



Open letter to all IPSC regions

**Dear Regional Directors,
representatives of national IPSC organisations,**

Several months ago I informed you that the IPSC organisation in the Czech Republic had adopted, with slight modifications, the USPSA national rules for the **1911 Single Stack Division**. After the information was distributed, I received strong positive feedback and also learnt about a similar situation (national Single Stack Division set-up) in Italy. Therefore, I contacted the RDs of the USA and of Italy and proposed that we present to the GA in Kavala a motion that the Division be included in the IPSC rulebook.

Further steps have resulted from the co-operation of the **US RD Michael Voigt**, **Italian RD Riccardo Massantiny** and **Czech RD Josef Horejsi**, and I took the initiative in drafting the individual relevant items of the agenda of the GA.

The IPSC Constitution states that amendments to the rules should only be made at a GA held in conjunction with a World Shoot. It is not our goal to violate this system but rather to find a way to:

- increase the membership of our organisation;
- remedy the handicap for a sporting tool that gave birth to our organisation and for whose use we have failed to establish suitable conditions – the M 1911 pistol in its original, single-stack version;
- underline and follow up on the naturally established initiative and co-operation of such diverse regions as the USA, Italy and the Czech Republic. The 1911 should be a phenomenon exclusive to the USA, but reality shows that tradition respects no geographical boundaries within our organisation;

- prevent having to wait for another 2 years to deliver certain benefits to our organisation. Our hands should not be tied by our own regulations. The GA is the IPSC parliament which has no principal constraints except those it has imposed on itself.

From the organisational perspective, we intend to fully respect the IPSC Constitution. For that reason, the motion was included in the agenda in accordance with the Constitution, i.e. as two agenda items, which makes the voting procedure much more complicated.

17. Motion is actually a preliminary motion through which the GA is to express its general opinion regarding the issue, i.e. whether or not the RDs wish to discuss this topic, and it requires a two-thirds majority to pass (incl. proxies).

18. Motion is the motion itself as drafted in co-operation of the above-mentioned regions, and it is officially presented by the Region of the Czech Republic. What we propose is a sensitive issue in terms of the IPSC rules structure. We propose that the rules be recognised as provisional and that their final validity be confirmed by the GA in 2008. I believe that using this way – the way of experience – the IPSC has a lot to gain and nothing to lose.

I hereby ask all the RDs to consider the benefits of our proposal and discuss them within their regions.

Best Regards,
DVC

Josef Horejsi
RD CZE

Annexes:

- 1/ Draft Provisional Rules of 1911 Single Stack Divisions
- 2/ Myths about the division

Czech Republic, August 21, 2006

Questions, Myths and Explanations

During the establishment process of the **1911 Single Stack** national division and then in unofficial discussions with IPSC members at various levels, I had to face a number of questions and objections. Let me present and explain the most frequent ones.

Objection 1: The 1911 Single Stack Division is only for a single firearm model!

The division is based on the 1911 Government Model, which is produced by many manufacturers worldwide, not just in North America.

Objection 2: The newly added division will place inadequate additional requirements on the organisers in terms of division recognition!

Objection 3: The newly added division will increase the requirements for IPSC medals!

As optimistic as I am, I do not expect the recognition requirements to significantly exceed the extent of the basic division.

Objection 4: WIN MSS is not ready for the new division!

That is correct, but I presume that the system has been designed using a structured programming approach, so an update in the form of adding another copy of the existing structure for the new division bearing a new name should not be a dramatic issue. In addition, the motion provides as much as 4 months for that.

Objection 5: IPSC will have to make an investment in modifying WIN MSS for the new division!

Naturally, this is also correct, and if such an argument is raised, it should be backed by a specific figure so that this investment can be confronted with the IPSC budget and its items. We are talking about a direct investment in our sport here.

Objection 6: The presented rules of the 1911 Single Stack Division have not been discussed by the corresponding committee!

Yes, but these rules have a history in the USPSA and are currently being tested in practice in the Czech Republic and Italy. The motion also includes a proposal that the rules be established as provisional, with effect from the January 1, 2007. There is still some time until the end of this year for any modifications of the rules by the relevant committee. Such changes, however, should not significantly affect the essence of the division.

Objection 7: Why is the Single Stack Division only limited to handguns meeting the specifications of the 1911 pistol? There are also other models of single-stack pistols!

This is a serious objection that deserves further discussion, but that should be during the provisional period. We should not allow wild development in this division in order to avoid having to deal with similar problems as those in the Production Division. Rules can always be relaxed, but experience shows that introducing additional restrictions is almost impossible.

Objection 8: The IPSC Constitution only allows rule changes at GAs held with a WS!

The proposal for the amendment fully complies with the IPSC Constitution. If the rules are to be changed at a GA held outside of a WS, the amendment must be approved by a majority of two-thirds, including the proxies. So if your region is in favour of this amendment and you are not attending the Assembly, please do not forget to express your opinion in a way accepted by the IPSC GA.

