

I.C.F.R.A.

INTERNATIONAL CONFEDERATION OF FULLBORE RIFLE ASSOCIATIONS



RULES & MATCH CONDITIONS

For the

ICFRA PAIRS INTERNATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIPS

2024 edition approved 30/11/2024

ICFRA Pairs International 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 trophies and/or prizes for these championships may be altered without limitation of the 'one year rule'.

P1. Preamble

- P1.1 Over many decades, the Commonwealth Games contained shooting events, including two 'fullbore rifle' (but limited to TR) medal events. The formats of these events were unique in international TR competition. At the time of compiling these rules, such shooting events are excluded from the Commonwealth Games. While not planning to create a rival Commonwealth (only) competition, several ICFRA office-bearers and member bodies were keen to preserve the unique format of the Commonwealth Games' 'fullbore rifle' events in an own ICFRA event, but extended to the full ICFRA membership and both TR and F Class. This initiative was unanimously endorsed at the ICFRA General Assembly meeting held on 17 March 2024 at Bloemfontein, South Africa.
- P1.2 In the chosen overarching title of this new ICFRA event, the ICFRA Pairs International Championships, the word 'Pairs' indicates that two shooters per country competes in both its Pairs and Individual Matches. (This may be extended to two Pairs per country if circumstances such as range space allows.)

P2. Governance

- P2.1 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 championships, in consultation with the chairman of the ICFRA F Class Committee (FCC).
- P2.2 Except as may be provided herein, the conduct of the ICFRA Pairs International Championships will be in accordance with the ICFRA Rules for the Management of World Championships ("WCM rules"). The 'shooting rules' will be the ICFRA TR and F Class Technical Rules as may be applicable.
- P2.3 ICFRA Pairs International Championships officials: The officials responsible for various aspects of the conduct of these championships will be as specified in the WCM and TR and F Class technical rules, including a Match Committee, Match Director, Match Referee(s), Chief Range Officer (CRO) and Range Officers (ROs). Minor adaptations may be approved by the Committee (WCC), in consultation with the FCC, if required. It is permissible for the same persons who fulfilled these roles in the preceding event(s) – see P3.1 below - to simply continue in them for the ICFRA Pairs International Championships.

[Two aspects that impact directly on some of the match conditions to follow are dealt with next under P3 and P4.]

P3. Scheduling

- P3.1 The ICFRA Pairs International Championships will ideally always follow directly after another major ICFRA or other major national or international event, such as - but not limited to - the Australia Match, and not be offered on a stand-alone basis. Proposals to deviate from this norm may be received or originated by the ICFRA 'Executive', and recommended to the WCC, which in consultation with the FCC may submit a final recommendation to the Council or General Assembly for approval.
- P3.2 The bidding process to host these championships, the obligations of approved host nations and these championships' scheduling will be as detailed in the WCM rules, and thus be overseen by the WCC (in this case in consultation with the FCC), with its recommendations subject to approval by the Council or General Assembly (whichever at that time meets first to receive such recommendations), provided that –
- P3.2.1 the principles in P3.1 be adhered to; and
- P3.2.2 these championships be presented no less than four (4) years apart, but more frequent presentation may be considered if circumstances such as the popularity and sustainability of this event allow for it.
- P3.3 Transitional arrangement: [These match conditions contain several transitional arrangements, as the hosting of the first ICFRA Pairs International Championships by the NRA of Australia (NRAA) on the two days following directly after the firing of the 2026 Australia Match was proposed by the NRAA and the ICFRA 'Executive' and approved by the ICFRA General Assembly meeting held on 17 March 2024 prior to the approval of these match

conditions. The ICFRA International Rules Review Group (IRRG) is hereby authorised to remove all such transitional arrangements from these match conditions after the conclusion of the 2026 event.] Regarding the awarding and scheduling of the 2026 ICFRA Pairs International Championships to the NRAA, P3.2 is not applicable.

P4. Eligibility

P4.1 Only countries affiliated to ICFRA, be it as full or affiliate members, and with such affiliation in good standing, may compete in these championships.

P4.2 This means that regional groupings affiliated to ICFRA, e.g. Great Britain, Channel Islands and the West Indies may not compete as such, but individual countries such as Jamaica, Bermuda, Jersey, Guernsey and the four British 'home countries' that are recognised in several other international sports, i.e. England, Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland, may compete.

