

SSAA Pioneer Shooting Australia



Pioneer Shooting Australia Discipline

RULES

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1. INTRODUCTION

Welcome to this, the sixteenth release of the Pioneer Shooting Australia Discipline Rules. Within this rule book you will find all the information you need to safely and cordially participate in Pioneer Shooting.

If you are already a veteran Pioneer shooter then you will recognise the improvements that have been made to this latest version of the rules. With all amendments our aim is to refine and improve the rule set for balance, consistency, clarity, safety and historic integrity.

This edition has been revised to allow a change of name for the Discipline, which was previously known as “Colonial Action”.

We have also revised the scoring system in this edition of the rules in order to simplify the process.

Welcome to Pioneer Shooting Australia!

1.1 A brief history

Australian shooters requested the Sporting Shooters Association of Australia (SSAA) to investigate a sport that would provide its members the opportunity to use firearms of the type carried by Australia’s early settlers. These settlers came overwhelmingly from England, Scotland and Ireland, with the gold rushes of the 1850s in particular bringing a mass of “foreign” migrants to Australia. Collectively these settlers brought an array of firearms representative of a range of technologies and nationalities to the developing land, providing great scope and attraction for the contemporary shooter.

In March 2000 it was decided by members of the Queensland and New South Wales state delegation at the SSAA National Annual General Meeting to implement procedures to have **Colonial Shooting Sports International™** and **Colonial Action Australia™** registered. The target date for the introduction of the new sport on SSAA ranges was set to coincide with the Australian celebrations marking a century of Federation in 2001.

Initial planning aimed to develop a Shooting Sports body that was financially self-sufficient and international in scope for added competition and opportunity. The planning committee recognised that the organisation would require a set of rules in order to function and developed a system with the assistance of shooters from the associated disciplines of Practical Shooting, Western Action and Muzzle Loading, whose influence and inspiration we greatly acknowledge.

“I counted nearly sixty drays and carts, heavily laden, proceeding westward with tents, rockers, flour, tea, sugar, mining tools, &c. each accompanied by from four to eight men, half of whom bore fire-arms ... They must have thrown all they possessed into the adventure; for most of their equipments were quite new; good stout horses, harness fresh out of the saddler’s hands, gay-coloured woollen shirts, and comforters, and Californian sombreros of every hue and shape.”

-Godfrey Charles Mundy describing diggers leaving Sydney, 28th & 30th May 1851, in Nancy Keesing (ed.), “History of the Australian Gold Rushes by Those Who were There,” Lloyd O’Neil, Hawthorn, 1971, p. 21.

The committee also recognised the importance of the re-creation of historically significant events and established a series of procedures that could be followed for re-enactments and demonstrations.

The guidelines used to develop the rules and procedures were as follows:

- (a) keep the rules simple;
- (b) allow shooting clubs autonomy;

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- (c) provide a broad-based shooting sport with flexibility for competitors;
- (d) provide a forum that would be the basis of a shooting sport using the firearms (new or replica) from the chosen period;
- (e) dissuade “Gamesmanship” or “Power Gaming;”
- (f) develop a sport that is not range specific so that all organisations with the appropriate approvals can participate;
- (g) provide competitors with a safe, exciting and enjoyable shooting sport; and,
- (h) Promote a discipline that allows for historical interpretation by participation and develops an understanding of significant historical events.

In late 2022 discussions were commenced amongst regular Colonial Action shooters in regard to the changing attitudes of some in the community towards our Colonial past; in particular the treatment of the indigenous population during the Colonial era. As a result, the word “colonial” has, in recent times, taken on a different and negative meaning. It was felt that it was appropriate to rename the Discipline “Pioneer Shooting Australia” to avoid causing offense to any particular groups within the community.

These rules are the property of the Sporting Shooters Association Australia (SSAA). Permission is given for members to use these rules for practice and training at a club level only. Organisers and host clubs of competitions must be affiliated with, or obtain the permission of, the copyright owners prior to holding a Sanctioned Competition.

1.2 The Sport

Participants are required to use original or reproduction firearms typical of the mid to late nineteenth century to engage various targets in a course of fire. Each course of fire is unique and must be undertaken by the competitor in a set sequence. Shooters compete one at a time, sometimes moving between firing points, reloading and handling a variety of firearms on the clock. The competitor’s time for completing a course of fire is recorded and any misses or penalties incurred are added to that time. Once all scenarios (“Stages”) in a competition have been completed, the times for each competitor are added together, with the winners being those with the quickest overall time in each Category.

The sport’s authenticity is not restricted to the handling of period firearms. Participants wear clothing and accoutrements designed to suit the pioneering days, from high Balmoral kid leg fine calf vamps to cabbage-tree hats. Participants get to choose the style of their own authentic outfit from a range of over 50 years of historical fashion and uniforms.

Courses of fire and sanctioned competitions are often based on historical events. Invariably, Australia’s transformation from disparate colonies to self-conscious nation was marked by battles over land, law and labour on remote frontiers and in populous cities. This provides a colourful background for stage designs and period specific props, such as building facades, through which participants engage a course of fire.

In addition to a main event, competitions may also offer side events to competitors. Side events offer variation to stage designs, including team matches, and are only limited by the imagination of the host organisation.

The SSAA NSW Pioneer Shooting State Titles are endorsed as a permanent addition to the SSAA NSW Shooting calendar with the date and venue of the SSAA NSW Pioneer Shooting State Titles being determined at the SSAA NSW Pioneer Shooting AGM each preceding year.

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"I do not fear death, and I am the last man in the world to take a man's life away. I believe that two years ago, before this thing happened, if a man pointed a gun at me to shoot me, I should not have stopped him, so careful was I of taking life. I am not a murderer, but if there is innocent life at stake, then I say I must take some action. If I see innocent life taken, I would certainly shoot if I was forced to do so, but I should first want to know whether this could not be prevented, but I should have to do it if it could not be stopped in any other way."

-Edward Kelly whilst on trial for murder in John Hirst, "The Australians: Insiders and Outsiders on the National Character Since 1770," Black Inc., Melbourne, 2007, p. 32.

2. DESCRIPTION AND PURPOSE

- (a) The purpose of the Pioneer Shooting Discipline is to provide the rules and guidelines for a safe, enjoyable and competitive shooting discipline for all participants in an historical and geographical context. The shooting discipline is dedicated to the remembrance of a past era that charts Australia's development from an isolated colony to an independent nation.
- (b) For the purposes of this shooting discipline, the pioneer period has been defined as the years between circa 1850 and the time of Federation on 1 January 1901. The established rules cover the firearms, shooting classifications, clothing, accoutrements and general safety rules to be used by competitors and organisations affiliated with the SSAA.
- (c) The rules aim to provide an uncomplicated set of procedures for all participants that will promote a safe and functional shooting sport. The flexibility of the rules allow for a choice of firearms, period costuming and event-related stage designs while providing for the established procedures of safe range practice.
- (d) These rules are intended for all sanctioned Pioneer Shooting Australia competitions at district, provincial, state, national and international levels.
- (e) The rules may need to be amended by clubs to suit the local licensing requirements of their range or shooting facility. This is permissible although the rules must not be altered or interpreted in a manner which diminishes their intent.
- (f) To serve the purpose of shooting in an historical context the clothing and accoutrements worn by participants must replicate as close as practicable those worn during the pioneering period.
- (g) To serve the purpose of shooting in an historical context the firearms used by participants must be authentic firearms from the pioneering era in safe working order, or be replicas of those used during the pioneering era.

"In the old days the squatters dressed very little better than their men... The only way you could tell a squatter from his men, was he was better mounted than his men, riding a more showy horse and polished stirrup irons..."

- William Telfer Manuscript, Mitchell Library Mss, A 2376, quoted in John Ferry, "Colonial Armidale," University of Queensland Press, St Lucia, 2000, p. 132.

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3. SAFETY GUIDELINES

These rules provide basic guidelines and procedures on firearm safety and handling and elementary instructions on how to set up and operate a safe range. Associations, Organisations and Clubs wishing to participate in this sport should have a well-developed range safety program, with responsible Range Officers overseeing the competition.

