

### THE MILITARY PATROL RACE

#### CONCEPT OF OPS

- 5.1 The Patrol Race is a military race not included in civilian programmes. Special rules and conditions are listed below; in other situations FIS and IBU Rules may be used as guidance but do not automatically apply. It is to be skied in the classical technique.
- 5.2 The Patrol Race is a cross country military ski race designed to test leadership, team cohesion and physical endurance. The format has matured throughout the existence of the AWSA; although aspects have been standardised to ensure commonality both between divisional championships and between the divisional and Army levels, each locality will contribute its own character to the event.
- 5.3 Quite apart from the importance of the race as a military activity, it is the blue ribbon event of Army Winter Sports. In the event of a tie in the overall Inter Unit Nordic and combined Alpine and Nordic events - i.e. in the Kentish and SAS Cups and in the Princess Marina Cup - the Military Patrol Race is the deciding event. Successful completion at divisional level, i.e. not *hors concours* or disqualified, is a pre-requisite for units to be allowed to compete at the Army Championships.
- 5.4 As a trial of military expertise, patrols should expect to encounter a degree of 'friction' and 'fog' that would not be met in a normal race. Every endeavour will be made by the planners to ensure a fair competition, but it may not prove possible to provide identical conditions for all patrols, especially when there are a significant number of entries. Patrols will be expected to take the 'rough' with the 'smooth' in their stride.

#### COMPOSITION, ENTRIES, DRAW AND START LIST

- 5.5 **Composition of a Military Patrol.** The Patrol Commander (Comd) must be qualified or authorised to take a range practice. All ranks are substantive and imply equivalent ranks (e.g. Pte = AB, Mne, Tpr, Gnr, SAC etc).
  - 5.5.1 **Military Patrol Race.** A patrol may consist of both male and female members of the same unit (see Rule 1.7.2).
    - 5.5.1.1 Each patrol is to consist of one officer (the Patrol Comd), a Patrol 2iC of any rank between LCpl and WO1, and two LCpls or Ptes.
    - 5.5.1.2 **Minor Units.** Although there is no separate minor unit competition, each patrol from a Minor Unit is to consist of one officer or warrant officer (the Patrol Comd), a Patrol 2iC of any rank between LCpl and WO1 – junior in rank to the Comd – and two LCpls or Ptes.
    - 5.5.1.3 **UOTCs.** Each patrol is to consist of one officer, SUO or JUO (the Patrol Comd) and three officer cadets of any rank, of whom the senior is appointed the Patrol 2iC.
  - 5.5.2 **Female Military Patrol Race.**
    - 5.5.2.1 **Corps and Divisional Championships.** Each patrol is to consist of one officer or warrant officer (the Patrol Comd), a Patrol 2iC of any rank between LCpl and WO1 – junior in rank to the Comd – and two LCpls or Ptes.
    - 5.5.2.2 **Army Championships.** Each patrol is to consist of four military personnel of any rank, at least one of whom is to be an officer or warrant officer; the senior is appointed the Patrol Comd and the next senior the Patrol 2iC.
  - 5.5.3 **Reserve Forces Patrols.** When fulfilling the composition criteria (Rules 5.5.1 – 5.5.2) patrols from units of the Reserve Forces must consist of at least 3 members of the Reserve Forces (not attached Regular Force personnel).

- 5.5.4 **Exceptions.** Patrols from MOD, formation or command headquarters etc, whose establishments do not readily enable them to meet the required rank structure, or patrols from training establishments such as RMAS, Defence Academy, ATRs etc consisting solely of students, or equally solely of Permanent Staff, are to consist of four serving military personnel of any rank, striving to achieve equivalence to the normal rules from within their squad; the senior is appointed the Patrol Comd and the next senior the Patrol 2iC.
- 5.5.5 **Other Services.** The RM are to follow Army unit rules; the RN, exempt RM, and RAF are to strive to achieve equivalency from within their squads.
- 5.5.6 **Hors Concours (HC) Patrols.** Entries may be accepted from HC patrols (see Definitions); they may be British Armed Forces patrols that cannot conform to the composition criteria, non-British Armed Forces patrols, or, on a case by case basis, *ad hoc* non-unit patrols. If they are British Armed Forces patrols they are to conform in full to the dress and equipment requirements. If patrols are from non-British Armed Forces, the Exercise Director will agree their dress and equipment, conforming as close as possible to Rules 5.12 – 5.19.
- 5.6 **Entries.** Entries are to be made as per Rules 1.4 to 1.9. After entries have closed, the Race Jury will only authorise the substitution of patrol members, from the unit/Corps team squad, after the senior medical advisor at the Championships has confirmed injury or sickness. No substitution will be accepted later than 30 minutes before the scheduled reporting time of the patrol. Any substitution must meet the original criteria (Rule 5.5).
- 5.7 **Draw.** The draw for the start is to take place by lot and is to be conducted in public between 60 and 12 hours prior to the Race, attended at a minimum by the Patrol Comds. The Chief of Race may group or place any Female or HC patrol wherever he deems appropriate in the start list, prior to the draw.
- 5.8 **Start List.** The Start List is to detail the members of each patrol by substantive rank, name, category and bib number. It is to include the timetable for reporting and inspection times for each patrol; an example is given at Annex E.

