



Precision Service Rifle

A Quick Start Guide



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Precision Service Rifle (PSR) is a modernised form of traditional Service Rifle competition that had its genesis in Canberra in 2011. Expanding out of the ACT initially into NSW, and later Victoria, the Precision Service Rifle Series is a growing National Series of state based matches run to specified common conditions and courses of fire to arrive at a yearly aggregate championship ranking for participating competitors.

After consulting with PSR match organisers and representatives, a draft set of PSR rules was submitted to the National Rifle Association of Australia (NRAA) in July of 2019. These rules have been adopted by the NRAA as Chapter 24 of the Standard Shooting Rules (SSR's) and were adopted effective Jan 1 2020. This now aligns PSR to the traditional home of long range shooting in Australia - the NRAA.

These matches offer competitors the chance to challenge themselves and their equipment, through a variety of varied shooting conditions and positions. The emphasis is on practical precision and problem solving through a series of timed target exposures and movements under varying overall time limits.

The match is shot in details, in teams consisting of shooting pairs, with competitors helping each other out with wind calls, fall of shot, managing gear and any other problems that present themselves throughout the match. Teamwork is a key principle with the best teams receiving placings.

Whilst there are some restrictions on equipment the underlying simple rule being that if you want to use it, you must carry it for the entire course of fire.

Rules

Matches conducted under the National Rifle Associations of Australia's Standard Shooting Rules (NRAA SSR's) - Chapter 24 <http://www.nraa.com.au/wp-content/uploads/2019/12/SSRs-v.-7.0.pdf>

Targets

NRAA approved Service Rifle targets, Figures 11, 12, 13, 14 and Type B.

Wind flags & Sighting shots

No wind flags displayed. No sighting shots, you need to come prepared.

Sight your rifle at 100m and check at as many distances as possible. Know your velocity and utilise a ballistic calculator.

Course of Fire - The planned course of fire is to be promulgated before the competition and may be modified by the convening body to suit local conditions.

Deliberate - An extended display of the Target for multiple shots e.g.: 60 Seconds for 5 rounds.

Rapid – A short display of the Target for multiple shots eg: 30 Seconds for 5 rounds.

Snap – Multiple short displays of the Target for 1 shot eg: 3 Seconds for 1 round.

Double Snap – Multiple short displays of the Target for 2 shots e.g.: 6 Seconds for 2 rounds.

Agony Snap – Multiple short displays of the Target for 1 or multiple shots over an extended period of time eg: 5 Rounds at 3 Seconds per shot over a 5-minute time period.

Moving Target – The Target will move at a slow walking pace from one side of the competitors' lane (Usually 2-3M wide) to the other. Usually 1 round per movement but can include only 1 strike required.



Firing Positions

Prone Unsupported - The butt of the rifle is to be placed against the shoulder and all parts of the rifle and the arms below the elbow, including clothing, must be visibly clear of the ground and all other objects. If a sling is fitted to the rifle and it is not used as an aid to steady the rifle, it may drape on the ground. The rifle and the back of the forward wrist must be physically clear of the ground. The rifle is to be held with both hands thereby maintaining complete control.

Prone Supported – As per prone unsupported but any means of artificial support may support the rifles for-end (typically an attached bipod) and a small rice/sand bag, as per 24.7.3, may be used to support the rear of the rifle.

Prone Supported – Pack – As per prone supported however only a competitor's backpack may support the rifle. The rifle must rest on a traditional pack surface not on any attachments and no cradle style rests are allowed to be attached to the pack. (No bipods are permitted and if attached must be in the folded away position). A rear bag as per 24.7.1-24.7.3 may be used in addition to the pack.



Prone Supported – No Rear Bag - As per prone supported but no means of artificial support may be used to support the rear of the rifle. Only a competitor's fist/hand (including a glove) may support the rear of the rifle.



Sitting Unsupported - The weight of the body is to be supported on the buttocks. No part of the body above the buttocks is to touch the ground or any other object. Legs may be parted or crossed and may be in front of the edge of the firing point. The buttocks are not to be positioned forward of the lane marking pegs or in front of the firing mound. A sling, if fitted, may be used as an aid to steadying the rifle. The butt of the rifle is to be placed against the shoulder. The elbows may be placed on or against the knees or legs to support the weight of the rifle. The rifle is to be held with both hands thereby maintaining complete control. No other means of artificial support may be used.



