

Operational Speed Challenge

General

Each stage of this match involves a set up of 5 steel plates, set out in different arrays, distances and shapes. One of the plates will be pre-designated as a stop plate and it must be hit last. The procedure is to hit the other 4 plates in the fastest order and then hit the stop plate last. As many shots as is required may be fired.

The spirit of the rules is that the design, equipment, and conduct is operationally oriented.

Classes

They are two classes in which anyone can enter. They are as follows:

Operational Caliber - This is any caliber that would be logical and practical for operations. This would include any caliber larger than and including the .380.

Smallbore Caliber - This is .22 caliber long rifle rimfire.

Equipment

The only pistol/revolver acceptable is one which would be logical and practical for use on operations.

It must be capable of being holstered in an operational type holster.

Any sight may be used on the pistol which would be logical and practical for use on operations. The pistol with its sight must be able to fit into a tactical type holster with at least one level of retention. This includes any compact reflex sight. This sight must be mounted to the slide. Any sight may be adjusted in any manner throughout the conduct of any match. There will be NO allowance of time extensions for the adjustment of the sights.

The pistol may be compensated providing the compensator/brake is such that it could be logical and practical for use on operations, will fit into a standard operational type holster and the outside profile of the pistol is not changed.

Although the pistol may be tuned, adjusted or accurized, all of its functioning must be safe and must be such that it would be considered logical and practical for operations. For example, if a trigger has been adjusted to be so light as to be considered not practical for operations, it would not be allowed.

The same pistol must be used throughout any specific match. If a pistol malfunctions it can be brought back into action using normal immediate action and stoppage drills only and during the time between strings. A complete pistol may be exchanged but only between matches.

The holster must be of a tactical type that encloses the trigger guard. The holster must have at least level one retention and be able to securely hold the pistol in place during strenuous activity. Cross draw holsters, chest holsters, shoulder holsters and skeleton type holsters are not allowed.

Magazine holders/pouches need to be of a tactical type and positioned tightly against the body. They should be capable of securing the magazines in place during strenuous physical activity, such as running and/or moving. Magnetic mag holders or mag holders that do not enclose the ammunition are not allowed.

Those wishing to use "race" or "IPSC Open" equipment may do so for honors only. If there are sufficient numbers to warrant a separate class, then this will be arranged.

All competitors within 50 meters of the firing line must wear electronic ear defenders (that work properly), safety glasses, a hat with a bill, a high-collared long-sleeved shirt and pants that cover the legs.

Ammunition:

Ammunition must be of a caliber which would logically and practically be used on operations and must be .380 caliber or larger (including 357 Magnum). It must be full power and the bullet can be frangible, lead or jacketed. Bullets with penetrators are strictly forbidden.

Scoring

The time taken to hit each target at least once, hitting the stop plate last will be the score for that string. There will be a total of 5 strings with the best 4 times being added together to give a final score for each stage. The lowest score (time) wins the stage.

The maximum time allowed for any string will be 30 seconds. Once 30 seconds has elapsed the RO will require the shooter to stop, record the time for that string as 30 seconds and require the shooter to prepare for the next string.

The stop plate must be hit to end the time. If the shooter announces "Done" and the stop plate has not been hit, the time will be automatically counted as 30 seconds.

If a plate is missed and noticed after the stop plate has been hit the shooter may go back to that plate and hit it but then must hit the stop plate again to stop the time. The stop plate must always be hit last. A 5 second penalty will be assessed for each plate not hit once the shooter states he is finished.

When the RO scores a miss, it is the shooter's responsibility to challenge the decision immediately at the end of that string. The target will then be checked and if there is a clear mark left by the bullet, even on the edge, it will be scored as a hit.

If a shooter disagrees with the RO's decision, he may make a formal protest to the Match Committee. The Match Committee's decision will be final. Each squad will have a Match Committee of 3 experienced shooters.

Once the next string begins there will be no further opportunity to challenge past strings.

It is the shooter's responsibility to check their score as recorded on the score card and to sign the score card after each stage. If there are any questions concerning the score it must be brought to the RO's attention at this time. If the question cannot be settled the Chief Range Officer must be summoned and if there is further question a protest can be made to the Competition Match Committee.

If a target or timer malfunctions (or any other range equipment that places the shooter at a disadvantage) the shoot shall receive an immediate re-shoot of that string.

Start Position

For each string the shooter must be in one of two "Start Positions".

If the shooter is appropriately holster qualified, he is to adopt the "draw position". This is with the pistol in the holster and with both hands hanging loosely at his side. The alternate draw position is the "interview position". This is with both hands touching in a position above the belt line.

If the shooter is not holster qualified, he will be required to adopt the "start position". This is with the pistol in hand with both elbows touching the body. If competing directly against those who are starting from the draw, a 2-second penalty will be assessed for each string.

Procedural Penalties

A 5-second penalty will be assessed for any of the following:

- Any movement prior to the start signal;
- Foot fault - both feet must be on the ground inside the shooting box before shooting can take place;
- Incorrect or non-movement when movement is required.

An unsafe act will result in disqualification and a potential request to leave the range.

Ammunition that does not meet the minimum requirement will result in disqualification of any stage where that ammo was used. The CRO may require the ammo to be shot over a chronograph to determine if it meets full power requirements.

General Procedures

During the firing of each stage the RO is in absolute control.

Spectators and other shooters are to remain quiet so as not to create a distraction.

There is to be no coaching or advising from anyone. The shooter alone is responsible to make all decisions about challenging and when finished a string. The shooter is to announce "done" when he has completed a string. If the shooter has forgotten to make this announcement and it becomes obvious to the RO, the RO may ask the shooter if he is done.

The following words of command will be used by the RO:

- At the start of the match, "Does the shooter understand this match?"
- Only questions concerning the conduct of the match may be answered by the RO.
- The RO will then command, "Load and holster - is the shooter ready - the shooter is ready - standby - (3-5 second pause) - beep."
- For each string thereafter the commands will be - "Is the shooter ready - the shooter is ready - standby - (3-5 second pause) - beep."
- Upon completion of the match, the RO is to announce. "Unload and show clear - (inspect the pistol and announce) - the shooter is clear - hammer down and holster - the firing line is safe - go forward and paint."