## COURSE SPECIFICATIONS

- 5.9 **Course.** The intent is to provide a test of patrols' ability to move cross unseen natural, undulating winter terrain, mostly on ski tracks. The course will not necessarily follow well-prepared tracks and may include alpine and virgin snow sections. The whole course does not have to be skiable and removal of skis may be made mandatory for safety reasons, but significant stretches requiring footwear other than skis or ski-boots will be briefed to the patrol comds at least 12 hours prior to the Race. All or parts of the course may be repeated, ideally not more than twice unless snow conditions so dictate. The course, locations of ranges and Patrol Tasks must be designed so that official delay of any patrol will be kept to the minimum.
- 5.9.1 **Length.** The recommended maximum length of the course is 20 km for Divisional and 30 km for Army championship races, with the fastest patrols skiing for about 2½ and 3½ hours respectively. The course length for female patrols should be at least 80% of the length of the Open course. Courses should be shortened in adverse weather conditions.
- 5.9.2 **Map.** A map of the area to be covered may be issued to patrol comds prior to the Race. A Course Map and/or Sketch is to be issued to the patrol comd during the inspection phase prior to the start; it should show the route to be followed and all Safety Controls. Further maps and/or sketches may be issued at Race Controls. The maps and sketches should be sufficiently detailed, over at least a section of the course, to enable patrols to navigate for approximately 5 - 8km, to select the quickest route between controls.
- 5.9.3 **Marking of the Course.** The course should be marked just sufficiently to give patrols confidence that they are on the correct route; repetitive signing where there is no room for error is discouraged. At junctions that are not clearly shown on the map/sketch, the correct track must be signed (e.g. by an arrow). Patrols may be offered alternative routes between some controls: these must be clearly marked on the map/sketch or briefed to the patrol comd at a Race Control; the alternative routes must be similarly marked to each other.

- 5.10 **Range.** Each patrol is to fire two shooting practices. The practices may be fired on more than one range but each patrol must fire the same practice on each range. If there is only one range, e.g. for administrative ease when using Biathlon rifles in lieu of SA80, the practices should normally be fired on separate visits, but may be fired consecutively during one visit to the range if required. The ranges may be either a Biathlon "competition" range or a "tactical" range, but must be authorised in accordance with JSP 403:
- 5.10.1 **"Competition" Range.** On an official 50m "competition" range, two arrays of 5 metal biathlon targets (i.e. a total of 10 targets) will be displayed for each patrol.
- 5.10.2 **"Tactical" Range.** A "tactical" range may be  $\pm 10$ m of the standard 50m, and single or multiple paper targets per patrol may replace the standard metal biathlon targets. It may be an adapted "competition" range or a separate site. In choosing a new location, great care must be taken to ensure safety, e.g. over the Safety Template, the state of the firing point and the absence of backslash-inducing objects within 25m. The location must be cleared with local authorities before being authorised by the Exercise Director.
- 5.11 **Patrol Tasks.** The Chief of Race is to include up to three Patrol Tasks, other than shooting, in the Race. They are to involve the minimum of supervision, no subjective judgement and to be planned so as to impose minimum delay (Holding Time) on patrols waiting to begin each Task. One Task is to include the collection of information during the patrol, which is to be reported by the Patrol Comd in a debrief at the end of the patrol.
- 5.11.1 The emphasis of each Task is to be on leadership and teamwork, but may include practical or theoretical military skills tests up to MATTs standards, such as Battlefield Casualty Drills, Personal Weapon Training, CBRN or Navigation. The briefing time for each Task must be the same for each patrol and is included in its total running time. The maximum time allowed to complete each Task from the end of the briefing/questions is 10 minutes. The maximum bonus time awarded for each Task must not exceed 10 minutes; the scoring system must be explained in the briefing.
- 5.11.2 **Example.** The Chief of Race may have decided to have two Tasks: grenade throwing and a command task:
- 5.11.2.1 **Grenades.** Each patrol throws 10 grenades with a bonus of 30 seconds for each target hit (i.e. the maximum bonus is 5 minutes). Thus if all 10 grenades miss the target the patrol would receive no bonus. If only 2 miss the target, it would have a 4 minute (8 x 30 secs) bonus, which is then deducted from its running time.
- 5.11.2.2 **Command Task.** Regardless of the complexity of the command task, from the time the patrol is ordered to start (i.e. after briefing and clarification of questions etc) it has a maximum of 10 minutes to complete it. As the scoring for the activity can not be based on subjective judgement, the time taken for the task is automatically built in to the running time. If the patrol has not completed the task within 10 minutes, then it is simply ordered to continue with the race.

