

A guide on protests.

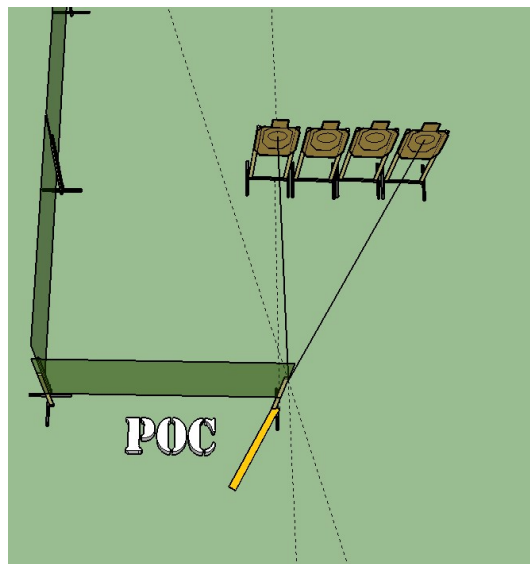
Ruling on the placement of Fault lines

The introduction of physical objects on stages to limit a shooting position was not intended to force shooters into tight shooting positions using the standards for Cover in previous rule books.

Background: A determination was made that there was significant misuse of the procedural penalty to enforce imaginary lines used to judge the quality of a shooters position taken while engaging targets on a stage. To combat subjective penalties, Rules 3.6 and 6.3 was introduced into the 2017 rules.

The purpose of these rules is to remove the subjective risk of penalty while shooting a stage so the competitors are primarily judged on their marksmanship and gun handling skills during a match.

Early interpretation of these rules by MD's has been to place down physical lines on the first target in an array when 2 or more targets are to be engaged using a position.



The net result of this practice is that some shooters are forced to lean out in such a way that they must leave secure footing in order to reach around a barrier standing on one leg.

In extreme cases, we have seen shooters engaging targets while allowing themselves to fall to the ground after losing their balance. The thinking here is like an NFL player catching a pass while remaining in bounds. Clearly this is creating situations for competitors that are unsafe.



Rule 6.3.(D): Fault lines must outline the general boundary for each point of cover wherein *a shooter may safely engage all available targets from that position as an option* in shooting a stage.

This means all shooters in a match who are not handicapped must be able to access ALL the targets at a shooting position safely.

When viewing a stage (before shooting it) a shooter finds he or she is unable to maintain secure footing while engaging targets they may protest the stage by notifying the CSO.

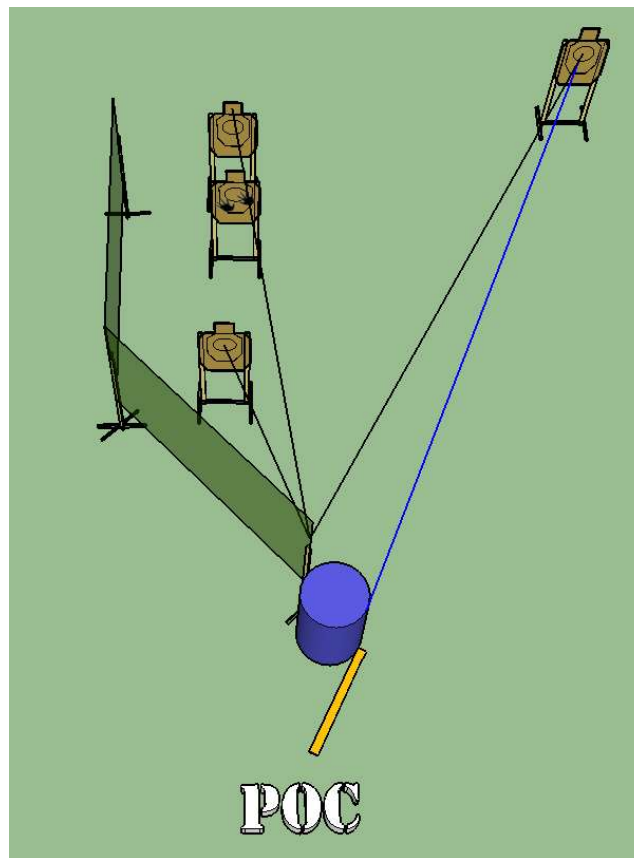
When an examination of the stage by the AC and MD determines the shooter does not have access to all of the targets on the stage due to tight placement of fault lines, the MD will be required to adjust the fault lines to accommodate safety.

If the stage has been already shot by competitors before the lines were adjusted, they will be offered re-shoots before the end of the match which they may accept or decline.

If it is not possible to insure that a stage was shot consistently for all shooters (because shooters are gone from the match already), then the stage will be pulled from the final results posting for awards.

The way to avoid this outcome at your match is to insure you have given sufficient allowance for all shooters to have unencumbered access to all targets on a stage using secure footing.

Rule 1.2.3 (A) states in part: "Cover" refers to a position where a shooter can engage targets with a portion of their upper and lower body behind an object such as a wall.



The fact there is an argument that shooters may stand largely in the open when shooting is not a reason to force shooters into unsafe positions. A wide fault line does not

mean a shooter cannot use cover and pie around a barrier or wall. They always have that option if they so choose.

Understanding this when creating stages brings the shooters emphasis back to efficient marksmanship on a level playing field that everyone can see and enjoy.