



British Shooting Schools Pistol Championships

2023/24 RULES

Overview

The 2023/24 Championships eight shoulder-to-shoulder qualifying events, feeding into a shoulder-to-shoulder National Final. This Championships is 10m Air Pistol, consisting of Individual and Team events each in three age categories for both non-disabled and disabled athletes. All categories are mixed gender and physical ability.

British Shooting welcomes novice to experienced athletes to participate in this fun, competitive Championships representing their schooling establishment (home schooling is allowed). Athletes may compete in as many qualifying competitions as they wish.

Talent Pathway opportunities are available from this competition for the 2024/25 season, expressions of interest will be open following the National Final if athletes are interested in further activity. If you would like to develop your shooting talent, please do contact British Shooting we can help by signposting you to a shooting club in your area.

Championships Format

(Unless otherwise stated on the British Shooting website)

Region	Venue	Date
Northern Ireland	Intershoot Range, NI shooting club	Sunday 8 th October
East Mids., Yorks. & NE	Mount St. Mary's College	Sunday 22 nd October
South East	Lord Roberts Centre	Tuesday 24 th October
Welsh	Sports Wales National Sports Centre	Thursday 2 nd November
Scottish	N/A (Remote)	Tuesday 14 th November
West Mids. & North West	Ellesmere College	Wednesday 22 nd November
East of England	Ipswich High School	Friday 24 th November
South West	Leweston School	Friday 24 th November
National Final	Chase Leisure Centre	Tuesday 6 th February



General competition information

Entry fees All entry fees are to be paid with your online entry. (*unless otherwise stated on the British Shooting website*)

Regional event:

£16.00 per Individual entry, FREE team entry.

National Final:

£24.00 per Individual entry, £25.50 team entry fee.

Individual & Team Categories

Schooling Years according to Home Country can be seen below. Athletes are classed within each category according to their school year.

NB. All age categories are mixed gender and physical ability. Only at the National Final will there be separate Para categories.

	England	Wales	Scotland	Northern Ireland
Junior	Year 6, 7, 8	Year 6, 7, 8	Year P6, P7, S1	Year 7, 8, 9
Intermediate	Year 9 & 10	Year 9 & 10	Year S2 & S3	Year 10 & 11
Senior	Year 11, 12, 13	Year 11, 12, 13	Year S4, S5, S6	Year 12, 13, 14

National Final Qualification

Individual:

- Regional Top 3: The highest placed 3 athletes per Age Class, per regional qualification event automatically qualify. If an athlete has already attained a Quota Place at a previous qualification event in the 2023/24 Championships, the Quota Place will be awarded to the next athlete who has not attained one.
- National Top 10: The highest scoring 10 athletes Nationally per Age Class (from their 20-shot qualification at the Regional Qualifying competition), who have not already automatically qualified, qualify.

Team:

- Regional Champion: The highest scoring Team per Age Class per regional qualification event
- National Top Team: The highest scoring Team Nationally (who have not already automatically qualified), per Age Class.

Para:

- Athletes who have entered and competed at any of the regional qualifying competitions will be invited to compete at the National Final.

Prizes

Qualification Event:

- Individual: 1st – 3rd place Medals. 1st – 8th place Certificates per Class per regional qualification event.
- Team: 1st – 3rd place Certificates per Class per regional qualification event.

National Final:

- Individual: 1st – 3rd place Medals per Class. 1st – 8th place Certificates per Class.
- Team: 1st – 3rd place Medals and Certificates per Class.
- Top Para SH1 & SH2: Awards for the highest placed SH1 & SH2 para athlete in each Class.



Team Events

Qualification Event:

All athletes are automatically eligible, no additional entry is required. A team consists of 3 athletes from the same school, in the same age category (and include para athletes with the full use of their upper body). If 3 or more athletes enter from the same school, in the same age category, the top scoring 3 athletes will form "Team A" and so on. Scores are extracted from the 3 team members individual 20 shot qualification round and totaled to form their Team Score.

