

# WCW Shooting Sports Centerfire Benchrest Match Rules

1/14/2025: Revised Rules Approved

## I. Preamble:

The goal of the Wildlife Committee of Washington (WCW) Shooting Sports Centerfire Benchrest Match is to provide a safe and fun environment that will challenge the experienced Competitor, engage the new Competitor to help them improve their skills, and grow the sport of Benchrest Centerfire shooting.

## II. Match Overview:

1. The Match is a Centerfire Benchrest competition for scoped centerfire rifles using the International Benchrest Shooters (I.B.S.) target at distances of 100, 200, or 300 yards.
2. Competitors will compete in either the Expert or Sharpshooter rifle divisions.
3. The Match will be held on the third Saturday of each month, but this can change due to schedule conflicts with other events. Check the WCW Range calendar for date changes.
4. Club membership is not required to participate.
5. If you are interested in participating in the Match please contact the Match Director – Matt Daly [matt5404@frontier.com](mailto:matt5404@frontier.com)

## III. Match Operational Details:

1. Four I.B.S. targets consisting of five (5) bulls with two shots for record on each bull plus one sighter target for unlimited sighters in a 13-minute time period. There will also be a ten-minute sight in period on the first target sighter prior to shooting targets for record.
2. In the event that there are more than 18 competitors who have confirmed that they intend on competing in the match, a second relay will be added. The first relay will be comprised of all the Expert Division competitors unless someone chooses to compete in the second relay along with the number of Sharpshooter Division competitors required to fill out the remaining benches as chosen by the Match Director. The remaining Sharpshooters will compete in the second relay. The two-relay format is documented in Attachment C.
3. All gear may be brought to the assigned benches except rifles which will remain in the vehicles. Once the flags and targets stands are set up the competitors will be directed to bring their rifles to their benches.
4. It is highly recommended that a competitor's rifle be pre-sighted in at 100 yards. The competitor may hang a target at the 100-yard line if they want to confirm their zero during the ten-minute sight in period.
5. A safety briefing will be conducted prior to the beginning of the match as outlined in Attachment B.
6. Ten points are awarded for hitting the inner edge or within the center target ring, and then a descending number of points in each of the five outer rings using the inner ring scoring method. An additional point will be awarded for touching or eliminating the dead center of the target bull.
7. If a competitor shoots a single bull three times or more, than the lowest two shots values will be counted for score.

8. If a competitor determines that they or another Competitor has accidentally shot the wrong target they should immediately inform the Match Director. The identified shots will be disregarded for scoring purposes with no penalty to the competitor who cross-fired.
9. Competitors may place their own wind flags down range prior to the beginning of the match.
10. The competition targets will be scored by two designated match scoring judges. Magnifying glasses and scoring gauges will be used in scoring the targets.
11. After the last relay targets have been scored, the competitors may challenge the scores of any their targets prior to determination of the match winners.
12. Tie Breakers:
  - a. Yardage aggregate ties. Refer to Match #1 and compare scores successively until the tie is broken, match by match. If still tied after all matches, then revert to Match #1 bull #1 and compare score bull# until the tie is broken.
  - b. Grand Aggregate Ties. Start with the score of the shortest yardage in the Grand Aggregate. If needed then start as in the yardage tie method. The tie breaking will continue by match all the way through the multiple yardages in the Grand Aggregate before reverting to bull #1, Match #1 or the shortage yardage.
  - c. Wipe out X Ties. In the event of a tie, (after using all of the methods above), then the scorer will break the tie by determining the number of “wipeout” X’s. A wipeout is defined as the complete X dot being fully circumscribed by the caliber specific ring of the NBRSA scoring reticle.
13. No talking is allowed inside of the Range 1 building only while a relay is in progress.
14. After the Match is completed, the Match Director will give instructions to case rifles, remove their equipment from the range and clean up the firing lining as necessary.
15. Competitors will help setup the range for the Match targets and then restore the range to its standard configuration after the match.
16. All Competitors must sign a waiver indicating they agree to allow usage of their name in written communications about the Match. This will include, but not be limited to: the Match summary published in the Range Newsletter, the monthly Match scores posted on the Range Website, and any detail summaries of the Match sent out to the Competitors. Competitors will be given the option of using a two (2) letter alias instead of their names. First time Competitors will be asked to sign the waiver after shooting their first Match.
17. Competitors who wish to take videos or photos of other competitors or their personal equipment must obtain prior approval from the individual first.

