

# Hunter Marksmanship Qualification



- ◆ Rifles ◆ Pistols ◆ Shotguns
- ◆ Air Guns ◆ Muzzle Loaders

**D**evelop marksmanship skills and earn Hunter Marksmanship qualification ratings while practicing with a favorite hunting gun, target gun or air gun. These specially designed skill building courses of fire are ideal for new shooters—particularly those who participate in NRA Basic Firearm Training Courses. In most of the Hunter Marksmanship courses of fire, supported positions are used to speed the learning process.

## Guidelines

All rules and requirements for these qualification courses are listed on these pages.

## Air Rifles/Pistols; Pistols; Shotguns and Muzzleloaders

Any safe air gun, rifle, pistol, shotgun or muzzle loading firearm may be used.

## Sights

Metallic, telescopic or electronic sights are permitted.

## Positions

Except for shotgun, firing is conducted in four positions: supported prone, supported sitting, supported kneeling and supported standing. Pistols may be fired using two hands.

## Support

Artificial support to brace both the body and the gun is allowed. Examples of artificial support include gun rest, barricade, log, bench, sandbag, cross-sticks, pillow and table.

## Time Limits

There are no time limits in any of the Hunter Marksmanship courses of fire.

## Target and Distance Options

Any target can be used if the target is

appropriate for the gun and is used at its specified distance. Some targets have the gun and distance specifications printed on the face. The following are some target and distance options:

**BB Gun:** TQ-40 or AR-4 at 5 meters

**Air Rifle:** AR-4 at 5 meters, TQ-5 at 25 feet, and TQ-18 or AR-5 at 10 meters

**Smallbore Rifle:** TQ-1, TQ-36, A-17, or A-36 at 50 feet, or A-23 at 50 yards

**High Power Rifle:** A-23 at 50 yards, A-25 or SR-1 at 100 yards, or SR at 200 yards

**Air Pistol:** B-40 at 10 meters

**Pistol:** TQ-6 at 25 feet, B-2 or D-2 at 50 feet, B-4 at 20 yards, or D-1 at 25 yards

**Muzzle Loading Rifle:** A-23, B-19 at 25/50 yards

**Muzzle Loading Pistol:** B-8 at 25 yards, B-6 at 50 yards, or B-19 at 25/50 yards

**Shotgun:** See the Course of Fire for details.

## Awards

- Hunter Marksmanship Qualification Patch
- Skill Rockers
- Parchment Certificates
- Medals and Medal Bars
- Skill Level Pins



See pages 39-41 for complete information on qualification awards. Reference Materials on page 42.

## Distinguished Expert

NRA will consider posting Distinguished Experts' photos to the "Trophy Gallery" section of [nrahuntersrights.org](http://nrahuntersrights.org). You can mail a print of the photo to the NRA Program Coordinator, or email a digital image to: [marksmanship@nrahq.org](mailto:marksmanship@nrahq.org). The following information should be included with all photos: hunter's name, hometown, species, hunt location, type of firearm or bow, date of hunt and any brief, special details.

To be considered, all photos must exhibit safe gun handling practices. Check carefully to see that no guns are pointed toward the camera or others in the photo. And if your local regulations require your animal to be "tagged immediately, or before moving," please do so before you take the photograph. *Submission of a photo does not guarantee it will be posted.*

# COURSES OF FIRE

## Hunter Marksmanship Courses

Rating	Air Rifle Rimfire or Centerfire Rifle	Shotgun	High Power Rifle Hunting Rifle Muzzle Loading Rifle	Rimfire Pistol Centerfire Pistol Air Pistol
Basic Practical	This rating is achieved by demonstrating safe gun handling and completing the practical exercises conducted during an NRA Basic Course.			
Pro-Marksman	Any position, three shots (possible 30) – 15 or better, five times	Mounting: while looking in a mirror, bring the unloaded gun to shoulder while maintaining erect head and body position. Repeat 25 times. Using pattern boards with a 30" circle at 25-30 yards, fire five shots with mounted gun and five shots from the low gun starting position (mount and shoot).	Prone – Fire five shots all in seven-ring or better	Any position, three shots (possible 30) – 15 or better five times
Marksman	Prone, three shots – 18 or better, five times	Pattern boards with 30" circle, 25-30 yards, five shots each stage. Stand 10' to the left of the pattern board. With mounted gun, swing slowly to board, shoot and continue swing (follow through) to 10' right of board. Repeat right to left. With low gun mount, repeat above course of fire.	Sitting – Fire five shots all in six-ring or better	Prone, three shots – 18 or better, five times
Marksman 1st Class	Sitting, three shots – 18 or better, five times	With mounted gun, shoot 25 straight-away targets; score 15 or better. With mounted gun, shoot 13 targets flying from shooter's left to shooter's right; score eight or better. Shoot 12 targets flying from shooter's right to shooter's left; score seven or better.	Kneeling – Fire five shots all in six-ring or better	Sitting, three shots – 18 or better, five times
Sharpshooter	Kneeling, three shots – 16 or better, five times	Repeat Marksman 1st Class requirements using low gun position.	Standing – Fire five shots all in five-ring or better	Kneeling, three shots – 16 or better, five times
Bar 1	Standing, three shots – 16 or better, five times			Standing, three shots – 16 or better, five times
Bar 2	Prone, five shots (possible 50) – 35 or better, five times			Prone, five shots (possible 50) – 35 or better, five times
Bar 3	Sitting, five shots – 35 or better, five times			Sitting, five shots – 35 or better, five times
Bar 4	Kneeling, five shots – 32 or better, five times			Kneeling, five shots – 32 or better, five times
Bar 5	Standing, five shots – 32 or better, five times			Standing, five shots – 32 or better, five times
Bar 6	Prone, five shots – 40 or better, five times			Prone, five shots – 40 or better, five times
Bar 7	Sitting, five shots – 40 or better, five times			Sitting, five shots – 40 or better, five times
Bar 8	Kneeling, five shots – 37 or better, five times			Kneeling, five shots – 37 or better, five times
Bar 9	Standing, five shots – 37 or better, five times			Standing, five shots – 37 or better, five times
Expert	Fire 10 shots in each position consecutively (40-shot total). Score 340 (possible 400) or better four times.	Shoot three rounds (25 targets each round) of trap, skeet, or sporting clays. Score 20 or better each round.	Fire five shots in each position consecutively (20-shot total). Score 170 (possible 200) or better.	Fire 10 shots in each position consecutively (40-shot total). Score 340 (possible 400) or better four times.
Distinguished Expert	A successful hunt with photo of the hunter's name, hometown, species, hunt location, type of firearm, date of hunt and any brief special details.			