National Final:

The team combination who have entered the National Final, compete as a team, irrespective of if more than one team from the same school in the same age category competes. Team members who are only competing as part of a team, cannot compete as an Individual.

Shooting Experience

It is preferred that athletes have had previous experience at Air Pistol shooting, whether in a Pony Club, Pentathlon, Scout, School, or Shooting Club etc. environment.

Para

Athletes with any physical disability can compete in the Schools Pistol Championships, with the exception of visual impairment and intellectual disability. Specific Para Category(s) will only take place at the National Final if entries allow. Athletes who enter stating a disability will be contacted by the Event Organiser prior to competing.

- Qualification Events: All athletes (non-disabled and disabled) will compete alongside one another.
- Event Final Participation: At any championships event the Competition Jury have the authority to allow or disallow participation. The decision will be based upon the athlete's adaptation as outlined in Rule 3 and ensuring no event finalist has any significant performance advantage.
- National Final: Junior, Intermediate and Senior para categories at the National Final will only occur when para entry numbers exceed 10.
- National Final Event Final: One Para Category Final including all age groups will only occur when the total para entry numbers exceed 10.

Sharing Air Pistols

Maximum of 2 competitors can share one pistol. **PLEASE BE AWARE OF THE TIMETABLE.** It is the team leader's responsibility to ensure a clash does not occur where 1 or more athletes need to use the same pistol at the same time. Finals and Qualifications details may be run concurrently for different age groups. *(See event Provisional National Final Timetable below for a guide on event timing).*

Borrowing a Pistol

Pistols may be borrowed from the Event Organisers. Please contact the Event Organiser directly.

Pre-Event Training

For the athletes who have qualified for the National Final there will be an opportunity to book Pre-Event Training when you make your National Final entry. Further information will be available upon National Final entry.



Qualification Event Entry Maximum

The Event Organisers reserve the right to limit the number of entries to timetable the competition within the time available.

National Final Competition Maximum

British Shooting reserves the right to amend the number of qualifying athletes and teams who can compete at the National Final, due to the facilities and equipment available. Any changes will be communicated on the British Shooting website.

Entries

Entries must be received by the Event Organiser prior to the closing date. Late entries may be available at additional cost. At the Qualification Event athletes who compete in the Team Competition must also compete as an Individual.

Withdrawals & Refunds

Please alert the Event Organiser for that specific event. No entry refund will be available unless otherwise stated.

Event Cancellation

If the Event Organisers are forced to cancel the competition, you will be notified via the contact email address stated on your entry form and entry fees will be refunded.

Questions

Events@BritishShooting.org.uk

Competition Information

The pre-event information, competition timetable and all other relevant information will be emailed to your contact email address approximately 10 days prior to the event.

Competition rules

1. Safety

Safety must be maintained at all times. It is within the Chief Range Officer's rights to remove any athlete deemed to be unsafe from the competition.

2. Handed

Junior athletes have the option to compete using one or two hands to hold the pistol. Intermediate and Senior athletes all compete using one.

3. Para Handed

Due to the nature of the disability, if an athlete cannot hold the pistol with one or two hands according to their age class, they have the option to support their shooting hand wrist on a stand/rest, but this aid must not support the pistol whilst shooting. Athletes can be seated.

4. Range

All shooting will be completed at 10m distance. The qualification events are likely to be shot on paper targets and the National Final on MegaLink electronic target system.



E.g., Paper Target

5. Pellets

Athletes provide their own .177 air pellets. Flat nose type only to be used.

6. Air Pistols specifications

.177 Air Pistols to be used only.



E.g., Pellet

7. Equipment Control

7.1 Qualification Events: equipment control will not be enforced.

7.2 National Final: The top 8 finalists at the National Final will be subject to trigger weight control prior to their Knock-Out Final on the day. The trigger must lift a 500g weight in accordance with the ISSF Rules.

8. Refill Air Cylinder

Free air cylinder refill facilities will be available at each Qualification event and National Final, by the Event Organiser, unless otherwise stated. Athletes must bring their own refill air adapter.

