



MINUTES OF THE 2016 IMSSU ORDINARY GENERAL ASSEMBLY 15 JULY 2016 IN BLOEMFONTEIN SOUTH AFRICA

The President declared the meeting open at 09.05 am and welcomed all Delegates

Present

BOUTCHER	Rob	Australia
DEWSBURY	David	Australia
PANIS	Roman	Austria
LEMPOLA	Hanna	Finland
LEMPOLA	Esko	Finland
DALLE- FRATTE	Gerard	France
HILSE	Heino	Namibia
VENTER	Johan	Namibia
KASOSTUL	Mathis	Norway
INNLEGGEN	Monica	Norway
STARKE	Ludy	South Africa
ROSSOUW	Pannetjie	South Africa
WELIKALA	Subhashana	Sri Lanka
RATHNAYAKE	Sanjeewa	Sri Lanka

Apologies

Czech Republic
Germany
Sweden
Switzerland

Proxy to

Austria
Finland
Norway
Namibia

1 President's Report

The President advised the meeting that the General Secretary, Jean-Pierre Beurtheret, has sent his sincere apologies for not being present at the General Assembly. With the permission of the meeting, Luc Walgraeve would assist the French Delegate, Gerard Dalle-Fratte with interpretation of the business of the meeting. The meeting agreed.

The President advised that the Council had not met since the last Assembly in 2014 and any business had been conducted by email.

He confirmed that Lithuania had been accepted as a member.

He also reminded the Delegates about the IMSSU web site and that additional content, such as results of National Championships was welcome.

1.1 General Secretary's Report

The President advised that due to his absence, there was no General Secretary's Report.

2 Financial Report

The President advised that the Vice President over sighting the financial accounts of the IMSSU, Sigrid Schuh, was also not able to attend the 2016 General Assembly and sent her apologies.

The President tabled the current financial accounts as provided by the General Secretary. He advised that all countries except South Africa and Namibia were financial and these two countries, due to the difficulty in obtaining International bank drafts, had made arrangements to pay their fees at these Championships.

Situation at July 24, 2014.

Savings passbook: 45,856€

Bank account: 2,875€.

Total amount: 48,731€.

Situation at June 24, 2016

Savings passbook: 44,788€

Bank account: 5918€

Total amount: 50,706€

Expenses of the last two years:

Visa credit card fee 2015 – 55€

Visa credit card fee 2016 – 55€

Bank fees 2014 – 62.01€

Bank fees 2015 – 17.50€

Bank fees 2016 – 17.50€

3 Approval of the accounts for the previous two years

The accounts, as presented, were approved unanimously.

4 Renewal of Council

As there were more vacancies than nominations, it was moved South Africa and Seconded Australia that all nominees be declared elected. Carried unanimously.

BOUTCHER	Rob	AUSTRALIA
DEWSBURY	David	AUSTRALIA
LAMPRECHT	Peter	AUSTRIA
SURBOCK	Christian	AUSTRIA
KOUKALOVA	Klara	CZECH REPUBLIC
MAKELA	Sami	FINLAND
SCHUH	Sigrid	GERMANY
STARKE	Ludy	SOUTH AFRICA

The President thanked the retiring Councillors for their contributions. He noted that the Statutes state that the Council comprises a maximum of twenty members and also that fifty percent of the Council shall retire every two years. Therefore, as only eight nominations had been received for the Council, there were two vacancies.

It was Moved by South Africa and Seconded Australia that Johan Venter from Namibia and Subhashana Welikala from Sri Lanka be appointed to the Council. Carried unanimously.

5 Election of the President by the Council

Australia nominated and South Africa seconded Rob Boucher for the position of President.

There were no other nominations and the nomination was approved unanimously.

6 Election of six Vice Presidents by the Council

The following Council members were nominated as Vice Presidents:

DEWSBURY	David	AUSTRALIA
MAKELA	Sami	FINLAND
SCHUH	Sigrid	GERMANY
VENTER	Johan	NAMIBIA
STARKE	Ludy	SOUTH AFRICA

As the nominations did not exceed the vacancies all nominees were declared elected.

7 Election of a Vice President appointed to oversee the financial matters by the Council

South Africa nominated and Australia seconded Sigrid Schuh for the position. There were no other nominations and the nomination was approved unanimously.

