

CPSA Advice to Referees.

Actions in the event of a misfire: **NB Referees SHOULD NOT take the gun from the shooter.**

The referee will ask the shooter what has happened.

Response: “I pulled the trigger and it did not fire”.

The Referee will instruct the shooter not to open the gun. If competitor opens the gun without instruction from the referee **the target will be declared lost.**

In all cases the Referee will check the safety catch to ensure that it has not been applied accidentally, if it has, then **the target will be declared lost.** Otherwise:

1. In the case of break action guns with ejectors, the referee will ask the competitor to open the gun after the appropriate time delay (as per rule number 2.36), the referee will place their hand over the breach to prevent the cartridge leaving the gun. If the cartridge ejects, the trigger has been pulled and **the gun/cartridge has malfunctioned.**

2. In the case of a Semi-automatic gun, and after the appropriate time delay (as per rule number 2.36), the bolt must be cycled by the competitor, with the referee placing their hand over the breach to catch the ejected cartridge. In this case and in the case of non-ejector guns, if there is an indentation in the primer the trigger has been pulled and **the gun/cartridge has malfunctioned.**

In the case of a second barrel misfire or malfunction being established, any discipline specific rules shall apply.

Once established there has been a gun/cartridge malfunction, the referee is to call “no target” and throw the target again to determine the result of the shot.

In all cases, if it is proved that no cartridge has been loaded, or a gun/cartridge malfunction (See 1. and 2. above), has not been established and the gun cannot be proven to have had a malfunction of some other form, **the target will be declared lost** and rule 2.46 shall apply.

In all other eventualities the referee’s decision will be final.
