

SUMMARY CMP vs NRA (see specific Rules below)

*January 18, 2020 - The following is intended to help a competitor who has been firing NRA Precision Pistol matches understand what is different in the newly created CMP "Match Pistol" with the hope we can enjoy BOTH kinds of matches this year
– comments in blue come directly from Gary Anderson!*

Updated for 2022 – [Rulebook 2022](#)

Rules Changes 2024 –

<https://www.njpistol.net/Changes%20in%20CMP%202024%20Pistol%20Competition%20Rules.pdf>

Rules Changes 2025 - <http://njpistol.net/Changes%20in%20the%202025%20CMP%20Bullseye%20Pistol%20Competition%20Rules.pdf>

Updated for 2025 – Rulebook - see <https://online.fliphtml5.com/ebacv/bhrx/>

For Competitors:

NEW for 2022 – two new TYPES OF MATCHES FOR DISTINGUISHED:

1-CMP "Service Revolver" [4.1.7] and [5.2.7] and [7.4.6] and [9.0]

(NEW for 2022)

Revolvers chambered from 9mm to .45 cal., barrel length ≤ 6.5 in., trigger weight ≥ 2.5 lbs (revised from 4.0!)

EIC Course of fire is 40 shot President's Pistol Match (2 slow fire, 1 timed, 1 rapid)

Ammo = "any safe single projectile ammunition." [4.4.3]

Distinguished program thru EIC points, with minimum score, participation limits (5+NTI for non-Distinguished) and achievement pins, as for other Distinguished programs.

2-CMP Air Pistol (and Air Rifle) – see <https://thecmp.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/12/2022CMPAirGunRulebook.pdf>

(NEW for 2022)

EIC uses 10m 60 shot course of fire.

Distinguished program thru EIC points, with minimum score, participation limits (5+NTI for non-Distinguished) and achievement pins, as for other Distinguished programs.

PROCEDURES:

1-CMP five shot "series" = NRA five shot "string." [Range Commands]

2-CMP "Line is clear" = all pistols have been cleared = NRA "Line is Safe."

3-CMP slow fire commands specify loading 5 rounds at a time.

4-CMP Safety flags must be in guns that are cased! [3.6.1 and 3.6.4] **One would think this would not be necessary, but CMP Armorsers have reported pistols coming to their check stations that were loaded as they came out of cases or pistol boxes.**

***(removed in 2025) [2.6] – cased pistols may have actions closed and safety flags removed!**

NOTE: Addition of Chapter 2 in 2025 changes all OLD Rules References below by 1, i.e. [3.10.8] becomes [4.10.8] etc.!

5- [2.14] - The command for an emergency cease fire is STOP-STOP-STOP

6-CMP scorecards must be turned in by scorer, not competitor. [3.10.8]

**(somewhat revised for 2022) CMP Range Officers must make sure cards are turned in [4.2.2]*

6-CMP calls for a warning and then deduction of points per series a penalty option for some (non-safety-related) rules violations (as decided or confirmed by 2 Competition Officials). [4.12]

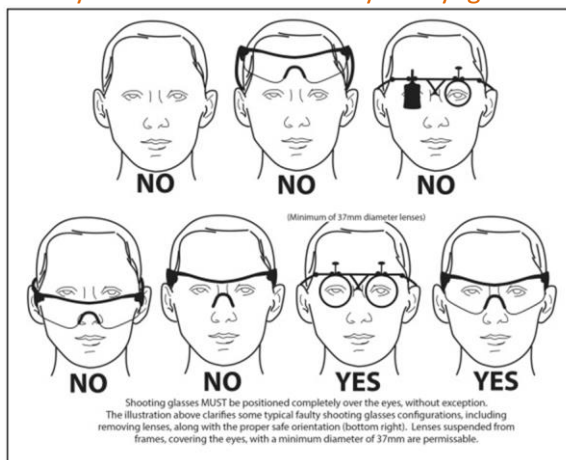
7-CMP specifically expels a competitor who loads and fires before the command to load! [3.6.7] now [2.9]

8-CMP pistols may not be changed during a "single event" (a "900") except when disabled. [5.3.1]

**(revised for 2021) 8a-CMP requires replacement for disabled pistol must be of same type and caliber [5.3.5]*

9-CMP does not make you measure the size of your brass screen mesh. [5.5.5]

9a -*(new for 2021) CMP does make you measure the size of your eyeglasses! [3.6.2] now [2.15]



9b -*(new for 2024) [3.6.2] now [2.15] - Hearing protection cannot be used to listen to music while on the firing line.