#### **IV. Match Safety Details:**

1. WCW Range Safety rules will apply to this Match. <https://www.wcwshootingsports.org/rifle-range-rules/>
2. A safety briefing will be held at the beginning of the match. See Attachment B.
3. Chamber safety flags are required.
4. The bolt assembly shall be removed from the rifle and inserted only at the beginning of each relay at the direction of the Match Director.
5. Eye and ear protection are required.

#### **V. Equipment:**

1. Rifle:
  - a. Any rifle up to .30 caliber is acceptable.
  - b. There is no minimum trigger weight requirement. However, a rifle must not discharge upon an aggressive bolt closure, or a vertical stock bump test.
2. Scope:

- a. There is no minimum rifle scope power requirement although a minimum 32X power scope is recommended. The competitor may use a spotting scope.
3. Rests:
  - a. Front rests shall be any type of bipod or tripod.
  - b. If a competitor does not bring a front rest, the Match Director can provide one of the WCW Range wooden frame rests and sandbags for use.
  - c. A benchrest style rear bag or sandbags may be used.
  - d. The bipod or tripod and rear rest shall not be connected in manner that they move together and stay in alignment.
  - e. Towels, boards, and other materials lying on top of the bench, but under and separate from the front and rear rests are acceptable
  - f. Clamps cannot be used to secure the bipod, tripod, or rear rest to the bench.
4. Ammunition:
  - a. Any factory or hand loaded centerfire cartridges with the exception of tracers, armor-piercing ammunition, steel or tungsten-cored bullets as well as steel jacketed ammunition are acceptable.

## **VI. Divisions:**

1. Competitors will be divided into two Divisions: Expert and Sharpshooter.
  - a. The Expert Division will consist of competitors with shooting skills capable of shooting scores of 396 or better.
  - b. The Sharpshooter Division will consist of competitors who do not post scores up to the 396 scoring threshold.
2. Competitors who post three consecutive scores averaging 396 or higher will be promoted to the Expert Division.
3. The Match Director shall make the initial decision on Division placement of all new Competitors based upon an assessment of their shooting skills.

## **VII. Entry Fee & Prize Money:**

1. The entry fee is ten dollars (\$10). Two dollars (\$2) pays for the targets, and the remaining eight dollars (\$8) is returned in prize money to the Competitors.
2. Prize money will be awarded for the cumulative score of the four targets and distributed based upon the number of competitors in each division according to the payout schedule in Attachment A.
3. Any errors in calculating the score of a target found after the prize money is awarded will not change the prize money distribution nor official scores.
4. If there is only a single Competitor in a Division, then they will be charged only the two dollars (\$2) target fee when applicable.

## **VIII. Season Championship**

1. The Season Championship will consist of monthly Matches starting in January continuing throughout the calendar year excluding the Frombach, Seibert, and TackDriver matches for point purposes.
2. To be eligible for the Season Championship, a competitor must compete in a minimum of six of the nine regular season matches with the aggregate total of the top six scores determining the two Division Championships. The tie breakers will be number of matches won followed by number of second place finishes.
3. Competitors with the top score in each Division will have their name engraved on their division's championship trophy.