## DRESS AND EQUIPMENT

- 5.12 **General.** Dress and military issue equipment is to be uniform within the patrol; if it is not, the Senior Officer will take the negative impact into account when awarding bonuses to the patrol at his Inspection (see Rule 5.25). White is to be the predominant colour for dress. Cap and rank badges and SA 80 may not be allowed in non-NATO countries.
- 5.13 **Dress.** The following are to be worn by all patrol members:
- 5.13.1 **Suit/Jacket/Trousers.** Choice of: NATO-issue Arctic camouflage suit; all white racing suit; all white jacket and trousers.
- 5.13.2 **Headdress.** Plain all white ski hat.
- 5.13.3 **Badges.** Regimental or Corps cap badge or emblem. Rank badges as normally worn by the unit.

- 5.13.4 **Shoes, Ski Poles, Gloves.** Need not be military issue nor uniform throughout the patrol; commercial items are not to be camouflaged.
- 5.13.5 **Skis.** Classical skis only may be used. Mechanical aids (see 'Definitions') are not permitted. Skis may be of military or civilian origin. Skis need not be uniform throughout the patrol and, if civilian, are not to be camouflaged.
- 5.13.6 **Bindings.** Any make, size or type of binding (military or civilian).
- 5.13.7 **Race Numbers.** As issued before the race. Patrol comds are to wear the first (red) bib; patrol 2iCs the second (green) bib.
- 5.14 **Forbidden Dress.** The following may not be worn:
  - 5.14.1 Coloured racing suits, jackets or trousers - unless completely covered by a white oversmock or white trousers/overalls.
  - 5.14.2 Disruptive pattern uniform smocks and trousers other than NATO-issue pattern Arctic camouflage suits.
- 5.15 **Patrol Comd's Equipment.** The patrol comd is to carry:
  - 5.15.1 A pair of Service (i.e. issue) binoculars.
  - 5.15.2 A base-plate Silva-type Compass.
  - 5.15.3 A map case.
  - 5.15.4 A notebook and pen/pencil.
  - 5.15.5 Maps and/or sketch maps issued during any Orders/Briefing/Inspection.
- 5.16 **Patrol Members' Equipment.** All members of the patrol are to carry:
  - 5.16.1 A rucksack (olive green or DPM), which may be camouflaged white and need not be a Service issue pattern, but should resemble it as far as possible. It is to be of a minimum of 30 litre capacity, capable of holding a 24 hr ration pack, a change of clothing and such other kit that a patrol would normally require. It must not be so compressed that it is incapable of accepting a standard issue Army sleeping bag.
  - 5.16.2 SA 80 with iron sights, .22" conversion kit and removable muzzle cover. The rifle may be carried by the sling or attached to the outside of the rucksack. It is not to be carried inside the rucksack.
    - 5.16.2.1 Whilst there is no in-service .22" conversion kit for the SA80, and where the host nation does not permit NATO military weapons to be used, patrols will fire their Biathlon rifles. In these cases, the Biathlon rifle will not be carried during the Race; instead, rifles will be pre-positioned at the range to be collected by patrols immediately prior to firing.
  - 5.16.3 An empty magazine in the SA80 magazine housing, in order to prevent snow blocking the working parts.
  - 5.16.4 Ten rounds of issued .22" ammunition, five in each of two magazines; they are to be loaded when issued by the Assistant Marshall and checked at the Equipment Delegate's inspection. No other ammunition is to be carried. (The same ammunition is to be available for zeroing during Official Patrol Race Training.)
  - 5.16.5 An issue Field Dressing.
  - 5.16.6 Each member of the patrol is to carry his own rifle and ammunition at all times. Other equipment may be redistributed within the patrol at any time after it has crossed the start line.
- 5.17 **Legitimate Equipment.** During the race a patrol may only use equipment, including spare skis, poles, waxes etc, that it has carried from the start. It is the patrol comd's responsibility to ensure that all skis and poles, including spares and other equipment, are officially marked before starting and that the Assistant Marshall's team registers SA80 serial numbers by bib number.

