

OPTICS TRADE

Field Target Riflescopes

May, 2020

WHAT IS FIELD TARGET SHOOTING?

- Outdoor shooting competition,
- Competitors shoot at steel targets **9–50 m away**,
- Various shooting positions (prone, kneeling, sitting, standing)
- There is a **hole (kill zone)** on the face plate of the targets,
- The target trips over if hit,
- No information on the distance to the target is given – the competitor must determine the distance with the help of the parallax on the riflescope.
- No rangefinders are allowed at the competitions.

GENERAL FEATURES OF FIELD TARGET RIFLESCOPES

- **Adjustable parallax** is the most important feature (from 7 m onwards or similar),
- High magnification power,
- Tactical turrets are common (elevation and windage adjustments must be at hand),
- Identical to the features of F-class riflescopes.



Schmidt & Bender 12.5-50x56 Field Target II (silver)

WHY DO FIELD TARGET SHOOTERS ATTACH BIG WHEELS ON THE PARALLAX TURRET?

- Field target shooters estimate the distance to the target with the help of an adjustable parallax,
- The users mark their scopes with **distance marks** – when the image is in focus, the shooter knows the distance,
- Distance marks must be written down before the competition with the help of a long tape measure or a laser rangefinder,
- A **sidewheel** is extremely useful
 - More precise adjustments
 - Provides enough place to write the distance marks down
- Additional equipment (bubble level)

DOES TEMPERATURE AFFECT THE ACCURACY OF DISTANCE READING?

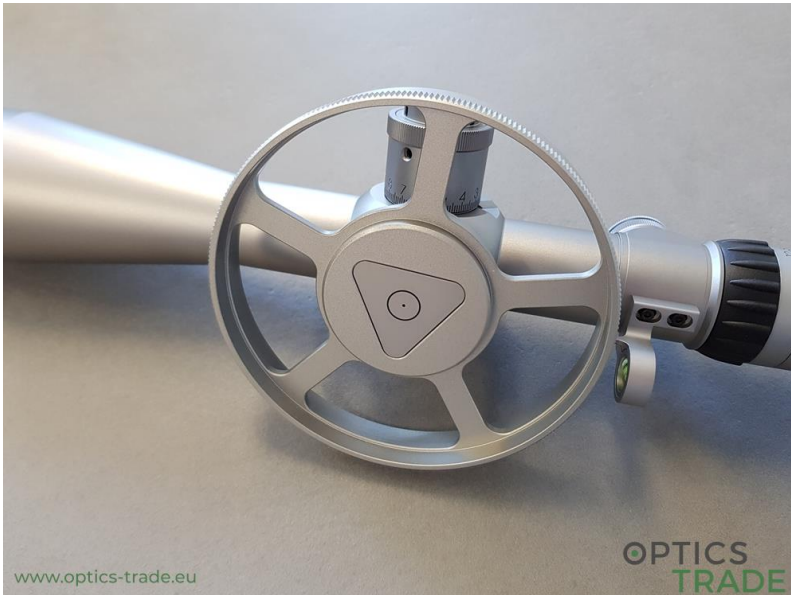
- Field target shooters must be **extremely accurate**,
- **High temperatures** can affect the riflescope's accuracy,
- Silver riflescopes do not heat up on the sun as much as standard, black riflescopes.



Schmidt & Bender 12.5-50x56 Field Target II's sidewheel

CAN F-CLASS RIFLESCOPES BE USED FOR FIELD TARGET COMPETITIONS?

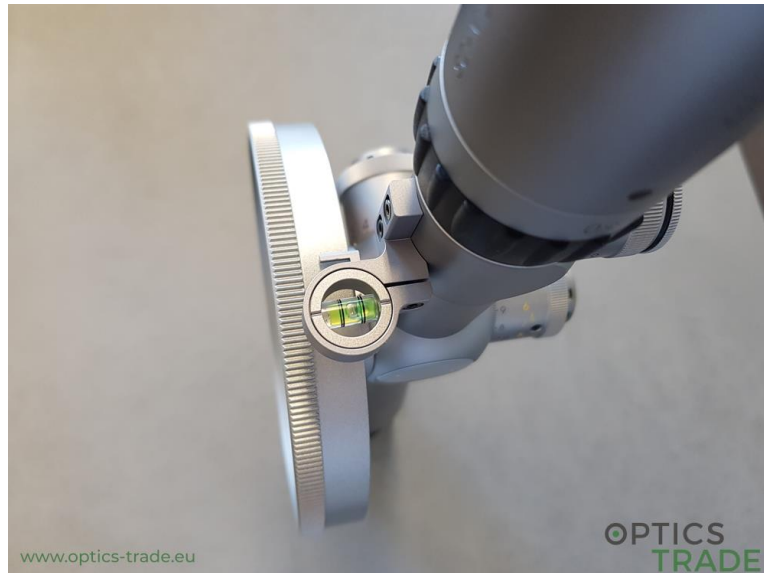
- F-class riflescopes are identical to Field target riflescopes as far as their features are concerned,
- At the beginning, this was the only way (it took the optics manufacturers a while to produce riflescopes specially designed for the field target discipline),



Schmidt & Bender 12.5-50x56 Field Target II's sidewheel

CAN FIELD TARGET RIFLESCOPES BE USED FOR F-CLASS COMPETITIONS?

- Possible but **not ideal** (the parallax on most field target riflescopes cannot be set beyond 100 m),
- The reticles used in field target are not the best for f-class shooting.



Schmidt & Bender 12.5-50x56 Field Target II's bubble level

POPULAR FIELD TARGET RIFLESCOPES

These are made by the following manufacturers:

- [March](#)
- [Sightron](#)
- [Kahles](#)
- [S&B](#)
- [Nikko Stirling](#) (a pioneer in this category)



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