



Muzzle Loading Qualification

◆ Rifle ◆ Musket ◆ Pistol
◆ Revolver ◆ Shotgun

The muzzle loading revival has created some fun and recreational shooting sports events in recent years. Participants can experience tradition, history and a link to our American past by participating in Civil War skirmishes, target shooting, frontier rendezvous, turkey shoots and hunting with muzzle-loading firearms. The NRA and the NMLRA (National Muzzle Loading Rifle Association) are bringing muzzle-loading events to many shooting sports enthusiasts.

Guidelines

NRA Muzzle-Loading Rifle, Pistol and Shotgun Rules apply, except where specific exceptions are made.

More information can be found from the National Muzzle Loading Rifle Association (NMLRA). To obtain rules, go to www.nmlra.com.

The NRA also has a muzzle loading DVD entitled *The Lure of Muzzleloading*. See Safety and Program Information on page 42.

Guns and Equipment

Rifle: Any safe muzzle loading rifle may be used. Flintlock rifles must use a patched round ball. Percussion rifles may use any projectile. Flintlock and percussion-type ignitions will be considered equal in stature. Any metallic sight is allowed.

Military Small Arms (Musket): Any safe, original or reproduction, military (as issued by the United States, Confederate States, or by a state government) rifle, musket, carbine, musketoon of .54, .58 or .69 caliber, or Brown Bess .72 may be used. The projectile can be a hollow-base, Minie-type or swaged bullet. Original pattern sights must be used.

Pistol/Revolver: Any safe muzzle loading pistol or cap-and-ball revolver may be used. All shooting must be done with one hand, using only the arm to support the firearm. Only metallic sights may be used. Open, fixed, or adjustable sights are allowed. The projectile may be a round ball or a conical bullet.

Shotgun: Any safe single- or double-barrel muzzle loading shotgun, any gauge, that uses percussion cap or flintlock ignition, may be used.

Accessories: Slings, palm supports, cross-sticks, loading tubes, shooting coats and gloves as described in the *NRA Muzzle Loading Rifle, Pistol, and Shotgun Rules* may be used.

Targets

Rifle or Pistol : B-19 25 yds.
or B-17

Rifle or Pistol: B-6 50 & 100 yds.

Shotgun: standard clay targets are used for shotgun.

Powder

Only black powder or BATF-approved substitute may be used.

Scoring

All ratings are 10 shot courses of fire.

Due to the variation of calibers used, scoring is done relative to the center of the ball or bullet hole. The center of the shot hole must at least touch a scoring ring to count that value. There are no time limits for completing a target.

Awards

- Muzzle Loading Firearms Patch
- Skill Rockers
- Parchment Certificates
- Medals and Medal Bar
- Skill Level Pins



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

COURSES OF FIRE

Muzzle Loading Rifle and Musket Course

Rating	Position/Distance	Shots	Score	Repetitions
Pro-Marksman	Benchrest or cross-sticks/25 yards	Best 10 of 13	40 or better	2 times
Marksman	Prone or benchrest/50 yards	Best 10 of 13	45 or better	2 times
Marksman 1 st Class	Cross-sticks/50 yards	Best 10 of 13	55 or better	2 times
Sharpshooter	Standing/50 yards	Best 10 of 13	50 or better	2 times
The requirements for the next two ratings must be fired as an aggregate in the same session. If the required score is not met, the entire aggregate must be refired.				
Expert	Standing/50 yards Cross-sticks/50 yards Standing/100 yards Prone or benchrest/100 yards	Best 10 of 13 Best 10 of 13 Best 10 of 13 Best 10 of 13	240 or better	2 times
Distinguished Expert	Standing/50 yards Prone or benchrest/50 yards Standing/100 yards Prone or benchrest/100 yards	Best 10 of 13 Best 10 of 13 Best 10 of 13 Best 10 of 13	265 or better 6 times, or 63% in two NRA or NMLRA sanctioned competitions. (See Witness Requirements, page 3.)	

Muzzle Loading Pistol and Revolver Course

Rating	Position/Distance	Shots	Score	Repetitions
Pro-Marksman	Benchrest/25 yards	Best 10 of 13	35 or better	2 times
Marksman	Standing/25 yards	Best 10 of 13	45 or better	2 times
The next four ratings are standing position, 10 shots standing at 25 yds and 10 shots standing at 50 yds				
Marksman 1 st Class	Standing/25 yds and 50 yds	10 each yd line	110 or better	2 times
Sharpshooter	Standing/25 yds and 50 yds	10 each yd line	130 or better	2 times
Expert	Standing/25 yds and 50 yds	10 each yd line	145 or better	3 times
Distinguished Expert	Standing/25 yds and 50 yds	10 each yd line	160 or better 5 times, or 79% in two NRA or NMLRA sanctioned competitions. (See Witness Requirements, page 3.)	

Muzzle Loading Shotgun Course

Rating	Score	Repeat	Score	Repetitions
	Skeet: Course of fire: 16 targets. Two targets at each station, singles, only.		Trap: Course of fire: 15 rounds, 3 targets each at station moved to within eight yards of the trap house.	
Pro-Marksman	6 out of 16	2 times	5/15	2 times
Marksman	7 out of 16	2 times	6/15	2 times
Marksman 1 st Class	8 out of 16	2 times	7/15	2 times
Sharpshooter	9 out of 16	3 times	8/15	3 times
Expert	10 out of 16	5 times	9/15	5 times
Distinguished Expert	11 out of 16, 6 times; or 64% in two NRA or NMLRA sanctioned competitions. (See Witness Requirements, page 3.)		10 out of 15, 6 times; or 64% in two NRA or NMLRA sanctioned competitions. (See Witness Requirements, page 3.)	