Sitting Supported – As per sitting unsupported but a tripod/bipod, as per 24.7.4 and a rice/sand bag, as per 24.7.3, may only be used to support the rifle/person.

Kneeling Unsupported - No part of the body is to touch the ground or any other object except the forward foot and/or the back leg from the knee/s downward. The forward elbow/arm may rest on the knee. A sling, if fitted, may be used as an aid to steady the rifle. The butt of the rifle is to be placed against the shoulder. The rifle is to be held with both hands thereby maintaining complete control. No other means of artificial support may be used.



Kneeling Supported – As per kneeling unsupported but a tripod/bipod, as per 24.7.4 and a rice/sand bag, as per 24.7.3, may be used to support the rifle/person.

Hawkins – Lying in the prone position the rifles butt is to be resting on the ground tucked under the shooters shoulder. The shooters non firing arm is to be extended forward under the rifles fore-end with a clenched fist supporting the rifle. A small rice/sand bag compliant with 24.7.3 may be placed under a shooters clenched fist to gain more elevation when needed. The shooter may grab the rifles attached sling or attached hand grip of no longer than 50 mm, within their clenched fist, to maintain control of the rifle. If using a fore grip, a small rice/sand bag is not permitted to be used even if the shooter requires extra elevation.



Standing Unsupported - The body must be erect and standing on both feet. No other part of the body is to touch the ground or any other object. The elbow of the forward hand may be placed on the hip. A sling, if fitted, may be used as an aid to steadying the rifle. The butt of the rifle is to be placed against the shoulder and all parts of the rifle must be clear of all other objects. The rifle is to be held with both hands thereby maintaining complete control.



Standing Supported - As per standing unsupported but a tripod/bipod, as per 24.7.4 and a rice/sand bag, as per 24.7.3, may be used to support the rifle/person.

Barricade Assist Position – a barricade may be placed on the firing point in the firers lane. The competitor will then adopt alternative firing positions as the barricade and match conditions dictate. A sling, if fitted, and a bag may be used as an aid to steady the rifle. The butt of the rifle is to be placed against the shoulder. The rifle is to be held with both hands thereby maintaining complete control.

Standing Alert - Although not a firing position, it is a method whereby the competitor will transit to the prescribed firing position as indicated in the match conditions. The body must be erect and standing on both feet. No other part of the body is to touch the ground or any other object. The elbow of the forward hand may be placed on the hip. A sling, if fitted, may be used as an aid to steadying the rifle. The butt of the rifle is to be placed against the shoulder and all parts of the rifle must be clear of all other objects. The muzzle of the rifle must be pointed at the ground at an angle of approximately 800mils (45 degrees) depression. The rifle is to be held with both hands thereby maintaining complete control. The rifle is to be in the unloaded action and must remain so until the prescribed position is attained.

Laid Back -: The shooter should lay on their side with their legs bent together to provide support for the rifle. At least one shoulder should be in contact with the ground. The muzzle of the rifle will protrude past the feet. The legs also provide the ability to raise or lower the point of aim by simply opening or closing the leg position. The rifle butt should be in the shoulder. Competitors may use their own pack or bag compliant with 24.7.3.2 or 24.7.3.3 to assist with this position.



Transitioning – Transitioning usually occurs during a match when the practice has two different firing positions eg: firing a Deliberate 5 round match from Prone Unsupported to a 5 round Snap match in the Prone Supported position. During this time the rifle should remain pointing at the Target with the bolt to the rear and finger away from the trigger guard.

Frequently Asked Questions

Q - What happens on the day, how is the day ran?