- 5.18 **Refreshments.** Any refreshment required by the patrol on the course is to be carried by it from the start. If the conditions of the course or the weather are particularly severe, the Race Committee may decide to provide a refreshment point, informing patrol comds at least 12 hours prior to the start of the race.
- 5.19 **Weight Carried.** The official scales will be made available to patrols, in an outdoor location, at least 36 hours prior to the start of the race.
- 5.19.1 The patrol is to carry a total weight of not less than 40 kg throughout the Race. This weight is made up of the four rucksacks, SA80s and magazines, plus anything put into the rucksacks to make up the required total weight. When they are to be used, biathlon rifles are not included in the weight carried.
- 5.19.2 The total weight excludes personal clothing worn for the race and anything that may be expended during the Race, e.g. ammunition, refreshments or reserve ski equipment, so that the patrol finishes carrying not less than 40 kg.
- 5.20 **Confirmatory Scrutiny.** Any patrol comd who has doubts that his patrol's equipment complies with the Rules may present the equipment/clothing to the Equipment Delegate (ED) for scrutiny up to 24 hours before the start of the race. Patrols will be penalised during the ED's inspections if dress and equipment does not comply with the rules.

## REPORTING AND INSPECTIONS

- 5.21 **Patrol Orders.** Patrol comds will be issued a simple set of Orders following the Team Captains' Meeting on the evening prior to the Race. These will set a straightforward scenario requiring some briefing to patrol members. Watches should be synchronised.
- 5.22 **Inspection Enclosure.** A suggested layout is given at Annex E. Spectators are not allowed close to the Inspection or Start/Finish areas, nor are they allowed to assist any patrol or touch its equipment at any time between reporting to the Assistant Marshall and having been inspected by the ED after the Finish.
- 5.23 **Reporting to Assistant Marshall.** Patrols are to report to the Assistant Marshall at the times detailed. The Assistant Marshall's team shall:
- 5.23.1 Ensure that the patrol reports on time; late arrival incurs penalties.
- 5.23.2 Confirm that the patrol members are wearing the correct Race Numbers.
- 5.23.3 Issue ammunition.
- 5.23.4 Check that all magazines are empty before ammunition is loaded.
- 5.23.5 Weigh the equipment carried by the patrol.
- 5.23.6 Mark all ski equipment presented by the patrol.
- 5.23.7 Register SA80 serial numbers by individual bib number.
- 5.23.8 Issue any maps and/or sketches (can be done by the Starter later).
- 5.24 **Equipment Out Inspection.** The Equipment Delegate (ED) is to inspect the patrol at the time laid down in the Start List to ensure that:
- 5.24.1 It is turned out in accordance with these Rules.
- 5.24.2 The weight carried is correct.
- 5.24.3 The patrol comd has received 40 rounds from the Assistant Marshall and that 5 rounds are loaded into each of two magazines carried by each member of the patrol.
- 5.24.4 SA80s are checked clear, with an empty magazine in the housing.
- 5.24.5 The patrol has uniformity of equipment where required. He will highlight any irregularities, for the guidance of the Senior Officer at his inspection, on the appropriate form at Annex E, which is to be used for recording penalties.

5.24.6 No change of any kind is permitted after the ED's Inspection.

#### 5.25 **Senior Officer's Inspection.**

5.25.1 Immediately following the ED's Inspection, an Inspection will be carried out by the "Senior Officer"; this will normally be the Exercise Director. He will inspect the uniformity of turnout, military bearing and smartness of the patrol. He will talk to members of the patrol and ask them questions about the patrol.

5.25.2 Taking into account the points noted on the ED's inspection he will award bonuses to each patrol to be deducted from their running time:

5.25.2.1 For the standard of turnout of the patrol, the bonuses will be in units of 10 seconds, up to a maximum of one minute.

5.25.2.2 For familiarity with the scenario and responsiveness to other questions related to the patrol, the bonuses will be in units of 15 or 30 seconds, up to a maximum of 2 minutes. The questions will be standardised across all patrols.

5.25.3 Once inspected, the patrol is to move directly to the Start enclosure and await the Starter's orders without altering their dress, including headdress and gloves, or equipment.

5.25.4 Spectators are not permitted within earshot of the Senior Officer's Inspection.

### **START**

5.26 **Start Time.** Patrols start at 3 minute intervals under control of the Starter. The start of the patrol's running time will be as detailed on the Start List unless a late start is outside their control, in which case the Race Jury will determine their Start Time.

