malfunction can be fixed only with their permission.
- 1.6 There is an acceptance limit for the 7,5 J muzzle energy category rifles according to the method of the appointed one and only Hungarian company (PKLV Ltd). According to the law these rifles can be possessed without any permit.
- 1.7 For the category PCP 16 and Rugos (spring)16 the maximum muzzle energy can't exceed 16,3 Joule. In this category only those shooters can attend who have a valid firearm licence for their rifle (or rifle import permit).

2. Sight

- 2.1 Scopes. Any form of sighting system may be used. No separate device designed especially for or used for range-finding may be used to view the targets.(digital or laser).
- 2.2 Scope accessories. Digital spirit level or wind-measuring device can be used
 - 2.2.2 Only the scope can be used for range-finding.

3. Pellet

- 3.1 Any design of pellet that is completely constructed of lead, lead alloy, zinc or zinc alloy can be used only.

4. Equipment

- 4.1 Bean bags, elbow pads & knee pads
The maximum height of the bean bags must not exceed 125 mm. This is measured from the ground to the highest point of the seat.
- 4.2 List of accessories that can be mounted onto the rifle or scope:
 - Spirit level
 - Sunshade
 - Scope enhancer (rubber)
 - Thermometer
 - Wind-measuring device
 - Photometer
 - Hygrometer, etc.
- 4.3 Glove. Any type of glove can be used that's support is not exceeding the wrist.
 - 4.3.1 The glove can't contain steel or any stiffish material
- 4.4 No harnesses or belts are allowed!

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4.5 Scope. Any form of sighting system may be used. No separate device designed specifically for, or used for rangefinding may be used to view the targets.(digital or laser)

4.6 Equipment control

4.6.1 Before, during and after the competition, the Shooting Marshall may verify the equipment of any competitors – e.g.: rifle, bean bag, etc.

4.6.2 Any rifles used in a competition will be chronographed by the Shooting Marshall before or during or after the competition.

4.6.3 The maximum muzzle energy can exceed the legal category limit with maximum 6,5 %.

4.6.4 Velocity control:

- The Shooting Marshall for Rifles and Equipment Control will ask a pellet type used by the competitor.

- One pellet will be loaded into the gun and shoot through the chrony. If the value is under the limit then the gun passes the control.

- If the value is over the limit, then there is a possibility for a second shoot. If the second shoot is under the limit, a third –confirmatory - shoot can be made after that the gun is considered pass the control.

- If the first shoot have a too high value the second and the third value are also too high, then the rifle will be disqualified from the whole event.

4.6.6 After the first shoot with too high value, the gun can be adjusted to the right velocity. No power adjustments are permitted once the competitor has started the competition. The penalty of any velocity adjustments during the competition is disqualification.

4.6.7 The allowed speed and energy values can be found in the Appendix Nr. 1

5. Registration, orders, group formation during a competition

5.1 By filling the entry forms, the competitor accepts the Hungarian Field Target Association rules.

5.2 The Shooting Marshall 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 Marshalls, Scorekeepers, and other officials.

5.3 One group consist of minimum 2 /two/ - maximum. 4 /four/ competitors.

5.3.1 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.

5.4 The Shooting Marshall director has the obligation to place a copy of the rules 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 safety and HFTA rules.

6. Lanes

6.1 On each lane, the firing point shall be marked with two sticks, or some other object. The firing lane width should be between 70-120 cm .

6.2 Lane Markers are used to identify where the shooter must take the shot. Two lane markers shall be used for each shooting point. The gun barrel shall be between the markers.

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6.3 In a 50 targets match, 13-25 lanes shall be placed and every lane should have 2 to 4 targets.

6.4 On every lane there should be marked the followings :
lane number, target numbers, and the mandatory shooting position if any.

6.5 On the location where the competition will be held, the practice area, check point and the lanes should be marked clearly .

6.6 The route between the lanes must not cross the firing line.

6.7 The course can be planned longer than one day. In this case, the lanes for each days must not be the same. The total of each day scores will be the final result.

6.8 On every lane the lane number and the targets numbers shall be marked clearly.

6.9 Forbidden for the competitors to make any modification on the lanes.

7. Practice area

7.1 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.

7.2 The safety rules are mandatory in the practice area as well.

7.3 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 have to be in accordance with the number of the shooters.

7.4 The practice area shall be used before the match. During the competition the practice area must be used only with the Shooting Range Director permission and for a limited period (10 mins.)

7.5 During the competition, the usage of the practice area can be requested by the competitors in case of rifles/scopes was damaged unintentionally. The request will be approved by the Shooting Range Director for max. 10 minutes.

8. Targets

8.1 Silhouette: "fall-when-hit" targets resettable from the firing point are used.

8.2 The diameter of the kill zones of the targets are in accordance with the distances where they are placed. The kill zones are 15 mm, 25 mm and 40 mm. The kill zone has a round shape.

