



BLACK POWDER SECTION MATCH GUIDE

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Introduction

This booklet is a starting point for shooters wanting to get involved with Black Powder pistol shooting. It is not aimed at teaching you how to shoot, rather it aims to summarise the rules of the Black Powder matches that are shot in Pistol New Zealand, and to give shooters an understanding of the pistols required to shoot each match.

Use of Black Powder in Championships:

Black Powder must be used in all Black Powder Championships (Islands and Nationals)

Be aware that there are four types of Gunpowder or Black Powder (BP) used in the guns we shoot. Unlike Nitro powder, BP is classified by the granularity size of the powder.

Type	Description	Notes
1F (F)	Course powder	F powder is a slow burning powder that is most suitable for cannons and large calibre muskets and shotguns. It is not really suitable for use in BP pistols.
2F (FF)	Medium – Course powder	FF is a commonly used slower burning propellant in muzzle loading pistols.
3F (FFF)	Fine to Medium powder	FF is a commonly used faster burning propellant in muzzle loading pistols.
4F (FFFF)	Very Fine Powder	FFFF is used for priming powder in Matchlock and Flintlock pistols.

Black Powder Alternatives:

There are Black Powder substitutes such as Pyrodex, Triple Seven, Black Mag 3, Goex Clear Shot. All these alternative BP powders can be used in club shoots, however only Black Powder is allowed to be used in Island and National competitions.

Black Powder Specific Rules

Each powder charge must be stored in an individual container. eg a plastic vial

No Bulk or loose powder on the firing point

Black Powder Flint priming charges may be stored in a larger container



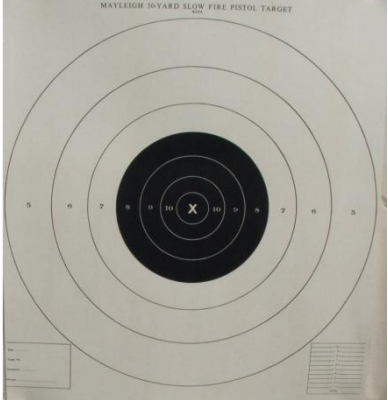
No smoking or flames on the firing point (except the Matchlock Match)

Links to Official Rules:

<http://www.pistolnz.org.nz/sections/muzzle-loading.aspx>

Summary of scoring for PNZ Matches:

Targets


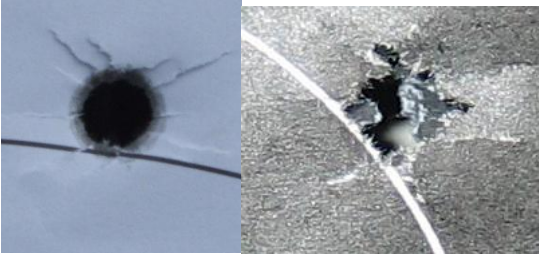
25m UIT targets	25m Rapid Fire target	50m APSUA Targets
 <p data-bbox="240 842 549 875">Note outer black ring is 7</p>		 <p data-bbox="1114 853 1422 887">Note outer black ring is 8</p>

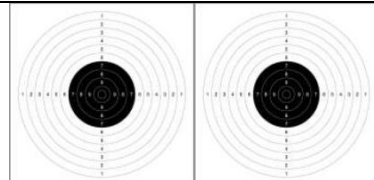
See also the 'PNZ Guide to scoring BP Matches'

http://www.pistolnz.org.nz/media/18822/120521_scoring_of_bp_targets_-_final.pdf

Scoring The Shots:

There are 2 different methods of scoring the higher value in BP shooting.

MLAIC 13 Shot Matches	APSUA Matches
<p data-bbox="188 1328 695 1406">The centre of the hole is on or inside the higher ring.</p> <p data-bbox="188 1417 695 1451">ie 50% or more inside the higher ring.</p>  <p data-bbox="188 1888 703 1957">Note: Do not push a plug into the hole. Use a BP Section or MLAIC scoring overlay.</p>	<p data-bbox="754 1328 1257 1406">The edge of the hole touches the line (ie. TOUCH the line</p> <p data-bbox="890 1417 1185 1451">- NOT CUT the Line !)</p> 

Match	Tanzutsu Replica Smoothbore Matchlock Class		
Description	This MLAIC match is for replicas of matchlock pistols. A matchlock pistol is a muzzle loading pistol that uses a long smouldering (burning) string or rope as an ignition system.		
Range	25m		
Targets	2 x ISU		
Scoring System	MLAIC 13 Shot Match Best 10 shots to count. A maximum of 6 shots on one target, and 7 shots on the other target		
Time for Event	30 Minutes		

Some examples of pistols that could be used in this match:



Comments

This is one of the Black Powder events where you may have loose powder in the firing point.

