SHADOW COUNTRY

Advanced Sniper Qualification

Course of Fire

Required Equipment

- Sniper deployment PPE (the vest you would wear on a sniper callout)
- Rifle with bipod
- Backpack
- Tripod — must be stowed on the backpack
- Support bags — must be stowed in the backpack
- Gas mask — on the backpack or on your kit
- Laser rangefinder – If not used when indicated, that is a failure at that stage.
- 12 rounds of ammunition in magazines (you will fire 11)
- Qualification targets: one CB small face target and one large face target
- Shooting mat (optional) — may be pre-staged and left at the 100-yard line

You must wear your sniper PPE vest for the entire qualification.

Course of Fire

Stage 1 — 100 Yards · Bipod Prone — Cold Bore

Target: Small face • **Rounds:** 1 round • **Time:** 2 minutes

Starting condition: Begin 10 yards behind the 100-yard firing line. Your rifle must be the only item in your hands; all other gear you intend to use must be stowed and zipped inside your backpack (the shooting mat is the exception). Your rifle starts with an empty chamber, a loaded magazine inserted, and the weapon on safe.

Course of fire

1. On the start signal, perform 15 air squats, then advance to the 100-yard firing line.
2. Assume a prone, bipod-supported position and make ready.
3. Laser rangefind the target distance.
4. Engage the small face target with **one round**, reloading and ending on a loaded chamber. Remain on target with a loaded rifle until the timer expires. If your rifle is not in a ready state when the timer expires, it is an automatic failure.

On completion: When time expires, administratively return your rifle to its starting condition — empty chamber, loaded magazine inserted, weapon on safe — then re-stow your gear.

A miss on the cold-bore target is an automatic failure of the qualification.

Stage 2 — 100 Yards · Any Non-Bipod Position

Target: Large face • **Rounds:** 1 round • **Time:** 1 minute

Starting condition: Begin 10 yards behind the 100-yard firing line. Your rifle must be the only item in your hands; all other gear you intend to use must be stowed and zipped inside your backpack, including your collapsed tripod (the shooting mat is the exception). Your rifle starts with an empty chamber, a loaded magazine inserted, and the weapon on safe.

Course of fire

1. On the start signal, assume any non-bipod position and make ready.
2. Laser rangefind the target distance.
3. Engage the large face target with **one round**, reloading and ending on a loaded chamber. Remain on target with a loaded rifle until the timer expires. If your rifle is not in a ready state when the timer expires, it is an automatic failure.

On completion: When time expires, administratively return your rifle to its starting condition — empty chamber, loaded magazine inserted, weapon on safe — then re-stow your gear. Leave your shooting mat at the 100-yard line.

Stage 3 — 75 Yards · Seated Tripod

Target: Large face • **Rounds:** 2 rounds • **Time:** 2 minutes

Starting condition: Begin 10 yards behind the 75-yard firing line. Your rifle must be the only item in your hands; all other gear you intend to use must be stowed and zipped inside your backpack, including your collapsed tripod. Your rifle starts with an empty chamber, a loaded magazine inserted, and the weapon on safe.

Course of fire

1. On the start signal, advance to the 75-yard firing line.
2. Laser rangefind the target distance.
3. Set up a seated tripod position.
4. Once the rifle is in the tripod and you are seated behind it, load and engage the large face target with **two rounds**, reloading and ending on a loaded chamber. Remain on target with a loaded rifle until the timer expires. If your rifle is not in a ready state when the timer expires, it is an automatic failure.

On completion: When time expires, administratively return your rifle to its starting condition — empty chamber, loaded magazine inserted, weapon on safe — then re-stow your gear.

Stage 4 — 50 Yards · Kneeling Tripod

Target: Large face • **Rounds:** 2 rounds • **Time:** 2 minutes

Starting condition: Begin 10 yards behind the 50-yard firing line. Your rifle must be the only item in your hands; all other gear you intend to use must be stowed and zipped inside your backpack, including your collapsed tripod. Your rifle starts with an empty chamber, a loaded magazine inserted, and the weapon on safe.

Course of fire

1. On the start signal, advance to the 50-yard firing line.
2. Laser rangefind the target distance.
3. Set up a kneeling tripod position.
4. Once the rifle is in the tripod and you are kneeling behind it, load and engage the large face target with **two rounds**, reloading and ending on a loaded chamber. Remain on target with a loaded rifle until the timer expires. If your rifle is not in a ready state when the timer expires, it is an automatic failure.

