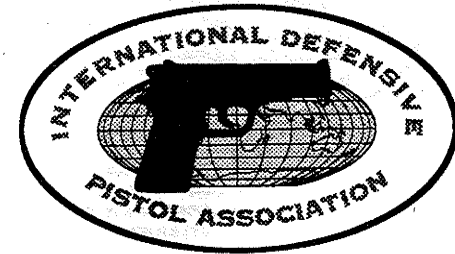


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OFFICIAL RULE BOOK

Effective 10-26-96

**"The Real Practical
Shooting Sport"**



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Equipment and Competition Rules of the International Defensive Pistol Association, Inc., adopted 10/26/96.
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Following are the official rules governing "Defensive Pistol" Competition as a sport. These rules and any ruling not covered in these rules shall be decided by the match director and his decision shall be final.

THE CONDUCT OF DEFENSIVE PISTOL COMPETITION

Purpose:

Defensive Pistol shooting as a sport is quite simply the use of practical equipment including full charge service ammunition to solve simulated "real world" self-defense scenarios. Shooters competing in Defensive Pistol events are required to use practical handguns and holsters that are truly suitable for self-defense use. No "competition only" equipment is permitted in Defensive Pistol matches since the main goal is to test the skill and ability of the individual, not their equipment or gamesmanship.

Principles:

- To create a level playing field for all competitors to test the skill and ability of the individual, not their equipment or gamesmanship.
- To promote safe and proficient use of guns and equipment suitable for self-defense use.
- To offer a competition forum for shooters using standard factory produced service pistols such as the Beretta 92F, Glock 17, etc. (STOCK SERVICE PISTOL Division), for shooters using popular single action 9mm/.40 pistols which have been modified for carry (ENHANCED SERVICE PISTOL Division), for shooters using 1911 style single stack .45's which have been modified for carry, not competition (CUSTOM DEFENSIVE PISTOL Division) and for shooters using service revolvers such as the popular Smith & Wesson 686 (STOCK SERVICE REVOLVER Division).
- To provide shooters with practical and realistic courses of fire that simulate a potentially life threatening encounter or that tests skills that would be required to survive a life threatening encounter.

•To offer a practical shooting sport that is responsive to the shooters and sponsors, with unprecedented stability of equipment rules.

•To offer a practical shooting sport that allows the competitors to concentrate on the development of their shooting skills and fellowship with other like minded shooters.

Courses of Fire:

Courses of fire must either simulate a potential real life self-defense scenario or test shooting/gun handling skills that would be necessary in a real life self-defense scenario. The maximum number of shots required for any stage is 18. The majority of shots fired in a Defensive Pistol match will be under 15yds and many stages will start with your equipment concealed. Precision close range shooting on the move and at moving targets is also to be encouraged. Every effort will be made to keep all courses six (6) shot revolver neutral. Emphasis will not be placed on physical ability, but rather shooting and gun handling skills. A comprehensive Defensive Pistol course of fire book will be supplied to all clubs and will be available for a nominal fee to the general membership.

Targets:

The official Defensive Pistol target is an 18"x30" cardboard silhouette with a 8" round A-Zone (drawing enclosed) and is scored 5, 4, 2 points. Steel targets 8" round, 8"x12" oval and pepper poppers are also permitted.

Scoring Method:

Vickers Count - Take the total time to complete the string of fire and add three tenths (.300) of a second per point dropped. Procedural error penalty is three (3) seconds per infraction. If a no-shoot target is hit, a single five (5) second penalty will be assessed. Failure to score a minimum of four (4) points on any target will incur a five (5) second penalty. Standard exercises may also be scored par time with procedural errors minus five (5) points.

Minimum Power Floors:

The goal is to compete with "service type" ammunition, not light target ammunition, therefore the following minimum power floors will be in effect.

-Minimum power floor for STOCK SERVICE PISTOL division is 125,000 (bullet weight x muzzle velocity).

