

February 21, 2011

Dear National Delegate,

The following rule changes need your vote. *All changes are italicized and underlined under the proposed section.* Please complete, sign and date your ballot, include your NSCA number and return it to Headquarters. Ballots may be mailed in the enclosed envelope, scanned and emailed, or faxed to Headquarters at 210-688-3014. All ballots **must be returned by Monday, March 14, 2011.** Thank you for your time.

2011 Rules Change Ballot #1

1. Financial Report

Current:

“IV.R.2.a. Daily Fees. List number of targets shot each day of shoot and remit to NSCA the required daily registration fee (in U.S. funds). Daily fees are \$.03 per target.”

Proposed:

“IV.R.2.a. Daily Fees. List number of targets shot each day of shoot and remit to NSCA the required registration fee (in U.S. funds). Daily fees are \$.04 per target.”

Purpose: The NSCA-NSSA Steering Committee has approved the hiring of a Director of Development to be a part of the staff of the Executive Director and to be responsible for execution of both NSSA and NSCA marketing programs. The NSCA Marketing Committee is recommending this fee increase in order to fund NSCA marketing programs that will be approved by the NSCA Marketing Committee and the Executive Committee, and for no other purposes. Please see attached letter from Marketing Committee.

Should rule IV.R.2.a. (Daily Fees), be changed to read as proposed?

- YES

- NO

2. State Associations

Current:

“I.C.4.b. State Fees. State associations may elect to assess residents and non-residents of that state a per target fee, not to be greater than the per target assessed by NSCA. A state resident, who is a NSCA member in good standing, shall be considered a member of the state association. Funds accrued from per target fees may be used to enhance and grow the sport in that state through grants for range development, youth program developments, or assisting in promoting state and zone championship events or such other programs approved by the state association. State funds may not be used for payment of personal services, an honorarium, or personal expenses of any member of the state association.”

Proposed:

“I.C.4.b. State Fees. State associations may elect to assess residents and non-residents of that state a per target fee, not to be greater than \$.03. A state resident who is a NSCA member in good standing shall be considered a member of the state association. Funds accrued from per target fees may be used to enhance and grow the sport in that state through grants for range development, youth program developments, or assisting in promoting state and zone championship events or such other

programs approved by the state association. State funds may not be used for payment of personal services, an honorarium, or personal expenses of any member of the state association.”

Purpose: This addition is needed to keep the cap for state target fees at \$.03.

Should Rule I.C.4.b. (State Fees) be changed to read as proposed?

- YES

- NO

3. Replacement of 7 Zones with 5 Regions

Current:

“I-C-5: Zone/Zone Delegates: Zones are groups of states in a particular geographical area. One Zone Delegate is elected from each of the seven zones by vote of the National Delegates in that zone. Candidates for Zone Delegate must be currently elected National Delegates.

a. Nominations. Nominations for the positions of Zone Delegates shall be open in September of the odd numbered years, for a period of no less than 21 calendar days. A National Delegate in good standing may self nominate or be nominated by another delegate in good standing in that zone. Election of the Zone Delegates shall be held in October of odd numbered years.

b. Votes Needed for Election. A candidate for the position for Zone Delegate must receive the majority of votes, but no less than, five (5) from the current zone National Delegates in order for the election to be valid.

c. Term of Office. The term of office for all Zone Delegates shall be two (2) years. The term shall begin on the first day of the target year following their election, and shall end on the last target day of the second target year after their election or until a successor has been elected in a valid election.

d. Vacancies. An election shall be held within 45 days to fill any Zone Delegate vacancies that may occur among the various zones.

e. Duties and Responsibilities. The Zone Delegates’ duties and responsibilities are set forth in the NSCA Delegates Manual. The primary responsibility of the Zone Delegate is to organize and coordinate the selection of the Zone Shoot host range, and to insure that all appropriate events and awards are offered.”

Proposed:

“I-C-5: Regions/Regional Delegates: Regions are groups of states in a particular geographical area. One Regional Delegate is elected from each of the five Regions by vote of the National Delegates in that Region. Candidates for Regional Delegate must be currently elected National Delegates.

a. Nominations. Nominations for the positions of Regional Delegates shall be open in September of the odd numbered years, for a period of no less than 21 calendar days. A National Delegate in good standing may self nominate or be nominated by another delegate in good standing in that Region. Election of the Regional Delegates shall be held in October of odd numbered years.

b. Votes Needed for Election. A candidate for the position for Regional Delegate must receive a majority of votes, but not less than five (5), from the currently serving National Delegates in his/her region in order for the election to be valid.

c. **Term of Office.** The term of office for all Regional Delegates shall be two (2) years. The term shall begin on the first day of the target year following their election, and shall end on the last target day of the second target year after their election or until a successor has been elected in a valid election.

d. **Vacancies.** An election shall be held within 45 days to fill any Regional Delegate vacancies that may occur among the various Regions.

e. **Duties and Responsibilities.** The Regional Delegates' duties and responsibilities are set forth in the NSCA Delegates Manual and include organization, coordination, and local oversight of the selection process of the Regional Championship host range, as well as other duties as may be assigned by the Advisory Council or Executive Council."