These guidelines are expected to be enforced by the associations, organisations and clubs who are affiliated with the SSAA and hold sanctioned competitions. It is the responsibility of the hosting group to see that all necessary steps are taken to ensure that a safe shooting environment for spectators and competitors is provided.

3.1 Competition Captains

"Australia had now a population of three and a half million, and the American people numbered only between three and four millions when they formed the great commonwealth of the United States. The numbers were about the same, and surely what the Americans had done by war, the Australians could bring about in peace. (Cheers.) Believing as he did that it was essential to preserve the security and integrity of these colonies that the whole of their forces should be amalgamated into one great federal army, feeling this, and seeing no other means of attaining the end, it seemed to him that the time was close at hand when they ought to set about creating this great national government for all Australia."

- Sir Henry Parkes at Tenterfield banquet to the Premier, 24 October 1889, reported in the "Sydney Morning Herald," 25 October 1889, p. 8.

All sanctioned competitions must have one (1) person designated as the Competition Captain. The Competition Captain has the overall responsibility of ensuring that the stages and range procedures are safe for the enjoyment of the competitors.

The Competition Captain is the chairman of the Appeals Committee and is responsible for the clarification and interpretation of the rules as required. The Competition Captain has the final decision for any appeal or disagreements between participants and, if the existing rules do not specify penalties for specific safety violations, the Competition Captain shall determine the appropriate penalty.

Competition Captains must ensure that spectators are clear of range shooting activities and are positioned in an area that is safe.

3.2 Personal Protection

The wearing of hearing and eye protection on all ranges during shooting activities is recommended. Many associations and clubs already require mandatory safety protection for participants and spectators when they are on or near the **firing line**. This is for the safety of the participant and the longevity of the sport.

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"Well it's your fault; I always said this bloody armour would bring us to grief."

- A sworn affidavit read by Supt. Hare at the 1881 Royal Commission claiming that Constable Phillips had overheard Joe Byrne stating his disapproval of the armour used by the Kelly gang during the siege at Glenrowan. Retrieved from <http://www.bailup.com/armour.htm#armoursources>

3.3 Firearm Handling at the Firing Line and Designated Areas

- (a) Competitors may only use holstered handguns after they have completed, or can show proof of gaining, a holster proficiency. In the interim Range Officers should ensure that handguns are staged until the competitor can demonstrate safe handling and competency and has obtained recognised holster proficiency.
- (b) Firearms may only be loaded at a designated loading area and upon the direction of a **Range Officer**. Percussion revolvers and long arms may be charged away from the designated loading area, however capping can only take place at the designated loading area under supervision for revolvers and at the **firing point** during a stage or side event for long arms. Muzzle loading long arms (shotgun and rifle) must not be charged directly from a powder flask, with all charging to be via a single charge measuring device.
- (c) Once loaded a handgun may only be holstered on instruction from a **Range Officer**.
- (d) All firearms when loaded for a stage must be in the **Safe Ready** condition.
- (e) Unholstered firearms must be transported by hand with the muzzle(s) pointed in a safe direction at all times prior to being placed in their stage positions on instruction from the stage **Range Officer**.
- (f) Competitors may choose to start a stage when the revolver is the first firearm with the revolver held in the hand and pointed at 45° towards the ground in a safe direction down range.
- (g) Reloads may form part of a stage where permitted by the stage design. When a handgun reload is required, percussion shooters may stage a second percussion revolver or carry a charged (uncapped) interchangeable cylinder.
- (h) Unless required to load (but not to cap) a black powder firearm, all firearms must not be cocked until they are at the **firing line** and pointed in a safe direction down range.
- (i) The "**Fanning**" and "**Slip hammering**" of a revolver is not permitted and each round must be fired by depressing the trigger.
- (j) All movement involving the handling of firearms on the **firing line** must be conducted in the **safe ready** condition; that is, hammer down on an empty chamber or open and empty. If a round is loaded into a rifle when an empty chamber is required, the round is to be fired safely and deliberately down the range.
- (k) After shooting a firearm may only be staged when it is open and empty; empty with the hammer on the half cock (muzzleloader); or empty with the hammer down (revolvers).
- (l) All firearms must have their muzzles pointed in a safe direction at all times.
- (m) All firearms on the **firing line** must be cleared by a range official at a designated unloading area before removal. Loaded firearms must not be transported away from the **firing line**.

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"Not many minutes elapsed before the suspense was brought to an end by the mob firing several shots at the police, whereupon the foot police (sixteen in number, under Inspector Sanderson) were ordered to fire. Fortunately for the mob the police fired high. The fire only took effect on one man killed, and another man, not engaged in the affray, but standing at his tent door in the township, was wounded on the knee by a spent ball. Nothing daunted, the mob fired again and again."

- Extract of the conflict following the arrest of three men found molesting the Chinese at Blackguard Gully in Keesing, *op. cit.*, p. 254.

3.4 Firearm Handling and storage off the Firing Line

- (a) All firearms must remain unloaded at all times. With regards to percussion revolvers and long arms, 'unloaded' means 'uncapped'.
- (b) Long arms must have their actions broken or visibly open or, for percussion long arms, hammer on the half cock.
- (c) Revolvers must be transported unloaded in a holster, pouch or case. Revolvers that are carried by hand from the **firing line** must have the muzzle pointed in a safe direction, loading gate open.
- (d) Revolvers should be kept in a secure container or in a holster with the owner when not in use.
- (e) Unloaded firearms must not be unnecessarily handled away from the **firing line** unless in a **Safe Area** as designated by the host organisation.
- (f) Participants must maintain proper and safe control of their firearms at all times.

3.5 Ammunition

- (a) Spare or stage ammunition must be carried in belt loops, pouches or pockets.
- (b) Ammunition must not be carried or placed in the mouth or hand during a stage.
- (c) Any ammunition dropped during competition is considered "dead" and cannot be retrieved by the competitor during the course of the stage.

3.6 Penalties

- (a) A dropped loaded firearm will result in the competitor being disqualified from the competition.
- (b) A dropped unloaded firearm will result in the competitor being cautioned. If this occurs during a stage a **safety penalty** of 10 seconds must be applied.
- (c) Breaking the **170° plane** with a loaded firearm (intentionally or otherwise) will result in the competitor being disqualified from the stage. Two (2) such incidents from the same competitor will result in disqualification from the competition.
- (d) An accidental discharge in a safe direction while the firearm is being handled during a stage shall result in the participant being awarded a **Safety Penalty** of 10 seconds. An accidental discharge under any other circumstance will result in the competitor being disqualified from the competition.

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3.7 Drugs and Alcohol

- (a) Competitors using prescription drugs should consult with their medical health care provider for approval to participate in shooting sports while on medication. Any competitor who, in the opinion of the Competition Captain, is impaired by prescription drugs will not be permitted to participate.
- (b) Alcohol and non-prescription drug use will result in the competitor being immediately disqualified from the competition.
- (c) Any competitor who, in the opinion of the Competition Captain, is under the influence of, or impaired by, alcohol or drugs, will not be permitted to participate.

"When we arrived at the grog shop we found a police-man already standing as sentry at the door, and others, carbines in hand, standing round. Mr Armstrong went in, ordered all he found inside to be handcuffed, and proceeded to search. The man, however, had been too much for him-we only discovered half a keg of port. However, the selling had been sworn to by a police spy, and so the tent was doomed. The culprit's own spade was used to knock his own tent down, and his wife actually helped to pull the stakes out of the ground. All the woodwork was piled, and a glorious bonfire was made. The kegs and the tent were confiscated for the use of the authorities."

- *The seizure of a sly grog-shop in Keesing, op. cit., p. 203.*

3.8 Range Targets

- (a) Range targets must conform to the appropriate range approval provided by the range licensing authority.
- (b) Reactive metal plate targets must be positioned not less than 10 metres (33 feet) from the competitor and soft or penetrable targets not less than 3 metres (10 feet) from the competitor.
- (c) Targets must be placed in front of the competitor so that there is a suitable bullet trap directly behind.

