

## INTRODUCTION

Safety with firearms, as with any other potentially hazardous machines, comes through learning and practicing safe procedures until they become a habit. With proper knowledge, skill, and a respect for firearms, accidents will not occur. Firearms are dangerous only when people make them so. When handled improperly they can become instruments of danger to people and property; when handled correctly there is no danger. Obedience to the rules of safety and range commands makes target shooting a safe sport.

Accidents don't just happen. They are caused by ignorance or disregard for safety rules. The rules of safety and proper handling of firearms should be practiced until they are never out of mind. They should be observed at all times. Always remember, safety first, safety last and safety always.

## OBJECT

The object of this organization shall be the encouragement of organized rifle, pistol, archery, and shotgun shooting among citizens of the United States, with a view toward a better knowledge on the part of each citizen for safe handling and proper care of firearms, and improved marksmanship. It will be our further object and purpose to promote characteristics of honesty, fellowship, self-discipline, team play, and self-reliance, which are the essentials of good sportsmanship and the foundation of true patriotism.

### I. GENERAL NRA GUN SAFETY RULES WHEN HANDLING A FIREARM

- Always point the muzzle in a safe direction. Whether you are shooting or simply handling your gun, never point the muzzle at yourself or others. Common sense should dictate which direction is safest depending on your location and other conditions. When on the range, always point your firearm down range.
- Keep your finger off the trigger until you are ready to shoot. There is a natural tendency to place your finger on the trigger when holding a gun. AVOID IT!!! That is what trigger guards are made for, to enable you to hold the gun comfortably with your finger off the trigger.
- Keep the action open and gun unloaded until you are ready to shoot. Whenever you pick up any gun immediately open the action and check (visually if possible) to see that the chamber is unloaded. If the gun has a magazine, remove it and make sure it is empty. If you do not know how to open the gun's action, leave it alone and get help from someone who does.
- Know how the gun operates. Before handling any firearm, learn how it operates. Know the basic parts, how to open and close the action safely and how to safely remove ammunition from the gun or clip. Always remember, a gun's safety device is never foolproof. Nothing can replace safe gun handling.
- Be sure your gun and ammunition are compatible. Only BB's, pellets, cartridges or shells designed for a particular gun can be fired safely in that gun. Most guns have the ammunition type stamped on the barrel. Ammunition can be identified by information printed on the box and sometimes stamped on each cartridge. Do not shoot the gun if there is any question about the compatibility of the gun and ammunition.
- Carry only one gauge/caliber of ammunition when shooting. Smaller ammunition can be accidentally placed in a gun chamber designed for larger ammunition creating an obstruction and a hazard. Remove unfired ammunition from clothing when you are finished shooting in order to avoid accidentally mixing different ammunition the next time you shoot.
- Be sure of your target and what is beyond. Be positive you have identified your target beyond all doubt. Equally important, be aware of the area behind your target. This means observe your area of fire before you shoot. Never fire in a direction in which there are people or any other potential for mishap. THINK FIRST - SHOOT SECOND!
- Wear eye and ear protection as appropriate. Guns are loud. They can also emit debris and hot gas that could cause eye injury. Safety glasses and ear protection are MANDATORY. A bit of precaution may save your sight and hearing.
- Do not mix alcohol or drugs with shooting. Alcohol and drugs are likely to impair normal mental and physical bodily functions and must not be used before or while handling or shooting guns.

- Be aware that circumstances may require additional rules unique to a particular situation. The basic rules as listed above for safe handling and shooting of firearms may need to be supplemented with other rules. An example would be that different types of ranges, such as pistol or trap, may have specific rules that must be learned and followed. Remember, whether in the home, at the range, or in the field, you are the person that is responsible for gun safety.

## CLEANING

Before cleaning your firearm, make absolutely sure that it is unloaded. All ammunition should be stored away from the cleaning area. The gun action should be open during the cleaning process. Regular cleaning is important. Your gun should be cleaned after each use. A gun brought out of prolonged storage should be cleaned before shooting. Accumulated moisture, dirt or grease can interfere with the gun's safe operation. The cleaning of firearms on club property is permitted in designated areas only.

## STORAGE

Several factors should be considered when you decide on where and how you intend to store your firearms. Your particular needs will be a major part of the consideration. Safe and secure storage requires that all untrained individuals (especially children) be denied access to your guns.

## GENERAL REGULATIONS FOR USE OF THE CLUB

- Members must sign GUESTS in using the guest log book in the Clubhouse.
- All persons on the ranges must wear hearing protection.
- All persons on the ranges must wear eye protection.
- You must properly holster or have all firearms cased that are carried onto club property.
- When firearms are uncased or un-holstered, all actions must be open and the firearm unloaded, except when ready to shoot.
- All firearms are assumed to be loaded and should be treated as such.
- All loading and/or unloading of firearms must be done in a designated areas and the range firing line only.
- All doors and gates are to remain locked, unless otherwise posted, to prevent unauthorized use of club property.
- No alcoholic beverages or drugs are allowed on club property at any time, nor any person under the influence of same. Violation of this rule will be cause for immediate dismissal.
- No smoking is allowed on any firing line. Special caution should be taken around black powder shooters.
- All ranges are to be kept policed when your shooting session is completed. Trash receptacles and brass buckets are provided for your convenience.
- Shooting is allowed on designated ranges only.
- One shooter and coach are allowed per shooting station.
- All members are responsible for reading signs posted on ranges and adherence to same.
- Obey all firing line commands immediately.
- Persons shooting in organized club events take preference over individual shooters.
- The rules of the NRA, USRA and DCM have preference.
- No member observing a rule infraction is allowed to let it go uncorrected.
- Every member is authorized to act in order to enforce the range safety rules.
- All members are requested to help novice shooters, or new members, to explain the use of firearms, club range rules and advise and instruct when appropriate in a kind and courteous manner.
- When a range officer is present he/she will be responsible for coordination of the cease fire procedures and the enforcement of all rules and regulations.
- Targets are to be placed on designated target holders only.
- Do not raise firearm above the target line. Shoot only at target directly in front of shooting

