

FAYETTEVILLE INDEPENDENT LIGHT INFANTRY

A storied past; A bright future;

Formed in 1793 under the Militia Act signed by President George Washington and passed by Congress on March 5, 1792.

With talk of war with England the Fayetteville Independent Light Infantry was organized on August 23, 1793, with Robert Adam as Captain, John Winslow as Lieutenant and Robert Cochran as Ensign. Throughout its' history the F.I.L.I. has always remained a "corps of gentlemen."

In 1797, shortly after the F.I.L.I. was organized, Isaac Hammond, a free black veteran of the American Revolution, became the first Fifer. According to North Carolina colonial records, Isaac Hammond was a member of Captain Jones' Company in the 10th Regiment of the North Carolina Continental Line. It was his dying request that he be buried on the F.I.L.I. Parade Ground, near the famous Cool Spring, where he could be near the Company, in spirit, that he loved and served so faithfully.

In 1825, the company served as honor guard to the Marquis de Lafayette on his visit to Fayetteville which was named after him in 1784 in honor of the French nobleman's service in the American Revolution. Construction of the U.S. arsenal in Fayetteville in 1838 increased the importance of the company. When the Civil War began, the F.I.L.I. joined the 1st North Carolina Volunteers, called the "Bethel" Regiment, as Company H. It was the first regiment organized in North Carolina and fought in the Battle of Big Bethel, the first land engagement of the war. Some of its members were among the troops who later surrendered at Appomattox.

During the Spanish-American War, the F.I.L.I. entered national service as Company A, 2nd Regiment, commanded by Capt. Benjamin R. Huske. Wearing their Confederate uniforms, the enlistees marched into Camp Dan Russell, where "they doffed the grays" and "donned the blues" of the United States. The company trained at Tybee Island, Ga., but did not sail to Cuba. The troops were mustered out at Macon, Ga., on 8 Feb. 1899. In 1917, the company went to Camp Stewart at El Paso, Tex., to help defend the border from raids by Mexican leader Francisco Villa.

During World War I the F.I.L.I. served as Company F of the 119th Infantry Regiment, part of the Thirtieth Division, and fought in Flanders-its last military service.

FAYETTEVILLE

INDEPENDENT LIGHT INFANTRY COMPANY

THE MAJOR'S ANNUAL RIFLE COMPETITION



CONTINUING A TRADITION OF GENTLEMANLY
PROFESSIONALISM, AND DEDICATION TO COMMUNITY,
STATE AND NATION.

*"HE THAT HATH NO STOMACH TO THIS FIGHT
LET HIM DEPART"*

THE MAJOR'S ANNUAL RIFLE COMPETITION

First established at the 1834 Annual Muster, the match was initiated to ensure that the members were maintaining critical marksmanship skills. The annual rifle competition was reinstated on the 200th anniversary of an Act of the State Legislative Session of 1819 which elevated the F.I.L.I. commander's rank from Captain to Major, giving the unit "right of the line" during Regimental formations. Based on this historical fact the official name of the event is the "Major's Annual Rifle Competition," and the shooter's coin bears the words "right of the line." The competition is now held in the fall of each year and provides the members an opportunity to prove their skills as marksmen. Over the years the match has come to represent the gentlemanly comradeship, professionalism, and dedication to community, state and nation that embodies the F.I.L.I. This tradition is carried through to this day, albeit, modern cartridge guns have replaced flintlocks and percussion cap muskets and rifles.



A source of pride for all members of the Fayetteville Independent Light Infantry Company, the top shooter of the day is awarded a blue hackle to be worn with confident humility on their Glengarry bonnet.

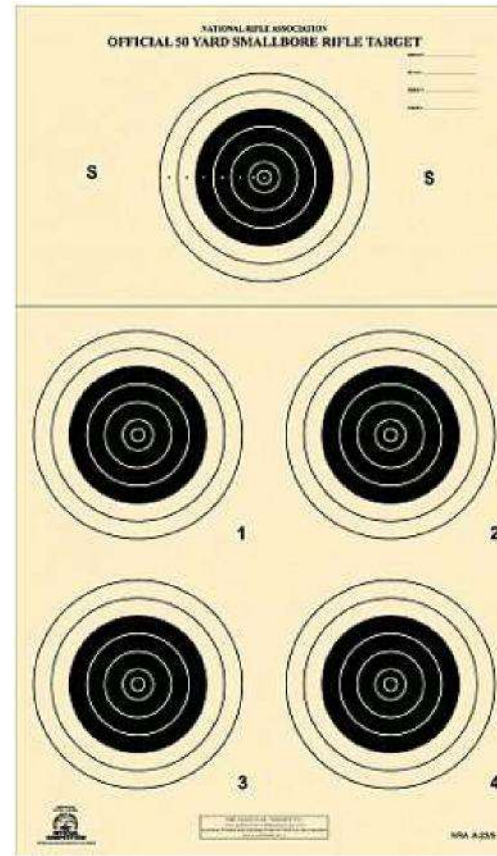


Figure-3:

The NRA 50-Yard Small Bore Rifle Target designated as the A-23/5 is utilized for Leg-B of the match. Shooters will fire 2-rounds at each bull and shots are awarded 5 to 10 and 10-X points as designated on the top most bull.

