

# **I.C.F.R.A.**

## **INTERNATIONAL CONFEDERATION OF FULLBORE RIFLE ASSOCIATIONS**

**Conditions of Competition for Target Rifle World Championships and other  
ICFRA TR Matches**

Edition: 31 December 2024

# Target Rifle Long Range World Championships

## Match conditions

*Editors note: Cross references preceded with a 'W' refer to the ICFRA Rules for the management of World Championships. In this edition the name of trophy and/or prize list for the HTM may be altered without limitation of the 'one year rule'.*

### **L1. Preamble**

- L1.1. The origin of World Fullbore Rifle team Championships dates back to the 9th November 1875, when the Board of Directors of the NRA of America resolved “That in furtherance of the steps already taken for a Grand International Competition on the occasion of the Centennial Anniversary of American Independence, and for a proper observation of such Anniversary on the part of this Association, a series of Rifle matches be inaugurated to take place during the Summer or Autumn of 1876, and a general invitation be and hereby is extended to riflemen of all Countries to participate”.
- L1.2. This first match was fired in September 1876 and the prize was a trophy, similar to a Roman banner, which was originally called the Grand Centennial Trophy or the International Rifle Trophy. This later became known as the “Palma Trophy” because of the Latin word Palma (which replaced the Roman letters SPQR), signifying prominence, valour and victory. This first era of competition for the Palma Trophy continued sporadically until 1928, when the record shows the match fell into abeyance.
- L1.3. The revival of the Palma Trophy match was due to another Centennial, that of Canada, unfortunately without the actual Palma Trophy, which was lost after 1928. This second era began in 1966 and, since then, a regular competitive series has continued. The Long Range World Championships include the Palma Trophy team match and also now the Individual Long Range Target Rifle Championship, which started in 1992.
- L1.4. In 2002 the newly formed world governing body for fullbore rifle shooting, the International Confederation of Fullbore Rifle Associations (ICFRA), took the World Championships under its aegis.

### **L2. Governance**

- L2.1. The governance of these championships 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 rules and conduct of these World Championships.
- L2.2. This committee will consist of one representative appointed by each National Rifle Association/Federation or approved regional grouping which has participated in three or more past Long Range World Championship team matches since its revival in 1966.
- L2.3. Other ICFRA member bodies not yet meeting this qualification, or interested in participating in future World Championships, may participate in the Committee but without a vote.
- L2.4. In 2003 it was agreed that, for the future, the match would be known as the Long Range World Championships, abbreviated to LRWC, or ILRWC for the Individual event.
- L2.5. Except as may be provided herein, the conduct of the LRWC will be in accordance with the ICFRA Rules for the Management of World Championships.

### **L3. The Long Range World Championship Team Match**

- L3.1. The team match will only be designated as a World Championship if at least four countries/approved regional groups participate. A USA team must take part in order for the Palma Trophy to be awarded, or for the event to be referred to as “The Palma Match”. (This relates to the ownership of the trophy and the registered trademarks of the name and logo.)
- L3.2. The team match will normally be fired over a period of two days, with the complete course of fire being conducted on each day.

