



SSAA INC. STANDARD RULES
OFFICIAL NATIONAL RULES

Revised Nov 2025

No. 9.3

SSAA Inc. Standard Rules

Document History

Edition	Date	By	Amendment / revision
Version 1	Nov 2009	SSAA NDC and National Board	The Standard Rules to be added as Section 2 to all discipline rule books
Version 2	2010	SSAA NDC and National Board	Revisions
3	2010	SSAA NDC and National Board	The Standard Rules issued as a separate Rule Book. Discipline rule books to still contain Section 2 until their scheduled revision.
4	2013	SSAA NDC and National Board	Minor revisions
	2014	SSAA NDC and National Board	Only references & section heading for Standard Rules to be included in Section 2 of the Discipline rule books.
5	2015	SSAA NDC and National Board	Minor revisions
6	2016	SSAA NDC and National Board	Minor revisions
6.1	Aug 2017	SSAA National Board	Revision of Rules 2.3 & 2.4.4
7	Nov 2017	SSAA NDC and National Board	Statement to indicate these rules are common to all disciplines.
8	Nov 2018	SSAA NDC and National Board	Revision of Rule 2.3.3
9	Nov 2019	SSAA NDC and National Board	Revision of Rule 2.3.2, 2.6 and 2.9
9.1	July 2021	SSAA National Board	Minor revisions
9.2	Nov 2022	SSAA NDC & National Board	Additions & minor revisions
9.3	Nov 2025	SSAA NDC & National Board	Minor revisions

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The Standard National Rules, for the conduct of SSAA Inc. National Championships, have been compiled and revised at the SSAA Inc. National Discipline Chairman's Conference and approved and ratified by the SSAA Inc. National Board.

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The SSAA Inc. Standard Rules – Official National Rules are common to all SSAA Inc. disciplines and the latest version takes precedence over the relevant rules in any SSAA Inc. National discipline rule book.

SECTION 1: AIMS AND OBJECTIVES

1.1 AIMS AND OBJECTIVES

- 1.1.1 Refer to the relevant SSAA Inc. Discipline's National Rules for their Aims and Objectives.
- 1.1.2 Each SSAA Inc. Discipline's National Rules outline their own Aims and Objectives.

SECTION 2: SSAA INC. STANDARD RULES

2.1 COMPETITOR'S ELIGIBILITY

An individual who competes in a SSAA Inc. National Championship must be a financial member of a full member body of SSAA Inc. or an association affiliated with SSAA Inc. or under special invitation from SSAA Inc.

Only a current SSAA Inc. issued physical or digital membership card or official documentation from the SSAA Inc. National Membership Office shall be accepted as proof of a competitors' financial membership.

Members of any affiliated association must provide adequate documentation of their current membership of the affiliate association.

An individual who is unable to provide proof of their SSAA Inc. full member body membership, must pay the applicable membership fee to SSAA Inc. via electronic means, and have the transaction witnessed by an office bearer or official of the host branch. The membership fee must be paid prior to the commencement of the competition. Any individual under suspension is ineligible to compete.

2.2 JUNIOR COMPETITORS

A Junior competitor is any member of a full member body of SSAA Inc. who is under the age of eighteen (18) years at the time of the commencement of the competition.

A Junior competitor in a SSAA Inc. National Championship shall pay no more than one half of the standard adult entry fee advertised for the SSAA Inc. National Championship.

If the Discipline's SSAA Inc. National Championship includes Graded and / or Junior categories, a Junior competitor is eligible to compete for Junior, Grade and Open medals and awards. The winning of a Junior medal or award does not preclude a Junior competitor from winning any other category of medal or award.

Junior competitors are divided into two classes

- Under 15 years
- Under 18 years and 15 years and over

2.3 PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES

A competitor who, because of a physical disability, cannot fire from the prescribed shooting position outlined in these Rules, or who must use special equipment when firing or requires special assistance to place and/or load the firearm, is entitled to petition the SSAA Inc. National Discipline Chairman for permission to assume a special position or to use modified equipment or both or have special assistance to place and/or load the firearm. The special position must simulate, as much as possible, the original firing position/s required by the Rules, for example boards or tables placed in front of a wheelchair may be used for the prone or kneeling positions.

This petition will be in the form of a written request from the competitor to the SSAA Inc. National Discipline Chairman outlining in detail the reasons why the special position must be assumed or the special equipment must be used or the special assistance is needed. The petition, in duplicate, shall be accompanied by pictures of the competitor in the position they desire approved, and if special equipment is required, the pictures will show how this equipment is used and if special assistance is needed to place and/or load the firearm. The petition must be accompanied by a medical doctor's statement if the physical disability is not completely evident in the pictures submitted.

