

This document outlines proposed changes to the structure of PCSL starting at the end of Q1 2024. *Nothing in this document is final, and PCSL welcomes constructive feedback.*

The goal driving many of these changes is to allow clubs a large amount of flexibility without having to deviate from the official PCSL Rules. Adhering to the official PCSL Rules will be a standard requirement for clubs who want to run affiliated matches. Affiliation will be a prerequisite for participating in PCSL's classification system.

Our current target for beginning to accept club affiliations is some time in Q2 2024. Clubs will need to be affiliated in order to run official PCSL matches of levels 1-4. Only these match levels will be eligible to submit classifier data for our initial letter-rank classification system, and in the future, participate in the upcoming Elo-based PCSL Rating System. We have a target of Q2 2025 to launch the PCSL Rating System.

The PCSL format, including the ruleset, targets, and divisions will never require affiliation to use. The format will remain open source and clubs are free to take and modify it as needed, or run it as-is, but as an unaffiliated match. In an update to Practiscore, these unaffiliated matches will ideally have their own match type called "PCSL Level 0".



Feedback on this proposal is appreciated! If you would like to give us feedback, please include the following information:

- 1. Send an email to info@pcsleague.com with a subject like “2024 PCSL Changes”**
- 2. Give some details about your background & experience as a competitive shooter, RO, or match director. This helps us understand your perspective better when reading your feedback.**
- 3. Explain your thought process or concerns with details or examples.**

PCSL Pistol Divisions

Core

1. Competition (COMP)
2. Practical (PRAC)
3. Factory (FACT)
4. Pistol Caliber Carbine (PCC)

Recognized

1. Actual Carry Pistol (ACP)
2. Legacy Low-Cap (LLC)
3. Rimfire Rifle (RFR)
4. Rimfire Pistol (RFP)
5. *Restricted capacity versions for ban states*

All divisions scored K=2A, A=5, C=3, D=1.

PCSL is considering instituting a power factor floor of 125 for all divisions, with a potential reduced PF floor for ACP division. But even if we do decide to implement power factor floors, they will likely not take effect until the year of the first PCSL Pistol Nationals, which is unlikely to happen in 2024.

Note on classification data collection:

We will collect data on **all core and recognized divisions** and be able to assign letter rank classes up to Master (M) class based on participation at level 1 and 2 matches.

Earning Grand Master (GM) class will follow a more involved process that is TBD at this moment. It is highly dependent on information that we will get as we develop the Elo-based rating system. Expect no GM ranks to be achieved until 2025 or 2026 (the seasonal performance of 2025 as a whole may determine PCSL GMs for 2026).

PCSL will NOT be able to collect data on “custom” divisions at lvl 1 matches, and will not offer any classification system outside of the official **core** and **recognized** divisions.

CORE DIVISIONS: available at all PCSL matches lvl 1-4

1. **Competition** (identical to 2-gun handgun rules for Competition)
 - a. Like open division
 - b. 171.25mm magazine length limit
2. **Practical** (identical to 2-gun handgun rules for Practical)
 - a. Old name was Practical Optics under the PCSL 1-gun format
 - b. This essentially combines CO and LO, with a 21 round magazine load-to limit, but no mag length restriction
3. **Factory**
 - a. 15 round load-to capacity
 - b. Iron sights only
 - c. Magwell size restriction. No wider than 1.625" on the exterior - this accounts for nearly all factory included magwells on common guns like the Canik Rival, Sig P320 Legion, Staccato 2011s and other 2011 variants, etc
 - d. Otherwise identical to Practical
 - e. 15 round limit mirrors IPSC & USPSA Production divisions, but SAO guns are allowed.
4. **PCC** (identical to 2-gun carbine rules for Competition, but in pistol caliber)
 - a. what everyone is used to - open rules other than bipods/bags/supporting devices will not be allowed, mirroring the competition carbine rules

RECOGNIZED DIVISIONS:

1. **Actual Carry Pistol (ACP)** - this is a division that we still believe has a huge potential, but needs better guidance from PCSL to help it grow.
 - a. Must be shot from concealment if holster/mag pouches are carried OWB, no concealment required if holster/mag pouches are carried IWB.
 - b. 15 round load-to capacity
 - c. Slide ride optics permitted
 - d. Gas pedals prohibited - OEM controls only (or potentially a maximum handgun width)
 - e. Carry sized magwells allowed - width/dimensions TBD - Magwell size restriction likely will mirror that of Factory division.
 - f. Some size restriction implemented, or potentially barrel length restriction of 4.20" maximum - **measured from the breech face to the muzzle with a dowel (not simply the rifled portion of the barrel. Could allow for slide porting.)**

- g. Potential weight restriction implemented where guns under this weight would be allowed ported barrels, slides, or carry comps (following the breech-to-muzzle length restriction of 4.20")
- h. Carry comps TBD.
- i. Slide & Barrel porting TBD.

2. Legacy Low-Cap (LLC)/could also simply be 1911 Division

- a. Intended to combine participants from Single Stack, old Production, and Open Revolver divisions into one division.
 - i. **Allowing production and single stack to compete in their own recognized 10 round division may discourage participation in Factory division, which we believe fits the PCSL framework far better as an accessible & modern division. We may elect to simply recognize a single stack division (which would allow local match participation, letter classification, and lvl 2 championships to be run with single stack) - any feedback/thoughts on this appreciated**
- b. 10 round load-to capacity
- c. SAO permitted in Single Stack firearms only, otherwise must be DA/SA, striker-fired, or internal hammer.
- d. Magazine fed handguns: Iron Sights only
- e. Revolvers: Optics, porting, & compensators permitted.

3. Rimfire Rifle (RFR)

- a. .22 LR only
- b. Potential 25rd magazine load-to capacity? - need feedback on this
- c. Essentially no other restrictions - **follows same stage procedures as a PCC**
- d. Many modern steel targets have no problem falling from .22LR fire. Steel that doesn't fall can be called as hit by an RO, or painted between shooters and checked for bullet strikes. Remember that PCSL also allows static steel to be used.
- e. Activated targets may not always be easy to adapt to .22LR based on club equipment. Best practice would be to use forward falling poppers, stomp pedals, TargetsUSA rippers, or other activators that are not caliber-sensitive.
- f. If none of these options are available, Rimfire shooters can get awarded full points on activated targets that won't reliably activate with .22LR fire - no engagement required on the activated target.
- g. No PCSL classifiers have any activated/moving targets, so PCSL can still reliably collect classification data for .22LR divisions.

4. Rimfire Pistol (RFP)

- a. .22 LR only
- b. Potential magazine load-to capacity? - need feedback on this
- c. Essentially no restrictions - follows Competition handgun rules



- d. Many modern steel targets have no problem falling from .22LR fire. Steel that doesn't fall can be called as hit by an RO, or painted between shooters and checked for bullet strikes. Remember that PCSL also allows static steel to be used.
- e. Activated targets may not always be easy to adapt to .22LR based on club equipment. Best practice would be to use forward falling poppers, stomp pedals, TargetsUSA rippers, or other activators that are not caliber-sensitive.
- f. If none of these options are available, Rimfire shooters can get awarded full points on activated targets that won't reliably activate with .22LR fire.
- g. No PCSL classifiers have any activated/moving targets, so PCSL can still reliably collect classification data for .22LR divisions.

5. Restriction Round Count Versions of all divisions with standard capacity higher than 10 rounds.

- a. These divisions would only be recognized for clubs that operate in states or regions with laws restricting the use or availability of standard magazines.
- b. Competition-10
- c. Practical-10
- d. PCC-10
- e. Factory-10
- f. ACP-10

PCSL 2-Gun Divisions

All divisions scored K=2A, A=5, C=3, D=1.