9c -*(new for 2024) – [5.5.2] - Spotting scope cameras that transmit images to other hand-held devices are illegal.

NOTE: -(revised for 2022 – back and forth)*

4.2.3 and 4.2.4 – (note change in Rules numbering!) CMP minimum trigger weight for .45 caliber Revolvers used in Match Pistol, either in Centerfire or .45 stages, is 3.5 lb. [5.2.3b] and [5.2.4b] .45 cal. Revolvers can have trigger pull of 2.5 lbs., same as NRA rules.

10-CMP has "Range Alibis" but interruption of fire procedures are mostly the same, except for some time limits (slow fire – time remaining plus 2 minutes). [4.8.3 and 6.1.5] Everyone on the line who was "prevented from firing or completing the series" would re-fire. Anyone who completed the series accepted the conditions and would not be given the option of re-firing. The shooters who opted to fire were not prevented from firing so they would receive their scores. Those who opted not to fire due to a range alibi condition would re-fire. CMP Rules generally follow a principle that says "if you shoot it, you own it." The one exception would be a real disturbance that occurs at the time of the shot and was not known beforehand. We don't think some competitors should be given the possibility of having two chances to fire a good series.

11-There are no citizenship or individual membership requirements to set CMP National Records. [11.1] – The CMP initially wanted to limit the possibility of establishing National Records to matches that it actually supervised and conducted (i.e. NM, National Chs and Travel Games). Once the program is well-established, the CMP could consider extending it to CMP sanctioned matches.

12-CMP Jury decides protests. [4.2.8]

13-CMP Statistical Officer or "Designated Scoring Officer(s)" decides scoring challenges. Scoring Officers are listed among CMP Competition Officials (who may be competitors.) [4.2.3 and 4-10.5]

14-CMP has no "Referee" position. [4.2.9] In the CMP system, the authorities that the Referees had are given to the Match Director, CRO, and CSO.

CIVILIAN SUB-CATEGORIES: [3.6.3]

(NEW for 2022)

14.1 – CMP age-related categories (Junior, Senior, Grand Senior) are based on actual birthday instead of just calendar year.

CLASSIFICATIONS: [4.10.3 – 4.10.7]

15-CMP classifications are computed for the competitor's most recent 300 shots (running average), before which it is computed as 30, 40 or 90 shot scores come in (no more "temporary" or "assigned" class and "score record books") and are effective as soon as processed at CMP (and no more waiting for "effective dates"). Yes, CMP classification changes become effective as soon as scores are recorded.

16-CMP will not count scores toward classification for EX and higher if series score is less than 60% of shooter's current average. A true sub-normal score is not an indication of a competitor's real ability and could distort their classification average.

17-CMP will consider classification downward revision, but no specific terms are listed. This would be decided by CMP staff based on a competitor's average in the most recent 300 shots.

18-CMP will accept NRA classification unless competitor earns a higher CMP classification.

NOTE: CMP Match Pistol classifications use the same definitions as NRA Precision Pistol.
CMP also has NTI/EIC classifications, which are different
(MK<72.0, 79.99<SS<=72.0, 84.99<EX<=80.0, 89.99<MA<=85.0, HM>=90.0)

**New for 2025* -NOTE: Currently CMP does not have different Match Pistol classification depending on Indoors/Outdoors/distances (50 ft, 25 yds.) or .22-ONLY-2700
[4.10.2]...CMP Indoor Pistol Classifications are provided for scores fired by competitors in individual pistol events fired on indoor courses of fire (50 feet, 25 yards).

CMP 22 Caliber Only Pistol [Classifications] are provided for scores fired by competitors in .22 Caliber Only Events or are fired by competitors who fire .22 Caliber pistols in all stages of 3-gun pistol events.

NOTE: Table of Classification Definitions in 4.10.4 lists INDOOR and .22 ONLY classifications having the same parameters as CMP Match Pistol.

