

# Conventional Prone 3200

## An Overview



# Lots of Info

I have put a lot of miscellaneous information into this presentation. Don't let it overwhelm you.

The purpose of this presentation is to give you an overview and to answer questions prior to entering your first “big” outdoor prone match. You will not be quizzed on it.

Once at the match, any competitor will be more than willing to answer any questions you may have.

# Conventional Prone 3200

The Conventional Prone 3200 course of fire is probably the most common outdoor smallbore match format in the United States. It is a two-day match with a possible score of 3200. Each day consists of four fired matches of 40 record shots each, for a total of 160 record shots per day.

The first day is “Metallic Sights Only”. The second day is “Any Sights”, so some people shoot with a scope (although many people shoot both days with metallic sights).

# Pre-Registration

Always pre-register. Pre-registration allows the match director to assign firing points and relays in advance which makes the check-in and registration process go a lot smoother.

To pre-register, send an email to the contact person for the match. The email should contain:

- Your Name
- Your NRA # (if you have one)
- Your Classification (if you have one)
- If you will only be shooting one day, which day?

# How much ammo?

For a two day 3200 prone match, plan on using one brick (500 rounds) of ammo.  
(That's ten 50 round boxes.)

# Classifications

Most tournaments, for awards purposes, group competitors by ability level into 4 classes:

- Master (highest)
- Expert
- Sharpshooter
- Marksman (lowest)

These classifications have nothing to do with the NRA Qualification Course ratings.

Typically, at your first tournament, because you do not yet have a classification, you will be placed into the Master class (with the best competitors). (Some tournaments will assign new shooters to a lower classification based on their known ability level.)

After your first tournament, you will have a classification based on your ability level. You will need to keep track of this yourself in a “Temporary Scorebook” until you receive a classification card in the mail from NRA.

# Read the Program

It's always a good idea to read the program before you go to a match.

# Registration and Check-In

Arrive about **one hour before** the firing is scheduled to begin. You must first check-in and register for the match. This is usually at the clubhouse, not at the range. The process typically consists of:

- Filling out an entry form
- Paying your entry fee
- Receiving your squadding information (Competitor Number, Relay, and Firing Point)

Please have the following information when you are registering:

- Your NRA Number (if you have one)
- Your Classification (if you have one)

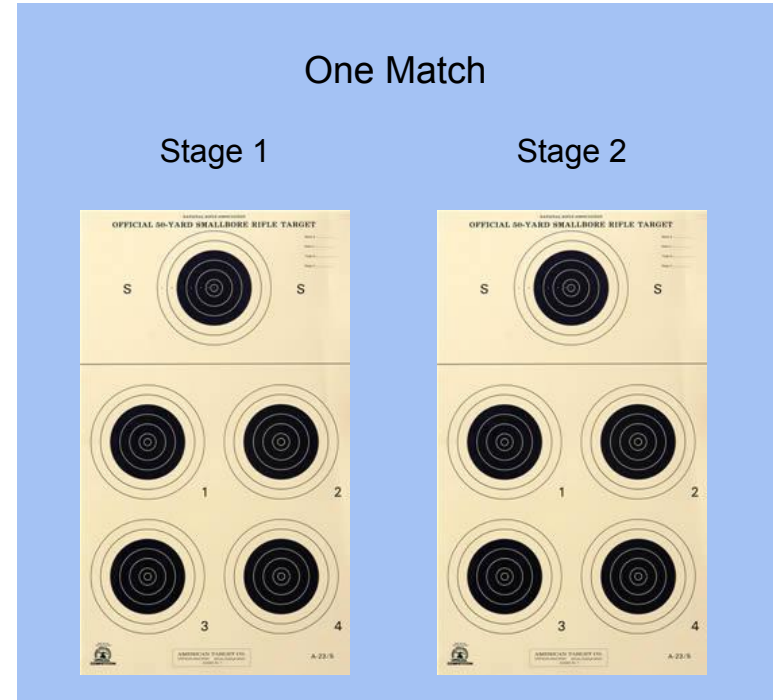
Once registered, you can go to the range and begin setting up.



# Fired Matches and Stages

Each fired match consists of two stages.

Each stage is 20 record shots on 1 target.



# Aggregate Matches

Aggregate Matches are unfired. There are typically 3 aggregate matches.

- **Metallic Sight Daily Aggregate** - Total of the first day's 4 fired matches.
- **Any Sight Daily Aggregate** - Total of the second day's 4 fired matches.
- **Grand Aggregate** - Total of the two daily aggregates.

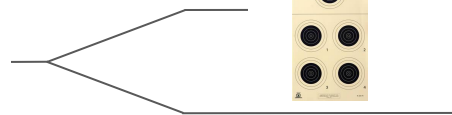
The following slide depicts the first day of shooting.

The second day is basically just a repeat of the first day.

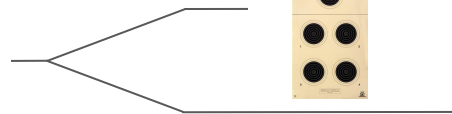
\*The order shown is the most common order. However, some match sponsors will change the order.

