

## **Official Match Rules and By Laws**

*Revised July 2011*

**FIFTY CALIBER SHOOTERS ASSOCIATION**

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# **RULES OF SHOOTING COMPETITION FIFTY CALIBER SHOOTER'S ASSOCIATION, INC.**

## **OBJECTIVES**

1. To encourage the sporting uses of the fifty caliber cartridge and promote the development of the equipment and techniques to achieve extreme accuracy at long distance in the sport of shooting.
2. To establish a set of rules and guidelines that standardize and govern the conduct of FCSA sanctioned shooting competitions.
3. To gather and maintain accurate record data and technical information regarding FCSA shooting competitions for dissemination to FCSA members.

## **MATCH OFFICIALS**

**1. Competition Rules Chairman:** shall be appointed by and serve at the pleasure of the FCSA President a one (1) year term. The FCSA Competition Rules Chairman shall serve as a person of contact for FCSA members who submit recommended changes to the FCSA shooting competition rules. The chairman shall submit all recommendations for match rule changes to the Board of Directors in accordance with Article X of the FCSA By Laws. The FCSA Competition Rules Chairman shall hear all grievances filed by FCSA members regarding the rules of shooting competition at FCSA sanctioned shooting competitions. The competition Rules Chairman shall make a report to the Board of

Directors with a recommendation of final judgment on all shooting competition grievances. Grievances shall be resolved by a majority vote of the Board of Directors.

**2. Match Chairman:** Shall be appointed by and serve at the pleasure of the FCSA President a one (1) year term. The FCSA Match Chairman shall be the contact person for all matters relating to the conduct of FCSA regional shooting competitions and the conduct of the "World Championship". All FCSA sanctioned shooting competitions shall be authorized, approved and coordinated through the FCSA Match Chairman. The authority of the FCSA Match Chairman shall supersede the role of a Match Director.

It shall be the duty of the Match Chairman to provide a schedule of sanctioned FCSA shooting competitions to the Editor for publication in the FCSA newsletter Very High Power as soon as a date for any future FCSA shooting competition has been set.

**3. Regional Match Director:** Regional Match Directors (Match Director) are selected by the FCSA Match Chairman with the approval of a majority of the Board of Directors to conduct sanctioned FCSA shooting competitions. They are responsible for the conduct of FCSA fifty caliber shooting competitions in accordance with the guidelines established by these rules. It shall be the duty of the Match Director to secure a date, time and location for a sanctioned FCSA shooting competition (match) and advertise the match in the newsletter Very High Power. He shall be responsible for the organization of the match including procuring all necessary equipment, the appointing of Range Officers, the collecting of all fees, the safe conduct of the match, the issuing of prizes/awards and the collection of accurate record information regarding the performance of competitors at the match. The authority of the Match Director shall only be superseded by the FCSA Match Chairman.

**4. Range Officers:** Shall be appointed by the Match Director to serve as FCSA officials to ensure the safe conduct of a sanctioned FCSA shooting competition in accordance with FCSA Match Rules. Range officers shall be responsible to the Match Director and their duties shall include the safe conduct of the firing line, the efficient operation of the pits/butts, the accurate recording and collection of match scores and serving as Protest Committee representatives. Appointed Range Officers shall have the same authority as a Match Director while operating under his authority at an FCSA sanctioned match.

**5. Statistical Officer:** Shall be appointed by the Match Director and shall be responsible for the accurate collection and tabulation of all shooting scores that result from an FCSA sanctioned match. He shall report the results of the match to the Match Director for the distribution of awards/prizes to competitors, to the FCSA Secretary and to the FCSA Historian, who will maintain a permanent record of match results at FCSA headquarters and to the Editor of the FCSA quarterly newsletter Very High Power.

## COMPETITOR'S DUTIES & RESPONSIBILITIES

1. Any competitor participating in an FCSA sanctioned shooting competition must be a member of the FCSA. The competitor must be (18) years of age or a participant in the Junior Shooter's Program.

2. Any competitor who participates in an FCSA sanctioned shooting competition shall be responsible to the Match Director to conduct himself safely and in accordance with FCSA Match Rules. Any competitor who refuses to comply with any FCSA match rule or the direction of the Match Director after being instructed to do so, can be disqualified

from the shooting competition upon the recommendation of a majority vote of the Protest Committee.

### 3. Registration:

A. Registration at least two weeks in advance for a scheduled FCSA sanctioned shooting competition is recommended. Competitors who do not register at least two weeks prior to a scheduled match shall be assessed a five (\$5.00) dollar fee in addition to the announced match fee. All match registrations, pre-registrations or walk-ons must be received by 3:00 PM on the day before the match begins. Any exceptions shall be at the Match Directors discretion.

B. Five dollars (\$5.00) of the match fee for each class of competition the competitor registers to compete in shall be remitted to the Treasurer of FCSA. These funds shall be remitted by the Match Director within two (2) weeks after the conclusion of the competition. Accompanying these funds the Match Director shall include a completed and signed 'Match Income & Expense Accounting Form'. This form is available through the Treasurer of FCSA. A copy of the completed and signed form should also be given to the range, club, or association that has hosted the competition along with any payment due the hosting organization.

C. It is the responsibility of a competitor, at the time of registration, to notify the Match Director of how many classes of competition he will be participating in and if the guns he will be using in the competition will be shared with another competitor. It is recommended that each competitor complete an FCSA "Gun Data Sheet" for each gun being used in an FCSA sanctioned competition.

D. All competitors are responsible to sign in with the Match Director immediately upon arrival at a range to participate in an FCSA sanctioned shooting competition.

E. All competitors are responsible for signing a waiver of responsibility and release of liability statement and signing a statement indicating they are familiar with the rules of competition for each class of competition they are participating in, before the competitor will be allowed to compete in any FCSA sanctioned shooting competition. The waiver of responsibility and release of liability statement form and the form acknowledging the competitor is familiar with the rules of competition shall be provided by the Match Director.

F. All competitors shall have their guns weighed and checked for safety at a time prescribed by the Match Director at each FCSA sanctioned competition. It is the responsibility of the Match Director or his designated Range Officer to insure that all guns are weighed and meet safety requirements in accordance with FCSA rules and class of competition prior to the beginning of the match.

G. The Match Director, or his representative will designate shooting relay assignments and bench assignments after the range is closed to shooting on sighter day. It will be the responsibility of the competitor to know his assignments prior to the start of the match.

### 4. Match Readiness:

A. It is the duty of each competitor to complete two (2) consecutive relays of service in the pits/butts to be eligible to compete in an FCSA sanctioned shooting competition. It is expected that all competitors will personally perform their pits/butts duty as assigned. The Match Director shall make all assignments to Pits/butts duty, and will do so as soon as practical after a competitor signs in upon arrival at the range. A competitor must request and receive approval from the Match Director for another person to perform his pit/butts duty. The competitor is fully responsible for the capabilities and performance of any alternate person who is sent to perform his pits/butts duty. Any disciplinary action warranted as a result of the performance or failure of the alternate shall

be born by the original competitor. Failure to complete the obligation of pits/butts duty by a competitor will result in the disqualification of the competitor from the shooting competition.

B. It is the duty of the competitor to advise the Match Director if a scheduling error has occurred that requires the competitor to be assigned to the pits/butts at the same time he is scheduled to shoot. The Match Director shall reschedule the competitor to meet the requirements of the match.