3.9 Structures and Facades

- (a) Structures and facades must allow the unrestricted entry, exit and movement of a competitor.
- (b) Props and additional fixtures should allow the competitor to get on and off without assistance and provide a platform for shooting that is stable and safe.

3.10 Stuck Live Round: MANDATORY RULE

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

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4. COMPETITOR'S GUIDELINES

A competitor may only nominate and compete in one Class and one Category during a competition.

4.1 Classes

To provide an opportunity for all shooters to participate and enjoy the sport the following competitor classes shall be made available at a Pioneer Shooting Australia sanctioned competition. Competitors must select one (1) class in which to participate.

(a) Minor

This class is open to any minor participant from the age of 12 years to 18 years (the birth date must be taken at the first day of competition).

(b) Ladies

This class is open to any female competitor and minor female who chooses to compete in this class.

(c) Senior

This class is open to any male or female competitor over the age of 60 years (the birth date must be taken at the first day of competition).

(d) Open

This class is open to any competitor albeit male, female, senior or minor over the age of 16 years.

Disabled members of the community are to be encouraged to participate and competition organisers may include one (1) optional class to facilitate the participation of these members.

4.2 Categories

Organisers shall make available the following compulsory categories to competitors at a Pioneer Shooting Australia sanctioned competition. Each category has a degree of difficulty and specialist requirements which warrant its separate categorisation.

Categories are scored separately to guarantee that no competitor is disadvantaged by their selected equipment or otherwise. This ensures that all competition is fair and equitable.

Competitors must select one (1) category or available optional category for the competition.

(a) Colonial

Permissible Classes: Open.

This category is reserved for the use of a percussion revolver and long arms using black powder cartridges only. The revolver may be cocked, aimed, and fired using both hands. Target sights and modified grips are not permitted.

(b) Single Action (Black Powder)

Permissible Classes: Open.

This category is reserved for the use of a single action revolver and long arms using black powder only. The revolver may be cocked, aimed, and fired using both hands. Target sights and modified grips are not permitted.

(c) Single Action

Permissible Classes: Open.

This category is reserved for the use of a single action nitro cartridge revolver which may be cocked, aimed, and fired using both hands. Target sights and modified grips are not permitted.

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(d) Purist Single Action

Permissible Classes: Open.

This category is reserved for the use of a single or double action revolver that is fired single action only. The revolver must be cocked, aimed & fired using the dominant hand only. Target sights are permitted. The revolver may be a percussion type or cartridge type using nitro or black powder.

(e) Purist Double Action

Permissible Classes: Open.

This category is reserved for the use of a double action revolver that is fired double action only. The revolver must be cocked, aimed & fired using the dominant hand only. Target sights are permitted. The revolver may be a percussion type or cartridge type using nitro or black powder.

(f) Minor

Permissible Classes: Minor.

This category is reserved for participants between 12 and 18 years of age holding a minors permit or similar and using a single action revolver. The revolver may be cocked, aimed, and fired using both hands. Target Sights are permitted although modified grips are prohibited.

(g) Ladies

Permissible Classes: Ladies.

This category is reserved for the use of a single action revolver which may be cocked, aimed, and fired using both hands. Target sights are permitted although modified grips are prohibited.

(h) Double Action (Black Powder)

Permissible Classes: Open.

This category is reserved for the use of a double action revolver that may be fired either single or double action. The revolver may be cocked, aimed, and fired using both hands. All firearms must use black powder only. Target sights and modified grips are prohibited.

(i) Double Action

Permissible Classes: Open.

This category is reserved for the use of a double action nitro cartridge revolver that may be fired either single or double action. The revolver may be cocked, aimed, and fired using both hands. Target sights and modified grips are prohibited.

(j) Single Action Target

Permissible Classes: Open.

This category is reserved for the use of a single action revolver with target sights. The revolver may be cocked, aimed & fired using both hands. Modified grips are not permitted. The type of cartridge used by the competitor is optional and may be nitro or black powder.

(k) Double Action Target

Permissible Classes: Open.

This category is reserved for the use of a double action revolver that is fired either single or double action. The revolver may be cocked, aimed & fired using both hands. Target sights and modified grips are permitted. The type of cartridge used by the competitor is optional and may be nitro or black powder.

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4.3 Optional Categories

Organisers may elect to offer additional categories for a competition. For these positions to be valid each additional category must contain a minimum of five (5) competitors. Should there be insufficient competitors to warrant an optional category then each affected competitor must be notified prior to the start of the competition by the organisers for placement in an alternative category.

The following optional categories may be offered:

(a) Colonial Target

Permissible Classes: Open.

This category is reserved for the use of a percussion revolver and long arms using black powder cartridges only. The revolver may be cocked, aimed, and fired using both hands. Target sights are permitted but modified grips are prohibited.

(b) Senior

Permissible Classes: Senior.

This category is reserved for the use of a single action revolver which may be cocked, aimed and fired using both hands. The competitor must be over sixty (60) years of age, the birth date being taken at the first day of competition.

(c) .22 Calibre

Permissible Classes: All.

Single action, double action and semi-automatic categories utilising .22 calibre firearms may be organised by host clubs.

4.4 Side Matches

These are optional events designed to provide variation at a competition. Side Matches are only limited by the imagination of the host organisation whose organisers will set out courses of fire that are safe and suited to the range facility. Side matches can involve team stages and provide an opportunity for the use of a variety of firearms (with a minimum calibre of .22 Rimfire), including traditional cartridges such as .38 Smith and Wesson, .38 Special, .357 Magnum, .44 Special, .44 Magnum and .45 Long Colt. The list and guidelines provided below represent an example of the types of competitions that are possible as side matches.

(a) Speed Events

Speed events may involve rifle, pistol or shotgun. The competitor shall start with the firearm held in the **safe ready** position, muzzle pointed in a safe direction; handgun held at 45°.

(i) Pistol

Permissible Classes: Open.

Speed events involving handguns should be conducted in two (2) distinct categories: double action, and single action. The event can be run as an elimination event using one handgun, the competitor engaging targets in sequence. Time, including penalties, is used to determine a winner. Loading a sixth round is permissible and sights are optional.

(ii) Shotgun

Permissible Classes: Open.

This is an elimination event using a cartridge shotgun. The competitor commences with an unloaded shotgun held in a safe direction. A number of targets are engaged in sequence with time, including penalties, being used to determine a winner.

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(iii) Rifle

Permissible Classes: Open.

This is an elimination event using a pistol calibre lever or slide action rifle. The competitor commences with the rifle held in a safe direction. Targets are engaged in a sequential manner on the clock. A cartridge reload is permitted and time, including penalties, is used to determine the winner.

(b) Precision Events

Permissible Classes: Open.

This event uses a rifle and / or handgun scored on a card target using criteria determined by the competition organisers. For example, five (5) shots over three (3) minutes with a handgun for each of the distances; 10 metres, 15 metres and 20 metres, providing two (2) minutes between distances for reloading.

(c) Shotgun Clay Target

Permissible Classes: Open.

This event is for side by side, single barrel or muzzle loading shotguns. Competitors engage clay targets, the number of hits over a set number of clays being used to determine a winner.

(d) Long Range Rifle Events

Permissible Classes: Open.

The following categories could be considered for the conduct of rifle events:

- (i) Long Range Muzzle Loading Rifle (Patched Ball and Minnie Ball)
- (ii) Lever Action Rifle; pistol calibre out to 400m
- (iii) Lever Action Rifle; rifle calibre out to 400m
- (iv) Martini Cadet Rifle; .310 or 32-20 calibre out to 400m

(e) .22 Rimfire Events

Permissible Classes: Open.

The following categories could be considered for the conduct of rifle events:

- (i) Lever and Pump action - single shot.
- (ii) Bolt Action – single shot.
- (iii) A single scenario using rimfire rifle, rimfire pistol and 410 shotgun; this event is to be called a 'Pee Wee' match.