Core

1. Competition (COMP)
2. Practical (PRAC)

Recognized

N/A

These are our 2-Gun divisions that we've been using for years now. [Details can be found here.](#)

PCSL Rifle Divisions

All divisions scored K=2A, A=5, C=3, D=1.

While carbine-only PCSL matches have been run in the past simply by omitting the handgun specific sections of the 2-gun rules, we want to add the PCSL Rifle match type as an official third match type especially as we start tracking classifier data.

Our 6 classifiers are designed to easily be run in any of the three match types listed so far: PCSL 2-Gun, Pistol, or Rifle, with zero layout changes on the ground.

One big change we would like to explore for PCSL Rifle-Caliber specific matches is an expansion of the target difficulty. *We are considering doubling the maximum range to 400yds, and halving the minimum target size to 4 moa.*

2-Gun maximum ranges and minimum target size would remain at 200yds maximum and 8 moa minimum.

Core

1. Competition (COMP)
2. Practical (PRAC)

These divisions will be identical to the carbine sections of the [2-Gun divisional rules found here](#).

Recognized

TBD - potentially a division focused on modern battle rifle calibers.

PCSL 3-Gun

Divisions

While the PCSL 3-Gun format doesn't neatly fit into the set of 2-Gun/Pistol/Rifle, and we don't have plans to add a 3-Gun classification system in PCSL's near-term future, we want to update the divisional rules to allow clubs more easily run PCSL as a 3-Gun format if desired.

Because of this, PCSL will simply have a normal set of divisions for 3-Gun, rather than follow the Core/Recognized structure.

3-Gun Divisions

1. Open (OPEN)
 - a. True 3-gun open division
2. Modified (MOD)
 - a. Recently popular modified division
3. Practical (PRAC)
 - a. Mirrors the rules of PCSL 2-Gun practical division, and the shotguns will be limited to an 8-round max capacity, but have porting and optics allowed.

Details coming in a further update.

Match Level Structure

The higher up in match level, the fewer divisions are available to shoot. This compromise allows local clubs to run a wide variety of divisions to suit their members' interests, but also protects the integrity of regional/national titles by keeping competition concentrated at the higher levels.

Note that "match type" refers to PCSL 2-Gun, PCSL Pistol, or PCSL Rifle matches	Level 0	Level 1	Level 2	Level 3	Level 4
Match Description	unaffiliated match	local match	sectional/state championship	regional championship	national championship
Affiliation Requirement	zero PCSL interaction (open source ruleset)	Affiliated Club	Affiliated Club	Affiliated Club	Affiliated Club
Permissions Required	N/A	None	Approval	Approval + Stage Review	Run by PCSL, or by contract
Frequency Limit	N/A	Weekly, per match type, per club	Yearly, per club, per match type	Yearly, per club, per match type	Yearly, per match type
Divisions Allowed	N/A	Core + Recognized + Custom	Core + Club's choice of Recognized	Core Only	Core Only
Categories Allowed	N/A	No Restrictions	Core + Club's choice of Recognized	Core Only	Core Only
Rating Multiplier (magnitude of Elo adjustment per stage shot)	N/A	1	3	5	10

“Club’s choice of Recognized” divisions/categories will allow MDs of Level 2 matches to choose which divisions & categories to award beyond the Core options using their best judgment. MDs may elect to allow all recognized divisions/categories, but implement a minimum participation requirement for award eligibility. Because Level 1 matches typically do not award shooters, there is no issue with always allowing all recognized divisions and categories at every level 1 match.

Core categories will include the standard set that most clubs are used to (exact details TBD). Recognized categories might include unique distinctions in equipment or competitor requirements like an “AK Platform”, “Bullpup” or “Trooper” Category, as a subset of Practical Division, just as a couple examples.

*The *rating multiplier* will only come into play later when PCSL introduces its Elo system. This will simply increase the impact that stage performances at major matches will have to your rating change within the Elo system.