C. A Competitor's Meeting shall be held by the Match Director each day prior to the beginning of the match. It is the duty of the competitor to attend the Competitor's Meeting each day. Should the competitor fail to attend one of the meetings without the permission of the Match Director it may result in the disqualification of the competitor by the Match Director, upon a recommendation of the Protest Committee.

D. Each competitor is responsible to remove their equipment from a shooting bench as quickly as possible after they have completed their shooting relay so that the next relay may prepare for competition.

E. Each competitor is responsible to clean up their own trash and discards to insure range cleanliness. Violations of this requirement or any FCSA safety rule may result in a penalty of five (\$5.00) dollars being assessed to the competitor, at the discretion of the Match Director with the approval of the Protest Committee.

## RANGE SAFETY

**1. Range Safety** at any FCSA sanctioned shooting competition is of paramount concern. The Match Director of any FCSA shooting

competition or his designated Range Officer has the responsibility and authority as prescribed by the FCSA Match Rules and FCSA By Laws to ensure the safe conduct of the match. The Match Director shall have the authority to disqualify any competitor for unsafe conduct or to remove any piece of equipment that has been determined to be unsafe for participation in the shooting competition.

If the Match Director disqualifies a competitor or a piece of equipment from a shooting competition for safety reasons, It shall be the duty of the Match Director to submit a complete written report to the FCSA Match Chairman immediately following the shooting competition.

**2. Decisions made by the Match Director and Protest Committee regarding safety violations are final and cannot be appealed.**

**3. Firing Line Safety:** It is the duty of the Match Director to control and conduct a safe firing line at all times at FCSA sanctioned shooting competitions. Firing line commands will be given by the Match Director (firing Line Officer) or his designated Range Officer. Competitors in FCSA shooting competitions shall obey all commands given on the firing line by the firing Line Officer. Any competitor who fails to obey the commands of the firing Line Officer can be disqualified from the match at the direction of the Match Director with the recommendation of the Protest Committee.

**4. Open Actions:** It is recommended the bolt be removed from any rifle that has been brought to the firing line and the competitor is not immediately preparing to fire. If it is not convenient to remove the bolt entirely, the bolt should be in the open position at all times unless the competitor is engaged in shooting. In any event, all bolts shall be open or removed from the gun whenever a "cease fire" is called by the Firing Line Officer.

**5. Position of Muzzle:** whenever a rifle has been brought to the firing line and set up for competition, the muzzle of the rifle shall be pointed down range in a safe direction. Any exception shall be approved by the Firing Line Officer. All competitors firing a bipod rifle shall ensure the muzzle of their rifle is pointed at the impact area when the rifle is unattended on the firing line.

**6. Hangfires/Misfires:** Any person competing in a sanctioned FCSA shooting competition who experiences a hangfire or misfired round must immediately notify the Firing Line Control Officer. Any competitor who experiences a hangfire/misfire, shall wait at least thirty (30) seconds before opening the bolt of the rifle and shall notify everyone near his shooting bench that a misfire has occurred. The area immediately to the rear of the competitors bench shall be cleared of all other competitors and spectators before the rifle bolt is opened.

A competitor who experiences a series of misfires/hangfires shall be evaluated by the Firing Line Control Officer to determine if the rifle or ammunition being used is safe for the competition. The Firing Line Control Officer shall notify the Match Director of his findings and the Match Director shall determine if the competitor can safely be allowed to continue the competition.

**7. Changing of Pits/Butts Crew:** During the time when the pits/butts crew is changing between relays, competitors are not allowed to be within five (5) feet of a shooting bench where a gun is set up for firing. This rule is established to prevent the accidental discharge of any gun downrange while persons coming from or going to the pits/butts are in the line of fire. Competitors may re-take their positions at their benches at the direction of the firing Line Officer when he has determined the area downrange is safe.

**8. Alcoholic Beverages:** No alcoholic beverages will be consumed

on the range during an FCSA sanctioned shooting competition. Violation of this rule by a competitor shall result in his disqualification upon recommendation of the Protest Committee.

**9. Use of Drugs:** Any competitor of a sanctioned FCSA shooting competition who is determined to be under the influence of any drug, shall be evaluated by the Match Director and Protest Committee for his ability to participate in the competition safely. The competitor may be disqualified from the competition based on a majority vote of the Protest Committee.

**10. Eye and Ear Protection:** All FCSA members registered and participating in an FCSA sanctioned shooting competition shall have adequate eye and ear protection on their person at all times when on the firing line. All spectators of an FCSA shooting competition shall have adequate ear protection when in the vicinity of the firing line.

**11. Personal Communications:** The personal use of cell phones, or similar electronic communications, is not allowed between the Pit and the Line during a Match except with permission of a Line or Pit Official. No personal communications device is allowed to be used in the Pits or on the Line while there is active firing.

## FCSA CLASSES OF COMPETITION

**1. Light Class Fifty Caliber:** Shall be restricted to a rifle that shoots a .50 cal. BMG or a .50 cal DTC cartridge and is capable of chambering an FCSA approved chamber gauge that has a maximum outside neck diameter of .554 inches. The rifle shall be restricted to a total overall weight of thirty two pounds and eight ounces (32 lbs 8.00 oz.). The maximum weight of the rifle will include any equipment attached to the rifle that would be used by the competitor during the shooting

competition. The rifle stock shall be restricted to a maximum forend width of three and one half inches (3 and 1/2 in.) The forend of the rifle will be that portion of the rifle stock toward the muzzle of the rifle, in front of the forward most retaining screw that holds the rifle receiver into the rifle stock.

The winners of the Light Class Fifty Caliber competition shall be determined according to their standings in each of two (2) categories. The categories are **Aggregate Group**, the smallest accumulated extreme spread average group from all record groups fired during the light class relays, and **Total Score** from all record groups fired during the light class relays, except in the case of a tie. (See **Scoring**, paragraph 5, and **Awards** paragraphs B, C, D, and E).

2. **Heavy Class Fifty Caliber:** Any rifle that shoots a bullet with a diameter of .510/.511 inches and has a maximum overall weight of fifty (50 lbs.) Pounds. The maximum weight of the rifle will include any equipment attached to the rifle that would be used by the competitor during the shooting competition.

The winners of the Heavy Class Fifty Caliber competition shall according to their standings in each of two (2) categories. The categories are **Aggregate Group**, the smallest accumulated extreme spread average group from all record groups fired during the heavy class relays, and **Total Score** from all record groups fired during the heavy class relays, except in the case of a tie. (See **Scoring**, paragraph 5, and **Awards** paragraphs B, C, D, and E).

3. **Unlimited Class Fifty Caliber:** Any barreled receiver that fires a bullet with a diameter of .510/.511 inches.

The winner of the Unlimited Class Fifty Caliber competition shall be determined according to their standings in each of two(2) categories. The categories are Aggregate Group, the smallest accumulated

extreme spread average group from all record groups fired during the unlimited class relays, and Total Score from all record groups fired during the unlimited class relays, except in the case of a tie.(See Scoring, paragraph 5, and Awards paragraphs B,C,D, and E).

4. **Hunter Class Fifty Caliber:** Competitors will shoot and compete from a prone shooting position with rifles equipped with bipods as defined below.

Prone: To shoot from the ground with the aid of an optional ground mat and/or blast sheet. The use of an earth-only trench for the bipod feet will be allowed. Anchoring of the rifle to the ground by any means is prohibited and the firearm must be free to be lifted straight up from the firing position.