-Minimum power floor for ENHANCED SERVICE PISTOL division is 125,000 (bullet weight x muzzle velocity).

-Minimum power floor for CUSTOM DEFENSIVE PISTOL division is 165,000 (bullet weight x muzzle velocity).

-Minimum power floor for STOCK SERVICE REVOLVER division is 125,000 (bullet weight x muzzle velocity).

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Classification:

In order for all shooters to be able to compete with their peers, Defensive Pistol competitors will be divided in four classifications within each division based upon their skill level. Classifications will be as follows: Master 85 - 100%, Expert 70 - 84.9%, Sharpshooter 55 - 69.9%, Marksman 40 - 54.9%, Novice - under 40 percent. Defensive Pistol has a very quick and easy method of classifying shooters. Simply take your membership card to any affiliated club and shoot our 90 round classifier match. The match organizer or club president will then be able to assign you a classification on the spot. You must, however, shoot a separate classification match for each division you wish to compete in. You will receive a copy of the "Classifier Match" when you join the International Defensive Pistol Association. **Official IDPA targets must be used for all classifier matches.**

Prizes & Awards:

Defensive Pistol competitors will be shooting primarily for the prestige of winning and trophy/plaque awards shall be presented to the top shooters in each division and class at Club matches, State championships, Area championships, National championships and International championships. Product prizes may be awarded within the various classes based upon number of entries per division and classification. Nominal cash prizes may only be awarded to the overall Division winners.

Divisions of Competition:

Defensive Pistol is divided into **FOUR** separate divisions of competition, so shooters using all popular service type pistols and revolvers will have a place to compete competitively. These divisions are **TOTALLY SEPARATE** from each other, i.e. **STOCK SERVICE PISTOL** division shooters compete **ONLY** against other **STOCK SERVICE PISTOL** competitors, **ENHANCED SERVICE PISTOL** division shooters compete **ONLY** against other **ENHANCED SERVICE PISTOL** competitors, **CUSTOM DEFENSIVE PISTOL** division shooters compete **ONLY** against other **CUSTOM DEFENSIVE PISTOL** competitors, **STOCK SERVICE REVOLVER** division shooters compete **ONLY** against other **STOCK SERVICE REVOLVER** competitors. There will be awards for winners in all classes within **ALL** four divisions. At club level events, competitors may shoot in all divisions, however the first division you shoot in will be for awards.

STOCK SERVICE PISTOL DIVISION is intended to offer a place in competition for shooters using popular "stock" Double Action/Safe Action factory service pistols such as the Glock, Beretta, S&W, Ruger, Browning and Sig.

ENHANCED SERVICE PISTOL DIVISION is intended to offer a place in competition for shooters using popular Single Action 9mm/.38/.40 service pistols such as the Browning HP, CZ-75, EAA Witness and 1911A1 pattern pistols.

CUSTOM DEFENSIVE PISTOL DIVISION is intended to offer a place in competition for shooters using the "practical" custom 1911 style 10mm/.45 single stack pistols, while still allowing shooters using the various hi-capacity pistols such as the Para-Ordnance, STI/SVI and Glock 20/21 to compete on equal ground. There are many out-of-the-box 1911 style pistols that can be used competitively in this division with little or no custom work.

STOCK SERVICE REVOLVER DIVISION is intended to offer a place in competition for shooters using popular service revolvers. The goal is to have competitors using common proven service revolvers such as the Smith & Wesson Model 66, 686 or Ruger GP-100.

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No **COMPETITION ONLY** type modifications are permitted. Basically, if you wouldn't carry it to defend yourself, you can't shoot it in Defensive Pistol competition.

Equipment:

All equipment used in Defensive Pistol matches must meet the following simple guidelines; equipment must be practical for self-defense use, concealable, suitable for all day continuous wear and must be worn in a manner that would be suitable for all day continuous wear. The match director will be **REQUIRED** to dis-allow any equipment that does not meet this simple criteria. If you wouldn't carry it to defend yourself, you can't shoot or use it in Defensive Pistol competition.