5.27 **Procedure.** The patrol may cross the start line in any order but all members are to be dressed and equipped exactly as they were for the inspections.

5.28 **Early Start.** The patrol's first man may not cross the Start Line until the ordered Start Time. Any patrol member crossing the Start Line early will be recalled by the Starter and must return behind the Start Line to restart. The patrol's Start Time will not be adjusted.

5.29 **Weather Conditions.** Rule 3.6.6 may only be relaxed at the discretion of the Exercise Director. In brief, competitors should not be started if the air temperature anywhere on the course is colder than -20°C; furthermore the wind chill factor (Rule 3.6.6.2 Table 2) must be taken into account.

### **CONDUCT ON THE COURSE**

5.30 **Running Time.** The patrol's running time is to be recorded from the Start Time until the last man to cross the Finish Line.

5.31 **Outside Assistance.** The four members of a patrol may assist each other in any way. They may not receive physical assistance or equipment of any sort from anyone else. Verbal encouragement from spectators (or the PA system) is permissible.

5.32 **Removal of Skis.** Unless directed otherwise, a patrol comd may order the removal of skis at any time during the race. For technical or safety reasons it may be mandatory.

5.33 **Tracking.** A patrol overtaking another must be closed up within 20m before the leader calls "track". The patrol or individual being overtaken must then immediately clear the track, unless it or he can outdistance the overtaking patrol without hindering it in any way. The penalty for not responding to a "track" call at the first valid request is 1 min.

### **CONTROLS**

5.34 **Race Controls.** Race Controls may be marked on the map, if designed to test navigation, or not if they are to be a surprise, i.e. a Patrol Task; they need not be manned if there is some physical or electronic method, as in orienteering, of indicating their physical location and recording that a patrol has visited them. Patrols are to pass through every Race Control, manned or not, in the correct order as part of the course.

- 5.35 **Manned Race Controls.** Manned Race Controls are to occupy a 20m marked length of track and are to be marked so as to be easily identifiable on approach. A patrol's members may pass through a Race Control in any order, but must be closed up to 20m between the first and last man when leaving a Manned Race Control. Controllers are to stop the leading man of any patrol that is not sufficiently closed up until the last man is within 20m.
- 5.36 **Holding Patrols.** A Manned Race Control is to be established at a range or a Patrol Task. This Control will have the additional task of holding up any closed up patrols that arrive when there is no room for them on the range or task stand. This Control must have ample space for waiting patrols and is to time any delay imposed. This holding time will later be deducted from the patrol's running time.
- 5.37 **Safety Controls.** All manned controls will act as Safety Controls, to assist patrols to avoid danger and to enable rapid evacuation in the event of a medical emergency. They will therefore be equipped with radio/telephone communications to Race Control. Additional Safety Controls may be required, through which the course does not necessarily directly pass, to provide a centralised safety backup. They are to be marked on the map issued at the inspections and will also be manned and equipped with radio/telephone communications to Race Control.

## RANGE PROCEDURE

- 5.38 Each patrol is to fire 5 rounds per man on each of two shooting practices, on one or two ranges. Military weapon handling procedures are to be followed.
- 5.39 **Pre-positioning of Biathlon Rifles.** When Biathlon rifles have to be used, they will not be carried on the course, but will be pre-positioned by each unit at the range, as instructed by the Chief of Range. Range Control staff will guard the weapons. Once pre-positioned, no-one except the patrol is to touch the weapons until the patrol has completed firing, when they are collected again by the unit. Sufficient space is to be made available to hold the rifles in patrol batches, ideally on a rack or frame identified by Race Number. The location used will depend on the range layout and approach to the firing point, but must be chosen so that all patrols travel essentially the same distance from arriving at the Range Control, through collecting the rifles, moving to the firing point, returning to replace the rifles and leaving the Range Area. Two example layouts are shown in Annex E.
- 5.40 **Targetry and Firing Positions**
- 5.40.1 Patrols will be instructed by the Firing Point Officer (FPO) to adopt specified firing positions for each practice. There may be a variety of positions within each practice, which are to be the same for all patrols, but the patrol comd can decide which member adopts which position. The targets presented are to be appropriate to the required firing position and the weapon used.
- 5.40.2 The normal firing positions can be chosen from:
- 5.40.2.1 **Prone:** at least pelvis and stomach must be on the ground.
- 5.40.2.2 **Kneeling:** only one or both knees and below may be on the ground.
- 5.40.2.3 **Sitting:** only buttocks and below may be on the ground; legs crossed or apart.
- 5.40.2.4 **Squatting:** only feet on the ground; arms may be rested on knees.
- 5.40.2.5 **Standing:** only feet/skis on the ground.
- 5.40.3 Firing positions may be supported or unsupported:
- 5.40.3.1 **Supported:** using anything carried by the patrol, or any natural assistance, to support the rifle or firer. Artificial range infrastructure or furniture is not to be used unless indicated to the patrol in advance.
- 5.40.3.1.1 The Biathlon rifle sling is not to be used.
- 5.40.3.2 **Unsupported:** using no natural or artificial assistance, except the sling for SA80, to support the rifle.