2.3.1 Authorisation

Each petition will be reviewed by the SSAA Inc. National Discipline Chairman on its merits and may require additional or supplementary statements or pictures. If approved, the SSAA Inc. National Discipline Chairman will issue a special written authorisation certificate to the individual concerned. Such authorisation will have necessary pictures attached that will be signed and dated by the SSAA Inc. National Discipline Chairman. Competitors who have received special authorisation certificates are required to present them when requested by Competition Officials or the Range Officer.

Two types of authorisations are issued, temporary and permanent. Permanent authorisations are issued to competitors who have permanent physical disabilities.

2.3.2 Substitute position

In competitions where different shooting positions are required, a competitor with a temporary or permanent physical disability or impairment, that prevents them from using the specified firing position as defined in the Rules, may notify the SSAA Inc. National Discipline Chairman or the Competition Officials of their intention to use a position more difficult than the position specified.

This substitution must comply with the rules for that position to be used and be approved by the SSAA Inc. National Discipline Chairman or Competition Official/s before the start of the shooting for that position.

2.3.3 Awards, trophies, records, etc.

Competitors using special authorisation certificates shall be eligible for all awards, trophies, medals records issued under the competition Rules. Australian or National records can be established by the use of scores shot in special positions or with special equipment under a special authorisation certificate. See Rule 2.3.1

2.3.4 Protests

In the event of a protest involving the position or the equipment used by a competitor, under Rule 2.8 the Protest and Appeals Committee will compare the questioned position or equipment or assistance with the certificate and photographs presented by the competitor. If the competitor's position or equipment does not, in the opinion of the Appeals Committee, conform to that authorised by the SSAA Inc. National Discipline Chairman (or if the competitor has no authorisation certificate or pictures), the protest shall be allowed and the competitor will be required to change immediately to the position or equipment which has been approved or to an otherwise legal position or equipment or without special assistance.

2.4 COMPETITOR'S RESPONSIBILITY

2.4.1 Competitors and Officials to be familiar with the Rules

Competitors and officials should be familiar with the Rules pertaining to SSAA Inc. National Championships.

2.4.1.1 Competitors and Firearms Licence

All competitors must hold a valid and appropriate licence or permit in their home state or territory for the category of firearm to be used. Except in the event that the home state or territory legislation does not provide for a junior permit or approval to be issued.

2.4.1 Sportsmanship

All competitors shall conduct themselves in a manner befitting membership of SSAA Inc. and in accordance with the SSAA Inc. code of conduct.

2.4.3 Behaviour

All competitors and spectators should refrain from boisterous or inappropriate conduct on the range during the conduct of an event. Any competitor failing to observe this rule will be disciplined by the Range Officer. In the event of boisterous or unsportsmanlike behaviour by a competitor or spectator, the Range Officer shall caution the competitor or spectator once. Should there be any repetition of the boisterous or inappropriate conduct, the individual may be asked to leave the range or the firing line immediately and may also be disqualified from the event. Any disqualification made under this Rule may be appealable under the procedure set down in Rule 2.8 for the Protest and Appeals Committee.

2.4.4 Range Safety Rules

All competitors should familiarise themselves with the standard operating procedures and safety precautions observed on SSAA Inc. ranges as well as any rules specific to the range on which a particular championship is being conducted. Unsafe practices by a competitor on a SSAA Inc. range can be grounds for disqualification.

It is the competitor's responsibility to ensure any firearm or associated equipment is in a safe and serviceable condition.

2.4.5 Safety Equipment

It is strongly recommended that ear and eye protection be worn at all times by persons who are in the vicinity of the firing line whilst shooting is underway.

It is strongly recommended that enclosed footwear should be worn at all times by a competitor whilst engaged in the competition and in the vicinity of the firing line.

A competitor may wear medical equipment which may be seen as giving support if a medical certificate confirming the competitor's need to wear such a device for health reasons is submitted to the National Discipline Chairman and / or Discipline Subcommittee for approval prior to the commencement of the competition.

2.4.6 Clothing

It is strongly recommended that competitors and spectators give consideration to any offensive clothing, logos or images when competing in a SSAA Inc. National Championship.

For safety reasons military style camouflage or military style disruptive pattern clothing is strongly discouraged.

2.5 STUCK LIVE ROUND: MANDATORY RULE

In the event of a malfunction which results in a stuck live round which cannot be simply removed from the breech end of the barrel, the firearm is to be made safe and removed from the range to a competent person for repairs. Under no circumstance is an attempt to be made to remove the round by insertion of a cleaning rod or similar object from the muzzle end of the firearm.

2.6 RULE INFRINGEMENTS

A competitor found to be infringing the Standard Rules or the Rules of the Discipline can be given a warning by the Range Officer. If the infringement continues the competitor may be suspended or disqualified from the competition being contested and their scores will not be recorded.

Safety infringements or breaches may result in immediate suspension or disqualification.

2.7 DISCIPLINE CHAIRMAN'S AUTHORITY

The Discipline Chairman at a SSAA Inc National Championship shall have the power to direct the Host Branch / Club in the manner in which the Championships are to be conducted, and shall have the right to interpret the Rules and requirements to ensure the Championships are conducted in an acceptable and uniform manner.