Match #5  
Daily Aggregate

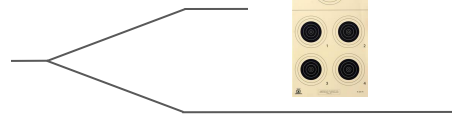
Match #1  
50 Yard match



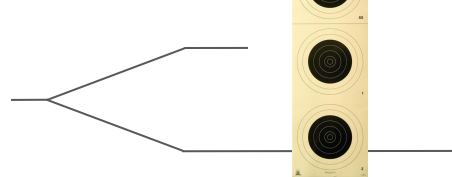
Match #2  
50 Meter match



Match #3  
Dewar match



Match #4  
100 Yard match



# Targets

There are three different targets used:

- **A-23 @ 50 yards** - This target has 5 bulls (1 sighter and 4 record bulls). The bulls are equivalent to the bulls of the A-17 indoor target but scaled up for shooting at 50 yards.
- **A-26 @ 50 meters** - This target has 5 bulls (1 sighter and 4 record bulls). The bulls are the same size as the international target introduced in the 1940's. The rings are only slightly smaller than the A-23.
- **A-25 @ 100 yards** - This target has 3 bulls (1 sighter and 2 record bulls). The bulls are equivalent to the bulls of the A-17 indoor target but scaled up for shooting at 100 yards.

# Targets

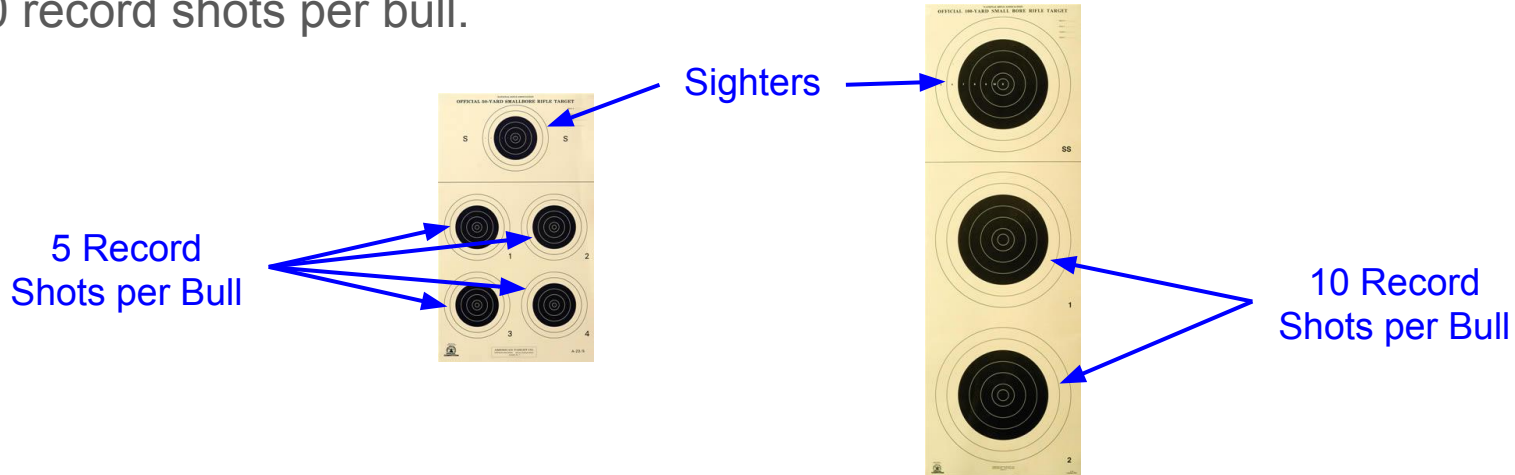
**A-27 target** - Many ranges do not have the holes for placing frames at 50 meters. In this case, the A-27 target is used instead of the A-26. The A-27 is the 50 meter target reduced for firing at 50 yards.

**6-Bull targets** - The 50 yard and 50 meter targets have traditionally been 5 bull targets. However, 6 bull targets are now available. On these 6 bull targets, the top two bulls are sighters and the bottom 4 are the record bulls.

# Sighters and Record Shots

**Sighters** - You may fire unlimited sighters. You may return to the sighter bull at any time.

**Record Shots** - You will fire 20 record shots on each target. At 50 yards and 50 meters, it is 5 record shots per bull on each of the record bulls. At 100 yards, it is 10 record shots per bull.



# Time

For each stage, you will be given 20 minutes to fire your 20 record shots plus sighters. Time is not announced and there is usually not a clock visible. A personal timer is recommended.





# Preparation Period

Before the first stage of each match, you will be given a 3 minute preparation period. During this time, you can handle your rifle, get into position, and dry-fire. You can NOT LOAD or FIRE during the preparation period.

Before the second stage of each match\*, you will be given a 1 minute preparation period. During this time, you can handle your rifle, get into position, and dry-fire. You can NOT LOAD or FIRE during the preparation period.

\*The Dewar match has one stage fired at 50 yards and one stage fired at 100 yards. Because you are changing distances, the preparation period for the second stage is 3 minutes.