STOCK SERVICE PISTOL DIVISION

Handguns permitted for STOCK SERVICE PISTOL division must be Double Action, Double Action **ONLY** or Safe Action and be of 9mm (9x19) or larger caliber, be readily available on dealers shelves, have a minimum annual production of 2000 units (Discontinued models must have had a total production of 20,000 units) and meet the following criteria:

Pistol including magazine must fit in a box measuring 8 3/4" x 6" x 1 5/8". No external modifications other than changing sights and grips will be permitted. To reduce cost and provide a level playing field for all pistols permitted, the maximum number of rounds that may be loaded in a magazine is ten (10).

NON-INCLUSIVE list of pistols permitted:

Beretta 92FS, 96, Browning, BDA, Glock 19, 17, 20, 21, 22, 23, 26 & 27, Sig 220, 225, 226, 228 & 229, Smith and Wesson 908, 909, 910, 1006, 3913, 3953, 4506, 4516, 4566, 4586, 6904, 6906, 6946, 4013, 4053, 4046, 410, 4006, 4043, 5903, 5904, 5906, 5946 & Sigma, Taurus PT92, PT908, PT99, PT100, PT940 & PT101, Walther P88, H&K USP, CZ 75 and EAA Witness.

NOTE: Selective DA/SA pistols MUST begin hammer down.

INCLUSIVE list of permitted modifications: (If it's not on this list, it can't be used in Defensive Pistol competition)

- Change of sights to another conventional notch and post type
- Change of grips to another style or material that is similar to factory configuration (no weighted grips)
- Slip-on grip sock and/or skateboard tape
- Action work to enhance trigger pull as long as safety is maintained
- Reliability work to enhance feeding and ejection
- Internal accuracy work to include replacement of barrel with one of factory configuration

NON-INCLUSIVE list of EXCLUDED modifications:

- Externally visible modifications other than grips or sights
- Heavy barrels and/or barrel sleeves (factory or aftermarket)
- Add on weights of any type, weighted magazines
- Sights of non-standard notch and post type
- Porting of barrels (factory or aftermarket)
- Compensators

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ENHANCED SERVICE PISTOL DIVISION

Handguns permitted for ENHANCED SERVICE PISTOL division must be Single Action or selective SA/DA and be of 9mm (9x19), (9x21), (9x23), .38 Super, .357 Sig, .40 S&W, .400 CorBon and meet the following criteria:

Pistol including empty magazine must fit in a box measuring 8 3/4" x 6" x 1 5/8" and have a maximum unloaded weight of 43 oz.. To reduce cost and provide a level playing field for all pistols permitted, the maximum number of rounds that may be loaded in a magazine is ten (10).

NON-INCLUSIVE list of pistols permitted:

Browning HP, CZ-75, EAA Witness, Colt Govt., Commander, Springfield 1911A1, Military 1911 and 1911A1, AMT Hardballer, Auto Ordnance 1911A1, STI/SVI, Para Ordnance and H&K P7.

INCLUSIVE list of permitted modifications: (If it's not on this list, it can't be used in Defensive Pistol competition)

- Change of sights to another notch and post type
- Change of barrel to another of standard configuration
- Change of grips (no weighted grips)
- Internal accuracy work to include replacement of barrel with one of factory configuration.
- Internal reliability work
- Checker frontstrap and backstrap
- Checker or square and checker trigger guard
- Cosmetic checkering/serrating
- Extended thumb and grip safeties
- Full length guide rod manufactured of material that is no heavier than common steel
- Change of hammer and other trigger action parts to enhance trigger pull
- Beveled magazine well and add-on well extensions
- Custom finishes

NON-INCLUSIVE list of EXCLUDED modifications:

- Heavy barrels, cone barrels and/or barrel sleeves (factory or aftermarket)
- Porting of barrels
- Compensators
- Add on weights, weighted magazines, tungston guide rods, extended dust covers
- Sights of non-standard notch and post configuration
- Extended oversize magazine release buttons
- Trigger shoes

CUSTOM DEFENSIVE PISTOL DIVISION

Handguns permitted for the CUSTOM DEFENSIVE PISTOL division must be 10mm Norma or .45 ACP caliber and meet the following criteria:

Defensive Pistol 5

Pistol including empty magazine must fit in a box measuring 8 3/4" x 6" x 1 5/8" and have a maximum unloaded weight of 41 oz.. To reduce cost and provide a level playing field for all pistols permitted, the maximum number of rounds that may be loaded in a magazine is eight (8).

NON-INCLUSIVE list of pistols permitted:

Colt Government model, Gold Cup, 1991A1, Springfield Armory 1911A1, Auto Ordnance 1911A1, Les Baer Premier II, Custom Carry, Prowler IV, SRP, Wilson 1996 A2, Kimber 1911A1, Para-Ordnance P14, SVI Infinity, Glock 20, 21, EAA Witness, S&W 1006, 4506, Sig 220 and other 1911 style pistols built on aftermarket frames and slides such as Springfield Armory, Caspian, CMC, Wilson, Baer, ALL in 5" or shorter barrel length.

INCLUSIVE list of permitted modifications: (If it's not on this list, it can't be used in Defensive Pistol competition)

- Change of sights to another notch and post type
- Change of barrel to another of standard configuration
- Change of grips (no weighted grips)
- Internal accuracy work to include replacement of barrel with one of factory configuration.
- Internal reliability work
- Checker frontstrap and backstrap
- Checker or square and checker trigger guard
- Cosmetic checkering/serrating
- Extended thumb and grip safeties
- Full length guide rod manufactured of material that is no heavier than common steel
- Change of hammer and other trigger action parts to enhance trigger pull
- Beveled magazine well and add-on well extensions
- Custom finishes

NON-INCLUSIVE list of **EXCLUDED** modifications:

- Heavy barrels, cone barrels and/or barrel sleeves (factory or aftermarket)
- Porting of barrels
- Compensators
- Add on weights, weighted magazines, tungston guide rods, extended dust covers
- Sights of non-standard notch and post configuration
- Extended oversize magazine release buttons
- Trigger shoes

STOCK SERVICE REVOLVER DIVISION

Any revolver of 9mm/.38 Special Caliber or larger with a barrel length of 5" or less (7 & 8 shot revolvers permitted, but may only load six (6) rounds). **No external modifications other than changing sights and grips will be permitted.** To reduce cost and provide a level playing field for all pistols permitted, the maximum number of rounds that may be loaded in a magazine is six (6).

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NON-INCLUSIVE list of pistols permitted:

Smith & Wesson model 10, 13, 15, 19, 29, 64, 65, 66, 67, 586, 629, 625, 686 and 657, Ruger Security-six and GP-100, Colt Python, Trooper, King Cobra and Anaconda, Taurus 82, 85, 83, 65, 66, 669, 689, 608 and 44, Rossi 971 and 851

INCLUSIVE list of permitted modifications:

- Change of sights to another conventional notch and post type
- Change of grips to another style or material that is similar to factory configuration (no weighted grips)
- Action work to enhance trigger pull as long as safety is maintained
- Chamfer cylinder

The following modifications are SPECIFICALLY DIS-ALLOWED IN ALL DIVISIONS - compensators of any type including Hybrid or ported barrels, add on weights for a competitive advantage, heavy barrels and sights of non-standard configuration (ie. ghost rings, etc.).