Objection 9: The guns for the new division are not used in competition anymore!

Yes, this was or still is true, but it was not always like this. Being the middle-aged shooter and official I am, I can remember some enthusiasts, IPSC competitors who competed with guns eligible for the proposed division. But as time went, more and more high-capacity guns appeared in the Standard Division, becoming almost specialised sports pistols. The handicap for the 1911 Single Stack pistols continuously increased until these pistols (often along with their owners) were completely pushed out of IPSC competitions as well as of the IPSC as an organisation. By re-opening our organisation to the 1911 pistols and their owners the proposed division aims to remedy a situation that I consider a system failure.

Conclusion:

This is by no means a comprehensive list of objections and questions. I am certain there are more answers to the questions above and that such answers are not always identical with mine. As unbiased as I tried to be, I am still one of the authors of the motion, so I may tend to look for the more positive arguments.

The decision is now in the hands of the IPSC GA, which means in the hands of us, Regional Directors. What we represent is our region, our members and sport shooters, and it is our task to make sure that the enjoyment of the sport is backed by correct and viable rules for the benefit of the large family of shooters.

Josef Horejsi
RD CZE

Proposal for Temporary 1911 Single Stack Division specification:

APPENDIX D6

1911 Single Stack Division

1.	Minimum power factor for Major	165
2.	Minimum power factor for Minor	125
3.	Minimum bullet weight	No
4.	Minimum bullet caliber / cartridge case length	9mm (0,354”) / 19mm (0,748”)
5.	Minimum bullet caliber for Major	10mm (0,40”)
6.	Minimum trigger pull (see Appendix F2)	Ne
7.	Maximum handgun size	Yes. See # 20 bellow
8.	Maximum magazine length	See # 20 and # 24 bellow
9.	Maximum ammunition capacity (Does not include a chambered round)	Yes. Maximum after start signal: Major PF - 8 rounds Minor PF - 10 rounds
10.	Maximum distance of handgun and magazines from torso	50mm
11.	Rule 5.2.3.1 applies (exception for women)	Yes
12.	Restriction on position of holster and other equipment	Yes. See # 21 bellow
13.	Optical/electronic sights permitted	No
14.	Compensators permitted	No
15.	Ports permitted	No

Notes - special conditions:

16. Only 1911 production type pistols. Must be available to the general public and have their basis in the original 1911 service pistol. Pistols made from components that duplicate the factory originals are acceptable. Factory upgrades such as external extractors, firing pin blocks and other factory installed safety features are permitted.
17. Coned barrels or barrels with flanges are prohibited, except in 1911 compact pistols with a barrel length of 4.2 inches or less.
18. Slides will be in factory configuration or within the specified list of allowed modifications.
19. Frames shall be of steel or other metallic alloy, plastic frames are not allowed.
20. A handgun in its ready condition (See Section 8.1), but unloaded and with an empty magazine inserted, must fit wholly within the confines of a box which has internal dimensions of 225mm x 150mm x 45mm (tolerance of +1mm, -0mm).

- Note that all magazines must comply, failing which Rule 6.2.5.1 will apply.
21. Neither the handgun, nor any of its attachments, nor any allied equipment (e.g. magazines or other loading devices), can extend forward of the line illustrated in Appendix F3. Any such items a Range Officer deems not to be in compliance must be safely and promptly adjusted, failing which Rule 6.2.5.1 will apply.
 22. Competition holsters of the race gun type are specifically allowed.
 23. Reserve
 24. Magazines must be of standard length, excluding basepads. Extended magazines and/or modifications to basepads to increase magazine capacity are prohibited.

Permitted modifications:

25. Sights of a post and notch type, including fiber optic front sights (milling of slide related to installation of sights is permitted).
26. Grips (weighted grips not allowed).
27. Internal accuracy work (includes replacement of the barrel with one of factory configuration, the use of Accu-Rails, the use of Spherical Bushings).
28. Internal reliability work.
29. Checker front strap and back strap
30. Checker or square and checker trigger guard
31. Cosmetic checkering/serrating and flat topping of slide to include cocking serrations
32. Extended thumb safety (may be ambidextrous) and beavertail grip safety.
33. Extended magazine release.
34. Full-length guide rods manufactured of material that is no heavier than common steel.
35. Hammer and other trigger action parts to enhance trigger pull, including over travel stops.
36. Beveled magazine well and add-on well extensions.
37. Custom finishes.

Prohibited Modifications or features:

38. Full length dust covers of carbon or stainless steel.
39. Slide lightening. (Removal of metal from the slide is permitted only for the following: front and rear sights, front and rear cocking serrations, and flat topping and serration of the slide)
40. External modifications such as weights or devices to control or reduce recoil.
41. Pistols produced with attachment points for external lights or optics.