

INHER PIECE

PISTOL QUALIFICATION PROGRAM



2025 PROGRAM GUIDE
WE BUILD CONFIDENCE

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InHER PIECE

Pistol Qualification Program (PQP)

The InHER Piece Pistol Qualification Program is a self-paced, progressive course of fire designed to build upon handgun safety and marksmanship fundamentals. This evaluation exercise with a minimal qualification level of **Apprentice** is strongly suggested for all InHER Piece members intending to participate in live-fire range activities.

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This evaluation assesses four domains (safety, marksmanship, troubleshooting, and live-fire performance) intended to confirm a proficient understanding of firearm safety and the successful application of shooting fundamentals.

Part 1 | SAFETY

Required for all levels.

Recite, demonstrate, and explain the **4 Universal Rules of Gun Safety**.

1. Treat every gun as if it is loaded.
2. Never point the muzzle at anything you're not willing to destroy.
3. Keep your finger off the trigger until ready to shoot.
4. Be aware of our target and what's beyond it.

Part 2 | FUNDAMENTALS

Required for Sharpshooter and Coach classifications, only.

Recite, demonstrate, and explain the **5 Fundamentals of Marksmanship**.

1. Aiming (sight alignment and site picture)
2. Breath control
3. Hold control (proper grip and stance)
4. Trigger control
5. Follow-through

Part 3 | TROUBLESHOOTING

Required for Coaches and Chapter Leaders, only.

All coaches must be able to identify, define, explain, stage, and clear major ammunition and pistol malfunctions utilizing the "Tap, Rack, Bang" method, as applicable. Participants must also explain the safety considerations for each.

Ammunition Malfunctions

1. Misfire
2. Hangfire
3. Squib Load

Handgun Malfunctions

1. Failure to feed
2. Failure to eject (stovepipe)
3. Failure to extract (double-feed)

Part 4 | RANGE QUALIFICATION

The shooting evaluation requires live-fire performance with a handgun **of defensive caliber**. Using a standard 8-inch target, participants must shoot the stages described below. It is required that shooters *independently* load and unload firearms while demonstrating safety rules and marksmanship fundamentals. **Unless otherwise noted, all stages will be performed standing, from the low ready position with a two-handed grip.**

Stage 1 Course of Fire (30 Rounds)

SKILL FOCUS: Safe Gun Handling, Marksmanship Fundamentals

- 10 rounds at 3 yards
- 10 rounds at 5 yards
- 10 rounds at 7 yards

Stage 2 Course of Fire (30 Rounds)

SKILL FOCUS: Safe Gun Handling, Marksmanship Fundamentals, Single-handed Shooting

- 10 rounds at 3 yards, dominant hand only
- 10 rounds at 5 yards, dominant hand only
- 10 rounds at 7 yards, dominant hand only

Classification	Stage 1 Requirement	Stage 2 Requirement
APPRENTICE	No safety violations At least 18 hits on the target	N/A
MARKSWOMAN	No safety violations At least 27 hits on the target	No safety violations At least 21 hits on the target

The following stages are intended for intermediate to advanced shooters. Program participants must have completed at least one formal, certified shooting course, inclusive of at least two hours of live-fire instruction or coaching, before proceeding. Each stage requires a 90% hit rate to progress. For timed stages, shots fired outside of the allotted time will count as missed shots.

External thumb safeties, where applicable, must be engaged with exercises from concealment and the bench.

Stage 3 Course of Fire (30 Rounds)

SKILL FOCUS: Safe Gun Handling, Single-handed Shooting, Cadence

- From the bench, gun loaded
- 5 rounds fired within 10 seconds at 5 yards
- 3 repetitions two-handed
- 3 repetitions, dominant hand only

Stage 4 Course of Fire (30 Rounds)

SKILL FOCUS: Safe Gun Handling, Single-handed Shooting, Cadence

- From the bench, gun unloaded
- 5 rounds fired within 12 seconds at 5 yards
- 3 repetitions two-handed
- 3 repetitions, dominant hand only

Classification	Stage 3 Requirement	Stage 4 Requirement
MARKSWOMAN 1ST CLASS	No safety violations At least 27 hits on the target	No safety violations At least 27 hits on the target

Stage 5 Course of Fire (30 Rounds)

SKILL FOCUS: Safe Gun Handling, Pistol Presentation, Speed, Single-handed Shooting

- From concealment
- 5 rounds fired within 10 seconds at 5 yards
- 3 repetitions two-handed
- 3 repetitions, dominant hand only

Stage 6 Course of Fire (15 Rounds)

SKILL FOCUS: Safe Gun Handling, Speed, Single-handed Shooting

- 3 rounds fired within 5 seconds at 5 yards
- 5 repetitions, non-dominant hand only

Stage 7 Course of Fire (15 Rounds)

SKILL FOCUS: Safe Gun Handling, Pistol Presentation, Speed, Single-handed Shooting

- From concealment
- 3 rounds fired within 8 seconds at 5 yards
 - 1 round, dominant hand only
 - Switch/transition
 - 2 rounds, non-dominant hand only
- 5 repetitions

