Clarifications and Interpretations

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Questions:

1. Where does the butt stock end and the butt plate begin?
2. Where can I place extra weight(s) on the rear of my smallbore rifle?

Answer:

1. There is no clear statement in the rules defining the butt plate and the butt stock. Thus, for NCAA competitions, we define the butt plate as the mechanism placed in the shoulder on the rear of the rifle that may adjust (slides) mostly up and down. The remaining part of the rifle between the butt plate and the pistol grip is the butt stock. The diagram below shows the delineation:

   a. Blue = Butt Stock
   b. Yellow = Butt Plate

2. Weights may be placed on the smallbore rifle in accordance with the established rules, (below). The blue part of the butt stock, which is removable, is considered a weight. Thus, being below the 140mm line is permissible. Other weights attached to the butt stock are permitted. (see Rule 7.4.5.) Weights projecting forward or laterally from the butt plate are prohibited. (see Rule 7.4.5.1.)
Applicable rules:

7.4.6 Standards for 50m Rifles
All rifles chambered for rim fire 5.6 mm (.22" cal.) long rifle cartridges are permitted:

a) The weight of the rifle for men and women may not exceed 8.0 kg with all accessories used including palm rest and hand stop;

b) Weights on or in the lower part of the stock or butt-stock, may not extend horizontally (laterally) further from the centerline of the barrel than the distance of the maximum extension of the cheek-piece from the centerline of the barrel;

c) Weights cannot extend further to the rear than a line perpendicular to the deepest point in the butt-plate;

d) Weights attached to the butt-stock must be rigidly attached and may not be taped to the butt-stock;

e) Weights on the rifle fore-end may extend no lower than 90 mm below the centerline of the barrel and not further forward than 700 mm from the back (rear) end of the system, and

f) The lowest point on the butt-stock may not extend down more than 140 mm from the centerline of the bore. This limit does not apply to wooden stocked rifles.

7.4.5.1 Hook Butt Plate

a) A hook butt plate that complies with the following restrictions may be used;

b) The butt hook projecting rearward from the bottom of the butt plate must not extend more than 153 mm (A) past the rear of a line that is perpendicular to a line drawn through the axis of the bore of the rifle, and that is tangent to the deepest part of the butt plate depression that normally rests against the shoulder;

c) The butt hook projecting from the bottom of the butt plate must have a total outside length around any curve or bend of not more than 178 mm (B);

d) The top projection of the butt plate must not extend more than 25 mm to the rear of this perpendicular line; and

e) Any devices or weights projecting forward or laterally from the lower portion of the butt plate are prohibited.

Examples of violations/non-violations:

Violation. Weights “A, B, C” are illegal. The weights are attached to the butt plate, projecting forward and lateral and is located further to the rear than the deepest part of the butt plate.
Legal. Weight “A” is legal. The weight is attached to the butt stock and within allowable dimensions.

Violation. Weight “B” is illegal. The weight is attached to the butt plate, projects forward and lateral and is located further to the rear than the deepest part of the butt plate.

Non-Violation. Weight “A” is legal. The weight is attached to the butt stock and within allowable dimensions.