



**AMATEUR  
TRAPSHOOTING  
ASSOCIATION  
OFFICIAL RULES**  
for the conduct of  
Registered Trapshoots

Issued by:  
Amateur Trapshooting Association

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## **SECTION I ORGANIZATION OF THE AMATEUR TRAPSHOOTING ASSOCIATION (ATA)**

The following is an informative summary of the organization of the AMATEUR TRAPSHOOTING ASSOCIATION (ATA). Complete, and controlling, details are as contained in the Official Rules, Articles of Incorporation and the By-Laws of the Corporation. The Official Trapshooting Rules of the ATA govern the shooting of registered targets and the conduct of shooters and the duties of shoot management. The ATA has the responsibility for the formulation, regulation and enforcement of these Rules. These Rules are contained in this booklet.

Whenever and wherever used in this compendium, the terms: Rules, Official Rules, Official Trapshooting Rules or any similar derivative thereof, shall be interpreted to include the intended construction and application of the ATA Official Rules and/or ATA Articles of Incorporation (as may be amended) and/or ATA By-Laws (as may be amended) and/or changes made at the direction of the Board of Directors and/or the Executive Committee.

The ATA Board of Directors and/or the Executive Committee reserves the right to make alterations in, or amendments to these Rules at any time, whenever it is deemed to be in the best interest of the ATA.

### **A. PURPOSE OF THE ATA**

The purpose of the ATA is to promote and govern the sport of amateur trapshooting throughout the world.

### **B. MEMBERSHIP**

Membership is divided into two (2) classes (Life and Annual), both of which have full shooting rights and privileges. The 2013 target year runs from September 1, 2012 through August 31, 2013.

All shooters are considered amateurs and shall be entitled to all rights as set forth in these Rules.

### **C. STATE ORGANIZATIONS AND ATA DELEGATE ELECTIONS**

Shooters in the various States and Provinces are organized into State and Provincial Associations, which under the auspices of the ATA, control shooting in their own territories and conduct State and Provincial championship tournaments. Shooters are required to pay any fees and dues which may be set by these State/Provincial Associations in their place of residence in order to be considered members in good standing of that State/Provincial Association. Such associations receive assistance from the ATA in the form of trophies and cash refunds. This assistance is explained in Rule X., C.

At each annual State or Provincial championship tournament sanctioned by the ATA, a business meeting will be held on a date and time specified in the

program for the tournament. The meeting date must be one of the last three (3) days of the tournament, held no earlier than 8:00 a.m. and no later than 9:00 p.m. If, however, the meeting is held on the last day of the tournament then it must commence no later than 12:00 noon. At the business meeting all members of the ATA residing in that State or Province, who are present in person at the meeting and are also members of their State or Provincial Association, who have been active members (e.g., having registered targets) in any two (2) target years, shall be entitled to vote for a State or Provincial Delegate and for not over two (2) Alternate Delegates.

A current (paper) Average Card, the form of which shall be determined by the Board of Directors or Executive Committee, shall evidence ATA membership, Life and Annual. No membership shall be effective until after receipt of proper application at the General Office of the Corporation, approval, issuance of an Average Card, and receipt by the member. A member shall not be qualified to cast a ballot for a State or Provincial Delegate or Alternate Delegate(s) until properly qualified in accordance with this Paragraph.

A shooter who has paid his/her dues and exhibits the receipt for payment may participate in registered shoots.

The criteria for election as a State Delegate or Alternate Delegate are:

- actual physical residence within the boundaries of the State/Province of representation, and
- in receipt of life membership certificate from the ATA, and
- a member in good standing of the State/Provincial Association of the State/Province of representation, and
- ATA member in good standing for at least five (5) consecutive years, and
- active participation as evidenced by registration of at least 3,000 targets total (Singles, Handicap and Doubles combined) in current and previous four (4) years, and of at least 500 targets each year in the current and previous four (4) years, and
- Shall not have been suspended within the prior five (5) years or for a period of one (1) year or more.

Target registration may be waived for shooters with an extensive target history who because of documented physical problems are not currently able to participate.

Selection of the State or Provincial Delegate, and the Alternate Delegate(s) should be given the utmost consideration. Delegates (or in their absence Alternate Delegates), in a properly called meeting, constitute the Board of Directors of the ATA and as such have the responsibility of overseeing the operation of the Association. Only those persons who are responsible dedicated individuals should be considered.

## **D. ZONES**

The Zones are comprised of the following States and Provinces:

**CENTRAL** - Illinois, Indiana, Michigan, Iowa, Minnesota, Nebraska, North Dakota, Ohio, South Dakota, Wisconsin, and the provinces of Manitoba and Saskatchewan, Canada.

**EASTERN** - Connecticut, Delaware, Maine, Maryland, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, New York, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island, Vermont, New Jersey and the Provinces of Ontario and Quebec, Canada and the Provinces in Canada lying east thereof (Atlantic Provinces).

**SOUTHERN** - Alabama, Florida, Georgia, Kentucky, Mississippi, North Carolina, South Carolina, Tennessee, Virginia and West Virginia.

**SOUTHWESTERN** - Arkansas, Colorado, Kansas, Louisiana, Missouri, New Mexico, Oklahoma and Texas.

**WESTERN** - Alaska, Arizona, California, Hawaii, Idaho, Montana, Nevada, Oregon, Utah, Washington, Wyoming, and the provinces of Alberta and British Columbia, Canada.

## **E. BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

The Corporate Powers of the ATA under Illinois law are vested in the Board of Directors, which consists of a Delegate from each State and Province. The Board of Directors meets annually during the Grand American World Trapshooting Championships and at other times when properly called by the Executive Committee or as provided by the By-Laws.

## **F. EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE AND ATA EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR**

1. The Executive Committee consists of a representative from each of the five (5) zones elected each year to the Executive Committee at the annual meeting of the Board of Directors. One (1) member of the Executive Committee is designated President and the other four (4) are designated Vice-Presidents.
2. The Board of Directors has delegated direction of the affairs of the ATA to the Executive Committee between meetings of the Board of Directors.
3. The Executive Committee employs an Executive Director to handle the daily affairs of the ATA. The ATA Executive Director implements the policies set forth by the Board of Directors and/or the Executive Committee and follows their directions.
4. The main office and records of the ATA are located at 1105 East Broadway PO Box 519 Sparta, IL 62286, Phone (618) 449-2224, Fax (866) 454-5198, [www.shootata.com](http://www.shootata.com).

## **G. CONSTITUTION AND BY-LAWS**

The ATA is organized under the Corporate Laws of the State of Illinois and has a Illinois Charter and Corporate By-laws formulated in accordance with Illinois law, as a not-for-profit public charitable corporation. The ATA has also been recognized and approved under Internal Revenue Code (IRC) as a fully tax exempt 501(c)(3) charitable entity.

## **H. JURISDICTION**

The ATA has jurisdiction over all affiliated Associations regardless of location.

## **SECTION II INFORMATION FOR SHOOTERS**

### **A. PROCEDURE FOR JOINING ATA**

#### **1. ANNUAL MEMBERS**

Application for Annual Membership may be made online at [www.shootata.com](http://www.shootata.com) by following the membership instructions and payment method or at any registered shoot by filling out an application and the payment of \$20.00 dues to the ATA. Sub-Junior and Junior Annual Members shall pay \$12.00 dues to the ATA. A temporary receipt will be given to the shooter upon receipt of a proper application. The temporary receipt should be retained as evidence of payment and be used in lieu of an Average Card until the Average Card is received. The ATA will issue an annual Average Card in the normal course of business. This card will be marked to indicate the shooter's handicap yardage. Full membership rights are effective upon receipt by the member of the Average Card.

Annual Members have all the shooting rights and privileges of Life Members, but may hold no office in the ATA. Annual Members, who have been active members (e.g., having registered targets) in any two (2) target years, are entitled to vote for the State/Provincial Delegate and Alternate(s), at the annual business meeting of the State or Province

Annual Memberships are renewable by mail or at any registered shoot. To renew by mail send your complete name, address, including zip code, and \$20.00 (\$12.00 for Juniors or Sub-Juniors) to ATA, 1105 East Broadway PO Box 519 Sparta, IL 62286.

#### **2. LIFE MEMBERSHIPS**

Life Memberships are obtained by the submission of a properly completed application and the payment of \$500.00. Senior Life Memberships for those 65 years and older are \$250.00. Life members pay no annual dues thereafter. Upon approval of the application, the ATA will issue a Life Membership Certificate and the Life Membership is effective upon receipt by the Member. Life Members are entitled to vote for State Delegates and Alternate Delegates to the ATA. Only Life Members may hold office in the ATA.



**PLEASE NOTE:** If a shooter pays dues at a shoot, he/she must retain his/her receipt until receipt of an ATA Average Card. Unless the shooter can show evidence of membership fee payment, he/she may have to pay again. Shooters must record all scores before receipt of an ATA card and then transfer these scores to the new card.

If a shooter does not receive an ATA card within four (4) weeks, he/she should send a letter to the ATA, 1105 East Broadway PO Box 519 Sparta, IL 62286, advising the ATA that an application was made on a certain date and give ATA the name of the gun club that received the application and payment.

## **B. TARGET YEAR**

The 2013 target year runs from September 1, 2012 thru August 31, 2013. Scores shot at any tournament ending on or after September 1, 2013 regardless of starting date, will be included in the following year's averages.

## **C. RULES OF CONDUCT OF AN ATA SHOOTER**

Each member will be furnished a copy of these Official Trapshooting Rules, and it is assumed that the member will read and understand each rule. Members are strongly encouraged to know these Rules and abide by them for their own benefit and for the benefit of other shooters.

1. By entering the competition, every contestant agrees to accept all official decisions and to abide by these Rules.
2. It is the responsibility of all shooters to see that they are handicapped and classified properly in accordance with these Rules and/or the official program. Any errors made by the classification committee and/or the shooter must be corrected before shooting or the shooter may be subject to disqualification and may be subject to further disciplinary action.
3. When making entry at any registered shoot, shooters should produce their plastic identification card and Average Card so that names, addresses, and membership numbers are properly noted and errors in record keeping are prevented. Shooters not having a plastic card should always list their ATA number, entire name and address on entry forms.
4. The Average Card is intended to provide classification personnel at registered shoots with current data on a member's shooting ability. Shooters not having their Average Cards up to date may be put in a higher class or otherwise penalized. Failure to accurately record scores, or the falsification of scores, can lead to disciplinary action including suspension from the ATA.
5. Any member who;  
Submits false information for any reason to a participating club, ATA, or shoot management; or  
Who causes false scores or other information to be recorded; or

Who commits an act of theft; or  
Who commits acts which result in artificially low scores; or  
Who encourages or assists others in such acts is subject to disciplinary action.

### **SECTION III REQUIREMENTS AND RECOMMENDATIONS FOR CONDUCTING A REGISTERED SHOOT**

#### **A. APPLICATION TO CONDUCT A SHOOT**

Proper blank application forms, obtained from the ATA, or local State secretaries, should be filled out and provided to the State secretary for approval prior to the scheduled shoot. If there are club dues or other obligations to the State, these must be enclosed with applications. Registered league dues of \$25.00 per league must be submitted to ATA with the appropriate league application.

If the application is in order, the State secretary will approve and forward it to the ATA for the certification of registration provided that the date(s) requested will not conflict with the dates of a registered event and/or tournament granted to another club or association in close proximity. The question of close proximity is left to the judgment of the officials of the State association. State and Provincial Associations shall not unreasonably withhold approval of shoot dates from affiliated clubs. In the event the State association is unable or unwilling to decide the question of close proximity, the question will be referred to the ATA State/Provincial Delegate who has the duty to make the decision, and whose decision is final. The Delegate has no duty, responsibility or authority of the ATA to decide any shoot dates until the question of close proximity has been referred to the Delegate by the State/Provincial association.

Upon receipt of the approved application form, the ATA will issue the registration certificate, provided all conditions of the application have been met. A record of the issuance of the certificate of registration will be kept on file in the main office of the ATA, and prior to the holding of the registered event and/or tournament, necessary office supplies for the proper recording of scores will be sent to the club or association.

#### **B. PREPARATION AND PROGRAMS**

1. An official written program for every shoot must be published or posted. (Note: the program may be handwritten or in email form). The program must, at a minimum, list all fees, events, options, trophies, penalty handicap yardage (if used) for the shoot. It is required that ATA shoot programs indicate the specific amount of fees collected on behalf of the ATA. ATA fees must be set apart from all other fees and charges made by shoot management and are to be escrowed for payment to ATA. Programs should be made available and/or sent to an up-to-date list of shooters.

2. All shooters must be charged the same target and option fees. An exception may be made for special category shooters, (i.e., charging Junior and Sub-Junior shooters half price).
3. Shoot Management should ascertain that the gun club facilities are in good condition prior to the shoot and that an adequate supply of materials and supplies needed to conduct the shoot are available. ATA assumes no liability, or responsibility, if Shoot Management does not adequately comply with this, or any, ATA suggestion and/or directive contained in the Official Rules.

### **C. CHECKLIST FOR THE SHOOT**

1. Shoot Management should arrange for:
  - a. capable classifying and handicapping personnel who shall classify and handicap all shooters in accordance with the Official Rules; and
  - b. competent cashiers who will calculate purses and options correctly and pay off as many events as possible before the close of the shoot; and
  - c. squadding personnel (Note - at small shoots, all three (3) of the above may be done by the same person or persons), and
  - d. referee/scorers who know the ATA Rules, and who have been adequately trained to call all targets, or only the lost targets as directed, and to record the scores correctly on the sheets provided; and
  - e. referee/scorers must be provided with an unobstructed view of shooters. It is improper at an ATA shoot for shooters to supply their own referee/scorers. (Note - one (1) person may serve as referee/scorer. If the person or persons serving in these capacities is negligent or inefficient, the Management shall remove him/her or them.); and
  - f. provide appropriate hearing and eye protection to firing line personnel. This includes all employees who perform duties on or near the trap field. Shoot Management is required to enforce this provision, failure to do so may result in disciplinary action; and
  - g. any additional help needed to conduct the tournament efficiently, such as squad hustler, scoreboard recorder, score sheet runners, and enough personnel to properly operate a shooting facility.
2. Management shall confirm that all participants are ATA members in good standing who have paid their annual dues or are Life Members before accepting their entries. If shoot management accepts entry from a contestant and it is subsequently determined he/she is not an ATA member in good standing and his/her annual dues have not been paid, Shoot Management must make every effort to collect those dues. If Shoot Management, ATA or another club is unsuccessful in collection of the unpaid dues, Shoot Management will be assessed an amount equal to each unpaid entry. Notice of unpaid dues will be mailed by the ATA to each participant and club responsible. Failure to timely pay assessments may result in a club's registered shooting and/or shoot application(s) being denied or held in abeyance until payment is made.

3. Shoot Management of any registered event and/or tournament, at its discretion, may reject any entry, or refund any entry. In all cases except as may be otherwise provided in these Official Rules, the authority of the Management of a registered shoot is not subject to appeal and all contestants must abide by its rulings. No entry shall be rejected on the basis of gender, race, religion, sexual orientation, or disability unless such disability renders the contestant incapable of complying with these Official Rules or results in an unsafe condition, which endangers any person or property.

4. Shoot Management shall appoint a judge or judges to be called upon for ruling on official complaints when the occasion arises. If a judge has not been appointed, the president of the club, or in his absence, the secretary shall act as judge. The referee/scorer must call upon a judge to settle any controversy regarding a score or when he/she has made an error by being ahead or behind in his scoring. Officials of the ATA will not change the decisions of these judges made in accordance with these Rules, or change the report of any shoot held in accordance with these Rules.

5. No shooter will be allowed to repeat any portion of the regularly advertised program (i.e., shooting more than once in an event) except as permitted in Section VII. Par., A., 8.

