SHOOTING WITH REGULATED ARMS

I would like to take part in TAR and I have some questions...

What is TAR?

The abbreviation of TAR stands for “Tir aux Armes Règlementaires” or, in English, Regulated Weapons Shooting. It is a discipline organized by FFTir and is practised with a regulated weapon (post 1886) that was not designed or improved for competition.

TAR is described as a discipline that is:

- A popular sport open to all without distinction by age or gender.
- A simple sport in its organisation and practice.
- A sport practised solely with regulated weapons in their original forms, designed as arms for use by troops. Specialist weapons are not recognised (even if you are allowed to shoot with them in friendly meetings like the “Challenge de Mousquetaires”)

Who can practise TAR?

TAR is a discipline open to all, regardless of age or gender, and everyone shoots together in each discipline.

It is complicated?

Not at all; it is straight-forward in its organisation and practice. It does not require the same level of intense concentration as ISSF shoots. A match consists of 25 or 35 shots as described in the disciplines you can see below.

Is it Expensive?

No, much less than the ISSF ... at least, if we know how to make it reasonable.

- A Mosin 91/30 around 350 € allows you to start in the discipline: "long weapons",
- A SCHMIDT RUBIN K 31 is around 550 €. This Swiss rifle allows you achieve top places (even if there are better weapons - but which are more expensive),
- A Set W Mle 10 used, is trading for around 300 € and allows you to shoot and do well in the disciplines: "handguns"

There are, of course, more expensive and rarer weapons but these give you a good start.

Do you need a lot of ammunition?

No, much less than in ISSF competitions

All rifle matches including 22 LR are 20 shots, handgun matches are 20 or 30 shots according to the discipline; whereas ISSF matches involve 60 shots (plus 5 test shots in the various disciplines TAR or ISSF).

With what weapons do we practise it?

TAR with long weapons is only practised with basic regulation weapons, used initially for arming troops after 1886, so can be described as “weapons of the troops".
One may use non-regulated hand guns that meet certain criteria that are described below.

**Why only regulated weapons?**

The philosophy of the TAR is that selection must be made on the qualities of the shooter (not on the armament) and, in particular, the development the qualities of adaptation to the imposed conditions and of responsibility in the use of the weapons. The shooter must assume responsibility for dealing with his own incidents during events and trust his luck.

**I like rifles; which can I use for practice and in matches?**

You have the possibility of shooting in up to four disciplines:

1. **Manual repetition weapons**, original version, category C, **Match 810**
   Some examples: MAS 36, Springfield 1903-A1, Schnidt Rubin K31, Mauser: Gewehr 1898, Mossine-Nagant 91/30, etc..

2. **Semi-automatic weapons**, original version, Category B, (caliber other than .222 and .223 Remington) **Match 815**
   Some examples: MAS 49/56, FAMAS, AR-15, Garand, etc..

3. **Semi-automatic weapons**, calibres .222 and .223 Remington (5.56 NATO). **Match 816**
   Some examples: AR-15, Colt C-7. Current makes and models (duly listed) are allowed.

4. **Regulated Repetition and Semi-automatic Rifles** that have legally approved modifications by the addition of diopter, sighting scope, match sights, etc. **Match 812**

   4.1 **Repeating or semi-automatic rifles modified with optics**
   "Modified rifles with optics" are weapons that have been equipped with a regulated scope (or its correct replica, including mounting) whose magnification is indicated.
   Some examples: Springfield 1903 A1 with Unertl x7.8, Mauser 98 K with ZF 39-x.4, Mossine-Nagant 1891/30 with PU 42-x3.5, Garand M-1D: M 84-x2.2.

   4-2 **Rifles with metal sights for military matches**
   "Modified rifles with metallic sights" are weapons that have been equipped with a metallic military match sight.
   Some examples: MAS Mle 1949/56 with MSE front and rear sight, Schmidt-Rubin K-31 with dioptries and Waffenfabrik & Wyss sights, Mauser Mod1896: with Elit dioptries, etc.

**How is a match conducted?**

A TAR rifle match is shot at a distance of 200 meters at a target model C 200/1975 - type Historic Weapons.

*However, at P.T.S. or where there is only a 100 meter range, you will only be able to shoot at 100 meters, at a C 50 target.*

It comprises 25 rounds in the “prone” position
- 5 test shots – duration 5 minutes.
- 10 shots (in 2 series of 5 rounds) for precision shooting – duration: 7 minutes.
- 10 shots (in 2 series of 5 rounds) for speed shooting – in 1 minute for semi-automatic rifles and in 3 minutes for repetition and modified rifles.
There are also **Commemorative Matches** for weapons that have been used in the First World War until 1917.

These two matches, involving 15 shots, are shot from a seated position and at a C50 target:
- 5 test shots – in 5 minutes
- 10 shots for precision – in 10 minutes

1. **At 100 meters** for long weapons. Example: Lebel 1886, Berthier 1907/15 or other Gewehr 1898. **Match 841**
2. **At 50 meters** (or 100 meters depending on the range used) for muskets or rifles. Examples Musket Gerthier 1892-M16 (The R35 is not allowed); Mauser 1888 musket; Cuirassier rifle 1890 etc. **Match 853**

There is also a match called **ISR** (International Service Revolver) for weapons having the appearance of a military weapon (**Currently, nobody in the Club practises this match**).