HOLSTER GUIDELINES

Holsters permitted for Defensive Pistol competition must be specifically designed for everyday carry . NOT for range or competition use and must be reasonably concealable. A three man holster committee will review and decide which holsters best meet IDPA criteria. Their list of approved holsters will be inclusive for twelve months at which time they may elect to add additional holsters which in their opinion meet the above criteria. ALL retention features of the holster **MUST** be used. Holsters for auto pistols must fully cover the trigger when the pistol is holstered. Holster and pouches must be worn on a belt that passes through regular pants loops. The holster must position the pistol so the center of the trigger pad is behind the centerline of the body from a side view and all magazines and magazine carriers must be positioned behind the center line. If you can conceal your pistol/holster with a light wind-breaker and comfortably draw your pistol while seated in an automobile with bucket seats, your holster is probably okay. **Exception** - Police officers may use their duty rig, but ALL retention features of the holster **MUST** be used.

NON-INCLUSIVE list of holsters permitted: This list will be up-dated annually on February 15th of each year by the holster committee.

Sparks Executive Companion, Summer Special, Roadrunner, 55BN, Yaqui Slide, Mirage, Heritage, Bianchi Shadow, Askins Avenger, Black Widow, Pistol Pocket, Waistband, Hip Hugger, Talon, PDQ, Accu Mold Belt Slide, Paddle, De Santis Speed Scabbard Pro-Fed, Mini Scabbard, Cozy Partner, Companion, Galco Combat Master, FLETCH, Silhouette, JAK Slide, Avenger, Firm NSA, Royal Guard, Scout, Speed Master, Mitch Rosen Belt Slide, Ayoob Rear Guard, Middleman, Sport, Wilson Lo-Profile, Rapid Response, Tigershark, Covert Companion, Safariland mod. 21, 527, 530, 38, 28, 5181, 518, 20, 1070, 1071, 4050, 4051, 4052, 4060, 4061, 4070, 4071, Andrews Tension Saddle, Mac Daniel 2, IPSC Saddle, Ed Brown model 1801, Triple K Lightening, Concealer I, Ghost, Thunder, speedster, Skeleton, Don Hume, Double Nine, Five Way, Agent 9, Breakfront, GK Top Gun, Flat Guard, Spectre, Skin Gun, Street Patrol, Navarro, Hoyt 580B, 580K, Strong Piece-Keeper Pancake, First Chance, Slide, Piece-Keeper Paddle, Side Winder, Tex Shoemaker Hugger, PL Paddle, Aker Special Agent, Belt Slide, 132, 133, 134, 135, 136, 137, 138, 139, 142, 143, 148, Ted Blocker 710, DA1, DA2, 24A, 911, 911T, X16, G-1, B5, 10, 12, LF1, Hersey 4-way, ST-17, ST-17B, S18, S19, IHL Desert Special, Desert Master, Dillon LTD, Master, Desert Special, CLS, Heinie 700 DOJ, Kramer Belt Scabbard, Vertical Scabbard, IWB #2, Hellweg Gold Coast, Lightening Ridge,

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Walkabout, Bush Damper, Mixson TBHL, BH, Gator, **Gould & Goodrich** B745, B730, B737, B747, B29, B39, B38, 733, 729, 09, B742, 3001, **Uncle Mike's** Mirage, Side Bet, Super Belt Slide, Inside the Pants, **Bruce Nelson** Summer Special, Professional, **Galco** Concealable

Exception - Police officers may use their issue duty rig, but ALL retention features of the holster must be used.

NOTICE: If you are caught using equipment that is not in the guidelines set forth and not in the spirit of the purpose of Defensive Pistol, you will be disqualified from the entire match.

Stability of Rules:

In order to maintain stability within the International Defensive Pistol Association, equipment rule changes will only be reviewed every two (2) years. Any rule changes will go into effect 12 months after approval.

