

The purpose of this document is to highlight local rules and procedures which all users are expected to follow when using the Hexta-002 Electronic Target System at Ipswich and District Rifle Club's Ripley Rifle Range. The following is applicable to financial and affiliated members, their invited guest and newcomers to the club.

The Standard Shooting Rules (SSR's) of the NRAA have been amended to reflect the use of electronic target systems. The club has, of course, adopted the amendments and added a few local rules as well. Local Rules have been adopted specific to our needs and objectives. If this document is silent on a matter refer to the SSR's. Remember any concessions described here apply to our club shoots only. SSR's referenced within this document are current as of November 2016. Along with the following document, refer to both the SSR's and to the Hex Systems user instructions for specific technical guidance. Our Range Standing Orders also outline our approved practices. Please enquire, should you be unfamiliar with locating any of these documents.

The set up and putting away of the system for any club shoot requires the utmost care and a systematic approach, the basis of which is outlined in the Hex System user instructions. In the unlikely event that there is no one available who is familiar with the protocol then the shoot will have to be transferred to conventional targets with competitor marking or cancelled if need be.

It is hoped that the following FAQ format will serve as summary of the procedures which the club have adopted. This document will be reviewed periodically and amended as required; your feedback will assist so please refer any further queries you may have to the clubs executive office bearers.

1. Question. Why are we using ET's?

Answer: As a product of the clubs 2013-2016 Strategic Plan, ET's have long been viewed as the modern platform from which all members can advance their skills in the sport and further strategic goals can be achieved for the club.

2. Will the club still maintain paper targets?

The club will maintain conventional paper targets as a contingency measure and in order to cater for current and future events, i.e. OPM; Fixtures; 303; larger come and try events etc. A conventional paper target will also be available for Proofing Shots on days that club shoots are being held from distances where no 25meter zero range is currently present (refer question 8 for further information).

3. What times will the range be open?

As per the club season i.e. 1pm Saturday afternoons.

Our purpose is to meet and function as a club. We meet most Saturday afternoons February to November as per the club calendar of events. There is no live firing on the range outside of the organised activity. Given the sport is so enjoyable we have looked to get the most shooting into a season as possible and provide equal opportunities for the benefit of all members. Our committee reviews this annually.

As appropriate range etiquette, members are encouraged to allow time to be ready for a 1:00pm Start and to help with the set-up / pack up of the targets, monitors and range flags.

4. How do I know if range is open or closed? When can someone move safely to and from the targets?

In accordance with SSR 2.1.15, In the case of Electronic Targets and no persons being present at the Butts area, it is the responsibility of the Range Officer to ensure the butts area has been cleared before firing can be authorised to commence. For this purpose a person leaving the Butts MUST obtain Range Clearance from the Range Officer and the Range Officer on closing the range will clear all rifles and place the RED flag on the firing line and then issue a clearance to the person leaving the butts to return.

5. Can I use the ET's if I know my rifle is un-zeroed and how can I prepare to have my rifle zeroed?

All shooters are expected to know their sight settings for various distances and to have this information recorded so that 99 times out of 100 the following concessions will not need to be exercised. All shooters are expected to have properly zeroed their rifle before participating in a club shoot, and blasting away at an electronic target to achieve a hit will not be tolerated. There is a zero range available before every club shoot for that purpose. Zero targets can be downloaded from the clubs website and a limited supply is available from the club trailer at 50 cents per sheet.

If on attending the range a shooter has genuine reason for doubting their sight setting then they must report this to the Range Officer and arrange to either zero at one of our approved zero ranges or be squadded to the conventional paper target for proving zero (see also Q.8).

6. When do I need to score & to shoot? What if I do not have a check scorer – can I start without one and why do we still use paper score cards?

Nothing really changes in this regard.

Upon arriving at the range, setting your gear up and having signed the range register it is appropriate etiquette to have your name added to a score card, keeping the number of shooters on each target as even as possible, and to make sure you are available to score if you are the last shooter on your score card. Likewise, once you have finished your first detail and have secured your rifle and gear off the mound, promptly return to your target to score for the next shooter.

The role of the scorer is very important and in addition to entering shooter and session details the scorer must watch the monitor all of the time, and if a shot fails to display on the monitor OR if an additional stray shot appears without the shooter having fired, the Scorer is to immediately inform the Range Officer, and the shooter suspend firing until the issue is resolved by the RO (refer to Question 8 – 11 for further information).

Scorers are NOT to allow themselves to be distracted by anyone and MUST call out the shots as they are recording them on the paper score cards. Spectators may QUIETLY observe a shoot via the scoring monitor or their own device, appropriate etiquette would be to not disturb current shooters and or those preparing to shoot.

As per SSR 4.1.3.12 the competitor must after firing each shot, pay attention to the score called out by the scorer and ensure that the scorer has called out the correct score for each shot. This is especially important if the competitor is firing quickly or an electronic target monitor is being used.

7. My centre is shot out – can I get a new one?

Each physical target in use will start with a good aiming mark. The line markings will NOT be refreshed during an afternoon of club shooting.

8. What happens if I get an un-explained miss for a sighter?

As a local rule, if a shooter firing a match on an electronic target records a miss on either their first or second sighter, they will not be permitted to continue (except where a cross fire event has been established with certainty). The Range Officer may use discretion if the shot is the first of the string, a miss shall be recorded and the shooter shall recheck that his/her sight setting is correct.

If the miss for a sighter cannot be explained the shooter must temporarily retire and either head to the zero range or be squadded on to the conventional target that will be available for proving of zero depending on the distance (i.e. zero ranges will be available for use at 300 and 500 meters and a conventional target for all other ranges).