8 Membership fees:

The recommendation that there be no change to the membership fees was discussed and approved unanimously.

The fees remain at €1.25 per member with a minimum of €60 and a maximum of €600. The Member Country sponsoring the World Championships must also refund 5% of the Entry fees to the IMSSU.

9 Application to host 2018 World Championship:

Applications have been received from Finland and Sweden.

Following discussions a vote was taken. Following the counting of votes the President declared Finland had been successful.

The venue is to be advised and the time frame will be in July.

10 Inconstancy in the Sporting Rules (Production rule) – General Secretary

Erroneous sentence: *"Anschütz Exemplars with 10 inch and 14 inch barrels can be shortened to 7.5 inches to be used in Production categories."*

Production Exemplars made by Anschütz have a 7 inch barrel. If a 10 or a 14 inch barrel is cut to 7.5 inches, the pistol overall length is half an inch too long according to the rules. Long barreled Anschütz pistols must be cut to 7 inches to transform them from Unlimited to Production.

The sentence in the Rules must be amended:

"Anschütz Exemplars with 10 inch and 14 inch barrels can be shortened to 7 inches to be used in Production categories."

Following discussions the change to the wording in the Rules was Carried unanimously.

11 Request from Finland.

We (IMSSU and AETSM) should think about following matter, how about merging IMSSU and AETSM. And having World Champs every year?

Benefits are only one organization, one annual fee, one council etc. This is matter not to vote, but think about this carefully, pro's and con's.

The President advised that the two organisations were formed for different reasons, the AETSM to conduct European Championships and the IMSSU to conduct World Championships. This was also true of other regional Federations such as the Oceania Shooting Federation who conduct Championships in the Oceania Region. Whilst Delegates could consider the request for the future, it was not a matter that could be decided at this Assembly but would require discussions between the IMSSU Council and all other

Federations Councils. It was agreed that there were advantages and disadvantages in the proposal as pointed out by Finland.

12.1 Rules modifications - Austria

1°) B. Rules Generalities

Original:

IMSSU general and special technical rules are approved to be effective for a minimum of four years beginning on January 1st of the year following the summer Olympic Games. Except in special circumstances, IMSSU rules are not changed during this four year period.

Change:

*IMSSU general and special technical rules are approved to be effective for a minimum of **two** years beginning on January 1st **after the IMSSU World Championship**. Except in special circumstances, IMSSU rules are not changed during this **two** year period.*

Following lengthy discussions a vote was taken and the proposal was Lost 7-5

2°) Airgun rules

We would like to delete following sentences from the rulebook:

Production pistols and rifles:

Any 4.5 mm (.177") pistol or rifle which conforms to the criteria and specifications of the ISSF rules.

The organization of air gun matches is not mandatory during Continental and World Championships. Organizers can organize air gun competitions as side events at their will.

Air Pistol and Air Rifle should be events just as Field Pistol or all other IMSSU events.

Following lengthy discussions a vote was taken and the proposal was Lost 10-2

3°) Targets:

Original

Chickens and pigs should be made from 4mm and turkeys and rams from 3mm or nearest equivalent steel plate. Their size is 1/10th of full size targets.

Change:

Steel thickness is maximum 5mm. Their size is 1/10th of full size targets.

Following lengthy discussions a vote was taken and the proposal was Lost 8-3 1 Abstain

12.2 Czech Republic:

1°) **Air gun rules:** CzMSSA proposes to delete the sentence "The organization of air gun matches is not mandatory during Continental and World Championships. Organizers can organize air gun competitions as side events at their will."

Air guns should be regarded as equal to all other IMSSU categories like for example Small Bore Pistol, Field Pistol or Big Bore Rifle.

The meeting agreed this proposal is the same as Austria's proposal 12.1.2 and is therefore redundant.

2°) CzMSSA proposes as the same as in 2014 to delete the sentence "**The classes system is not applied at the World Championships**" from IMSSU Sporting rules or change it to "Organizers may apply the classes system at the World Championships at their will."

As all the time the classes system is applied at the World Championships despite the rules, that sentence is useless.

Following discussions the meeting agreed that the wording should remain the same. It was also agreed that, while the World Championships do not include Classes, the host Country may, at their own discretion, provide trophies for Classes at their own cost.