P4.2.1 The only exception may be for the Under 25 matches, when a regional grouping can prove to the satisfaction of the organisers (subject to ratification by the WCC) that it is practically impossible to enter separate U25 pairs from the grouping's constituent countries, but possible to enter a pair under the regional grouping's title. Once such an entry has been accepted, additional entries from any of such regional grouping's constituent countries may not be accepted.

P4.3 'States' in federal countries e.g. Australia and the USA, and 'provinces' in semi-federal countries like South Africa, may not compete as such.

P4.4 Each country as defined in P4.1 and P4.2 may usually enter one 'open/senior' 'Pair' of (2) shooters (see P7.1.1 and P7.1.3 below for additional team members) for each of the TR ('open' class only), F/Open and F/TR disciplines. [See P7.8 and P8.5 for Under 25 Pairs.] This may be increased to an optional maximum of two 'open/senior' Pairs per country in some or all of the aforementioned disciplines if circumstances such as range space allow, provided that

P4.4.1 such an increase be supported in principle by the WCC, in consultation with the FCC, in the bidding process per P3.2 above;

P4.4.2 it be promulgated as a (finalised) reality to the national governing bodies of all potential competing countries in enough time to allow proper team selection, preparation and administrative processes to be concluded effectively (such promulgation should thus be at least 12 full months before the event, but ideally 18 months or longer); and

P4.4.3 such additional Pairs shall **not** be eligible to win any of the designated medals in the main ICFRA Pairs Match, but may compete for an additional, separate set of medals awarded by the organisers, e.g. for '2nd Pairs'; but

P4.4.4 all 4 competitors from countries entering two Pairs will be eligible for the 'main' medals in the Individual Match.

P4.4.5 Transitional arrangement: Regarding the first ICFRA Pairs International Championships to be hosted by the NRAA on the two days following directly after the firing of the 2026 Australia Match, the WCC's support for an increase to two Pairs per country is not applicable.

P5. Practice and match days

P5.1 When the ICFRA Pairs International Championships follow directly after the conclusion of another national or international event as foreseen in P3.1, no practice days are required and the match days may be scheduled directly after such conclusion, or with only one rest day in between if so recommended by the WCC/FCC and approved. However, if the ICFRA Pairs International Championships are scheduled before or early in the programme of the aforementioned national or international event, a suitable practice day must be provided before the firing of the ICFRA Pairs International Championships.

P5.2 There will be two match days in the ICFRA Pairs International Championships. The ICFRA Pairs Match will be concluded on the first day and the ICFRA Individual Match on the second. Any separate matches for second country pairs in terms of P4.4 and P4.4.3, and Under 25 pairs in terms of P7.8 and P8.5, will be concluded concurrent with the aforementioned matches.

P6. Course of fire

- P6.1 The course of fire for the TR match on each of the two match days will be 2 sighting shots and 15 shots to count at each of 300 and 600 meter/yards, 800 meter/900 yards and 900 meter/1000 yards. The daily course of fire for the F class disciplines will be 2+20 at 600m/yds, 800m/900yds and 900m/1000yds.
- P6.2 The above course(s) of fire may only be amended with prior joint approval of the WCC and FCC and timeous promulgation to competing countries' national governing bodies, provided that such amendments will not create any risks for the sustainability and practical execution of all the matches on the same day(s) and range(s).

P7. ICFRA Pairs (Team) Match TR / F/Open / F/TR

- P7.1 A Pairs Team from a competing country in each of the TR ('open' class), F/Open and F/TR disciplines will consist of the following:

- P7.1.1 1 Team Manager/Adjutant
- P7.1.2 2 Shooters forming one Pair
- P7.1.3 1 Reserve

These members form an Open Pairs team regardless of gender.