6. Additional events (not included in the official program) may be held and the scores registered provided that shooters have been notified of such events by shoot management, that the event is announced and posted, and that at least three (3) participants shoot and complete the event. (see Rule IV, A., 2., c.)

7. The sponsors of registered events and/or tournaments are responsible for the payment of all added money, guaranteed money, purses, and/or prizes advertised or offered in their shoot programs. If the Management of a registered shoot does not meet the above obligations, the ATA will not be responsible for such payments and will not be liable in any manner whatsoever. Sponsors and/or Shoot Management, for and in consideration of the privilege to conduct any registered shoot, shall knowingly and willingly hold harmless and indemnify the ATA for any and all disputes or causes of action arising hereunder.

8. Shoot Management must make every effort to see that the Average Cards of any shooters earning yardage are punched. If for any reason an Average Card is not punched at the shoot, Shoot Management shall inform the ATA, the shooter, and the shooter's State ATA Delegate in writing, of this omission.

#### **D. FOLLOW UP DUTIES**

Following the conclusion of a registered shoot and/or tournament Shoot Management is responsible or will delegate the responsibility for:

1. Completing and sending to the ATA office the following items:
  - a. The ATA report form with complete names, addresses, ATA card numbers, and accurate scores of all shooters for all events.
  - b. The earned yardage reports.
  - c. A trophy list and shoot - off results for all ATA registered events that qualify for All American points.
  - d. Names and addresses of those paying ATA dues at the shoot.
  - e. A check for ATA daily fees or league registration fees collected at the shoot or league.
  - f. One (1) copy of the official shoot program or league Rules. This must be done within 8 calendar days following the last day of the registered shoot or league to avoid a \$25.00 late shoot report fine for the first offense and a \$100.00 late shoot report fine for second offense in a target year, which, if not paid, will be deducted from that state rebate. A third offense will dictate cancellation of registered shoot privileges until delinquent shoot reports and or money are properly received by ATA. Any check(s) presented to ATA and subsequently dishonored is equal to a third offense and must be paid, including bank charges, before further registered shoots are permitted.
2. Sending State fees collected to the State Association.
3. Sending a report of the results to the Trap & Field Magazine.
4. Reporting shoot results to the local radio and TV stations and the local newspapers as practicable.

## **E. KEEPING SHOOT RECORDS**

Shoot Management is required to keep the records from all registered shoots for at least one (1) year. This includes all shoot cashing information (entry and options) and actual squad sheets that were used on the field.

## **SECTION IV ATA TOURNAMENTS**

In these Rules the words "shoot" and "tournament" are intended to include "leagues" throughout these Official Rules with exceptions only as noted.

### **A. REGISTERED SHOOTS**

1. The ATA governs the conduct of all shoots registered with it. Only clubs affiliated with their State/Provincial Association will be permitted to hold registered shoots.
2. To constitute a registered shoot the following requirements must be met:
  - a. all contestants must be current or life members of ATA at the time of their entry, and
  - b. each contestant must pay an ATA daily registration fee of **\$3.00** for each day of competition at each shooting location (**\$1.50** fee for

Big 50 events), and such Zone or State Association fees as may be charged, and

c. at least three (3) or more contestants must compete in and complete the same event on the same day of competition.

3. No daily fee charges shall be permitted except those assessed by the ATA, the Zone, or the State in which the tournament is being held.

4. A shooter is not required to be a member of any club or facility to participate in a duly authorized registered shoot. (See Section IV A ,2.b payment of state/provincial dues)

## **B. WHO MAY PARTICIPATE**

Only ATA Life or Annual Members may participate in an ATA registered trapshooting tournament event and/or tournament. Shooters must be members of the State/Provincial Association in their place of residence to compete in registered shoots in that State or Province.

## **C. MEMBERS OF OTHER SHOOTING ORGANIZATIONS**

Targets shot and registered with any shooting organization other than ATA shall not be counted toward any published minimum target requirement, for any purpose, at any tournament where ATA trophies are awarded.

## **D. FIRING POSITION AND SHOOTING ORDER**

1. There shall be five (5) firing positions (posts), numbered 1 to 5, left to right, spaced three (3) yards apart, and sixteen (16) yards from Point B (Diagram I on page 55).

2. The referee/scorer shall not throw a target unless all contestants are in the correct positions.

3. At any registered trapshooting competition, no person shall be permitted to enter and take part in any completed or partially completed event or events after Squad No. 1 has completed sub-event 1 of any new event. At tournaments shot "bank system" with several squads starting at the same time on several traps, the procedure shall be construed to be the same as if all squads started on the same trap.

## **E. SUB-EVENTS**

A sub-event is any number of targets shot on any one field at one time, with one full rotation on all five (5) posts by each shooter, such as 25 or 50 Singles or Handicap targets or 10 pairs, 15 pairs, 25 pairs of Doubles. An event is the total targets of a specific type (16 yard, Handicap, or Doubles) such as 200 16-yard targets, 100 Handicap targets, etc. for which separate entry is made. It is not necessary to change traps after each sub-event. Events of less than 50 targets may not be registered.

1. All 16 yard, Handicap and Doubles scores are required to be accurately and legibly entered on each member's Average Card in the spaces provided at the completion of each registered and/or tournament event.
2. It is the duty of each ATA member to record all wins and ties in 16 yard and Doubles events on his/her Average Card. The intent of this rule is to properly inform classification and handicap committees of prior wins and ties in 16 Yard and Doubles events.

Failure of any member to strictly comply with these rules may lead to penalty classification, disqualification and/or suspension from membership in the ATA.

## **G. SQUADDING, SQUAD LEADER RESPONSIBILITIES AND TARGET OBSERVATION**

1. In all ATA events contestants shall shoot in squads of five (5) except:
  - a. When there are less than five (5) contestants available for the last squad of any program.
  - b. When yardage differences in Handicap events make it impractical or unsafe.
  - c. When there are withdrawals from a squad after the competition has begun and squads scheduled.
  - d. When in the opinion of shoot management, the harmony of the shoot may be enhanced by squadding less than five (5) contestants.
2. In Handicap there shall be no more than two (2) yards difference between adjacent shooters in the squad, and no more than a total difference of three (3) yards in a squad. If 18, 19 or 20 yard shooters are in a squad, it is strongly suggested that there be no more than one (1) yard difference between adjacent shooters in the squad, however there shall be no more than a total difference of two (2) yards in these squads.
3. It is illegal for more than five (5) shooters to be in a squad.
4. The squadding of practice shooters with those shooting registered events shall not be allowed, nor shall anyone be allowed to shoot registered events on a non-registered basis. This Rule shall not apply during Registered League Shooting or Big 50 events.
5. For each squad, the shooter who has been assigned to start on post 1 is designated the "Squad Leader". If post 1 is empty, the role of the Squad Leader passes to the shooter assigned to start on post 2, and so on. The Squad Leader has the following duties:
  - a. After all squad members are present at their assigned positions on the trap field, the Squad Leader should ascertain that all squad members are ready to begin the sub-event. After doing so, the Squad Leader only may ask that target(s) be thrown for the squad's observation. For regular 16-yard Singles and Handicap

sub-events, the Squad Leader may ask for one (1) target only. For regular Doubles sub-events, the Squad Leader may ask for one (1) pair of Doubles. For Shoot-offs in 16-yard Singles and Handicap events, the Squad Leader may ask for two (2) targets. For Shoot-offs in Doubles events, the Squad Leader may ask for two (2) pairs of Doubles.

b. If the target(s) thrown for observation are broken, irregular, or illegal, the Squad Leader may ask that another target (or pair of Doubles as applicable) be thrown. The squad has the right to see a legal target (or legal pair of Doubles as applicable) before commencing the sub-event.

c. The Squad Leader should check and initial the score sheet at the completion of each sub-event.

d. The Squad Leader shall have the responsibility to carry the score sheet, on which more than one (1) sub-event is recorded, from trap to trap until completion of the event.

6. During a sub-event, if there is a delay due to trap or gun malfunction, the contestant in turn may ask to see a target (or pair of Doubles as applicable) thrown before he/she resumes shooting.
7. Should a trap be throwing targets that, although not necessarily illegal, appreciably vary from trap to trap, any shooter may request that management reset the trap even though prior squads have shot. The final decision as to whether or not a trap is to be reset will be made only by shoot management.
8. During a sub-event, if a contestant is subjected to a single no target event, the contestant shall have the right to see a legal target (or legal pair of Doubles as applicable) and adjust the voice release mechanism (if present) before shooting resumes.

## **H. SHOOT-OFFS**

1. Shoot-offs shall be considered and interpreted the same as registered events and all applicable ATA Rules shall apply unless mutually agreed upon by all contestants. The management of a tournament may rule that ties shall be carried over to the first (or more if needed) sub-event of the next like event. However, when there are ties in a Handicap event and any tying shooter earns yardage and consequently will be shooting farther back in the subsequent Handicap event, all tying shooters must agree to the carry over.
2. All ties whenever possible shall be shot off and in such a manner, as shoot management shall designate. Unless otherwise specified by the management, ties on single target events shall be shot off in 25 target events and Doubles in 10 pair events.
3. Ties for High All Around Championships (HAA) shall be shot off 20 Singles, 10 Handicap, and 5 pair of Doubles. Ties for High Over All (HOA) shall be shot off in such a manner that the Shoot-off represents as closely as possible the same proportion of Singles, Handicap and



Doubles targets as the High Over All program contains but keeping the Shoot-off to 50 targets or less. The Singles, Handicap and Doubles portion of the Shoot-off shall be shot in the order that the events occurred in the program, or as determined by shoot management.

4. When squadding shooters for Shoot-offs for High Over All (HOA) and High All Around (HAA) the shooting order shall be the order in which they shot in the last event involved except where such order would be inadvisable or dangerous because of yardage differences. This order shall remain through each portion of the Shoot-off.
5. The following method shall be used for rotation of shooters: Starting posts to be used shall be as follows except where handicap yardage makes it unsafe.
  - If 1 shooter - post number 2.
  - If 2 shooters - post numbers 2 and 4.
  - If 3 shooters - post numbers 2, 3 and 4.
  - If 4 shooters - post numbers 2, 3, 4 and 5.
  - If 5 shooters - post numbers 1, 2, 3, 4 and 5.
  - If more than 5 shooters are involved in the tie, they shall be divided as equally as possible into two or more squads as directed by the management.

In subsequent Shoot-offs the post shall be rotated in a clockwise manner, with the shooter from post 1 advancing to post 2 and the shooter from post 5 rotating to post 1 or to the post dictated by the number of shooters remaining, but always in clockwise rotation.

6. The practice of banking targets in advance of commencement of a shoot-off is not permitted unless all tying shooters are notified and are in unanimous agreement. Exception: banking of targets is permissible for telephonic shoots held in multiple locations.
7. It is recommended that shooters involved in shoot-offs be given no more than three five minute calls to report for a shoot-off. First call, second call and final call.

## **I. SAFETY**

Shoot Management may disqualify a contestant for violation of these Rules, and violations may also result in further disciplinary action.

1. It is the shooter's responsibility and shoot management's responsibility to conduct a shoot in a reasonable and safe manner.
2. It is Shoot Management's responsibility to remove any competitor who is conducting himself/herself in an unsafe manner. (Repeat violators should be reported to the Executive Committee for further action.)
3. It is Shoot Management's responsibility to instruct the trap help in the proper and safe conduct of their respective duties.
4. All trap help must have a flag or other warning device to warn of any

- person(s) exiting from the trap house.
5. Trap personnel should be thoroughly instructed of the potential danger of the trap (particularly the target throwing arm).
  6. Movement and exposure on adjacent traps should be kept to the minimum.
  7. The practice of tracking targets behind a shooting squad is unsafe, disconcerting to the shooters, and is not permitted.
  8. Alcohol and drugs impair judgment and the ATA Rules pertaining to the usage of alcohol and/or drugs must be enforced by Shoot Management. This Rule shall be strictly complied with and shall apply to practice shooting as well as registered and tournament events. (Rule XII, B., 2., a.)
  9. A gun, which for any reason fails to fire as intended, must be promptly opened without any subsequent determination by the referee/scorer of the cause of the Failure to Fire.
  10. All guns must have the action opened and contain no live or empty shells at any time, except while the shooter is on the firing line. A break open gun's action may be closed when it is in a gun rack but it shall not contain a live or empty shell. Repeat offender(s) of these Official Rules will be given a 30 day suspension upon a second violation of these Rules; a third violation of these Rules will result in a 90 day suspension; and further violations will be reviewed by the Executive Committee for further disciplinary action.
  11. As a safety precaution, test shots will not be permitted under any circumstance.
  12. A contestant shall place a live shell in his/her gun only when on a post facing the traps. In Singles and Handicap shooting he/she may place only one (1) live shell in his/her gun at a time and must remove it or the empty shell(s) before moving from one post to another. In Doubles shooting he/she may place two (2) live shells in his/her gun at a time and must remove both live or empty shells before moving from one (1) post to another. In changing from one (1) post to another, the shooter shall not walk in front of the other competitors.
  13. Snap caps or recoil reduction devices may be excluded from the above only if colored a safety orange as to permanently identify them as not being a live or empty shell.
  14. A contestant may hold his/her gun in any position when it is his/her turn to shoot. The contestant must in no manner interfere with the preceding shooter by raising his/her gun to point or otherwise create an observable distraction.
  15. All guns used by contestants must be equipped, fitted and utilized so as not to eject empty shells in a manner that substantially disturbs

- or interferes with other contestants.
16. All persons including competitors, referee/scorers, and trap personnel must wear appropriate eye and hearing protection while on the trap field. Failure to comply may result in disqualification.
  17. No shooter shall be permitted to participate in any ATA event while seated in or otherwise using a golf cart on the firing line. Single passenger conveyances are the appropriate means for participating should one require assistance due to permanent or temporary disability.
  18. While not prohibited, the practice of resting the muzzle of a shotgun on a shooter's toe is ill-advised and is discouraged.

## **J. SPECIAL CATEGORIES**

All Ladies, Sub-juniors, Junior, Veterans, and Senior-Vets must declare their special category at the time of classification in any registered tournament if they wish to compete as a category shooter. Without such declaration, the contestant will not be allowed to compete for the applicable category trophy. No contestant will be allowed to declare or change a special declaration after firing his/her first shot. The only exception to this rule will be to correct an ATA classification error. The following rules apply to shooters who have declared a special category. At all tournaments where All American points will be awarded in any event, shooters may declare only one (1) category (i.e. Lady I , Lady II, Sub-Junior, Junior, Junior Gold, Sub Veteran, Veteran, or Senior Veteran) Note: Chair shooters are exempt from this rule.

1. A female shooter, who has not reached her 55th Birthday, may declare Lady I
2. A female shooter, who has reached her 55th Birthday, may declare Lady II
3. A shooter who has not reached his/her 15th birthday may declare Sub-Junior.
4. A shooter who is 15 but has not reached his/her 18th birthday may declare as Junior.
5. A shooter who is 18 but has not reached his/her 23rd birthday may declare as Junior Gold.
6. A shooter who is 55 but not reached his/her 65th birthday may declare as a Sub Veteran.
7. A shooter who is 65 but not reached his/her 70th birthday may declare as a Veteran.
8. A shooter who is 70 years of age and older may declare as a Senior Veteran.

*This rule does not supersede paragraph 10.*

9. Age based categories are established on the birthday of the shooter. For purposes of determining age category for HOA and HAA awards the category declared by the participant on the first day he/she shoots shall be used.
10. Shooters who become eligible for new age based categories during

the target year may elect to continue to compete in the previous category for the remainder of that target year. (For example a shooter reaching age 70 may elect to continue to shoot as a Veteran for the remainder of the current target year.) However, once a shooter has elected to move to the new category that decision is irrevocable and he/she may not again declare eligibility for the previous category. Junior shooters reaching the age of 18 may continue to declare Junior category for the remainder of the current target year.