- L3.3. A Long Range World Championship team will consist of a maximum of 25 members, as follows:-
- L3.3.1. 1 Team Captain,
  - L3.3.2. 1 Adjutant,
  - L3.3.3. 16 Shooters,
  - L3.3.4. 2 Reserves,
  - L3.3.5. 1 Main Coach/Coordinator,
  - L3.3.6. 4 Target Coaches,
- L3.4. It is permissible, by application of rule W8.5 for a Team to consist of only 16 members, or any other greater number up to 25.
- L3.5. The course of fire for each shooter, on each of the two days, consists of two convertible sighting shots and fifteen shots to count at each distance 800, 900 and 1000 yards. For metric ranges, the course of fire will be the same, at ranges of 700, 800 and 900 metres (or a combination of yards/metric distances if the range layout so dictates). Four shooters will be squadded to a target and the team time allowance (as an exception to TR Rules) will be 102 minutes per distance.
- L3.6. The Target shall be the ICFRA International Match Target for Long Range. Electronic Targets may be used but this is subject to an affirmative resolution by WCC.
- L3.7. The Host Nation will supply register keepers on a scale of 1 per target.
- L4. The Title reserved ('HTM')**
- L4.1. The Nation hosting a TR World Championship may offer a Match for National Teams of 4 shooters concurrent with the Palma Match (L3.2) provided always that range space exists without prejudicing the conduct of the Palma Match. This Match is not itself of World Championship standing.
- L4.2. A HTM Team will consist of a maximum of 8 Members as follows:-
- L4.2.1. 1 Team Captain
  - L4.2.2. 1 Adjutant
  - L4.2.3. 1 Coach
  - L4.2.4. 4 Shooters
  - L4.2.5. 1 Reserve
- L4.3. It is permissible, by application of rule W8.5 for a Team to consist of only 4 members, or any other greater number up to 8.
- L4.4. Rules L3.5 and L3.6 apply (but one target only will be provided) and L3.7 does not.
- L4.5. Eligibility. No Nation may enter a team for the *HTM* if it has a Team in the main Long Range World Championship Team Match nor, if it is part of a Regional Association (currently Channel Islands, West Indies and, for the purposes of this rule, Great Britain) *and* its parent Regional Group has entered a Team for the Palma Match. Entry for this match in absence of the parent Group Team does not prevent the Nation from participating within its group at a future World Championship (constitution #11.5.3 refers).
- L5. The Individual Long Range World Championship (ILRWC)**
- L5.1. The Individual Long Range World Championships will precede the team match and should take place over three days. The daily course of fire will be identical to that in the team match, i.e. 2 convertible sighting shots and 15 shots to count at each of 800, 900 & 1000 yards. For metric ranges, the course of fire will be the same, at ranges of 700, 800 and 900 metres (or a combination of yards/metric distances if the range layout so dictates). After the final stage, the ten leading scorers will fire a shoulder-to-shoulder final comprising 2 convertible sighters and 15 shots to count at 1000 yards/900 metres. The scores obtained in this final will be added to the grand aggregate of each of the finalists to determine the

ranking of the top ten places. For reasons of time management, the event may be held over 3½ days, the ½-day being the afternoon of ‘Day 1’, the 800 yards distance will be shot in that session and added to the 900 and 1000 yards distances of the next day to make up the daily’ aggregate of the “first day” and so on.

## **L6. Eligibility**

- L6.1. Should the number of applicants to compete in the Individual Long Range World Championship exceed the range target capacity, the Committee will determine the cut-off point based on the following list of priorities.
  - L6.1.1. Members of the competing World Championship teams, whether Open, Veterans or ‘Age-Group’,
  - L6.1.2. Shooters who finished in the top 100 in the individual match at the previous World Championships,
  - L6.1.3. Other individual shooters with the number of places per country/regional group allocated on relative membership numeric strength of the associations.
- L6.2. The host nation in consultation with the Committee may allocate remaining places to local shooters drawn from its top two ability grades.
- L6.3. Team entries will only be accepted from ICFRA member NRAs.

## **L7. Rifles and Equipment**

- L7.1. Competitors from each country will use their own rifles. Rifles and other equipment must conform to ICFRA TR specifications: 5.56mm rifles may be used for the Team Match; and for Individual Championship provided host Nation rules permit them in their National Prize Meeting. In the Individual Championship and Team Match a competitor may not switch from 5.56mm to 7.62mm mid-championship/match, nor *vice versa*. All questions of admissibility of rifles or equipment will be dealt with under the equipment control procedures of Section W10 of the Rules for Management of World Championships.

## **L8. Ammunition**

- L8.1. Teams and Individuals will be responsible for supplying their own ammunition. 7.62x51mm/.308 WIN or 5.56mm/.223” REM ammunition as specified under ICFRA TR Technical Rules will be used, and may be handloaded. Competitors’ ammunition is liable for test under, and in accordance with, those rules.