- P7.2 When the entry of a second Pair is allowed in terms of P4.4, the 2 shooters in such a Pair may share the Team Manager/Adjutant and/or Reserve of the first Pair, or have its own members in those positions. Should such sharing take place and the second Pair wins medals, the two shared members will be deemed to be part of the winning Pair for the award of the relevant medals. However, should both Pairs of a country win medals, such shared officials may only receive medals in the 'higher' (ICFRA Match) category, even though the second Pair competed in a different category as prescribed by P4.4.3.
- P7.3 It is permissible, by application of rule W8.5 for a Pairs Team to consist of only 2 members, or any other greater number up to 4.
- P7.4 Manager (Adjutant): The Manager has access to the competitors' area but not the firing point except only for the purposes of resolving queries or protests connected with the rules or conduct of the competition, or rectification of rifle or equipment mishaps. He may offer no advice in the way of coaching from the moment the CRO calls the competitors forward until the moment that both competitors have left the firing point having completed their shoots. A Manager may (additionally) act for another country than his own; and a country which does not have a manager may seek managerial assistance from the Manager of another country, subject to that country's and the Referee's agreement, provided that if such a Pair win a medal, such an assisting manager will not share in such an award. The Manager may only be replaced for reason of personal emergency and once replaced, may not resume his role.
- P7.5 Reserve: A reserve may only replace a designated shooter in terms of the relevant TR (rule T14.13) and F Class (rule F14.13) technical rules. In addition, the restrictions applicable to the Manager regarding access to the competitors' area but not the firing point and coaching also apply to the Reserve. (This is a deviation from the usual ICFRA technical rules for team shooting.)
- P7.6 Firing of the Pairs Match:
- P7.6.1 When two Pairs per competing country are allowed, then once the Match has commenced, the competing Pairs from countries entering two Pairs must operate separately and interchange of shooting members and/or coaching information is not permitted.
- P7.6.2 The shooters in a Pair may coach each other, but may not receive any advice or assistance (other than as provided in rules P7.4 and P7.5) from any other person during the period of the detail (i.e. from the moment the CRO calls the competitors forward until both shooters have completed their shoots and left the firing point).
- P7.6.3 The two members of a Pair may choose whether to fire alternately or each shooting a string, unless the hosting body (organisers) dictates the firing process in advance. The register keeper must be informed which method will be used and in advance of any departure therefrom.
- P7.6.4 Timing for a whole TR Pair to complete its shooting shall be 47 minutes at 300m/yds and 600m/yds, and 51 minutes at 800m/900yds and 900m/1000 yds. For F Class the time allowed is 60 minutes at all

distances. This includes 5 minutes handover time between each shooter in a pair, and is based on the course(s) of fire as in P6.1 (and should thus be adapted if that course of fire is amended as per P6.2). If the targets have **not** been pre-exposed for sighting purposes before the order to commence shooting is given, 2 minutes must be added to the aforementioned timing at each distance of the match.

- P7.6.5 When the Pairs Match requires two details to accommodate all the Pairs, the second detail (Pairs) at each distance will have a 10 minute changeover and preparation time. The second detail must not commence firing until instructed by the (Chief) Range Officer.

P7.7 Squadding and register keeping

- P7.7.1 Draws will take place for targets for the Pairs and Individual Matches before the commencement of the relevant match. For the Pairs (team) Match, one target will be allowed to each pair. A pre-prepared scheme of target allocation may be used which ensures that, over the course of the whole match, competitors are subject – as far as possible – equally to any variable conditions arising from position on the range. Care must be taken to ensure individuals from the same country are not squadded together, nor Pairs (when two Pairs per country are allowed) on adjacent targets, and that as far as possible no individual or Pair shoots on the same firing point/target number more than once. The Referee must be present at these draws.

- P7.7.1.1 If the organisers have the capacity to finalise a “seeded” target squadding for the long ranges (or possibly only the 900m/1000 yards distance) of one or both of the Pairs and Individual Matches, in terms of the relevant TR (rule T4.3) and F Class (rule F4.3) technical rules, during a break between the firing of the short and long ranges (or before the 900m/1000 yards distance), and inform all competitors timeously, without any risk of delaying the shooting programme or detracting from the main purpose of such a break (e.g. lunch), it may be done. If not, the original target squadding as done per P7.7.1 will suffice.

- P7.7.2 If two details are required due to range capacity, the Pairs will draw for target and detail numbers. The details will exchange firing order as follows: First detail will shoot first at 300 yards/meters and 800 meters/900 yards. The second detail will shoot first at 600 yards/meters and 900meters/1000 yards. Two Pairs from the same country may not be squadded to the same target number in the two details, thereby avoiding that they have to register-keep for each other.

- P7.7.3 Register keeping: When the Pairs Match is fired in only one detail per distance, the organisers must provide register keepers on a scale of one per target. Such register keepers may include Pairs’ reserve shooters and other participants in the preceding national or international event(s), but who are not competing in the ICFRA Pairs International Championships, provided that they shall not keep score for their own country’s Pair(s). When organiser-provided register keepers are not experienced shooters, they must be properly trained and equipped (including telescope or binoculars if manual targets are in use). When the Pairs Match is fired in two details per distance, each Pair on a target shall keep score/register keep for the other Pair in the alternate detail. The host Nation is encouraged to provide score board plotters to each target for spectator purposes, provided that such plotters may not double-up as register keepers (and *vice versa*).

