

WEST AUSTRALIAN PISTOL ASSOCIATION INCORPORATED



REGULATIONS

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1 DEFINITIONS

Unless otherwise stated in these Regulations the following definitions shall apply:

"Association" or "WAPA" shall mean the West Australian Pistol Association Inc.

"CMP" shall mean Civilian Marksmanship Program.

"Club" shall mean a Club affiliated with this Association.

"Hon. Secretary" shall mean the Honorary Secretary of the West Australian Pistol Association Inc.

"ISSF" shall mean International Shooting Sport Federation.

"Licence" shall mean a Licence described in the current West Australian Firearms Act and Firearms Regulations.

"Member" shall mean an Individual Member as defined in the Constitution of this Association.

"NRA" shall mean National Rifle Association of America.

"Pistol" or "Handgun" shall mean and include any firearm which falls within the definitions of a "handgun" as defined in the current West Australian Firearms Act and Firearms Regulations, hereinafter referred to as the Act.

"TPA" shall mean Target Pistol Australia.

"WAPOL" shall mean Western Australia Police Force.

"WA1500" shall mean World Association 1500 PPC.

"WSPS" shall mean the World Shooting Para Sport.

2 COMPLIANCE

- a) A Club must not knowingly operate in contravention of the Act.
- b) A Club must expel a Member who is a prohibited person or a disqualified person, other than an interim disqualified person.
- c) A Club must suspend the membership of a Member who is an interim disqualified person.
- d) A Club must not allow a disqualified person to use a firearm.
- e) A Club must not allow a prohibited person onto its premises.
- f) Clubs and Members must comply with the policies published by WAPA and TPA.
- g) Members must comply with codes of conduct published by WAPA and TPA.
- h) Club committees must ensure the rights of their Members are upheld and no Member is treated unfairly or denied natural justice.

3 APPLICATION FOR MEMBERSHIP

Prior to membership being approved a Club committee shall require new applicants for membership to provide in accordance with the Act:

- a) their full name, date of birth and contact details,

- b) two character references,
- c) if they already have a firearm licence, the licence number, or
- d) if they don't have a licence, a national police clearance certificate (less than 12 months old), and
- e) a declaration by the applicant that they are not a disqualified person or prohibited person as defined in the Act. In the case of a child the parent or guardian must make this declaration.

An applicant who has previously been expelled from another shooting club or had club support for firearms withdrawn must disclose that information at the time of application, and the Club Committee must give due consideration to the previous circumstances before accepting membership.

4 APPLICATION FOR APPROVAL TO LICENSE HANDGUNS

The procurement, licensing and use of Handguns by members to fulfil the Objects of the Association shall be carried out in compliance with these Regulations and the Act.

A Member of a Club may make application to the Committee of their Club for support to license Handguns subject to the following conditions:

- a) The Member has been a financial member of a Club for at least 6 months.
- b) If the Member has been a member of a Club for less than 12 months the application/applications shall not exceed two Handguns being either:
 - i one 0.177 air pistol and one 0.22 calibre Handgun or
 - ii one 0.177 air pistol and one centre fire Handgun and
- c) The Handgun complies with the rules of at least one of the matches listed in Clause 5 of these Regulations, which the Member nominates as the intended match.
- d) The Club conducts the nominated match on its shooting calendar, or alternatively the Member has access to another Club that conducts the nominated match.
- e) If the application is for a first handgun the Member has satisfactorily completed the Firearms Safety Training Course set out in these Regulations and any other firearm safety training course required by WAPOL under the Act.
- f) The applicant intends to comply with minimum activity requirements required by the Act.

Subject to meeting the above requirements, the Club Committee may issue to the applicant a completed Form 101 or equivalent Club Support Letter signed by the Club Secretary. Applications may be rejected at the discretion of the Club Committee.

5 SHOOTING DISCIPLINES

The West Australian Pistol Association recognises the following Shooting Disciplines:

- a) ISSF Discipline Matches
(as recognised by TPA including WSPS matches)
- b) Target Pistol Australia Discipline Matches:
 - Service Pistol (Service / Unrestricted / 25yds)
 - World Association 1500 PPC Matches
 - NRA and CMP Action Pistol
 - Black Powder Matches (50m / 25m / International)
- c) Single Action Discipline Matches:
 - Centre Fire Match
 - Black Powder Aggregate Match (shot to BP25m rules)

25 Yard Match (Shot to modified service 25 yd rules)

- d) IMSSU Discipline Matches:
 - Big Bore Pistol
 - Small Bore Pistol
 - Field Pistol

Additional matches, which may be recognised from time to time, will be allocated to one of the four Disciplines above.

