

#### **4. THE MARKSMANSHIP PRINCIPLES**

There are FOUR Marksmanship Principles. If these are correctly applied, a firer should be able to deliver shots successfully into a small group (the size of the group a firer can do, is an indication of the firer's ability).

It is not enough to just to learn to recite these; it is necessary to teach beginners what they mean and how to apply them. This can only be successfully completed in practice, on the range. It is also necessary to continually remind beginners what to do to apply the Marksmanship Principles, during practical range periods. Shooting is a skill and takes time and practice to develop. Just as we would not expect a beginner to drive a car into the town after one lesson, we cannot expect a beginner to be an expert shot after one shoot.

**1. HOLD**

The firing position must be comfortable and the hold firm enough to support the rifle.

**2. NATURAL ALIGNMENT**

The rifle must point naturally at the target without any physical effort or strain. The body position must be adjusted until this state is achieved.

**3. AIM**

The aim or sight alignment must be correct and the aim picture consistent.

**4. SHOT RELEASE**

The shot must be fired and followed through without any disturbance of the position or aim.

When you have completed the Probationary Course, you will have been taught how to put these principles into practice.