Bipods: Bipods must be able to fold forward or backward and be removable from the rifle. The bipod can only provide two points of contact to the ground and must be mounted to the rifle forward of the trigger guard.

The official FCSA bipod foot gauge will be used to determine if a competitor's bipod feet are within limits set by these rules. The bipod feet can have a maximum footprint area no larger than that which will fit into an official FCSA gauge.

The FCSA gauge will be placed on a flat surface such as the ground or a tabletop. The competitor will insert each leg of the bipod into the gauge. If the competitor's bipod foot fits **into** the gauge, then that configuration of bipod foot shall be deemed acceptable for competition. If either foot of a bipod does not fit into the gauge, then that competitor will be allowed to shoot in one of the other three classes of competition that the rifle may qualify in.

The official FCSA gauge will be cut from a standard four-inch (4")

ABS or Schedule 40 pipe cut to a height of two inches. The interior will measure a nominal four inches (4") in diameter. Competitors, from locally available materials, may readily build such a gauge so that they can verify, on their own, that the bipod feet they intend to use in competition do not exceed the above-stipulated dimensions.

Rubber or non-metal feet are allowed. Spikes on the bottom of the bipod feet can be a maximum of 1.5 inches long. Bipods that are of spike design must have a marking on each leg which is plainly visible 1.5 inches from the bottom of the leg's spike. The marking on the spike portion of the bipod is to ensure that the spike does not enter the ground to a depth exceeding 1.5 inches. The 1.5 inches is the depth limitation that a bipod can be driven into the ground during shooting. Rollers or track/rail devices are prohibited.

Rear Rest or Support: A soft pliable bag may be used. Monopods are allowed. A monopod is any device attached to the rifle at any point to the rear of the trigger guard and used for the purpose of raising or lowering point of aim. The monopod must use a foot which conforms to the same dimensional requirement as a bipod foot but may not have a spike. The monopod must be attached to the rifle when determining overall weight of the rifle.

Rifle Weight: Rifles in this competition may not exceed fifty pounds (50lbs) total weight in shooting readiness.

Chambering: Any cartridge using a .510-.511 projectile.

The winner of the Hunter Class Fifty Caliber competition shall be determined according to their standings in each of two(2) categories. The categories are Aggregate Group, the smallest accumulated extreme spread average group from all record groups fired during the hunter class relays, and Total Score from all record groups fired during the hunter class relays, except in the case of a tie.(See Scoring, para-

graph 5, and Awards paragraphs B,C,D, and E).

**5. Junior Shooters:** All Shooters must be at least 12 years old. All Shooters below the age of 18 will be considered Junior Shooters.

A. Junior Shooters must possess a current Hunter Safety Card or a certificate of completion of an organized Rifle/Hunting Safety Course. The Junior Shooter and Parent or Guardian must sign a waiver of liability at the time of registration.

B. Junior Shooters will be identified on the line by a Green Hat, which is issued at completion of registration. Dedicated adult supervision approved by the parent of Junior Shooters is mandatory at all times. Coaching is allowed in Unlimited Class only.

C. The winner of the "Junior Shooter of the Year" award will be determined by the best score of all junior shooters in the Unlimited Class. Three distinct prizes, First, Second, and Third Place, will be awarded to the Junior Shooters. However, to promote junior shooter participation and growth of the fifty caliber shooting sports, junior shooters are allowed and encouraged to compete in all classes of competition and receive awards and prizes based on their performance as are all other competitors.

D. Junior Shooters competing in any class of shooting competition other than Unlimited Class must demonstrate a level of familiarity, experience and knowledge of safety related to the fifty caliber shooting sports to the satisfaction of the Match Director in charge of the shooting event. The decision of the Match Director relating to participation by a Junior Shooter in any class of shooting competition other than Unlimited Class shall be final.

## APPROVED AMMUNITION

1. **Ammunition:** all ammunition used in FCSA sanctioned shooting competitions shall be of the “fixed” design.

2. **Projectiles:** Acceptable projectiles are military ball, jacketed lead core, armor piercing, solid brass/bronze or suitable solid steel. Those projectiles that are not acceptable include tracer, incendiary, explosive or flechette type projectiles. The type of ammunition used in FCSA sanctioned matches are also governed by the existing state laws in the state where a particular FCSA sanctioned match is held. In many states the possession of armor piercing ammunition is prohibited by law and it is the responsibility of a competitor to be aware of the laws governing the use of ammunition in a particular host state.

3. **Unsafe Ammunition:** Unsafe surplus ammunition shall be banned from any FCSA sanctioned shooting competition. It shall be the responsibility of the Match Director or his designated Range Officer to make a determination regarding the suitability of surplus or improperly reloaded ammunition. Poor quality surplus or reloaded ammunition displaying characteristics such as corrosion, damaged brass, improperly seated primers or damaged projectiles will not be allowed to be used in an FCSA sanctioned shooting competition.

## APPROVED RIFLE EQUIPMENT

1. **Rifle Rests:** A rifle rest is allowed to support the forend of the rifle. A rifle rest is also allowed to support the rear of the rifle. Rifle rests are restricted to the sand bag type made from soft pliable leather or a soft pliable material, filled only with sand, with a minimum of one half (1/2in) inch thickness of sandbag between the rifle stock and the rifle rest system wherever the stock comes in contact with the sandbag. The

rests cannot be attached to the rifle itself or connected to each other. Front and rear rests must be movable independent of each other. Neither rest is allowed to be attached to the shooting bench and the rifle must be able to be lifted vertically independent of the rest. Rifle rests shall not restrain the recoil of the rifle. Drag reducing tape may be applied to the surface of the rest.

2. **Bipods:** Bipods are acceptable in any class of FCSA sanctioned shooting competition.

## RANGE EQUIPMENT

1. **Targets:** Only the Official FCSA Target will be used for Sanctioned Matches. The FCSA Official 1000 yard target is 67 inches by 72 inches and has a 24 inch black center that extends out through the 8th ring. The designation of this target is MR or MR-1. The replacement center for this target is described as MRC. The only approved change to these targets is the recommended addition of a white 3 x 3 white square to the center of the target.

All competitors must use the same target during a match.

2. **Wind Flags:** It is recommended that wind flags be used at all FCSA sanctioned shooting competitions. The placement of wind flags on the firing range during a shooting competition will be at the discretion of the Match Director.

This does not preclude competitors from using and placing their own wind flags/wind measuring devices on the range during a shooting competition.

3. **Benches:** It is the responsibility of the Match Director to ensure that shooting benches are available to match competitors at all FCSA sanctioned shooting competitions. Shooting benches shall be of a size,

width and sturdiness adequate to support the weight of a fifty caliber rifle approved for use in an FCSA sanctioned shooting competition and of a quality that will allow competitors to accurately fire their rifles. The Match Director will be responsible to ensure that shooting benches are of equal quality for all competitors. Personally owned shooting benches are not allowed in an FCSA sanctioned shooting competition except in the unlimited class of competition.

## MATCH PROCEDURE

1. **Range Officer's Meeting:** It is the responsibility of the Match Director to ensure that appointed Range Officers are instructed on their duties and responsibilities each day.