## **IX. Rules Update and Dispute Resolution:**

1. A three member Rules Committee will be established to periodically review and update the WCW Centerfire Benchrest Match rules, support resolution of issues or disputes raised by the Competitors.
2. The committee shall consist of the Match Director and two Competitors who are currently competing in the WCW Centerfire Benchrest Match, and shall meet the following criteria:
  - a. Members of the WCW Range.
  - b. Participated in a minimum of six WCW Centerfire Benchrest Matches.
3. Process for selecting the two Rules Committee Members is as follows:
  - a. They will be selected by a vote of all the Competitors attending the February WCW Centerfire Benchrest Match.
  - b. They will serve a two-year term on the Rules Committee with no limits on consecutive or total number of terms that can be served.
  - c. In order to stagger the terms of the elected Rules Committee members such that a new member is elected every year the following process will be used for the initial election of the two Rules Committee members.
    - i. The member receiving the highest number of votes will have an initial two-year term.
    - ii. The member receiving the second highest number of votes will have an initial one-year term.
  - d. In case of a tie, then a runoff election of just the tied candidates will be held.
  - e. Range members may self-nominate themselves for the Rules Committee Positions.
  - f. The Match Director is responsible for facilitating a request for candidates, running the election, and reporting the results.
  - g. If a Rules Committee member steps down, or stops shooting in the Match, the Match Director will hold a special election to vote on a new Rules Committee member to fill the remaining term of the individual who has left.
4. Suggestions or ideas for improvements to the WCW Centerfire Benchrest Match Rules shall be submitted in writing to the Match Director.
5. The following process shall be followed for revising the rules set forth herein:
  - a. The Match Director shall review all proposed rule changes with the Rules Committee for consideration which shall be submitted in writing to the Match Director.
  - b. A formal response on the status of the proposed rule change after review by the Rules Committee shall be provided to the individual who made the submittal.
  - c. Any revisions to the WCW Centerfire Benchrest Match Rules being considered by the Rules Committee shall first be sent to all Competitors for review and comment. The comment period shall be set by the Rules Committee and will last at least seven (7) to a maximum of thirty (30) days in duration.
  - d. After the comment period is closed, the Rules Committee shall evaluate the comments and make changes as appropriate. If any one of the three committee members feel the changes are substantial in nature, and require an additional review by the Competitors, then the revised wording for the proposed rules update will be sent out for comment per paragraph c. above.
  - e. Upon finalization of the wording for the proposed update to the rules, the Rules Committee may:
    - i. Incorporate the rule update directly into the rules based upon agreement of all three Rules Committee members which is typically for minor type changes.
    - ii. If any one of the Rule Committee members believes that a vote of the Competitors is required, then a vote will be held at the next monthly Match on the proposed rule change, which will be

sent to the Competitors in advance of the Match. The vote will be by secret ballot and will require a greater than 50% acceptance of all votes cast. The Match Director will be responsible for communicating the proposed rule change and running the vote of the Competitors.

6. The Match Director's final ruling made the day of the Match shall stand.
7. Any disputes related to clarification or interpretation of the rules shall be submitted in writing to the Match Director who shall review it with the Rules Committee. A formal response to the individual who made the submittal shall be provided.
8. If the Rules Committee cannot reach a consensus on any item under discussion, whether it be a rule related issue, or the resolution of a dispute, then a two to one majority will be used for making a decision, unless otherwise defined within the WCW Centerfire Benchrest Match rules.
9. If a dispute involves a Rules Committee member, then a temporary member will be selected to participate in the review and resolution of the dispute.
  - a. The temporary member shall be a current Competitor.
  - b. A willing temporary member will be selected by a majority vote the Rules Committee.

## **X. Match Director Responsibilities:**

1. The Match Director is responsible for the safe and efficient operation conduct of the entire Match. The Match Director is responsible for the efficient operation of the range, and the proper conduct of all Competitors and spectators. Instructions from the Match Director for the operation of the Match shall be complied with by all persons on the range. The Match Director's behavior and decisions must be characterized by absolute impartiality, firmness, courtesy, and complete awareness.
2. The Match Director shall ensure all Competitors are adhering to the WCW Range safety rules.
3. The Match Director shall be responsible for:
  - a. Conducting the Match in accordance with the rules set forth herein.
  - b. Appointing an assistant(s) the day of the Match to help perform any or all their responsibilities.
  - c. Making decisions the day of the Match necessary to successfully complete the Match.
  - d. Assigning Competitors to a Division and Bench
  - e. Performing the safety briefing prior to the start of the Match.
  - f. Supporting scoring of the targets and settling any disputed target scores.
  - g. Collecting Match fees, distributing prize money, and paying the target fee expenses to the range office on the day of the Match.
  - h. Responsible for recording Competitors Match scores, inputting them into the WCW Centerfire Benchrest Match spread sheet, and submitting it to the Range for posting on the website.
  - i. Shall submit a monthly Match report for the Range newsletter.
  - j. Is the point of contact for Competitors submitting in writing any proposed rule changes and requests for resolving disputes. The Match Director will then review the item with the Rules committee for consideration and resolution.
  - k. Responsible for supporting the election of the Rules Committee members.