**Note:** Age based special category shooters that are in contention for or desire to achieve All-American Team recognition should review the All-American Team policy on page 57 prior to declaring a new special category.

When there is no Sub-Junior trophy Sub-Juniors will be included in the Junior category. Senior veterans will be included in the Veteran category when there is no Senior Veteran trophy.

Where there is no Junior Gold or Sub Veteran Trophy, these shooters will be Included in the Open Class. Where there is no Lady II trophy, these shooters will be included in the Lady I category.

#### **K. CHAIR SHOOTERS**

Only shooters that have a permanent disability or condition that requires them to shoot from other than a standing position shall qualify for the Chair Category.

1. The Chair category designation will be assigned only by the Central Handicap Committee or Zone CHC representative upon request by each individual shooter and a new average card will be issued with the Chair Designation.
2. Shooters with a temporary condition that requires a scooter or other type of device are not qualified for Chair Category.

This rule does not in any way prohibit any shooter from shooting from a chair, stool, scooter or any other seating device.

### **SECTION V SINGLES AND DOUBLES EVENTS**

#### **A. 16 YARD SINGLES**

This event must be shot 5 or 10 shots at each post from 16 yards with each shooter in order shooting at one target until all have shot 5 or 10 times, and then rotating in a clockwise manner to the next post. Should Shoot Management elect to change to 50, 16-yard targets per trap (10 per post) after a shooter has made entry, the shooter must be allowed the option to withdraw and be refunded or change his/her option entry.

#### **B. DOUBLES**

This event must be shot from 16 yards, with each shooter in order shooting at two (2) targets thrown simultaneously from the trap house until all have shot the specified number of times, then rotating in a

clockwise manner to the next post. A Doubles event may be shot by having each squad shoot successive alternating 15 pair and 10 pair sub-events on the trap or traps being utilized, or Shoot Management may elect to throw Doubles in sub-events of 25 pairs.

### C. CLASSIFICATION

1. For 16-yard targets and Doubles, shooters should be placed in three (3) or more classes, according to their established average and/or known ability. A new shooter may be assigned to any class in 16-yards and Doubles events, at the discretion of classification personnel until the shooter establishes his/her known ability.

a. To arrive at known ability the following should be taken into consideration as far as such information is or can be made available:

(1) Official registered targets (abnormally low scores should be disregarded). Averages of all registered shooters are compiled and published annually.

(2) Non-registered scores including Shoot-off scores, non-registered events, practice scores, etc.

(3) Any other information bearing on a shooter's ability to shoot and break targets.

2. For 16-yard events the following systems are established:

#### SIX CLASSES

98% and over	AAA
96.25% and under 98%	AA
94.75% and under 96.25%	A
93% and under 94.75%	B
90% and under 93%	C
under 90%	D

#### FIVE CLASSES

97% and over	AA
94% and under 97%	A
91% and under 94%	B
88% and under 91%	C
Under 88%	D

#### FOUR CLASSES

95% and over	A
92% and under 95%	B
89% and under 92%	C
Under 89%	D

#### THREE CLASSES

95% and over	A
91% and under 95%	B
Under 91%	C

3. For Doubles events the following systems are established:

#### SIX CLASSES

96% and over	AAA
92% and under 96%	AA
89% and under 92%	A
86% and under 89%	B
82% and under 86%	C
Under 82%	D

#### FIVE CLASSES

93% and over	AA
89% and under 93%	A
85% and under 89%	B
78% and under 85%	C
Under 78%	D

#### FOUR CLASSES

90% and over	A
85% and under 90%	B
78% and under 85%	C
Under 78%	D

#### THREE CLASSES

89% and over	A
83% and under 89%	B
Under 83%	C

4. If Shoot Management desires to use different classification it may do so by printing the modified classification in the program of the shoot.

5. For better classification of shooters it is suggested that the following method be used.

a. If the shooter has less than 500 targets on current year's Average Card, use the previous year average and known ability.

b. If the shooter has between 500 and 1,000 targets (inclusive) on his/her current year's Average Card, use the current average and known ability or the previous year's average and known ability, whichever is higher.

6. Foreign shooters who shoot DTL or doubles in their home associations will be classified either by those averages (or their ATA averages, at the discretion of the handicap committee.) For classification purposes, a DTL average of 95 will be considered the same as an ATA singles average of 95 and the same equivalence for doubles will be used.

#### **D. PENALTY CLASSIFICATION**

Shoot Management may establish penalty classification for 16-yard targets and Doubles, if target requirements are printed in the program.

## **SECTION VI THE ATA HANDICAP SYSTEM**

The ATA Handicap system is the method whereby shooters whose ability to win or compete at a level of accomplishment has been demonstrated and shooters whose ability is unknown are handicapped by shooting a greater distance from the trap house. The minimum handicap is 18.0 yards and the maximum is 27.0 yards. A shooter's yardage is determined by Rules governing new shooters, by yardage earned, or by his/her established handicap yardage, which is based on known ability and 1000 target reviews, thereafter. At each State or Provincial shoot the handicapping and classifying shall be the responsibility of a State or Provincial shoot committee appointed by the State Association with the ATA Delegate as chair.

### **A. HANDICAP EVENTS**

This event must be shot 5 or 10 shots at each station as directed by shoot management from 18 to 27 yards with each shooter in order shooting at one target until all have shot 5 or 10 times as directed and then rotating in a clockwise manner to the next post. Should shoot management elect to change to 50 Handicap targets per trap (10 per post) after a shooter has made entry, the shooter must be allowed the option to withdraw and be refunded or change his/her option entry.

A contestant must stand on the highest whole yardage punched on his/her card. For example, if a card is punched at 20.5 yards, the shooter will stand on 20.0 yards. However, if one-half (1/2) yard is then earned, the card must be punched to 21.0 yards and the shooter must stand on the 21.0 yard line.

A shooter may not stand on a higher yardage than he/she is punched, unless assigned penalty yardage by shoot handicap personnel.

When a Handicap marathon event consisting of more than 100 targets is shot, each 100-target sub-event must not begin prior to the awarding of earned yardage based on the previous 100 targets. Shooters earning yardage must shoot subsequent sub-events from the new yardage.

It is not permitted to have more than one 50 and/or 75 target Handicap event in a registered tournament in any one (1) day.

### **B. CENTRAL HANDICAP COMMITTEE (CHC)**

1. The Central Handicap Committee, made up of a chair and five (5) or more members, is appointed at the sole discretion of the Executive Committee. It is the responsibility of the Central Handicap Committee, under the direction of the Executive Committee, to oversee the handicap system and control the assigned yardage of all members of the ATA.
2. Any Central Handicap Committee member may increase a shooter's yardage at his/her discretion when applying the Known Ability Rule.

The only other ATA Officers authorized to increase a shooter's yardage are voting members of the Executive Committee. The State/Provincial Delegate can, on behalf of the shooter make the request to the Zone Central Committee Member or a voting Member of the Executive Committee.

### **C. HANDICAP YARDAGE ASSIGNMENT**

A shooter will be handicapped between 18 and 27 yards and at the highest yardage punched on his/her Average Card, unless he/she is required to shoot penalty yardage.

1. New lady shooter - new lady shooters will be assigned a handicap of 19.0 yards.
2. New sub-junior shooter – a new male shooter who has not reached his 15th birthday will be assigned a handicap of 19.0 yards. A new male shooter who has reached his 15th birthday will be assigned a handicap of 20 yards. All additional yardage increases or reductions will be earned.
3. After a lapse in membership any shooter reapplying for membership in the ATA, who had been assigned a previous handicap yardage, shall resume shooting at the previously assigned yardage. The only exception is if the shooter was previously assigned a yardage based on age; because of present age the shooter may be required to shoot at a longer yardage. Failure of a shooter to shoot previously assigned yardage will result in disqualification and any and all scores and prizes, including money, forfeited thereby.
4. Rules for members of other trapshooting associations;
  - a. If a shooter is a member of any other trapshooting association or was a member of such association the preceding year AND shot targets in such association in the current or preceding ATA target year, he/she will shoot from the handicap yardage of whichever association shows the greater yardage.
  - b. A member who, at any time has previously been a member of another trapshooting association but has not shot targets in such association in the current or preceding ATA target year must shoot his/her last assigned yardage in that association (if it is greater) unless the shooter has received an ATA 1000 target review and been granted a reduction.
  - c. It will be the responsibility of the shooter to notify the shoot handicap committee if he/she holds or has held a card of another trapshooting association. Failure to notify the shoot handicap committee of another trapshooting association card may be cause for penalty action resulting in forfeiture of entry fees and all monies, including prizes, and possible suspension from all ATA shoots for one year.



## D. EARNED YARDAGE

1. Yardage will be automatically earned by shooters of high scores in all ATA registered events, according to the following table. This additional yardage is indicated by punches on the shooter's Average Card.

EARNED YARDAGE TABLE				
High Scores (and all ties)				
Shooters	1st	2nd	3rd	4th
25-49	1/2 yd			
50-69	1 yd			
70-124	1 yd	1/2 yd		
125-249	1 yd	1 yd	1/2 yd	
250-499	1 1/2 yd	1 yd	1/2 yd	
500-1499	2 yds	1 1/2 yds	1 yd	1/2 yd
1500 and up	2 1/2 yds	2 yds	1 1/2 yds	1 yd

2. Any score of 96 will automatically earn 1/2 yard provided it does not earn at least that much under the earned yardage table.
3. Any score of 50x50 or 75x75 in events of that length will automatically earn 1/2 yard provided it does not earn at least that much under the earned yardage table.
4. The State/Provincial Handicap Champion will automatically earn 1 yard provided the score does not earn at least that much under the earned yardage table.
5. Any score of 97, 98 and 99 or winning a total of \$750.00 or more (option and added money) in a single handicap event will automatically earn 1 yard, and a score of 100 or winning a total of \$1,200.00 or more (option and added money) in a single handicap event will automatically earn 1-1/2 yards provided these scores do not earn at least that much under the earned yardage table.
6. In marathon Handicap events comprised of more than 100 targets, each 100 targets (or remaining part of 100 targets) shall constitute a separate event for earned yardage purposes and shall be reported as a separate event on the shoot report form.
7. When multiple Handicap events are shot during the same day with fewer than 25 contestants, yardage will be awarded the high score(s), under the earned yardage table, by combining the total number of different individual shooters in all events with fewer than 25 shooters.

For example:

Event 1 - 14 shooters, Event 2 - 25 shooters, Event 3 - 12 shooters (3 of whom shot Event 1), Event 4 - 13 shooters (5 of whom shot Event 1 and/or Event 3). Event 2 stands on its own because it has more than

25 shooters. Combining Events 1, 3, 4 total of 31 different shooters (14, 9, 8). The high score among those 31 shooters will receive a ½ yard punch based on the earned yardage table unless that shooter earned yardage in event 2.

8. The earned yardage table applies to events of 50, 75 or 100 Handicap targets.
9. A shooter's card will be punched from the yardage actually shot (including penalty yardage if applicable). For example, if a shooter earns yardage shooting from 22 yards penalty he/she will be punched from the 22 yard line and not his/her normal yardage assignment. It is the duty of each ATA member to have his or her Average Card punched if yardage is earned. The Average Card must be punched to the correct earned yardage on the day the yardage is earned and before leaving the tournament grounds. If a member is required to leave the tournament grounds prior to the completion of a Handicap event, it is the member's duty to determine if his or her score qualified for a yardage increase and to have his or her Average Card punched to the correct yardage prior to entering any subsequent registered event and/or tournament.
10. The number of contestants starting the event will be the number used for the earned yardage table.

## **E. PENALTY YARDAGE**

Shoot Management may establish penalty yardage based on numbers of registered targets if those target requirements are printed in the program. In no event shall any shooter be assigned a handicap of less than the minimum yardage appearing on his/her Average Card. Penalty Yardage may be posted at the Club prior to entry of any Handicap Event and will be deemed as printed in the program.

## **F. SPECIAL HANDICAP RULES**

1. A shooter must continue to shoot from the last yardage assigned or earned until he/she receives a new Average Card with his or her reduced yardage indicated on it. **The ATA Shooter Information Center may be used as evidence of a reduction with verification by a member of the Central Handicap Committee, a voting member of the Executive Committee or the shooter's State or Provincial Delegate.** Electronic Printed Average Cards will be accepted when available from the ATA Web Site.
2. A shooter's handicap yardage may be reduced only as a result of a 1000 target review or a special review. No reduction may be made in the field. The shooter's new Average Card will be noted with the word "review".
3. A shooter's handicap yardage may be increased at any time during the year including immediately before and during the Grand American World Trapshooting Championships:

- a. because of earned yardage, or
  - b. as a result of a review, or
  - c. at the discretion of a member of the Central Handicap Committee or voting member of the Executive Committee.
4. A shooter at all times shall have the right to appeal any Central Handicap Committee action(s) to the Executive Committee.
  5. Earned yardage of 1.5 or more yards for any single event will not be removed in part or whole by 1,000 target review for a minimum period of one (1) year from the date the yardage was earned.
  6. If a shooter earns yardage while a reduction is in process the reduction shall automatically be void.
  7. When multiple 100-target Handicap target events (marathons) are shot in the same day, only 2 100-target events may be considered as a maximum per day towards reduction. The 2 events considered out of the marathon must be those 2 in which the highest scores are registered.

## **G. REVIEWS**

### **1. 1000 TARGET REVIEW**

The shooting record of each member will be automatically reviewed for possible yardage changes after each successive 1000 or more registered Handicap targets shot in the current and previous year if no yardage was earned. See 1000 Target Review Summary, Page 65.

a. A shooter with a low purified handicap average (the average with abnormally low scores deleted) accompanied by a relative 16 yard average, will receive a one yard reduction, EXCEPT

(1) No shooter will be reduced more than 3 yards in any target year.

(2) The known ability rule will be used in assessing a shooter's record.

b. A shooter with a high-purified handicap average may receive a "Special Review" for possible yardage increase.

c. If a yardage change is made, the shooter will receive by mail a new Average Card with the new assigned yardage noted with the word "review."

### **2. SPECIAL REVIEW**

a. "Special Review" is an evaluation by the Central Handicap Committee generated by a high-purified average on a 1000 Target Review or initiated by a shooter through his/her State Delegate or a member of the Central Handicap Committee. The results of a Special Review shall be agreed upon by the Central Handicap Committee and the shooter's State Delegate. If a disagreement in yardage assignment exists between the State Delegate and the

Central Handicap Committee, the matter may be directed to the Executive Committee. A Special Review may be used:

- (1) To determine possible yardage increases for shooters showing high-purified handicap averages on a 1000 target review.
- (2) To determine possible yardage reduction for a shooter because of advancing age or physical disability. A shooter through his/her State Delegate may initiate this review.

b. Other shooting organizations' registered handicap scores may not be used in the Special Review process to determine possible yardage changes, and such scores may be used only insofar as they may indicate known ability.

### 3. ASSIGNED YARDAGE INCREASES

a. A member may appeal an assigned yardage increase by writing to the ATA office, to the attention of the Executive Director after having shot 500 targets at the assigned yardage. After receiving a reduction based on such an appeal for any further reduction 1000 additional registered Handicap targets must be shot.

b. There will be no yardage increase by shooter request beyond 25 yards. Subsequent to a shooter receiving an increase in yardage by request he/she will be ineligible for reductions from that yardage assignment based on 1000 target reviews for a period of 2 years.

c. The only persons authorized to increase a member's handicap yardage are member(s) of the Central Handicap Committee or voting member(s) of the Executive Committee. A delegate may recommend a yardage increase on behalf of the shooter, however it must be approved by a Voting Member of the Executive Committee or a Member of the Central Handicap Committee.