2. **Competitors Meeting:** The Match Director shall hold a competitors meeting prior to the start of the competition each day. The purpose of the meeting is to insure that competitors are aware of their assignments and any update regarding safety information. Attendance at the meeting is mandatory for all FCSA members who are registered to shoot in the competition unless excused by the Match Director. Failure to attend the meeting may result in the disqualification of the competitor by the Match Director upon a recommendation of the Protest Committee.

3. **Start Time:** All possible effort shall be made to start the match on the second day at the same time the match was started on the first day.

4. **Course Of Fire: All Firing Line Control Commands Shall Be Given by The Match Director or His Designated Range Officer.**

A. In any sanctioned FCSA shooting competition each competitor is responsible for completing three (3) five (5) shot groups, known as a "Record Group", each day of the competition, for each class of competi-

tion that he is registered for.

B. A "Relay" shall consist of three (3) periods of "sighter fire" and three (3) periods of "record group" fire. When the competition begins, the relay will start with a ten (10) minute period for the competitor to fire an unlimited number of sighter rounds at their target to zero their rifles as accurately as possible. During the "sighter" period, each round fired at the target will be marked for the competitor by a three (3) inch diameter, bright red spotter disk. (Black & White spotter disks shall be used for those competitors who are color blind.) The disk shall be moved each time a round is fired at the target and the previous hole in the target shall be patched. The only marker on the competitors target shall be his most recently fired round. At the completion of the ten (10) minute sighter period, the targets will be lowered and patched. The time period for the ten (10) minute sighter period shall be controlled by the firing Line Officer. As immediately as is practical after the sighter period has ended, a ten (10) minute period will commence for the competitor to fire his first "record group" consisting of five (5) bullets for score/group. Prior to the beginning of the ten minute record group time period, the Line Officer will ensure that each competitor has displayed 5 bullets on the bench or shooting mat for firing during the record group. Competitors are not allowed to have any more than 5 bullets on their bench or shooting mat during the record group.

i. During the "record group" time period, each round fired is marked with a spotter disk. The first bullet is marked with a three (3) inch bright red spotter disk. When the second (2nd) round is fired, the three (3) inch spotter disk is moved to the hole where the most recently fired round struck the target. A one and one half (1 ½) inch disk is then placed into the hole made by the first bullet fired. The larger three (3) inch spotter disk continues to be moved to the hole where the most recent bullet struck the competitors target. The smaller spotter disks are placed into the holes in the target as they are vacated by the larger

disk. All of the spotter disks shall remain in the target until the target is scored by the Range Officer in charge of the pits/butts,

ii. In those cases where a competitor fires two or more rounds so close together on his target that the red three (3) inch spotter disk would cover both holes, a bright green one and one half (1-1/2) inch spotter disk shall be placed into the hole of the last round fired, and the large spotter disk will be removed. This is to signify to the competitor that he has two or more rounds very near to each other on the target. The Range Officer in control of the pits/butts shall also relay verbal communication to the line control officer that the target in question just scored a green spotter. The line control officer shall then relay that information to the competitor who scored a green spotter.

iii. The communication to the competitor regarding scoring a green spotter disk is the only assistance allowed to be given to a competitor while he is firing one of his "record groups". Any other form of coaching or assistance given to a competitor during the firing of a "record group" is forbidden by the FCSA Match Rules. Violation of this rule may lead to the disqualification of the competitor at the discretion of the Match Director based on a recommendation of the Protest Committee.

iv. After all competitors have completed their five (5) shot record group or the ten (10) minute "record group" period has expired, the targets shall be lowered for scoring. The time period for the ten (10) minute "record group" shall be controlled by the firing Line Officer.

v. After all targets have been scored for group and score by the range control officer in charge in the pits/butts, the targets will be patched and raised for the second (2nd) sighter period. Competitors shall be given three (3) minutes to fire an unlimited number of sighter rounds to again re-zero their rifles as accurately as possible. At the completion of the three (3) minute sighter period, the targets will be lowered

and patched and the targets will be raised for the second five (5) shot "record group". The relay will continue as described until all competitors have had the opportunity to complete three (3) "sighter periods" and three (3) "record groups".

**C. Missing the Target:** If a competitor misses his target while shooting a "record group", the only assistance he is allowed to receive regarding the missed round is, the target puller in the pits/butts will not use the large three (3) inch spotter disk to mark the location of his last round. Verbal communication from the pits/butts or from a spectator to a competitor during the "record group" is forbidden by FCSA Match Rules.

If a competitor misses the target during a sighter period, the target puller in the pits/butts or any other person may coach or give whatever assistance is necessary to help the competitor zero his rifle accurately.

D. At the completion of a relay, the firing Line Officer shall call a cease fire. If the competitors on the firing line have another relay to shoot, the firing Line Officer shall announce a fifteen minute time period to prepare for the next relay. Competitors will use this period to change the guns on their shooting benches and prepare for the next class/relay of shooting. If at the completion of a relay the competitors have completed all of their relays for that day and it is time to change the crews in the pits/butts, the firing Line Officer shall call a cease fire. The pits/butts will then be "unsealed" for personnel to return to the firing line area. During the time that personnel are exposed and moving from the protected area of the pits/butts back to the firing line area, competitors and spectators are not allowed near the shooting benches where guns are set up. This is to insure that an accidental round is not fired down range while personnel are in the line of fire.

## INSPECTION OF SHOOTING EQUIPMENT

1. At the beginning of each relay at any FCSA sanctioned shooting competition, the Match Director or his designated Range Officer shall conduct an inspection of the equipment being used by each competitor on the firing line. This inspection will include the guns and rests and any other equipment being used by the competitor, to insure that each competitor is in compliance with FCSA Match Rules for the class of shooting competition he is preparing to fire.

2. Any competitor who has obtained the approval for the use of equipment during an FCSA sanctioned shooting competition shall not substitute any item of that equipment without approval from the Match Director. Violations of this rule shall result in the disqualification of the competitor from the match by the Match Director upon approval of the Protest Committee.

## SCORING

1. Each "record group" fired in an FCSA sanctioned shooting competition shall be scored for extreme spread and numerical score. A "record group" shall consist of five (5) shots per target.

2. **Scoring for Extreme Spread (Aggregate Group)** will refer to the size of the five (5) shot group being measured. Scoring for extreme spread shall be accomplished in the following manner: Extreme spread measurement is recording the distance between the two (2) bullet holes in a competitors target that are the most distant from each other. The exact measurement recorded shall be the distance from the outer most edge of one hole to the inner most edge of the other hole to the nearest one sixteenth (1/16th) of an inch.

A. Aggregate group totals will be determined by the average of all

six (6) record group sizes over the two (2) day match.

B. A competitor who misses the target shall be penalized by adding thirty-six (36) inches to his extreme spread measurement (aggregate group) for each recorded miss, up to a maximum of seventy-two (72) inches.

C. Any competitor who scores less than two (2) hits on his target during a record group shall be assessed a DNF (did not finish) automatically.

D. The only time a target is required to be measured closer than one sixteenth (1/16th) of an inch is when the target is establishing a new "world record" for group size. It is required that all targets qualifying as a new world record shall be measured by three (3) Range Officers, on a flat surface and the measurement shall be held to the nearest one thousandth (1/1000th) of an inch. The Group Size will be the mathematical average of the individual Range Officer's measurements using only metal calibers with nothing inserted in the holes.

3. **Scoring for Numerical Score (Total Score)** will refer to the number of points accumulated by hits & misses on a target.

