ISSUE: Is the Smith & Wesson PPC9 pistol approved for use in NRA Police Pistol Combat Tournament Stock Semi-Automatic Matches?


Pistols used in NRA Stock Semi-Automatic Matches must be a factory manufactured (catalog item) item. The Smith & Wesson PPC9 is custom made on order by the Smith & Wesson custom shop and is not listed in the Standard, Pro- Series or Performance Center catalogues.

In addition, the standard Aristocrat Tri-Set quick adjustable sight designed for PPC Open Class firearms (the S&W PPC9) that is normally installed on the pistol does not meet the sight requirements for Stock Semi-Automatic pistols.

APPLICABLE RULE: Police Pistol Combat Rule 3.8

Rule 3.8 Stock Semi-Automatic Pistol: Factory manufactured (catalog item), center-fire semi-automatic pistol capable of chambering and firing .35 caliber or larger ammunition, or FN 5.7 x 28 caliber ammunition. All double action semi-automatic pistols must fire the first shot of every stage double action. Trigger pull not less than 3.5 pounds single or double action.

Allowed:
1. Maximum barrel length of 5.5 inches.
2. Any accessories, parts, and components which are manufactured to duplicate, in materials and dimensions, the original as offered by the manufacturer.
3. Replacement of service type sights with luminescent, or fiber optic service sights.
4. Maximum sight radius of 7.5 inches.
5. Finger groove and slip on grips.
7. Extended magazine well funnel.
Prohibited:

1. Adjustable front sight.
2. Thumb rest.
3. Grips/stocks that are flared at the base.
4. Tape on the grips/stocks.
5. Any substance that results in a sticky surface to the grips/stocks or hand.
6. Full-length Bo-mar type ribs on the slide.
7. Weighted grips or grip panels.
8. Trigger shoes.

NOTE: The 2010 Police Pistol Combat Rule Book changed the Stock Semi-Automatic rule section number from Rule 3.7 to Rule 3.8. While some specifications and the rule format were changed, the requirement that the firearm be a factory produced stock item was in effect in the prior rule book edition of 2005 and read that they must be “Mass produced (at least 1,000 produced), factory manufactured (catalog item)...”

RESEARCH FINDINGS: In addition to checking the Smith & Wesson Standard, Pro Series and Performance Series catalogues, contact was made with Troy Imes of Smith & Wesson. Mr. Imes confirmed that the S&W PPC9 is not a stock or catalogue item.

Also confirmed, the standard custom sight that is installed on the PPC9 is the Aristocrat quick adjustable Tri Set Open Class competition sight.