## SECTION VII OFFICIAL SCORING

### A. PROCEDURE

1. The official score is the record kept by the referee/scorer on a sheet furnished him/her by shoot management. The referee/scorer's decision on whether a target is dead or lost is final, subject to review only by the shoot committee or other governing body. The score sheet shall show the scores earned in the event or sub-event. The score sheet shall not be smaller than 8.5 inches by 14 inches (for four sub-event score sheets) in any tournament in which ATA trophies are provided. The larger format score sheet is recommended for all tournaments. During Handicap events the first sub-event of each score sheet shall be annotated with the yardage assignment of each contestant.
2. The referee/scorer shall keep an accurate record of each score of each contestant. If he/she rules "DEAD" or "LOST," the referee/scorer shall promptly mark / or X for "DEAD" and 0 for "LOST" on the score sheet. Any target scored other than clearly with /, X or 0, or which appears

to be scored, with both an X and 0, shall be "LOST", unless the word "DEAD" is clearly printed beside it. The scores of the competition shall be official and govern all awards and records of the competition.

3. The referee/scorer shall distinctly announce, "Lost" when the target is missed and "No Target" when no target is thrown or a target is thrown broken. The referee/scorer shall call the result of all targets, or only the lost targets, as directed by shoot management.
4. When the referee/scorer calls "No Target" for any contestant, the next contestant shall not shoot until the first shooter has shot and the referee/scorer has ruled "Dead" or "Lost."
5. Should more targets be fired in a sub-event than the event calls for, then the excess targets of the sub-event will not be scored.
6. A shooter that misses the first post in any event may make up that post only and continue with the squad. Squad members should move off the line during the shoot up function
7. It is the duty of the referee/scorer to see that the shooters change posts at the proper time; however, any targets shot after failure to move at the proper time shall be scored.
8. Inadvertently skipped posts. A shooter is required to shoot the requisite number of targets from each post (5 or 10 as specified by shoot management). If a shooter inadvertently skips a post he/she or any member of the squad shall not be deemed to be out of turn but will be required to shoot the specified number of targets from the skipped post. While the shooter is shooting the skipped post the remainder of the squad will remain behind the trap line and will not proceed to the next trap.
9. A contestant that inadvertently shoots ONE post at the incorrect yardage shall be allowed to move to the correct yardage and reshoot only those targets scored "DEAD" on that post. Targets shot at the incorrect yardage and scored "LOST" shall remain "LOST". Targets shot at the incorrect yardage on more than one post shall be LOST.
10. To preserve the harmony of the competition, no member of a squad shall move toward the next post or leave the field until the squad member who is last has fired his/her final shot of the current post's specified number of targets.
11. The official score sheet must be available for shooter inspection at all times.
12. It is an error if the referee/scorer fails to properly mark the results of any shot in the section of the score sheet where the results should be recorded. In such cases it is the duty of that contestant to have any error corrected before he/she has fired the first shot at the next

post or in the case of his/her last post before leaving the trap. If the shooter fails to have the score corrected, the recorded score(s) shall remain unchanged and no valid protest will be entertained.

13. Every contestant in a squad shall be permitted to examine his/her score before the sheet is sent to the bulletin board or to the cashier's office. The score sheet should be checked, confirmed, and initialed by the Squad Leader. The Squad Leader is encouraged to verify that any targets changed during a sub event are correctly noted as either dead or lost. After the completion of the last sub-event the score sheet will be handled as directed by shoot management.
14. Errors in the recorded details of the official score can only be corrected in strict accordance with the aforementioned Rules, but an error made in the totaling or compilation of targets shall be corrected whenever the error is discovered. Shoot management must correct scores recorded in error by field personnel as a result of misapplication of the Rules.
15. Any protest concerning a score or scores must be made before or immediately after the close of the competition to which such scores relate. A valid protest may only be made by a contestant who competed in the event.

## **B. BROKEN OR DEAD TARGET**

A target (called "Dead") is one that is fired upon and has a visible broken piece from it, or one that is completely reduced to dust. The referee/scorer shall record a target dead when it is broken in the air.

## **C. LOST TARGET**

The referee/scorer shall rule, "LOST":

1. When the contestant fires and fails to break the target whether missed completely or when only dust falls from it. A "Dusted Target," is a target from which there is a puff of dust, but no perceptible piece is seen; it is not a dead target and does not declare a failure to fire; or
2. When a whole target appears promptly after a contestant's recognizable command and is within the legal limits of flight and the contestant voluntarily does not fire; or
3. When an illegal target, a freak target, or a target of a markedly different color is fired at and missed. A contestant may refuse illegal, freak or off-colored targets, but if he/she fires at the target the result must be scored; or
4. When a contestant voluntarily withdraws from, or is otherwise disqualified, and takes no further part in a sub-event after having fired at 1 or more targets of a sub-event and does not fire at all the targets in the sub-event, the referee/scorer shall rule all targets not fired upon

“LOST” targets and they shall be scored and reported accordingly. When the shooter is prevented by reasons beyond his/her control from completing a sub-event, the scores for that partial sub-event shall not be recorded or reported. Example: shooters have shot 61 targets of a 100-target event when a storm permanently stops shooting. The management should report the scores for the first 50 targets only; or

5. When a score sheet is delivered to the office with one or more targets that are not properly scored either “DEAD” or “LOST,” they shall be scored as “LOST” targets by shoot management; or
6. When a contestant deliberately fires at the same target twice in Doubles Events. This rule is not applicable to a gun “doubling” or “machine-gunning”, see Rule VII, D., 3.; or
7. When a commonly called “soft load” occurs, and the shot is fired but no part of the over powder wad or shot remains in the barrel and the target is missed. A soft load where the over powder wad or shot remain in the barrel shall be deemed a “Failure to Fire” and the “Failure to Fire” Rules apply.

#### **D. FAILURE TO FIRE**

The following procedure shall be followed in all tournaments:

1. A contestant shall be allowed two (2) failures to fire in Singles and Handicap events, for any reason other than stated in Paragraph C., 2. above, during each sub-event regardless of the length of the sub-event. When the first or second allowable Failure to Fire in any sub-event occurs, the contestant shall be allowed to call for and fire at another target, and the result of the shot will be scored in accordance with these Official Rules. During shoot-offs for All Around and High Over All events shooters will be allowed 1 Failure to Fire in each of the three (3) disciplines (Singles, Handicap, Doubles).
2. A contestant shall be allowed 2 failures to fire, for any reason other than stated in Paragraph C., 2., above, during each Doubles sub-event if the Failure to Fire occurs when the contestant attempts to shoot the first target of a Doubles pair, or when the contestant attempts to shoot the second target of a Doubles pair after the first target has been fired at and broken and would have been scored “DEAD”. When the first target of a Doubles pair is fired at and missed and that target would be scored “LOST”, and an allowable “Failure to Fire” occurs on the second target, the shooter may shoot another pair. In such a circumstance the shooter must shoot at both targets of the repeat pair but the first target shall be scored “Lost” regardless of the result of the actual shot, the second target shall be scored as shot. (See exception in VII., E., 11., f.) When the first or second allowable Failure to Fire occurs in any Doubles sub-event, the contestant shall be allowed to call for and fire

at another pair of targets and the result of the shots at the new pair will be scored in accordance with these Official Rules.

3. Machine-gunning or doubling only occurs in doubles events where two shots are fired with a single operation of the trigger, rendering the competitor incapable of firing at the second target because both shot shells have fired. When a defective gun malfunctions, doubles or machine guns whether or not the first target would have been scored "dead" or "lost" and whether or not either target is legal or illegal, the referee/scorer shall rule this occurrence a "failure to fire" and score accordingly.
4. Whenever an allowable Failure to Fire as provided in this Rule occurs, the referee/scorer shall mark a large legible F1 on the score sheet in the space where that target is scored along with the score for that target, and also place the same mark beside the total sub-event score. After F1 and F2 is in the place where individual targets are scored, any subsequent Failure to Fire in the same sub-event and for any reason, when a target is called and the target appears promptly and within the legal limits of flight, shall be ruled "LOST" and shall be scored accordingly. Cumulative application of the rule is prohibited (failures to fire do not accumulate from sub-event to sub-event), and "sub-event" shall be as defined by Official Rule IV, E.
5. Shoot Management is required to examine each score sheet before the score is posted, and any target scored as a Failure to Fire after two (2) allowable Failure to Fire as set forth above, shall be scored "LOST" whether originally scored as "LOST" by the referee/scorer or not.

#### **E. NO TARGET**

The referee/scorer shall rule "NO TARGET" and allow another target(s) in the following instances:

1. When an allowable "Failure to Fire" as described above occurs.
2. In single target events when the target is thrown broken, regardless of the result of any shot fired.
3. When a whole target appears on the call of the shooter along with target debris.
4. When a contestant shoots out of turn. All contestants must shoot in regular order or sequence according to his or her position in the squad. A contestant who does not shoot in regular order is "out of turn" and the results are not scored.
5. When two (2) contestants fire at the same target.
6. When the trap is sprung without any call of pull, or when it is sprung at any material interval of time before or after the call of the contestant, provided the contestant does not fire. If the contestant fires, the result must be scored.



7. When two (2) targets are thrown at the same time in single target events regardless of whether the contestant fires.
8. When an "illegal" target is thrown, which is a target that is not within the prescribed angle or height limits for single target shooting, or what is known as a "flipper" or "freak" target is thrown, which is a target that may have slipped out of the carrier of the trap or one not properly placed on the trap, provided the contestant does not fire at it. If the contestant fires, the result must be scored.
9. When a target whose color is markedly different from that of the others is thrown, and the contestant does not fire. If the contestant fires, the result must be scored.
10. When firing, the contestant's feet must be behind the firing mark at 16-yards, or behind the mark for the Handicap yardage assigned to him/her, depending upon the event being participated in. The contestant must stand with at least one foot on an imaginary line drawn through the center of the trap and continuing through the center of the post, or have one foot on each side of the line. Exceptions to the rule contained in the second sentence of this paragraph may be granted by the referee/scorer due to inequalities in the shooting platform, and shall be granted for wheelchair contestants. Wheelchair contestants shall position their chair so that the center of mass of their body is over the place where they would stand as required by this rule if no chair were used. If a contestant fails to follow this rule in its entirety, the referee/scorer shall rule any target fired at and broken a "NO TARGET," but if fired at and missed, the referee/scorer shall rule the target "LOST."
11. In addition, in DOUBLES EVENTS, the referee/scorer shall rule "NO TARGET" and allow another pair of targets in the following instances ONLY:
  - a. When only one target is thrown.
  - b. When more than two targets are thrown.
  - c. When both targets are broken by one shot.
  - d. When one or both targets are thrown broken even though the contestant fires at one or both targets.
  - e. When one or both targets are not within the prescribed angle or height limits and the contestant does not fire at either target.
  - f. If the contestant fires at an illegal first target and the second target is legal, he/she must also fire at the second target, and if he/she fails to do so, the legal second target shall be ruled, "LOST." After a contestant has fired at either a legal or illegal first target, he/she is not required to fire at an illegal second target, but if he/she does fire, the result must be scored.

## SECTION VIII PURSES AND OPTIONS

### A. COMPULSORY PURSES

No compulsory purse and/or option of any type shall be permitted in any tournament in which ATA trophies or ATA added monies are provided.

### B. OPTIONS AND MONEY DIVISIONS

Failure to comply strictly with these Rules shall result in disciplinary action by the State or Provincial Association and/or the Executive Committee.

1. Added Money. No tournament promoter or other person responsible therefore shall in any advertisement or program mention any purse or money in excess of the money actually added or guaranteed. Examples of money divisions may be included provided it is clearly stated that the amounts listed are only examples and not guaranteed amounts. The word "example" must be included. Failure to observe the above provisions shall be grounds for disciplinary action by the State or Provincial Association and/or by the Executive Committee. The ATA does not guarantee and it assumes no responsibility whatsoever, for actual payment and receipt of added money, guaranteed money and prizes advertised or offered at any shoot except the money, prizes and trophies directly supplied by and/or authorized by ATA.
2. At every registered tournament the cashier, or other official in charge, is required to post on a bulletin board available to the participants the names of all contestants who have entered any purse, options or any other monies, with each type of entry and contestant noted in an orderly and discernable fashion. Purses, options, etc., may be entered by and for contestants only.

Any club or cashier may deduct up to one-half (1/2) of one percent of the gross amount of purse and options to help defray costs of computations. Breakage accumulated by rounding off is to be considered part of the one-half (1/2) of one percent. The one-half (1/2) of one percent may be deducted from the gross amount of monies collected from purses, options, Lewis Class purses, guaranteed purses, or otherwise, but in no event shall Hall of Fame contribution awards be included in the computation or deduction. The deductions mentioned above shall be made in such manner that no individual purse, option, Lewis class purse, guaranteed purse or otherwise shall be reduced in any amount greater than the percentage that particular item bears to the whole amount of monies collected.

All monies collected shall be returned to the shooters in the same event in which collected unless otherwise noted in the program. In such cases the program must state clearly the circumstance under which the money will be paid. This rule shall not apply to any monies

collected above the actual costs of any merchandise or other such prizes, for which a separate fee is charged. Any excess monies of that type shall not be required to be returned to the shooters provided specific notification of nonreturn of such monies has been conspicuously inserted into each program indicating where and under what circumstances such monies are to be collected.

3. The cashier shall post on the bulletin board the amount to be paid each purse or option winner. In the event payment is made by check after the shoot is over and the contestants have left the ground, a payoff sheet for unposted events must accompany each check indicating the amount paid for each individual purse and option included in the payment.
4. Any reasonable request to inspect the cashier sheets must be honored by the shoot management. Any shooter or gun club must file a written complaint to validly contest any payoff or trophy award within thirty (30) days after the competition of the registered shoot and/or tournament or forfeit the right to do so without right of appeal.

### **C. CALCUTTAS**

The ATA does not encourage Calcuttas or similar events at any registered ATA tournament. ATA Rules concerning payment or non-payment of monies shall not be applicable in any manner to any dispute involving Calcuttas or similar events.

## **SECTION IX REGISTERED LEAGUE SHOOTING**

The following Rules shall apply to League Shooting only:

- A. Registered League Shooting shall apply only to 16-yard Singles targets and Doubles targets.
- B. Registered League Shooting shall be subject to and governed by official ATA Rules. In the event of any conflict between any Registered League's Rules and any official ATA Rule, official ATA Rules shall take precedence and shall govern in all aspects. The Official ATA Rules shall govern all complaints of ATA Rules violation or any Registered League's Rules violation, as a result of which any contestant or league is subject to possible disqualification, suspension or expulsion.
- C. The ATA will maintain and publish Registered League Targets history, and all Registered League Targets shall be counted for purposes of target attainment accomplishments.
- D. All Registered League Targets shall be counted toward target requirements for the Grand American World Trapshooting Championships and for all other ATA Registered Tournaments.

- E. Registered League Target Averages shall be reported in the annual Average Book, separate from ATA Target Averages, and shall be maintained on a separate column on the ATA Average Card.
- F. The following conditions are required to be met before any league targets will be registered:
1. A League must elect to become a Registered League.
  2. Any member of a Registered League electing to register scores must be a Life or Annual Member of the ATA.
  3. Applications for Registered League Shooting must be made on application forms approved and supplied by the ATA, and each form must be fully completed before submission to ATA. An application fee of \$25.00 for each Registered League must be paid at the time of submission of the application to the ATA office. The application must be approved in writing by the State or Provincial Association Secretary before the form is submitted to the ATA.
  4. Each Registered League's total score will be registered upon payment of a fee equal to the standard ATA Daily Fee charged for registered tournaments. Registration will be made when the designated league representative provides shoot reports to the ATA office containing the total number of targets thrown and broken for the League, and the total number of targets broken by each individual League participant, along with the required fee.
  5. League shoot reports are required to be sent to the ATA office within eight (8) calendar days after the date of the last shoot of the League. Failure to comply with this deadline shall result in a penalty of \$25.00 assessed against the defaulting League. In the event the penalty is not timely paid, the \$25.00 penalty shall be deducted from the State Association's annual rebate (see section X., C.).
  6. In the event any League fails to comply with the requirements set forth in this Rule, League scores for the League and for individual participants in the League will not be registered.