## **XI. Guidelines for Range Members Shooting Concurrent with the Match:**

1. Per Page 25 of The Wildlife Committee of Washington “Policy / New Member Orientation Manual”, Revised May 5, 2023:
  - a. Rifle Range Use Rules: Matches and Events - Matches and scheduled events have priority on Range #1. Members with special use endorsement may use Range #1 **during an event if there are available shooting benches**. Members will use Range #1 during an event **under the direction of the event coordinator or match director**. Members will use the range in such a way as **to not hinder the conduct of the event**.
2. In support of this WCW policy the Centerfire Benchrest Match has established the following guidelines that shall be followed by any member with a rifle special use endorsement that wishes to practice (shoot) concurrently during a Centerfire Match.
  - a. They shall follow the direction of the Match Range Master assigned to run the Relay they are practicing / shooting with.
  - b. **They may choose a bench after all the Competitors that are preregistered for the Match have had** the opportunity to check in during the scheduled check in period for their Relay.
  - c. They shall follow the Match rules with regards to talking while the match is in progress.
  - d. They shall provide their own targets & their own target boards / backers.
3. If the Range Member will not follow or adhere to the guidelines outlined in Item 2 or Article XI listed above, then the Range Master responsible for running the Relay will ask the Member to leave the Match and will report the issue to both the Match Director and to the Rifle Committee Chairman.

# WCW Centerfire Benchrest Match Payouts

## Attachment A

<b>Number of Competitors</b>	<b>1st Place</b>	<b>2nd Place</b>	<b>3rd Place</b>	<b>4th Place</b>
<b>2</b>	<b>\$16</b>			
<b>3</b>	<b>\$16</b>	<b>\$8</b>		
<b>4</b>	<b>\$18</b>	<b>\$10</b>	<b>\$4</b>	
<b>5</b>	<b>\$20</b>	<b>\$12</b>	<b>\$8</b>	
<b>6</b>	<b>\$24</b>	<b>\$14</b>	<b>\$10</b>	
<b>7</b>	<b>\$28</b>	<b>\$16</b>	<b>\$12</b>	
<b>8</b>	<b>\$32</b>	<b>\$19</b>	<b>\$13</b>	
<b>9</b>	<b>\$36</b>	<b>\$21</b>	<b>\$15</b>	
<b>10</b>	<b>\$40</b>	<b>\$23</b>	<b>\$17</b>	
<b>11</b>	<b>\$40</b>	<b>\$23</b>	<b>\$17</b>	<b>\$8</b>
<b>12</b>	<b>\$44</b>	<b>\$24</b>	<b>\$19</b>	<b>\$9</b>
<b>13</b>	<b>\$47</b>	<b>\$26</b>	<b>\$21</b>	<b>\$10</b>
<b>14</b>	<b>\$51</b>	<b>\$28</b>	<b>\$22</b>	<b>\$11</b>
<b>15</b>	<b>\$55</b>	<b>\$30</b>	<b>\$23</b>	<b>\$12</b>
<b>16</b>	<b>\$58</b>	<b>\$32</b>	<b>\$25</b>	<b>\$13</b>
<b>17</b>	<b>\$62</b>	<b>\$34</b>	<b>\$26</b>	<b>\$14</b>
<b>18</b>	<b>\$65</b>	<b>\$35</b>	<b>\$29</b>	<b>\$15</b>

