

# Changes in the 2025 CMP Games Rifle and Pistol Competition Rules

*Update: 12Nov24*

- 1. Obtaining Rulebook Copies.** Complete copies of all CMP rulebooks are posted on the CMP website at <http://thecmp.org/competitions/cmp-competitions-rulebooks/>. Copies of each rulebook and accompanying Range Officer scripts can be downloaded from there.
- 2. Rule 2.0. Range Safety Rules.** Current safety rules and procedures that were in several locations in previous rulebooks were consolidated into a separate Rule 2.0 “Range Safety Rules” section in each 2025 CMP rulebook that includes all applicable range safety rules for that particular CMP shooting discipline.
- 3. Rule 2.2. Safety Flags.** The rule for Safety Flags is rewritten to provide for different procedures applying to rifle and pistol.
- 4. Rule 2.9 c). Safety During Firing.** Added language clarifies that rifles may not rest on a stool or range cart while being loaded and may not be rested on a stool after rifles are loaded.
- 5. Rule 4.1.4. Firing Distances.** If a range is constructed with firing distances measured in meters instead of yards, as is the case with many military ranges, those ranges may be used to conduct CMP-sanctioned matches, including EIC Matches, with firing taking place on the equivalent metric distance range (i.e., 200 meters in lieu of 200 yards, etc.).
- 6. Rule 4.1.8. Authorizations to LOAD and FIRE.** Various commands have previously been utilized to authorize the start of range firing, including “**COMMENCE FIRING, TARGETS, NOW, START**, etc.). The CMP is now working to standardize the command to authorize firing by using the international standard command, **START**. This change appears in several locations in this rulebook.
- 7. Rule 4.2.6. Benchrest Supported Position.** Additional language clarifies how the arms and hands may be used in this position.
- 8. Rule 4.3.6. Authority to bar Unsafe Firearms and Ammunition.** Gives Match Officials the authority to bar unsafe firearms or ammunition.
- 9. Rule 4.6.6. Loading Procedures (Pistol).** New language codifies established pistol loading procedures.
- 10. Rule 4.6.8. Scoring Shots on Fixed Targets (Pistol).** New language clarifies how early and late shot decisions on fixed (non-turning) targets shall be made.
- 11. Rule 4.9.1. Abuse of a Competitor or Match Official.** A new rule was added that provides for Match Officials to act in cases where someone on the range “physically, verbally or emotionally abuses or injures another competitor or Match Official.”
- 12. Rule 5.1.1. As-Issued Rifles Intent and Spirit.** The CMP has decided to allow commercial and foreign made M1 Garands and M1 Carbines to be used in As-Issued Rifle Matches. This rule provides a justification for this change. Later descriptions in Rule 5.2.1 a) and 5.2.2 a) broaden the as-issued definition to include rifles of this same type.

**13. Rule 5.2.2 e). .308 M1 Garands.** Garands chambered for 7.62 NATO/.308 cartridges are now legal.

**14. Rule 5.2.2.f). As-Issued M1 Garands.** New language allows the use of commercial and foreign manufactured M1 Garands. These rifles must be functionally and operationally the same as U. S. military issue Garands.

**15. Rule 6.2.1 a). As-Issued M1 Carbines.** Commercial M1 Carbines that conform to the design and operational features of U. S. issue Carbines are now legal for use in As-Issued Carbine Matches (see also Rule 6.2.6).

**16. Rule 6.2.4. Unlimited M1 Garand.** Unlimited M1 Garands did not previously have a weight limit; this rule addition clarifies that there is no weight limit for these rifles..

**17. Rule 6.5.1. M1 Carbine Course of Fire.** The Carbine Course was altered so that the first stage will now consist of 5 Sighters (not 10) and 10 Record shots prone in 15 minutes. If fixed targets are used, Match Sponsors can still include a separate 10-shot Sighter stage.

**18. Rule 7.2.1. Table 8. Vintage Sniper Rifle, Category A.** A note was added to the M1903 listings to emphasize that Mark I receivers cannot be used for M1903 sniper rifles. This is not a rule change, but rather the emphasis of a previous decision.

**19. Rule 7.2.1. Table 9. Vintage Sniper Rifle, Category B.** The Israeli M21 sniper rifle was added, with a note stressing that original or reproductions of the Israeli stock that was made for this rifle must be used.

**20. Rule 9.2.1 Rimfire Sporter Rifles.** Older versions of the CMP Rimfire Sporter rules offered match sponsors the option of including a category for U. S. military rimfire training rifles. There apparently is some demand for including these rifles so an optional "A-class" has been added to give match sponsors the option of offering a competition category for these rifles..

**21. Rule 10.6.1 e). Scoring Protested Shots on EST.** A procedure for scoring incorrectly indicated rapid-fire shots was added.

**22. Rule 4.8 and Annex H. CMP Achievement Awards.** Cut scores for CMP Achievement Awards, which are presented for scores fired in CMP Games events, were increased minimally, based on scores fired in the 2024 National Matches CMP Games events.

**Please direct questions about CMP Highpower Rifle Rules or rule recommendations to the CMP Competitions Department at [competitions@thecmp.org](mailto:competitions@thecmp.org) or (419) 635-2141, ext. 714 or 729.**