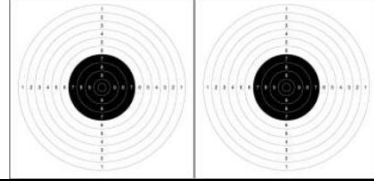
The loose powder is kept in a priming container and is used for priming the ignition pan.

The priming powder must be kept in a sealed container when not being used.

This is also the only match where you can have a flame on the firing point for lighting the rope match.

The ignition in these pistols is a smouldering string or rope, so extreme care must be taken with the smouldering rope to avoid setting off other BP in the shooting area.

The burning end of the rope must be contained in a tin when not attached to the pistol.

Match	COMMINAZO Replica Smooth bore Flintlock Class		
Description	This MLAIC match is for replica Flintlock pistols. A Flintlock pistol is a muzzle loading pistol that uses a flint to scrape on a metal plate to ignite the loose powder in the priming pan. Note that this MLAIC competition is for exact replicas of smooth bore flintlock pistols only (no rifled barrels, altered grips nor modern sights)		
Range	25m		
Targets	2 x ISU		
Scoring System	MLAIC 13 Shot Match Best 10 shots to count. A maximum of 6 shots on one target, and 7 shots on the other target		
Time for Event	30 Minutes		

Some examples of pistols that could be used in this match:

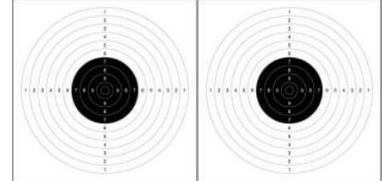


Comments

This is one of two Black Powder events that you are allowed to have loose powder in the firing point. This loose powder is used for priming the ignition pan.

The priming powder must be kept in a sealed container when not being used.

Note that this is a smooth bore event and a flintlock pistol with a rifled barrel would not be eligible for this competition.

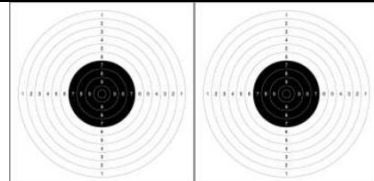
Match	Kuchenreuter Replica Percussion Single Shot Class		
Description	This MLAIC match is for replica Percussion pistols. A Percussion pistol is a muzzle loading pistol that uses a percussion cap to ignite the powder in the barrel. Note that this MLAIC competition is for exact replicas of percussion lock pistols only (no modern sights allowed nor altered grips)		
Range	25m		
Targets	2 x ISU		
Scoring System	MLAIC 13 Shot Match Best 10 shots to count. A maximum of 6 shots on one target, and 7 shots on the other target		
Time for Event	30 Minutes		

Examples of pistols that could be used in this match:





	
Charles Moore	Mang and Gratz
	
Underhammer	Le Page

Comments

Note that this is an event for rifled barrel pistols.

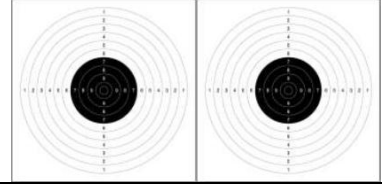
Match	Modern Single Shot Percussion Single Shot Class		
Description	<p>This Pistol NZ match is for any single shot Percussion pistol.</p> <p>A Percussion pistol is a muzzle loading pistol that uses a percussion cap to ignite the powder in the barrel.</p> <p>Note that this match uses MLAIC rules, and the competition is for any percussion lock pistols (eg Replicas, modern sights, or altered grips are allowed)</p> <p>Note that replica Percussion Single Shot pistols may also compete in this class.</p>		
Range	25m		
Targets	2 x ISU		
Scoring System	<p>MLAIC 13 Shot Match</p> <p>Best 10 shots to count.</p> <p>A maximum of 6 shots on one target, and 7 shots on the other target</p>		
Time for Event	30 Minutes		

Examples of Pistols that could be used in this match:

	
Thompson Patriot – an example of a modern design	Le Page - Replica
	
Example of a modern percussion design	Mortimer - Replica

Comments

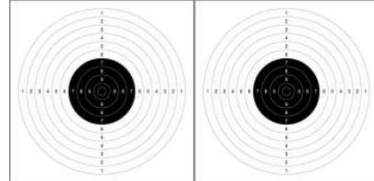
Either replicas (original style) or modern pistols with target sights may be used in this match