A. Scoring for numerical score shall be accomplished in the following manner:

B. Numerical score is the total accumulation of points scored by adding the target value of each round fired based on which scoring ring on the target the round is located. Misses are given a score value of zero (0). X's are scored ten (10) points and all others are scored based on the numerical value of the scoring ring where the round is located.

C. Aggregate score totals shall be determined by the totals of all six (6) record groups over the two (2) day match.

D. Rounds which break the outer most edge of a scoring ring are given the score value of the higher value of the two scoring rings involved.

4. **Two Gun Score:** The 2-gun aggregate shall be calculated using the best 2 group and score of either, Heavy, Light, Unlimited or Hunter (Class) and be calculated by the following formula ((Competitors Best Class Aggregate Group+(50- Competitors Best Class Aggregate Score) + (Competitor's Second Best Class Aggregate Group+(50-Competitor's Second Best Class Aggregate Score)) / 2

A. Ties are broken by the total X count of the two classes of competition, if still tied then by the total score of the classes of competition.

4.5 **Iron Man Score:** The 4 gun aggregate shall be calculated by following formula: ((Heavy Gun Aggregate Group + (50-Heavy Gun Aggregate Score) + ((Light Gun Aggregate Group + (50-Light Gun Aggregate Score) + ((Unlimited Aggregate Group + (50-Unlimited Gun Aggregate Score) + ((Hunter Aggregate Group + (50-Hunter Aggregate Score)/ 4

A. Ties are broken by the total X count of the two classes of competition, if still tied then by the total score of the classes of competition.

5. **Ties:** Ties in any class of FCSA shooting competition that is determined by score shall first be decided by counting the number of X's scored by each competitor. The person with the highest number of X's shall be declared the winner. If the score is tied and each competitor has an equal number of X's, the winner shall be determined by the person who has the most number of 10's. If the score is still tied the winner shall be determined by the person who has the most number of 9's and then 8's, etc.. If the score remains tied they will engage in a single five (5) shot shoot off to determine a winner.

Ties in any FCSA shooting competition that is determined by aggregate group shall be determined by a single five (5) shot shoot off for smallest group.

6. Winners of FCSA sanctioned shooting competitions based on "aggregate group" or "score" will be determined by the totals accumulated on all six record groups fired by the competitor during the match.

7. All competitors in an FCSA sanctioned match, who by circumstances have to complete their six (6) record targets in the same day are ineligible for trophy awards, prizes or records, except a record fired in any of the first three (3) record targets of the class of competition he is registered to compete in.

## PROTESTS, ALIBIS AND GRIEVANCES

It shall be the responsibility of the Match Director to form a Protest Committee to participate in each FCSA sanctioned shooting competition.

1. The Protest Committee shall be comprised of at least three (3) FCSA members who are registered to participate in the match in question. The Match Director may also appoint other Range Officers to participate on the Protest Committee, and he may also serve as a participating member.

2. The Protest Committee shall review all alibi's and protests regarding the FCSA Match Rules at the competition. The members of the Protest Committee shall have the authority to make final judgements regarding Match Rules interpretation and rule violations. A majority vote of the members of the Protest Committee shall be binding. The

Protest Committee shall present its decision regarding any matter to the Match Director.

3. The request for an alibi or the filing of a protest must be accomplished by the competitor by contacting the firing Line Officer or the Match Director personally and notifying him of their intent.

4. **Alibis:** Any competitor registered and participating in a sanctioned FCSA shooting competition, who is delayed from completing a relay due to a mechanical malfunction of a piece of necessary equipment or a mechanical malfunction of his gun, may request an "alibi", so that he may attempt to repair the mechanical problem and be allowed to finish the relay without penalty or disqualification from the match. Each competitor is allowed one (1) "alibi" per relay per day that he is registered to compete in. Any "alibi" granted to a competitor shall not interrupt the conduct of the match or create disadvantages of competition for the other competitors.

**Protests:** Any competitor registered and participating in a sanctioned FCSA shooting competition who disagrees with the conduct of the match or the interpretation of FCSA Match Rules, may file a "protest", requesting a formal review of the issue by the Protest Committee except for safety violations which are final and cannot be appealed.

**Grievances:** Any competitor registered and participating in a sanctioned FCSA shooting competition, who is the subject of, but who disagrees with the decision of the Match Director or Protest Committee at a match, may file a grievance with the Competition Rules Chairman. The grievance shall be in writing and must be filed within ten (10) days after the completion of the shooting competition. The Competition Rules Chairman shall make a report to the FCSA Board of Directors with a recommendation of final judgement. The grievance will be resolved by the majority vote of the Board of Directors.

## AWARDS

1. **Trophy Awards** shall always be given to the winners of the following classes of shooting competition at the FCSA "World Competition", including but not limited to first (1st), second (2nd), third (3rd), fourth (4th) and fifth (5th) place.

A. **Two Gun, "Aggregate Group/Score" Award.** The winner of this category shall be the match winner or "Top Gun" and shall be declared the "World Champion" when he is the winner of this category at the "World Championship" held each year.

B. **Heavy Gun Class, "Aggregate Group" Award.** The winner of this category shall be declared the "World Champion" of the heavy class aggregate when he is the winner of this category at the "World Championship" held each year.

C. **Heavy Gun Class, "Total Score" Award.** The winner of this category shall be declared the "World Champion" of the Heavy class score when he is the winner of this category at the "World Championship" held each year.

D. **Light Gun Class, "Aggregate Group" Award.** The winner of this category shall be declared the "World Champion" of the Light class when he is the winner of this category at the "World Championship" held each year.

E. **Light Gun Class, "Total Score" Award.** The winner of this category shall be declared the "World Champion" of the Light class when he is the winner of this category at the "World Championship" held each year.

F1. **Unlimited Gun Class, "Total Score/Aggregate Group" Award.**

The winner of this category shall be declared the "World Champion" of the Unlimited Class when he is the winner of this category at the "World Championship" held each year.=

**G1. Hunter Class, "Total Score/Aggregate Group" Award.** The winner of this category shall be declared the "World Champion" of the Hunter Class when he is the winner of this category at the "World Championship" held each year.

**2. "Smallest Group" Awards** shall be awarded to the competitors who fire the smallest extreme distance record group in the "heavy gun class", "light gun class", "unlimited gun class" and "hunter class" of competition fired in an FCSA sanctioned shooting competition.

**3. Prize Awards** shall be distributed to competitors at the "World Competition" and at any FCSA sanctioned regional match where a sponsor(s) has made prize awards available. Prize awards may be selected by competitors based on their place of finish in the competition as follows:

Beginning with the winner of the "aggregate group/score" in two gun competition; followed immediately by the winner of the "aggregate group" award in heavy gun competition; followed by the winner of the "aggregate score" award in light gun competition; followed by the winner of the "aggregate group" award in unlimited gun competition;

After all first place winners have selected prize awards, second place competitors in the same order of secession will be allowed to select a prize award of their choosing and so on until all prize awards are distributed except in unlimited class. After the third place winner in unlimited class has selected his prize award, all other competitors in the unlimited class shall have their scores totaled in the heavy gun

class only for the purpose of selecting prize awards.