Competition Rules:

1. Unsafe gun handling will result in disqualification from the entire match. Some examples of unsafe gun handling are: Handling a loaded firearm except while on the firing line, endangering another person, dropping a loaded firearm.
2. Any attempt to circumvent or compromise the spirit or rationale of any stage either by the use of inappropriate devices or equipment or technique, will incur a twenty (20) second penalty; this is the "FAILURE TO DO RIGHT RULE".
3. Unsportsman like conduct, unfair actions or the use of illegal equipment which in the opinion of the match director, tends to make a travesty of the defensive shooting sport shall result in disqualification from the stage or the entire match at the discretion of the match director.
4. A premature shot in the holster or behind the firing line or into the ground downrange closer to the firing line than two yards, shall disqualify the entrant for the entire match.
5. The muzzle must never be pointed behind the 180° firing line except while holstered, drawing or during re-holstering. Any violation of this rule which endangers another person will result in disqualification from the entire match.
6. Pistols will not be loaded except when directed by contest officials.
7. Shock resistant eye protection and ear protection are required of anyone within 50 yards of the firing line.
8. After completing any firing problem, shooter must unload, show clear and re-holster before turning up-range or leaving the firing line.
9. Pistols used in competition shall be serviceable and safe. If any pistol is observed to be unserviceable or unsafe, it shall be withdrawn at the request of the match director. In the event that a pistol cannot be loaded or unloaded due to a broken or failed mechanism, the shooter must notify the range officer, who will take such action as he thinks safest.

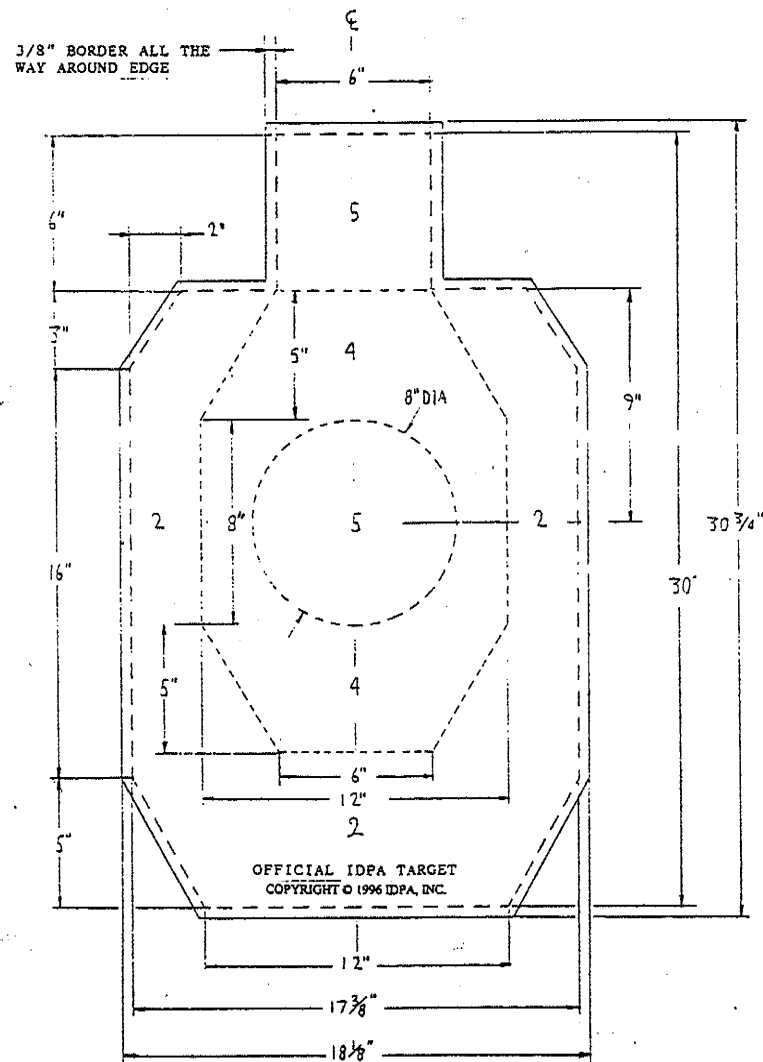
10. During loading, unloading, drawing, re-holstering, while moving or during remedial action, fingers must be outside the trigger guard and the muzzle must be directed downrange. Failure to do so will result in a three (3) procedural error penalty.
11. During a contest, shooters not firing will refrain from handling their pistols except at designated safe areas. No live ammo is to be handled at the safe area. The normal condition of pistols not actually engaged is holstered and unloaded, with hammer down and magazine removed.
12. In any single contest, a contestant must use the same pistol in all stages of the contest; except that a contestant may use another pistol of the same type, action, and caliber as that with which he commenced the contest if his starting pistol becomes unserviceable during the contest.
13. No entrant shall wear or use two pistols unless dictated by the specific course of fire at hand.
14. Pistols must start from mechanical condition of readiness appropriate to their design. In general, single-action autos will start cocked and locked, double-action autos will start hammer-down and locked or unlocked. However, unusual designs may be started in other ways. Selective double-action autos may start cocked and locked or hammer down, the Tokarev may start from half-cock, and other exceptions may be made as new designs demand.
15. In general, all firing problems will be started with the pistol holstered and safe, hands clear of equipment as directed by the course director. Other positions for the pistol may be stipulated (table top, drawer, pack, purse, or in the firing hand).
16. In cases where metal targets are used which may be damaged by excessive penetration, the club conducting the contest may prohibit cartridges that may damage the equipment. Metal piercing and incendiary or tracer ammunition is prohibited.
17. **TACTICAL LOAD:** Courses of fire may require that while firing a stage, no loaded ammunition carriers (ie. magazines, speedloaders) may be left behind if the competitor moves to another firing position. The competitor's firearm will be considered LOADED when the fresh magazine is seated or revolver cylinder is closed. Failure to do so will result in a three (3) second procedural penalty per infraction.
18. On stages requiring the competitor to reload, but not designated as a TACTICAL LOAD stage, the competitor may be required to shoot the gun dry before reloading to more closely simulate a "real world" situation. Failure to do so will result in a three (3) second procedural penalty per infraction.
19. All reloads must be executed behind cover if cover is available and must be completed before leaving cover. More than 50% of the shooters "A-Zone" must be behind cover till the competitor is LOADED. The competitor will be considered LOADED when the fresh magazine is seated or revolver cylinder is closed. Failure to do so will result in a three (3) second procedural penalty per infraction.
20. Once the ready position is assumed, it may not be changed before the firing signal. Moving the hand towards the pistol in the ready position will result in a three (3) second procedural penalty.
21. On paper targets, a shot, the outside diameter of which touches any part of a scoring ring counts for the value of the ring. Radial tears in the paper exceeding two bullet diameters will not count.