8.3 The targets can be placed under and above the firing line level and in variable lighting conditions as well.

8.4 A clear and unobstructed view of the hit zone must be afforded from at least one shooting position.

8.5 Targets shall not be closer than 7m and not further than 50 m from the firing point.

8.6 Targets for 16 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;
- and the 40 mm kill zone target may be placed not further than 50 m.

8.7 Targets 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;
- and the 40 mm kill zone targets may be placed not further than 40 m.

8.8 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 target shall be

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placed not further than 40m for the 7,5 category shooters . The targets for only 16J category shooters are marked in blue, targets for only 7,5 J category are marked in yellow , the common targets are marked black.

8.9 On 5-15% of the lanes compulsory standing position may be defined and on 10-15% of the lanes compulsory kneeling position.

8.9.1 The number of targets for standing and kneeling positions must not exceed 20% of the total targets used in the competition.

8.10 A clear and unobstructed view of the hit zone must be afforded from at least one shooting position.

8.11 If the target hit zone cannot be seen from any shooting position, a Shooting Marshall Director must be announced.

9. Problems with targets

9.1 If the restore cord brakes or other mechanical problem occurs the Shooting Marshall should be informed who will solve it.

9.2 Any disputed score should be indicated to Shooting Marshall and

- the target will be used for other competitors;
- if the target will fall at least one time the protestation will be refused.

9.3 If the target is malfunctioning Shooting Marshall Director shall exclude it from the competition

10. Target sequence

10.1 Targets 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

10.2 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.

11. Scoring

11.1 One point for each hit and zero for a miss.

11.2 A hit shall be awarded when the target falls.

11.3 Only one shot is allowed at any one target.

11.4 Additional shot to targets must be penalised.

11.5 Penalty means minus one point/additional shots

11.6 Shot means that compressed air leaves the weapon through the barrel or breech with ammunition or without ammunition except of “cease fire” situation or un-sighted shots with the knowledge and consent of partner/s or Marshall.

11.7 Results shall be announced immediately after the competition. Challenging can be passed within 30 minutes after the annunciation.

11.8 That competitor wins who has most points.

12. Disputed scores, protestation

12.1 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 Marshall.

12.2 If Marshall cannot solve the problem the Competition Director shall be informed.

12.3 Challenging can be passed in written form to Competition 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.

13. Tied Scores

13.1 In the event of tied scores a shot-off shall decide the final rankings. The curse of fire and targets shall be signed by the Competition Director.

13.2 Shot-off is running based on the following rules: Competition Director shall select two targets from any firing line. Competitors will shot to these targets seating and kneeling and standing positions. If the first six shots cannot decide, Competition Director shall select two additional targets.

13.3 Shot-off shall be applied for 1st, 2nd and 3rd places.

13.4 From the 4th position the competitors who have equal points will get equal place (I., II., III., 4., 4., 5., 6., 7., 7., ...)

14. Shooting positions

14.1 Any support for stay the body or weapon (bipod, tripod, chair, artificial or natural support) is prohibited. Competitor can stay the gun just with his/her hand and body.

14.2 Free position: all shooting positions are permitted. Shooting positions can be: prone, seating, standing, kneeling. In prone position the gun and forearm must be clear of any artificial or natural support. Bean-bag is prohibited.

14.3 Seating: bean-bag is permitted.

14.4 Kneeling: There shall be only 3 points of contact with the ground – one sole, one knee, and toes. Bean-bag may be used to keep the knee clean but it should not support the ankle. Seating to foot is allowed when the peg and leg are in 90 degrees. Slings are not allowed.

14.5 Standing: just soles are connecting to the ground. Slings are not allowed.

15. Time per line

15.1 Competitors shall be informed about time limit prior shoot.

15.1.1 Time limit is typically 1 minute/target. Timing is mandatory for all HFTA events. The time will be continuous, with the number of minutes allowed equating to the number of targets in that line.

15.2 The preparation time shall not be more than 1 minute/line. Preparation time does not contain the time for resetting the targets.

15.2.1 Preparation time starts when the competitor enters the shooting line with resetted targets.

15.3 Shooting time starts when the eye is put to the sight.

15.4 Shot after time limit shall be credited as “miss”.

15.5 In the event of a ‘cease fire’ order, guns will be discharged safely into the ground. Timing shall be stopped. After ‘cease fire’ event timing shall be continue.

16. Score Sheet

16.1 Score sheet shall be 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.

16.2 Competitors controlling each other, Marshal must be involved in case of disputed issues.

16.3 Completed Score Sheet must be returned to 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".

17. Interruption of the competition

17.1 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.

17.2 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.

17.3 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).

17.4 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:

17.4.1 The number of the targets 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).

17.4.2 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.

17.4.3 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 from the 1st lane although the Shooting Group started 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.)

17.5 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.

