

# THE AUSTRALIA MATCH

(For Open, Under-25 and F Class Teams and Half-Teams)

## Match conditions

### A1. Preamble

- A1.1. The Australia Match was originally founded in 1907 by the NRA of Australia (“NRAA”) as a prestigious all-range International Team Match entitled the “Empire Match”, which title was changed to the “Australia Match” in 1988 on the occasion of the Australian bicentennial, the better to recognise the prerogatives of the NRAA.
- A1.2. In 2003 the NRAA resolved to place the Match under the governance with effect from 2005 of the (then) recently formed world governing body for fullbore rifle shooting, the International Confederation of Fullbore Rifle Associations (ICFRA), provided the Match Conditions were consistent with what went before, and that ICFRA Technical Rules should apply. In addition, an Under-25 Australia Match was instituted (see also A4.3).

### A2. Governance

- A2.1. The governance of these matches is vested in the Council of the International Confederation of Fullbore Rifle Associations (ICFRA), which delegates to its World Championships Committee (WCC - “The Committee”) full responsibility for the conduct of this match.
- A2.2. Any request to depart from these conditions for any particular reason for a particular match must be confirmed by a majority of those teams participating in that particular Australia Match at least 6 months before the competition. An affirmative vote for any amendment to change the conditions whether substantively, or for a particular match as set out in this rule, MUST be cast by Australia for such rule change to take effect and be formally carried.
- A2.3. The Match will be organised and conducted in accordance with the ICFRA Rules for the Management of World Championships. The match cycle will be no more than 5 years and no less than 3. The Match will preferably not be scheduled for the same year as the TR World Championships. The bidding process shall be as in ICFRA World Championship Management Rules.

### A3. The Australia Match

- A3.1. The match will only take place if at least three countries/approved regional groups participate. An Australian team must take part. This applies equally to the Under-25 Australia Match.
- A3.2. The match will normally be fired over a period of two consecutive days comprising a practice day on which all distances must be made available, and a match day; and preferably be fired after the conclusion of all competitions in any championship event or prize meeting with which is associated or forms part.
- A3.3. An Australia Match Team will consist of no more than 17 members, viz:
- A3.3.1. 1 Team Captain,
  - A3.3.2. 1 Adjutant,
  - A3.3.3. 10 Shooters,
  - A3.3.4. 2 Reserves,
  - A3.3.5. 1 Main Coach/Co-ordinator,
  - A3.3.6. 2 Target Coaches,

- A3.4. It is permissible, by application of rule W8.5 for a Team to consist of 10 members, or any other greater number up to 17.
- A3.5. It is permissible for a composite team drawn from more than one Nation to take part provided:-
- A3.5.1. That none of the Nations has shot in the match under its own identity in the previous 10 years,
  - A3.5.2. That no more than 3 Nations contribute,
  - A3.5.3. If the Nation is a member of an ICFRA regional grouping or part of Great Britain, that the Grouping or GB is not itself competing.
- “Guest” coaches are prohibited.
- A3.6. The course of fire for each shooter, consists of two convertible sighting shots and ten shots to count at each range 300, 600, 900 and 1000 yards. For metric ranges, the course of fire will be the same, at ranges of 300, 600, 800 and 900 metres. A combination of yards/metric distances is permissible if the range layout so dictates. Five shooters will be squadded to each target and the team time allowance will be in accordance with ICFRA TR Rules for short and long range distances as appropriate.
- A3.7. The Target will be the ICFRA International Match Target for the distances in question. Electronic Targets are permissible, but the intention to use them must be notified when bidding for the Match.
- A3.8. The Host Nation will supply register keepers on a scale of 1 per target.

#### **A4. The Under-25 Australia Match**

- A4.1. Countries hosting the Australia Match must also offer concurrently an Under-25 Australia Match to the conditions laid out herein except that the Team use a single target and will consist of no more than 9 members viz:-
- A4.1.1. 1 Team Captain
  - A4.1.2. 1 Adjutant
  - A4.1.3. 5 Shooters
  - A4.1.4. 1 Coach
  - A4.1.5. 1 Reserve
- A4.2. The Adjutant may be over 25 years old but if over 25 may not participate in on-mound matters.
- A4.3. A failure to find three entries for the Under-25 match will not prejudice the holding of the Open Match.
- A4.4. A competitor will qualify as ‘under-25’ as on the day of the Match itself – i.e. his 25<sup>th</sup> birthday is the day following the match or any later date.
- A4.5. It is permissible, by application of rule W8.5 for a Team to consist of only 5 members, or any other greater number up to 9.
- A4.6. Rule A3.8 does not apply.