Purpose: This represents the rulebook changes that convert the existing seven zones into five regions. This is in conjunction with the proposal for the NSCA Tour Championship series, points race, and overlay of selection shoots. Reference is made to version 2.5 of the Proposal for Regional Championships, included.

NOTE: There are many places throughout the rulebook where "Zone" will be replaced with "Region" or "Regional". Also, the Zone Map in the rulebook will be replaced with a Region map. A vote in favor of this change is also a vote in favor of those related changes.

Should Rule I-C-5: Zone/Zone Delegates be changed to read as proposed?

- YES

- NO

4. Reloads

Current:

"IV-E-4-a: All shot shell ammunition including reloads may be used. Shoot Officials may limit the ammunition to commercially manufactured shot shells. The National Sporting Clays Association assumes no responsibility in connection with the use of reloads or commercially manufactured ammunition."

Proposed:

"IV-E-4-a: All shot shell ammunition including reloads may generally be used unless otherwise restricted by the shoot organizers. Reloads are not permitted at Regional/Zone Championships, the US Open, or the National Championships. Other Shoot Officials may also limit the ammunition to commercially manufactured shot shells. The National Sporting Clays Association assumes no responsibility in connection with the use of reloads or commercially manufactured ammunition."

Purpose: Reflect NSCA policy at shoots that they set the criteria for.

Should Rule IV-E-4-a be changed to read as proposed?

- YES

- NO

5. Lewis Class

Current:

“**III-A-2-f:** Registered Lewis Class events—All NSCA members must register their targets. Punches will be awarded, based on NSCA classification system at all NSCA registered events of 50 targets or more (except for NSCA leagues), no matter what the prize and/or award structure.”

Proposed:

Delete entirely.

Purpose: No longer relevant. Lewis Class is an award process, not a classification. It is no longer an accepted from shoot results.

Should Rule III-A-2-f be deleted as proposed?

- YES

- NO

6. Lewis Class

Current:

“**III-A-2-g:** All registered events of 50 targets or more are subject to receive punches based on the number of shooters in class if the NSCA classification system is used. Note: This will include sub-gauge events where the NSCA classification system is used. (See rule III-A-2).”

Proposed:

“**III-A-2-g:** All registered events of 50 or more targets, including sub-gauge events, will generate punches in accordance with other provisions of this section.”

Purpose: There is currently no other classification system other than the NSCA classification system.

Should Rule III-A-2-g be changed to read as proposed?

- YES

- NO

7. Gun Malfunctions

Current:

IV-L-1-a: new section.

Proposed:

(**** insert new section and renumber ****)

“IV-L-1-a: Gun malfunctions include the situations where (a) the gun will not fire either barrel (The shooter must keep the gun pointed downrange and present it to the field judge who must verify that the condition persists: an inoperable gun. If the gun subsequently fires, it will be deemed a shooter malfunction.), (b) the gun had a true simultaneous discharge (gun doubles), (c) the gun fan fires (second barrel discharges rapidly following the first), and (d) a semi-automatic shotgun fails to eject the shot shell from the first shot and a second shot is required.”

Purpose: There is currently no definition in the rulebook of a gun malfunction.

Should Rule IV-L-1-a be inserted to read as proposed?

- YES

- NO

8. Registered Shoot Definition

Current:

“IV-B: Registered Shoot—A SHOOT WHERE TARGETS SHOT BY NSCA MEMBERS MUST BE REGISTERED.

Non-members may participate, but in a separate category. Any non-member participating in a registered event in a separate category (Hunter Class) shall not be eligible for any NSCA awards or monies. If offered by shoot management, the separate category (Hunter Class) may have its own separate awards and/or monies. Hunter class shooters at events run concurrently with registered NSCA events will be charged the same entry fees as those paid by NSCA members including all target fees. Examples: If the total entry fee for an event is \$65, including NSCA and state fees, then anyone shooting Hunter Class would also pay \$65 to participate in the event. As the portion of the entry fee that would be fees to the NSCA and/or state would not be paid to the organizations, it would be retained by the club. The NSCA recommends that the target fees collected from non-NSCA members be used to promote those shooters to join the NSCA. For example, the Hunter Class winner receives a paid one year membership to the NSCA.

