

UNITED KINGDOM PRACTICAL SHOOTING ASSOCIATION

Proposed Amendments to the IPSC Action Air Competition Rules, January 2016 Edition

(Key code: ~~Deleted text~~ / new text / *comments*)

Rule

- 9.5.7 Hits visible on a scoring paper target or no-shoot, which are the result of shots fired through the rear of that or another scoring paper target or no-shoot, ~~and/or hits which fail to create a clearly distinguishable hole through the front of a scoring paper target or no-shoot~~, will not count for score or penalty, as the case may be.
- 9.5.8 Hits visible on a scoring paper target or no-shoot do not have to create a clearly distinguishable hole that passes wholly through the target or no-shoot in order to count for score or penalty, as the case may be. However, in order to count for score or penalty, hits visible on a scoring paper target or no-shoot must create a clearly distinguishable hole that penetrates the front surface of the scoring paper target or no-shoot. Hits that merely create an indentation, without penetrating the front surface of the scoring paper target or no-shoot, will not count for score or penalty.
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Reasons for the Proposed Amendments

These proposals have been listed separately to the other UKPSA proposals as we believe that they are the most contentious of all and will almost certainly generate debate at the forthcoming IPSC Assembly.

The UKPSA believes that requiring a clearly distinguishable hole that passes wholly through a paper target or no-shoot in order to count for score or penalty (as per other IPSC Disciplines) is undesirable in IPSC Action Air matches due to:

- (a) Targets made of cardboard (the most common type of paper target used) will all need to be placed close to a competitor (usually 10 meters or less) in order to increase the probability of projectiles passing wholly through a target.
- (b) Even if thin paper targets are used, it is extremely unlikely that any projectiles that comply with the maximum power factor in Rule 5.6.1 will pass wholly through a target in the area(s) where the target is fixed to target sticks.
- (c) The power factor of a competitor's projectiles usually reduces as he shoots a stage, due to the depletion of propellant gas in the magazine.

We are informed that problem (b) above can be resolved by either installing a foam/polystyrene backing to the targets, or mounting them on a separate cardboard sheet that is fixed to target sticks. However, this involves additional work and cost for the match organizers.

From informal enquiries made by our Action Air shooters it appears that shooters in other IPSC Regions are using one or more of the following methods to score targets:

1. A clearly distinguishable hole that passes wholly through a paper target or no-shoot is required in order to count for score or penalty.
2. As above, with the exception of the target areas fixed to target sticks, where a tear or even a deep depression in the front surface suffices.
3. A tear or even a deep depression in any part the front surface suffices.
4. Any indentation in the front surface suffices.
5. Left to the Range Officer's discretion.

The UKPSA believes that the proposed amendments shown above will help to improve the current situation, introduce a standard approach amongst IPSC Regions and permit courses of fire where targets can be placed at distances other than at close range.