**A5. The Australia Half-Team Match ('HTM')**

A5.1. The Nation hosting an Australia Match may offer a Match for National Teams of 5 shooters concurrent with the Australia Match (A3) provided always that range space exists without prejudicing the conduct of the Australia Match.

A5.2. A HTM Team will consist of a maximum of 9 Members as follows:-

A5.2.1 1 Team Captain

A5.2.2 1 Adjutant

A5.2.3 5 Shooters

A5.2.4 1 Reserve

A5.2.5 1 Target Coach

A5.3. It is permissible, by application of rule W8.5 for a Team to consist of only 5 members, or any other greater number up to 9.

A5.4. Rules A3.6 and A3.7 apply (but one target only will be provided) and A3.8 does not.

A5.5. Eligibility. All Nations must firstly make every effort to enter a full team complying with A3. Entries for the HTM will only be approved by the ICFRA WCC on the proviso that written justification is provided in advance. A Nation may also enter a team for the HTM if its parent Regional Group (currently Channel Islands, West Indies and, for the purposes of this rule, Great Britain) has entered a Team for the Australia Match.

**A6. Optional F Class Matches**

A6.1. The Nation hosting an Australia Match may offer a Match for National F-Class (F/O and/or F/TR) Teams of 5 concurrent with the Australia Match (A3) practice day provided always that range space exists without prejudicing the conduct of the Australia Match. Rules A5.2 and A5.3 apply.

A6.2. The course of fire for each shooter, consists of two convertible sighting shots and fifteen shots to count at each range 600, 900 and 1000 yards. For metric ranges, the course of fire will be the same, at ranges of 600, 800 and 900 metres. A combination of yards/metric distances is permissible if the range layout so dictates. Five shooters will be squadded to each target and the team time allowance will be in accordance with ICFRA F Class Rules for short and long range distances as appropriate.

**A7. Rifles and Equipment**

A7.1. Competitors from each country will use their own rifles, which must conform to ICFRA TR specifications, except for the optional F Class Matches, where the relevant F Class specifications will apply.

A7.2. The ICFRA Rules for Target Rifle Shooting will apply, except for the optional F Class Matches, where the F Class Rules will apply.

A7.3. All questions of admissibility of rifles or equipment will be dealt with under the equipment control procedures of Section 10 of the World Championship Management Rules.

**A8. Ammunition**

A8.1. Ammunition as specified under ICFRA TR Technical Rules will be used (except for the optional F Class Matches, where the relevant F Class specifications will apply), and may be handloaded. Competitors' ammunition is liable for test under, and in accordance with, those rules.

## **A9. Awards - Trophies**

- A9.1. The Australia Match trophy will be awarded to the winning Team. The trophy is:-
- A9.1.1. The property of the NRAA, and
  - A9.1.2. Is held permanently on display at the HQ of the NRAA at Brisbane.
- A9.2. The U-25 Australia Match trophy will be awarded to the winning Team. The trophy is:-
- A9.2.1 The property of the NRAA.
- A9.3. The winning Team in each of the Australia Match and Under-25 Australia Match will receive a presentation framed photograph of the Trophy, courtesy of the NRAA.
- A9.4. The highest individual scorer in the Match (whether Open or Under-25) will receive a presentation framed photograph of the High Scorer Trophy given by the Great Britain Rifle Team to NRA of Australia in 2005. His Coach will be awarded a Gold Medal per Rule A10.2.
- A9.5. [Reserved for future trophy for the Australia Half-Team Match ('HTM'), if any.]
- A9.6. [Reserved for future trophies for the optional F Class Matches, if any.]

## **A10. Awards - Medals and Badges**

- A10.1. Australia Match and U-25 Australia Match: The host nation must provide Gold Medals for the Winning Team in each of the Matches to the ICFRA World Championship design, endorsed "Australia Match" or "U-25 Australia Match" as the case may be, on the reverse. The host nation may provide additional awards under conditions made known to the Committee in advance of each match as per Rule W6.9.
- A10.2. In the case of A10.1, 17 "Open" and 9 Under-25 medals must be provided, one for each team member. Should a team have less than 17 members (or 9, as the case may be), each must receive a medal, but the remaining medals are not to be issued. 1 supplementary medal will be struck for the coach of the highest scorer (A9.4 refers).
- A10.3. Australia Half-Team Match ('HTM'): The host nation must provide Gold Medals for the Winning Team in the Australia HTM (and/or F Class Matches – see A10.4). Should a team have less than 9 members, each must receive a medal, but the remaining medals are not to be issued. 1 supplementary medal will be struck for each of the highest individual scorer and the coach of the highest scorer.
- A10.4. Optional F Class Matches: See A10.3.

Note: The designation 'Gold' of the medals relates to the colour only and not to their metal content.