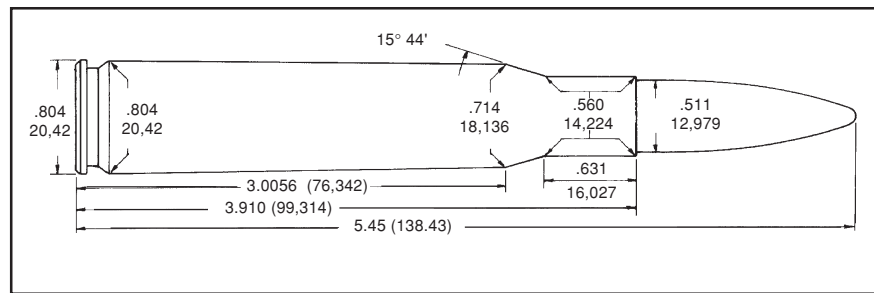


.50 BROWNING

The .50 Browning began life in 1921 as a military cartridge for a heavy machine gun for support of ground assault. By the end of World War II, it was also a standard cartridge for aircraft for air-to-air combat. Experiments in non-standard military channels resulted in its use for long range sniping, notably by Bill Brophy during the Korean conflict.



Through the years shooters across the country built rifles for the cartridge. Gunsmiths rebarreled Boyes anti-tank rifles with surplus military barrels. Other routes were taken, such as Fred Wells' scaling up of a Mauser action to proper dimensions for the .50 Browning.

Interest in the cartridge for long range shooting grew dramatically in the 1970s and 1980s but really took off with the appearance, and subsequent growth, of the Fifty Caliber Shooters' Association. The Association established competition to further advancement of the cartridge. Several manufacturers started producing guns. Companies such as Accurate, Speer, and Hornady committed themselves to providing reloading components and equipment.

FCSA competition is based on five shot groups at 1,000 yards. The current small group is just over 4.0 inches. Depending on the load, the muzzle energy could be well over 12,000 foot-pounds. Recoil in most rifles could be considered impressive. **Accurate 8700** has been a consistent performer for match loads, and has been used to win trophies in FCSA competition.

.50 BROWNING				
Gun	FRESHOUR	Max Length	3.910"	
Barrel Length	44"	Trim Length	3.890"	
Primer	CCI 35	OAL Max	5.545"	
Case	IMI	OAL Min	5.400"	

Bullet	START LOADS			MAXIMUM LOADS			P.S.I.	Length	Cartridge Comment
	Powder	Grains	Vel.	Powder	Grains	Vel.			
642	8700	205.0	2610	8700	228.0	2930			
750	8700	195.0	2322	8700	218.0	2700			