Additionally, Shots landing outside of the bull, but on target will be awarded 4-points.

Shots striking the center X-ring of the target are counted as 10-points, plus one X. The total X count will be used to break ties, should one occur.

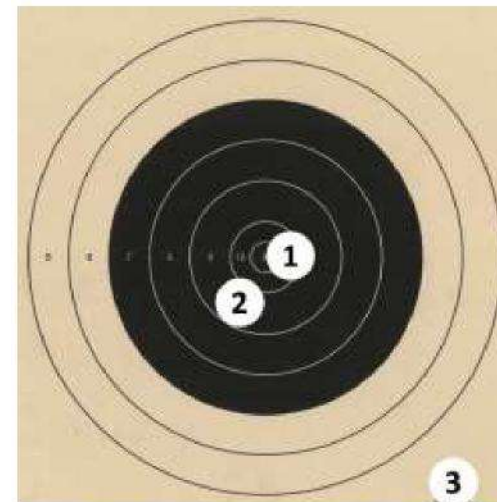


Figure-4: The shots depicted on this A-23/5 type bullseye would be scored are follows:

1: 10-Points, Plus 1-X, the shot touches or breaks the X-Ring.

2: 10-Points, the shot touches or breaks the 10-Ring only.

3: 4-Points, as previously described in Figure-3.

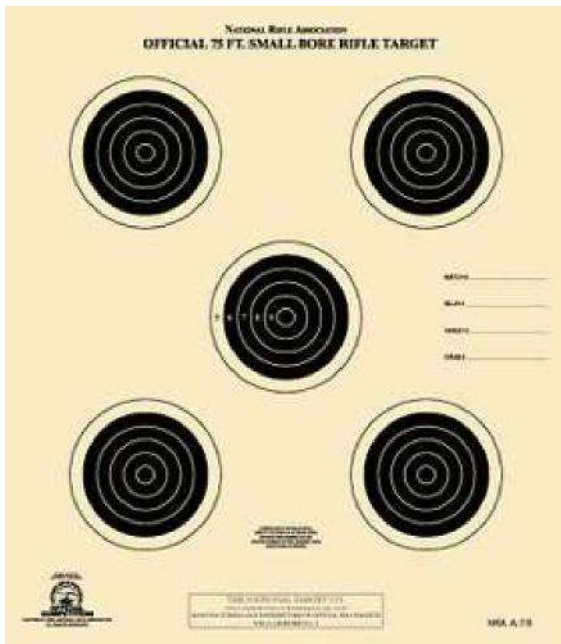


Figure-1:

The NRA 75-Foot Small Bore Rifle Target designated as the A-7/5 is utilized for Leg-A of the match. Shooters will fire 2-rounds at each bull and shots are awarded 5 to 10 points as designated on the center most bull.

Additionally, Shots landing outside of the bull, but on target will be awarded 4-points.

There is no provision for scoring any shot on this target as an X.

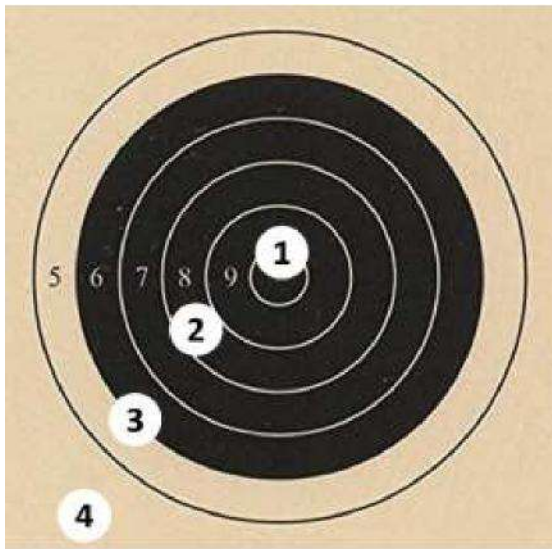


Figure-2:

The shots depicted on this A7/5 type bullseye would be scored as follows:

1: 10-Points – the shot breaks the scoring ring.

2: 9-Points – the shot does not break the scoring ring but clearly touches it and therefore receives the higher point value.

3: 6-Points – The break the scoring ring.

4: 4-Points – the shot is well outside of the 5-Point scoring ring, for the Major's Annual Small-Bore Rifle Match it will be scored as 4-Points.

NOTE: Possible single round scores are 0, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, & 10-

Points. (5)

Safety: Safe conduct of this match is of the utmost importance.

Any staff member, shooter, or spectator attending this match who fails to adhere to published or stated safety requirements may be summarily dismissed from the match and immediately escorted from the property in disgrace.