22. On PAR time stages, if a shooter fires after the signal to cease firing, he shall lose the maximum value of each shot so fired, to be subtracted from his total score.
23. If a shooter has more hits on his paper than allowed in a given PAR time string, the maximum value for each excess shot shall be subtracted from his score, except when it can be established to the satisfaction of the contest director that the hits in question are of a different caliber from that used by the contestant in question, or when it can be positively proven that another contestant was guilty. In the latter case, the contestant whose target was fired upon by another contestant will be allowed to fire the stage over.
24. If a shooter fires before the firing signal, he shall be charged with a procedural penalty of three (3) seconds for Vickers count or five (5) points if par time.
25. Ties shall be broken in a manner decided upon by the club conducting the contest. However, this shall always be done by shooting, not by chance.
26. It shall be the responsibility of each contestant to keep account of his score along with the scorekeeper. If there is an error in the scorekeeper's final tally, it shall be the responsibility of the contestant to protest the final results within one hour of the posting of final scores. Failure to file a protest with the scorekeeper prior to the above time nullifies any claims made thereafter.

NOTE: Some of the competition rules listed are re-printed from *COOPER ON HANDGUNS* with permission from Petersen's Publishing Company.

Defensive Pistol 10

OFFICIAL DEFENSIVE PISTOL TARGET



Defensive Pistol 11