



## **International Shooting Sport Federation**

ISSF • Bavariaring 21 • D-80336 München • Germany  
Phone: +49-89-5443550 • e-mail: [munich@issf-sports.org](mailto:munich@issf-sports.org)  
Fax: +49-89-54435544 • internet: <http://www.issf-sports.org>

# **ISSF Rifle Clothing**

## **Rule Interpretation and**

## **Enforcement Procedures**

## **ISSF Rifle Clothing Commission**

The ISSF Administrative Council established the ISSF Special Commission on Rifle Shooter Clothing in 2004 to guide the development and interpretation of ISSF rules regarding rifle clothing issues in cooperation with the ISSF Technical and Rifle Committees. The Commission is a diverse 14-member body that includes athlete, coach and industry representatives as well as members of the ISSF Executive Committee, Administrative Council and Rifle Committee. ISSF Vice President Gary Anderson chairs the Commission.

## **ISSF Rules for Rifle Clothing**

All rifle shooter clothing (jackets, trousers, boots, etc.) must comply with ISSF Rules 6.4 and 7.4. These rules may only be changed with the approval of the ISSF Administrative Council, but the Commission is authorized to issue interpretations and enforcement procedures in coordination with the ISSF Technical and Rifle Committees. The following "**Rule Interpretations and Enforcement Procedures**" are in effect for the **ISSF Rules, Edition 2009-2012**. The ISSF urges all National Federations to study these rule interpretations carefully to ensure that athletes and coaches who will compete in ISSF Championships are informed and prepared for them. The following rule interpretations will be enforced by ISSF Equipment Control and Rifle Juries during all ISSF-supervised championships.

### **Rule interpretations**

#### **1. Clothing Stiffness Testing - 14.01.11**

Rule 7.4.6.4.2. During Equipment Control jacket and trouser stiffness testing, both before competitions and in post-competition checks, all clothing panels must measure 3.0mm or higher in flexibility within 60 seconds. No measurements below 3.0mm will be accepted. It is the responsibility of the competitor to use clothing that has sufficient tolerance in its stiffness measurements so that it will not fail even if it changes slightly during the competition. Shooters who try to use jackets and trousers that measure at or near the maximum stiffness of 3.0mm need to make sure their clothing is somewhat more flexible since no stiffness measurement or tolerance below 3.0mm is acceptable.

#### **2. Clothing Thickness Testing - 14.01.11**

Rule 7.4.6.4.1. During Equipment Control jacket and trouser thickness testing, both before competitions and in post-competition checks, all clothing panels must measure 2.5mm or less in thickness. No measurements above 2.5mm will be accepted. It is the responsibility of the competitor to use clothing that has sufficient tolerance in its thickness measurements so that it will not fail even if it changes slightly during the competition. Shooters who try to use jackets and trousers that measure at or near the maximum thickness of 2.5mm need to make sure their clothing is somewhat thinner since no thickness measurement or tolerance above 2.5mm is acceptable.

#### **3. Stiffness Testing Procedures - 14.01.11**

Rule 7.4.6.2. In Equipment Control stiffness testing, every part (panel) of the jacket or trousers must be capable of being measured with the 60mm measuring cylinder. If a part of the jacket or trousers is too small for normal testing, that is, if there is no flat area 60mm or larger, testing must be done over the seams.

#### **4. Names, Flags and Markings - 14.01.11**

Rule 7.4.6.2. The ISSF considers the placement of names, national flags or symbols and sponsor signs on shooting clothing to be positive and desirable. However, these markings cannot be used to increase the clothing stiffness or to prevent the measurement of clothing panels. Stiffness and thickness tests will ordinarily not be done over these markings, but if the panel where the letters or markings are located does not provide a flat 60mm or larger area to measure, stiffness testing will be done over the letters or markings.

#### **5. Trousers Seat Pads - 07.02.11**

Rule 7.4.7.8.2.3 (“normal wear points”) & 7.4.7.8.2.4. The top of trousers seat pads must be at least 150mm below the top of the trousers waistband. Stiffness may be measured over the seat pad if necessary. This requirement replaces the test that was used in 2010 where the height of the seat pad was measured while shooters were seated with their trousers closed. As an alternative to cutting seat pads that are too high (less than 150mm below the waistband), the entire seat pad may be removed and used as a separate pad that is placed between the heel and seat in the kneeling position only.

#### **6. Shooting Jacket Sleeves - 16.02.11**

Rules 7.4.6.2 & 7.4.7.3. Shooting jacket sleeves that are constructed with a special shaping and material on the sleeves that binds the arm in a flexed (bent) position so the arm cannot be extended are not permitted. This is contrary to ISSF rules requiring flexibility and prohibiting “binding” devices. During Equipment Control jacket testing, both before competitions and in post-competition checks, shooters will be asked to straighten their arms while wearing their jackets. If the arm can be held straight, the jacket sleeve is legal; if the arm cannot be straightened, the jacket sleeve is illegal.

#### **7. Trousers Waistbands - 14.01.11**

Rule 7.4.7.8.1. Shooting trousers may have a maximum of 7 belt loops, but there must be at least 80mm of space between all belt loops.

#### **8. Flexibility of Shooting Boot Soles. - 14.01.11**

Rule 7.4.6.3.2. All rifle shooters must walk normally while wearing their shooting shoes and trousers anywhere on the range. Normal walking means heel down first—then heel up (the heel lift off of the floor must be visible) before lifting the toe. Normal walking also means bending the legs at the knees while walking. ISSF Juries will enforce this test for the flexibility of the shooting shoes and trousers by giving a warning for the first offence, a 2-point penalty for the second offence and disqualification for the third offence on any competition day. The ISSF is also developing a testing device for controlling boot sole flexibility that could be placed in use in 2011.

#### **9. Inner Soles and Inserts for Boots - 16.02.11**

Rule 7.4.6.3.2. Shooters may use inner soles or inserts in the boots or shooting shoes, however, those inserts must be flexible. No inner soles or orthopedic inserts that are made of hard, inflexible plastic or similar materials or that are not flexible at the ball of the foot are permitted. In post-competition testing, shooters will be asked to remove their boots and inner soles will be checked.

**10. Shooters Underclothing - 14.01.11**

Rule 7.4.7.10. Shooters' underclothing will also be checked for compliance with the 2.5mm thickness restriction as part of the post-competition testing.

**11. Kinesio and Medical Taping - 14.01.11**

Rule 6.4.2.1.1. Kinesio and medical taping are contrary to ISSF rules and are not permitted. Post competition testing will require selected shooters to undress to confirm that they are not using banned taping.

**12. Post-Competition Testing - 14.01.11**

Rule 7.4.6.4.2.4-6. Post-competition testing will require escorts to be assigned to the shooters selected for testing to ensure that they have no opportunity to change or remove clothing before they report to the post-competition testing station. Judges who are women must be available to do the post-competition checks on female athletes for taping and underclothing.