All those present at the match will at a minimum adhere to the following safety rules:

ALWAYS Keep The Gun Pointed In A Safe Direction

ALWAYS Keep Your Finger Off The Trigger Until Ready To Shoot

ALWAYS Keep The Gun Unloaded Until Ready To Use

ALWAYS Follow The Directions Of The Range Staff

ALWAYS Wear Appropriate Hearing Protection While Firing

Match Description:

The match consists of two (2) legs, each fired from a seated and supported position.

Leg-A: Consists of 10 Shots fired at an NRA Standard A-7/5 (75 foot – 5 Bull target) at the distance of 25-yards. Shooters will have ten minutes to direct two shots at each bullseye.

Leg-B: Consists of 10 shots fired at an NRA Standard A-23/5 (50 yard – 5 Bull target) at the distance of 50-yards. Shooters will have ten minutes to direct two shots at each bullseye.

Position: The match is fired seated, from benches provided by the Crosse Creek Rifle and Pistol Club. All participants must utilize these benches. The buttstock of the rifle must be in contact with the shooters shoulder when firing. The shooter is permitted to use any safe rest, bag or support to support the fore end of their rifle, as long as the rifle is not strapped or otherwise attached to the support. Both commercially procured and home-made devices that accomplish this goal are permitted. Shooters may forego a fore end support or rest if they so choose.

Equipment:

Rifles: While bolt action rifles are preferred, a Shooter may utilize any serviceable rifle chambered in .22 Short, .22 Long, or .22 Long Rifle. The rifle must be equipped with iron sights. No sights with optical magnifying lenses or telescopes are permitted for use in the match. Rifles must not weigh in excess of twelve (12) pounds.

Ammunition: Shooters must use ammunition that matches the designation of their rifle. Ball or hollow point rounds are permitted, but no shotshell or tracer rounds will be used in the match.

Accessories: Shooters may utilize slings, magazines, hand stops, shades, hoods, levels, glasses, gloves and coats commonly used in the shooting sports. Other accessories not mentioned here may also be permitted if approved by the Match Director and Range Staff. The use of hook type butt plates and any support that attaches to the rifle is not permitted.

Rests: Shooters may utilize commercially procured or home-made rests to support the forward end of their rifle as long as that rest does not attach to the rifle. When utilizing a rest, the buttstock must be supported by the shooters shoulder. Use of a squeeze bag to adjust elevation is permitted as long as the squeeze bag does not independently support the rifle.

Sequence of Fire: The match will begin with a safety brief delivered by the Match Director or Assistant. Shooters must attend the entire safety brief to be eligible to participate in the match. Participants will be given a ten-minute period to fire sighters, confirm zero, and make needed adjustments at the 25-yard range and a second ten-minute period at the 50-yard range. During these preparatory periods shooters may use spotting scopes, telescopes or binoculars to sight and adjust shots. Spotters may assist shooters using magnifying devices; shooters will have neither spotters nor magnifying devices in the actual competition.

At the end of the preparatory periods all optical equipment must be removed from the firing line and may not be used further in the match by any shooter, coach or assistant. Dependent on the number of shooters, firing orders will be established and divided into two groups. One group will fire the match in the sequence of Leg-A then Leg-B. The second group will fire the match in the sequence of Leg-B then Leg-A.

(3)

Scoring:

Shooters may engage each bull in any order they choose. Any bull with more than two shots will be scored by adding the lowest two shots and discarding the third shots value completely. Bulls with less than two shots will be scored the value of the single shot or zero points as is appropriate to that bull.

Shots touching a scoring ring receive the higher value of the ring they touch. The Match Director and/or Assistant may utilize an inward gauge scoring device to determine the shots final value. Targets will be scored following each leg and the values awarded will be posted for all competitors to review.

Disputes: It must be remembered that the Fayetteville Independent Light Infantry is a company of gentlemen. Disagreements will always be handled in a polite and honorable manner. When a disagreement, a point of order, or a question is raised it will first be addressed by the aggrieved parties and should the issue remain in dispute, it will be raised to the Match Director and the Senior FILI Member present.

Disputes are resolved by the match director in consultation with the Senior FILI Member present. Final decisions on match disputes rests with the match director.

Match Staff: The following personnel administer the conduct of the match and will be accorded the respect and obedience due their position and responsibility.

Commander: The patron of the match and authority for it to occur.

Senior FILI Member: The Commander's representative in all match matters.

Match Director: The responsible party for the conduct of the match and adherence to both FILI and Crosse Creek Rifle & Pistol Club rules, policies and regulations.

Range Safety Officer: Individual appointed to assist the Match Director in ensuring the safe conduct of the match.

Score Keeper: Individual appointed to tally, and post scores.

NOTE: Minimum Staff is Match Director and Senior FILI Member, in which case the Match Director will also serve as the Range Safety Officer. (4)