(f) Pistol Events

- (i) Long Range Pistol – Rim Fire
- (ii) Long Range Pistol – Centre Fire
- (iii) Long Range Pistol – Percussion

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4.5 Collectors Meeting

As many Pioneer Shooters collect firearms, knives and memorabilia of the pioneering era in Australia, an optional collectors meeting be held following the Saturday scenarios & prior to the evening meal at each Pioneer Shooting weekend competition.

5. FIREARMS AND AMMUNITION

"We concealed away from the house the arms, consisting of a double-barrelled gun, a horse pistol, and a dagger pistol, with some rations, and had about 1 pound silver, with a change of clothes."

-William Derrincourt (alias W. Day) on making preparations to "stick up the mail between Bathurst and Orange," in Keesing, op. cit., p. 179.

Firearms and ammunition are fundamental to Pioneer Shooting. In order to retain the pioneer theme and historical integrity of the sport the following rule set is applied.

Firearms used in all matches must be originals or reproductions of models in use between circa 1850 and before 1 January 1901. Any firearm that is visually similar to an original may be used by a competitor. All firearms must have the same features and function in a similar manner to the original.

All firearms must be in safe shooting condition and must be legally held by the user on a licence or permit that provides the option of target shooting.

External modifications to firearms are prohibited except alterations that conform to military modifications to improve safety.

Magnaport® and other barrel venting or recoil compensators are prohibited.

Ventilated sight ribs or other fixtures not in keeping with the period are prohibited.

Sights and hammers may be changed, but the alterations must resemble originals. Peep target sights are permitted on long arms only if they could be purchased as a factory provided accessory, or visually resemble sights used during the period.

Grips may be changed, but modern soft rubber types or orthopaedic finger grooves and trigger shoes are prohibited.

All stage ammunition must use lead alloy bullets only.

Handgun and rifle ammunition must have a minimum velocity of *250 metres per second (650 feet per second)* and a maximum velocity of *400 metres per second (1,000 feet per second)* for handguns - and *430 metres per second (1,400 feet per second)* for rifles.

Duplex black powder loads are prohibited.

If competition organisers believe that a competitor's ammunition fails to meet the required specification then they may select a maximum of ten (10) rounds at random from that competitor to check and chronograph.

5.1 Revolvers

Competitors may use any revolver, replica, or look-alike thereof that was in production prior to 1901. This includes modern reproductions of percussion, percussion conversion, single action cartridge and double action cartridge revolvers.

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Revolvers must have minimum calibre of .32 unless otherwise authorised by an event or host club. For example, .22 Calibre revolvers may be used where required by a stage design or where offered as an Optional Category.

Double Action category revolvers must be designed with barrels that are plain or hexagonal and have a profile similar to that of the period. The Double Action revolver may be either hinged frame or swing out cylinder with the ejector rod exposed when the cylinder is shut (i.e. not enclosed by a machined barrel profile). Trigger shoes are not permitted.

Double Action Target category revolvers may have the extracting rod shrouded in the barrel profile. **Barrel porting** is prohibited. The hammer must be able to be manually cocked and the revolver must be able to be used in the single action mode.

"Testimonial to Superintendant Robert O'Hara Bourke. The government officials of the district have presented to this gentleman as a mark of their esteem and regard, a brace of revolvers. They are on the principle of Tranter's double trigger, are handsomely finished weapons and calculated to prove extremely serviceable should their owner unfortunately need to use them. One is a holster pistol and the other is intended to wear on the person. Both bear suitable inscriptions on silver plates covering the butt ends."

- An extract from the Beechworth newspaper "The Constitution" dated 30 October 1858. Retrieved from http://www.firearmsmuseum.org.au/TranterHistory/wt_aust_fra.htm

Revolvers must retain the cocking spur for shooting single action when required by stages or matches.

Revolvers with five chambers are permitted although the competitor may only load four (4) chambers and holster in a **safe ready** condition unless otherwise permitted. Additional stage ammunition can only be loaded when the competitor is controlling the revolver on the **firing line** and where the stage permits.

All loading during a course of fire must be done by hand. The use of any modern aid to assist in loading is prohibited.

5.2 Pocket Pistols and Derringers

A pocket pistol or derringer is defined as any double or single action handgun meeting "like those in use" criteria.

The cartridge pocket pistol or cartridge derringer must have a minimum calibre of .22 (5.5mm) and a minimum barrel length of 3.98 inches (100mm).

Black powder or percussion derringers must have a minimum calibre of .22 (5.5mm) and a maximum barrel length of 2.5 inches (63mm).

A pocket pistol or derringer may be carried by a competitor as part of their selected accoutrements. They may be used in a stage or side event at the discretion of competition organisers. If added to a stage the firearm must be staged at the **firing point** (i.e. not carried on the person) with the muzzle pointed in a safe direction. Cartridge pocket pistols or cartridge derringers must be staged open and empty at the firing point.

5.3 Shotguns

Permitted for competition is any lever action, slide action, double barrelled (side by side only) or single barrelled shotgun that was in production prior to 1901, or any replica thereof. Shotguns must be non-ejecting and must have a calibre of not less than 36-gauge and not greater than 10-gauge. All shotguns must be loaded by hand "on the clock" with the exception of slide and lever shotguns, which may be loaded

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at the loading table and on the line with a maximum of two (2) rounds at any one time. The use of any modern aid to assist in loading is prohibited.

Unless otherwise stipulated in a stage design, there is no limit to the number of shells that can be used during a stage.

Percussion Shotguns are permissible however a maximum number of six (6) rounds may be fired in any one stage subject to a maximum of two (2) reloads. Paper cartridges and plastic wads are permitted.

Percussion shotguns shall only be capped on the **firing line** and all loading during a course of fire must be from the person.

Unless otherwise provided by the stage, percussion shotguns may engage the first two (2) targets in every five (5). Hence a stage requiring five (5) shotgun rounds would permit the engagement of targets 1 and 2 only.

The cleaning of long arms between shots is prohibited.

The ball shot or pellet size permissible for use by Pioneer Shooting competitors must not exceed number 6 (2.79mm) in diameter.

5.4 Stage Event Rifles

Permitted for stage events is any lever action or slide action rifle using a pistol calibre cartridge that was in production prior to 1901, or any replica thereof. The rifle must have a minimum calibre of .25 and may have period styled tang and receiver sights.

Rifles must not be loaded with more than six (6) rounds at the loading table, with any additional ammunition, if required by the stage, to be loaded on the **firing line**. This is to ensure that competitors using half magazine lever rifles are not disadvantaged. In the event that no competitor is disadvantaged by the loading of additional rounds then stage designs can be varied accordingly.

All loading during a course of fire must be done by hand and the use of any modern aid to assist in loading is prohibited. (310 Cadet Rifles and Cadet Rifles modified to 32-20, may be used in main stage and side events as from the 2010 State Titles shoot.)

Muzzle loading long arms may use a mini ball or patch ball and must have a minimum velocity of 650 feet per second. Paper cartridges are permitted.

A maximum number of five (5) rounds from a muzzle loading rifle may be fired in any one stage. Unless otherwise provided by the stage, a muzzle loading rifle may only engage the first target in every five (5), or part thereof (for example, a stage requiring nine (9) rifle rounds would permit the competitor to engage targets 1 and 6).

Percussion rifles may only be capped at the **firing point** and all loading during a course of fire must be from the person. An exception to this rule is percussion rifles using revolving cylinders which may be capped pursuant to the **safe ready (revolver)** criteria.

The cleaning of any rifle is not permitted during a stage.

The use of .22 Rimfire rifles is restricted to contestants shooting under the designated .22 Calibre optional category.

5.5 Long Range and Side Event Rifles

Long range and side event rifles must be chambered for a pre-1901 calibre such as 45-70, 38-55, 30-30, 303 British and 577-450. Any single shot, lever action, slide action or bolt action rifle that was in production prior to 1901, or any replica thereof, is permitted. Period styled tang sights and receiver sights are likewise permitted. Telescopic sights or optical insets are prohibited.

