

COMPETITION EQUIPMENT RULES MODIFICATION PROCESS

Purpose

This policy establishes the process and timeline for modifying USPSA Division rules affecting personal competition equipment to ensure member input, transparency, and orderly implementation of equipment rule changes.

Scope

This policy applies to all proposed changes to USPSA Division rules that affect personal competition equipment used by members in sanctioned competition. This policy does not apply when changes are required to comply with federal laws.

Policy

1. Equipment Rules Modification Process

Changes to USPSA Division rules affecting personal competition equipment shall follow the process outlined below, except when changes are required to comply with federal laws.

1.1 Proposal Submission

All proposed personal competition equipment rules shall be presented to the Rules Committee for evaluation and consideration.

1.2 Committee Review and Board Presentation

The Rules Committee shall present any proposed personal competition equipment rule changes to the Board of Directors no later than August 1st of each year.

1.3 Board Evaluation and Member Notice

a) The Board shall evaluate the proposed personal competition equipment rule changes and vote whether to present them to the membership for comment.

b) Approved proposed personal competition equipment rule changes shall be posted on the organization website and notice shall be sent to the membership via electronic communication by September 1st.

1.4 Member Comment Period

Members shall have a minimum of ninety (90) days to view and comment on proposed personal competition equipment rules changes.

1.5 Board Final Vote

After the comment period has ended, the Board shall vote on the proposed personal competition equipment rules changes at the next regular board meeting.

1.6 Effective Date

All personal competition equipment rules changes shall take effect on January 31st each year.

2. Provisional Divisions

The process to adopt a provisional division shall be as follows:

2.1 Initial Proposal and Board Review

- a) The Rules Committee shall present the proposed provisional division rules to the Board of Directors.
- b) The Board shall review the rules and vote on the proposed provisional division appendix.
- c) The provisional division rules appendix must be voted on in its entirety.

2.2 Activity Metrics

The Board shall set a metric for a minimum number of activities that must be conducted during the provisional period to provide adequate data for evaluation.

2.3 Initial Review Period

- a) The initial review period of the provisional division shall be twelve (12) months.
- b) During the initial review period, unless required by law, there shall be no changes allowed to the equipment ruleset for the division.
- c) During the initial review period, USPSA shall collect member input via survey on the provisional division rules.

2.4 Initial Review Decision

After the initial review period, the Board may, based on member input, data collection of activities, and other statistics, vote to:

- a) Remove the provisional status, making it a permanent division; OR

- b) End data collection and discontinue pursuit of the division; OR
- c) Extend the provisional status for up to twelve (12) additional months for further review.
- d) If the Board votes to extend the provisional period, they may also vote to adjust the equipment ruleset after the initial review period ends.

2.5 Extended Review Period

- a) During any additional review period (beyond the initial 12 months), no equipment changes may be made unless required by law.
- b) The extended review period shall not exceed twelve (12) additional months, for a total maximum provisional period of twenty-four (24) months.

2.6 Final Decision

At the end of the total review period (maximum 24 months), the Board must vote to either:

- a) Make the provisional division a permanent division; OR
- b) End the data collection on the proposed division.

2.7 Implementation of Permanent Division

If the Board votes to make the provisional division permanent, the division shall take effect on January 31st of the following year.

3. Emergency Equipment Rule Changes

When federal law requires immediate equipment rule changes, the Board may implement such changes without following the standard modification process outlined in Section 1. Such emergency changes shall:

- a) Be implemented as soon as legally required;
- b) Be communicated to the membership immediately upon adoption;
- c) Include explanation of the legal requirement necessitating the change.

Responsibilities

Rules Committee

- Evaluate all proposed equipment rule changes
- Present recommendations to the Board by August 1st annually
- Develop provisional division proposals with comprehensive rulesets

- Monitor provisional division activity and member feedback

Board of Directors

- Evaluate Rules Committee recommendations
- Vote on presentation of proposed changes to membership
- Review member comments after comment period
- Make final decisions on equipment rule changes
- Set activity metrics for provisional divisions
- Monitor provisional division performance

Managing Director/National Office

- Post approved proposals to website by September 1st
- Send electronic notice to membership
- Collect and compile member comments
- Conduct member surveys during provisional periods
- Track provisional division activity data
- Implement approved changes on effective dates

Membership

- Review proposed equipment rule changes during comment period
- Provide feedback and comments to the Board
- Participate in provisional division surveys
- Comply with equipment rules as implemented

Definitions

Personal Competition Equipment: Any firearm, ammunition, holster, magazine carrier, or related equipment used by a competitor in USPSA sanctioned competition and governed by division-specific equipment rules.

Provisional Division: A new competitive division adopted on a trial basis to evaluate member interest, practical implementation, and rule effectiveness before permanent adoption.

Equipment Ruleset: The specific requirements, restrictions, and specifications that define legal equipment for a particular division.

Activity Metric: A measurable standard (such as minimum number of matches, minimum number of competitors, or geographic distribution) used to evaluate the viability and member interest in a provisional division.

Related Policies

Competition Rules Policy

Rules Committee Charter

Policy Review

This policy shall be reviewed annually by the Board of Directors to ensure alignment with organizational needs and member interests.