6 SHOOTERS FROM OUTSIDE THIS ASSOCIATION

A person who is a financial member of any Pistol shooting organisation within Australia may, upon becoming a Member of a Club in Western Australia, apply to such Club for an immediate Club support letter for Handguns in accordance with these Regulations, providing all the following conditions are fulfilled:

- a) The application shall be in writing.
- b) The applicant has a current Competition Licence for Handguns and the Handguns conform with these Regulations.
- c) The applicant has a clearance from the previous organisation which confirms no active or pending disciplinary actions, verified in writing by the Secretary of such organisation.
- d) The applicant demonstrates to the satisfaction of the Club competence in range safety and Pistol handling.

Should the applicant fail to comply with all of the above-mentioned conditions, that person shall be deemed a new Member and be required to comply with Regulation 4.

7 HANDGUN SUPPORT

Regardless of whether a Club has previously provided a Club Support Letter to a Member, a Club reserves the right to withdraw its support for a Handgun or Handguns in the event that:

- a) the Member has failed to meet the minimum activity requirements of the Act,
- b) the Member is no longer considered to be using the Handgun safely,
- c) the Member is suspended from the Club, or
- d) any other reason the Club considers appropriate.

8 HOLSTERS

- a) To be eligible to shoot Service Pistol, Action Pistol or WA1500 matches using a holster, the Member must hold an appropriate holster Proficiency Card issued by the National Referee Council.
- b) The Association Safety Rules set out in Regulation 14 define the use of holsters on the Range.
- c) Shoulder holsters and cross draw holsters are not allowed. Holsters and their use must be in accordance with the appropriate TPA match rules and the TPA General Technical Rules.
- d) Infringement of this Regulation will render the Member liable to be penalised in accordance with the WAPA Constitution.

9 WORKING WITH CHILDREN

- a) Club Committees must ensure their Members and volunteers comply with the provisions of the *Working with Children Check (Criminal Record Checking) Act 2004*.
- b) Range Officers, Members and volunteer helpers undertaking the coaching or instruction of juniors must have a current Working with Children Card unless:
 - i the Club has no junior Members,
 - ii it is expected that the Member will undertake these duties with juniors less than five times per year, or
 - iii the Member or volunteer helper has a child who is also a Member of the Club.
- c) The Club must maintain a register of Members with a Working with Children Card. The register must include card numbers and expiry dates. The Club Secretary must provide a copy of the register to the WAPA Secretary on request.
- d) The Club must maintain confidential records of interim negative notices and negative notices and the corresponding action taken by the Club.
- e) The Club must ensure that any Member who:
 - i has a Negative Notice or Interim Negative notice,
 - ii has withdrawn an application for a Working with Children Check, or
 - iii has a conviction or pending charge for a Class 1 or Class 2 offence as defined by the Act, does not supervise, coach or instruct any junior.
- f) A condition of recognition as a WAPA accredited Club Coach or Range Officer shall be the possession of a current Working with Children Card.

10 CONSUMPTION OF ALCOHOL AND DRUGS

No person, whether a member of the Association or not, shall:

- a) Consume alcohol on any Club premises or environs unless in accordance with the provisions of the Liquor Licensing Act of 1998 and as amended, or the Liquor Licensing Regulations 1989 and as amended.
- b) Be admitted to any range to shoot, if suspected by an Association or Club official to be under the influence of alcohol or drugs.

11 STATE CHAMPIONSHIPS

- a) No Club may promote, conduct or advertise any competition as a 'State Championship' without the sanction of the Association.
- b) A Club which has been authorized to conduct a State Championships event shall comply with the terms and conditions set out in the application form provided by the Association and any further directives provided in writing to the Club.

12 OPEN COMPETITIONS

- a) An Open Competition is one that is open to all members of affiliated Clubs and to members of Target Pistol Australia.
- b) An Open Competition shall not be conducted without the prior sanction of the Association.

- c) A Club which has been authorized to conduct an Open Competition shall comply with the terms and conditions set out in the application form provided by the Association and any further directives provided in writing to the Club.

13 VISITORS FROM OTHER CLUBS

Clubs must permit visitors who are members of another WAPA or TPA affiliated club to participate in normal club competition with their own Handgun on payment of the required visitor fee unless:

- a) the Handgun does not comply with the rules of the match,
- b) the Club is not satisfied that the visitor has sufficient competence with the match or the Handgun to participate safely,
- c) the visitor is in bad standing with the Club, or
- d) because of limited range capacity a Club member would be excluded from competing.