For Teams:

19-For CMP matches, Junior Team coaches may be firing members of other teams.[3.6.5]

20 - For CMP Team matches, Teams may represent Clubs. There are 30-day membership and residency requirements (also for State Association Teams.) [3.6.8-9]

NOTE: Open teams may be allowed. [3.11]

21-CMP Team scores are not included for individual classification. [~~3.11.4b~~][4.10]

21.1 – **(NEW for 2022)** CMP will allow competitors from states with no State team to compete, if approved, with the State Team from an adjoining state. [3.6.9c]

For Match Directors and Stats Officers:

22-There are no individual score reporting fees for CMP Match Pistol competitions, just a flat fee per day. [1.6.2]

23-CMP Match Pistol competitions may be held without turning targets (no “Approved” vs. “Registered”). [4.6.3] NOTE: Turning targets are required for EIC Matches. **(revised for 2021) “Targets that use paper target scoring may be turning or fixed, except that National Trophy and National Championship events must be fired on electronic or turning paper targets.”*

24-CMP provides scorecards and publishes results online. [http://thecmp.org/wp-content/uploads/NONEIC_Instructions.pdf?ver=20200103]

25-CMP Competition officials may be competitors. [4.2]

26 – (New for 2024) [9.3.2] – Competitors firing different types of EIC may be on the same firing line.

27 – (New for 2025) [10.3.4] – Non-Distinguished who have already previously fired their limit of 5 may still compete in EIC matches “out of competition” and be eligible for medals and achievement pins.

28-CMP tie breaking has different rules . [4.9.11] The aggregate tie-breaking rule will differ from the NRA rule since we are seeking a tie-breaker where additional calculations are not necessary to determine rankings.

Added note (8/3/20 – re: Agg ties) This rule would probably be clearer if the last bullet read: *If a tie remains unbroken in another aggregate event, ties will be broken by the highest score in the last 10-shot stage fired, then by the next to the last 10-shot stage fired, etc., until the tie is broken.*

To apply this rule for a 2700, the first tie-breaker would be the score fired in the 45 cal. 900, then the Centerfire 900 and then the 22 900. If the tie is still unbroken, the tie breaker would continue to compare the last 10-shot stage in the 45 cal. 900, then the next to the last 10-shot stage in the 45 cal. 900, etc. It’s hard to imagine ever getting that far but this could continue all the way through the 45 cal. 900, then the Centerfire 900, etc.

To apply this rule for a 900 (or other sub-aggregate), and if we assume the match event order is (20 slow fire, 30 NMC, 20 timed-fire, 20 rapid-fire) the first tie-breaker would be the score in last match fired, in this case, the 20-shot rapid-fire match, then the next to the last match (20-shot timed-fire), etc. until all the complete match scores were considered. Then if the tie remains unbroken, you would go back to the last 10-shot series score in the last match (the rapid-fire match) and again work your way back through the 10-shot series scores fired in the sub-aggregate in reverse order.

CMP RULES BLACK / NRA IN RED (with highlights in PURPLE)

Appendix A7. Entry Fees - (a) NRA Registration Fee: A fee of \$4.50 per competitor is charged by NRA for Approved Tournaments...B7 -NRA Registration Fee: A fee of \$5.50 per competitor is charged by the NRA for Registered Tournaments.

Appendix A11 or B11. Reports to NRA - (a) An SR-I card for each competitor [or printed spreadsheet in prescribed format, is to be submitted BY MAIL] showing the total number of shots fired in individual matches and a total score, the total number of shots fired in fired team matches, and the total score of the fired team match(es).

17. NATIONAL RECORDS

NRA National Records shall be established only by American citizens who are NRA members or junior members of NRA affiliated clubs.

- **2.10 Team Representation**- No individual may be a Team Captain, Coach, firing member, or alternative firing member on more than one team in any match.

- **2.11 Open Teams**- Teams may be comprised of members without restriction on residency or club membership.

2.2.1 Senior - A person may compete as a senior beginning on January 1, of the calendar year in which his or her 60th birthday occurs.

2.2.2 Grand Senior - A person may compete as a Grand Senior beginning on January 1, of the calendar year in which his or her 70th birthday occurs.

2.3 Junior - A person may compete as a junior through December 31, of the calendar year in which the twentieth birthday occurs. Individuals who have National Guard, Reserve or active duty status and receive support (as defined in Rule 2.2) may not compete as juniors.

Appendix B -8. Registered Tournament Officials as Competitors - The Match Director, Deputy Match Director, Chief Range Officer, Chief Statistical Officer, and Chief Pit Officer (where applicable) may NOT compete in a tournament at which they are officiating.