3°) Rule Changes It should it be possible to make decisions about rule changes at every IMSSU meeting, that means every 2 years, not only every 4 years. We would like to know where in the rules is written that rule change decisions can't be made at the assembly every 2 years. In the IMSSU rules is only "IMSSU general and special technical rules are approved to be effective for a minimum of four years beginning on January 1st of the year following the summer Olympic Games."

The meeting agreed this is the same as the proposal from Austria 12.1.1 and is redundant.

4°) Possibility to get back to lower class, not by the age, but by the reached results.

This was possible at the European level since 1999 till 2005: "If during two year a shooter scores under the breakpoints, he/she returns to his/her former classification." Why a shooter who once manages to shoot a really high result at an International match but never repeats it again should stay in the higher class?

Following lengthy discussions, the meeting agreed that as per Section 1 D of the Rules, as the Class System is not applied at the IMSSU World Championships it was up to each country to manage the classification of their shooters. Several countries advised that they operated a rolling system of classification with grades adjusted based on scores shot.

The meeting broke at 10.40am for morning tea and resumed at 10.55am

12.3 South Africa:

1°) Proposal: Junior class

The 2013 version of the IMSSU rules constitutes:

D. Classes

A multiple classes system will be used as defined in each category Special Technical Rules. The champion, second and third places will be decided by score irrespective of class. Once these competitors have been extracted from their class, the next highest scores will be used to determine class winners within the classification system.

It is up to each country to manage the classification of its shooters.

Nevertheless, assuming a shooter has attended an international championship, he/she cannot enter a subsequent international championship in a lower class than the one attained by his/her most recent results at an international match. Classification can be protested.

The classes system is not applied at the World Championships.

SAMSSA wishes to propose that a Junior (under 21) class be hosted (similar to the current I, M, A and B classes) at International events to attract Junior shooters to participate at International level.

Most International sports allows for Junior participation by competing in different age groups which is most often one of the reason why these sports still exists. Juniors are the future of any sport and should be allowed to develop to such an extent that they can excel in the sport even at a relative young age. By promoting Junior participation at International level through the creation of a Junior class it can only be advantageous to the sport.

This proposal is therefore to incorporate a Junior class in all the events as well as the Aggregates as well the following change to the rules:

The classes system is not applied at the World Championships except for Juniors.

The proposal was discussed at great length. Whilst the meeting was very supportive of encouraging Juniors it was also mindful that there may only be one or two Juniors entered who would automatically win all the trophies without any real competition, especially if there were Classes.

South Africa agreed that the original proposal was too broad to cover all situations and requested they be able to reword the proposal. The meeting agreed and the reworded proposal follows:

Junior Category

A Junior category be included in IMSSU Rules in the following disciplines to be included in the program at International Competitions:

- 1 Four Match Small Bore Pistol Aggregate (Production; Revolver; Standing and Unlimited. No Field Pistol or Big Bore Pistol)
 - 2 Two Match Small Bore Rifle Aggregate (Light and Silhouette. No Big Bore Rifle)
 - 3 A Junior is defined as someone up to and including the year they attain 20 years of age.
 - 4 Juniors will compete in the overall competition and if they are placed either 1-2-3 outright in the overall competition aggregate for Small Bore Pistol or Small Bore Rifle they will not be eligible for awards in the Junior category.
 - 5 There are no Classes/Grades in the Junior Category
- The reworded proposal was voted on and . Carried Unanimously

2°) Proposal: New Small Bore Rifle Open Sights Events

SAMSSA wants to propose two new small bore rifle events to be added to the list of IMSSU events. These events have been tested on the South African Shooters and have proven to be highly successful. The number of entries for the open sights is almost equal to those for scoped events.

Currently the number of International events that a rifle shooter can compete in at International level is 4 events, whilst handgun shooters have the opportunity to compete in 10 events. Including these 2 events will give the rifle shooter the opportunity to compete in 6 events.

Competition will be in two events:

- Small Bore Rifle Silhouette Open Sights
- Small Bore Rifle Light Open Sights

This proposal includes the establishment of two new aggregates:

- Small Bore Rifle Open Sight Aggregate (consisting of the aggregate of the proposed 2 new items)
- Small Bore Rifle All Sights Aggregate (consisting of the current Small Bore Rifle Aggregate plus the 2 proposed new items).