5.40.4 **Targets.** Targets, or target groups, must be identifiable by a number or letter, visible from the firing point using Service binoculars.

5.40.4.1 For the SA80 with iron sights, metal or paper standing biathlon targets (115 mm roundel) or military targets Fig 11A (378 x 150 mm) will be used in every firing position. The Fig 11A scoring area must be fully briefed to each patrol comd by the FPO.

5.40.4.2 For the Biathlon rifle, metal or paper biathlon targets (115 mm roundel) only are to be used. The scoring area depends on the grouping that is achievable using the indicated firing position:

5.40.4.2.1 **Prone Target (45 mm diameter):**

Prone Supported. Possibly, for a harder shoot e.g. at Army Championships, Kneeling Supported or Prone Unsupported; FPO must brief patrol comd.

5.40.4.2.2 **Standing Target (115 mm diameter):**

All other firing positions.

5.41 **Inspection of Weapons**

5.41.1 On each arrival at a range, a FPO will inform the patrol comd which lanes and which firing positions the patrol is to adopt and, if appropriate, the scoring system. The patrol comd orders the patrol to the lanes indicated. Unless shooting mats are provided, which will partially depend on the scenario, patrols must not wear skis at the firing point; rucksacks may or may not be removed as desired.

5.41.2 The patrol comd is to inspect his patrol's rifles to ensure that barrels are clear of snow and other obstructions. He is to be responsible for providing a ramrod or other means of cleaning/clearing barrels if required. He is to ensure that his own rifle is inspected by another member of the patrol. He may inspect all the rifles before any firing commences or two at a time i.e. the two members firing on each detail. Loaded magazines are NOT to be placed on the rifle until ordered by the comd.

5.41.2.1 When a Biathlon rifle is used in lieu of SA80, the weapon handling drills are to replicate those of the SA80.

5.41.3 While this inspection is going on, and without hindering the patrol, a FPO will check by the "dipstick principle" that one patrol member, selected at random, has only 5 rounds loaded in his magazine.

5.42 **'Competition' Range**

5.42.1 On a 50 m 'competition' range, two arrays of 5 metal biathlon targets (i.e. a total of 10 targets) will be displayed. After the weapon inspection (Rule 5.41), the patrol is to split into two 2-man sections - one commanded by the Patrol Comd, one by the Patrol 2iC. Only one section is to fire at a time. The Patrol Comd orders one section to adopt the firing positions indicated by the FPO and the other to retire to the rear of the firing point; here it must avoid obstruct the skiing lane through the range. It may assist in the "spotting" of targets or conduct any other activity. It may not point its weapons towards spectators: i.e. it is not to adopt a position of all-round defence.

5.42.2 The Section Comd of the section that is shooting orders his section, with 5 rounds each, to engage the 10 targets indicated. Correct collective or individual fire orders are to be given. Both members may fire at the same time if the comd so orders.

5.42.3 After each member of the first section has fired 5 rounds - regardless of how many targets have been hit - they are to unload and mutually check that the chamber, face of the bolt and body of the rifle are clear, containing no live rounds. When the Section Comd is satisfied that the weapons are clear, he orders empty magazines to be replaced on the SA80s and the section to withdraw to the rear of the firing point. By this time the FPO will have recorded the number of targets hit

and re-activated the two arrays of 5 targets; the Patrol Comd orders the second section of the patrol to adopt the firing positions indicated by the FPO and each to engage their 5 targets as above.

5.42.4 After the second section has shot and cleared weapons, the Patrol Comd orders the patrol to leave the range and to continue their patrol.

5.42.5 An example scoring sheet for metal biathlon targets is in Annex E.

#### 5.43 **'Tactical' Range**

5.43.1 On arrival at a 'Tactical' range, the patrol will be briefed on any changes from Rule 5.42 as to the method of conducting the shooting practice (e.g. the patrol may be required to fire singly or en masse rather than as two sections, or to adopt firing positions that suit the terrain). A tactical scenario may be briefed. The briefing for all patrols must take the same length of time and is included in the overall running time.

