

THE AUSTRALIA MATCH

(for Open and Under-25 Teams)

Match conditions

A1. Preamble

- A1.1. The Australia Match was originally founded in 1907 by the NRA of Australia (“NRAA”) as a prestigious all-range International Team Match entitled the “Empire Match”, which title was changed to the “Australia Match” in 1988, on the occasion of the Australian bicentennial, the better to recognise the prerogatives of the NRAA.
- A1.2. In 2003 the NRAA resolved to place the Match under the governance with effect from 2005 of the (then) recently formed world governing body for fullbore rifle shooting, the International Confederation of Fullbore Rifle Associations (ICFRA), provided the Match Conditions were consistent with what went before, and that ICFRA Technical Rules should apply. In addition, an Under-25 Australia Match was instituted (see also A4.3).

A2. Governance

- A2.1. The governance of these matches is vested in the Council of the International Confederation of Fullbore Rifle Associations (ICFRA), which delegates to its World Championships Committee (WCC - “The Committee”) full responsibility for the conduct of this match. Any rule changes outside the original NRAA stipulations MUST be subject to an affirmative vote by Australia.
- A2.2. The Match will be organised and conducted in accordance with the ICFRA Rules for the Management of World Championships. The match cycle will be no more than 5 years and no less than 3. The Match will preferably not be scheduled for the same year as the TR World Championships. The bidding process shall be as in ICFRA World Championship Management Rules.

A3. The Australia Match

- A3.1. The match will only take place if at least three countries/approved regional groups participate. An Australian team must take part. This applies equally to the Under-25 Australia Match.
- A3.2. The match will normally be fired over a period of two days comprising a practice day on which all distances must be made available, and a match day; and must be fired after the conclusion of all competitions in any championship event or prize meeting with which is associated or forms part.
- A3.3. An Australia Match Team will consist of no more than 16 members, viz:
- A3.3.1. 1 Team Captain,
 - A3.3.2. 1 Adjutant,
 - A3.3.3. 10 Shooters,
 - A3.3.4. 1 Reserve,
 - A3.3.5. 1 Main Coach/Co-ordinator,
 - A3.3.6. 2 Target Coaches,
- A3.4. It is permissible, by application of rule W8.5 for a Team to consist of 10 members, or any other greater number up to 16.

- A3.5. The course of fire for each shooter, consists of two convertible sighting shots and ten shots to count at each range 300, 600, 900 and 1000 yards. For metric ranges, the course of fire will be the same, at ranges of 300, 600, 800 and 900 metres. A combination of yards/metric distances is permissible if the range layout so dictates. Five shooters will be squadded to each target and the team time allowance will be in accordance with ICFRA TR Rules for short and long range distances as appropriate.
- A3.6. The Target will be the ICFRA International Match Target for the distances in question.
- A3.7. The Host Nation will supply register keepers on a scale of 1 per target.

A4. The Under-25 Australia Match

- A4.1. Countries hosting the Australia Match must also offer concurrently an Under-25 Australia Match to the conditions laid out herein except that the Team use a single target and will consist of no more than 9 members viz:-
- A4.1.1. 1 Team Captain
 - A4.1.2. 1 Adjutant
 - A4.1.3. 5 Shooters
 - A4.1.4. 1 Coach
 - A4.1.5. 1 Reserve
- A4.2. The Adjutant may be over 25 years old but may not participate in on-mound matters
- A4.3. A failure to find three entries for the Under-25 match will not prejudice the holding of the Open Match.
- A4.4. A competitor will qualify as 'under-25' as on the day of the Match itself – i.e. his 25th birthday is the day following the match or any later date.

A5. Rifles and Equipment

- A5.1. Competitors from each country will use their own rifles, which must conform to ICFRA TR specifications.
- A5.2. The ICFRA Rules for Target Rifle Shooting will apply.
- A5.3. All questions of admissibility of rifles or equipment will be dealt with under the equipment control procedures of Section 10 of the World Championship Management Rules.

A6. Ammunition

- A6.1. Ammunition as specified under ICFRA TR Technical Rules will be used, and may be handloaded. Competitors' ammunition is liable for test under, and in accordance with, those rules.

A7. Awards - Trophies

- A7.1. The Australia Trophy will be awarded to the winning team in the Australia Match and is to be held by the winners until the next Match. This trophy is:-
- A7.1.1. the property of the NRAA,
 - A7.1.2. the responsibility of the winning nation to safeguard,
 - A7.1.3. the responsibility of the winning NRA to ship the trophy to the next host nation one month prior to the next scheduled match.

A7.2. The Australia Under-25 Match Trophy will be awarded to the winning Team in the Under-25 Match, and is subject to identical requirements as in A7.1.1 to A7.1.3.

A8. Awards - Medals and Badges

A8.1. The host nation must provide Gold Medals for the Winning Team in each of the Matches to the ICFRA World Championship design, endorsed “Australia Match” or “U-25 Australia Match” as the case may be, on the reverse. The host nation may provide additional awards under conditions made known to the Committee in advance of each match as per Rule W6.9.

A8.2. 16 “Open” and 9 Under-25 medals must be provided, one for each team member. Should a team have less than 16 members [or 9, as the case may be], each must receive a medal, but the remaining medals are not to be issued.

Note: The designation ‘Gold’ of the medals relates to the colour only and not to their metal content.