



## What are the duties of a Competition Jury at a CTSASA Championship?

The role of the Jury is very important because it acts as an overseer of the event and liaison between the competitors and the shoot organisers.

Once the Jury has been selected (the rules for which are in the CTSASA Competition Regulations (**Competition Procedures**)), it must then take responsibility for:-

1. **Set-up of Targets/Ranges** : Checking the set up of the ranges **prior to commencement** of the competition. This means:
  - a. **Standard Ranges** : checking the angles, distances and trajectories of each target. This means using measuring equipment, distance markers and hoops (through which targets must fly).
  - b. **Sporting Stands/Ranges** : checking for safety, target variety, target difficulty and compliance with the English Sporting and FITASC Sporting rules. Further checks need to be made on the location of each shooting stand, to ensure that targets can be seen clearly and that the umpire can adjudicate each target easily.
  - c. **Ideally the ranges should be checked the day before** the competition or, failing that, first thing on the first day of competition. Jurists must allow sufficient time to check the ranges so that the competition starts on time.
  - d. **The prevailing weather conditions** must be taken into account when checking all ranges, in particular the sporting ranges/stands.

The jury does not **SET** the ranges, they **CHECK** the ranges. The responsibility to set the ranges is that of the hosting club.

2. **Colour of Targets** : Checking the colour and standard of the targets and ensuring that the colour will remain uniform throughout the competition. Only brand new clays may be used in competitions - pick-ups are **NOT** allowed!
3. **Knowledge of the CTSASA and discipline rules** : all jury members should be fully conversant with both the **CTSASA Competition Regulations** and the discipline which they shoot (and for which they have been chosen to act as a jury member). All the rules are available on the CTSASA web site here : [http://www.ctsasa.co.za/rules/?rule\\_item=31316](http://www.ctsasa.co.za/rules/?rule_item=31316)
4. **Handling appeals** : all jury members need to be prepared to accept a complaint from a competitor with regard to any act or omission by another competitor, an umpire or by the hosting club.
  - a. The first thing that a Jury must do is **check the rulebooks** for a rule that governs the aspect of the protest. This could be in the **individual discipline rulebook and/or in the CTSASA Competition Regulations**.



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- b. A competitor has the right to take an umpire decision, about which they are unhappy, to the Jury. We encourage competitors to raise valid protests and to exercise their rights in this regard. The competitor must put their appeal down in writing and pay across an appeal fee of R200, which is returnable if their appeal is upheld.
  - c. **Whilst the Jury is there to handle appeals/protests from competitors, this does not obviate the obligation for competitors to know the rules of the discipline(s) they are shooting.**
  - d. **One issue which is strictly prohibited is the re-shooting of any target.** Under no circumstances can **ANY** targets be re-shot as a result of any appeal to the Jury.
  - e. **It must be noted that a Jury cannot determine whether a target is 'lost', 'killed', irregular or a no-bird/target.**
  - f. **Examples of protests on which a Jury cannot make a ruling:**
    - i. **Scores signed for without a recorded dispute/protest on the range** : if a competitor does not raise a protest at the appropriate time during the shooting of the round (or at the end of the round in DTL Trap), then the final score that is made up of the killed targets on the score sheet at the end of the round is the score that must be recorded in the results. Each discipline has its own rules about how protests/disputes are handled during the round. It is the responsibility of each competitor to fully understand the rules.
    - ii. **A Jury cannot determine an irregular target, no target, hit target or lost target.**
  - g. **Examples of genuine appeals are:**
    - i. **NSSA Skeet** : a single target is called for but a double is launched. The competitor fires and kills the first target. The umpire says 'no bird' and 'repeat the target'. The competitor protests to say that the rules allow for this (Section III,5b) and that the target should be declared 'killed'. The umpire refuses to accept this and forces the competitor to shoot another single target which the competitor misses and the umpire declares 'lost'. The competitor should note on the scorecard the incident and then take the matter to the jury.
    - ii. **ATA Trap** : a competitor sees that a fellow squad member has been allowed to repeat a target, even though he voluntarily didn't shoot at a whole, legal target which was launched upon his call. Rule Section VII, C2 applies. The result should have been 'lost' but the umpire gave him a 'kill' after the competitor shot at, and broke, the repeat target. A protest should be made at the time of the incident and noted on the scorecard.
  - h. **The Jury may not transgress the rules** : the Jury must abide by all of the individual Clay Target Shooting discipline rulebooks and the CTSASA Competition Regulations. If it is found that a Jury has applied any rule incorrectly then that decision will be subjected to scrutiny and reversal by the provincial CTSA or the CTSASA.
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5. **Competitor's obligations to report unsafe or poor behaviour** : if a competitor sees anything unsafe on a shooting range or sees any other competitor or person acting unsafe or in an irresponsible manner, he/she is obligated to report the incident to the Jury. Any incident involving poor behaviour (e.g. shouting, swearing, abusive language, etc) should be reported to the Jury as soon as possible during the competition.
6. **Protests/issues must be resolved at the shooting range** : all legitimate complaints and protests should be reported to the Jury and resolved at the competition. It is often too late to raise a protest or an issue after the event and the phrase is often used "you should have sorted it out at the competition".
7. **Complaints to the CTSASA** : notwithstanding the above, if a member has a complaint or an issue they wish to raise, which could not be resolved at the competition, the member has every right to do so and to send in the complaint to the CTSASA office.
8. **The Jury is there to help the competitor and the organising committee** : ultimately the Jury is elected to assist the organising committee in checking that the ranges are set up in accordance with the rules, to assist competitors with any complaints or issues they may have and to ensure that the rules are fairly applied. This helps all parties to enjoy a well-run competition.
9. **Jury Competition Report** : the hosting club must ensure that a nominated jury member must complete the Jury Competition Report and send a copy to the CTSASA immediately upon completion of the championship. This report is obtainable on the CTSASA web site here : <http://www.ctsasa.co.za/competitions/competition-administration/>