## **SECTION X STATE AND ZONE SHOOT**

### **A. RESIDENCE**

No person may compete for ATA trophies or titles in State, Provincial or Zone tournaments, unless he/she, for the immediately preceding six (6) months, has been a bona fide resident of said Province, State or Zone, and a member in good standing of the State or Provincial Association and the ATA. No person may compete for any such ATA trophies or titles in more than one (1) State, Province or Zone each target year. However, nothing shall preclude a shooter from returning to the former State,

Province or Zone residence and competing for trophies in the event he/she has not been a bona fide resident of another State, Province or Zone for the immediately preceding six (6) month period prior to such competition. In case there is a dispute with respect to the residence of a shooter attending a State, Provincial or Zone tournament, it shall be the duty of the State or Provincial Association (for a State/Provincial Shoot) or the Zone Officials (for a Zone Shoot) in which the shoot is being held to rule as to said shooter's right to compete as a resident shooter. The ruling of the State, Provincial Association or Zone Officials shall be final.

## **B. LINE REFEREE/SCORERS**

At all shoots where ATA trophies are furnished shoot management is encouraged to provide a line referee.

## **C. ATA SUPPORT FOR STATES**

The ATA in its commitment to build strong state and provincial associations aids them financially. From the \$20.00 annual membership, \$3.00 is returned to the state or provincial organization. No portion of the \$12.00 annual membership for Junior and Sub Junior members is included in the state rebate. From the \$500.00 life membership, \$250.00 is returned to the state or provincial organization over a 10 year period and part is retained in a special ATA emergency fund. From the \$3.00 daily fee, 20% is returned to the state organization. These refunds are made to the State/Provincial Association ten days prior to the State/Provincial Shoot, provided such shoot is held and provided the State or Province turns into the ATA at least \$200.00 from annual membership dues and registration fees. From this refund, there is deducted an amount equal to any fines due because of late shoot reports and any unpaid annual memberships due. On or before January 1 of each year the ATA shall inform the Secretary of each State/Province of the approximate amount of refund to be paid to that State/Province. This information must be printed in the program for that annual State/Provincial shoot.

## **D. ATA TROPHIES**

1. Only one (1) ATA trophy shall be awarded to any one (1) person in any separate event. This means a contestant may not win both an ATA special category trophy and an ATA champion, runner-up/place, class, or yardage trophy. Trophies not provided by the ATA to States/Provinces or Zone are exempt from this rule. Please see Paragraphs E. and H. of this section.
2. A chair shooter whose score qualifies them for more than one (1) ATA trophy must notify shoot management as to which trophy he/she desires to accept or shoot for. The shooter must make his/her declaration after the scores for each EVENT are posted and before entering in to any shoot-off/carry-over. The maximum time allowed for such declaration shall be made by shoot management, within a range of 15

minutes. This declaration should be made at a place specified by shoot management. If the shooter fails to make a declaration within the specified time, shoot management shall assign "Chair" as the choice.

3. Any shooter who is tied for event Champion may shoot-off/carry-over for the Championship trophy. If a shooter fails in the championship trophy shoot-off/carry-over and has declared a special category at the time of classification, the shooter will fall back to the declared special category.
4. Any shooter who has declared a special category at the time of classification and whose score qualifies for any trophy in his/her declared category, will compete for the category trophy and not for place, class or yardage group.
5. Any special category shooter whose score does not qualify for a trophy in his/her category, may compete for place, class or yardage group trophies.

Once any declarations have been made either by a shooter or shoot management, the declaration is final and cannot be changed. There shall be no exception to this rule.

## **E. STATE ATA TROPHIES**

The ATA will donate trophies to each State and Provincial Association hosting a State or Provincial shoot. All of the following trophies must be awarded to each resident State or Provincial champion. The decision to award like trophies to non-residents or on any other events at the championship tournament is left to shoot management. Upon request class AAA trophies for singles and doubles events listed below will be added to the State or Provincial trophy package at no cost to the tournament host. Where no trophy is offered, All American points will not be awarded. All American point pins may not be used as trophies.

### **Singles**

Singles Champion  
Singles Runner-up  
Lady I Singles Champion  
Lady II Singles Champion  
Sub-Veteran Singles Champion  
Veteran Singles Champion  
Senior Veteran Singles Champion  
Junior Gold Singles Champion  
Junior Singles Champion  
Sub-junior Singles Champion  
*Class Champions (AA, A, B, C, D) which may be awarded in the Class or Singles Championship*

### **Doubles**

Doubles Champion  
Doubles Runner Up  
Lady I Doubles Champion  
Lady II Doubles Champion  
Sub-Veteran Doubles Champion  
Veteran Doubles Champion  
Senior Veteran Doubles Champion  
Junior Gold Doubles Champion  
Junior Doubles Champion  
Sub-junior Doubles Champion  
*Class Champions (AA, A, B, C, D) which may be awarded in the Class or Doubles Championship*

## **Handicap**

Handicap Champion through Sixth  
Lady I Handicap Champion  
Lady II Handicap Champion  
Sub-Veteran Handicap Champion  
Veteran Handicap Champion  
Senior Veteran Handicap  
Champion  
Junior Gold Handicap Champion  
Junior Handicap Champion  
Sub-junior Handicap Champion

## **All Around Championship**

All Around Champion - shall be  
determined on the following:  
Singles - 200 targets  
Doubles - 50 pair  
Handicap - 100 targets  
All Around - the sum of the above  
400 targets

## **F. CHAMPIONSHIP EVENTS AT STATE TOURNAMENTS**

The four State championships shall be determined on the following:

Singles - 200 targets

Doubles - 50 pair

Handicap - 100 targets

All Around - the sum of the above 400 targets. Lady I, Lady II, Sub-Junior, Junior, Junior Gold, Sub Veteran, Veteran, Senior Vet and any other championships not listed above may be determined on a lesser number of targets at the discretion of the State Shoot Management.

## **G. ATA SUPPORT FOR ZONES**

The ATA donates \$3,000.00 in added money to be awarded at each Zone tournament. Zone officials may determine the division of the ATA added money for Zone tournaments in the Singles and Doubles class championships and in the championship events of Singles, Handicap, and Doubles. It shall be made available to all ATA registered shooters regardless of location unless the money is specifically restricted to Zone residents at the discretion of the various ATA Zones and it must be so stated in the Zone programs.

## **H. ZONE ATA TROPHIES**

The ATA will donate the following trophies to each Zone for its Zone Tournament:

### **Singles / Double**

Champion

Runner-up

Championship

AAA, AA, A, B, C, D

Lady I Champion

Lady II Champion

Sub-Junior Champion

Junior Champion

Junior Gold Champion

Sub-Veteran Champion

Veteran Champion

Senior Veteran

### **Handicap**

Handicap Champion

Handicap Runner-up

Handicap Third

Handicap Fourth

Handicap Fifth

Handicap Sixth

Lady I Handicap Champion

Lady I Handicap Champion

Sub-Junior Handicap Champion

Junior Handicap Champion

Junior Gold Champion

Sub-Veteran Handicap Champion

Veteran Handicap Champion

Senior Veteran Handicap Champion

**Class Singles / Doubles**  
Singles Class Championship  
AAA, AA, A, B, C, D

**All-Around**  
All-Around Champion

## **I. CHAMPIONSHIP EVENTS AT ZONE TOURNAMENTS**

Zone championships shall be determined on the following:

Singles - 200 targets

Doubles - 50 pair

Handicap - 100 targets

All Around - the sum of the above 400 targets

Class Singles and Class Doubles-a minimum of 100 targets (not to be shot concurrently with the Singles and Doubles Championships).

Zone tournament programs shall call for a minimum of 600 registered targets.

## **J. CONCURRENT STATE AND ZONE SHOOT**

When a State or Provincial shoot is held concurrently with a Zone telephonic shoot a shooter may win both an ATA state trophy and an ATA Zone trophy.

## **SECTION XI**

### **GRAND AND ALL AMERICAN QUALIFICATION**

#### **A. GRAND AMERICAN QUALIFICATION**

No participant shall be classified to shoot Handicap events at less than 25.0 yards unless he/she has a minimum of 1000 registered Handicap targets in the current year. The 1000 handicap targets must have been registered since September 1 of the previous year and not later than the day preceding the first day of the Grand American World Trapshooting Championships. However, participants who fail to meet Grand American Handicap qualification as described above shall have the choice of shooting targets only from their assigned yardage provided they waive and forfeit all rights to trophies, options, purses, and added money. Handicap target requirements are waived for Senior Veterans, making them eligible for trophies and monies.

Shooters who do not have a total of 1000 16 yard targets registered beginning since September 1, of the previous year and not later than the day preceding the first day of the Grand American World Trapshooting Championship will be advanced (1) class or more at the discretion of the Handicap Committee. Shooters with less than 500 registered single targets will be placed in class B or higher at the discretion of the Handicap Committee.

Shooters who do not have a total of 1000 double targets registered beginning since September 1, of the previous year and not later than the day preceding the first day of Grand American World Trapshooting Championships will be advanced (1) class or more at the discretion of the Handicap Committee. Shooters with less than 500 registered double targets will be placed in class B or higher at the discretion of the handicap committee.



## **B. ALL-AMERICAN TEAM REQUIREMENTS**

	16's	Hdcp	Dbls
Men, Sub Veteran	3000	2500	1500
Lady I, Lady II, Junior, Junior Gold, Veteran	3000	2000	1000
Sub-Junior, Sr. Veteran	2000	1000	500

1. Qualified competitions are the Grand American, Satellite Grand Americans, Annual Resident Zone Tournaments, Annual State or Provincial Tournaments or any other ATA Registered Tournament where total entries in the Singles Championship Event, Doubles Championship Event, and Handicap Championship Event, individually or in any combination, total at least 600 entries.

2. Shooters must have competed in the three championship events (the High All Around) in qualifying tournaments in three different states/provinces.

## **SECTION XII**

### **DISCIPLINARY ACTION, DISQUALIFICATION AND REINSTATEMENT**

#### **A. PAYMENTS AND OVERPAYMENTS**

Any club, which conducts a registered event and/or tournament, should make payment of all added money, purses, options, and other monies to the shooters as promptly as possible. Failure to do so within fifteen (15) days may result in the cancellation of registration privileges of that club for the remainder of the year, and no further registration shall be granted to that club until all monies due to shooters, the ATA and State organizations have been paid in full. The person(s) responsible, and/or officer(s) of such delinquent club(s), shall be barred from shooting registered targets until such payments have been made. Any ATA member who is due payment of money from a gun club and is requested to, but refuses to provide his/her Social Security Number or Tax ID Number is not protected by this fifteen (15) day Rule.

Any competitor at a registered shoot who, through error, has been overpaid on any purse, added money, option, or other awards, and who is notified of the overpayment by certified mail, must return the overpayment within fifteen (15) days. Failure to do so shall result in disqualification from participation in any ATA registered event and/or tournament until payment is made in full.

#### **B. DISQUALIFICATION**

1. A shooter may be disqualified for an event or for a whole tournament at any time by Shoot Management, or at any time by the Executive Committee or such person as they shall designate for that purpose, or disciplined by the Executive Committee, whenever the following prohibited conduct is brought to their attention:

- a. if in the opinion of Management or the Executive Committee the shooter disrupts the harmony of the shoot, or
- b. Contestants not timely reporting for competition, including shoot-offs; or
- c. if the shooter shoots at any place other than the regular firing line; or

- d. if the shooter fails to shoot at his/her correct yardage in any sub-event except as permitted in Section VII. Par. A., 8.; or
  - e. if the shooter has failed to have his/her Average Card punched for earned yardage at a prior shoot, and fails to report earned yardage at the time of any subsequent registration; or
  - f. if the shooter behaves in other than a sportsman-like manner such as physical abuse, verbal abuse or threats of any type directed to shoot personnel, other competitors, or any other person, whether on or off the shooting line, if such conduct occurs on gun club grounds and during any day when ATA registered trapshooting takes place; or
  - g. if the shooter interferes with the Management's procedures in conducting the shoot; or
  - h. if the shooter does not respond and report to the firing line in a timely manner when his/her squad is called to shoot; or
  - i. if the shooter does not abide by the Rules of the ATA, by the Rules set out by Management, and/or in the official program.
2. It is the responsibility and the required duty of Shoot Management to immediately remove and disqualify any contestant at any time during an ATA sanctioned tournament:
- a. who is under the obvious influence of alcohol or drugs before starting or during any event, sub-event, shoot-off or practice, or who consumes any alcoholic beverage or drugs during participation in any event, sub event or between events or sub events held on the same day including shoot-offs and practice. For purposes of this rule, "drugs" shall mean any illegal drug, and shall also mean any prescription medication if that prescription medication affects the judgment or conduct of the contestant to a degree that renders the contestant incapable of safely participating in the sport of trapshooting, whether during a registered event and/or tournament or practice; or
  - b. who handles a gun dangerously on or off the firing line, or
  - c. who deliberately or carelessly violates gun safety precautions, Official Rules regarding safety, or in any manner endangers contestants, spectators, or gun club personnel.
3. Disqualification for a single event does not prevent a contestant from participating in other events in the same tournament and scores shot in other events are not affected. However, any disqualification pursuant to Rule 2., a. above shall include all events or practice on the same day after the time of disqualification.
4. If the infraction is severe the management may disqualify the contestant for the entire tournament and require him/her to leave the grounds.
5. Disqualification for a tournament does not prevent a shooter from participating in other tournaments.

6. All entry monies in events not competed in as a result of disqualification are to be returned in full. Events, which have been started, do not qualify for refunds due to disqualification.
7. Scores shot in a registered event and/or tournament for which a shooter is disqualified will not be registered, and any trophies or monies, which the contestant has received for an event for which he/she is disqualified, **MUST** be returned. Any shooter who is disqualified for any registered event or tournament and fails to return any trophies or monies which the shooter received in that event or tournament will remain disqualified and will be barred from shooting ATA targets or otherwise participating in ATA activities until all trophies or monies have been returned and written certification from the gun club involved is received at the ATA Main Offices.
8. When a shooter's Handicap score is disqualified and that score would have earned yardage under the earned yardage table, the shooter's average card must be punched to the earned yardage. Those targets that are disqualified will not become part of the shooter's target history.

### **C. SUSPENSIONS, EXPULSIONS, AND REINSTATEMENT**

1. The Executive Committee may at any time at its discretion suspend any member or discipline shoot management for any conduct specified in Rule XII, B., 1., and/or anyone who:
  - a. presents a check at any shoot for fees and targets, or has or allows his/her fees and targets to be paid by such check, that is returned or dishonored for insufficient funds or any other reason. Further, any person who presents such a check more than two (2) times shall be automatically suspended for a period of one (1) year. Suspension shall be timed after reimbursement is made. The Executive Committee may designate authority to the Executive Director to suspend any member for presentation of dishonored checks, on first and second offenses, until the gun club where the check(s) were written has been reimbursed and the reinstatement fee has been paid. Clubs receiving such a check shall report the name and address of the shooter or individual issuing the check to the ATA along with a copy and a statement that the check was for registered targets and/or fees. After having been reimbursed the club **MUST** immediately inform the ATA so that reinstatement proceedings may be initiated. Any ATA member who has been suspended for presenting a check that is returned for insufficient funds or other causes and becomes eligible for reinstatement shall be required to pay the sum of \$25.00 to the ATA as a reinstatement fee. This fee must be paid before reinstatement will be considered; or
  - b. falsifies his/her scores; or
  - c. fails to have his/her Average Card properly punched for earned yardage or fails to report earned yardage at the time of registration

as contained in the Official Rules; or

g. encourages, participates in or allows a willful rule violation by any minor of which he/she is parent or for whom he/she is acting as legal or actual guardian, either temporary or permanent. For purposes of these Rules only, a "minor" shall mean a person who has not attained his or her 18th birthday, and "guardian" shall mean a person who has actual physical custody or control of a minor, either temporarily or permanently and custody or control for the purpose of attending a single registered trapshooting tournament shall satisfy that definition of "guardian" for the purpose of enforcement of this rule only; or

h. engages in conduct or behavior, which constitutes cause for suspension in the opinion of the Executive Committee.