5.43.2 The safety requirements for inspecting weapons on arrival at a "tactical" range are as per Rule 5.41. The clearing of weapons is as per Rule 5.42.3.

5.43.3 The scores on paper targets will probably have to be recorded after all patrols have fired.

5.44 **Misfires.** A round which is struck but misfires is to be replaced by the FPO after his inspection of the struck round. No time allowance will be given.

5.45 **Lost and Damaged Rounds.** Rounds lost during the race or damaged prior to being struck will not be replaced.

5.46 **Rifle Malfunctions.** If a rifle jams or malfunctions the Patrol Comd is to attempt to cure the problem. If it cannot be cured, the FPO authorises the use of the rifle of another member of the patrol. There is no time penalty for such a mechanical break, neither is there a time allowance for borrowing the rifle.

### **FINISH**

5.47 The patrol may cross the finish line in any order but must be closed up to 20m. The patrol's running time is recorded when the last man crosses the finish line. Within the Finish Holding Area, and without outside assistance, the patrol is, if necessary, to revert to its original dress and equipment.

5.48 **Debrief.** The Patrol Comd is to report the information that the patrol was tasked to collect, orally or written as directed, to the Debrief Officer.

5.49 **Equipment In Inspection.** The patrol is to enter the Inspection Enclosure and remain there until all members have been inspected by the ED, in their original dress and equipment, and their equipment has been checked and weighed.

### **RUNNING TIME ADJUSTMENTS**

5.50 Time will be added to or deducted from a patrol's running time, recorded on the form in Annex E, as follows:

5.50.1 **Bonuses awarded on the Senior Officer's Inspection:** up to one minute deducted for turnout; up to 2 minutes deducted for military knowledge.

5.50.2 **Bonuses gained during Patrol Tasks:** up to 10 minutes deducted per Task.

5.50.3 **Holding Times:** the time during which a patrol is held at a range or Patrol Task control when there is no room; deducted from a patrol's running time.

5.50.4 **For loss of each cap badge or badge of rank:** 30 seconds added.

5.50.5 **For loss of map case, notebook or pen/pencil:** one minute each added.

5.50.6 **For loss of each glove or headdress:** one minute added.

5.50.7 **For loss of each SA80 muzzle cover:** one minute added.

- 5.50.8 **For loss of each field dressing:** one minute added.
- 5.50.9 **For loss of each magazine:** one minute added.
- 5.50.10 **For not responding to valid "track" request:** one minute added each time.
- 5.50.11 **For each target not hit on the range:** one minute added.
- 5.50.12 **For lax fire control or range behaviour:** up to one minute added for each incident (awarded by the Chief of Range).
- 5.50.13 **For late arrival at reporting or inspection:** 2 minutes added per minute late.
- 5.50.14 **For each live round remaining in magazine at the finish:** 2 minutes added.
- 5.50.15 **For each round fired on another team's target or on an incorrect target:** 2 minutes added.
- 5.50.16 **For each "illegal round" fired on the range:** 4 minutes added per round. (An illegal round is a round deliberately fired from the firing position, at the designated target but before the order to "fire" or after "cease fire" has been given. This is not the same as a "negligent discharge" [see Rule 5.53.1.4]).
- 5.50.17 **For loss of binoculars:** 3 minutes added.
- 5.50.18 **For loss of issued map:** 5 minutes added.
- 5.50.19 **For loss of compass:** 5 minutes added.
- 5.51 For any item of equipment missing at the ED's Out Inspection (Rule 5.24) before the start of the race, the penalty will be the same as and additional to that awarded when the equipment is missing at the end of the race (Rule 5.49).
- 5.52 The Jury may award penalties for other violations as per AWSA Rules Section 4.

## **DISQUALIFICATIONS**

- 5.53 In addition to AWSA Rules in Section 4, patrols will be disqualified for:
  - 5.53.1 A gross breach of range safety e.g.:
    - 5.53.1.1 Walking in front of a loaded rifle.
    - 5.53.1.2 Clearing a loaded rifle of snow or obstruction unsafely.
    - 5.53.1.3 Handling a loaded rifle so negligently as to endanger life.
    - 5.53.1.4 For a "negligent discharge".
  - 5.53.2 Carrying more than forty rounds of ammunition per patrol.
  - 5.53.3 Finishing:
    - 5.53.3.1 With a live round in the breach.
    - 5.53.3.2 With anyone missing from the patrol.
    - 5.53.3.3 Having received outside physical assistance.
    - 5.53.3.4 With less than the laid down 40kg load.
    - 5.53.3.5 Not having used marked skis and equipment throughout.
    - 5.53.3.6 Having gained an advantage by not following the indicated track, except where alternative routes between Controls have been authorised.
    - 5.53.3.7 Each member not having carried his own SA80 and ammunition at all times.

