

Updates for 2016-2017 Season

We are excited for the new season, which officially began at the conclusion of the 2016 World Championship. We are writing to inform you of rule changes and clarifications. All members are responsible for keeping informed of rules and should periodically check the rulebook available on our web site to stay current. While we do not have an official advisory board, we do consult with members who have experience in mounted shooting when considering changes and we discuss concerns brought to our attention from all members. We apologize to the affiliate owners who attended the World Championship for not holding our meeting due to time restraints. If there are any issues you wish to discuss, please contact Robby Moudy. We are especially sensitive to concerns and ideas from our affiliate owners as we consider them to be partners in our venture.

Any member that would like to request rule changes may do so by contacting us through our web site. We reserve the right to make corrections to rules at any time, but prefer to make changes at the beginning of a new season. If rules are brought to our attention that are not stated clearly or do not meet our standards for fairness and safety, we will address them immediately. Keeping bad rules in place to wait for a new season does not benefit our members.

While certain rules may not be popular with everyone, we ask that you consider the complexity of any rule system and the many angles we must consider in this process. Integrating the CSA rules with the MSA rules was very challenging and certain changes have been made since then to clear up confusion between the two systems as well as adapt to new programs we have created. The following are clarifications for the new season:

Shotgun

- In the shotgun event you must leave all 5 rundown polls up with the clusters.
- The Shotgun Class is an eliminator style Jackpot shoot at MSA Championship events. After the first two stages the top 10 or the top 50% in each divisional level will come back regardless of gender or open / limited divisions. The first two stages may be gender split and may pay out after the first two stages. That is the match director's decision. The third stage will be based on finish level and predetermined time splits. MSA does not gender split final round of the shotgun showcase. The third stage does not carry over the times from the first two stages as it starts new.

Rifle

- The Rifle Class is an eliminator style Jackpot shoot at MSA Championship events. After the first two stages the top 10 or the top 50% in each divisional level will come back regardless of gender or open / limited divisions. The

first two stages may gender split and may pay after the first two stages. That is the match director's decision. The third stage will be based on finish level and predetermined time splits. The third stage does not carry over the times from the first two stages as it starts new. Final payouts are made based on the third stage only.

Championship Series Events:

- The Championship Series program was very popular and provided our affiliates an opportunity to play a major role in qualifying their members for the World Championship. Rather than compete against our affiliates, we structured this program to allow the highest point multiples to be provided by our clubs to help them attract members. This saves members from the significant investment of hauling long distances to chase points. We encourage those who are chasing points to travel to events in neighboring states as well as their home states to take advantage of the Championship Series Events. This also builds friendships between members across the country and allows members to test their skills against those they may see at The Patriot or the World Championship.
- In order to keep the opportunities for the affiliates as fair as possible for all, we have decided to limit each affiliate to no more than *three Championship Series Events per season*. Being these are series events, Clubs must pay out to competitors at the end of each day.

Age Divisions

- All Lil' Bandits must wear holsters in all events.
- Lil' Bandits must have two plastic pistols and holster first pistol while turning the random barrel and drawing the second pistol before engaging the rundown targets.
- All Outlaws must wear holsters in all events.
- Outlaws must have two plastic pistols and holster first pistol while turning the random barrel and drawing the second pistol before engaging the rundown targets.

Xtreme Qualifier

- The Qualifier consists of 3 divisions: Non Pro, Semi Pro, and Pro. It is Gender Split. Platinum + will run as Semi Pro and Rookie will run as Non Pro.

Penalties:

- Any person or persons leaving their firearm in another competitor's possession will both receive 60's if accidentally discharged.

Rookie:

- The Rookie level is for anyone that is a new shooter who is a first year competitor starting in the 2017 season that has no prior affiliation with any mounted shooting organization.

Certified Range Masters:

- While we encourage members of all levels to operate affiliates and provide each owner with significant written instructions as well as direct support in getting clubs started, we must assure our members that they have the best experience possible at the local level. While we allow flexibility regarding dress codes and other rules to be determined by club owners, it is important that they provide Range Masters who are educated in our system of rules. All calls by a range master may be protested and each affiliate must declare a rule committee to decide protests before each match. We also require that *each range master must be certified* before overseeing a match. While we have assumed this to be the case, it has come to our attention that this was not always so. Therefore, it has been added to the rulebook. Any member wishing to become certified may do so on our web site: www.newmsa.com. After paying for the test in the shopping cart, Frank Turben will send you the test. Range Masters are responsible for staying current with all MSA rules and should periodically check the rulebook on our web site for changes.

Course Book:

- The course book is available on our web site in PDF format. We have reduced the number of courses to 24 horsemanship courses and 13 fast courses based on the safety of our members and their horses. Fast courses are to be used only when necessary for time considerations and cannot exceed two stages for a match. There are also 8 rifle and shotgun courses as the three qualifier patterns. As most of our Affiliate owners are also competitors, we have decided that all courses selected at MSA certified matches must be selected at random. Each event producer shall contact Robby Moudy no later than 24 hours before a scheduled event to receive his or her courses. Robby will determine the course selections using the website random.org. and will provide the courses before the start of the event.

Official Affiliate Flyers:

- As there has been some confusion with published information regarding local matches, the MSA has created a standard form to be filled out by affiliates for all certified matches. These forms will be provided as part of the process of applying for certification through the MSA office. These flyers will be posted by the MSA office on our Facebook page to promote events and will include a link to affiliate sites.

Holsters

- All Holsters must be form fitted to the single action .45 caliber pistols designated for use. They may not include leather or other materials attached to or above the opening for each pistol that provide a ramp to the holster. Use of such devices will subject the competitor to a sixty-second penalty for that stage.

We wish all our members success throughout the 2016-2017 Season. Information regarding the 2017 World Championship and High Point prizes will be released soon. Be safe, ride fast, shoot straight and have a blast!

Life, Liberty and the Pursuit of Victory!