

SOUTH WEST ENGLAND FIELD TARGET ASSOCIATION

Classic Field Target Class – January 2026 Onwards

(Regional Rules & Guidance Notes)

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Note: The Classic class will take place on the FT course of targets. Competitors must shoot the FT class leagues before shooting the Classic class. If the FT course includes firing points and or targets that are also used by the HFT course, and the shooter intends to shoot FT or CFT and HFT, then the HFT discipline must be shot first.

1) AIRGUNS

Classic FT Competitors can use any PCP air rifle that was available for purchase prior to January 2000, irrespective of the guns actual age or any Piston or Gas-Ram air rifle. (Proof of compliance, if required, is the responsibility of the competitor and not SWEFTA)

Competitors must record the make and model of Rifle and Scope used on the rear of their score card.

There's no limitation on the design of the rifle. The rifle may be fitted with a fully adjustable stock or incorporate such home-made or other after-market modifications as deemed suitable by its owner. A single rifle sling, separate or otherwise, and/or a butt hook are permitted as a means of steadying the aim.

Adjustment to Stocks, Butt hook or Hamster can be made once only for the entire course of targets. This can be done either prior to the commencement of shooting or in

preparation for the first target being shot.

The use of any electronic device, including phones, tablets, laptops or other similar device to run ballistic, windage, elevation, range finding or other related applications or programs is not permitted.

Where multi-shot magazine fed rifles are used, the magazine must be removed from the rifle between lanes. Rifles that are fitted with non-detachable magazines should only be loaded with sufficient pellets to complete a lane.

It is the responsibility of the individual person in possession at the time to ensure that their rifle complies with all statutory legal limits.

Failure to comply with this rule will result in disqualification.

2) SIGHTS

Any form of sighting system may be used.

Scopes available for purchase prior to January 2000 may be used without restriction, (proof of compliance, if required, is the responsibility of the competitor and not SWEFTA.)

Telescopic sights purchased post January 2000 can either have a fixed magnification of 25x max. or if a zoom type scope is used it must have its magnification set at or below 25x for each target prior to sighting.

The use of a laser attached to a telescopic sight is not permitted.

The use of separate electronic laser range finders is not allowed.

Failure to comply with this rule will result in disqualification.

3) AMMUNITION

Any design of pellet that is completely made of lead or lead alloy may be used.

Pellets made from other materials excluding steel may be used provided that there is no risk from rebounds, ricochets or fragments returning to the firing line. Due to the high risk from rebounds and ricochets steel ammunition must not be used.

4) CLASSES

There are no classes in Classic FT. Competitors will shoot to the BFTA Open Class rules.

5) ENTRY TIMES

No league shoots shall commence before 09.30am. It is intended that shoots will run on a shotgun start basis, with pairs commencing at each lane simultaneously. Late arrivals will be fed in as circumstances permit. Priority will be given to those pairs already on the course.

Last entry into any competition will be accepted at 12.30 noon. Scorecards must be submitted back to the organisers by 16.00pm to be considered valid for the day's

competition. Any cards submitted after this time will be void.

6) RANGE OFFICERS & CHIEF MARSHAL.

Event organisers (clubs or region) are expected to and will provide Range Officers (ROs) and a Chief Marshal (CM) to ensure safe and efficient running of the event. The ROs should be clearly identifiable by the use of armbands or high-visibility vests.

In the event of target related problems or any other down range problem the ROs will signal a cease-fire by a single blast on a whistle, horn or similar audible device. Any ROs may request assistance from any person on the firing line to ensure rapid clearance of any problem encountered. When the problem has been rectified, the firing line will be reactivated by a double blast of a whistle or other audible device.

ROs shall ensure that rules are observed and the CM shall have absolute discretion in attending to any matter not specifically encompassed by these rules (or the guidance notes).