## PROTESTS

- 5.54 Protests are to be made as per Rule 3.10 by Patrol Comds only. Protests concerning target malfunction or an incident concerning the organisation of the range or a shooting practice are to be made orally to the FPO at the time of occurrence. They are to be confirmed in writing at the end of the race.

## DUTIES OF OFFICIALS

- 5.55 **Local Rules.** More Local Rules are normally necessary in the Patrol Race than any other race, usually for environmental or political reasons, but particularly at levels below the Army Championships. The Championships Administrative Instructions are to leave team captains in no doubt over the Local Rules applicable to the particular race. Any additional Local Rules introduced at short notice at the Meeting are to be published in writing and briefed to patrol comds.
- 5.56 **Simplicity.** It has been demonstrated over the years that the most successful patrol races have been those that have kept to a simple format and not over-complicated the course, course marking, patrol tasks or shooting practices. It is essential that officials thoroughly understand their responsibilities; that tired and stressed competitors can readily understand the instructions that they are given; and that the scoring system is tried, tested and understood – results should be simple to score, simple to record, simple to communicate and simple to audit.
- 5.57 **Objectivity.** Apart from the Senior Officer's Inspection, there should be no aspect of subjective assessment or judgement included e.g. requirement for tactical movement.
- 5.58 **Course Planning.** It is just a classic skiing race with shooting, albeit exploiting the terrain available. Make the instructions clear and simple, but include variety to keep patrols alert. Plan patrol tasks and the range so that the requirement to delay patrols due to insufficient capacity is minimised. But also ensure that controllers are ready to record accurately the time if a patrol(s) has to be held, in a place so that they do not benefit from overseeing other patrols at the task/range. Ensure that the map used for the navigation section is clear to someone approaching the area for the first time. Rehearse all instructions with someone outside the planning team to ensure that they can be clearly understood.
- 5.59 **Appointment of Officials**
- 5.59.1 Ideally BANSOC will appoint a Technical Delegate (TD), an experienced Patrol Race official, to assist the organisers to ensure that the Race is conducted fairly and in accordance with these Rules. He should be involved throughout the planning and can veto plans on the basis of safety, fairness or practicality, but cannot dictate what must be included. In accordance with Rule 1.12.3 the Chief of Race may be sufficiently experienced to be appointed as the TD concurrently.
- 5.59.2 The Championships organiser appoints the Chief of Race. He should be enabled to concentrate on the Patrol Race an absolute minimum of 48 hrs before the Start, having started recces and planning concurrent with other activities at least 72 hrs earlier; in an unknown area an additional 48 hrs planning timescale will be required.
- 5.59.3 The Chief of Race will require the assistance of all available officials, as well as a significant number of assistant officials from the teams to cover responsibilities such as:
- 5.59.3.1 Safety and Race Controls.
- 5.59.3.2 Patrol Tasks.
- 5.59.3.3 FPOs and range assistants.
- 5.59.3.4 Assistance to Assistant Marshall and ED.
- 5.59.4 A Race Jury is to be appointed, headed by the TD and consisting of: Chief of Race; Chief of Range; ED; and a Patrol Comd representative. The Race Jury is to ensure a fair competition and adjudicate on official protests.

- 5.60 **Briefing of Officials.** The Patrol Race, more than any other race, can be a cause of friction between competitors and officials. A considerable amount of preparation and forward planning is required by both unit teams and officials prior to the race.
- 5.60.1 The Chief of Race is to ensure that all officials have been meticulously briefed and in particular that the system for recording bonus/penalty times and then incorporating them into the running time is clear and foolproof. Assistant officials may not be able to be briefed on their exact role or location until they report in the morning.
- 5.60.2 The Chief of Race must plan the deployment of all officials by vehicle or on skis and ensure that controls are correctly positioned and laid out and that the officials are completely clear on their role, responsibilities and limitations on what they may do or say.
- 5.60.3 Officials must be adequately dressed and equipped to spend 4 – 6 hours in position. Weather conditions must be taken into account.
- 5.61 **Communications Plan.** A communications plan is required, using as many radios as possible with emergency telephone backup. More than one routine net may be required if there will be a significant amount of radio traffic, e.g. reporting scores as they occur at Patrol Tasks or the ranges. A dedicated emergency channel should be identified.
- 5.62 **Risk Assessment.** The Chief of Race is to complete a Risk Assessment during the planning stage and to update it dynamically as required.