## Attachment B

# WCW Centerfire Safety Rules Briefing

- Ear and Eye protections must be worn whenever the range is hot.
- Rifles will remain cased until instructed to uncasing them.
- When uncasing your rifle, the barrel must be pointed down range.
- After uncasing your rifle, you will immediately make the rifle Safe.
  - Safe means: Bolt Assembly Removed, Magazine Removed, and a Chamber Flag inserted into the chamber.
- You may point your rifle straight up when attaching or removing a bipod.
- Before you leave your bench for any reason, or if a Cease Fire is called, immediately make your rifle safe.
- A Cease Fire may be called by anyone observing an unsafe condition or situation.
- Unsafe conditions will also include Large Animals on the range, detached targets, or target boards that have fallen down.
- The clock will be stopped, and time adjusted as necessary.
- When a Cease Fire is called make your rifle safe and remain at your bench unless otherwise instructed.
- Do not call a Cease Fire for an equipment issue, or for non-Safety reasons.
- If in doubt call a Cease Fire – Safety First.
- If you have an issue or question, contact the Range Master.
- There shall be no casing of rifles or removal of gear until the Match is over. At the end of the Match, you will be instructed when to pull targets, case your rifles and pick up your gear. The range will be returned to members configuration including target frames at 200 and 300 yards.
- Please refrain from talking on the firing line while the other competitors are shooting. If you leave the Range, please stay close by.



• **Attachment C**  
**Two Relay Match Format**

**Relay 1**

**Time:**

7:30-9:00	Check in, set up equipment, wind flags, & target boards, safety briefing, bring rifles to the line
9:01-9:11	Relay 1 Shoots sighters
9:12-9:25	Relay 1 Shoots Target 1
9:25-9:30	Break - clean rifles
9:30-9:43	Relay 1 Shoots Target 2
9:45-10:00	Relay 1 Pulls Targets 1-2 and replaces them with Targets 3-4
10:00-10:05	Break - clean rifles
10:05-10:18	Relay 1 Shoots Target 3
10:20-10:25	Break - clean rifles
10:25-10:38	Relay 1 Shoots Target 4
10:40-11:00	Relay 1 Replaces Targets 3-4 with Relay 2 Targets 1-2, Retrieves target boards not required for Relay 2 & flags, Removes equipment
11:00-12:30	Relay 1 Scores targets, and awards prize money in the Chalet

**Relay 2**

**Time:**

10:05-10:35	Relay 2 Check in
10:40-11:00	Relay 2 Sets up wind flags
11:00-11:20	Relay 2 bench setup, safety briefing, bring rifles to the line
11:20-11:30	Relay 2 Shoots sighters
11:30-11:40	Relay 2 Shoots Target 1
11:40-11:45	Break - clean rifles
11:45-11:58	Relay 2 Shoots Target 2
12:00-12:20	Relay 2 Retrieves Targets 1 & 2 and replaces them with Targets 3-4
12:20-12:25	Break - clean rifles
12:25-12:38	Relay 2 Shoots Target 3
12:40-12:45	Break - clean rifles
12:45-12:58	Relay 2 Shoots Targets 4
1:00-1:20	Relay 2 Retrieves Targets 3-4 with target boards & flags, returns range to member configuration
1:20-2:15	Relay 2 Removes equipment, score targets, and awards prize money in the Chalet

- 2/7/2024 Global name change from Kenmore to either WCW Shooting Sports or WCW throughout the Document
- 2/7/2024 III. Match Operational Details The text: “2. All gear may be brought to the assigned benches except rifles which will remain in the vehicles. Once the flags and targets stands are set up the competitors will be directed to bring their rifles to their benches.” Was added.
- 2/7/2024 VI. Divisions 2. “Competitors who post three consecutive scores of 396 or higher will be promoted to the Expert Division.” was changed to “Competitors who post three consecutive scores averaging 396 or higher will be promoted to the Expert Division.”
- 2/7/2024 VIII. Season Championship 1. Added “TackDriver”.
- 2/7/2024 VIII. Season Championship 2. Changed “seven of ten” to “six of nine”. Changed top “seven” to top “six”.
- 7/17/2024 WCW Centerfire Benchrest Match Payouts. Revised payout matrix
- 10/16/2024 III. Match Operational Details 11. Tie breaker rules were added.
- 1/15/2025 III. Match Operational Details 2. Was added to document the two-relay match format when there are more than 18 competitors in the competition.
- 1/15/2025 XI. Guidelines for Range Members Shooting Concurrent with the Match was added.
- 1/15/2025 Attachment C Two Relay Match Format was added