16.1 Challenges - (b) When targets are scored on frames and the scoring of a target is challenged, the Range Officer will immediately call the Official Referee or Supervisor, who will score the target. If necessary to avoid delaying the match the challenged target will be replaced with a clean target and the match will proceed. The Official Referee, Jury or Supervisor will score the target as soon as possible and notify the competitor.

... (d) The Match Director may re-check any competitor's target by an administrative challenge.

11.2.1 Jury - In all Registered Tournaments, which are not State, Sectional, Regional or National Championships, a 3-member Jury will be formed by the Match Director to function as described in Rule 11.2. One member of the Jury must be a member of the sponsoring organization and complete the reports required by NRA. The members of the Jury may or may not be competitors in that tournament. A Jury member shall be exempted from ruling on a matter in which personally involved. The Match Director will name a replacement for that Jury member while ruling on that action. Under no circumstances may any Match Official (Rules 11.1, 11.1.1, 11.4, 11.5, 11.6, and 11.7) be a member of the Jury.

11.2 Official Referee - An Official Referee is required at all NRA Sanctioned State, Sectional, Regional and National Championships. Assignments are made from Headquarters of the National Rifle Association. The NRA Official Referee is not an administrative or operating official and is not responsible for the behavior or efficiency of either range or statistical office personnel. It is the responsibility of the Referee to see that all National Rifle Association Rules are properly interpreted and applied. His decisions will be final in scoring of challenged targets except when scoring in the pit and at National Championships. He/she will not score except when called on to rule on challenges. It is the Referee's duty to rule on all protests and challenges. Except in an emergency involving the safety of personnel or property the Referee will not give instructions directly to tournament operating personnel but will give all such instructions through the Match Director. In the event of a disagreement between Match Officials, the Official Referee shall prevail at the match with recourse only to the Protest Committee. The NRA Official Referee may not change the NRA rules as printed herein and as officially amended. It is the duty of the Referee to render a complete report to the National Rifle Association covering all phases of the tournament. The Referee may disqualify all or any portion of the score if, in the Referee's opinion the conditions warrant such action. A report will be submitted on any Tournament Official who refuses to accept proper instructions given by the Official Referee. After full hearing is held by the Protest Committee on such a report the Association may:

- (a) Warn, suspend or bar anyone from serving or competing in NRA competitions.
- (b) Warn, suspend or cancel the Certificate of the Official Referee.
- (c) Refuse to accept for registration or approval of any further tournament conducted on the same range or by the same organization until the unsatisfactory condition reported by the Official Referee has been corrected. An Official Referee may not compete in any match fired in the conjunction with any tournament where he is officiating as the Official Referee.

3.19 Eye Protection - All competitors and other personnel in the immediate vicinity of the range complex are urged to wear eye protection devices. Match sponsors (and/or ranges) may require eye protection.

3.20 Ear Protection - All competitors and other personnel in the immediate vicinity of the range complex are urged to wear hearing protection devices. Only sound reducing devices may be worn. Match sponsors (and or ranges) may require ear protection.

9.12 (f) When a cease fire occurs in slow fire stage; Cease Fire, will be announced (3) three times, the time remaining will be noted, and the targets turned away. Upon resumption of firing, shooters will be called to the line, provided with a (1) one minute preparation period, followed by the allowance of time remaining for completion of the slow fire string.

9.12 Interruption of Fire –

(a) In timed or rapid fire when the firing of a string is interrupted by some occurrence which renders it impossible for one or more competitors to complete the string under the conditions of the match, the Chief Range Officer will proceed as follows. Without being permitted to examine their targets, competitors in the relay who have been so prevented from completing their strings will be asked if they wish to refire or to accept their score as fired. Targets will then be scored in the usual manner for all competitors except those who have elected to refire. Without being scored, the targets of such competitors who have elected to refire will be pasted or new targets substituted and a complete string will be fired and scored. Reasons authorizing this procedure are:

- (1) Failure to allow full time.
- (2) Failure of targets to operate properly or uniformly.
- (3) Failure of target to remain in position on frame or carrier.
- (4) Damage to target rendering impossible proper aiming or scoring impossible.
- (5) The appearance of some object in line of fire constituting a hazard.
- (6) Some incident involving a Range Officer or competitor on the firing line.

(7) Unintended moving of the target during fire.

