

Rules Proposal from IPSC Portugal

1st Proposal - IPSC Handgun, .22LR Handgun and Action Air Handgun Rulebooks

7.3.3	A person acting as a Match Official is prohibited from having a holstered firearm while directly accompanying and timing a competitor during his attempt at a COF. Violations are subject to Rule 7.2.2. Exception: A Match Official is allowed to have a holstered, but covered firearm when officiating during Pre-Match at Level I, Level II or Level III matches.
Change:	It is proposed to allow Range Officer to officiate with a holstered handgun as long as the firearm is covered with a dust/rain cover, only in pre match of Level I to level III matches.
Rationale:	At Level I to Level III matches, usually all ROs are competing, and for that matter there are no available ROs to officiate pre-match squads. This means that ROs, today, between or during stages have to remove and guard his handgun to officiate his fellow squad mate, doing it safely, but most of the times they do that inside the stages, at open sight, because it's not feasible to go to the nearest safety area (sometimes too far away). This exception pretends to avoid this procedure outside the safety area and the time consuming it takes.

2nd Proposal - All Discipline Rulebooks

8.3.7	"If Clear, Hammer Down, Holster" – After issuance of this command, the competitor must not resume shooting (see Rule 10.6.1 10.3.1). While continuing to point the handgun safely downrange, the competitor must perform a final safety check of the handgun as follows:
Change:	It is Proposed to change the penalty Rule from 10.6.1 to 10.3.1 in all the Discipline Rulebooks. The Handgun, .22LR Handgun and Action Air Handgun change is shown above.
Rationale:	The actual penalty for engage a target after the ICHDH command is issued, carries a strong connotation that goes beyond the action itself - Unsportsmanlike Conduct. The Rule 10.3.1 can cover this infracting, by considering it as a prohibited activity. Beside this, in some Regions competitors disqualified by Unsportsmanlike Conduct, can face a ban process, which IMHO goes beyond the purpose of the penalty.

3rd Proposal - All Discipline Rulebooks

9.6.4	Any challenge to a score or penalty must be appealed to the Range Officer by the competitor (or his delegate) prior to the subject target being painted, patched, or reset, failing which such challenges will not be accepted.
9.6.4.1	Each competitor is allowed two (2) unsuccessful appeals for each set of 6 stages (1.2.1.4). Once a competitor reaches the limit of two (2) unsuccessful appeals within a set, no further challenges will be accepted for the duration of that set.
Glossary	Unsuccessful Appeal: An appeal is deemed unsuccessful when the original judgment of the Stage Range Officer is upheld by the Chief Range Officer or Range Master. Set of Stages: A group of six (6) consecutive stages. In accordance with Rule 1.2.1.4, this set typically follows the 3-2-1 ratio (3 Short Courses, 2 Medium Courses and 1 Long Course). The appeal limit resets at the start of stage number 1, 7, 13, 19, and 25.
Change:	Introduction of a limit on the number of scorings challenges a competitor can request, indexed to requests where there are unsuccessful appeals. Each competitor after two (2) unsuccessful appeals per set of six (6) stages, is not entitled to new requests.
Rationale:	Preservation of Match Flow and Efficiency: In high-level competitions (Level IV and V), there is an increasing trend of competitors requesting target reviews by the CRO/RM as a standard practice rather than a genuine dispute. These frequent, often meritless requests cause significant delays and interrupt the rhythm of the match. Reducing RO Pressure: Frequent appeals can be used as a form of psychological pressure on the Range Officer team. By limiting the number of unsuccessful challenges, the rule encourages a more professional environment where calls are only contested when there is a high probability of a genuine officiating error. Strategic Restraint: By providing two "strikes" per block of 6 stages, the rule offers a fair safety net for the competitor while demanding restraint. The non-accumulation clause ensures that the challenge process is not "weaponized" for the final stages of the match, keeping the administrative burden on the Range Master manageable and consistent throughout the event.

4th Proposal - All Discipline Rulebooks

Glossary	Delegate (Competitor's): A person officially designated to assist a specific competitor or team (e.g., coach, manager, or teammate), accompanying the scoring process, managing communicating with officials, overseeing technical elements (schedules, results), ensuring equal conditions for teams, and mediating disputes, all while maintaining professionalism and integrity. A Delegate can assist more than one competitor. At Level IV and Level V competitions, all delegates must be officially identified and registered with the Match Organizers prior to the commencement of the match.
Change:	To define and officialize the role of the Delegate.
Rationale:	Clarify the role of the delegates.