Events, Shooting Positions and Rifles used

Event	Shooting Position	Rifle Used
Silhouette	Standing	Silhouette Rifle
Light	Standing	Light Rifle

A. Small Bore Rifle Silhouette Open Sight

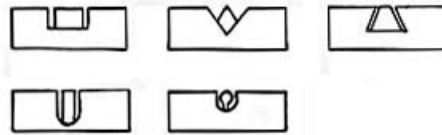
Fired with a silhouette type rifle identical to the description of the Small Bore Silhouette Rifle and chambered for only .22 calibre short, long or long rifle rimfire cartridges.

a) Maximum weight:

4.6 kg (10lb 2oz 109grs) including sights.

b) Sights:

Any sighting device programmed to activate the firing mechanism as well as any telescope are prohibited. The sight apparatus allowed for these categories are a notched leaf type rear sight associated to a solid front sight, giving a sight picture similar to the following drawings:



c) Trigger:

Any trigger not subject to accidental discharge. Triggers which function on release are not permitted. In the event of accidental discharge, the Range Officer shall require trigger adjustment or replacement of the rifle.

d) Trigger guard

Must be present and may not vary from conventional configuration for the purpose of providing added thumb or palm support. It shall be no deeper than 35 mm (1" 6/16) below the bottom line of the fore-end.

e) Stock

The fore-end (that portion of the stock forward of the trigger guard), including the trigger guard mounts and screws, shall not exceed 57 mm (2" 1/4) wide, and 57 mm (2 1/4 ") deep measured from the centre-line of the bore. The fore-end shall extend a minimum of 203 mm (8") forward of the forward edge of the receiver ring. The comb shall not extend above the centre-line of the bore, but the Monte Carlo roll may rise 12.7 mm (1/4") on the off side. The toe of the stock including butt plate or recoil pad shall be no more than 178 mm (7") below the centre-line of the bore. Butt plate or recoil pad may not extend below the lower line of the stock. Attachments, either removable or permanent, which do not cause any portion of the rifle to exceed the weight or dimensions as listed are permitted provided they do not extend past the end of the barrel. Swivels and slings are permitted, but slings may not be used for arm support in shooting.

f) Barrel:

The barrel may not be longer than 762 mm (30") including any sleeve or attachment, as measured from the face of the closed bolt to the end of the barrel.

A rifle which fits into the Small Bore Light Rifle event may also be used in the Small Bore Silhouette Rifle event, even if this rifle does not meet the dimensional specifications required for the Silhouette event.

B. Small Bore Rifle Light Open Sights

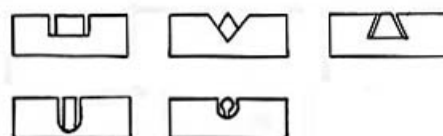
Fired with a sporting rifle identical to the description of the Small Bore Light Rifle.

a) Maximum Weight:

The weight shall not exceed 3.855 kg (8lb 8oz) including sights.

b) Sights:

Any sighting device programmed to activate the firing mechanism as well as any telescope are prohibited. The sight apparatus allowed for these categories are a notched leaf type rear sights associated to a solid front sight, giving a sight picture similar to the following drawings:



c) Calibre:

The rifle shall be chambered for only .22 calibre short, long or long-rifle Rimfire cartridges.

d) Type:

Any commercially available single shot or repeating type rifle may be used. Repeating rifles must be fired by loading all cartridges from magazine or clip into rifle chamber.

-Magazines or clips holding at least 5 cartridges:

-must be loaded with 5 cartridges.

-Magazines or clips holding less than 5 cartridges:

-must be loaded to their full capacity, and then reloaded with the required number of cartridges to finish firing the current 5 shot string.

e) Barrel:

Will be that of a sporting rifle as supplied originally by the factory. Any replacement barrel must be an original factory barrel manufactured for that model rifle. Recrowning of barrels is permitted, as is the removal of a section of barrel to correct damage to the muzzle, provided that the removal of that section of barrel does not alter the weight of a rifle to the extent of allowing it to fit into a weight class that it would not otherwise fit, had the barrel length not been altered.