Only lead alloy bullets are to be used (steel or iron core bullets are prohibited). Gas checks are permitted to prevent the accumulation of lead in the barrel and to aid in accuracy. The use of copper jacketed bullets is permissible only where a special category is provided and the host organisation has targets that have been safely constructed and positioned for the rounds. It is recommended that clubs permitting the use of

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jacketed bullets adopt the standard international metallic silhouette rules regarding the proper construction and maintenance of targets.

Percussion long arms carried during the pioneer era are acceptable. The maximum number of shots for an event must not exceed ten (10) and the duration of the course of fire must not exceed fifteen (15) minutes. The rifle must be loaded from the person and a competitor may have one charge loaded before time commences. The use of combustible paper cartridges is permitted.

.22 Rimfire rifles may be used in specifically designated side events where they are of the type manufactured before 1901, or any replica thereof. Optical or telescopic sights are prohibited.

These events will include a category for; any pioneer era calibre; any action including flint locks; any propellant with supporting sticks.

6. CLOTHING, ACCOUTREMENTS, & C.

6.1 Clothing

The range of period clothing available to the participant is vast, varying between genders, occupations, classes, nationalities and fashions. While pioneer women often found the reassurance of fashion, the men overwhelmingly sought comfort and practicality, and devised clothes to suit. Pioneer Shooting competitors are encouraged to choose any period clothing ranging from the fashions of the 1840s to the slouch hat worn by troops leaving for the Boer War. The style of clothing and accoutrements is encouraged to be compatible with a pioneer occupation and the historicity of the firearms used by a competitor, although any clothing typical to the pioneer era is permissible. Uniforms such as the blue with white trimming worn by the mounted police of the Victorian goldfields are encouraged.

All participants should wear a hat such as a white troppo helmet, pocket felt or ladies sailor hat, for decorative embellishment and protection from exposure. Safari shorts or shorts in the form of traditional Bombay bloomers may be worn by participants on the proviso that the chosen footwear and socks are compatible with the period.

It is recognised that the acquisition of period clothing may take a competitor time in research and attainment. To ensure that new participants are not detracted from the sport in the interim, a degree of flexibility in a participant's clothing and accoutrements is permissible at the discretion of the club. Nevertheless, baseball caps, joggers, designer jeans, track suits, modern shorts, t-shirts and military design disruptive pattern clothes are fundamentally discouraged; as are plastic and nylon accoutrements and Velcro fittings.

"Invariably wears fashionable Napoleon boots, dark cloth breeches, dark vest buttoned up the front, large Albert gold guard, cabbage-tree hat and duck coat. Sometimes wears a wig and always carries a brace of revolvers."

- Excerpt from *Police Gazette of 1862 describing John Paisley*. Retrieved from
<<http://scs.une.edu.au/bushrangers/peisley.htm>>

6.2 Holsters

All revolvers must be carried holstered where available. If holsters are unavailable, the competitor is not holster proficient, or a stage design specifies otherwise, then the revolver(s) may be staged at the discretion of the competition officials.

Pioneer Shooting competition is based around one holstered revolver as was traditionally carried during the period.

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Holsters and belts must be constructed of the type of material used during the pioneer era and should be in keeping with the chosen dress style. They must be worn in traditional locations as was usual and customary prior to 1901.

Holsters must safely retain the handgun during all movement. Should a holster ride up more than 50 millimetres (2 inches) when the revolver is being drawn then it is deemed unsafe and must be restrained. Whilst standing erect, the muzzle of a holstered pistol must point at the ground within a one (1) meter (3 foot) radius of the competitor. Holsters bearing double action revolvers must be designed to cover the trigger.

Belt loop, military and police style flap top, cross draw, and shoulder holsters are acceptable if worn and used in a safe manner. **Sam Browne** leather belts are permitted to support holsters or sword scabbards.

6.3 Ammunition Belts and Pouches

All ammunition to be used during a stage must be carried in belt loops, pockets, approved ammunition pouches, shotgun shell holders or pouches that are "period" in design and construction, except for ammunition for the muzzle loading long arms which may be carried in a cartridge box or a similar reproduction of the era. No ammunition may be carried on a firearm.

Pre-1901 Military style or "possibles bags" are examples of permissible pouches.

Ammunition belts must not tilt away from the body and should be worn in traditional locations as was usual and customary prior to 1901. Belts should be made from traditional material and must not use metal or plastic inserts in shotgun or cartridge loops.

7. COMPETITION

7.1 Stages

Stages represent a course of fire that each participant must engage. All stage designs are unique and each stage provides a different set of circumstances for the competitor. A competition is based on a number of stages being undertaken by all competitors, and can run over a number of days.

The design of a competition stage will vary between shooting facilities. This is due to the availability of props, targets and constraints imposed by the individual range. For example, some ranges will only provide the opportunity for sideways movement during a stage due to open plan design, while other ranges may permit forward movement where there is a single competitor and the range has earthen banks or wings designed to act as bullet traps.

Stages should be designed on the principle that each competitor has one (1) handgun, one (1) lever action rifle and one (1) shotgun only. (Note: Where the use of a 310 Cadet Rifle is included in a scenario, competitors who do not have access to a 310 Cadet may substitute by using their lever action rifle loading single rounds only)

An ideal competition stage should not exceed three (3) minutes at the **firing line** for any competitor. This will ensure a rapid turnover of participants at the **firing line** and will help to maintain enthusiasm.

"I had not much time to notice them in detail, but I could see that these warriors were painted, feathered, and armed to the teeth with spears, clubs and other weapons, and they were ready for instant action ... they looked like ... a body of Comanche Indians ... The men were closely packed in serried ranks, and it was evident they formed a drilled and perfectly organised force."

-Ernest Giles on being attacked by Aborigines during his successful transcontinental crossing from Adelaide to Perth in 1875 in Hans Mincham, "Incredible Australia," Budget Books, Hong Kong, 1978, p. 184.

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7.2 Targets

Targets must be designed of steel or card and should be of a size that will permit competitors to engage them rapidly. Targets that are small in size will reduce the pace of the competition and will tend to take the action out of Pioneer Shooting. See Appendix C: Targets for target design guidelines.

Scoring procedures should be clearly defined in a stage description, especially where using balloons, clay targets and card targets as additional support. By necessity shotgun targets must be designed to clearly define a competitor's hit. Due to their scoring clarity, knock-down targets are commonly used in a stage design for shotgun engagements.

"But Gilbert walked from the open door
In a confident style and rash;
He heard at his side the rifles roar,
And he heard the bullets crash.
But he laughed as he lifted his pistol-hand,
And he fired at the rifle flash."

- Stanza from Andrew Barton "Banjo" Paterson's "How Gilbert Died" as first published in "The Bulletin," 2 June 1894.

Where reactive pistol targets are used they should be calibrated to fall with a central hit from a 158 grain .38 special travelling at a minimum velocity of 650 feet per second. Reactive pistol targets engaged by a competitor in the .22 Calibre optional category with a .22 calibre firearm are not required to fall.

The setting of targets shall be as follows:

- (a) Card or other penetrable targets such as balloons must be positioned a minimum distance of 3 meters (10 feet) from the competitor's **firing point**.
- (b) Steel revolver targets must be positioned a minimum of 10 meters (33 feet) from the competitor's **firing point**.
- (c) Steel rifle and shotgun targets must be positioned a minimum distance of 20 meters (66 feet) from the competitor's **firing point**.
- (d) Steel Muzzleloading rifle targets must be positioned a minimum distance of 30 meters (100 feet) from the competitor's **firing point**.
- (e) Rifle and muzzle loading rifle targets must not be set at a distance of greater than fifty (50) metres from the **firing point** for competition stages.
- (f) Targets must be set parallel to the **firing line**.
- (g) Targets must be set within a safe radius of the designated **firing point** so that the placement will restrict a projectile from ricocheting or fragmenting 10° past 90° of the target line central axis. This permits a target spread of 3.5 meters at 10 meters distance and a target spread of 7 meters at 20 meters distance.

Note. Always remember maximum velocity rules (Clause 5(i) of the Rules) and ensure that all lead projectiles are **HARD CAST** as opposed to the soft variety most commonly produced by the home caster.

