

RACE PROCEDURES & RULE OUTLINES

Competition Rules

It is the policy of the Australian Biathlon Association to run championship events as closely as possible in accordance with the IBU Event and Competition Rules. While the IBU rules are generally followed, some rules cannot be applied in Australia because conditions or Firearm Legislation in Victoria will not allow it (eg: height difference requirements on ski courses, juniors skiing course with a rifle) and are modified to meet Australian conditions or requirements.

In addition to the IBU rules, the ABA has its own Event Rules which provide specific rules for running events in Australia.

Event Rules

NB while every effort is made to keep these rules up to date, readers should not rely on what follows as being a comprehensive statement of the ABA Event Rules. The ABA Event Rules are amended from time to time and those amendments are updated on the website as soon as possible. Any clarification of Race rules should be directed to the National Race Secretary.

Legal Waivers

It is ABA policy that all participants in activities run by the Australian/Victorian Biathlon Association Inc (AVBA) must sign the AVBA's Participation Agreement form as a pre-condition for participation. No new person will be permitted to participate in an ABA activity without having signed this agreement.

This policy applies to all ABA activities - including championship events, come-and-try-it events, training camps, summer biathlon, laser biathlon and coaching courses.

The form needs to be completed with details specific for the activity, e.g. the title of the race and the date, a separate form needs to be signed for each activity.

The form must be signed before participating in the activity. If you are under the age of 18, you will need to arrange for the form to be signed by a parent or guardian.

If you have any questions about the forms, please do not hesitate to contact the ABA on aus_biathlon@bigpond.com.au

Carrying Rifles

- ABA rifles shall not be carried unless permission is given by the Committee in writing and a hire contract is entered into.
- "Open" grade competitors must carry rifles.
- Competitors under 18, being the holder of a Junior Licence in any Australian State and owning their own rifle are restricted to carriage of same while under immediate supervision within the immediate area of the Range. **Carriage of the rifle by Junior Firearm Licence holders other than in the immediate range area in any training or race capacity is prohibited by Law.**

• Age Classes

- Age cut of dates are 31st December the previous year.

Age classes are as follows.

Novice,	Nil Licence or other (see below),	
Birth year	1996-1998	M/W Under 14,
	1994-1995	M/W Under 16
	1991-1995	M/W Youth **
	1989-1990	M/W Junior
	1988 -1974	M/W Open
	1973-1959	M/W Masters
	1959 or earlier	M/W Veterans

** for athletes considering selection to any BYJWCH,.(see upgrading class below)

Novices

A novice AVBA skier is thus defined as,

- a participant who is new into the sport and not holding any Firearm Licence or permit, or
- a participant who has less than 12 months membership of the AVBA and not yet shown their proficiency in other Biathlon training camps or non competition events domestically or internationally in the past 12 months, or
- a participant who has demonstrated their proficiency however, is not yet confident to move into the MWU14 age grouping with Prone on Prone targets.

Novice competitors will shoot at 'standing targets' when shooting in the prone position.

MW Under 14

- All other classes aside from U14 must shoot at regulation prone and standing sized targets.
M/W U14 will not do standing shooting and will shoot prone size targets in the prone position
- MWU14 will have their rifle put down and removed from the mat by a Range Official. The bolt must be left open and rifle pointing down range at completion of the shooting bout. Failure to do so may result in disqualification due to a safety breaches.

Note: Internationally, M/W under 14 do not carry rifles nor do they shoot standing.

Rests

- Novices class permitted to use a rest.
- Should a rifle sling or arm band not fit, the competitor must hold the rifle unsupported.

MW Under 16

- All other MWU16 and above must do both standing and prone shooting
- MUU16 and Youth competitors will have their rifle handed to them prior to entering the range. The rifle must be fully shouldered prior to them electing their firing lane. At completion of the shoot they will fully shoulder the rifle and leave the range before depositing it on a rack within immediate vicinity of the range

Penalties

- Where a time penalty is applicable, those in M/W U16, Masters or Veterans class are awarded a 30 second penalty for each shot missed. All other classes are awarded a one minute penalty for each miss.
- Where penalty loops are applicable, those in Novice, MWU14, M/W U16, Masters or Veterans class must complete a 75m penalty loop for each missed shot. All other classes must complete a 150m penalty loop for each miss.

Standing Shooting

- Novices and M/WU14 do not do standing shooting.
- All other classes must do both standing and prone shooting.