Match	Mariette Muzzle Loading Revolver Class	
Description	This MLAIC match is for replica Muzzle Loading Revolvers . A muzzle loading revolver is a pistol that uses a percussion cap to ignite the powder in the cylinder. Note that this MLAIC competition is for replicas of muzzle loading pistols only. (no altered or modern sights nor altered grips are allowed)	
Range	25m	
Targets	2 x ISU	
Scoring System	MLAIC 13 Shot Match Best 10 shots to count. A maximum of 6 shots on one target, and 7 shots on the other target	
Time for Event	30 Minutes	

Examples of pistols that could be used in this match:

	
Colt 1860	Rogers and Spencer
	
1858 Remington	Colt Walker

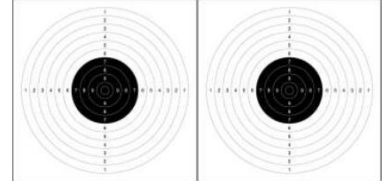
Comments

Match	Modern Muzzle Loading Revolver Any Muzzle Loading Revolver Class	
Description	<p>This Pistol NZ match is for any Muzzle Loading Revolver.</p> <p>A muzzle loading revolver is a pistol that uses a percussion cap to ignite the powder in the cylinder.</p> <p>Note that this competition is for allows any revolver to be used.</p> <p>It does not need to be an exact replica of a period muzzle loading revolver. (ie: altered or modern sights and altered grips are all allowed)</p> <p>Note that replica revolvers may also compete in this class.</p>	
Range	25m	
Targets	2 x ISU	
Scoring System	<p>MLAIC 13 Shot Match</p> <p>Best 10 shots to count.</p> <p>A maximum of 6 shots on one target, and 7 shots on the other target</p>	
Time for Event	30 Minutes	

Examples of pistols that could be used in this match:

	
Ruger Old Army. Note that this is a modern design pistol with target sights	1860 Colt - Replica
	
Rogers and Spencer - with modern sights	Rogers and Spencer – with original style sights

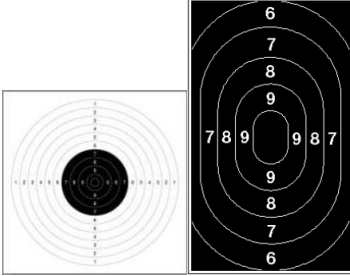
Comments

Match	Black Powder Cartridge - 13 Shot Event	
Description	This Pistol NZ match is for replica Black Powder Cartridge Revolvers. The pistols used in this match must be a pre 1900 design that uses a cartridge that was designed pre 1894. (eg 44-40, .45 long Colt etc) Note that this competition is for exact replicas of period revolvers only (no altered or modern sights nor altered grips are allowed)	
Range	25m	
Targets	2 x ISU	
Scoring System	MLAIC 13 Shot Match Best 10 shots to count. A maximum of 6 shots on one target, and 7 shots on the other target	
Time for Event	20 Minutes	

Examples of pistols that could be used in this match:

	
Colt Cartridge Conversion	Smith and Wesson Schofield
	
1858 Remington Cartridge Conversion	Colt Single Action Army

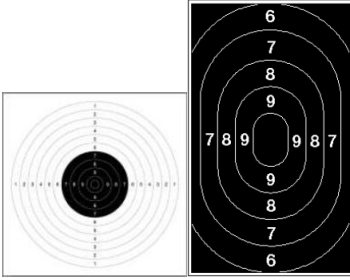
Comments

Match	APSUA Muzzle Loading Revolver Aggregate Any Muzzle Loading Revolver Class	
Description	This Pistol Australia match is for any Muzzle Loading Revolver. A muzzle loading revolver is a pistol that uses a percussion cap to ignite the powder in the cylinder. Note that this competition is for allows any muzzle loading revolver to be used. It does not need to be an exact replica of a period muzzle loading revolver. (ie: altered or modern sights and altered grips are all allowed)	
Range	25m	
Targets	<p>1 x ISU for 5 optional sighters 2 x ISU (10 shots on each target)</p> <p>Then on the Rapid Fire turning target: 5 x Optional sighters</p> <p>Four series of 5 scoring shots</p>	
Scoring System	<p>APSUA Match (touch the line) 5 optional Sighting shots. Then, two series of 10 shots in 24 minutes each. A new target is used for each series Then The Rapid Fire Turning Target is set up. 5 optional sighters Four series of 5 scoring shots</p>	
Time for Event	<p>24 minutes for each series of 10 shots on the ISU targets. Turning targets show for 3 seconds and turn away for 7 seconds</p>	