2. A member who is suspended for any reason is barred from shooting ATA targets or otherwise participating in ATA activities for the period of his/her suspension.
3. If the Executive Committee feels the violations warrant suspension for longer than three (3) years, or expulsion, the member shall have the right of appeal if he/she complies with the terms and provisions of the By-Laws of the Amateur Trapshooting Association.
4. If new information, testimony or evidence is submitted to the Executive Director following a suspension decision by the Executive Committee, the decision may be reconsidered by the Executive Committee. The additional information, testimony or evidence must not have been present in any form during the initial suspension investigation. The Executive Director must forward the information to all Executive Committee members and a decision to reconsider must be made no later than 14 days after submission. The decision to reconsider must be affirmed by unanimous consent of the Executive Committee. If the decision to reconsider is unanimous, the zone Vice President will review the new evidence and submit a revised recommendation to the Executive Committee for a vote. All suspension procedures in regard to time limits and voting shall then apply.

#### 5. INVESTIGATING COMPLAINTS

The procedure for investigations of complaints of any Rules violation, including those that may result in suspension or disciplinary action, is as follows:

- a. All complaints of ATA Rule(s) violation(s) shall meet the following requirements:
  - (1) Shall be in writing and shall be signed by the complainant(s). Verbal or anonymous written complaints will not be accepted or considered.
  - (2) Shall be dated with the effective date that the complaint is made, and shall contain the exact date(s) of the alleged Rule(s) violation(s) in the statement of facts upon which the complaint is based.
  - (3) Specific Official Rule(s) alleged to have been violated shall be stated if known by the complainant.
  - (4) Full details of the incident(s) upon which the complaint is based must be made, and must include a statement of facts sufficient to describe the incident upon which the complaint is based, and sufficient to establish that violation(s) of Official Rule(s) occurred.
  - (5) The location and name and address of the gun club where the alleged violation occurred must be stated, and if a violation

of Rule XII, B., i.e. is alleged then the exact location of the violation(s) must be described.

(6) Names and addresses of any witnesses to the alleged violation(s) must be stated.

(7) A complaint may only be made by an ATA life or annual member in good standing on the date the alleged violation(s) occurred, or by a gun club in good standing where the alleged violation(s) occurred and signed by an authorized officer or director of the gun club.

b. All complaints of violation(s) of ATA Official Rules must be made within thirty (30) days after the date on which the alleged violation(s) occurred. In the event a claim is made, or a defense is raised that a complaint was not timely made, the earliest of the following dates shall control:

(1) The date of receipt by the ATA Executive Director or other ATA Official as designated by Corporate Resolution; or

(2) The date of postmark of the envelope in which the complaint was transmitted; or

(3) The date of transmittal to the ATA Executive Director [supra-Throughout these Official Rules and/or By-Laws, the reference to Executive Director shall include any other ATA Official that has been legally authorized by appropriate Corporate Resolution to fulfill the responsibilities and/or duties herein impressed] by any electronic media, provided, that a hard copy showing date of transmittal can be printed, and provided further that the original signed complaint and hard copy of proof of electronic transmittal are mailed or delivered to the ATA Executive Director on the same date transmitted.

c. All complaints shall be sent or delivered to the ATA Executive Director at the ATA Main office, and any statement of procedure in any previous Rule stating otherwise is void and of no effect. Upon receipt of a written complaint the ATA Executive Director shall:

(1) Cause each complaint to be assigned a number, consecutive to the last complaint received in order of receipt, and consisting of the year of receipt and consecutive number of receipt, e.g. 99-01, 99-02, etc.

(2) Examine the complaint to determine it substantially complies with the requirements set forth herein.

(3) If the Executive Director determines that the complaint alleges a serious breach of safety he/she shall immediately notify the ATA President of the alleged violation. The President, after consideration of the allegation, may direct the Executive Director to issue an administrative suspension of the member pending inquiry and action by the Executive Committee as set forth herein. While under administrative suspension a member may not participate as a contestant in any ATA registered events and/or tournaments. Notification of administrative suspension shall be by certified mail, return receipt requested or personal delivery.

(4) If the Executive Director determines that the complaint substantially complies with the requirements herein, he/she shall mail the complaint to the ATA State or Provincial Delegate representing the State or Province in which the alleged violation occurred, with instructions to proceed as required in accordance with ATA Official Rules.

(5) If the Executive Director determines that any of the following conditions exist:

(a) The complaint is directed against the ATA State or Provincial Delegate representing the State or Province in which the alleged violation occurred; or

(b) The Delegate has an obvious conflict of interest; or

(c) The Delegate recuses himself/herself, He/She shall assign the investigation to the Alternate Delegate(s) in succession. If one of the conditions described in (5.), (a.), (b.), or (c.) exist as to all available Alternate Delegates, then the Executive Director shall promptly notify the ATA President. Within ten (10) days after the receipt of such notification, the ATA President shall contact each voting member of the Executive Committee and, based on the majority vote of the Executive Committee, shall instruct the Executive Director who shall be assigned to conduct the investigation. In the event the person so assigned shall be unable or unwilling to conduct the investigation the ATA President shall repeat this procedure until an individual has been selected to conduct the investigation.

(6) If the Executive Director determines the complaint does not substantially comply with the requirements set forth herein, he/she shall return the complaint to the complainant with a letter informing the complainant of the reason(s) why the complaint does not comply with these Official Rules. Any defective complaint may be resubmitted at the option of the complainant, however, the time limit specified in Paragraph 4.b., above, is not extended and the time limitation is not tolled by this procedure.

d. Within fourteen (14) days after receipt of the complaint from the ATA Executive Director, the Delegate or individual appointed to conduct the investigation shall serve written notice of the complaint and a copy of the complaint on the alleged violator, by certified mail, return receipt requested or personal delivery. The written notice shall state the date and location of the alleged violation(s), the acts alleged to have occurred, the Official ATA Rule(s) alleged to have been violated, and shall inform the alleged violator that a written response is required within fourteen (14) days of receipt of the notice. A copy of the notice and a copy of the complaint, along with copies of any other documentation that is in the possession of the Delegate or individual appointed to conduct the investigation at that time, shall be sent to the Vice-President of the Zone in which the alleged violation occurred. The Delegate, Alternate

Delegate or individual appointed to conduct the investigation shall thoroughly investigate the allegations of the complaint and shall obtain witness statements in writing, signed by the witness(es), whenever reasonable, possible, or practicable.

- e. Upon receipt of any answer from the alleged violator, or if no such answer is received within fourteen (14) days after his/her receipt of the notice, or immediately upon receipt of notice of non-acceptance if the alleged violator refuses to accept the certified mail, the Delegate, Alternate Delegate or individual appointed to conduct the investigation shall confer with such State officers as deemed necessary, and then within twenty eight (28) days shall, in writing, recommend appropriate action to the Zone Vice-President. The entire file, including the return receipt or notice of refusal, and any response(s), answer(s), statement(s) or other documents relating to the complaint or investigation not previously sent or provided shall be delivered to the Zone Vice-President at the time the Delegate, Alternate Delegate or individual appointed to conduct the investigation makes his/her recommendation. Action recommended shall be specific, and shall not be general or left to the discretion of the Zone Vice-President or Executive Committee.
- f. The Zone Vice-President, upon receipt of the recommendation(s), shall review the entire file, and within fourteen (14) days after receipt shall write his/her own recommendations, with supporting facts, to all members of the Executive Committee. Each member of the Executive Committee will be provided a complete copy of the file and all recommendations accompanied by an ATA Official Ballot.
- g. All members of the Executive Committee shall, within fourteen (14) days after their receipt of the Zone Vice-President's recommendations, advise the ATA President of their agreement or disagreement with the recommendations of the Zone Vice-President, or any modification thereof. All Official notifications required under Section XII, C., 4., Subsections (e), (f), and/or (g), herein, may be effected by utilizing the Official Ballots as supplied or, in the alternative, scheduled for an adjudication hearing during any special or regularly scheduled meeting (teleconference or otherwise) of the Executive Committee, time requirement(s) permitting, subject to Section XII, C., 4., I.
- h. After receipt of notice of agreement or disagreement from each member of the Executive Committee, or modifications approved by a majority of the Executive Committee, the ATA President shall cause reasonably prompt and appropriate action to be taken in accordance with the majority vote of the Executive Committee. Suspensions and/or expulsions made under this section shall conform to the applicable provisions pertaining thereto as fully set forth in the Articles of Incorporation and By-Laws of the Amateur

Trapshooting Association.

- i. Any time requirement set forth in this Rule may, for good cause, and after written request of a Zone Vice-President, be extended by the President or his/her designate.

#### **5. REINSTATEMENT**

Any ATA member who has been suspended for any reason must pay a \$25.00 fee to the ATA when his/her period of suspension is completed or when, in the case of returned checks, he/she has reimbursed the club where the check was written. This fee must be paid before reinstatement.

### **SECTION XIII STANDARDS FOR TRAPHOUSES, TARGETS, TARGET SETTING, GUNS AND AMMUNITION**

#### **A. TRAP MACHINE**

A trap machine, which throws targets at an unknown angle, shall be used. All trap machines used to throw ATA registered targets shall be so manufactured, modified, or equipped as to interrupt irregularly the oscillation of the trap or otherwise assure the unpredictability of the flight of substantially all targets thrown.

Each gun club that throws ATA registered targets must have on file in the ATA main offices a signed Affidavit that the trap machines used to throw registered targets meet the requirements of this rule. The State/Provincial ATA Delegate is responsible for the enforcement of this Rule.

#### **B. TRAPHOUSES**

Trapshouses must adequately protect the trap loaders and shall not be higher than necessary for that purpose. It is recommended that trapshouses constructed after September 1, 2003 shall conform to the following specifications:

1. Length not less than 7 feet, 6 inches, nor more than 9 feet, 6 inches.
2. Width not less than 7 feet, 6 inches, nor more than 9 feet, 6 inches.
3. Height not less than 2 feet, 2 inches, nor more than 3 feet, 0 inches, the height to be measured from the plane of the number 3 shooting position.

It is recommended that the throwing surface (throwing arm or plate) of the trap machine be on the same level as that of Post 3 and the target height setting pad.

#### **C. POSTS**

The posts shall be 3 yards apart on the circumference of a circle whose radius is 16 yards. Handicap posts, when used, shall be prolongations of the lines given in Diagram I (p. 55), commonly known as fan shaped. The distance between posts at 16-yards shall then be 3 yards.

#### **D. TARGETS**



No target shall measure more than four and five-sixteenths ( $4 \frac{5}{16}$ ) inches in diameter, and not more than one and one-eighth ( $1 \frac{1}{8}$ ) inches in height. A target shall not weigh less than 95 grams or more than 105 grams with an allowable variation of plus or minus 5 grams per target lot. A target lot is defined as all targets with the same production number.

## E. FLIGHTS AND ANGLES

Singles targets shall be thrown not less than 49 yards nor more than 51 yards. Distance measurements are on level ground in still air. Targets shall be between 8 feet and 10 feet high, when 10 yards from Point B. The recommended height is 9 or  $9 \frac{1}{2}$  feet. The height at a point 10 yards from Point B is to be understood to mean height above an imaginary horizontal straight line drawn through the post and Point B. (See Diagram II) (See also the alternative to setting by distance - setting by speed - in Section F, following.)

Target height may also be set based on the height of the target at ten yards as measured above the level of the trap arm in the house rather than the height as measured from the number 3 shooting station. This is the recommended procedure at facilities where the installation of traps in the houses is inconsistent as to height.

Point B is defined as the intersection of a line measured 1 foot 6 inches from the outside vertical wall (farthest from the shooting stations) of the trap house and the centerline of the trap house. Please review Diagram I on page 55. If the trap machine manufacturer specifies a dimension other than 1 foot 6 inches, that dimension may be used in construction of the trap house. Clubs constructing new trap house and fields should use the same point B measurement as their existing fields to keep all fields as consistent as possible, provided the same trap machines are being used. In Singles shooting the trap shall be so adjusted that within the normal distribution of angles as thrown by the trap, the right angle shall not be less than 17 degrees measured to the right of center (3BF), and not less than 17 degrees measured to the left of center (3BF), with a total angle between outside target limits of not less than 34 degrees. (See Diagram II) Under no circumstances shall a Standard Model 1524 trap be set in less than the #2 hole. Any other trap machine shall be adjusted so as to throw not less than equivalent angles. Where terrain allows, a visible stake **may** be placed on the centerline of the trap on the arc of a circle that has a radius of 50 yards and its center is Point B (Point F, Diagram II). To help in determining legal angles, stakes may be placed on the arc of a circle that has a radius of 50 yards and its center is Point B. One stake should be placed where a line drawn through Point A and Point B intersects this arc and another stake placed where a line drawn through Point C and Point B intersects the arc. These lines and stakes will assist in determining the required angles, but it is to be understood that the angle specifications apply when the target is from 15 yards to 20 yards from the trap rather than where the target strikes the ground. However, no target is to be declared illegal unless it is significantly outside normal parameters (e.g., more than 10 degrees outside normal).

In doubles shooting, targets shall be thrown not less than 44 yards nor more than 46 yards. Distance measurements are on level ground in

still air. Targets shall be between 8 feet and 10 feet high when 10 yards from point B. The recommended height is 9 or 9 1/2 feet. The height at a point 10 yards from Point B is to be understood to mean height above an imaginary horizontal straight line drawn through the post and Point B (See Diagram II). The trap shall be adjusted so the angle of target spread is not less than 34 degrees. (See the alternative to setting by distance - setting by speed - in Section F, following.)

Target height may also be set based on the height of the target at ten yards as measured above the level of the trap arm in the house rather than the height as measured from the number 3 shooting station.

The 17 degree angle will appear to be a straight-away from a point 3 1/2 feet to the right of post 1; the 17 degree angle will appear to be a straight-away from a point 3 1/2 feet to the left of post 5. This 17 degree angle refers to the flight line of the target from the house to 15 or 20 yards out and can be used for singles, handicap, and doubles targets.

## F. RULES FOR THE USE OF RADAR GUNS AND CHRONOGRAPHS TO SET TARGET SPEED

There are two types of radar guns, high-power and low-power. The practical difference between them is that high-power guns work reliably from the 16-yard line and low-power guns don't.

High-power guns (Decatur, Stalker, most "police radar guns" and similar) are to be used at the 16-yard line. The trap oscillation is stopped, and the target measured is a straightaway. The gun is pointed horizontally. The correct speed for a singles or handicap target **is a minimum** of 42 MPH, maximum 43 MPH. The correct speed for the right target of a doubles pair **must be a minimum** of 39 MPH, maximum of 40 MPH.

