

PROCEDURE FOR ZEROING .308 (NRA MATCH RIFLES), F CLASS OR ANY OTHER RIFLES DEVELOPING MUZZLE ENERGIES IN EXCESS OF 4500J (3319 FT LBS) ON MOD GALLERY RANGES

Note: *Safety of Butt Markers. Back splash from high energy rounds may create a hazard for unprotected Butt Markers, particularly from poorly maintained stop butts. It is the RCO's responsibility to ensure that the stop butt has been maintained to a sufficient standard such that no backslash will occur, failing which a protective screen must be provided and used by the marker when ammunition with ME in excess of 4,500 J (3,319 fl lbs) is in use.*

1. Each firer is to be authorized in writing to fire the specific type of firearm by the Chairman of his club.
2. The RCO (HME) is to be qualified to conduct zeroing practices with rifles firing ammunition with an ME in excess of 4500 joules. The RCO is to record the use of any HME firearms in the MOD Form 906, the Land Ranges Log.
3. Initial zeroing is to be conducted on the NRA/MoD approved target at 200 yds / m before firing at any other distance, the only exception being when zeroing is taking place on the Bisley Zero range when a 1/8th scale target may be used.
4. The 200 yds / m HME zeroing target, which may be issued in e-mail or hard copy format to RCOs (HME) and Club Secretaries, consists of three A4 sheets labelled Sheet 1, Sheet 2 and Sheet 3. Sheet 1 (bottom) contains the aiming mark, elevation tables for Match Rifle and F Class rifle and a vertical black line, Sheet 2 (middle) contains instructions, a vertical black line and the 'Target Centre Height' line, and Sheet 3 (top) contains the 'grouping rectangle' and signature boxes.
5. Sheets 1 and 2 are to be stuck together as indicated with adhesive tape. They are then to be attached to the blank target face with the 'Target Centre Height' line aligned with the horizontal line through the centre of the blank target, which should have already been drawn by the range warden (as requested in advance). Sheet 3 should then be attached with adhesive tape or self adhesive patches to the appropriate dotted line for Match Rifles or F Class rifles. For subsequent firers only Sheet 3 needs to be replaced and attached in the correct position for the type of rifle to be used. Note that this will mean that the aiming mark will be near the bottom of the target
6. The firer must then set his sights at his 600 yards elevation, even though he will be firing at only 200 yards. This will ensure that all shots will strike near the centre of the target and be contained by the stop butt.
7. A spotter, who may be a butt marker, must observe the fall of shot until the initial strike on the target screen is identified:
 - a. If strike off the target screen is clearly identified, the firer may adjust and re-fire.
 - b. If no strike is identified the firer is to cease fire and may not continue until the rifle has been re-collimated or bore sighted to the RCO's satisfaction.
8. All sighting shots should be shown with a normal spotting disk and previous shots patched out in the normal way. The firer may adjust his sights to bring his shots into the centre of the grouping rectangle.
9. When the firer is satisfied with his sighting shots he must instruct the marker that he intends to complete his group of five shots. His final sighting shot may be used as his first grouping shot. The marker must not indicate the remaining shots in the group.
10. All 5 rounds of the final group must be within the rectangle before the firer may move to a farther distance.
11. The zeroing procedure is to be carried out each time before shooting unless part of an official competition or training package carried out on consecutive days, in which case the zeroing procedure need only be carried out on the first day of the competition/training package, or the previous day.