Examples of pistols that could be used in this match:

 <p>Ruger Old Army. Note that the Ruger is a modern design pistol with modern sights</p>	 <p>1858 Remington</p>
 <p>Rogers and Spencer - with modern sights</p>	 <p>Rogers and Spencer Replica</p>


Comments

Match	PNZ Black Powder Cartridge Revolver Aggregate	
Description	<p>This Pistol NZ match is for replica Black Powder Cartridge Revolvers. The pistols used in this match must be a pre 1900 design that uses a cartridge that was designed pre 1894. (eg 44-40, .45 long Colt etc) Note that this competition is for exact replicas of period revolvers only (no altered or modern sights nor altered grips are allowed)</p>	
Range	25m	
Targets	<p>1 x ISU for 5 optional sighters 2 x ISU (10 shots on each target)</p> <p>Then on the Rapid Fire target: 5 x Optional sighters Four series of 5 scoring shots</p>	
Scoring System	<p>APSUA Match (touch the line) 5 optional Sighting shots. Then, two series of 10 shots in 24 minutes each. A new target is used for each series Then: The Rapid Fire Target is set up. 5 optional sighters Four series of 5 shots are fired</p>	
Time for Event	<p>12 minutes for each series of 10 shots on the ISU targets. Rapid Fire targets show for 3 seconds and turn away for 7 seconds</p>	

Examples of pistols that could be used in this match:

 <p>Colt Cartridge Conversion</p>	 <p>Smith and Wesson Schofield</p>
 <p>1858 Remington Cartridge Conversion</p>	 <p>Colt Single Action Army</p>

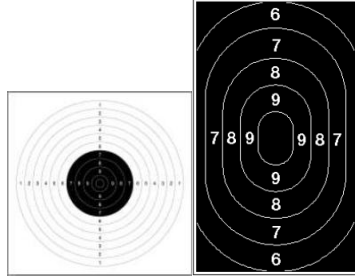
Comments

Match	APSUA 50m Precision	
Description	This Pistol Australia match is for any Black Powder pistol with any sights. The pistols used in this match can be revolvers or single shots. Any safe grip modification may be made, and modern or original sights are allowed.	
Range	50m	
Targets	One optional 50m sighting target , then Four x 50m Precision targets.	
Scoring System	APSUA Match (touch the line) 5 optional Sighting shots. Then, four series of 10 shots in 30 minutes each. A new target is used for each series	
Time for Event	2.5 hours Total	

Examples of pistols that could be used in this match:

	
Le Page	Thompson Patriot
	
1858 Remington	Ruger Old Army

Comments

Match	PNZ Short Aggregate	
Description	This Pistol NZ match is for any Black Powder pistol (Single Shots or Revolvers). This match was established to allow single shot shooters to experience the Aggregate match without having to purchase a black powder revolver	
Range	25m	
Targets	<p>1 x ISU for 5 optional sighters One x ISU (10 shots on the target)</p> <p>Then on the Rapid Fire target: 5 x Optional sighters Two series of 5 scoring shots</p>	
Scoring System	<p>APSUA Match (touch the line) 5 optional Sighting shots. Then, 10 shots in 24 minutes.</p> <p>Then The Rapid Fire Target is set up. 5 optional sighters Four series of 5 shots are fired</p>	
Time for Event	<p>15 minutes for each series of 10 shots on the ISU targets. Rapid Fire targets show for 3 seconds and turn away for 7 seconds . All guns are allowed to reload prior to the next target show.</p>	

Examples of pistols that could be used in this match:

 <p>Ruger Old Army.</p>	 <p>Le Page</p>
 <p>Thompson Patriot</p>	 <p>Rogers and Spencer</p>

Comments:

Overview of Pistols to use in Pistol NZ Black Powder Competitions

TYPES OF BLACK POWDER PISTOLS							
MATCH	Matchlock pistol	Flintlock- Smoothbore	Replica Percussion Single Shot	Modern Single Shot	Replica Muzzle Loading Revolver	Modern Muzzle Loading Revolver	Replica BP Cartridge Revolver
Tanzutsu - Replica Matchlock Pistol	YES						
Comminazo Replica Smoothbore Flintlock		Yes					
Kuchenreuter Replica Single Shot Percussion			Yes				
Modern Single Shot			Yes	Yes			
Mariette – Replica ML Revolver					YES		
Modern ML Revolver					YES	YES	
25m ML Aggregate					YES	YES	
50m Precision			YES	YES	YES	YES	
BP Replica Cartridge Revolver							YES
BP Replica Cartridge Revolver – Aggregate							YES