Low-power guns (SportRadar, Bushnell, and similar) are to be used at the back of the traphouse and at the level of the top of the traphouse. (Holding the gun higher than that will lead to a target which is too fast.) The trap oscillation is stopped, and the target measured is a straightaway. The gun is pointed horizontally. The correct speed for a singles or handicap target **must be a minimum** of 42 MPH, maximum of 43 MPH. The correct speed for the right target of a doubles pair **must be a minimum** of 39 MPH, maximum of 40 MPH. When a radar gun is used from inside the house, the correct speed for a singles or handicap target **must be a minimum** of 44 MPH, maximum of 45 MPH. The correct speed for the right target of a doubles pair **must be a minimum** of 41 MPH, maximum of 42 MPH.

A chronograph is to be used as close to the trap as practical and tipped up at approximately the same angle as the flight of the target. The correct speed for a singles or handicap target is 67 ft/sec minimum, maximum of 69 ft/sec. To set doubles with a chronograph, set a singles target to 76 ft/sec minimum, maximum 78 ft/sec. and then switch the trap to throw doubles without changing the spring tension.

Note: target speed may be set by distance as above or by speed as

determined by a radar gun or chronograph. Target must be set by measured speed or distance.

## **G. GUNS AND AMMUNITION**

Any shooter violating any of these Rules shall be disqualified from competition in accordance with these Rules. Any such violator shall be referred to the Executive Committee for possible further disciplinary action.

A contestant cannot use:

1. A gun with a chamber larger than 12 gauge. Guns of smaller gauges are permissible in registered and tournament shooting, but no competitive consideration shall be given in recognition of that fact for handicap and classification purposes. A contestant may not use a gun capable of chambering more than one gauge of shells at the same time. For example, chambering 12 gauge and 20 gauge shells in the same gun at the same time is prohibited.
2. Loads that contain nickel or copper coated shot or tracer loads. However, the use of lead, steel, bismuth, or other composite non-toxic shot materials shall be allowed. Any gun club allowing shot materials described in this Rule, other than lead, shall be required to cover or shield all hard surfaces on trap fields which are known, or reasonably believed, to cause pellet ricochet with material which will prevent the shot pellets from rebounding and/or ricocheting.
3. Any load with a velocity greater than 1290 FPS (Feet Per Second) with maximum shot charge of 1 1/8 ounces, or 1325 FPS with a maximum shot charge of 1 ounce, or 1350 FPS with a maximum shot charge of 7/8 ounces or less, as measured in any individual shotshell. These velocities are maximum and no individual shotshell shall exceed these limits for the designated shot charge. In addition, no load containing more than 1 1/8 ounces or any shot larger than Number 7 1/2 can be used. Shot charges are maximum and no charge may exceed the charge amount by more than 3%. Steel shot in Number 7 will be acceptable as long as velocity criteria are the same as for lead shot shells.
4. Any shell loaded with black powder.
5. Shoot Management, ATA official(s) or any contestant may challenge the load of any other contestant. Any challenge shall be initiated so as to not disrupt the harmony of the shoot or interfere with other contestants not involved with the challenge. On receipt of a challenge management or ATA official(s) shall obtain a shell or shells from the challenged party, and if after examination, management or ATA official(s) find the contestant violated the ATA rule, he/she may be disqualified. Any such initiated challenges, determined to be abusive in nature, will be referred to the ATA Executive Committee for disciplinary action.

## AA27AA REQUIREMENTS

Pins are given on a **one-time basis**. Averages used to make the determination were those reported in the current Average Book. Target requirements for consideration were:

MEN -

3,000 SINGLES, 2,000 HANDICAP and 1,000 DOUBLES

WOMEN AND JUNIORS-

2,500 SINGLES, 1,500 HANDICAP and 750 DOUBLES

SUB-JUNIORS, VETERANS, SENIOR VETERANS -

2,000 SINGLES, 1,000 HANDICAP and 500 DOUBLES

SINGLES - holding a 97% or better average

HANDICAP - 27 yard line

DOUBLES - holding a 93% or better average

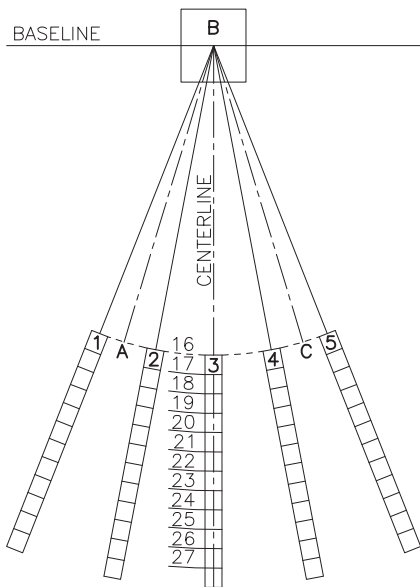
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POINT B: SEE RULE XIII, E.



YARDS FROM POINT B

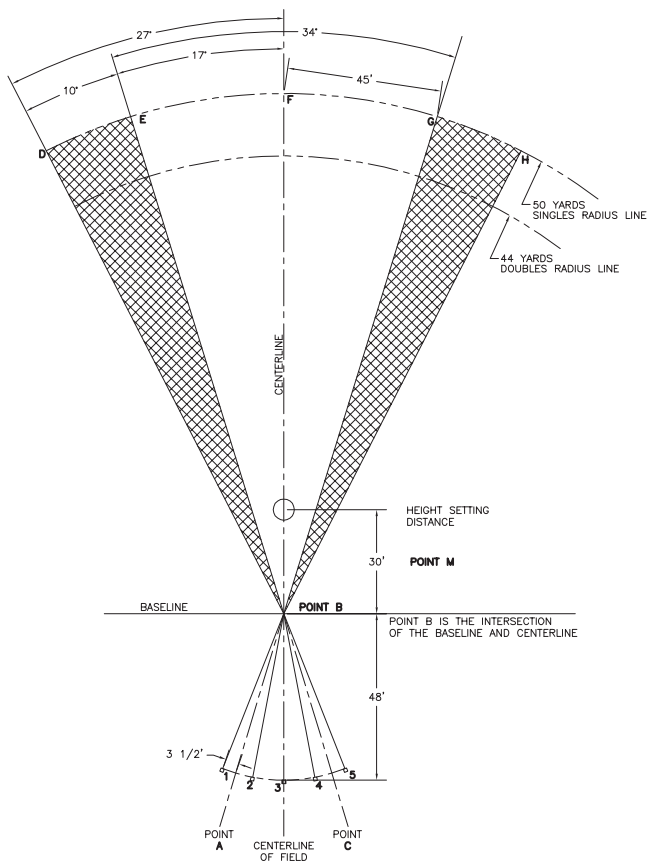
Diagram I  
Trap field and Firing Positions



## **Diagram II**

### **Legal Target Area for Single and Doubles Shooting**

1 TO 5:	FIRING POINTS 3 YARDS APART
POINT B:	16 YARDS FROM FIRING STATIONS
DEFGH:	FIFTY YARDS FROM TRAP
BDEFGHB:	AREA OF LEGITIMATE TARGET
BEFGB:	MOST DESIRABLE AREA IS WHICH TO THROW TARGET
3BF:	IMAGINARY STRAIGHT LINE THROUGH POINT B AND NO. 3 FIRING STATION
EF, FG:	THE DISTANCE BETWEEN THESE POINTS SHALL BE A STRAIGHT LINE 45 FEET LONG
TARGET ELEVATION:	TARGET ELEVATION SHOULD BE 8-0 TO 10-0 FEET FOR SINGLES, HANDICAP AND DOUBLES



**Diagram II**  
**Legal Target Area for Single and Doubles Shooting**

# ALL AMERICAN TEAM QUALIFICATION AND POINT AWARDS

## Minimum Requirements For AA Team Consideration:

- | <b>1. Targets</b>                 | <b>Singles</b> | <b>Handicap</b> | <b>Doubles</b> |
|-----------------------------------|----------------|-----------------|----------------|
| Men, Sub-Veteran                  | 3000           | 2500            | 1500           |
| Lady I & II, Jr, Jr Gold, Veteran | 3000           | 2000            | 1000           |
| Sub-Junior, Senior Veteran        | 2000           | 1000            | 500            |
- Shooters must have competed in the Championship events (High All Around) at qualifying tournaments in a minimum of three different State/Provinces.
  - Shooters must be an ATA Member in good standing.

## **Trophy Point Values:**

Shooters earn points for trophy wins/ties at qualifying tournaments. "Championship Events" have a higher point value than "Other Events" as shown in the Tables below. Trophy points are not awarded unless the official shoot program specifies where trophies are to be awarded in each qualifying event. *(The exception is All American Points Pins awards at Satellite Grand's and ATA Zone tournaments)* Qualifying Events vary depending on the tournament.

### **Table 1 Championship Events**

Champion	10
Runner-up	8
3rd through 5th	7
6th through 10th	6
11th through 15th	5
15th through 20th	4
Tie	3

### **Table 2 Other Events**

Champion	5
Runner-up	4
3rd through 5th	3
6th through 15th	2
Tie	1

## Qualifying Tournaments and Events:

### **GRAND AMERICAN**

All events are eligible for points except the White Flyer High Over All as follows:

**Table 1 Points** - All Grand Week Events (Monday through Saturday) including All Around and High Over All.

Placement in the top ten by score in the Grand Week All Around and High Over All.

**Table 2 Points** - All preliminary events (Wednesday through Sunday) including Preliminary High Over All.

Placement in the top ten by score in the Preliminary High Overall.

**SATELLITE GRAND AMERICANS** – (Autumn, Dixie, Empire, Great Lakes, Heartland, Northeastern, Southern, Southwestern, Spring and Western Grand)

Satellite Grand Americans may be up to 10 days in duration, however only events in the final week (7 days) are eligible for trophy points. The days in excess of 7 days may be awarded trophy points if they qualify as per “Other Major Tournaments”.

**Table 1 Points** - Championship Events including All Around & High Over All.

**Table 2 Points** - All other events included in the last seven days of the tournament.

All American Points Pins awarded per the All American Points Pins Table.

### **ATA STATE/PROVINCIAL TOURNAMENTS**

Events eligible for points as follows:

**Table 1 Points** - Championship Events including All Around and High Over All. In tournaments where resident, open and non-resident trophies are offered in the same event, only two of the classifications will be eligible to receive All-American points.

**Table 2 Points** - Preliminary Handicap, Singles Class Championship, Doubles Class Championship and other eligible events. Up to 1300 total targets and up to 5 days of a State/Provincial Tournament may be used for All American Point determination.

Any single event with 600 or more entries.

Resident and Non resident shooters are considered separately for point awards where there are resident and non resident trophies. Open trophy winners are awarded points based on their placement as compared to other resident or non resident shooters as applicable

### **RESIDENT ATA ZONE TOURNAMENTS**

Events eligible for points as follows:

**Table 1 Points** – Zone Wide Championship Events including All Around and High Over All. (HOA for Eastern Southern and Western Zones: 1,000 Targets, Southwestern and Central Zones: 700 Targets)

**Table 2 Points** – Zone Wide Singles Class Championship, Doubles Class Championship, and Preliminary Handicap and other eligible events. Up to 1000 total targets and up to 4 days of a Zone Tournament may be used for All American Point determination.

Any single event with 600 or more entries.

Resident and Non resident shooters are considered separately for point awards where there are resident and non resident trophies. Open trophy winners are awarded points based on their placement as compared to other resident or non resident shooters as applicable

Shooters earning points at an individual zone site that qualifies as an "Other Major Tournament" and also earns points for the entire Zone shoot, the higher of the two point totals will be used for the total points count.

All American Points Pins awarded per the All American Points Pins Table

### **OTHER MAJOR TOURNAMENT**

An "Other Major tournament" is defined as any tournament with a combined entry in the Singles, Handicap and Doubles Championship of 600 and over. Events eligible for points as follows:

**Table 1 Points** - Championship Events including All Around and High Over All.

**Table 2 Points** - Any single event with 600 or more entries.

### **ALL AMERICAN POINTS PINS**

To "standardize" trophies given at Satellite Grand's and ATA Zone tournaments, All American Points Pins are awarded and points earned where trophies may not necessarily be provided. Receiving the "pin" serves as the trophy and thereby; allows the shooter to earn All American points. All American Points Pins are awarded at Satellite Grand's and ATA Zone Tournaments only.

### **Satellite Grands**

All events qualify for All American Points Pins. All American Points Pins placement criteria regarding Satellite Grand's will be sent to proper Satellite Grand Authorities.

## **ATA Zone Tournaments**

All American Points Pins will be awarded as follows:

### **Singles Class (20)**

Champion through third  
Lady I: Champion & runner-up  
Lady II: Champion & runner-up  
Junior Gold: champion & runner -up  
Junior: Champion & runner-up  
Sub-Junior: Champion & runner-up  
Sub-Veteran: Champion & runner-up  
Veteran: Champion & runner-up  
Senior Vet: Champion & runner-up  
Chairperson: Champion

### **Preliminary Handicap (zone-wide) (22)**

Event Champion through fifth  
Lady I: Champion & runner-up  
Lady II: Champion & runner-up  
Junior Gold: champion & runner-up  
Junior: Champion & runner-up  
Sub-junior: Champion & runner-up  
Sub-Veteran: Champion & runner-up  
Veteran: Champion & runner-up  
Senior Vet: Champion & runner-up  
Chairperson: Champion

### **Doubles Championship (30)**

Champion through fourth  
Lady I: Champion through third  
Lady II: Champion through third  
Junior Gold: Champion through third  
Junior: Champion through third  
Sub-Junior: Champion through third  
Sub-Veteran: Champion through Third  
Veteran: Champion through third  
Senior Vet: Champion through third  
Chairperson: Champion & runner-up

### **All-Around (20)**

Champion through third  
Lady I: Champion & runner-up  
Lady II: Champion & runner-up  
Junior Gold: Champion & runner-up  
Junior: Champion & runner-up  
Sub-junior: Champion & runner-up  
Sub-Veteran: Champion & runner-up  
Veteran: Champion & runner-up  
Senior Vet: Champion & runner-up  
Chairperson: Champion

### **Doubles Class (20)**

Champion through third  
Lady I: Champion & runner-up  
Lady II: Champion & runner-up  
Junior Gold: Champion & runner-up  
Junior: Champion & runner-up  
Sub-Junior: Champion & runner-up  
Sub-Veteran: Champion & runner-up  
Veteran: Champion & runner-up  
Senior Vet. Champion & runner-up  
Chairperson: Champion

### **Singles Championship (30)**

Champion through fourth  
Lady I: Champion through third  
Lady II: Champion through third  
Junior Gold: Champion through third  
Junior: Champion through third  
Sub-Junior: Champion through third  
Sub-Veteran: Champion through third  
Veteran: Champion through third  
Senior Vet: Champion through third  
Chairperson: Champion & runner-up

### **Handicap Championship (36)**

Champion through tenth  
Lady I: Champion through third  
Lady II: Champion through third  
Junior Gold: Champion through third  
Junior: Champion through third  
Sub-Junior: Champion through third  
Sub-Veteran: Champion through third  
Veteran: Champion through third  
Senior Vet: Champion through third  
Chairperson: Champion & runner-up

### **High Over All (20)**

Champion through third  
Lady I: Champion & runner-up  
Lady II: Champion & runner-up  
Junior Gold: Champion & runner-up  
Junior: Champion & runner-up  
Sub-Junior: Champion & runner-up  
Sub-Veteran: Champion & runner-up  
Veteran: Champion & runner-up  
Senior Vet: Champion & runner-up  
Chairperson: Champion

### **High Score Point Awards:**

Points are awarded for the overall top three scores in each qualifying event as indicated below:

	<b><u>Championship Events</u></b>	<b><u>Other Events</u></b>
High Score	10	5
2nd High Score	8	4
3rd High Score	7	3

Special Category shooters are **ONLY** eligible for high score points if their score is in the top three for the event. In the event that no Trophy is awarded and contestants are eligible and tied for All American Points Pins, ties may be decided by their reverse score on the events in question on full sub events. If ties still exist shoot management may resolve ties by coin flips or other gaming methods.