7) TARGETS

See the BFTA Main Shoot Rules (<https://www.thebfta.net/news/competition-rules/>)

See the Guidance Notes BFTA Course Setting (<https://www.thebfta.net/news/competition-rules/>)

8) COURSE OF FIRE

See the BFTA Main Shoot Rules (<https://www.thebfta.net/news/competition-rules/>)

9) MARSHALLING & PAIRS

See the BFTA Main Shoot Rules (<https://www.thebfta.net/news/competition-rules/>)

See the BFTA Marshalling System (<https://www.thebfta.net/news/competition-rules/>)

New shooters or shooters without a grade must partner a shooter who has a grade or an Open or Piston shooter with a minimum of 3 league shoots experience. The chief marshal will find a suitable partner if required.

Shooters who do not have a pre-arranged partner or need an experienced shooter for the event should be willing for the Competition Secretary, Chief Marshal or the Stats. Office on the day to allocate a partner.

Failure to comply with this rule will result in disqualification.

10) SCORING

See the BFTA Main Shoot Rules (<https://www.thebfta.net/news/competition-rules/>)

See SWEFTA's Shooting and Grading Rules (<https://www.swefta.org.uk/documents/>)

A Competitor must record the make and model of Rifle and Scopes used on the rear of their score card.

Failure to comply with this rule will result in disqualification.

11) SHOOTING

See the BFTA Open Class Rules. (<https://www.thebfta.net/news/competition-rules/>)

12) TIMING

There is no formal timing in Classic FT.

12a) DELAYING THE SHOOT

If any competitor believes someone is delaying the shoot by repeatedly taking too much time, they should bring it to the attention of either the RO or the CM. The RO or CM will time the offending group and if found to be slow they will warn the competitors and if necessary time the group in all subsequent lanes.

Note: 3 minutes is deemed a reasonable amount of time from addressing the Firing Line for a lane containing two targets. A further minute will be added for each additional target in a lane to a maximum of 5 minutes for a 4 target lane.

Only during an officially timed lane by an RO or the CM may any target not taken within the time period be recorded as a 0.

13) PENALTIES

The penalty for unsafe practice or any form of cheating is disqualification, with the club or regional association reserving the right to take further action.

14) LEAVING THE FIRING LINE

The competitors may leave the firing line under the following conditions:

- Voluntary abandonment of the shoot, in which case their score to that point will be presented as a valid result.
- To affect a repair to equipment which has been rendered unsafe or incapable of firing a shot by whatever means. This does not include zero shift of optical equipment or poorly zeroed systems, an exception to this being should a rifle take a fall or severe knock on the firing line (e.g. by failure of sling or similar). The CM or RO can allow a competitor to replace the faulty part or equipment, but no visit to the zeroing range is allowed, unless permission is given by the CM or RO.
- Any other occurrence, which is deemed valid by the CM or RO (e.g. extreme weather conditions that may cause a safety hazard).

15) RANGE CONDUCT

Competitors must be aware of muzzle sweep. The muzzle/barrel must be kept pointing down to the ground at all times; this includes moving in and out of the Firing Line. Guns will only be sighted, shouldered or discharged at a recognised Firing Line.

Guns will always be kept unloaded and un-cocked when not in use.

In the event of a 'cease-fire' order; guns will be discharged into the ground a minimum of

10 yards forward of the Firing Line, the muzzles dropped and actions left in the open position.

Targets must not be sighted during a cease-fire.

If a mobile phone is carried on the course then it must be set to silent.

16) INSURANCE & RULES

The host club shall display a current and valid Certificate of Insurance and also a current copy of the regional rules.

17) INTOXICATING SUBSTANCES

The possession and/or consumption of any intoxicating substance (alcohol or illegal drugs) on the Firing Line is strictly prohibited. If the organiser, RO or CM discover that any competitor is believed to have consumed and/or be under the influence of alcohol or illegal drugs, will be asked to leave the Firing Line/club premises.

The club and/or region reserve the right to pursue further action following any such misconduct.