A - Arriving well before 09:00 you'll sign the visitor book and register. After registering you will write your name, and your shooting partner's name, up on a whiteboard under either detail 1, 2 or 3 (depending on competitor numbers). If you don't have a shooting partner, don't worry, we will pair you up with someone. Then at 09:20 there will be a match/safety brief followed by a coin toss to decide which detail will be shooting first. One detail will head down the butts where each shooting pair will run a target lane, exposing targets and scoring that lane. There will be a butts brief and run down of what's expected, how to expose the targets and score. The other detail will get their rifles and gear sorted then assemble at the firing line by 09:50 ready for a 10:00 sharp start to the day. The match is shot in pairs, one after the other, with the non-shooting partner spotting for his buddy and vice versa. For example, shooter A will fire the first serial with shooter B spotting for him then shooter B will fire the first serial with shooter A spotting for him. Then shooter A will fire the second serial with shooter B spotting for him and so on. When the first detail has shot half the match each detail will swap duties. Detail A will work the butts and detail B will shoot the first half match in the same for mentioned manner. After detail B has shoot the first half of the COF we stop for lunch, then back out to shoot the second half of the COF. When we have finished the match, we head back to the club rooms where the match organizers will add up and record the score sheets. After which each shooter will be given their score sheet for them to verify and raise any issues. Once scores are finalized we have a presentation in the club rooms presenting the top shooters with medals and any other winners with prizes. Lastly any sponsored prizes will be randomly given away by means of a lucky dip, which concludes the day.

Q - So every match is different, how do you create the Course of Fire?

A - The Course of Fire for each match is created by members of the organizing committee. We try to create a match with a good mix of easy, intermediate and hard serials. All courses of fire are created with the following guidelines in mind -

Scored out of 300 to 350 points

60 to 70 rounds of ammunition

5 points per 1 round of ammunition, unless otherwise noted

Shot over 3 or more

Minimum 3 different firing conditions - Snap, deliberate, rapid, etc

Minimum 3 different firing positions

Prone supported, prone unsupported, Hawkins etc

Q - How does the championship format work?

A - The National Aggregate Championship winner is based on a minimum 6 scores per annum with no more than 2 scores per location being allowed to count to the yearly aggregate.

The State Aggregate Championship winner is based on the top 4 scores with no more than 2 score to count from each location in the state.

Each shooter earns points based on their total score compared to the match winners score.

In order to encourage participation and limit home range advantage then some travel to other venues is required during the shooting year.

Q - So how are the points awarded for the championship?

A - After each shoot competitors earn points based on their overall score compared to the winning shooters score.

For example, you finish a shoot with a score of 263 points and the person who won the day finished with a score of 316 points. We then divide your score by the winning score and multiply that by 100 giving you your championship points for the shoot.

So, your score of 263 divided by the winning score of 316 equals 0.832. Multiply that by 100 equals 83.2. So, you earn 83.2 championship points.

Q - Do we get any sighting shots on the day?

A - No, you need to come to each match prepared.

Q - Are there any wind flags displayed on the day?

A - No, unlike full bore and F-Class we do not display any wind flags. You will need to rely on the environment to make your wind calls.

Q - What sort of rifle and gear do I need to be able to compete?

A - All you need to be competitive is a rifle capable of shooting at around MOA at 100 meters, a good scope with adjustable turrets and a backpack to carry your ammunition, a drink and whatever else you feel you might need, that's it.

Q - Do you shoot of barricades and the like?

A - These matches are conducted as a service discipline and all the different firing conditions and positions can be found here.

Q - What do the figured targets look like?

A - The figured targets are made of corflute, and they can be found at the end of this document.

Q- What are the classifications of rifles ?

A- There are two major classes - OPEN and NATO. These can be found in detail in the SSR's but generally an OPEN rifle is any calibre that is legally allowed on the range template with a min trigger weight of 500g. A NATO rifle is either .223 or .308 with a minimum trigger pull of 1kg, and no more than 8.5kg in total weight.

OPEN is seen as the more cutting edge and innovative type rifles and equipment, while NATO has more restrictions on the rifle and equipment. But you need to read Chapter 24 of the SSR's.

Q- How do I learn more and who can I contact ?

A - Australian Precision Service Rifle on Facebook -
<https://www.facebook.com/ServiceRifle/>

Our our National webpage at <https://www.australianprecisionservicerifle.com/>

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