14 ASSOCIATION SAFETY RULES

14.1 GENERAL RULES

- a) A copy of these rules shall be prominently displayed on all WAPA ranges.
- b) All new shooters, prospective members, or visitors not holding TPA membership must be given instructions on handling, sighting and firing of a Handgun and instructions on Safety Rules 14.1 (d) to (q) inclusive.
- c) Even after mandatory training is completed, an experienced shooter must stand with or close behind each novice shooter, until the Club Captain or his delegate considers that the novice is safe to be left under the control of a Range Officer during normal Club competition. The same requirement must apply to shooters participating in positional matches for the first time.
- d) When two persons are shooting one of them must be deemed the Range Officer. When three or more persons are shooting together a Range Officer who is not shooting must supervise them.
- e) All safe and lawful instructions from the Range Officer must be obeyed. Complaints about the Range Officer's instructions or conduct may be raised with the Club Captain or President after leaving the range.
- f) Any person seeing anything relating to shooting that they consider unsafe shall immediately report same to the Range Officer, Club Captain or some person holding official Club or WAPA positions.
- g) Eye protection must be worn during shooting on all live firing ranges.
- h) Ear protection must be worn during shooting on all ranges except for Air Pistol matches.
- i) No handgun may be uncased unless:
 - i In a safe area or staging area,
 - ii Under the control of a Range Officer or Jury member,
 - iii Under the control of a Coach, Club Instructor or Club Trainer during a coaching session, or
 - iv On a range during practice or in competition.
- j) No Handgun shall be pointed at any person. The only exception shall be at a coaching session under the immediate supervision of a current accredited TPA Club Instructor or Coach. The Handgun shall be clearly demonstrated to be "safe" to all those in attendance.

- k) When at the firing line, the Handgun must at all times point down the range towards the butts. At no time shall the pistol point to the rear, to the side or above the butts.
- l) No Handgun shall be removed from the firing line until it has been checked and cleared by the Range Officer.
- m) Any person has the right to call "CEASE FIRE" or "STOP" if in their opinion a dangerous situation is imminent.
- n) At the "CEASE FIRE" or "STOP" command all shooters shall immediately cease fire, point the pistol downwards at 45 degrees in a safe direction with the finger off the trigger, and wait for orders from the Range Officer.
- o) Any person creating a dangerous situation or handling Handguns in a dangerous manner either on or off the firing line shall be liable to be penalised.
- p) Any ammunition used must be loaded within safe limitations for the Handgun used and approved for use on the range.
- q) All handguns, when not on the firing line, shall not be loaded with live ammunition, blanks, dummies, empty cartridge case or any other device that could be seen to be live ammunition. This does not preclude the use of safety plugs.
- r) ISSF / NRA / CMP / WA1500 / Target Pistol Australia Regulations as adopted by TPA shall read as part of these rules, but where these rules are at variance with the Match Regulations the WAPA Rules shall be the accepted rule at Club level.
- s) Variations from the published match rules are permissible at the discretion of the Club Captain only if the risk of injury or property damage is not increased due to such variation.
- t) Range Standing Orders must be displayed on each range. All shooting must comply with the conditions described in the applicable Range Standing Orders.

14.2 ISSF MATCHES

- a) No handgun or magazine shall be loaded until the Range Officer gives the "LOAD" command.
- b) On the command "UNLOAD" or "CEASE FIRE"
 - i all handguns must be unloaded with magazines removed and action open,
 - ii all magazines unloaded,
 - iii flag inserted into the breach, and
 - iv handguns and magazine are then placed on the bench.

In the situation where a shooter has a malfunction to claim, those actions listed above may be deferred pending personal instructions from the Range Officer.
- c) No person shall go forward of the firing line until such time that the Range Officer has cleared all pistols and announced "PISTOLS ARE CLEAR".
- d) No person unless under the immediate supervision of the Range Officer and /or Referee shall be within one metre of the firing line until such time that no persons are forward of the firing line and the Range Officer has announced "THE RANGE IS CLEAR".
- e) A handgun may only be put down after all cartridge(s) and/or magazine is removed and action is open. Air or gas pistols must be made safe by opening the cocking handle and/or loading port.
- f) Any shooter who touches a handgun or magazine except to unload them without the permission of the Range Officer, after the command "STOP" or "UNLOAD" may be disqualified.

14.3 SERVICE, WA1500 and ACTION PISTOL MATCH

- a) Suitable eye protection must be worn by all persons in the vicinity of the firing line during the conduct of the match.
- b) No pistol shall be loaded until the appropriate "LOAD" command is given by the Range Officer.