9. Clothing

Athletes are to wear loose-fitting clothing. NO JEANS. Athletes wearing jeans will not be allowed to shoot.

10. Safety Flags

Safety flags are to be inserted into the pistol barrel at all times when the pistol is not in use. If an athlete does not have a safety flag, they will be available from the Event Organiser at the Armoury.

11. Preparation and Practice

During the competition, all athletes will be called to the line and given 5mins practice time to shoot an unlimited number of practice shots at the start of their detail.

12. Dry firing

Dry firing may be permitted only in the designated Preparation Area if the event facility allows. Please check with the Event Organiser.

13. Range Commands

Unbox your pistols, ensure safety flags are inserted. Load – Start – Stop. Pistols to be checked by Range Staff, before being boxed.

14. Scoring

If the shot hole touches or crosses a line on the target, the shot is scored at the higher value. If the shot tears the target, the shot value is taken from where the pellet penetrated the target. Whole number scoring will be used throughout the championships, unless otherwise stated. Decimal scoring only to be used in the National Final knockout finals.

15. Penalties

If an athlete shoots more shots than permitted, they will have 2 points deducted for each extra shot fired from their overall total.

- 15.1** Events run on paper targets: If an athlete shoots more (5+) or less (5-) shots on each target, there will be no penalty, as long as the athlete does not exceed the 20-shot total. If an athlete shoots more than 20 shots in total, on target 4 of 4, the highest scoring shot(s) will be disallowed & penalty points deducted.
- 15.2** Events run on electronic targets: If an athlete shoots more than 20 shots in total, the additional shots will be disallowed and 2 points will be deducted for each extra shot over the 20-shot total, unless authorised by the Jury or CRO.

16. Tie (Events run on paper targets)

- 16.1** 20-shot match - Count back system will be in place. The athlete with the highest score in their last 5 shots (16-20th shots) will be awarded the higher placing. If this too is tied, counting back each 5 shots will determine an outcome.
- 16.2** Knock-out Final - The athletes in question will shoot continued single shots head-to-head, until an outcome is determined.
- 16.3** Team Event: The team with the higher 'lowest scoring member' will win the tie. If this too is tied, the team with the next highest next scoring member will win the tie and so on.

17. Tie (Events run on electronic target system)

- 17.1** 20-shot match: The athlete with the greatest number of inner 10's will gain the highest placing. If this too is tied, count back from their strings of 10 shots will decide the winner. If still tied, single shot count back from shot 20 will determine an outcome.
- 17.2** Knock-out Final: The athletes in question will shoot continued single shots head-to-head, until an outcome is determined.
- 17.3** Team Event: The team with the higher 'lowest scoring member' will win the tie. If this too is tied, the team with the next highest next scoring member will win the tie and so on.

18. Qualification Event Structure

- 18.1** All athletes will shoot 20 qualification shots. (5x shots in 5mins on 4x paper targets, targets will be provided by the Event Organiser). If all athletes have completed their match shots within the time allowed, it is within the rights of the CRO to make the range safe before the end of the time allocated. If the event is run on electronic target system, athletes shoot 20 shots in 20 minutes.
- 18.2** The top 8 individual athletes from each age category will progress to the knock-out final.
- 18.3** If a Para athlete qualifies for the event final, the Competition Jury have the authority to allow or disallow participation. The decision will be based upon the athlete's adaptation as outlined in Rule 3 and ensuring no event finalist has any significant performance advantage.
- 18.4** Team scores calculated as per the General Competition Information above.
- 18.5** 10mins protest time will follow the published scores, for any protests to be made to the competition Jury.
- 18.6** Age category finals will be ISSF Guided, thus run to ISSF format as outlined in these rules. (*See Rule 20*)
- 18.7** The Top 3 placed athletes automatically from each category will win a Quota Place and qualify for the National Final. If an athlete has already attained a Quota Place at a previous qualification

event in the 2023/24 Championships, the Quota Place will be awarded to the next athlete who has not attained one.