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7.3 Gamesmanship

- (a) All participants are encouraged to be as competitive as they desire and to check their scores for each stage to ensure their correct recording.
- (b) When a competitor has firearms loaded and is waiting to shoot a stage, or is in the process of shooting a stage, other participants are requested to respect their right to compete without hindrance.
- (c) All competitors are expected to be obliging and helpful and to assist with range duties as required.
- (d) Competitors who “seek to gain an advantage” in a manner that is contrary to the spirit of the game will incur a procedural penalty of 10 seconds for that stage.

“Three or four nights ago an armed gang of twenty-two thieves took possession of a couple of boats lying near the shore, muffled the oars, and rowed to the ship *Nelson*, which had about 25,000 pounds worth of gold on board. They boarded her, found but five hands who were asleep, no watch being kept. They compelled the mate to show them where the gold was placed, which he did not do until he had received a wound from a pistol and a thrust from a sword.”

- Letter from “An Australian Journalist” describing the robbery of the ship *Nelson* in Victoria on 2 April 1852 in Keesing, *op. cit.*, p. 166.

7.4 Scoring

Each competitor completes a stage against the clock. The failure of a competitor to meet the requirements of a stage will incur penalties that must be added to that competitor’s raw time. These penalties shall be awarded as follows:

A five (5) second penalty is to be awarded for each missed target or target that is not engaged.

A ten (10) second penalty is to be awarded for a non-safety related procedural violation (this penalty may only be incurred by a competitor once during a stage).

A ten (10) second penalty is to be awarded for a safety related violation. More than one (1) safety related violation in a stage will result in the competitor’s disqualification for that stage. A third safety related violation will see the competitor disqualified from the competition.

A stage disqualification will result in the competitor receiving a two hundred (200) second penalty for that stage.

The winner of each Category will be the competitor in that Category with the lowest aggregate time for the match.

“Top Gun” will be awarded to the competitor with the lowest aggregate time overall, regardless of Category.

It is recognised that some competitors in Pioneer Shooting are highly skilled shooters and these individuals may consistently dominate the competition in their particular Category. Organisers may consider the introduction of a “handicap” system to “even-the-field” and allow more shooters to be competitive.

7.5 Re-Shoot

A re-shoot may be awarded by the Competition Captain on the following grounds:

- (a) As the outcome of a successful appeal by a competitor; or
- (b) Where conditions prevail that were outside the competitors’ control (such as the failure of a timer during a stage). A competitor who has equipment failure is not entitled to a re-shoot.

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"He was good at throwing metal, but we chronicled with pain
That he jumped upon a victim, damaging the watch and chain
Ere the Bleeders had secured them; yet the captain of the push
Swore a dozen oaths in favour of the stranger from the bush."

- Stanza from *"The captain of the Push" (1892)* by Henry Lawson in Hirst, *op. cit.*, p. 66.

7.6 Appeals and posting scores

It is recognised that a competitor may be dissatisfied with an on-range decision or a scoring discrepancy. The following protocol establishes an avenue to redress these situations and provide a "fair go" for all competitors.

At the commencement of a sanctioned competition the organisers should establish an appeals committee consisting of the Competition Captain, one senior **range officer** as appointed by the organisers, and one delegate as appointed by the competitors.

Charges or fees related to the lodgement of an appeal are optional and are set at the discretion of the organisers. However, any costs incurred through the lodgement of an appeal must be refunded in full if the appeal is found to be in the applicant's favour.

All appeals must be lodged in writing with the Competition Captain no later than thirty (30) minutes after the subject incident.

The appeals committee must hear the appeal within two (2) hours of the lodgement of the appeal or before the conclusion of a competition, whichever comes first.

The appeals committee may call on any person who they feel can provide an accurate clarification of the appeal to provide evidence.

The decision of the appeals committee is final and no further dialogue may be entered into after the ruling is provided.

When scores are recorded electronically or manually, organisers should make every effort to ensure that all entries are correct. It is recommended that the scores as recorded for each competitor are posted for a period of not less than 30 minutes for competitors to peruse and review. The onus is placed on each competitor to check the accuracy of the entered scores when they are posted.

In the event of a competitor finding a discrepancy in the scores, a maximum period of fifteen (15) minutes after the posted period is available for the lodgement of a clarification to the discrepancy.

All medals and awards provided to competitors at the conclusion of a competition remain sanctioned. Protests and appeals by competitors after the closing of a competition will not be validated.

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"But we bequeath a parting tip
For sound advice of such men,
Who come across in transport ship
To polish off the Dutchmen!

"If you encounter any Boers
You really must not loot 'em!
And if you wish to leave these shores,
For pity's sake, DON'T SHOOT 'EM!!"

- Harry "Breaker" Morant's "Butchered to make a Dutchman's Holiday" as published in "The Bulletin," 19 April 1902. Colonial troops first went to the Boer War in 1899.

8. HISTORICAL DEMONSTRATIONS

Historical demonstrations are considered a natural extension of the Pioneer Shooting Discipline and it is anticipated that Pioneer Shooting participants may be interested in, or even involved in, public demonstrations and historical re-enactments. Small groups of amateur actors already exist, providing re-enactments for audiences and relating information on the clothing, accouterments, firearms, and life and times of the era. Such demonstrations seek to keep Australia's pioneering heritage alive and serve to promote the same ideologies as endorsed by the Pioneer Shooting Discipline.

For those who seek to place our heritage in the public arena, or who just love dressing up for re-enactment or demonstration purposes, each Australian state has a regulatory body that has prescriptive details and licences that must be obtained and met prior to undertaking any public displays. These rules and regulations should be checked prior to undertaking any activity and must be complied with at all times.

Coordinators of a demonstration must appoint an **Armourer** and obtain the appropriate licences and consents as required by the local authorities.

All the participants in an event must treat and respect every firearm at all times as though it were loaded. They should be made aware of the program, from the course of fire to the safety requirements necessitated by the approving authority, and are expected to be responsible for the safe conduct of themselves and others.

All ammunition must be loaded by the **Armourer** prior to the display, with each participant being provided with the required number of rounds.

Firearms must not be pointed at, or discharged pointing at, another participant or spectators. All discharges should be in the air and a distance not less than twenty (20) metres from any opposing participant or other person.

Note. See APPENDIX A: Procedures for historical re-enactments or displays.

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9. AFFILIATION

9.1 Discipline Administration

The Pioneer Shooting Australia Discipline is administered by the Discipline Chairperson and the Alternate Discipline Chairperson who are responsible for the functioning of the Discipline and refinement or clarification of the developed rules. At this stage, only NSW shoots this Discipline, therefore the responsibility for the administration of the Discipline falls to the State Discipline Chairperson and the Alternate. If or when other States or Territories take up this Discipline, it is envisaged that the administration of the Discipline will be undertaken by a National Discipline Chairperson and Alternate, with one representative from each participating State or Territory.

9.2 Australian Discipline Chairperson

Not Applicable

9.3 SSAA State Discipline Chairperson

(a)	New South Wales	Bob Conran
(b)	Queensland
(c)	Victoria
(d)	South Australia
(e)	Western Australia
(f)	Tasmania
(g)	Northern Territory
(h)	ACT

9.4 SSAA Branches and SSAA Affiliate Clubs

Shooting Associations and Clubs in NSW which are affiliated with the SSAA are permitted to conduct sanctioned Pioneer Shooting Australia competitions in consultation with and approval from the NSW State Discipline Chairperson.

Every SSAA branch and affiliate club may make one (1) submission per annum to the Pioneer Shooting Australia Discipline Chairperson regarding the rules. All submissions must be in writing and should be received by Discipline Chairperson no later than the last day in February for consideration at the March discipline AGM. The comments provided will be considered on their merits and will provide a valuable tool to refine the rules and create grass roots ownership.

9.5 Affiliation Charges

Not applicable.

"I have had, as you may suppose, lots of gunshot wounds to attend to, besides stabs and fractures, and there is a great deal of dysentery and ophthalmia, so that I pick up a few guineas and half-guineas that way."