Classification	Stage 5 Requirement	Stage 6 Requirement	Stage 7 Requirement
SHARPSHOOTER	No safety violations At least 27 hits on the target	No safety violations At least 13 hits on the target	No safety violations At least 13 hits on the target

Rangemaster Baseline Skill Assessment (Modified)

Stage 8 Course of Fire (10 Rounds)

SKILL FOCUS: Safe Gun Handling, Pistol Presentation, Speed, Consistency

- From concealment
- 5 rounds fired within 5 seconds at 5 yards
- 2 repetitions

Stage 9 Course of Fire (10 Rounds)

SKILL FOCUS: Safe Gun Handling, Speed, Single-handed Shooting

- 3 rounds fired within 3 seconds at 5 yards
 - 2 repetitions, dominant hand only
- 2 rounds fired within 3 seconds at 5 yards
 - 2 repetitions, non-dominant hand only

Stage 10 Course of Fire (10 Rounds)

SKILL FOCUS: Safe Gun Handling, Defensive Speed, Reloading, Defensive Distance

- 6 rounds fired within 10 seconds at 7 yards (with emergency reload)
 - 3 rounds loaded in first magazine; 3 rounds loaded in second magazine
 - 3 rounds fired, reload, 3 rounds fired
- 4 rounds fired in 4 seconds at 10 yards

Classification	Stage 8 Requirement	Stage 9 Requirement	Stage 10 Requirement
COACH	No safety violations At least 9 hits on the target	No safety violations At least 9 hits on the target	No safety violations At least 9 hits on the target

Leadership Shooting Qualification

InHER Piece Leaders are required to pass the FBI Handgun Qualification (2019). The course of fire requires a standard QIT-99 target and must be completed with a defensive caliber, center-fired handgun. Candidates may use the sighting system (iron, fixed, optic, etc.) of their choice. Adherence to all safety rules and a score of 90% (45/50) are required to pass.

THREE (3) YARDS		SCORE
<i>From concealment...</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Draw, fire 3 rounds (strong hand only), switch hands, fire 3 rounds (support hand only), all in 6 seconds 		
FIVE (5) YARDS		SCORE
<i>From concealment...</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Draw, fire 3 rounds in 3 seconds <i>From low ready...</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fire 3 rounds in 2 seconds • Fire 6 rounds in 4 seconds 		
SEVEN (7) YARDS		SCORE
<i>From concealment...</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Draw, fire 5 rounds in 5 seconds <i>From low ready...</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fire 4 rounds, conduct an empty gun reload, and fire 4 more rounds, all in 8 seconds • Fire 5 rounds in 4 seconds 		
FIFTEEN (15) YARDS		SCORE
<i>From concealment...</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Draw, fire 3 rounds in 6 seconds <i>From low ready...</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fire 3 rounds in 5 seconds 		
TWENTY-FIVE (25) YARDS		SCORE
<i>From concealment...</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Draw and fire 4 rounds while standing, drop to a kneeling position, and fire 4 more rounds from kneeling, all in 20 seconds 		
FINAL RECORD		TOTAL SCORE
Witness:	Date:	

ANNUAL RECERTIFICATION

Shooters who successfully complete the Coach level must requalify annually to maintain the certification. Requalification requires the completion of the Coach CoF and the repetition of the Safety, Fundamentals, and Troubleshooting requirements.

Leaders are required to re-qualify annually.

Any shooter with a lapse exceeding twelve months since the last *attempted* stage is strongly encouraged to restart the program.

The PQP course of fire, inclusive of live-fire exercises, is intended to progress over the course of several months with emphasis on building a solid foundation of gun handling skills. Participants are encouraged to spend sufficient time practicing applicable skill focus areas prior to attempting each stage for certification.

ADMINISTRATIVE GUIDELINES

Stages must be completed in order, and each level may be attempted multiple times, as needed for successful completion. Completion of the Apprentice and Coach stages must be witnessed by an InHER Piece Leader, RSO, or Coach, who will document the performance on the shooter's official Achievement Record (attached). All other stages may be witnessed and initialed by any InHER Piece member or official range employee.

InHER Piece PQP achievement awards will be presented to participants with each level achieved as a token of recognition. Leaders and coaches will receive a custom medal and certificate to commemorate the advanced achievement.

Sample Award Buttons (2023):



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ACHIEVEMENT RECORD

Name	Membership Number
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Record only successful (passing) stage scores. A total of 215 rounds is required to complete the entire CoF.

PART / STAGE	TOTAL POINTS	FINAL SCORE (%)	DATE COMPLETED	FACILITATOR INITIALS (Lead,, RSO, Coach)
Safety		<i>of 4</i>		
Fundamentals		<i>of 5</i>		
Stage 1		<i>of 30</i>		
Stage 2		<i>of 30</i>		
Stage 3		<i>of 30</i>		
Stage 4		<i>of 30</i>		
Stage 5		<i>of 30</i>		
Stage 6		<i>of 15</i>		
Stage 7		<i>of 15</i>		
Stage 8		<i>of 15</i>		
Stage 9		<i>of 10</i>		
Stage 10		<i>of 10</i>		
Troubleshooting		<i>of 6</i>		