(b) In timed or rapid fire when, due to faulty target operation or error in timing, one or more competitors are allowed more time to complete the string than provided by conditions of the match, the Chief Range Officer will immediately order all such targets pasted or new targets installed. The fired target will not be scored. A complete new string will then be fired by the competitors who are allowed extra time. If in the same relay some targets operate properly in accordance with the legal time limit, such targets will be scored in the usual manner and competitors firing on those targets will not be required or permitted to re-fire.

(c) In slow fire in case a target is unintentionally moved out of firing position just as a shot is fired the shot will be circled by the Range Officer if it can be identified, and disregarded when target is scored. If the shot cannot be identified, the competitor will be permitted to accept the score as fired or to fire a completely new string.

(d) In case of excessive hits see Rule 14.10.

(e) If a shot hits the target frame or the target carrier causing the target to fall, the Range Officer will be notified. The target will be rehung and if the shot causing the target to fall strikes outside the scoring rings of the target, it will be scored as a miss. All other shots on the target will count as record shots. For slow fire the competitor will be permitted to continue to fire any unfired shots. For timed and rapid fire the competitor will re-fire the string on the same target as provided in Rule 9.14.

15.3 Single Stage Ties - At any range or stage ties will be ranked by applying the following steps, (a) to (f) inclusive, in the order listed below:

(a) By the greatest number of X's.

(b) By the fewest misses.

(c) By the fewest hits of lowest value.

(d) By the fewest hits of the next lowest value, etc.

... (f) In matches scored in strings of 5 or 10 shots by the highest ranking score in the last string, by highest ranking score in the next to last string, etc. (If still a tie, apply Rule 15.10.)

15.4 Multiple Stage - In matches fired in stages, ties will be ranked by applying the following steps, (a) to (d) inclusive, in the order listed below:

(a) By the greatest number of X's.

(b) By the highest ranking score in rapid fire; if still a tie, rank each rapid fire score by applying Rule 15.3. If this does not break the tie, apply Rule 15.4(c).

(c) By the highest ranking score in timed fire; if still a tie, rank each timed fire score by applying Rule 15.3. If this does not break the tie, apply Rule 15.4(d).

(d) By the highest ranking score at slow fire; if still a tie, rank each slow fire score by applying Rule 15.3. If this does not break the tie, see Rule 15.10.

15.5 Aggregate Matches - In aggregate matches, ties will be ranked by applying the following steps, (a) to (d) inclusive, in the order listed below:

(a) By the greatest number of X's.

(b) By the highest ranking total rapid fire score (including both single and multiple stage match rapid fire scores ranked as shown in Rule 15.3). If this does not break the tie, apply Rule 15.5

(c) By the highest ranking total timed fire score (including both single and multiple stage match timed fire scores ranked as shown in Rule 15.3).

(d) By the highest ranking total slow fire score (including both single and multiple stage match slow fire scores as shown in Rule 15.3). If still a tie, see Rule 15.10.

15.10 Unbreakable Ties - In case a tie cannot be ranked under the provisions of the above rules of this section, the Match Director will direct that the tie be decided and awards given under one of

the following plans as appears necessary or advisable. Individual Competitor ties, which cannot be broken by the aforementioned methods, will be resolved by the score of the previous individual fired match or matches as necessary. In the event the tie is in the first fired match, where no previous matches exist, the next individual fired match or matches, as necessary will be used to resolve that tie. (i.e. - An unbreakable tie in the National Match course shall be decided by the score or scores in the previously fired Slow Fire match.)

19.4 Matches Used for Individual Classification - Scores to be used for classification and reclassification will be those fired in individual and team matches in both indoor and outdoor NRA Competition as defined in Rule 1.6 (except Postal Matches) over the following courses of fire and under the indicated conditions:

- (a) National Match Course.
- (b) NRA Short Course.
- (c) National Match Gallery Course (50 feet or 20 yards).
- (d) Any component part of these courses when fired as single stage events.

Scores fired indoors are used to establish indoor classification.

Scores fired outdoors are used to establish outdoor classification.

19.16 Establishing Classification - A competitor will be officially classified by the NRA when the total score for a minimum of 360 shots has been reported for either indoor or outdoor. However, classification averages will be computed only after the total score for a tournament or league has been posted and, therefore, the average may be based on a greater number of shots, but will not be based upon a lesser number. Total scores so reported to the NRA will be posted to the Classification Record for the competitor concerned. When the scores for the stated minimum of 360 shots (or more if this minimum is reached during the scores of any tournament or league) have been so posted, the average score per 10-shot string will be computed. The competitor will be sent an Official NRA Classification Card based on the average so computed and according to the table in Rule 19.15, which classification will become effective the date shown on the card issued by NRA.

