

**BY ORDER OF THE SECRETARY  
OF THE AIR FORCE**

**AIR FORCE INSTRUCTION 34-143**

**21 FEBRUARY 2012**

*Services*



**EXCELLENCE-IN-COMPETITION (EIC)**

**COMPLIANCE WITH THIS PUBLICATION IS MANDATORY**

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This instruction implements AFPD 34-1, *Air Force Services Combat Support Programs*, and explains Air Force qualifications and procedures for awarding United States Air Force Excellence-In-Competition (EIC) Badges and the Distinguished International Shooter Badge. This instruction applies to all Air Force personnel, to include Air National Guard (ANG) and Air Force Reserve personnel who have earned or wish to earn these badges. This instruction may be supplemented at any level, but all supplements that directly implement this Instruction must be routed to the Office of Primary Responsibility (OPR) for coordination prior to certification and approval. Refer recommended changes and questions about this publication to the OPR using the AF Form 847, *Recommendation for Change of Publication*; route AF Form 847s from the field through the appropriate functional chain of command. Ensure all records created as a result of processes prescribed in this publication are maintained in accordance with (IAW) Air Force Manual (AFMAN) 33-363, *Management of Records*, and disposed of IAW the Air Force Records Disposition Schedule located at <https://www.my.af.mil/afrims/afrims/afrims/rims.cfm>. This publication directs collecting and maintaining information protected by the Privacy Act of 1974 authorized by 10 USC 8013. System of records notice F034 AF PC V, *Awards and Decorations*.

**SUMMARY OF CHANGES**

This publication is substantially revised and must be completely reviewed. Changes incorporate interim change 2 from previous edition and updates office symbols and contact information.

**1. Types of Awards.** United States Air Force EIC Badges are awarded to eligible personnel who attain an outstanding degree of achievement in certain recognized, individual competitions with the service rifle and pistol.

1.1. The badges awarded are:

1.1.1. The Air Force Distinguished Rifleman Badge.

1.1.2. The Air Force Distinguished Pistol Shot Badge.

1.1.3. The Air Force Silver EIC Rifle Badge with Wreath.

1.1.4. The Air Force Silver EIC Pistol Badge with Wreath.

1.1.5. The Air Force Bronze EIC Rifle Badge with Wreath.

1.1.6. The Air Force Bronze EIC Pistol Badge with Wreath.

1.1.7. The Air Force Bronze EIC Rifle Badge.

1.1.8. The Air Force Bronze EIC Pistol Badge.

1.1.9. The Distinguished International Shooter Badge (awarded by the Corporation for the Promotion of Rifle Practice and Firearm Safety (CPRPFS) for outstanding performance in major international competition).

**2. Qualifying for the Distinguished Rifleman or Distinguished Pistol Shot Badge.** Personnel must earn at least 30 credit points in recognized EIC rifle or pistol matches (national match or combat match) and may be awarded both badges if they earn the required points.

**3. Qualifying for EIC Badges.** The Air Force awards EIC badges for excellence in individual competitions only. EIC badges or credit points can be earned through competitions held by other services or in the private sector and will be counted as credit toward the award of the appropriate distinguished badge.

3.1. Between 1 January and 31 December of each year, an eligible member may compete in no more than four EIC service pistol or rifle matches as listed below. If authorized and eligible under the rules established by the match sponsor, you may compete in:

3.1.1. National Trophy Individual Match.

3.1.2. National Rifle Association (NRA) Regional or State Championships (limited to three per year).

3.1.3. A service sponsored match.

3.2. Individuals who have no points toward the distinguished badge for the weapon type used in the competition, rifle or pistol, may compete in four elementary-level EIC competitions sponsored by Headquarters, United States Air Force (HQ USAF) and approved by the Air Force Services Agency, Air Force Sports Branch (AFSVA/SVPCL). Individuals may receive award points from Army and National Guard State Championships on the recommendation of the United States Army Marksmanship Unit EIC Custodian, Fort Benning, Georgia.

3.3. Individuals may compete in military service sponsored Combat Rifle or Combat Pistol EIC matches provided they do not compete in the National Match and EIC match with the same type weapon (rifle or pistol) at the same competition.

3.4. To take part in more than two NRA Regional or State Championship EIC matches in the same calendar year, with the same type of weapon, ANG personnel must obtain an advance waiver from the National Guard Marksmanship Training Unit (NGMTU). Active duty and Air Force Reserve personnel must obtain an advance waiver from AFSVA/SVPCL.

**4. Qualifying for the Distinguished International Shooter Badge.** The CPRPFS Civilian Marksmanship Program awards this badge to any United States citizen who places first, second, or third in rifle, pistol, or shotgun competition (individual or team). The badge is also awarded to members of United States international teams who place in the top 15 percent of all competitions in the Olympic Games, Pan American Games, World Shooting Championship, World Shotgun Championship, Championship of the Americas, and the World Air Gun Championships.