Upgrading Class

- From 2010 onwards, any athlete in the MWU16 age group wishing to be considered for Biathlon World Youth/Juniors representation must race in the designated MW Youth Category or above.
- This decision must be agreed upon after taking into account the best interest of the athlete after a prudent judgement of all ethical and responsible decision making by the Parent/Guardian and personal coach.
- Athletes not seeking selection through this criteria will race the designated age and race distances applicable to them,
- Once a competitor has reached the age of 18 or greater, that competitor is eligible to race their age category or the Open category (eg masters racing Open distance rather than Masters distance)

CHANGES TO LENGTH OF RACE

- Changes to the length of a race may be made at the discretion of the Chief of Race or Jury when taking into consideration mitigating circumstances such as time of season and snow availability, snow grooming performed or extreme weather conditions.

Australian & Victorian Championship courses.

Modified distances for championship events may take place according to snow availability or extreme weather.

Non Championship courses may be a shortened to suit weather conditions and the class of competitor taking part

Sprint and Individual distances

Course distances confirmed by GPS survey conducted 14/08/09
Altitude of Whisky Flat Biathlon Range 1625 mt.

Sprint – based on internal competition loops within confines of Great Divide trail & Biathlon Return.

Class	Birth Year	Distance (KM)	Courses	Shoot position	Penalties	Targets
Men Open	1988-1974	9.75	Pu, Pu, Pu	P S	150m	Normal
	B Class	6.40	R, B, R	P S		
Women Open	1988-1974	7.475	B, R, B	P S	150m	Normal
	B Class	6.40	R, B, R	P S		
Men Masters	35 years +	5.60	R, B, P	P S	75m	Normal
Women Masters	35 years +	5.60	R, B, P	P S	75m	Normal
Men Veterans	52 years +	4.6	P, B, P	P S	75m	Normal
Women Veterans	52 years +	4.6	P, B, P	P S		Normal
Junior Men	1990-1989	9.75	Pu, Pu, Pu	P S	75m	Normal
Junior Women	1990-1989	7.5	B, R, B	P S	75m	Normal
Men Youth	1993-1991 (95)**	7.5	B, R, B	P S	75m	Normal
Women Youth	1993-1991 (95)**	6.00	R B P	P S	75m	Normal
M/W U16	1995-1994	6.00	R, B, P	P S	75m	Normal
M/W U14	1998-1996	4.30	R,GS, R	P P	75m	Prone
Novices	Any age	2.3	P,P,P	P P	75m	Standing
**	Extended age class for those seeking qualification to BYJCH criteria. Upgrading request to be lodged with ABA Committee prior to race day					

Distance- based on race trails extending out to wire plain and into the wonderland trail system

Class	Birth year	Distance	Courses	Shoot position	Penalties	Targets
Men Open	1988-1974	18.27	Y, B, Y, B, Y	P S P S	1 min	Normal
	B Class	16.62	B, Bl, B, Bl, B	P S P S	1 min	Normal
Women Open	1988-1974	14.72	PU, R, Pu, R, Pu	P S P S	1 min	Normal
	B Class	11.82	R, B, R, B, R	P S P S	1 min	Normal
Men Masters	35 years +	10.16	B, G, B, G, B	P S P S	1 min	Normal
Women Masters	35 years +	10.16	B, G, B, G, B	P S P S	1 min	Normal
Men Veterans	52 years +	8.92	R, R, R, R, R	P S P S	1 min	Normal
Women Veterans	52 years +	8.92	R, R, R, R, R	P S P S	1 min	Normal
Junior Men	1990-1989	15.27	Y, B, Y, B, Y	P S P S	1 min	Normal
Youth Men	1995-1991 **	12.5	B,Bl,B,B,Bl	P S P S	1 min	Normal
Junior Women	1990-1989**	12.5	B,Bl,B,B,Bl	P S P S	1 min	Normal
Youth Women	1995-1991	10	B, G, B, G, B	P S P S	1 min	Normal
M/W U16	1995-1994	7.5	R, R, R, R, R	P S P S	30 secs	Normal
M/W U14	1998-1996	6	R, G, R, G, R	P P P P	30 secs	Prone
Novice	All ages	3.1	P,P,P,P	P P P	30 secs	Standing
**	Extended age class for those seeking qualification to BYJCH criteria. Upgrading request to be lodged with ABA Committee prior to race day					