2.8 PROTEST AND APPEALS COMMITTEE

The Rules for the Protest and Appeals Committee are common to all SSAA Inc. Disciplines and form part of each Discipline's Rule Book. The Rules are as follows:

2.8.1 At all registered Championships there shall be a Protest and Appeals Committee (hereinafter called "Appeals Committee") which shall be formed by the SSAA Inc. National Discipline Chairman or their appointed nominee to hear and decide protests and appeals.

2.8.2 The Appeals Committee shall consist of a minimum of three people, including the SSAA Inc. National Discipline Chairman, any one of whom may be a Competitor. The SSAA Inc. National Discipline Chairman or their appointed nominee will chair the Appeals Committee. But in no

case shall an appellant or protester be included as a member of the Appeals Committee (not withstanding any Rule or Rules of law to the contrary).

In competitions where more than one State is represented a delegate from any of the States represented may be appointed to be a member of the said Committee and such appointments shall be at the discretion of the SSAA Inc. National Discipline Chairman or their appointed nominee.

- 2.8.3** A protest may be lodged by any competitor who feels aggrieved by a decision of the Range Officer, the target scorers, or any other organisational matters or methods of conducting the competition. A competitor may protest the conduct of other competitor(s) or that another competitor(s) has not fulfilled their obligations according to these Rules, or has not properly obeyed the Rules.
- 2.8.4** The protest must be lodged in writing and accompanied by a fee set by the SSAA Inc. National Discipline Chairman. If the protest or appeal is upheld, the applicant is to be refunded the amount of the fee. If the protest is disallowed, then the fee shall be forfeited to the organisers conducting the competition.
- 2.8.5** The protest is to be lodged with the Range Officer or other persons nominated by the SSAA Inc. National Discipline Chairman or their appointed nominee to receive appeals. A protest may be lodged during the conduct of a competition or after the competition has been completed but not later than 30 minutes after the scores for that competition have been announced or posted. When received, the protest or appeal must be given to the Chairman of the Appeals Committee as soon as possible.
- 2.8.6** The Chairman shall convene the Appeals Committee without undue delay and the Appeals Committee shall be empowered to hear evidence from the protester, the appellant and person(s) involved in the protest; to require the Range Officer, Scorers or organisers to produce targets, score sheets or other material relevant to the protest; to call evidence from any other person(s) who may be able to help the Appeals Committee; and to do all such other things that the Appeals Committee believes will enable it to reach an unbiased and just decision.
- 2.8.7** Any accused person shall:
- 2.8.7.1 have a right to be heard before the Appeals Committee and to remain in attendance during each session of the Appeals Committee.
 - 2.8.7.2 be advised of the time and place the Appeals Committee shall hear evidence of the protest or appeal.
 - 2.8.7.3 be entitled to remain in attendance before the Appeals Committee until the Appeals Committee adjourns the proceedings to make its decision.

- 2.8.7.4 be informed of the evidence or allegations made.
- 2.8.7.5 be supplied the details of verbal or written statements made against that person or persons.
- 2.8.7.6 be given an opportunity before the Appeals Committee to correct or contradict any accusations or allegations made.

2.8.8 Immediately the Appeals Committee has made a decision; the Appeals Committee Chairman shall verbally announce it to a gathering of competitors summoned to hear the decision or post the decision on a notice board.

The decision of the Appeals Committee shall be final and binding on the matter of the protest and on all persons concerned therein.

Note: Desirably the Appeals Committee proceedings and deliberations should be conducted out of the public gaze and free from distractions of the ongoing competition.

2.9 SSAA INC. NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIPS

SSAA Inc. holds SSAA Inc. National Championships annually at a date and time set by the approved SSAA Inc. discipline sub-committees.

SSAA Inc. approves the awarding of a SSAA Inc. National Championships to a full member body and accordingly the full member body allocates the SSAA Inc. National Championships to one of their member Branches / Clubs to be the host of the SSAA Inc. National Championships.

Competitors from a minimum of two participating SSAA Inc. full member bodies are required for the conduct of a SSAA Inc. National Championships, including SSAA Inc. National Postal Championships.

2.9.1 Disruption to Competition

Once a competition has begun, it is to continue without unnecessary delays to its completion except in exceptional circumstances. Competition Officials are required to exercise their discretion in regards the circumstances that may affect the successful completion of the competition.

2.9.2 SSAA Inc. National Championships and Other Shooting Events

The SSAA Inc. National Championships are the top level of SSAA Inc. shooting competitions in Australia. In recognition of this, there should not be any shooting conducted at the host branch that in any way infringes or interferes with the conduct and completion of the SSAA Inc. National Championship, except for International Championships conducted or managed by SSAA Inc.

2.9.3 Supplementary Competitions

SSAA Inc. full member bodies may devise their own type of shooting competitions and formulate their own rules for the conduct of supplementary competitions.