19.17 Reclassification - A competitor who has been classified by the NRA will be reclassified as follows:

(a) A record of all completed (see Rule 19.9) NRA Competition scores fired by a classified competitor (except Postal Match) will be maintained by NRA Headquarters. Only scores not previously used in computing a classification average will be used for reclassification, except as noted in (c) below.

(b) A competitor will be considered for reclassification upward when scores for not less than 360 shots, fired subsequent to the tournament date at which he earned his current classification" have been recorded as prescribed, except that such consideration will not include tournament or league scores until after all scores for the tournament or league competition concerned have been recorded. If the average scores so justifies, he will be reclassified upward accordingly.

(c) A competitor who believes his classification is too high may file a request with the NRA that his classification be lowered. Once a written request is received at NRA an average will be taken using the competitor's most recent reported shots (1890 shots for outdoor pistol; 1080 shots for indoor pistol) posted subsequent to the last classification or reclassification. If the competitor does not have the minimum number of shots posted at the time of the request, an average will be taken when the minimum numbers of shots is posted to the competitor's record. When the average of such shots places the competitor in a lower class, classification will be lowered accordingly.

(d) A reclassified competitor shall be sent a new classification card which will become effective as of the date shown on the card issued by NRA.

9.30 Penalties/Disqualification - The Official Referee, Jury, Supervisor or Match Director, upon proper presentation of evidence, may disqualify or order the expulsion of any competitor from the range for violations

of rules or for other conduct considered discreditable or unsafe. In the event of a disagreement between Match Officials, the Official Referee or Jury shall prevail at the match with recourse only to the Protest Committee.

3.5 Any Center Fire Pistol or Revolver – *The center fire pistol or revolver, as described below shall be used in the Center Fire Precision Pistol matches. Center-fire pistols (single shot or semi-automatic)) or revolvers of .32 caliber or larger (including 7.65 mm and .45 caliber pistols and revolvers); barrel length, including cylinder, not more than 10 inches; trigger pull not less than 2 1/2 pounds, except .45 caliber semiautomatic pistols not less than 3 1/2 pounds.*

3.6 Any .45 Caliber Semi-automatic Pistol or Revolver – *The .45 caliber pistol or revolver, as described below shall be used in .45 Caliber Precision Pistol matches. Any .45 caliber semi-automatic pistol or revolver; barrel length, including cylinders, not more than 10 inches, trigger pull for revolvers not less than 2 1/2 pounds, .45 caliber semi-automatic pistol trigger pull not less than 3 1/2 pounds.*

9.1 Changing Pistols - *Competitors are to use the same pistol during single stage matches, i.e., Slow Fire, Timed Fire, Rapid Fire and NMC (a single match). If a pistol becomes disabled at any time and is designated as such by the Chief Range Officer, all shots fired up to the time the claim is made will stand as part of the official score. Any disabled claim must be made immediately.*

3.9.1 Deflecting Screens - *Shooters may use a screen fastened to their shooting kit, or similarly placed, to deflect empty cases, provided the screen is made of material such as “Hardware Cloth,” with wires not larger than 1/16 inch in diameter and spaced not closer than 1/4 inch. Screens of solid material may not be used.*

10.9 Procedure in Case of Defective Cartridge, Disabled Pistol in slow fire - *If a cartridge fails to fire or a pistol fails to function in slow fire the competitor may replace the unfired cartridge or clear the jam and continue firing. Additional time may be allowed any competitor, equal to the time lost because of the defective cartridge, disabled pistol or malfunction, if the Range Officer has been notified at the time of the malfunction. (For refiring privileges 21 see Rule 9.14). It is not required that the Range Officer attempt to fire a cartridge before it is declared defective. In case of malfunction where a pistol or revolver is disabled and must be replaced requiring a refire, the competitor will call the Range Officer.*

10.11 Completion of Fire - *In the event of a malfunction the competitor may complete the string by manually cocking the pistol, operating the slide or loading additional rounds, provided that the pistol is handled safely and remains pointed downrange at all times.*

10.7 - NOTE: *In slow fire events, which are scored after 10 shots, the command should be “10 SHOTS SLOW FIRE, 10 SHOTS IN 10 MINUTES, LOAD.” (The number of rounds to be loaded by the competitor in slow fire stages will be determined by the competitor.)*