



## **AUSTRALIAN BIATHLON**

## **COMPETITION RULES**

**Adopted as a By-Law**

<b>METADATA TABLE</b>	
<b>Title</b>	Australian Biathlon Competition Rules
<b>Author:</b>	Race Secretary, AB
<b>Approver:</b>	AB Committee
<b>Version Number:</b>	Version 3.0
<b>Date of last Modification</b>	12 June 2015
<b>Summary of Modifications:</b>	Update to the 2014 Competition Rules (v.18 July 2014) to recognise opportunities for Rules improvement and change for the 2015 Season including race cancellation procedure and preference for shorter distances.
<b>Review date:</b>	30 June 2016
<b>Coverage:</b>	All AB Competitions

## CHANGE RECORD

<b>Date</b>	<b>Version</b>	<b>Changes Implemented</b>	<b>Authorised By:</b>
Precursor documents:			
04 Oct 09		Parts 4 and 5 of: “Australian Biathlon Safety Manual 2009” Amended	AB
07 July 11		“Race Procedure & Rule Outlines” Amended	AB
17 July 12		“Race Procedure & Rule Outlines” Amended	AB
14 July 13	1.0	Rewrite and retitled “Competition Rules”	AB
29 June 14	2.0	Minor updates and amendments for greater clarity; and Updates to cover: 1.on-line race entry and participation agreement 2. Upgrading class policy to be consistent with AB’s coaching program approved by ASC. 3. Clarify relationship between Competition Rules and other AB policies. 4. New Equipment section to permit telescopic poles in non-championship events only to allow a lower-cost option for novice/non-selection athletes.	AB
19 June 15	3.0	General update; include Race Cancellation procedure, preference for shorter distances	AB

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### ANNEXES

Annex A: Australian Biathlon Competition Specifications June 2014

# **AB COMPETITION RULES**

## **1. GENERAL**

### **1.1. Relationship with AB**

1.1.1. These Competition Rules are adopted by the AB Committee as a by-law of Australian Biathlon (AB).

### **1.2. Relationship with IBU Rules**

1.2.1. It is the policy of AB to run championship events as closely as possible in accordance with the IBU Event and Competition Rules. While the IBU rules are generally followed, IBU rules are necessarily adapted to Australian conditions and legislation, including:

- a) Firearms legislation in the state in which the competition is held;
- b) availability of range infrastructure
- c) snow and grooming conditions

1.2.2. In addition to the IBU rules, these Competition Rules provide specific rules for running ABVA events in Australia and where there is a conflict with the IBU regulations, these Competition Rules take precedence.

### **1.3. Australian Biathlon Competition Specifications**

1.3.1. Where these Rules refer to the “Australian Biathlon Competition Specifications” that shall be a reference to the most recent “Australian Biathlon Competition Specifications” published on the AB website.

1.3.2. The “Australian Biathlon Competition Specifications” may be amended from time to time at the absolute discretion of AB.

1.3.3. The “Australian Biathlon Competition Specifications” June 2015 version is attached as Annexure A.

1.3.4. Race distances in the Australian Biathlon Competition Specifications are indicative and actual race distances will likely be different.

## **2. AMENDMENTS**

These AB Competition Rules may be amended from time to time and those amendments will be published on the website as soon as possible. Any required clarification of Race rules should be directed to the National Race Secretary at [abaracesecretary@gmail.com](mailto:abaracesecretary@gmail.com)

## **3. MEMBERSHIP**

For championship races a competitor must be a member of AB with the following exceptions:

- a) A competitor entering an event in Sports Class or a laser-only event;
- b) An international competitor who is not an Australian resident; or
- c) A member of the ADF.

## 4. LEGAL WAIVERS

It is AB policy that all participants in activities run by AB must sign the appropriate AB Participation Agreement form as a pre-condition for participation. No person will be permitted to participate in an AB activity without having signed this agreement. This policy applies to all AB activities - including championship events, come-and-try-it events, training camps, summer biathlon, laser biathlon and coaching courses. The form needs to be completed with details specific for the activity, e.g. the title of the race and the date, a separate form needs to be signed for each activity. The form must be signed before participating in the activity. Participants under the age of 18 will need to have the form signed by a parent or guardian.

Where race entry is conducted on-line, the appropriate participation agreement is included in the on-line form and clicking on the appropriate check-box prompt signifies that the applicant has read and agrees to the terms. If it is an entry for a child, then the on-line form needs to be submitted by a parent or guardian and the terms agreed to on the child's behalf.

For events where race entry is not conducted on-line, a form can be obtained from the event organiser or downloaded at [AB Participation Agreement](#).

## 5. CARRYING RIFLES

- 5.1.1. AB owned rifles will not be carried unless permission is given by the Race Secretary in writing and a hire contract is entered into.
- 5.1.2. "Open" and "U21" grade competitors must carry rifles.
- 5.1.3. Competitors under 18, being the holder of a Junior Licence in any Australian State and owning their own rifle are restricted to carriage of same while under immediate supervision within the immediate area of the Range. Carriage of the rifle by Junior Firearm Licence holders other than in the immediate range area in any training or race capacity is prohibited by Law.
- 5.1.4. U19 competitors, who are over the age of 18 and possess an adult firearms licence in any Australian State, wishing to carry their rifle in competition may request to compete in the U21 class (see 6.8 Upgrading Class below).

## 6. AGE CLASSES AND RULES

### 6.1. Age Classes

- 6.1.1. Age classes are determined by the athlete's age as at the cut-off date of 31st December of the current year.
- 6.1.2. Age classes are as follows:

Classes	Age as at 31 December of the current Year	Eligible for selection to the Development Team or to the National Team*
Veterans	>=55	
Masters	>=35	
Open B	>=21	
Open	>=21	Yes
U21	19 - 20	Yes

Classes	Age as at 31 December of the current Year	Eligible for selection to the Development Team or to the National Team*
U19**	17 -18	Yes
U17**	15 -16	Yes
U15	13 -14	
U13	11 - 12	
U11	9 - 10	
U9	7 - 8	
Sports	Any	

\* refer to current AB Selection Policy for details of selection criteria.

\*\* for athletes considering selection to any YJWCH (see 6.8 Upgrading Class below).

National Team Selection: Only athletes competing in one of the age classes with the notation “Yes” in Column 3 in the table above are eligible to qualify for the Australian National Team.

## 6.2. Sports Class

6.2.1. A Sports Class AB competitor is defined as a participant who:

- a. is new into the sport and not holding any Firearm Licence or permit, or
- b. has less than 12 months membership of AB and not yet shown their proficiency in other Biathlon training camps or non-competition events domestically or internationally in the past 12 months, or
- c. has demonstrated their proficiency however, is not yet confident to move into their natural age grouping and target settings.

## 6.3. Use of Rests for shooting

6.3.1. Only those classes where the notations “with rest” or “rest optional” appear in the “Australian Biathlon Competition Specifications” are permitted to use a rest.

6.3.2. Should a rifle sling or arm band not fit, the competitor must hold the rifle unsupported.

## 6.4. Firearms Handling

6.4.1. Age Classes where the notation “laser rifle” appears in the Australian Biathlon Competition Specifications may only compete using an AB-approved laser rifle system.

6.4.2. All other Age Classes compete using small-bore rifles.

6.4.3. U15, U17 and U19 Age Classes:

- a. For prone shooting bouts. Competitors will have their rifle put down and removed from the mat by a Range Official. The bolt must be left open and rifle pointing down range at completion of the shooting bout. Failure to do so may result in disqualification due to a safety breach.

- b. For standing shooting bouts. Competitors will have their rifle handed to them by a range official at their shooting lane and, after completion of the shooting bout, the competitor shall hand the rifle back to a range official before leaving their shooting lane. The bolt must be left open and the rifle handed to the range official must be pointed in an upwards direction. Failure to do so may result in disqualification due to a safety breach.
- 6.4.4. U17 and U19 Age Class competitors may, at the discretion of the Chief of Range and subject to resources available on the day of race, be directed to follow the procedure in this section 6.4.5 as an alternative to the procedure in 6.4.3 above:
- All rifles must be fitted with a harness.
- Competitors shall have their rifle handed to them by a Range Official on entering the range and after coming to a full stop. The athlete is to shoulder the rifle, proceed to their shooting lane and shoot. After completion of their shooting bout the competitor shall shoulder the rifle, then, prior to exiting the range, hand the rifle back to a range official or place the rifle on a rack before leaving the range. The bolt must be left open and the rifle handed to the range official must be pointed in an upwards direction. Failure to do so may result in disqualification due to a safety breach.
- 6.4.5. Firearms are not to be carried from the Range in competition by U15, U17 and U19 competitors. Rifles used by U15, U17 and U19 competitors are not to be removed from the Range until the Chief of Range has closed the Range.

## **6.5. Penalties**

- 6.5.1. Where a time penalty is applicable, athletes in each class are awarded a time penalty for each missed target of the duration shown in the “penalty” column of the Australian Biathlon Competition Specifications for that class.
- 6.5.2. Where penalty loops are applicable, athletes in each class must complete a penalty loop for each missed target of the distance shown in the “penalty” column of the Australian Biathlon Competition Specifications for that class.

## **6.6. Standing Shooting**

- 6.6.1. Age Classes in the Australian Biathlon Competition Specifications with “p-p” or “p-p-p” in the “Shooting” column will shoot in the prone position and do not do standing shooting in AB Competitions.
- 6.6.2. All other classes must do both standing and prone shooting.

## **6.7. Targets**

- 6.7.1. Age Classes where the notation “prone-on-standing” appears in the in the Australian Biathlon Competition Specifications may shoot in the prone position on the standing (whole) aiming mark.
- 6.7.2. Age Classes where the notation “prone-on-prone” appears in the Australian Biathlon Competition Specifications will shoot in the prone position on the prone aiming mark.

- 6.7.3. All other Age Classes with the notation “p-s”, “p-s-p-s” or “p-p-s-s” appearing in the “Shooting” column do both prone and standing shooting at regulation prone and standing sized targets.

## **6.8. Upgrading Class**

- 6.8.1. Athletes under the age of 21 should normally race the designated age and race distances applicable to them.
- 6.8.2. Apart from the exceptions in 6.8.3 and 6.8.4, any athlete wishing to ski in other than their natural age class may only do so if:
- a. the distance specified for the requested class is longer; and
  - b. with prior written permission of the Race Secretary.
- 6.8.3. Once a competitor has reached the age of 18 or greater and holds a full firearms licence in any Australian State or Territory, that competitor is eligible to:
- a. race their age category or the Open category (including masters or veterans racing Open distance rather than their age class distance); or
  - b. if the competitor is an U19 competitor, race in the U21 class.
- 6.8.4. Any athlete in the U17 age group wishing to be considered for World Youth/Junior championship selection must race in the designated U19 Category.
- 6.8.5. The decision on a request to upgrade class in the circumstances described in section 6.8.2 will be made after taking into account the best interest of the athlete and after a prudent judgement of all ethical and responsible decision making by the Parent/Guardian and personal coach.
- 6.8.6. If an athlete is approved to ski in an age class other than their natural age class they will only be included in the results of the age class they competed in.
- 6.8.7. Athletes who ski in an age class other than their natural age class will, except for those doing so under 6.8.3 and 6.8.4, not be eligible to receive any age class place award.

## **7. CHANGES TO LENGTH OF RACE AND PENALTIES**

Changes to the length of a race, format of a race, penalties for individual events and race cancellation may be made at the sole discretion of the Chief of Race when taking into consideration relevant circumstances such as time of season and snow availability, snow grooming performed or extreme weather conditions.

### **7.1. Australian & Victorian Championship courses**

Modified distances for championship events may take place according to snow availability, grooming performed or extreme weather.

### **7.2. Non Championship events**

Courses may be shortened to suit weather conditions and the class of competitor taking part.



### **7.3. Cancellation of a Race**

- 7.3.1. In extraordinary circumstances a scheduled race may be cancelled at the sole discretion of the Chief of Race.
- 7.3.2. Cancellation may occur at any time up to the scheduled competition start time.
- 7.3.3. A cancellation decision shall be made in accordance with Australian Biathlon's Selection Race Cancellation Guidelines for the time being in force.

## **8. RACE DISTANCES AND LOOPS**

Indicative race distances and loops for AB races are as shown on the current Australian Biathlon Competition Specifications. Course distances are estimated by GPS surveys and may differ from the actual course set on the day.

AB has a preference for shorter races in order to build up the ski speed of its athletes, in particular Junior (U21) and younger athletes. This is in alignment with the de-emphasis of longer formats and the emphasis on shorter formats internationally. Accordingly race distances will generally, but not necessarily always, be shorter than the indicative distances shown in the Australian Biathlon Competition Specifications.

The altitude of Whiskey Flat Biathlon Range is approximately 1625 m.

## **9. RESULTS AND AWARDS**

The final results for races that have been notified to the membership as selection races shall allocate first, second and third places only to athletes who are AB members. Gold, Silver and Bronze medallion awards shall only be made to AB members.

Percent behind calculations shall be made on the basis of excluding the results of any competitors who are not AB members.

If necessary, for the purposes of a selection, a separate percent behind calculation shall be made on the basis of excluding all athletes who are not eligible for the relevant selection.

International athletes and members of the ADF shall receive a time and their result shall be included on the official results. If an International athlete or a member of the ADF finishes in first, second or third place then the Race Committee may, but is not obliged to, make an additional award at their discretion.

## **10. OTHER APPLICABLE RULES AND PROCEDURES**

- 10.1.1. AB may publish other rules and procedures that also apply to the conduct of AB events in Australia. To the extent that there is a conflict between those other rules and procedures and these Competition Rules, these Competition Rules take precedence.

- 10.1.2. The AB Member Protection Policy, as may be amended from time to time at the absolute discretion of AB, applies to all AB events.
- 10.1.3. The AB Race Day Job Descriptions, as may be amended from time to time at the absolute discretion of AB, currently published on the AB website as document name “RaceDay\_Job-Descriptions\_2011.pdf” applies to AB events in Australia.
- 10.1.4. The AB Safety Manual, as may be amended from time to time at the absolute discretion of AB, currently published on the AB website as document name “ABA-safety-manual-09.pdf” applies to AB events in Australia.

## **11. PROTESTS**

### **11.1. General**

- 11.1.1. Protests must be submitted in writing to the Race Secretary for the Competition Jury, and must be accompanied by a fee of \$75.00. If the protest is upheld, the fee will be refunded. If the protest is rejected the fee will be retained by AB.

### **11.2. Protest Types and Conditions**

- 11.2.1. Protests concerning eligibility of the competitor may be submitted at any time up to the end of the protest time for the competition in question.
- 11.2.2. Protests concerning violation of rules by competitors and team staff, mistakes made by officials, competition conditions and the provisional results may be submitted in the time period from the start of zeroing before the competition until 15 minutes after the posting of the provisional results.
- 11.2.3. If the examination of the protest reveals circumstances that are so serious that cast doubt on the sporting merit of the competition, or if the competition jury from its own observation comes to the same conclusion, the competition jury may decide to repeat the competition or to annul the competition without repetition.

### **11.3. Appeals**

- 11.3.1. There is no right to appeal a decision by a Jury. The Jury’s decision is final.

## **12. EQUIPMENT**

The provisions of ‘ANNEX A - Material Catalogue’ generally apply to Championship competitions conducted by AB. Telescopic poles may not be used in U17, U19, U21 or Open selection races but may be used in other races.

## **13. DEFINITIONS**

**Australian Biathlon** means, in these Competition Rules, the Australian/Victorian Biathlon Association Incorporated in Victoria.

**AB** means Australian Biathlon

**ADF** means the Australian Defence Forces Nordic & Biathlon Association

**Selection Race** means, in these Competition Rules, only a biathlon race that AB nominates as a Selection Race for the purposes of Selection to the Australian Team, the Australian Biathlon Development Team, the Youth Winter Olympic Games, the Winter Olympic Games or for any other purpose as specified in the relevant selection policy.

# AUSTRALIAN BIATHLON COMPETITION SPECIFICATIONS JUNE 2015

AVBA Australian Biathlon Competition Specifications 2015 Season

version 2015.1

	Classes	Women		Men		Year of Birth	Shooting	Penalty	Notes
		Distance <sup>Note1</sup>	Length	Distance <sup>Note1</sup>	Length				
Individual	Veterans	5.0	5x1.00	6.9	5x1.37	=< 60	p-s-p-s	30 sec	>55 years
	Masters	6.9	5x1.37	9.3	5x1.86	=< 80	p-s-p-s	1 min	>35 years
	Open B	9.3	5x1.86	11.6	5x2.32	=< 94	p-s-p-s	1 min	
	Open	14.4	5x2.88	18.7	5x3.73	=< 94	p-s-p-s	1 min	
	U21	11.6	5x2.32	14.4	5x2.88	95 - 96	p-s-p-s	1 min	
	U19	9.3	5x1.86	11.6	5x2.32	97 - 98	p-s-p-s	1 min	
	U17	6.9	5x1.37	9.3	5x1.86	99 - 00	p-s-p-s	1 min	
	U15	4.0	4x1.00	4.5	4x1.13	01 - 02	p-p-p	30 sec	SBR (if owned) or AVBA rifle <sup>Note2</sup> ; prone-on-prone; rest optional
	U13	3.0	4x0.75	3.0	4x0.75	03 - 04	p-p-p	30 sec	laser rifle <sup>Note3</sup> ; prone-on-standing; rest optional
	U11	2.0	3x0.67	2.0	3x0.67	05 - 06	p-p	15 sec	laser rifle <sup>Note3</sup> ; prone-on standing; with rest
	U9	1.5	3x0.50	1.5	3x0.50	07 - 08	p-p	15 sec	laser rifle <sup>Note3</sup> ; prone-on standing; with rest
Sports	4.0	4x1.00	4.5	4x1.13	All	p-p-p	30 sec	laser rifle <sup>Note3</sup> ; prone-on standing; with rest	
Sprint	Veterans	3.0	3x1.00	4.1	3x1.37	=< 60	p-s	80m	
	Masters	4.1	3x1.37	5.6	3x1.86	=< 80	p-s	150m	
	Open B	5.6	3x1.86	7.0	3x2.32	=< 94	p-s	150m	
	Open	7.0	3x2.32	10.0	3x3.33	=< 94	p-s	150m	
	U21	7.0	3x2.32	10.0	3x3.33	95 - 96	p-s	150m	
	U19	5.6	3x1.86	7.0	3x2.32	97 - 98	p-s	150m	
	U17	4.1	3x1.37	5.6	3x1.86	99 - 00	p-s	150m	
	U15	3.0	3x1.00	3.5	3x1.17	01 - 02	p-p	80m	SBR (if owned) or AVBA rifle <sup>Note2</sup> ; prone-on-prone; rest optional
	U13	2.5	3x0.83	2.5	3x0.83	03 - 04	p-p	80m	laser rifle <sup>Note3</sup> ; prone-on-standing; rest optional
	U11	1.5	3x0.50	1.5	3x0.50	05 - 06	p-p	40m	laser rifle <sup>Note3</sup> ; prone-on standing; with rest
	U9	1.0	3x0.33	1.0	3x0.33	07 - 08	p-p	40m	laser rifle <sup>Note3</sup> ; prone-on standing; with rest
Sports	3.0	3x1.00	3.5	3x1.17	All	p-p	80m	laser rifle <sup>Note3</sup> ; prone-on standing; with rest	
Mass Start	Veterans	3.1	5x0.63	4.5	5x0.90	=< 60	p-p-s-s	80m	
	Masters	4.5	5x0.90	6.9	5x1.37	=< 80	p-p-s-s	150m	
	Open B	6.9	5x1.37	9.3	5x1.86	=< 94	p-p-s-s	150m	
	Open	11.6	5x2.32	14.4	5x2.88	=< 94	p-p-s-s	150m	
	U21	9.3	5x1.86	11.6	5x2.32	95 - 96	p-p-s-s	150m	
	U19	6.9	5x1.37	9.3	5x1.86	97 - 98	p-p-s-s	150m	
	U17	4.5	5x0.90	6.9	5x1.37	99 - 00	p-p-s-s	150m	
	U15	3.5	4x0.88	4.0	4x1.00	01 - 02	p-p-p	80m	SBR (if owned) or AVBA rifle <sup>Note2</sup> ; prone-on-prone; rest optional
	U13	2.5	4x0.63	2.5	4x0.63	03 - 04	p-p-p	80m	laser rifle <sup>Note3</sup> ; prone-on-standing; rest optional
	U11	1.5	3x0.50	1.5	3x0.50	05 - 06	p-p	40m	laser rifle <sup>Note3</sup> ; prone-on standing; with rest
	U9	1.0	3x0.33	1.0	3x0.33	07 - 08	p-p	40m	laser rifle <sup>Note3</sup> ; prone-on standing; with rest
Sports	3.5	4x0.88	4.0	4x1.00	All	p-p-p	80m	laser rifle <sup>Note3</sup> ; prone-on standing; with rest	

- Notes:
1. All distances are approximate and are subject to change due to snow availability, snow grooming performed or extreme weather conditions
  2. AVBA rifles are to be pre-booked and will be allocated in order of booking. If no AVBA rifle is available, athlete may compete in Sports class.
  3. Sports, U13, U11 and U9 are laser-only events
  4. Age Classes are based on age as at 31 December of the current year and U9 to Open classes align with IBU guidelines.
  5. "SBR" = Small bore rifle (cal. 0.22LR)