- 18.8** Following the final Qualification Event, you will be informed the entry information and deadline for the National Final.
- 18.9** The Scottish Championships follows the remote format. Entry instructions downloadable via BSSPC webpage.

19. National Final Event Structure

- 19.1** Pre-event information will be available following the National Final entry deadline.
- 19.2** Pre-event training will be available prior to the National Final.
- 19.3** The competition range for all classes will be shot on electronic target system which is likely to be MegaLink. All athletes will shoot 20 qualification shots. (20x shots within 20mins). If all athletes have completed their match shots within the time allowed, it is within the rights of the CRO to make the range safe before the end of the time allocated.
- 19.4** The top 8 individual athletes (mixed non-disabled and disabled) from each age category, will progress to the knock-out final.
- 19.5** If a Para athlete qualifies for the event final, the Competition Jury have the authority to allow or disallow participation. The decision will be based upon the athlete's adaptation as outlined in Rule 3 and ensuring no event finalist has any significant performance advantage.
- 19.6** Team scores calculated as per the General Competition Information above.
- 19.7** 10mins protest time will follow the published scores, for any protests to be made to the competition Jury.
- 19.8** Age category finals will be ISSF Guided, thus run to ISSF format outlined in these rules (See Rule 20)
- 19.9** Only athletes who have qualified for the Individual competition can compete in this at the National Final. Team members who are only competing as part of a team, cannot compete as an Individual.
- 19.10** Dependent on entries, Para Finals will be run separately or concurrently with age group finals.
- 19.11** If spaces become available for Individuals and/or Teams, finalists will be invited from the BSSPC National Rankings accordingly.

20. ISSF guided Knock-out Final Format:

Call to the line.

Preparation and Practice time. 5mins

5 shots in 250 secs - Score (and change target if using paper targets)

5 shots in 250 secs - Score (and change target if using paper targets)

2 shots (each in 50 secs on command) - Afterwards 8th Place is decided (and change target)

2 shots (each in 50 secs on command) - Afterwards 7th place is decided (and change target)

2 shots (each in 50 secs on command) - Afterwards 6th place is decided (and change target)

2 shots (each in 50 secs on command) - Afterwards 5th place is decided (and change target)

2 shots (each in 50 secs on command) - Afterwards 4th place is decided (and change target)

2 shots (each in 50 secs on command) - Afterwards 3rd place is decided (and change target)

2 shots (each in 50 secs on command) - Afterwards 1st and 2nd places are decided.

21. Rule Change

British Shooting reserve the right to change the rules as appropriate. If any rule is changed, notification will be made in advance of competition via the British Shooting website and clearly communicated to the athletes.

SECTION 21 of the Firearms Act 1968.

Prohibits the possession of a firearm & ammunition (under any circumstances) by any person who has been convicted of a crime and sentenced to a term of imprisonment (or its equivalent for young persons) of three months or more. This is also applicable where sentence is suspended. The prohibition applies in all circumstances, including handling at an approved shooting range or at a clay pigeon shoot where a certificate is not ordinarily required. It also applies to the possession or use of other categories of firearms & ammunition such as air guns or shotgun cartridges for which a certificate is not needed.

Guide timetable

This is a guide timetable for the National Final. Finalised timetable will be sent prior to the events with athlete pre-event information, detail times inc. call to the line, practice, and match.

Junior	08:00	Registration
	09:00	Detail 1
	09:40	Detail 2
	10:20	Detail 3
	11:00	FINAL Junior. <i>Prize giving to follow (Ind & Team)</i>

Intermediate	11:00	Registration
	12:00	Detail 4
	12:40	Detail 5
	13:20	Detail 6
	14:00	FINAL Intermediate. <i>Prize giving to follow (Ind & Team)</i>

Senior	14:00	Registration
	15:00	Detail 7
	15:40	Detail 8
	16:20	Detail 9
	17:00	FINAL Senior. <i>Prize giving to follow (Ind & Team)</i>