-letter from a surgeon at Fryar's Creek, Victoria, 1852, in Keesing, op. cit., p. 104.

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9.6 International Bodies – Organisations

Nil.

9.7 Registered and Sanctioned Competitions

Organisers and host clubs of competitions must be affiliated with, or obtain the permission of, the copyright owners prior to holding a Sanctioned Competition.

Membership

All SSAA members are deemed to have membership.

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APPENDIX A

PROCEDURES FOR HISTORICAL RE-ENACTMENTS OR DISPLAYS

Organisers must check and comply with the required procedures of the relevant State Firearms regulatory Body.

All firearms must remain under the control of the approved **armourer**. Firearms must not be distributed, loaded or unloaded without the approved **armourer** being present and privy to the transaction. Between displays firearms must be secured and must not be carried by the participants. All firearms must be inspected before loading every time and must be inspected and cleared again after use.

Blank ammunition may only be handed out in quantities sufficient for each display, with two (2) spares permissible only where a firearm requires reloading. All ammunition must be accounted for at the end of each display. Blanks must be kept in a locked container separate from the firearms when not required for the display, with all keys to the receptacle being held by the approved **armourer**. Participants/ actors are not permitted to provide their own ammunition.

All participants/actors are to be instructed to not violate the minimum distance rules and to use "stage aiming." Stage aiming requires participants/actors to aim either above, below or slightly to the side of the intended target.

It is advised that all participants/actors wear ear and eye protection.

All firearm malfunctions must be cleared by the approved club **armourer** or delegated assistant. In the event that the firearm malfunctions during a scene the participant/actor is to retain the firearm and present it to the **armourer** immediately after the stage.

Live ammunition is not allowed on site. Dummy ammunition, if worn or carried in belts, must be inspected by the approved **armourer** and must have holes drilled in the case or empty primer pockets.

Careless handling or gunplay will see the participant/actor dismissed from the proceedings.

Revolvers must not be removed from the holster unless required by the proceeding of the scene. Twirling and **fanning** revolvers is not permitted.

Blank ammunition should be tested prior to the event by discharging samples at a large sheet of white paper used as an aiming point. The aiming point should be set 3 meters (10 feet) from the muzzle for pistol ammunition and 10 meters (33) feet from the muzzle for rifle and shotgun ammunition. No marking or spotting should be present on the subject paper at these ranges.

The following loading processes will provide satisfactory results:

Prime the required ammunition, load with FFFg or FFFFg Black powder, and use florist's foam to cap off the load.

Cartridge wadding, if used, should consist of tissue paper or light non-flammable material. Heavy card or wax wads must not be used and are prohibited.

Each cartridge should be loaded only with an adequate charge of Black Powder and filler to provide the required effect.

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APPENDIX B

TARGETS

1. Shapes and Sizes: Steel Targets

There is a wide variety of steel targets that can be designed for use in Pioneer Shooting sanctioned matches including rockers, swingers, knockdowns and reset targets. However, the following targets adapted from the SSAA Western Action Library have proven to be the most popular and, as some of the easiest and least expensive to make, provide a good starting point for all clubs.

The plates are constructed of 10mm (3/8") thick Bisalloy or AR360 steel. They should be flame or plasma cut to give a smooth edge, thereby ensuring that the placement of the targets on the range for each stage will not injure the handler.

Note: Do not try to drill these plates.

Square

Square targets may measure 250mm (10"), 300mm (12"), 450mm (14") or 500mm (16").



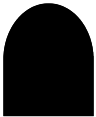
Diamond

Diamond targets are essentially square targets as described above. Note that square targets can also be used as diamonds (and visa versa) if you weld a mounting bracket in a corner and in the middle of a side.



Tombstone

Tombstone targets may have a base width of 250mm (10") and stand 300mm (12") in height.



Rectangle

Rectangles may be designed with a ratio of base to height of 1:1.5, starting with a base width of 250mm (10"). This would provide a height of 375mm.



Disc

Disc targets may measure 200mm (8"), 250mm (10"), 300mm (12") or 450mm (14") in diameter.



Church Bell

A bell may have a base width and height of 350mm (14"), with a 200mm (8") diameter zenith.

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Kelly

The Kelly may be designed with a 350mm (14") base width, 350mm (14") height and a 200mm (10") top width. Shots that miss the target by passing through the visor are designated misses for the stage.



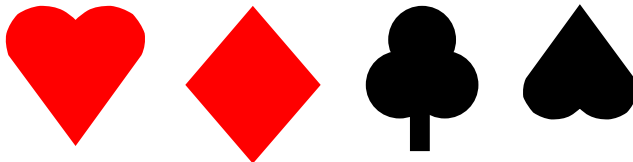
Coffin

The coffin may have a base and top width of 125mm (5"), a 350mm (14") long side and a 125mm (5") short side.



Suit of cards

A suit of cards may be approximately 350mm (14") in height and width.



All targets should be generous in size and the dimensions used for the abovementioned plates should be considered an absolute minimum for use in Pioneer Shooting matches. Bigger targets provide for better scores and quicker times and account for high tempo stages. Conversely, small targets are difficult to hit, especially at longer ranges, and create a higher level of difficulty. This may tend to discourage some competitors.

Although the top competitors will invariably be faster and more accurate than other competitors at any stage, the rule of thumb is that "no target is too big to miss."

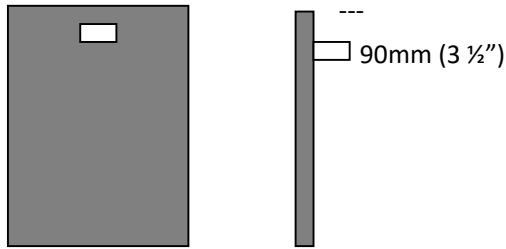
Target shapes should by no means be limited to the diagrams depicted above and can resemble anything from, or associated with, the Pioneer era. For example, plates could resemble steer heads, barrels, kangaroos, dingos, bottles, tents, mail coaches, rams, etc. Under no circumstances are targets to resemble people.

When designing steel targets always keep in mind that Pioneer Shooting is an accuracy and speed match; that range design is the duty of the host club; and that all competitors will face the same stages with the same set of targets.

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2. Mounting Brackets

Once you have settled on your target templates and have cut them out you will need to weld a mounting bracket on the reverse face of the plates. A mounting bracket may be constructed from flat 12mm ($\frac{1}{2}$ ") thick flat steel with a 30mm ($1\frac{1}{4}$ ") hole drilled through the centre. Weld this bracket 90mm ($3\frac{1}{2}$ ") down from the outer edge of the steel plate.



3. Target Stands

Rebar target stands use the following components:

UPRIGHTS – 19mm ($\frac{3}{4}$ ") diameter, 600mm (24") to 900mm (48") tall, at 150mm (6") intervals. Note that target stands higher than 900mm (48") will tend to fall forward.

BASE LEGS – 19mm ($\frac{3}{4}$ ") rebar, 900mm (48") long, bent in the centre. The correct bend occurs when the ends are 750mm (30") apart.

BRACE LEGS – 12mm ($\frac{5}{8}$ ") rebar, 600mm (36") long, bent in the middle. The correct bend occurs when the ends are 550mm ($20\frac{1}{2}$ ") apart.

TARGET PLATE STOP – 10mm ($\frac{3}{8}$ ") x 24mm (1") x 130mm (5") flat steel bar.

The base legs are tack welded at a right angle to the upright 100mm (4") from the bottom.