4. Competitors are eligible for official FCSA sanctioned awards, trophies and/or official record consideration in the FCSA sanctioned class of competition (Light, Heavy, Unlimited, Two-Gun, or any other officially recognized class of competition) in which his rifle is entered for any given relay. The competitor is not eligible for any FCSA sanctioned awards, trophies and/or official record consideration in any other class, except for the relay/class in which the shooter was entered and competing in, even if the rifle would have met the rules for competition in any other class. If a competitor is incorrectly assigned to a relay or class or competition, it is the responsibility of the competitor to notify the Match Director when bench assignment/pit duty sheets are issued on the first day of the match, prior to his first record target being fired.

## COACHING

1. Coaching a competitor of an FCSA sanctioned shooting competition is allowed during any unlimited Sighter period and during the first (1st) record group ever fired in competition by a first time competitor. Coaching a competitor in an FCSA sanctioned shooting competition at any other time may lead to their disqualification from the match at the direction of the Match Director upon the approval of the Protest Committee.

## SPECTATORS

1. Spectators are encouraged to attend FCSA sanctioned shooting competitions. Spectators are encouraged to support and assist friends and family who are participating in an FCSA sanctioned shooting competition. Spectators are not allowed to coach or communicate with competitors during a "record group" time period. Spectators are

not allowed to distract or disrupt competitors competing in an FCSA sanctioned competition. Violations of FCSA Match Rules by a spectator may lead to the expulsion of the spectator from the range at the direction of the Match Director or his approved Range Officer.

2. Spectators of an FCSA sanctioned shooting competition shall wear adequate ear protection whenever in the vicinity of the firing line.

## MATCH RULE CHANGES

1. Proposed amendments to the FCSA Rules of Competition may be submitted by any member or associate member of the FCSA. All proposed amendments to the FCSA Rules of Shooting Competition must be submitted to the FCSA Competition Rules Chairman or a member of the Board of Directors prior to April 1st of the year in which the amendment will be considered at the annual membership meeting.

2. Any member of the Board of Directors, who receives a recommendation for a change to the Rules of Competition, shall submit the proposed rules change to the FCSA Competition Rules Chairman.

3. The Board of Directors, after due consideration, may amend and/or reject all proposed Rules of Competition changes. The Board of Directors shall make a recommendation to the FCSA membership on approved Rules of Competition changes. The Board of Directors' recommendation of the proposed changes to the Rules of Competition shall be published in an issue of the FCSA newsletter Very High Power that precedes the annual membership meeting at which they will be considered. The President or the Chairman of the Competition Rules Committee will present the opinion and recommendation of the Board of Directors to the FCSA membership at the annual meeting.

4. Amendments, changes or suspensions to the FCSA Match Rules of Competition require a two-thirds (2/3) vote of the voting membership present at the annual membership meeting. Only current or past FCSA match competitors are allowed to vote on amendments, changes or suspensions to the FCSA Match Rules of Competition. A match competitor is any person who is a current member of FCSA and has competed in or is currently competing in a sanctioned FCSA shooting competition.

**As amended and approved by the voting members of FCSA at the Annual Membership meeting held the Whittington Center, Raton, NM, in July of 2008.**

## ADVISORY OPINIONS

The FCSA Board of Directors will occasionally issue an Advisory Opinion of an Official Match Rule. These Opinions are offered to enhance the interpretation of the Rule and to aid the Match Directors in areas where uniform application has been in dispute.

Requests for Opinions should be addressed to the Rules Chairman in writing. The Opinions are numbered in consecutive order by year issued

### **Fifty Caliber Shooter Association Official Match Rules Advisory Opinion 7-1**

That the FCSA Board of Directors interprets the phrase "To shoot from the ground", used in The Official Match Rules, FCSA Classes of Competition, Section 4, ¶ 2, Prone: (pg 11) to mean;

Shooting while lying prone upon the natural surface of the earth; minor enhancements notwithstanding. The surface should be initially as similar for all the participants in a match as possible. One of the challenges of Hunter Class is 'to shoot from the ground'.

The intent of the paragraph is to limit the material/substance allowed between the shooter and the ground to a minimum that is required for safety.

#### **Fifty Caliber Shooter Association**

##### **Official Match Rules**

##### **Advisory Opinion 8-1**

That the FCSA Board of Directors interprets the word "target" when used in reference to Scoring in The Official Match Rules to mean; The FCSA Official Target.

A miss, therefore, will be considered any round that does not touch the target paper.

#### **Fifty Caliber Shooter Association**

##### **Official Match Rules**

##### **Advisory Opinion 8-2**

That the FCSA Board of Directors interprets the reference to "numerical score" when used in reference to the section on Scoring in the Rules of Competition to mean; that the score of four (4) will be used in determining the total accumulation of points.

Hits on the target, beyond the 5 ring will have a numeric value of 4; they will be regarded as 'on target' and will be used for group measurement.

## **By Laws**

### **FIFTY CALIBER SHOOTER'S ASSOCIATION, INC.**

## **ARTICLE I**

### **NAME AND OBJECTIVES**

1. **NAME:** The name of the organization shall be known as the Fifty Caliber Shooter's Association, Inc. (FCSA)

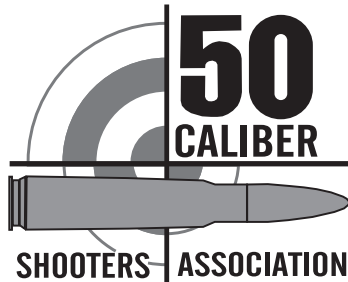
2. **OBJECTIVES:** The objectives of this organization are to unite all persons within its jurisdiction and provide a vehicle for communication and competition to those people who enjoy all the sporting aspects of the .50 cal. BMG cartridge, and all wildcat derivatives of the .50 cal. BMG.

3. **PRINCIPALS:** The association is an incorporated non-profit organization founded and united by persons with mutual interests and acting in the spirit of cooperation to best promote their special interests and enjoyment.

4. **HEADQUARTERS:** The mailing address for the headquarters of this association shall be P.O. Box 111 Monroe, Utah 84754-0111 until changed at the direction of the President with the approval of a majority of the Board of Directors.

5. **PUBLICATIONS:** The official publication of the Fifty Caliber Shooter's Association, Inc. (FCSA) shall be a periodical newsletter published four times a year or quarterly. The newsletter will be entitled Very High Power.

6. **LOGO:** The official logo of FCSA shall be the following design:



FCSA shall govern the use of the logo.

## ARTICLE II MEMBERSHIP

1. **MEMBERSHIP:** The membership of the Fifty Caliber Shooter's Association, Inc., is comprised of individuals as established by these By Laws.

2. There shall be three (3) classes of membership in the FCSA; mem-

ber, associate members and affiliated organizations.

3. Members are those persons whose membership is paid and current. Members are encouraged to be current members of The National Rifle Association and shall be required to pay fees established by FCSA for participation in competitive shooting matches.

4. Associate members are spouses and children up to the age of eighteen (18) years who reside with the member, or members of the military service on active duty.

5. Affiliated organizations are those organizations that desire membership in FCSA for the purpose of receiving Very High Power magazine. Affiliated membership is restricted to recognized organizations and is not available to individuals.

6. Membership in FCSA shall not be restricted to any person or persons based on race, religion, sex, or political affiliation.

## ARTICLE III DUES

1. All organizations must hold an Affiliated Membership in order to host a sanctioned FCSA match.

Life memberships may be purchased at any age but a discount will be offered after sixty five (65) years of age.