Marking of Proof Shots:

When a shooter is firing shots at the conventional target to prove their rifle and their sight settings the marker of the target will mark shots outside of the inner four normally – however, spotters inside the inner four are not to be displayed and all such shots (including bullseyes and central bulls) are to be valued as inner fours only. Once a shooter has recorded three consecutive hits then they must stop the proofing shoot, and they may then start or resume their stage on an electronic target at a time and place determined by the Range Officer.

It is envisaged that when in use the conventional paper target will only be available for the first One (1) hour of the club shoot (after which the Range Officer will coordinate a momentary closure of the range and return of the markers).

9. What happens if I miss the target during my shoot?

As per SSR 4.5.1.15.2 Electronic Targets – Misses on the Target. When using electronic targets, if a shot is not registered on the monitor after the shot has been fired, after 30 seconds, the scorer shall call the Range Officer and request an assessment of the situation by the RO. The Range Officer May Use Discretion If the shot is the first of the string, a miss shall be recorded and the shooter shall recheck that his/her sight setting is correct. If the shot is during a string with all previous shots registering on the target, the Range Officer shall use all available data to make a determination whether in all reasonableness, a miss was probable. This data should include but not be limited to, current weather conditions, scores leading up to the lost shot (continual approximate centre shots vs. edge of target shots etc.) any issues or glitches on other targets immediately preceding the event etc. Nearby targets should be checked for any extra shots. Following this determination the RO may award an extra shot if, after careful consideration and on the balance of probabilities, the ET is deemed at fault. If an extra shot is awarded and the three minute time limit has been exceeded, and it was through no fault of the shooter, then the extra shot awarded will be classified as an optional sighter. If the shooter elects to discard the optional sighter then the next shot shall be classified as the missed shot that was awarded. The RO shall award a Miss if, after careful consideration and on the balance of probabilities, the shooter is deemed to have missed.

As per SSR 4.5.1.15.4 before he/she may continue, if there is clear evidence where the shot has gone (e.g. on another target), the competitor may continue. If the location of the shot is unclear, the scorer must inspect the barrel to ensure there is no obstruction left in the barrel. The onus is on the shooter to facilitate the scorer being able to clearly look through the entire barrel.

10. Someone else put a shot on my target. What do I do?

As per SSR 4.5.1.15.3 Crossfires:- The previous procedure is distinct from a crossfire. A crossfire will be identified by BOTH the absence of a shot on the shooter's monitor AND the appearance of an unsolicited shot on another target (subject to ET design). In this instance the RO must be called to find the origin of the unsolicited shot. Rule 4.5.1.8 shall apply for shooter receiving the extra shot and a miss shall be recorded for the crossfiring shooter. Scorers and Check Scorers are to maintain vigilance on the monitor for the appearance of unsolicited shots. It is stressed however that this is always secondary to the primary task of the scorer being the overseer of the shooter and that safety practices are being followed.

As per SSR 4.5.1.8 In the event of a marker finding two hits on his target, he will signal the higher value and spot both hits and the competitor on whose target the hits are made shall be entitled to claim the hit of the higher value and shall be entitled to an optional shot from the first sighter to the last shot of the completed stage [i.e. if two hits on first sighter, have an optional sighter, then a second sighter. If it is the second sighter, then an optional first business. When using electronic targets, in the event of two shots being recorded in rapid succession (i.e. an extra shot from another target) and it is not possible to determine which shot should be attributed to the shooter on the target, the provision of this rule as detailed above shall apply.

As per SSR 4.5.1.11 No competitor shall knowingly claim a shot he has not fired.

11. If I save one sighter or two can I still fire them off on completion of my counting shots?

Yes, you may fire the saved sighters off if you wish. Your scorer has already entered the relevant stage and number of Shots. Any additional shots you fire will show as plotted on the group but they will not adjust the overall score. It would be appropriate range etiquette to enquire with your scorer and following competitor for their acknowledgment/approval prior to taking the extra shots.

12. The paper score does not match the score on the monitor – what is the procedure to rectify?

As per SSR 4.1.3.16 When using Electronic Targets where scores and shot positions are shown on an electronic monitor, the monitor is not to be cleared of scores in any way until the shooter and scorer/s agree that the results have been correctly recorded on the manual scorecard, and once agreed, the scorer shall be the one to clear the monitor.

An example of this situation may be that monitors were accidentally cleared during a shoot and a new string was entered against the shooter to finish their shoot. In such instance it will be very important for the scorecard to reflect the correct score and as the Clubs Database Administrator can use the paper scorecard to rectify the error after the event and merge the two separate records within Hexta.

13. If an ET is sitting spare can I use it for practice / load development?

Yes, after completion of all your counting shots and subject to the prior approval of the Range Officer. The Range Officer is to ensure there is sufficient time and resources for all other competitors to complete their counting shots before approving target usage for the purpose of practice. Additional range fees will apply.

14. Can I shoot multiple disciplines on the same day, i.e. Target rifle and F-Class?

Yes, But you can only nominate to enter one Championship Competition for the season and you must have shot your nominated discipline first. The coordination of your second shoot will be at the direction of the range officer (As outlined in Q.13). Additional range fees will apply for your second shoot.

15. Can I try rifles other than my target rifle i.e. hunting or old military rifles or alike?

Yes, but only after proving of zero has occurred, i.e at either the 25 meter ranges or via three shots on the conventional paper target when in use. It is however, preferred that this style of shooting occur on conventional paper targets when available, i.e. scheduled practice days.