# “Is the line ready?”

I bring this up because I occasionally see beginning shooters respond with “No” when this question is asked.

It is the competitors responsibility to be ready. If the competitor forgot his glove, didn't load his loading block, or is just taking too long, this is not a reason to respond “No”.

Only if the competitor is not ready **through no fault of his own**, should he respond “No”.

10.1.5 Not Ready - It is the duty of competitor(s) to notify the Range Officer if not ready to fire at the time the Chief Range Officer asks IS THE LINE READY? Failure of competitor(s) to notify the Range Officer that he is not ready means he forfeits his right to refire.

Notes:

1. If a competitor is not ready through no fault of his own, he will be given an opportunity to explain. If satisfactory, the competitor will be permitted to refire at a later time or simply allowed to fire with his relay and given additional time to make up for time lost.
2. If the competitor is not ready because of his own actions, he will be required to fire within the appropriate time on his appropriate relay.

# Relays

Depending on the size of the range and the number of entries, there may be two relays.

If there are two relays, the first relay will shoot their first match (two stages), then they will remove their equipment. The second relay will move their equipment to the line, shoot their first match (two stages), then they will remove their equipment. The two relays will swap back-and-forth like this throughout the day.

\* Note - At some matches, the relays will be swapped on the second day with the second relay shooting first and the first relay shooting second. Another possibility is that on the second day, the relays may be combined. Don't assume that just because you are on the second relay that you can show up late for the second day of the match.

# Breaks

If there is only one relay, there is a mandatory 20 minute break between matches (Rule 8.2). If there are two relays, you will have about a 50 minute break between matches while the other relay is shooting.

Many matches will give a lunch break.

# Marking Your Targets

You should put five items on each of your targets:

- Competitor Number\*
- Match Number
- Stage Number
- Relay Number
- Target Number (i.e., your firing point)

\*Most targets don't have a field for your competitor number, just put it above or below the rest of the info.

Unless otherwise instructed, DON'T put your name on your target.

# Marking Your Backers

You should put the same five items on each of your backers:

- Competitor Number
- Match Number
- Stage Number
- Relay Number
- Target Number (i.e., your firing point)

Please put them in the upper right-hand corner, hang them so that they are in the upper right-hand corner, and when handing-in your targets place the backer behind the target with the information in the upper right-hand corner.

# Don't Disturb Your Fellow Competitors

When you are done with a stage, you may *quietly* get off the line *without disturbing* the other competitors. If there are two relays and you must take your equipment off the line, wait until the competitors to your immediate left and right are done firing before *quietly* removing your equipment.

# Getting Ready for Your Next Stage

Before socializing, ensure that:

- Your loading block is loaded for the next stage.
- Your targets are filled out for the next stage.
- Any entries in your shooting diary are made.



# Coaching

These are individual matches (not team matches). As such, coaching is not allowed. However, if you are having problems, you can get off the line and talk to your coach **BEHIND THE READY LINE**. (The time will continue to run.) Your coach cannot communicate with you while you are in front of the ready line.

# Clicking up for 100 yards

You will need to adjust your sights when going from 50 yards to 100 yards. This is approximately a 6 minute elevation change. On 1/6th minute sights (or 6 clicks per ring), this is about 36 clicks.

Warning - If you have never shot your rifle at 100 yards, be sure that the sights have enough clicks (and they don't max-out).

# First Sighter Shot

If your first shot on paper falls below the line, immediately raise your hand and notify the range officer. Once the range officer has verified the shot, it will not count. This only applies to the first shot on paper. All subsequent shots below the line will count as record shots (so be sure to click up enough).

If you fire a second shot before notifying the range officer (and the range officer confirms the shot), all shots below the line will count as record shots.

**DO NOT** put a second shot on paper until the range officer confirms your first shot.



# Challenges

Sometimes, the scorers make mistakes. It is your responsibility to check your scores and, if they are wrong, challenge them. Some ranges will allow you to visually inspect your targets before making a challenge, other ranges do not. I strongly recommend you get in the habit of **writing down** your scores after each stage.

There is a time limit for challenges for each match (usually posted on the scoreboard). You must make any challenges for the match before that challenge period ends.

At the end of the day, don't just leave assuming that your targets will be scored correctly. **Ensure** that they are scored correctly by **staying** until the scores are posted.

# Challenge Process

Usually a challenge fee of \$1 is charged to make a challenge. According to the rules (16.1), you are challenging your score for the match (not just the stage). If any shot was scored wrong, you will receive your challenge fee back. If there are no mistakes, you will lose your challenge fee.

The rules state that the targets are re-checked by the Jury (16.1(a)). However, in most matches, the targets are usually first rechecked by the scorers. If you, as a competitor, are not satisfied by the scorers re-check, have the jury look at your targets. This is not uncommon.

# Have Fun

This is a long day of shooting. Plan on it. When on the line, stay focused. When off the line, socialize, ask questions, observe what the good shooters do. If you traveled a distance and are staying overnight, join some of the other shooters for dinner.