C. Targets Specifications

Targets shall be identical to Small Bore Pistol targets and therefore 3/8 scale of full size silhouettes as per official IMSSU templates.

The official Small Bore templates are scaled on 9.52 mm (3/8") square grids. See General Technical Rules, Section III : Target standards.

Steel thickness: 6mm (3/16" or 1/4")

Dimensions of the "feet":

-Chicken, turkey and ram: 40mm x 65mm (1.5" x 2.5").

-Pig: 40mm x 100mm (1.5" x 4").

Material used for the feet must be the same as the silhouette targets.

D. Target Setting

The range will have rams at 100 metres or yards; turkeys at 75 metres or yards; pigs at 50 metres or yards; and chickens at 25 metres or yards. A two (2) metres or yards plus or minus variation in actual distance from the firing point to each bank of targets are allowed. All targets must be set by the same unit of measurement (metres or yards).

The unit of measurement used should be posted at the match.

E. Classes

Class	Small Bore Rifle Silhouette Open Sight	Small Bore Rifle Light Open Sight
International	34 - 40	32 - 40
Master	27 - 33	25 - 31
A	20 - 26	18 - 24
B	0 - 19	0 - 17

We trust this proposal will be considered favourably.

Lengthy discussions took place on the advantages and disadvantages of including these two matches and aggregates in the IMSSU Rules.

Following the discussions a vote was taken to include these matches in the IMSSU Rules but it is not mandatory that they be included in the World Championships.

The proposal was carried For 9; Against 2; Abstain 2

3°) Proposal: Replacement rifle barrels for Big Bore Hunting Rifle

The 2013 version of the IMSSU rules determine as follow:

e) Barrel:

Will be that of a hunting style rifle. Any replacement barrel shall conform to the dimensions, configuration and material of the factory original. No non-factory chambering will be permitted. Re-crowning of barrels is permitted, as is the removal of a section of barrel to correct damage to the muzzle, provided that the removal of that section of barrel does not alter the weight of a rifle to the extent of allowing it to fit into a weight class that it would not otherwise fit, had the barrel length not been altered.

SAMSSA wishes to propose the following change to the current rule: *Will be that of a hunting style rifle. Any replacement barrel shall conform to the dimensions of the factory original. Non-factory chambering will be permitted. Recrowning or re-chambering of barrels is permitted, as is the removal of a section of barrel to correct damage to the muzzle or chamber, provided that the removal of that section of barrel does not alter the weight of a rifle to the extent of allowing it to fit into a weight class that it would not otherwise fit, had the barrel length not been altered*

In South Africa and I am sure in some other countries it becomes harder and harder to acquire fire arm barrels not even to mention original factory barrels from firearm manufacturers. Furthermore we have to accept that some of the manufacturers closed their doors through the years and do not manufacture any firearms or barrels anymore. As examples I can mention:

- No-body in South Africa is prepared to source and import any Tikka or Sako barrels.
- Musgrave, a manufacturer of prime silhouette rifles closed down and no barrels can be acquired.

Furthermore it is very costly and a lengthy process to replace a barrel. In some cases the life span of a barrel can be extended through the re-chambering thereof.

The requested rule changes might make it affordable to more shooters and will not provide any shooter with an unfair advantage.

The proposal was discussed at length. It was agreed that non factory chambering would not be permitted and replacement barrels must be in a calibre that is or was available for the same make and model of rifle.

The proposal was voted on and

Carried unanimously

13 Miscellaneous questions.

- 1 South Africa stated that they had observed Rifle Shooters who appeared to be contravening the Rules by allowing the rifle to come into contact with their chest. It was agreed that the Rules are very specific – “The rifle will be supported by the hands and one shoulder only”.
- 2 South Africa instigated a discussion on shooting glasses where it was agreed that safe shooting glasses are the responsibility of the competitor.

- 3 Finland raised the issue of a solid tube connecting the front and re sights where peep sights were being used. It was agreed that wedging the hand between the top of the barrel and the bottom of the tube constituted artificial support and was not allowed.
- 4 2020 World Championships. Both Sweden and France gave notice that they would be applying to host the 2020 World Championships.
- 14 The President thanked the Delegates for their attendance and contributions to the meeting. He declared the meeting closed at 1.00pm.



Rob BOUTCHER
IMSSU President