During competition for WA1500 Match:

- i Only after the command "LOAD AND HOLSTER" may a competitor load and holster the handgun.
- ii During the match after the command "UNLOAD AND SHOW CLEAR" the handgun must be unloaded and once cleared by the Range Officer the competitor must holster the handgun. It must not be removed until the next command "LOAD".
- iii No person shall go forward of the firing line until such time that the Range Officer has cleared all pistols and announced "THE LINE IS CLEAR".
- iv No person unless under the immediate supervision of the Range Officer and /or Referee shall touch a pistol until such time that no persons are forward of the firing line and the Range Officer has announced "THE RANGE IS CLEAR".
- v At the completion of the match after being cleared, the handgun must be transferred from the holster to a case or bag either immediately on the line, or in the designated safe handling area.

During competition for Action Pistol Match:

- vi Once the command "LOAD AND MAKE READY" is given a competitor may load and continue to reload after each series.
- vii On the command CEASE FIRING - UNLOAD AND SHOW CLEAR the handgun must be unloaded and cleared by the Range Officer before being placed in a case or bag.
- viii At the end of competition all magazines must be emptied.

During competition for Service:

- ix Once the command "LOAD" has been given a competitor may load and assume the appropriate start position.
 - x On the command "UNLOAD" at the end of each series the handgun must be unloaded with the action open and magazine removed.
 - xi No person shall go forward of the firing line until such time that the Range Officer has cleared all pistols and announced "PISTOLS ARE CLEAR".
 - xii No person unless under the immediate supervision of the Range Officer and /or Referee shall touch a pistol until such time that no persons are forward of the firing line and the Range Officer has announced "THE RANGE IS CLEAR".
 - xiii After the last series of the competition all magazines must also be emptied. Once cleared by the Range Officer the handgun must be cased or bagged before moving from the last position.
- c) No handgun may be handled while any person is forward of the firing line.
 - d) Prior to the match loading of magazines or speed loaders is permitted. Only with permission and under the supervision of the Range Officer may magazines or speed loaders be loaded whilst persons are forward of the shooting line.
 - e) During the course of the competition unloaded handguns may be carried in a holster only while under the control of the Range Officer or Chief Range Officer.
 - f) Loaded handguns may be holstered only during and in accordance with the course of fire and under the direct command of the Range Officer.

- g) Competitors must have successfully completed an approved TPA safe handling holster course and have possession of a current TPA holster proficiency card prior to holstering a handgun on a range, other than while undertaking training or examination as part of the holster course.
- h) Cross draw and shoulder holsters are not permitted.

14.4 BLACK POWDER MATCHES

- a) After a misfire the handgun must be pointed in a safe direction for at least 5 seconds for a revolver and 15 seconds for a single shot pistol.
- b) On the command "STOP" or "CEASE FIRE" handguns must be placed in either a half cock or other safe position and then discharged in safe direction under the direction of the Range Officer.
- c) No person shall go forward of the firing line until such time that the Range Officer has cleared all pistols and announced "PISTOLS ARE CLEAR".
- d) All competitors, officials and spectators must wear safety glasses or other approved eye protection during loading and shooting.
- e) No smoking or naked flames are permitted within 10 metres of the firing line.
- f) During shooting, caps and powder must be covered.
- g) Special rules permit loading on a rear bench while people are forward of the shooting line. This is only permitted for the Rapid Fire Stage of 25m match and only when supervised by a qualified Range Officer. In all other cases no person unless under the immediate supervision of the Range Officer and /or Referee shall be within one metre of the firing line until such time that no persons are forward of the firing line and the Range Officer has announced "THE RANGE IS CLEAR".

14.5 SINGLE ACTION MATCHES

- a) The safety rules applicable to the ISSF or TPA match from the which the Single Action course of fire is derived must be applied.
- b) An experienced Black Powder Range Officer must supervise Single Action Discipline matches where participants are using cartridges loaded with black powder.

14.6 METALLIC SILHOUETTE MATCHES

- a) It is mandatory that appropriate eye and ear protection be worn by all competitors, spotters, line officers and any other personnel on the designated firing line.
- b) During the course of fire, the handgun must be visible at all times so that its safe condition can be verified by a line officer, a referee or any other person.
- c) All actions must be open on the firing line except after the "Load" command is given.
- d) Handguns shall not be handled between stages.
- e) Upon the command "Make your firearms safe" shooters shall immediately put their handguns in a safe condition (unloaded, action open).
- f) When on the firing point, until it is removed, the muzzle shall point down range in a safe direction.