P7.8 Under 25 Pairs Match

- P7.8.1 If range space permits, organisers may also offer a separate but concurrent Under 25 Pairs Match, subject to all the relevant match conditions as above, but with a separate set of medals and noting the possible exception in rule P4.2.1.
- P7.8.2 This does not preclude competing countries from including Under 25 members in their ‘open/senior’ Pairs, but should both shooters in such an ‘open/senior’ Pair be Under 25s, it may not win medals in the Under 25 Pairs Match. Conversely, an Under 25 Pair may not win medals in the main or ‘2nd’ (‘open/senior’) Pairs Matches.
- P7.8.3 If a country has only one Pair and both shooters are U25, then such country can nominate this Pair as a first Pair for the main (‘open/senior’) Pairs Match, or the Under 25 Pairs Match, but not both.
- P7.8.4 Entries for the Under 25 Pairs Match will usually be limited to one U25 Pair per country. Should a requirement arise to open this match to ‘2nd’ U25 pairs, it must be submitted to the WCC at least 6 full

months before the event, but ideally 12 months or longer, for approval and setting of associated additional match conditions (e.g. one or two sets of medals).

- P7.8.5 Transitional arrangement: For the first ICFRA Pairs International Championships to be hosted by the NRAA on the two days following directly after the firing of the 2026 Australia Match, this Under 25 Pairs Match will be limited to the TR discipline only. For subsequent events, it should be offered in the F/Open and F/TR disciplines as well.

P8. ICFRA Individual Match

- P8.1 Only shooters who competed in the Pairs Match are eligible to compete in the individual match. However, in the case of countries with only one shooter, who thus did not compete in the Pairs Match, such shooter(s) will also be eligible to compete in the Individual Match.
- P8.2 Such shooters may still be assisted by their Managers as for the Pairs Match, but subject to the same restrictions as in P7.4.
- P8.3 Target squadding shall be in accordance with P7.7.1 (inclusive of P7.7.1.1 if applicable). In the case of there being an unpaired competitor, the host country must provide a shooter of good quality to shoot with the single shooter. If there is likely to be a continued single shooter in the Individual event, the host country may change the person that they allocate as they wish but only between distances. If for an exceptional reason the host country cannot provide such a shooter, a single shooter may shoot on his own and a register keeper will be provided BUT this alternative will be the exception and not the norm.
- P8.4 The overall system of squadding (i.e. 'bisley' style, string shooting or string shooting in pairs), register keeping, timing per shot or string, and all other rules shall be in accordance with the relevant ICFRA TR and F class technical rules for individual competition.

P8.5 Under 25 Individual Match

- P8.5.1 If range space permits, organisers may also offer a separate but concurrent Under 25 Individual Match for all Under 25 shooters who qualify for entry in terms of rules P7.8.1 and P8.1, subject to all the relevant match conditions as above, but with a separate set of medals and noting the possible exception in rule P4.2.1.
- P8.5.2 Under 25 shooters may win medals in the main ('open/senior') Individual Match or the Under 25 Individual Match, but not in both.
- P8.5.3 Transitional arrangement: As for P7.8.5, but in this case applicable to the Under 25 Individual Match.

P9 Targets, rifles, equipment and ammunition

- P9.1 Targets, rifles, equipment and ammunition shall all be in accordance with the relevant ICFRA TR and F class technical rules. This therefore includes that competitors will supply their own ammunition, which may be handloaded. Competitors' equipment and ammunition is liable for test under, and in accordance with, those rules.
- P9.2 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.
- P9.3 Electronic Targets are permissible, but the intention to use them must be notified when bidding for the Match.