18. Clothing

18.1 Any clothing (i.e. clothing that is favoured by the ISSF shooters) that stabilizes the position of the shooter is forbidden.

18.1.1 Shooting gloves can be used (See Rule 4.3)

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18.2 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.

18.3 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.

18.4 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.

18.5 A simple strap can be used only for carrying the rifle, but the strap must not be fixed onto the clothing of the shooter in any way.

18.6 The shooter must not lean on any outer aid (natural or artificial).

19. Officials at the Competitions

19.1 The Shooting Marshall Committee of the HFTA delegates shooting marshals to the competitions. They cooperate with the Organizer of the competition. The Organizer, the Shooting Director take full responsibility during the competition.

19.2 The Official persons on the competitions:

- Shooting Marshall Director / Director of Competition
- Shooting Marshall for Rifles and Equipment Control
- Lane (sector) Shooting Marshall
- Organizer (committee) of the Competition
- Other officials

19.3 The Shooting Marshall 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 Marshall 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 Marshalls.

19.4 The number of the Shooting Marshalls are decided according to the circumstances of the competition (safety, ease of operation). The Shooting Marshalls must be supplied with identification signs.

The Lane (sector) Shooting Marshall 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..

19.5 Before the competition the Shooting Marshall for Rifles and Equipment Control must control if the rifles and the equipment of all registered shooters are comply with the current Rule Book. The control can be repeated during the competition if needed. All suitable rifle and equipment must be marked with a sticker or a stamp.

19.6 The Shooting Marshall 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.

20. Penalties

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20.1 The shooter who deliberately violate the shooting rules or the safety regulations, or cheats must be disqualified immediately. The shooter who behaves unsportsmanlike must be notified. After the second notification he must be disqualified.

20.2 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) and a member on an other group reminds this to the Shooting Marshall, then they must be punished by 1-1 point reduction from the final score.

21. Safety Regulations

21.1 Shooting line / firing line, shooting point

21.1.1 There must be always a shooting line on shooting ranges or on Field Target competitions. This shooting line is 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 the special rules, this is controlled by the Shooting Marshall Director.

21.1.2 When being in the shooting line the following rules must be kept:

- The rifle may only be cocked and loaded if the shooter in the shooting line is ready to shoot.
- The cocked and loaded rifle may only be unsecured if the bore is pointing towards the target.
- If the Shooting Marshall 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.
- 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 he is not in the shooting point, even if it is only a „quick check”.
- Should any dispute be raised on safety questions, the Shooting Marshall has the right to decide in all cases.

21.1.3 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.

21.1.4 Pets are not allowed near the shooting line.

21.1.5 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 he spectator is a competing shooter at the same time, he can be disqualified.

21.1.6 The shooters who are not in the shooting point, and waiting for their turns must be aware of the rules of the competition. If any violation of the rules occurs they have to remind the Shooting Marshall, 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 Marshall or his Deputies.

21.2 Transporting and operating the rifles

21.2.1 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.

21.2.2 During transportation or carrying the rifle in the competition, it must be kept:

- in a gun-case, or

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- it must be carried on the shoulder with a strap with the bore pointing upwards or downwards with opened loading port and/or with a safety snap cap.

21.2.3 The barrel must never be pointed to any person. This rule excludes the use of the open rifle carrying boxes.

21.2.4 If a 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 Marshalls.

21.2.5 Multi shot air rifles can also be used, if the magazine is removed during the carrying between the shooting lanes. Before shooting only one pellet must be loaded into the magazine, and it must be reloaded before every shot.

21.3 Promoting safety is compulsory for all of the shooters. If anyone experience a not safe rifle handling, or infringement of the safety regulations it must be remembered to the Lane (Sector) Shooting Marshall or the Director of the Competition.

21.4 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 in the Shooting Range in those states.

22. Classification of the rifles

22.1 Categories:

- Spring 7,5 (Earlier: Piston Standard - PS): 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 (Earlier: PCP standard - PCP): 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 (Earlier: Piston Unlimited - PU): air rifle with a spring, that operates the piston which compresses the air during the shot, below 16,3J of firing energy.

- PCP 16 (Earlier: Open): 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)

22.1.2 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.)

22.2 The order of power of the categories is as follows:

Spring 7,5 < PCP 7,5 < Spring 16 < PCP 16

22.3 The rules for the Hungarian competitions include the possibilities for contraction of two categories. The contraction is possible if only less than 5 shooters are regularly registered in any of the categories.

22.4 The Organizer of the competition can decide on any other Rifle Category if the HFTA previously agrees.

ATTACHMENTS

Attachment No 1.

Pellet speeds in case of the most used pellets according to their weights, and according to the appropriate rifle energies.

Weight (gramm)	Energy7,5 J speed (m/s)	+ 6,5%* (m/s)	Energy16,3 J (m/s)	+ 6,5%* (m/s)
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!