All point pin positions for categories and for open classes will be decided in this way.

**NOTE:** High score points are **NOT** multiplied by the competition factor but added to total trophy points after the competition factor is applied.

All point pin positions for categories and for open classes will be decided in this way.

### **Competition Factor:**

The competition factor is a multiplier determined by tournament attendance and is derived by the combined entries in the Championship Singles, Handicap and Doubles events.

Points earned for each trophy win or tie at each qualifying shoot are multiplied by that shoot's competition factor to determine total trophy points. High Score Points earned then are added to the trophy points total.

The number of shooters completing an event, as indicated in ATA records, will govern in case of a dispute as to tournament attendance.

Qualifying shoots will have a minimum competition factor of two (2). State shoots will have a maximum factor of seven (7). Satellite Grand's and ATA Zone shoots will have a minimum factor of three (3). Grand American preliminary week events will have a fixed competition factor of eight (8). Grand American Week events will have fixed competition factor of ten (10).

<b>Total number of entries</b>	<b>Competition Factor</b>
5 to 500	2
501 to 900	3
901 to 1500	4
1501 to 2100	5
2101 to 2700	6
2701 to 3300	7
3301 to 3900	8
3901 and over	9

### **Trophy Point Procedure:**

Trophy points are awarded for actual trophy wins/ties as reported to the ATA Office and or Trap & Field Magazine by the tournament host. The report as received will be the official record from which trophy points are awarded. Shooters will only be eligible for trophy points when trophies are listed in the Official Program for the tournament.

Participants who note errors/omissions in winner's lists in Trap & Field or on shootata.com are encouraged to contact the tournament host directly and have notice of corrections forwarded to Trap & Field or ATA.

For the Men's Team, after event champion and place points have been awarded, awards in the longest yardage group and highest class will earn trophy points

In calculating special-category (Women, Juniors, Sub-Juniors, Veterans, Senior Veterans, and Wheelchair) All-American Points, any trophies other than the event championship one and the respective category one(s) will NOT earn trophy points.

Points for open trophy winners will be adjusted based on the shooters' actual placement in the event.

A clear winner for each eligible point award must be determined, including All American Points Pins awards. Trophy points will not be awarded to the shooters that do not have ties determined in a conventional manner (e.g. shoot off, flip of the coin etc.) Tie points will be awarded in cases where clear winners are not reported.

### **Team Selection:**

The shooter's seven (7) highest qualifying shoots (in points) will be used to determine team placement.

The following teams and number of members are offered for achievement recognition.

Men's 1st Team - 12	Sub-Junior 1st - 10
Men's 2nd Team - 20	Sub-Junior 2nd - 15
Sub Veteran 1st Team - 12	Veteran 1st - 12
Sub Veteran 2nd Team - 20	Veteran 2nd - 20
Lady I and Lady II - 1st - 10	Senior Veteran 1st - 12
Lady I and Lady II - 2nd - 15	Senior Veteran 2nd - 20
Junior 1st - 10	Chair Shooter - 7
Junior 2nd - 15	Junior Gold 1st - 5
	Junior Gold 2nd - 7

A shooter who qualifies for more than one team will be placed on the team where he or she ranks the highest. This may not necessarily be the team where he or she has tallied the greatest number of points.

### **AGE BASED SPECIAL CATEGORY SHOOTERS – PLEASE NOTE**

Points accumulated in more than one aged based special category (shooters that declare a new category during the target year) will not be combined for team



placement purposes. For Example: A shooter that turns 70 on January 1st may declare as a Senior Veteran on that date but no points that were earned as a Veteran will apply to his Senior Veteran status. The same will apply for shooters turning 65 during the target year that declare themselves Veterans.

Similar logic applies to Sub Juniors and Juniors.

No application is necessary for All American Team recognition. The ATA website ([www.shootata.com](http://www.shootata.com)) includes team standings and individual reports for qualifying tournaments. Information displayed in the ATA website is considered official and will be the basis for team selection. Any discrepancy should be reported to the ATA office. Each shooter in apparent contention will receive a detailed printout of their individual achievement on or about October 1st.

Team selection will be announced in the December issue of Trap & Field and on the ATA web site. Formal notification will come from the ATA office some time in December.

## **Amateur Trapshooting Association / Pacific International Trapshooting Association**

### **Letter of Agreement (For the advancement of shotgun sports)**

Whereas, the Amateur Trapshooting Association (ATA) and the Pacific International Trapshooting Association (PITA) both exist for the express purpose of promoting the safe and enjoyable conduct of the sport of trapshooting.

Now, therefore, the ATA and the PITA enter into this Letter of Agreement (LOA) to provide a vehicle to allow targets shot under the rules of the ATA and/or the PITA to be registered in each other's association, hereinafter referred to as cross-registration.

This LOA is expressly intended to be applied only to those states and provinces who have both ATA and PITA state/provincial associations who conduct annual state/provincial tournaments and the guidelines are as follows:

1. Neither association will sanction a tournament on a date that will conflict with the date of a tournament previously granted to another club or association in close proximity. "Close proximity" will be defined on a state/province by state/province basis.
2. The host club will present either an ATA or PITA sanctioned event with shooters having the option of their scores recorded by the other association. Shooters must be a current member in good standing, of each association, pay the daily fees of both associations, plus state/provincial association fees.
3. The rules of the host association will be accepted for cross-registration. Earned yardage will be awarded according to the rules/earned yardage chart of the host association and will apply directly to all cross-registered targets. Therefore, shooters cross-registering targets that earn yardage will have both their ATA and PITA cards punched accordingly. By cross-

registering targets, shooters agree to accept the yardage increase criteria of the host association.

4. Cross-registered targets will be used in computing the shooter's average.
5. In a tournament which offers cross-registration there must be a minimum of five (5) shooters, cross-registered or not, in the first event of the day and a minimum of three (3) for all subsequent events.
6. Any club conducting a registered tournament under the rules of either ATA or PITA may provide for participating shooters to register all targets shot with the other association by doing the following:
  - a. Publish a program of events notifying all shooters of the availability of cross-registration.
    - i. Sample announcement for a cross-registered program:

THE (Club Name) WILL HOST A (ATA or PITA) REGISTERED SHOOT ON (Date). TARGETS MAY BE CROSS-REGISTERED WITH THE (ATA or PITA) SUBJECT TO ALL FEES, RULES AND REQUIREMENTS.

- b. Collecting the appropriate state/provincial and national fees for all shooters desiring to cross-register targets and insuring that their dues are current. Payment of those daily fees to the respective state/provincial and national associations.
- c. Recording the membership numbers and scores of all such shooters.
- d. Reporting the following information to the national office of the other association:
  - i. Names and membership numbers of all shooters cross-registering.
  - ii. Scores of all shooters cross-registering.
  - iii. Total number of shooters participating in each event, including those not cross-registering targets.
  - iv. Earned yardage for all handicap events.
  - v. Club official contact information.
  - vi. A copy of the official shoot program.
- e. Reporting all information required by the respective state/provincial association.
- f. Ensuring that a shooter wishing to cross-register targets shoots their longest assigned yardage and cross-registers all targets shot in the program. Cross-registered targets must be paid for before the contestant shoots their first event or no cross-registering will be allowed.
- g. Ensuring that no shooter currently suspended by the ATA or PITA be allowed to cross-register targets.

This agreement is subject to an annual review by the ATA and PITA for problem resolution.

This LOA may be cancelled by written notification of either association with one hundred eighty (180) days prior notice.

## 1000 TARGET REVIEW SYSTEM SUMMARY

This system has been developed through Delegate and Central Handicap Committee input with final approval and development by the Executive Committee. In order to explain the process clearly, several terms used in the following over-view will first be defined.

COMPUTER REVIEW is the term used for regular 1000 Target Reviews processed by the computer. The output from these reviews is either a one yard reduction or a “no change” review, 8888 or 5555 listed in the shoot location code column of the shooter’s record.

BREAK POINT is the average looked at by the computer to determine if a reduction is warranted. Break points may be different depending on zone of residence.

Eastern Zone:	90%
Central Zone	90%
Southern Zone	90%
Southwestern Zone	90%
Western Zone	90%

HANDICAP COUNTER reflects the number of handicap targets registered since the last earned yardage or 1000 Target Review. Said “counter” appears on the same line as the yardage in the heading of a shooter’s record. The “counter” is zeroed after a review or earned yardage is entered into the shooter’s record.

PURIFIED AVERAGE is best explained as the shooter’s handicap average after disregarding up to two handicap scores that deviate more than 10% below the shooter’s average.

SPECIAL REVIEW is a review generated upon a shooter’s request and/or Delegate or Central Handicap Committee request. A “Special Review” may be for either reduction, increase, or no change. This review is processed manually and is indicated in the shooter’s record with 2222 in the shoot location code.

### \*\*REVIEW PROCESS\*\*

1. The 1000 Target Review system is based upon the targets for the current and previous target year. All targets considered for review must be shot from the member’s current, correct, ATA yardage. **Targets shot from other yardages (IE: penalty yardage) will NOT BE CONSIDERED for review purposes, even though these targets may count toward target attainment to meet minimum target requirements.** Any special review, or earned yardage, will dictate 1000 handicap targets be shot, from the new yardage, prior to another computer generated review.
2. Shooters with a purified handicap average higher than the break point will

be listed as “within the norm of ability”, the counter will be zeroed and a notation of 5555 will be entered into the shooter’s record. Shooters with a purified average below the break point and 500 or more singles targets in the current and previous target year, but not combined will receive a one yard reduction subject to any other restrictions. This 500 target restriction can be waived through agreement between the ATA Delegate and Central Handicap Committeeman, with notification to the shooter being a new card sent from the ATA office. The State/Provincial Delegate and the Zone CHC member will be notified by email and must approve prior to the shooter being given a yardage reduction.

3. No shooter will be reduced more than three yards in any one target Year. The State/Provincial Delegate will be notified by email and must approve prior to the shooter being given a further yardage reduction.
4. Earned yardage of 1.5 or more yards for any single event may not be removed in part or in whole by any Committee action and/or 1000 target review for a minimum period of 1 years from the date the yardage is earned.
5. When multiple 100 target Handicap target events are shot on the same day, only 2 100-target events may be considered as the maximum per day towards a reduction. The 2 events considered must be the 2 in which the highest scores are registered.
6. There are also codes inserted into a shooter’s record that will prevent a yardage reduction from being granted without written direction from the State Delegate. This code indicates that a shooter has proven his ability. A very small minority of active shooters have restrictive codes in their record. Most codes are removed at target year end and are inserted back in the shooter’s record at the discretion of the State ATA Delegate or Central Handicap Committeeman.
7. Only those shooters who have registered 500 or more singles targets in the current or previous target year or obtain Delegate and Central Handicap Committee approval will be reviewed. If a shooter has insufficient singles targets registered, and has not been approved, his counter will be zeroed and he will be printed on the summary until sufficient singles targets are registered. At such time the most current 1,000 handicap targets will be used in the review. The following table is used to determine “relative 16 yard average”:

<u>16 yard average</u>	<u>shooter cannot be reduced below</u>
97.0% or higher	24.0 yards
95.0% to 96.9%	22.0 yards
93.0% to 94.9%	20.0 yards

8. Shooters receiving reductions will be issued an average card showing their new yardage. This card will have “REVIEW” printed above the date.

9. Upon receipt of a “1000 target review reduction” the shooter has one month to take that reduction. Before the Central Handicap Committee deems that “void”
- a.) Special Circumstances:
    1. Shooter is obviously shooting out of state
    2. Shooter has not shot any targets since the review
    3. If shooter has shot more than 500 targets from old yardage the reduction is void.

SHOOT #	CODE #	EXPLANATION: Computer codes listed in location area of shooter record indicating change in yardage assignment
1	1	Refusal of yardage reduction by shooter
1	16	Refusal of yardage reduction by ATA
1	17	Change of Category, increase by ATA office
1	2222	Exceptions to reviews or reviews granted by members of Central Handicap Committee
1	3333	Exceptions to reviews or reviews granted by members of Executive Committee
1	4444	Earned yardage for disqualified score
	**5555	Computer review with “no change” granted - ** code number indicating reason for no reduction
1	6666	Correction to shooters yardage by A.T.A. office
	8888	Computer review indicating one yard reduction
1	9999	Special review by Central Handicap Committee Chairman
1	12222	Yardage for non-registered shoot

**NOTE: all 5555 and 8888 reviews are computer generated.**  
 CODE # Explanation – Summary codes listed in location code area of shooter record indicating reason for no reduction during computer review (5555)

105555	Insufficient Singles shot at to be reduced. This is Subject to Auto review by delegate and Zone CHC member prior to reduction being granted.
205555	Shooter is within the norm of ability ( 90% or higher)
305555	"L" coded shooter; system will not allow computer reduction
405555	Previous year champion or tie in a major Grand American Tournament handicap event; may not be reduced until after the next Grand American
505555	"R" coded shooter, system will not allow computer reduction
605555	"H" coded shooters: 1-1/2 yard handicap rule would not allow reductions from the 1-1/2 yard punch for one year from the new yardage.
185555	"K" coded shooter, lifetime hold on reductions per shooter request
705555	Reduction would reduce shooter below allowable 18.0 Yard line.
905555	Reduction in yardage is a maximum of 3 yards in any one target year except with the approval of the State/ Provincial Delegate and the Zone CHC Member.
125555	Singles average too high to allow reduction below 24.0 yard line
135555	Singles average too high to allow reduction below 22.0 yard line
165555	Singles average too high to allow reduction below 20.0 yard line
145555	Adult male shooter may not be reduced below 18.0 yard line
155555	"Y" coded shooter; system shows the shooter earned the 27 yard line during his/her shooting career.
175555	"I" coded shooter. The shooter's yardage has been increased at his or her request. Reductions are not allowed for two years from the date of the increase. Thereafter normal reductions will resume. For example, if the shooter's "counter" is at 600 when the "I" code expires, the reduction will occur after 400 more targets.
195555	"F" coded shooter. System will not allow computer reduction below a specified yard line

## ATA Big 50 Program

The ATA Executive Committee is proud to unveil the **Big 50 Program**. This has been instituted to encourage participation by league and casual shooters in registered shooting.

The program essentially offers a reduced ATA daily fees for Big 50 Program participants. The program is available on Tuesday, Wednesday or Thursday only. Other days must be authorized by the ATA Executive Director. Three 50 target programs (singles, doubles and handicap) with no more than three 50 target events per day and no more than one of any one discipline may be registered.

Participating in the program is very simple per details below. The normal procedure for obtaining pre-approval for the registered date(s) through your State/Provincial Association must be followed. It is also strongly suggested that you contact your State/Provincial Association Secretary to determine whether their daily fees are being waived.

The only separate notice required to the ATA is to simply write the words **Big 50** on or near the Gun Club line on your shoot financial report.

### **PROGRAM:**

- Only available Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday (unless authorized by the ATA Executive Director), this program is intended as a supplement to regularly scheduled shoots
- Shooters must declare their intent to register targets before shooting
- Clubs will throw 50 target events (singles, doubles or handicap)
- No more than three fifty target events per day, no more than one of any one discipline
- ATA daily fees are reduced to \$1.50 per registered shooter
- State fees may be waived
- Targets will be ATA registered
- Non-ATA members must first join ATA in order to get their targets registered
- Similar to the registered league program, registered and non-registered shooters may shoot at the same time and on the same squad
- Minimum of three shooters per discipline
- All other rules apply to "Big 50" events
- For purposes of applying the earned yardage table only registered shooters will be counted. If yardage is earned under the table only the high score among registered shooters will earn yardage, regardless of any non-registered score. A score of 50X50 will earn at least ½ yard regardless of the number of shooters.



**[shootata.com](http://shootata.com)**

**[aim4ata.com](http://aim4ata.com)**