#### **5. How Credit Points are Awarded/Computed:**

5.1. Credit points are awarded, based on scores and standings, to the highest-scoring 10 percent of the non-distinguished (personnel with less than 30 points toward a distinguished badge) participants in an EIC match. The 10 percent includes all eligible non-distinguished competitors who begin the match. Credit points are awarded as follows:

5.1.1. Ten (10) credit points are awarded to the highest one-sixth of the top 10 percent.

5.1.2. Eight (8) credit points are awarded to the remaining highest one-third of the top 10 percent.

5.1.3. Six (6) credit points are awarded to the remainder of the top 10 percent.

5.1.4. Four (4) credit points will be awarded to all top 10 percent in elementary level EIC matches.

5.2. In computing both the number of participants to receive awards and the credit points to be awarded, officials resolve fractions of 0.6 or higher to the next higher number and drop smaller fractions. The total number of individuals to receive credit points cannot exceed the number determined by application of the 10 percent rule. For example, if a total of 108 non-distinguished competitors began the match, 10.8 (or 11) individuals would be eligible for credit points. These points are awarded as follows:

5.2.1. Two (2) 10 point winners will be awarded to the highest one-sixth of the top 10 percent.

5.2.2. Three (3) eight point winners will be awarded to the remaining highest one-third of the top 10 percent.

5.2.3. Six (6) six point winners are awarded to the remainder of the top percent.

5.3. The package to conduct an EIC match can be requested from AFSVA/SVPCL, Defense Switched Network (DSN) 969-7229. Use the samples in the package to request approval for the EIC match from AFSVA/SVPCL. Credit points for elementary competition are awarded to participants who score in the top 10 percent of non-distinguished participants and have no credit points towards the distinguished badge for the weapon type being used in the

competition. Credit points for national, state, and regional level combat competitions are awarded to participants who score in the top 10 percent of all non-distinguished participants, and have less than 30 points towards a distinguished badge.

**6. How Awards are Granted.** Copies of official match results must be sent by the EIC sponsor to AFSVA/SVPCL, 2261 Hughes Avenue, Suite 156, Lackland Air Force Base, Texas, 78236-9854. Copies must contain your full name, grade, social security number, organization, duty station, and home address. The Director of Civilian Marksmanship notifies AFSVA/SVPCL when members achieve credit points in CPRPFS-sponsored competitions. AFSVA/SVPCL maintains a record of awards for each Air Force member who earns credit points in an EIC match. Badges are awarded as follows:

6.1. Individuals who earn the initial four points in elementary-level competitions with either the service rifle, service pistol, combat rifle, or combat pistol, will receive a Bronze EIC Rifle or Pistol Badge. Only individuals who have no credit points toward the distinguished badge are eligible for this award.

6.2. Individuals who earn six credit points with either the service rifle, service pistol, combat rifle, or combat pistol will receive a Bronze EIC Rifle or Pistol Badge with a distinctive wreath.

6.3. Individuals who earn 20 credit points with either the service rifle, service pistol, combat rifle, or combat pistol will receive a Silver EIC Rifle or Pistol Badge with a distinctive wreath.

6.4. Individuals who earn 30 credit points with either the service rifle, service pistol, combat rifle, or combat pistol will receive the Distinguished Rifleman or Distinguished Pistol Shot Badge.

6.5. Individuals may call DSN 969-7229 or write to AFSVA/SVPCL to verify points earned, the match in which the points were earned, and the total number of credit points towards the distinguished rifle or pistol badge.

6.6. Transfer of Distinguished Designation. Credit points held by non-distinguished military personnel and civilians who become members of the United States Air Force may be transferred and applied toward Air Force Distinguished Designation. Civilians or military personnel from other services who attained Distinguished Designation prior to entry in the United States Air Force may be recognized by the Air Force upon proper documentation and may be awarded a Distinguished Badge if appropriate.

**7. Presentation, Disposition, and Recording of Award(s).** AFSVA/SVPCL announces each award of an EIC badge, Air Force Distinguished Rifleman Badge, or Air Force Distinguished Pistol Shot Badge with an official memorandum.

7.1. AFSVA/SVPCL mails the award, together with a copy of the official memorandum, to the individual.

7.2. IAW AFI 36-2608, *Military Personnel Records Systems*, badges awarded are not documented in the individual's Unit Personnel Record Group.

**8. Control of Badges.** AFSVA/SVPCL distributes all badges by mail. For guidance on wearing badges, see AFI 36-2903, *Dress and Personal Appearance of Air Force Personnel*.

8.1. AFSVA/SVPCL budgets, procures, and stocks the badges as necessary.

8.2. Badges are issued to Air Force members only. For information on replacement badges for active duty and Air Force Reserve personnel, call AFSVA/SVPCL at DSN 969-7229. ANG personnel may call the NGMTU at DSN 962-4534. Individuals may replace their badges at their own expense.

DARRELL D. JONES  
Lieutenant General, USAF  
DCS, Manpower, Personnel, and Services

**Attachment 1****GLOSSARY OF REFERENCES AND SUPPORTING INFORMATION*****References***

AFPD 34-1, *Air Force Services Combat Support Programs*, 19 July 1994

AFI 36-2608, *Military Personnel Records Systems*, 30 August 2006

AFI 36-2903, *Dress and Personal Appearance of Air Force Personnel*, 18 July 2011

AFMAN 33-363, *Management of Records*, 1 March 2008

***Adopted Forms***

AF Form 847, *Recommendation for Change of Publication*

***Abbreviations and Acronyms***

**AFI**—Air Force Instruction

**AFMAN**—Air Force Manual

**AFPD**—Air Force Policy Directive

**AFSVA/SVPCL**—Air Force Services Agency, Air Force Sports Branch

**ANG**—Air National Guard

**CPRPFS**—Corporation for the Promotion of Rifle Practice and Firearm Safety

**DSN**—Defense Switched Network

**EIC**—Excellence-In-Competition

**IAW**—In Accordance With

**NGMTU**—National Guard Marksmanship Training Unit

**NRA**—National Rifle Association

**OPR**—Office of Primary Responsibility

**USAF**—United States Air Force