Yes, but I only have a 22 LR rifle...

There is also a 22LR rifle match. These rifles must have been used as regulated training rifles in any army around the world and recognized as such.

Some examples: Lebel called “Scolaire” or “school”; MAS 45, Falke, Mauser 45, Anschütz Mod. 54, Mossine-Nagant Vz 4, Lampagyar, Norinco 33-40, all re-barelled manual repetition rifles (Schmidt-Rubin K-31, MAS 36) etc. **Match 820**

**Do we shoot as with the large-caliber rifle?**

No, the event is shot at a distance of 50 meters in the “prone” and "standing" positions at a C50 target.
- 5 test shots in the "prone" position – duration: 5 minutes.
- 10 shots for precision in the "prone" position – duration: 7 minutes.
- 10 shots for speed in the "standing" position – duration: 5 minutes.

I have a semi-automatic .22LR that looks like a USM1, can I shoot with it?

**Care:** This rifle is now classed as Category B and subject to an authorisation. Is yours legal?

There is, effectively, a **Match Semi-Automatic 22LR Rifle** where all semi-automatic .22LR rifles having the appearance of a military weapon are authorised.

The targets are composed of five swinging biathlon-type “gongs” with a Black of 11.5 cms placed at 25m and 50m. It is shot in the standing position.

Time for preparation and loading: 2 mins

On the command “PRET”, the shooter takes the Ready position, with the rifle held horizontally level with the hips. The command “TIREZ” (fire) is given 7 seconds later.

- 1 series of 10 test shots in 30 seconds at a distance decided by the shooter (25 or 50m)
- 2 sets of 10 shots in 30 sec's each (for precision). 5 targets at 25m and 5 targets at 50m

Yes, but I prefer shooting handguns...

Yes, it is possible. The concept is a little different to using rifles as, unlike rifles, the rank-and-file soldier is not armed with a hand-gun, though there are a few exceptions.
Simply, it is essentially for handguns in their standard version, with a fixed and open sight (No adjustable sights or fibre-optic sights).

Regulated calibres include between 7.62 and 11.60 mm (eg: 7.62 Tokarev, 9mm para. 38 special, 45 ACP and 455 Webley) and provided with original or similar grips. You can use a 358 Magnum but you must shoot 38sp. The bullets must be jacketed – not lead or painted.

**Do I need a pistol or a revolver?**

Both are eligible, provided that they meet the rules referred to above (they are actually a little more complex than this). Examples:

**Pistols:** Mac 50, Tokarev TT33, Lüger P08, Colt 1911, Glock 19, CZ 75 etc..

**Revolvers:** Manurhin MR73 "Police", SetW Mle 10, S and W Mle 1917 etc..

**So what events can I shoot in?**

There are two matches for these arms:

**1 - The Pistol & Revolver Match Combined:** Distance 25 meters

- 5 test shots at 25 meters, 1 or 2 hands at C50 target – duration: 3 minutes
- 10 shots (2 series of 5 rounds) for precision,
  1 handed at C50 target – duration: 7 minutes
- 20 shots for speed (4 series of 5 rounds) on metal gongs (size 20 cm x 20 cm)
  1 or 2 handed. Duration: first two x 5 rounds in 20 seconds, second two x 5 rounds in 10 seconds.

**In this match, two classes are possible:**

**Standard Handguns**  **Match 830**
All standard armes with fixed and open sights. Calibres from 7.62 and 11.60. (There are a number of restrictions including, for example, the length of the barrel) Examples include: Modern makes of the type 1911, Glock 17, CZ 75, SetW Mle 10 etc..

**Authentic Handguns**  **Match 832**
Authentic military weapons complying with an exhaustive list of requirements. These are arms that have been used by an army in conflicts up to 1970 and having been made after 1886 in their original state and original calibre – recent versions of these arms are not authorised. Examples include: MAC 50, Luger P 08, GP 35, Tokarev TT 33 etc..

**2 – Military Speed Match:** Distance 25 meters  **Match 831**
All the armes described above can be used. There is no class distinction between Standard and Authentic. Targets used: Speed 25 m targets.

- 1 series of 5 test shots in 20 seconds – one or two hands
- 2 series of 5 match shots in 20 seconds - one or two hands
- 2 series of 5 match shots in 10 seconds - one or two hands

**Are there competitions or meetings?**

There are official competitions: Departmental, Regional and National Championships. There are also inter-club meetings that bring together shooters who are primarily passionate about TAR, even if the matches provide a final ranking.

As far as we at PTS are concerned, there is the **Challenge des Mousquetaires**.
This challenge is shot in four rounds at: Artagnan, Eauze, Caussens and Plaisance du Gers. It attracts many shooters, sometimes coming from afar, attracted by its friendliness.

**Where can I get more information?**

First, visit the FFTir site Web:

reglement TAR 2018-2019 14_01_2019diffusion – FFTir

Ask the President or Vice-President who deals more particularly with this fascinating discipline.

*Many thanks to Max BERGES for this information*

**Downloadable TAR documents below:**