Shoot date(s) must be submitted to the appropriate State Association (if one exists) or the National Delegate for signature of approval at state level, who will then submit to NSCA Headquarters for final approval.

Charity/Fund-raising Events - A range owner/shoot promoter hosting a charity/fund-raising event (ie. DU, QU, NWTF etc.) may award prizes in addition to NSCA awards at his/her discretion, combining scores with non-NSCA members for additional prizes.”

“IV-B-1: Registered Small Gauge Events—Small Gauge Events may be registered, punches will be awarded and combined with punches earned in 12 gauge events for classification purposes. Small Gauges are .410, 28 and 20. The member’s 12 Gauge classification will be used for all Small Gauge Event classes.”

Proposed:

“IV-B-1: Registered Shoot – *Shoots consist of one or more events and may include main and prelim sporting events (including Super Sport), International Sporting (FITASC), 5-Stand, gauge-specific events (e.g., 20g, 28g, .410 bore), and gun type-specific events (e.g., side by side, pump). Events generally consist of some multiple of 25 targets. NSCA members must be registered and an NSCA shoot report entry must be turned in for any event in which they participate.*

Non-members may participate, but in a separate category. Any non-member participating in a registered event in a separate category (Hunter Class) shall not be eligible for any NSCA awards or monies. If offered by shoot management, the separate category (Hunter Class) may have its own separate awards and/or monies. Hunter class shooters at events run concurrently with registered NSCA events will be charged the same entry fees as those paid by NSCA members including all target fees. Example: If the total entry fee for an event is \$65, including NSCA and state fees, then anyone shooting Hunter Class would also pay \$65 to participate in the event. As the portion of the entry fee that would *otherwise represent* fees to the NSCA and/or state *association* would not be paid to *those* organizations, it *shall* be retained by the club. The NSCA recommends that the target fees collected from non-NSCA members be used to *encourage* those shooters to join the NSCA. For example, the Hunter Class winner receives a paid one year membership to the NSCA.

Shoot date(s) must be submitted to the appropriate State Association (if one exists) or the National Delegate *for approval* at the state level, who will then submit to NSCA Headquarters for final approval.

Charity/Fund-raising Events - A range owner/shoot promoter hosting a charity/fund-raising event (ie. DU, QU, NWTF etc.) may award prizes in addition to NSCA awards at his/her discretion, combining scores with non-NSCA members for additional prizes.”

Purpose: To update the current section with the latest disciplines and explanation of a Registered Shoot.

Should Rule IV-B-1 be changed to read as proposed?

- YES

- NO

9. National Delegate Vacancies

Current:

“I-C-1-d. Vacancies. Any National Delegate vacancies occurring among the various states or provinces, territories, or geographic subdivisions recognized by the association, shall be filled for the balance of the unexpired term. A person from the same geographic subdivision receiving the next highest number of votes, in the same election as the vacant Delegate, will be eligible, as long as that number of votes is equal to five (5) members of the current state membership. If that person signifies that he or she does not choose to serve, the position shall be declared vacant and an election shall be held within 45 days to fill the vacancy.”

Proposed:

“I-C-1-d. Vacancies. Any National Delegate vacancies occurring among the various states or provinces, territories, or geographic subdivisions recognized by the association, shall be filled for the balance of the unexpired term. *Persons*

receiving a minimum of five (5) votes in the last National Delegate election in the same state or province, territory, or geographic subdivision shall be eligible and will be invited to fill the vacancy in the order of the vote totals, highest number of votes first, or in alphabetic order by last name in case of ties. If the vacancy cannot be filled by this process, a mid-term election shall be held within 45 days to fill the vacancy.”

Purpose: To clarify language defining the filling of National Delegate term vacancies. The new language reflects current practice.

Should Rule I-C-1-d be changed to read as proposed?

- YES

- NO

10. National Delegate Target Requirements

Current:

“I-C-1-g: Registered Targets. Candidates for the position of National Delegate are required to shoot a minimum of 500 registered targets, in the year of election and each year while serving or lose their position.”

Proposed:

“I-C-1-g: Registered Targets. National Delegates are required to have shot a minimum of 500 registered targets each year, including the year immediately preceding their year of election. This requirement must be fulfilled by participation at registered tournaments, not league or monthly targets.”

Purpose: To make requirements for National Delegates consistent with those for Advisory Council. The intent is to ensure that nominees for either office are familiar with local or regional clubs and tournaments.

Example: Nominated members must have 500 registered targets in 2010 to be eligible for election in 2011 for the 2012-2013 term.

Should Rule I-C-1-g be changed to read as proposed?

- YES

- NO

11. Advisory Council Makeup

Current:

“I-C-2: The Advisory Council is composed of NSCA members exhibiting the highest devotion to the sport, the members, and the Association. There are 45 available positions, divided equally between representatives of Industry, Range Owners, and Shooters. The primary function of the Advisory Council is to promote and guide the Association.”

“I-C-2-i: Vacancies. Any Advisory Council vacancies occurring among the various categories, shall be filled for the balance of the unexpired term. A person from the same category receiving the next highest number of votes, in the same election as the vacant member, will be eligible, as long as that number is a minimum of five (5) National Delegate votes. If that person signifies that he or she does not choose to serve, the position shall be declared vacant and an election shall be held within 45 days to fill the vacancy.”

Proposed:

“I-C-2: The Advisory Council is composed of NSCA members exhibiting the highest devotion to the sport, the members, and the Association. There are 45 available positions, divided equally between representatives of Industry, Range Owners, and Shooters. No range or industry company can have more than one representative on the Advisory Council at one time. The primary function of the Advisory Council is to promote and guide the Association and it has the responsibility to review and approve all committee recommendations to be made to the Executive Council. The Industry category is intended primarily for major manufacturers within the clay target sports to assist with the growth and promotion of our association. Every effort should be made to continue this practice when filling Industry positions. Any NSCA member who is a full-time employee, Promotion or Sales Representative, consultant or owner of a firm, company or corporation engaged in the manufacture of shotguns, ammunition and/or components, or any accessories/equipment used in the clay target sports is eligible for the Industry category. Any NSCA member who derives the majority of their income by providing products or services to the clay target sports (except for Range Owners/Managers) or who is a full-time employee who represents an organization within our Industry is also eligible.

“I-C-2-i: Vacancies. Any Advisory Council vacancies occurring among the various categories shall be filled for the balance of the unexpired term. Persons receiving a minimum of five (5) votes in the last Advisory Council election shall be eligible and will be invited to fill the vacancy in the order of the vote totals, highest number of votes first, or in alphabetic order by last name in case of ties. If the vacancy cannot be filled by this process, a mid-term election shall be held within 45 days to fill the vacancy.
If a member of the Advisory Council from the range owner or industry sectors changes employment, they shall retain their position on the Advisory Council provided that they maintain their eligibility in the sector (range owner or industry) they previously represented, and, provided that the range owner or industry company to which they are newly employed does not already have an employee on the Advisory Council.”

Purpose: The change of employment language is proposed to avoid disproportionate representation from a single range owner or industry company. There is also additional language in I-C-2 that defines the review and approval role of the AC committees, which is not presently defined. Some language from I-C-2-f is being moved to I-C-2 to be more consistent with the section topic. See next.

Should Rules I-C-2 and I-C-2-i be changed to read as proposed?

- YES

- NO

12. Advisory Council Target Requirements

Current:

“I-C-2-f: Registered Targets. Advisory Council members are required to have shot a minimum of 500 registered targets each year, including the year immediately preceding their year of election. This requirement must be fulfilled by participation at registered tournaments, not league or monthly targets. Range owners are required to shoot their registered targets at ranges other than their own. The Industry category is intended primarily for major manufacturers within the clay target sports to

assist with the growth and promotion of our association. Every effort should be made to continue this practice when filling Industry positions. Any NSCA member who is a full-time employee, Promotion or Sales Representative, consultant or owner of a firm, company or corporation engaged in the manufacture of shotguns, ammunition and/or components, or any accessories/equipment used in the clay target sports is eligible for Industry category.

Additionally, any NSCA member who derives the majority of their income by providing products or services to the clay target sports except for Range Owners/Managers are also eligible. A full-time employee who represents an organization within our Industry is also eligible.”

Proposed:

“I-C-2-f: Registered Targets. Advisory Council members are required to have shot a minimum of 500 registered targets each year, including the year immediately preceding their year of election. This requirement must be fulfilled by participation at registered tournaments, not league or monthly targets. Range owners are required to shoot their registered targets at ranges other than their own.”

(***** insert and renumber *****)

“I-C-2-a: Eligibility. The Industry category is intended primarily for major manufacturers within the clay target sports to assist with the growth and promotion of our association. Every effort should be made to continue this practice when filling Industry positions. Any NSCA member who is a full-time employee, Promotion or Sales Representative, consultant or owner of a firm, company or corporation engaged in the manufacture of shotguns, ammunition and/or components, or any accessories/equipment used in the clay target sports; anyone who derives the majority of their income by providing products or services to the clay target sports (except for Range Owners/Managers); or any full-time employee who represents an organization within our Industry is eligible for Industry category.”

Purpose: Move language from I-C-2-f to be consistent with section topic.

Should Rules I-C-2-f and I-C-2-a be changed to read as proposed?

- YES

- NO

13. Advisory Council Committees

Current:

“I-C-2-g. Committees. The members of the Advisory Council, National Delegates, and possibly one member at large will be assigned by the Executive Council to the following committees:

1. Rules and Classification and Safety
2. Competition (Nationals, Open, Zones, State)
3. Outreach (Internet, Youth and Women’s Programs)
4. Instructor Program
5. Membership and Clubs
6. State Associations
7. Awards and Recognition (Includes Hall of Fame and Museum)
8. All-American, All-Zone and Team USA

9. International

A minimum of two members of the Executive Council shall serve on each of the above committees. Chairman will report to the NSCA Director each month.”

Proposed:

“I-C-2-g. Committees. The Executive Council will establish advisory committees as deemed necessary consisting of National Delegates, Advisory Council members, and no more than one (1) member at large, to address the needs of NSCA governance and administration. A minimum of two members of the Executive Council shall serve on each.”

Purpose: Requirements for committees are dynamic and it is felt that the committee structure should not be rigid and inflexible. The Finance Committee, for example, has been in existence for some time but is not listed in the current rulebook.

Should Rule I-C-2-g be changed to read as proposed?

- YES

- NO

14. Executive Council Election

Current:

“I-C-3-b: Elections. The Executive Council election will always be at the end of the annual meeting of the Advisory Council on even numbered years. The Executive Council will elect annually a Chairman and Vice Chairman to serve on the Executive Council. The Executive Council in place at the time this plan is approved by the National Delegates will preside at the first annual meeting of the Advisory Council.”

Proposed:

“I-C-3-b: Elections. The Executive Council election will be held in conjunction with the annual meeting of the Advisory Council on even numbered years. Nominations for the Executive Council will be accepted, by written or printable electronic communication, between January 1st and January 15th, with the election to be the first order of business on the afternoon of the first day of the annual meeting. The Executive Council will elect annually a Chairman and Vice Chairman to serve on the Executive Council.”

Purpose: To elect the Executive Council earlier in the first annual meeting of the term such that their tenure more closely overlaps the tenure of the AC.

Should Rule I-C-3-b be changed to read as proposed?

- YES

- NO

15. Tenure of Past EC Chairman

Current:

“I-C-3-a: Number of Executive Council Members. The Executive Council is elected from members of the Advisory Council, composed of six (6) members: two represent industry, two represent range owners, two represent shooters, and the immediate past chairman of the Executive Council shall also serve as a member of the Executive Council. The immediate past chairman may cast a vote in matters before the Executive Council only in case of a tie. (The first two (2) year term of the Executive Council elected under the plan, the chairman of the Executive Council at the time this plan is approved by the National Delegates shall occupy the seat of the immediate past Chairman.)”

Proposed:

“I-C-3-a: Number of Executive Council Members. The Executive Council is elected from members of the Advisory Council and is composed of seven (7) members: two representing industry, two representing range owners, two representing shooters, plus the last past chairman of the Executive Council not currently serving on the EC. The immediate past chairman may cast a vote in matters before the Executive Council only in case of a tie. The tenure of the last past Chairman may span terms of the EC (2 years) and does not count towards term limitations.

In the event of the serving past Chairman is incapacitated or otherwise does not continue to the end of a term, the position will be offered to previous past Chairmen in order of their service (most recent first) or, if there isn’t one available or willing to serve, to previous Vice Chairman, in the same order.”

Purpose: Clarification of the role of the last past chairman of the EC, the fact that the position can span the term of the EC (which happens when an EC member is re-elected but no longer serves as chairman), and that the position does not count towards term limits, since it is not an elected office. Also establishes succession order when past chairman is not able or willing to continue to the end of term. Language relevant only when the governance plan was put into place has also been deleted.

Should Rule I-C-3-a be changed to read as proposed?

- YES

- NO

Signature

Printed Name

State

NSCA #

Date