14.7 SAFE HANDLING AREA

- a) No live ammunition may be taken into a Safe Handling Area.
- b) Handguns may not be loaded with dummy rounds or empty cases in a Safe Handling Area.

14.8 INFRINGEMENT OF ANY OF THE SAFETY RULES

Infringement of any of these rules may render the offender liable to penalties being imposed by the Committee in accordance with the WAPA Constitution.

15 ORGANISED COMPETITION

Clubs shall provide sufficient registered shooting competitions/events to allow Members to comply with the Minimum Activity Requirements set out in the Act.

16 REPORTING TO POLICE

Clubs must provide a written report to WAPOL of any serious concerns relating to a Member's fitness to hold a Firearm Licence.

Reports are to be provided to the Manager, WA Police Licensing Services with a copy provided to the Hon. Secretary.

17 INCIDENT REPORTS

Any shooting incident that:

- a) requires medical treatment, or
- b) causes damage to a thing that isn't expected to be damaged in normal shooting activity

must be reported to WAPOL and the Hon. Secretary within 14 days of the incident.

In addition any "near miss" that had the potential to cause injury to a person or property must be reported to the Hon. Secretary for the purposes of education and procedural review. Such reports must be submitted within fourteen days and must state the date and nature of the incident/occurrence, names and addresses of persons involved, firearms involved; and any other relevant information.

18 FIREARM SAFETY TRAINING COURSE

In addition to any other firearm safety training course required by WAPOL under the Act, Members must satisfactorily complete a WAPA approved Firearms Safety Training Course prior to making application to the Committee of his/her Club for approval to licence a first Handgun.

18.1 Scope of Course

Topics included in the course will, as a minimum include:

- a) Safe handling of handguns both on and off the range
- b) Knowledge of the operation of the types of handgun used in matches shot by the Association
 - i Air Pistols
 - ii Self Loading (semi-automatic) Pistols
 - iii Revolvers
 - iv Single Shot Pistols
- c) Knowledge of WAPA and Club specific Safety Rules
- d) Instruction on safe carriage of firearms
- e) Understanding of Match procedures and Rules
 - i Air Pistol
 - ii 25m Standard Pistol
 - iii 25m Centre Fire/25m Pistol
- f) Minimum of 2 sessions of live fire training on a one on one basis with a nominated experienced Club Member
- g) Participation in at least 4 organised Club shooting competitions

- h) Completion of a multiple choice examination paper in relation to items (a) to (e) inclusive

18.2 Club Trainers

Persons qualified to carry out training of new Members will be either:

- a) WAPOL approved firearms trainer,
- b) Qualified Range Officer,
- c) Accredited Club Instructor (or Coach with higher qualification), or
- d) Where qualified Club Instructors, Coaches or Range Offices are not available, the Club Committee may appoint Club Trainers who must have at least 2 years shooting experience.

18.3 Training Register

New Members training shall be recorded on the training register "Form 103" setting out their training activities. The register must be signed off by the Range Officer or nominated Club Trainer at each stage as proof of attainment.

Members applying to Licence a first Handgun must have a completed training register with the application to the Committee of his/her Club.

19 RETURNING OFFICER

- a) A Returning Officer may be appointed by the Association Committee for the purpose of collecting, collating and authenticating postal votes cast where any ballot for any purpose is called, including for the election of Association Committee members.
- b) Such appointee shall be:
 - i an Individual Member;
 - ii not a current Association Committee member or a committee member of a Club;
 - iii not standing for election as an Association Committee Member;
 - iv not a delegate representing a Club; and
 - v not a person prohibited from holding a committee position under the provisions of the Associations Incorporation Act.
- c) The Association Committee shall direct that all postal votes be forwarded to a stipulated postal address. If this address is the official WAPA post box, the Secretary shall collect all mail and ensure that all envelopes addressed to the Returning Officer are delivered unopened to that person.
- d) If the Association Committee elects to have a separate post box for the purpose of the ballot the Returning Officer shall collect, authenticate, collate and record all ballot papers received.
- e) The Returning Officer shall determine the authenticity, eligibility and validity of all votes received and prepare a report for presentation to the presiding officer at the meeting convened for the purpose of determining the result of the ballot.
- f) Where the ballot concerns the election of Association Committee members and where scrutineers have been appointed, the presiding officer shall cause the sealed report from the Returning Officer to be handed on to such personnel in its unopened condition.

ADOPTION

These Regulations were adopted at the West Australian Pistol Association Management Committee meeting 448 held on 10 July 2026.