P10 Nomination of competing Pairs

- P10.1 The pair(s) representing each competing country, including the Manager(s) and reserve shooter(s), and with their various roles clearly designated, must be nominated to the Referee in writing by no later than 17:00 two (2) calendar days preceding the first day of shooting of the ICFRA Pairs International Championships. This deadline may be amended to a somewhat earlier one should the organisers require more time to manage their preparations, e.g. target squadding, ahead of the ICFRA Pairs International Championships provided that it is approved by the Match Director and promulgated to all potentially competing countries well beforehand.
- P10.2 When the entry of two 'open/senior' pairs is permitted in terms of P4.4, the nomination in terms of P10.1 must clearly identify which pair represents the nominating country in the 'main' ICFRA Pairs Match, and which in the secondary Pairs Match in terms of P4.4.3. Under 25 pairs (if applicable) must also be clearly indicated,

including whether Under 25 shooters in any of the nominating country's pairs will compete in the main ('open/senior') or Under 25 Individual Match (see P8.5.2.)

- P10.3 After this, the only permitted changes to the pairs will be in cases of illness, or a personal emergency. Any change **MUST** be approved by the Referee.

P11 Awards - Medals and Badges

- P11.1 The host nation must provide all the under-mentioned awards, in the case of medals to the ICFRA World Championship design (as in Annex A), endorsed "ICFRA Pairs Match" or "ICFRA Individual Match" as the case may be, on the reverse or on a bar affixed to the medal ribbon, with "Under 25" added where applicable. The host nation may provide additional awards under conditions made known to the WCC and FCC in advance of each ICFRA Pairs International Championships as per Rule W6.9.
- P11.2 For the ICFRA Pairs (team) Match, medals of the approved design at P11.1 above, will be awarded as follows for each of the TR, F/Open and F/TR disciplines and for each of the main ('open/senior') and Under 25 matches:-
- P11.2.1 First place Pair (team) - Gold
- P11.2.2 Second place Pair - Silver
- P11.2.3 Third place Pair - Bronze
- P11.3 Four (4) of each medal must be provided, one for each Pair team member, as stipulated at P7.1. Should a Pair have less than 4 members, each must receive a medal, but the remaining medals are not to be issued.
- P11.4 First, second and third place awards will be made even if only the minimum number of four Pairs per discipline compete.
- P11.5 For the ICFRA Individual Match, the host nation will provide the following medals, of the approved design, for each of the TR, F/Open and F/TR disciplines and for each of the main ('open/senior') and Under 25 matches:-
- P11.5.1 First place - Gold
- P11.5.2 Second place - Silver
- P11.5.3 Third place - Bronze
- P11.6 When the entry of two pairs is permitted in terms of P4.4, the organisers must provide at least Gold medals for the winners of the separate Pairs match(es) in terms of P4.4.3 and P7.8.4 if applicable. Additional Silver and Bronze medals may also be awarded if justified by the number of entries. The endorsement on the reverse of such medals or on a bar affixed to the medal ribbon (see P11.1) must be suitably adapted to the titles chosen for these secondary matches.

Note: The designations 'Gold', 'Silver' and 'Bronze' of the medals relates to the colour only and not to their metal content.

- P11.7 Badges: Each participant in the ICFRA Pairs International Championship (i.e. one or both of the Pairs and Individual Matches) will be awarded a commemorative badge of appropriate design. See possible example in Annex A.

P12. Awards – Trophies

- P12.1 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.
- P12.2 [Reserved for possible ICFRA Pairs Match trophy – TR]
- P12.3 [Reserved for possible ICFRA Pairs Match trophy – F/Open]
- P12.4 [Reserved for possible ICFRA Pairs Match trophy – F/TR]
- P12.5 [Reserved for possible ICFRA Individual Match trophy – TR]
- P12.6 [Reserved for possible ICFRA Individual Match trophy – F/Open]
- P12.7 [Reserved for possible ICFRA Individual Match trophy – F/TR]

- P12.8 [Reserved for possible trophies relating to separate Pairs matches for second ‘open/senior’ pairs in terms of P4.4 and P4.4.3 – for all three disciplines]
- P12.9 [Reserved for possible trophies relating to ICFRA Under 25 Pairs and Individual Matches – for all three disciplines]

P13. Amendment of these rules

These match conditions and rules may only be amended for later championships after a proper written submission to the WCC at least 3 months before the holding of an ICFRA Pairs International Championships, and such amendments must be concluded by the WCC in consultation with the FCC, assisted by the IRRG, within 12 months after the end of such championships, but subject to Council approval thereafter.

ICFRA 'World Championships' Medal:

Background: Black

Interior: Gold Letters

Reverse: Host nation badge and match name (unless the latter is provided on a bar affixed to the medal ribbon)

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



Example:



Example of ICFRA Commemorative Badge:

