

# Appendix J

Delegates meeting 2024 (pt. 7-b.VII)

## Rule extension for Kuchenreuther O and R

Under agenda point 7.b. the following was decided during last delegates meeting:

Moved USA, seconded Canada, that we divide the replica Kuchenreuter event into two classes, being Kuchenreuter U (underhammer) and Kuchenreuter S (sidelock). The team event **Pforzheim** may be a mixture of both  
For 14, against 4, abstain 2. Motion carried

During the discussion, it was absolutely clear that a shooter may only shoot one event; ie. either sidelock or underhammer (same as he can only choose between O and R!!

As this was not interpreted by everyone, we had several discussion on that issue.

Now we should extend our rule no. 4.11.C.6 by the following:

J) A shooter can only shoot either Kuchenreuther O or R. When shooting Kuchenreuther R, he must choose between S and U.

The rules for Boutet and Forsyth are clear and had already been amended. Of course, the mentioning of Pforzheim in our minutes was a mistake which no one has seen or claimed. Of course, it should have been Forsyth!

## Matter raised on slings, from French arbitration committee

### 1 – Historical evidences

Here is a picture, thanks to David Minshall, to establish no sling was ever used on match rifles. supine position in UK

This explains very well the advantage of back position, compared with prone shooting with no support.



*The International Rifle Match Between American and Irish Teams, at Dollymount, near Dublin  
(Illustrated London News, 10 July 1875)*

Another source, book by Ezechiele Baker in 1823, displays the following picture, bringing evidence of prone position being with a sling of the period, while resting on a feathered hat.



Watching these pictures, it is difficult to establish why nobody shooting in competitions (i.e. match rifles like n°4 event) in 1860's is using this technical advantage whereas it seems to be identified in a 1823 book.

Forgotten skill, or admitted to be too easy ?

### 2 – Rules

Our rules state :

**a.) Slings**

- i) Slings shall be original or a reproduction of a contemporary type. Modern adjustable target type slings, including single-point slings, are forbidden.
- ii) The sling shall not be fixed to the rifle in such a way so as to give support to the shooter similar to that given by a single point sling.
- iii) The following shall be permitted provided that the separation between the two ends are not less than 8 inches (203mm) apart:
  - aa) barrel to trigger guard;
  - bb) fore end of stock to trigger guard;
  - cc) Barrel to rear of stock,
  - dd) fore end of stock to rear of stock.Clarification is available on the official MLAIC website)
- vi) The ends of the sling must not be joined at the fixing point
- v) In the case of underhammer rifles where there is no wooden fore end, both ends of the sling may be attached to the barrel but may not be closer to each other than 8 inches (203mm) .
- vi) Slings shall be manufactured from leather, canvas or other suitable material available in the 19th century. No modern material such as nylon may be used. No part of the sling may exceed 2.5 inches (63mm) in width or 0.25 inches (6mm) thickness. Slings may not have double layers or straps attached thereto.
- vii) Only military style slings are permitted in competitions Nos. 1, 3, 9, 10, 11, 31, 32, 37 and 40. Slings shall only be attached to proper original sling swivels.
- viii) Slings are permitted on original target rifles, including English target rifles without sling attachments, provided that the attachment is by straps, string or other suitable means, causing no damage to the rifle. Sling swivels and modern screw type ring clamps are forbidden.
- ix) The use of string, leather, cord or any mechanical means to fix the sling to the trigger guard, which might contact the trigger, is not permitted.
- x) It is not permitted to wrap the sling in such a way that it prevents equal tension being applied to the sling attachments on the rifle, i.e. inserting the arm into the sling and twisting so that all the tension is placed on the front fixing.

### 3 – Discussion

A matter was raised in France about free rifle slings “looking like modern slings”.

Off course they do, because no evidence, so far, was found in the use of sling in prone position before 1900.

As reported by Lee Shaver and Gerhard Lang, the use of slings in prone position appears in the early 1920, so well before the creation of MLAIC, but also well after our cut-off date.

3.3 Hereunder pictures of slings generally used in competitions and matter of the discussion.



## 4 – Conclusion

Use of slings is a later addition to the cut-off date. It is anyway too late to forbid the use of slings for being out of our period general reference after being used since 1974.

To meet half way, we could have a short addition to the Rule as follows

*Slings shall be manufactured from leather, canvas or other suitable material available in the 19th century. No modern material such as nylon may be used. No part of the sling may exceed 2.5 inches (63mm) in width or 0.25 inches (6mm) thickness. Slings may not have double layers or straps attached thereto.*

For free rifles events, such as 02, 04, 08 or 15, sling shall be made of parallel segments period material, length adjustment being made with metal buckles or hook.

For military rifles events, original or reproduction of slings apply.

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MLAIC delegate of France

Small Arms Committee chairman.