2. Membership in FCSA as a member, established by payment of annual dues shall entitle each member to a one (1) year subscription, or four (4) issues of Very High Power, the FCSA periodical newsletter and to be eligible to compete in all FCSA sponsored shooting compe-

titions. Members shall be eligible to hold elected office and vote on any matter before the membership, except for those items concerning the shooters only. All rule changes concerning the shooting matches can only be voted upon by those who shoot.

3. Membership in FCSA as an associate member, established by the payment of dues shall entitle associate members to participate in all FCSA shooting competitions, hold elected office and vote on any matter before the voting membership, but do not receive the quarterly VHP magazine.

4. The Board of Directors shall determine the amount of dues payable for each class of membership and the duration in time for each class. Special discounts will be made available to active duty members of the military. Active duty military includes those currently in the Reserves and National Guard. It does not include Individual Ready Reserve (IRR) or retirees.

5. Any member of FCSA who has received four (4) issues of Very High Power and has not paid a renewal of dues is in arrears and will be dropped from the mailing list by the Secretary/Treasurer. For purposes of match participation and voting, the member's expiration date will determine eligibility.

#### **ARTICLE IV AUTHORITY AND RESPONSIBILITY**

1. The membership meeting shall, when in session, possess the power to amend these By Laws, elect officers and provide direction to the Board Of Directors.

2. Subject to the authority of the membership meeting, the activities and affairs of FCSA shall be governed and all corporate

powers exercised by the President under the direction of the Board of Directors.

3. The Executive Board shall be comprised of the President, Vice President, and one (1) Member of the Board of Directors selected by the President.

4. Subject to the authority of the Board of Directors, when the Board of Directors is not in session, the Executive Board shall have all the powers of the Board of Directors except as provided by these By Laws.

5. The Executive Board shall have no power to adopt, amend or suspend these By Laws or the direction of the Board of Directors.

6. Except as may be restricted by these By Laws, all members shall have the right to examine the records, accounting books, reports, and the minutes of the Board of Directors upon reasonable written and timely request at a place and time specified by the President or the Executive Board.

#### **ARTICLE V OFFICERS, BOARD OF DIRECTORS, EXECUTIVE BOARD**

1. The officers of the FCSA shall consist of an elected President, an elected Vice President, an appointed Secretary/Treasurer and one (1) appointed Editor of the FCSA newsletter.

2. The Board of Directors shall be comprised of the President, Vice President, Immediate Past President, the Secretary/Treasurer, the Editor, and eight (8) elected Directors at Large.

3. The President shall appoint a Secretary/Treasurer for a term of one (1) year subject to the approval of the Board of Directors. The Secretary/Treasurer will be a non-voting member of the Board of Directors and will be standing members of the Executive Board.

4. The President shall appoint an Editor of the newsletter Very High Power for a term of one (1) year subject to the approval of the Board of Directors. The Editor shall be a non-voting member of the Board of Directors.

5. For the purpose of daily administration, the matters of business of the FCSA shall be governed and directed by the Executive Board.

## **ARTICLE VI MEETINGS**

1. The membership meeting shall be convened by the President at least once annually in conjunction with the "World Competition".

2. Written notice of the time and location of the membership meeting, applications for nomination to elected office, and applications for recommended By Law changes shall be given to all members of FCSA in a copy of the newsletter Very High Power that precedes the "World Competition".

3. A quorum shall consist of the members present at the membership meeting.

4. All members and associate members are eligible to attend membership meetings.

5. Only members and associate members shall have the right to vote at the membership meeting.

6. Meetings of the Board of Directors shall be called for and presided over by the President and in his absence the Vice President.

7. Where practical, the location and time of all Board of Directors meetings will be published in advance in the newsletter Very High Power.

8. At any formal Meeting of the Board of Directors a quorum shall consist of a majority of the members of the Board of Directors, or at least six (6) voting members, except as provided by these By Laws.

9 Current members of FCSA shall be allowed to attend all meetings of the Board of Directors except as provided by these By Laws. FCSA members who are not members of the Board of Directors will only be allowed to address business to the Board of Directors, while they are in session, at the discretion of the President and in accordance with the rules established in Robert's Rules of Order.

10. Formal meetings of the Board of Directors are those meetings that have a published agenda prior to the meeting. Informal meetings do not require a published agenda.

11. Formal and Informal meetings of the Board of Directors may be held at the request of three (3) or more members of the Board of Directors. Decisions arrived at during informal meetings of the Board of Directors are not binding until those decisions are presented and ratified at a formal meeting of the Board of Directors.

## **ARTICLE VII DUTIES**

1. The president shall preside at all meetings of the Board of Directors, Executive Board and membership meetings. He will per-

form such duties given to him by these By Laws and the Board of Directors. He shall be the spokesperson and the official representative of FCSA. He shall call meetings of the Board of Directors and will be a member of all appointed committees. He shall appoint or replace committee chairmans as provided by these By Laws.

When the President is replaced by election, he will assume the role of Immediate Past President on the Board of Directors for one (1) year following his replacement as President. The Immediate Past President shall be a voting member of the Board of Directors.

2. The Vice President shall succeed the President should the presidency become vacant. He shall at the determination of the Board of Directors, assume the duties of the president in the absence of the president. The Vice President, upon direction of the President, shall be a member of any appointed committee.

3. The Secretary shall be responsible for the preparation and certification of the minutes of the Board of Directors and the Membership Meeting. He shall maintain custody of the Articles of Incorporation, By Laws, and Standing Rules of Shooting Competition. He shall be responsible for keeping an accurate record of the membership of the FCSA, receiving renewal of memberships, enrolling new members and deleting expired members. The Secretary shall be responsible for conduct of the FCSA's elections each year. He shall also perform such other duties as may be delegated by the Board of Directors and/or the President.

4. The Treasurer shall be the chief financial officer of FCSA. He will be responsible for ensuring compliance with the fiscal policies of FCSA, these By Laws and the Board of Directors. The Treasurer shall provide an annual financial statement of FCSA in the newsletter Very High Power that is published just before the "World Competition"

each year.

5. A Director at Large shall perform the duties of a member of the Board of Directors, including duties as a member of any committee upon which he may be appointed to serve, in good faith and in a manner he believes to be in the best interest of FCSA. He will conduct himself with such care, including reasonable inquiry, as an ordinary prudent person in a like position would use under similar circumstances.

6. No officer, member of the Board of Directors or appointed member of a committee shall vote on any question before his committee or board in which they have a direct personal interest not common to other members of FCSA.

## **ARTICLE VIII ELECTIONS/APPOINTMENTS/ REMOVAL FROM OFFICE**

1. Only individuals who are members of FCSA are eligible to hold elected office or positions appointed by the President.

2. The President and Vice President shall be elected by a majority of the votes cast by the voting membership during the election process as provided by these By Laws. The President and Vice President shall serve one (1) year terms. Directors at Large shall serve two (2) year terms. Four of the Directors at Large shall be elected each year beginning in the year 1993.

3. Nominations for President, Vice President and Directors at Large shall be submitted to the Secretary/Treasurer of FCSA by members and associate members of FCSA. Nominations must be received at

FCSA in writing in a timely fashion prior to the publication of the issue of the FCSA newsletter Very High Power that precedes the election each year. Letters from those persons nominated indicating their willingness to accept the nomination must also be received at FCSA prior to the publication of the Very High Power newsletter before elections are held. Letters of acceptance or position statements by the candidates can be published in the issue of Very High Power preceding the election.