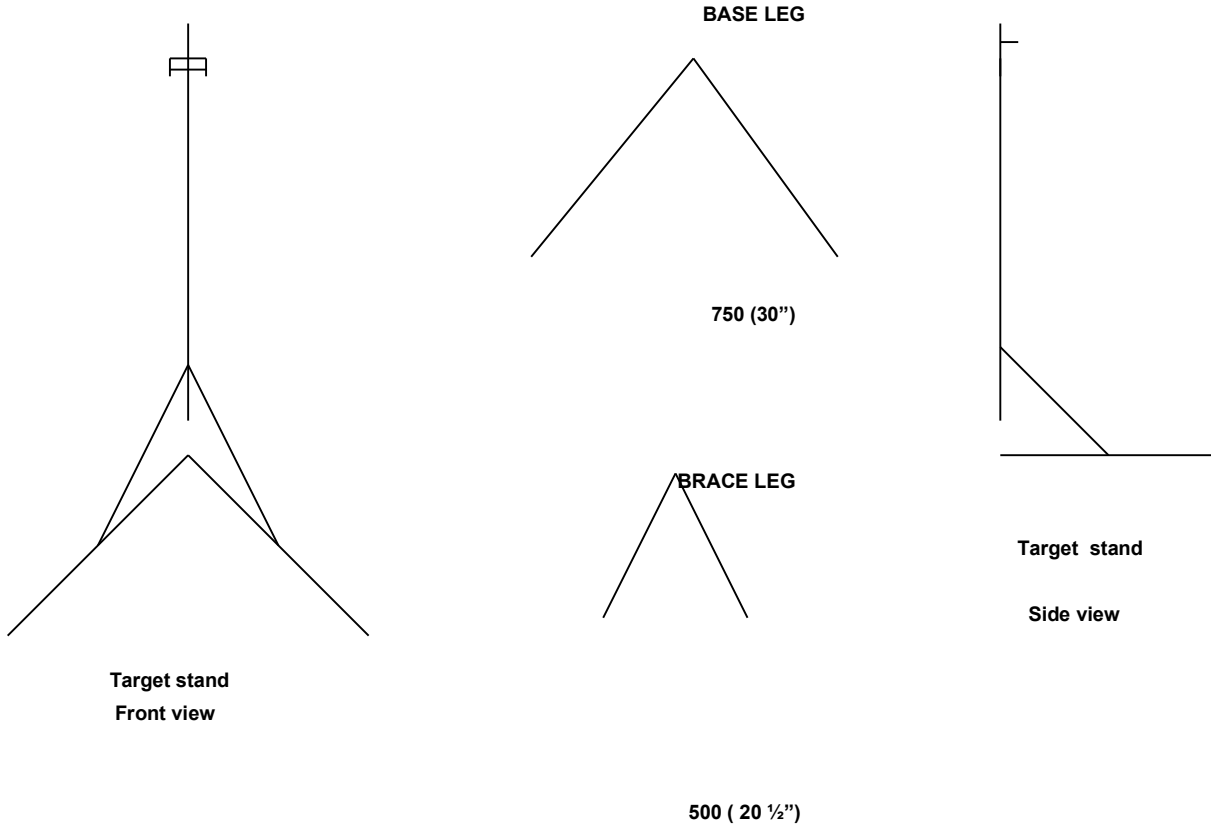
The brace legs are tack welded 430mm (16") from the bottom end of the upright with the brace leg ends in contact with the base leg. Note that minor adjustments may be required at this point. The target plate stop is then tack welded 65mm ($2\frac{1}{2}$ ") from the top of the upright. The target plate stop should be centered and to the FRONT of the upright.

After all the components are tack welded the welding of all joints should be finished. All welding should be deep penetration and hot and should be left to cool naturally under ambient air conditions. Water cooling will cause the rebar to become brittle and should be avoided.

The bending of the rebar may be done by heating the bar with a torch to a bright orange colour at around 25mm (1") to either side of centre. A jig of some description should be employed to safely bend the heated

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bar. A 25mm (1") pipe serves as a useful jig as one end of the rebar can be inserted whilst heating is continued throughout the bending process. Remember, do not water cool the rebar.



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APPENDIX C

EXAMPLE STAGE DESIGN

The following is one example of an individual “scenario” (or Stage) design. This is intended as an example only as there are numerous factors which may influence the design and layout of a Stage, including availability and number of targets, the use of facades, and licencing limitations of individual Ranges.

EXAMPLE SCENARIO

AMMUNITION:
REVOLVER **5**
RIFLE L/A **6**
SHOTGUN **4**

Range Instructions:
Load revolver with 5 rounds ,
Load rifle with 6 rounds. Leave
your shotgun open and empty on
table.

On call to the firing line;
Stage your rifle at **FP1**.
Stage your shotgun at **FP2**.
Stand ready at **FP2**.

The diagram illustrates a shooting range layout with targets and firing points arranged at various distances. On the right side, horizontal bars indicate distances of 50m, 40m, 30m, 20m, and 15m. Targets are labeled as follows: R1, R2, R3, R4 are at the 30m line; P1, P2, P3, P4, P5, P6 are at the 20m line; S2, S1 are at the 15m line. Firing points and tables are labeled at the bottom: Load, FP1, FP2, and Unload.

On the buzzer pick up your shotgun and shoot **S2, S1**. Go to **FP1** and sweep targets **P6, P5, P4, P3, P2** with your revolver. Pick up your rifle and engage **R4, R1, R3, R2, R4, R1**. Return to **FP2** and re-engage shotgun targets **S2, S1**. Move to the unloading table when directed by the RO.

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APPENDIX D

DOUBLE ACTION REVOLVERS

Table 2: Permissible Double Action Revolvers

MAKE	ALLOWABLE REVOLVERS
<i>Colt</i>	Colt positive series which started production in 1895; Colt Official Police MkIII; Colt Lawman Mk III and MkV; and, Colt Double Action New Army, 1917 and New Service, Army Special, Officers Model.
<i>Charter Arms</i>	Bulldog Tracker and other models with an exposed ejector rod.
<i>Smith and Wesson</i>	K 38; Model 10, 13, 14, 15, 29, 32, 41, 58, 64, 65, 67; Smith & Wesson Service 1917.
<i>Taurus</i>	Model 74, 80, 82, 83 and 85.
<i>RG</i>	Model 30 and Model 57.
<i>Astra</i>	Early models with an exposed ejector rod.
<i>Arminius</i>	Models with an exposed ejector rod.
<i>Llama</i>	Early models with an exposed ejector rod.
<i>Rossi</i>	Model 31, 68, 69 and 70.
<i>Webley</i>	Any with a hinged frame.
<i>Enfield</i>	Any with a hinged frame.
<i>Husqvarna</i>	
<i>Harrington and Richardson</i>	Any with a hinged frame.
<i>Iver Johnson</i>	Any with a hinged frame.

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DICTIONARY

170° plane an axis directly downrange measuring +/- 85 degrees.

armourer the person responsible for all firearms and ammunition during historical re-enactments and public displays.

barrel porting the use of trapezoid, oval or similar shaped ports to aim exhaust up from the top of a gun's barrel, thereby reducing muzzle pressure, recoil and jump.

Fanning the process of keeping the trigger depressed while repeatedly cycling the hammer.

firing line a 180 degree safety axis forming the

firing point the place from which a competitor is required to discharge a firearm.

magnaport a patented form of **barrel porting**.

range officer a responsible person who observes, resolves and assists competitors on safety related matters.

safe area a designated zone off the **firing line** where competitors may handle firearms under the direct supervision of a **range officer**.

sam browne a belt around the waist that is supported by a strap hung diagonally over the right shoulder, most often comprising part of a military or police uniform.

safe ready (revolver) hammer down on a spent case or empty chamber. For a six chamber revolver this would permit the loading of only five (5) rounds.

safe ready (percussion revolver) capped, hammer down on the uncapped nipple. For a six chamber revolver this would permit the loading of only five (5) rounds.

safe ready (rifle) action closed on a spent case or empty chamber, hammer down.

safe ready (shotgun) unloaded, broken and open.

safe ready (Derringer or break open type pocket pistol) unloaded and open.

safe ready (muzzleloader) shotgun or rifle charged with the hammer on the half cock position.

safety penalty an infringement that is added to the competitor's time per occurrence for that stage.

slip hammering Not the same as fanning!

310 Cadet Rifle to be included in scenarios as required, as from the 2010 State Titles shoot.

And to be included in the State Title shoot if required

(SSAA to provide medals for 1st. 2nd. & 3rd. Place)

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- END RULES -