## **L9. Awards - Trophies**

- L9.1. The awarding, handling and management of ICFRA’s Trophies is addressed in detail in the World Championship Management Document at the (new) Section W.13.
- L9.2. The Palma Trophy (which will only be awarded if the USA is competing) will be awarded to the winning team in the Long Range World Championship Team Match. The Palma Trophy is the property of the NRA of America and the winning team will receive a photographic plaque of the trophy for retention by, or as allocated by, the winning team’s NRA.
- L9.3. The Fulton Trophy - a trophy won by Art Jackson, USA, and re-presented by him with specific conditions for the World Championship (Palma) Team Match - will be awarded to the highest individual scorer in the team match. The trophy is named after Major Henry Fulton who was Captain of the USA team in the first Palma Match in 1876. This trophy is the property of the NRA of America and the winner will receive a photographic plaque of the trophy for his or her retention.
- L9.4. The Paterson Cup will be awarded to the winner of the World Championship Long Range Individual Match and may be held by the winner until the next championship. This trophy is the property of the NRA of Great Britain and the winner will receive a photographic plaque of the trophy for his or her retention.
- L9.5. An Arthur Clarke Gold Medal will be awarded to the target coach whose quartet makes the highest score over the two days of the Palma Match. The medals were presented to ICFRA by Colin CC Cheshire, OBE, then Vice-President of ICFRA in memory of his friend and mentor AE (Arthur) Clarke, former Great Britain Palma Master Coach.

L9.6. *Reserved: HTM Trophy if provided.*

**L10. Awards - Medals and Badges**

- L10.1. The host nation must provide all the under-mentioned awards, but their form and design must either emanate from, or be approved by, the Committee. The host nation may provide additional awards under conditions made known to the Committee in advance of each match as per Rule W6.9.
- L10.1.1. The design of Championship and Palma medals will be as follows: 65 mm (2.5”) diameter, with one side to the ICFRA standard design shown at Annex A and the other to a national emblematic design including the year-date and the words "World Championships" as a minimum descriptor. For the Palma Match (only) the words Palma Match” should also appear. The national design artwork should be submitted to the WCC which will coordinate with Secretary General and President for approval in advance of striking the medals.
- L10.2. Each participant in the Long Range World Championship Team Match will be awarded a commemorative badge of the PALMA design shown at Annex A.
- L10.3. Each participant in the Individual Long Range World Championship will be awarded a commemorative badge of appropriate design.
- L10.4. For the Long Range World Championship Team Match, medals of the approved design at L10.1.1 above, will be awarded as follows:-
- L10.4.1. First place team - Gold,
- L10.4.2. Second place team - Silver,
- L10.4.3. Third place team - Bronze.
- L10.5. 25 of each medal must be provided, one for each team member. Should a team have less than 25 members, each must receive a medal, but the remaining medals are not to be issued.
- L10.6. First, second and third place awards will be made even if only the minimum number of four Teams compete.
- L10.7. For the *HTM* a single set of 8 Gold Medals as specified at L10.1.1 above.
- L10.8. For the Individual Long Range World Championship Match, the host nation will provide the following medals, of the approved design.
- L10.8.1. Daily prizes: One set of medals (gold, silver & bronze) for each of the distances together with a fourth set for the daily aggregate for each of the three days,
- L10.8.2. Aggregate prizes: One set of medals for each the 700m,/800y; 800m/900y and 900m/1000y aggregates,
- L10.8.3. Championship prizes: A special gold medal for the Champion, a similar silver medal for the runner-up and eight similar bronze medals. The bronze medals must be engraved with the relative finishing positions (3rd to 10th).
- L10.8.4. A Gold medal for the highest score in the Grand Aggregate (less the ‘final’) by each of Women, Veterans, 25-21 Age Group and Under 21. These do NOT carry the title of “World Champion” in their category.

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

- L10.9. In the above individual matches ties will be “counted out”, with tie shoots only if:-
- L10.9.1. An unbreakable tie for a medal exists,
- L10.9.2. For the Gold and/or Silver Medal(s) in the Championship.

**The Palma Participation Badge**



ICFRA Palma Badge:

Background: Black

Interior: Gold Letters on Red

Surround: Circular belt design in Gold

Header: National Symbol of host country: in this case, Canada.

**ICFRA Medal: Note – the scrollwork at the top should be omitted.**