4. Nominees for any elected position within FCSA must include at least two (2) of the following ways they may be contacted by the membership of FCSA if they are elected. Home address, phone number at home, phone number at work, fax number or email address. The selected methods of contact shall be printed in each issue of the Very High Power magazine during their term of office if they are elected.

5. The elections will be conducted with each FCSA member receiving a ballot by mail from the Secretary/Treasurer listing all candidates for prospective positions. Members will vote for the candidates of their choice and return their ballots back to FCSA by mail for tabulation. The results of the election process will be announced at the membership meeting held in conjunction with the "World Competition".

6. All members and associate members of FCSA are eligible to vote in FCSA elections of officers, Directors at Large, proposed By Law changes and proposed Match Rules changes.

7. All newly elected Officers and Directors at Large shall take office at the close of the annual membership meeting.

8. Vacancies in any elected position can be filled within forty-five (45) days of the vacancy. A vacancy of the position of President shall be filled immediately by the Vice President. All other positions can be filled by appointment by the President.

9. Any officer or Director at Large may be reprimanded or removed from his position for any act that has been determined to be detrimental to FCSA by the Board of Directors, in the following manner.

A. A petition requesting a confidential investigation, signed by one third (1/3) of the members of the Board of Directors, shall be filed with the Secretary/ Treasurer or the Vice President if the Secretary/ Treasurer is the person accused.

B. An investigation committee shall be appointed by the President, or by the Vice President if the President is the one accused.

C. The investigation committee shall inquire as to the specific allegations made against the accused individual(s). The committee shall conduct a thorough investigation into the allegations and report their findings to the Board of Directors in Executive session. After reviewing the investigative committee's report, the Board of Directors may drop the allegations or allow the accused to present his views regarding the allegations. The Board of Directors, by a two thirds (2/3) vote of the board shall have the power then to dismiss the allegations, reprimand the accused (verbally or in writing) or remove from office the person accused. All written record of the investigation shall be sealed and remain the exclusive property of the Board of Directors.

## **ARTICLE IX FCSA STANDING COMMITTEES AND CHAIRMAN'S DUTIES**

1. The President shall appoint five members of the FCSA to serve as chairman of five Standing Committees. Each chairman shall serve a one (1) year term, at the pleasure of the President, of the following committees:

**FCSA By Laws Committee.****FCSA Competition Rules Committee.****FCSA History Committee.****FCSA Match Committee.****FCSA Membership Committee**

2. The **FCSA By Laws Chairman** will be the person of contact for members of FCSA to submit recommended By Law changes. The By Laws chairman shall write and submit an agenda of proposed By Law changes or additions to the Board of Directors in accordance with Article X. The By Laws chairman will be responsible to ensure that newly approved changes and deletions in the FCSA By Laws are submitted to the Secretary/Treasurer of the FCSA for him to maintain at the FCSA headquarters immediately after the annual membership meeting.

3. The **FCSA Competition Rules Chairman** shall serve as a person of contact for FCSA members who submit recommended changes to the FCSA shooting competition rules. The chairman shall submit all recommendations for match rule changes to the Board of Directors in accordance with Article X.

The FCSA Competition Rules Chairman shall hear all grievances filed by members of FCSA, regarding the rules of shooting competition at FCSA sanctioned shooting competitions. The Shooting Rules Chairman shall make a report to the Board of Directors with a recommendation of final judgment on all shooting competition grievances. Grievances shall be resolved by a majority vote of the Board of Directors.

4. The **FCSA Historian** shall record and compile all shooting records and equipment lists from all FCSA sanctioned matches. The Historian shall maintain a data base to minimally include; Names, Dates, Locations, Class, Scores, Equipment and Class Winners. The Historian will arrange for and provide all shooting awards for the 'World Competition'. The Historian will provide all match record information to FCSA members and publish all World Records for all classes in the FCSA's newsletter Very High Power.

5. The **FCSA Match Chairman** shall be the contact person for all matters relating to the conduct of regional FCSA shooting competitions and the conduct of the "World Competition". The Match Chairman shall establish a 'Match Committee' of up to 3 additional FCSA members to serve one (1) year terms, with the approval of the FCSA President. The Match Committee shall serve as advisors to the FCSA President and Board of Directors on all matters relating to the conduct of regional matches and the World Competition. The Match Committee shall be responsible for selecting a World Championship Match Director to conduct the annual World Competition All FCSA sanctioned shooting competitions shall be authorized, approved, and coordinated through the FCSA Match Committee. All regional Match Directors shall work for and at the pleasure of the Match Committee Chairman. If possible, a schedule of sanctioned shooting competitions shall be submitted to the Editor for publication in the FCSA newsletter Very High Power.

6. The **FCSA Membership Chairman** will be the person of contact for expanding the membership of FCSA. It will be the duty of the Membership chairman to attract new members into the FCSA in a manner approved by the Executive Board.

## **ARTICLE X BYLAW AMENDMENTS, RULES OF COMPETITION AND RULES OF ORDER**

1. Proposed changes to these By Laws may be submitted by any member or associate member of FCSA. All proposed By Law changes must be submitted to the FCSA By Laws Chairman or a member of the Board of Directors prior to April 1st of the year in which the change will be considered at the annual membership meeting.

Proposed amendments to the FCSA Rules of Competition may be submitted by any member or associate member of FCSA. All proposed amendments to the FCSA Rules of Shooting Competition must be submitted to the FCSA Competition Rules Chairman or a member of the Board of Directors prior to April 1st of the year in which the amendment will be considered at the annual membership meeting.

2. Any member of the Board of Directors who receives a recommendation for a By Laws change shall submit the proposed By Law change to the FCSA By Laws Chairman.

Any member of the Board of Directors who receives a recommendation for a change to the rules of competition, shall submit the proposed rules change to the FCSA Competition Rules Chairman.

3. The Board of Directors, after due consideration, may amend and/or reject all proposed By Laws and Rules of Competition changes. The Board of Directors shall make a recommendation to the FCSA membership on approved By Laws and Rules of Competition changes. The Board of Directors' recommendation of the proposed changes to the By Laws and the Rules of Competition shall be published in an issue of the FCSA Newsletter Very High Power that precedes the annual membership meeting at which they will be considered. The President

or the chairman of the By Laws Committee or the chairman of the Competition Rules Committee will present the opinion and recommendation of the Board of Directors to the FCSA membership at the annual membership meeting.

4. Amendments or suspensions to the FCSA Match Rules or FCSA By Laws require a two thirds (2/3) vote of the voting membership present at the annual membership meeting for passage. Only current or past FCSA match competitors are allowed to vote on amendments, changes or suspensions to the FCSA Match Rules of Shooting Competition. A match competitor is a current member of FCSA and who has competed in or is currently competing in a sanctioned FCSA shooting competition.

5. Any proposed change to the FCSA Rules of Shooting Competition or to the FCSA By Laws must be presented and petitioned at the annual membership meeting by the member recommending the proposed change or his designated representative. If the member or the member's representative is not present to defend his change, the change will not be considered.

6. Robert's Rules of Order, newly revised, shall govern in all cases not consistent with these By Laws.

**As amended by the membership at the annual membership meeting at Raton, NM on 7 July 2008.**

Please note: because of the possibility of human error in this publication, we ask that all mistakes that are found be brought to the attention of the President or Secretary/Treasurer of FCSA.

**NOTES**