On completion: When time expires, administratively return your rifle to its starting condition — empty chamber, loaded magazine inserted, weapon on safe — then re-stow your gear.

Stage 5 — 25 Yards · Standing Tripod

Target: Large face • **Rounds:** 2 rounds • **Time:** 2 minutes

Starting condition: Begin 10 yards behind the 25-yard firing line. Your rifle must be the only item in your hands; all other gear you intend to use must be stowed and zipped inside your backpack, including your collapsed tripod. Your rifle starts with an empty chamber, a loaded magazine inserted, and the weapon on safe.

Course of fire

1. On the start signal, advance to the 25-yard firing line.
2. Laser rangefind the target distance.
3. Set up a standing tripod position.
4. Once the rifle is in the tripod and you are standing behind it, load and engage the large face target with **two rounds**, reloading and ending on a loaded chamber. Remain on target with a loaded rifle until the timer expires. If your rifle is not in a ready state when the timer expires, it is an automatic failure.

On completion: Leave your rifle on the tripod with a round chambered and the weapon on safe; stand back when finished. (This stage leads directly into Stage 6.)

Stage 6 — 25 Yards · Standing Tripod, Gas Mask — “Threat Scenario”

Target: Large face • **Rounds:** 1 round • **Time:** 20 seconds

If you do not have a gas mask, complete this stage support-side.

Starting condition: Begin on your rifle in the standing tripod, aiming in at the target, with your gas mask on. Your rifle has a round chambered, a loaded magazine inserted, and the weapon on safe.

Course of fire

1. On the command **THREAT**, you are cleared hot. Engage the large face target with **one round**, reloading and ending on a loaded chamber. Remain on target with a loaded rifle until the timer expires. If your rifle is not in a ready state when the timer expires, it is an automatic failure.

On completion: Leave your rifle on the tripod with a round chambered, a loaded magazine inserted, and the weapon on safe; stand back when finished and remove your gas mask.

Stage 7 — 25 Yards · Standing Tripod — "Imminent Threat Scenario"

Target: Large face • **Rounds:** 1 round • **Time:** 10 seconds after the THREAT command

Starting condition: Begin in the standing tripod, aiming in and waiting for the threat to present itself. Your rifle has a round chambered, a loaded magazine inserted, and the weapon on safe.

Course of fire

1. When all shooters are in this ready state, the line is told **"TIME STARTS NOW."**
2. At some point within a three-minute window, the instructor will call **THREAT**.
3. On the command **THREAT**, you have 10 seconds to engage the large face target with **one round**, reloading and ending on a loaded chamber. Remain on target with a loaded rifle until the timer expires. If your rifle is not in a ready state when the timer expires, it is an automatic failure.

On completion: When time expires, administratively return your rifle to its starting condition — empty chamber, loaded magazine inserted, weapon on safe — then re-stow your gear. Then, as a group, return to 10 yards behind the 100-yard line.

Stage 8 — 100 Yards · Any Position

Target: Large face • **Rounds:** 1 round • **Time:** 1 minute

Starting condition: Begin 10 yards behind the 100-yard firing line. Your rifle must be the only item in your hands; all other gear you intend to use must be stowed and zipped inside your backpack, including your collapsed tripod. Your rifle starts with an empty chamber, a loaded magazine inserted, and the weapon on safe.

Course of fire

1. On the start signal, assume any position and make ready.
2. Laser rangefind the target distance.
3. Engage the large face target with **one round**, reloading and ending on a loaded chamber. Remain on target with a loaded rifle until the timer expires. If your rifle is not in a ready state when the timer expires, it is an automatic failure.

On completion: Unload and show clear. Conduct buddy checks: magazine out, bolt back, weapon on safe.

Scoring & Standards

- **Cold bore:** A miss on the cold-bore shot is an automatic failure (re-qualification required).
- **Large face target:** You may miss no more than two rounds total across the qualification. Line breaks count as hits.
- **Laser rangefinder:** Failure to use the laser rangefinder on any stage where it is indicated is a failure of that stage of fire.
- **Round count:** 11 rounds are fired across the eight stages; carry 12 minimum to end on a loaded chamber.