- position. No cross firing allowed.
- All firearms must be raised from the shooting bench. No shooting from the hip or quick drawing.
  - When moving from one shooting station to another, firearm must be unloaded and the action open. The firearm must be pointed down range.
  - No incendiary, tracer or armor piercing ammunition is to be used on any range.
  - The use of exploding targets is strictly prohibited.
  - Always be certain that bullets hit the designated target impact area.
  - Extreme care must be taken when rapid firing.
  - The placing of objects or the walking on or disruption of any dirt berm or range backstop is prohibited.
  - No vehicles are to be driven on any range. Vehicles are to be parked in designated areas only.
  - Be courteous to assure that spent casings do not interfere with other shooters.
  - When arriving at a range and you appear to be alone, be certain that no other person is down range before firing WHEN GOING DOWN RANGE ALWAYS USE THE RANGE SAFETY LIGHT SWITCH AT YOUR SHOOTING STATION EVEN IF ANOTHER SHOOTER HAS PUT ON THEIR SWITCH.
  - If you are down range and someone arrives to shoot, make your presence known.
  - In the event a malfunction prevents you from clearing and/or unloading your firearm, do not remove the firearm from the firing line. Seek assistance from a knowledgeable source.
  - .Keep firearm pointed down range at all times. Do not raise the muzzle of the firearm above the target line.

## CEASE FIRE PROCEDURE

(ALL RANGES)

- Any member observing an unsafe situation should immediately call a "cease fire".
- Range safety lights are provided at all outdoor shooting stations. The lights must be put on prior to anyone going down range. When going down range ALWAYS put the safety light switch in your shooting station on, even if another shooter has flipped his or her switch on.
- When the command "cease fire" is heard or the safety lights go on, immediately stop shooting, apply safety, place firearm on bench with muzzle pointed down range, step back behind the firing line and await further instructions.
- Upon command, render your firearm safe by removing all ammunition/magazines/clips. (decap or remove primer on black powder guns).
- Place firearm on shooting bench with Muzzle pointed down range with action open.
- Once your firearm is rendered safe, step back away from shooting station.
- Do not handle any firearm or ammunition during a cease fire.
- No person is to go forward of any firing line until all firearms are determined to be in a safe mode.
- No one is allowed to touch or place anything on the bench during a cease fire or when the range safety lights are on.

## CLUBHOUSE INDOOR RANGE RULES

### FIREARMS

- Handguns up to .45
- .22 rimfire rifles.
- Air rifles/pistols (with pellets only).
- No other rifles or shotguns are allowed.
- Black powder is not allowed.
- No sub guns or carbines in any caliber

### AMMUNITION

- Lead, alloy, jacketed, semi-jacketed bullets are allowed.
- No steel core bullets of any caliber are allowed.
- Handgun caliber ammunition only up to .45
- Magnum loads are allowed.
- Armor piercing, incendiary and tracer ammunition is prohibited.
- No BB's are allowed. Pellets are allowed.
- No centerfire rifle ammunition, shotgun, shotshell or slugs are allowed.

### TARGETS

- Paper targets only
- No targets larger than 24"x 24".
- Targets must be set all the way to the backstop, 50 feet from the shooting bench at all times. If you need to shoot at a distance less than 50 feet you must shoot OUTSIDE.

### GENERAL RULES Indoor Range

- The hours of operation are twenty-four (24) hours a day, 365 days a year, except during work details, scheduled shooting events and during club general meetings.
- Lights must be turned on when shooting unless match dictates.
- Exhaust fans must be turned on while any person is on the range.
- If you are the last person to leave the range/clubhouse, turn off all the lights and exhaust fans.
- No smoking or eating is allowed on the indoor range.
- All socializing is to be confined to the meeting area. The indoor range is for shooting only.
- .All other general rules and regulations apply.

## OUTDOOR RIFLE RANGES

### FIREARMS

- Rifles.
- Handguns
- Shotguns
- Fully automatic firearms are allowed with the appropriate license AND TAX STAMP

### AMMUNITION

- All calibers.
- Lead, alloy, semi-jacketed, jacketed ammunition.
- Shotgun slugs and shot are allowed.
- No tracers or incendiary ammunition

### TARGETS

- Metal targets and silhouettes are provided at various distances by the Club. Paper targets must be placed on the target frames. If you bring your own targets please police the area after shooting and clean up any broken targets or debris. No food, glass, hazardous materials (e.g. paint cans, batteries, aerosol cans etc.) are allowed.

### GENERAL RULES

- The hours of operation are 9:00 a.m. until sunset. [Sunset is defined by the National Weather Service and printed in the daily newspaper and is not last light.]
- No shooting is allowed on the outdoor ranges on Easter Sunday or Memorial Day.
- All other general rules and regulations apply.

## **PISTOL RANGE OUTDOORS**

### **FIREARMS.**

- Handguns up to .45
- .22 rimfire rifles
- Pistol caliber up to .45
- Shotguns with shot, NO SLUGS ALLOWED
- Fully automatic firearms in carbine or pistol configuration up to pistol caliber .45

### **AMMUNITION**

- Lead, alloy, semi-jacketed, jacketed ammunition.
- Shotgun shot, no slugs allowed.
- Pellets are allowed BB's are NOT ALLOWED
- No tracers, incendiary or armor piercing ammunition

### **TARGETS**

- Metallic silhouette targets are provided and must be placed on the shooting rails provided.
- Paper silhouette targets are allowed on designated target frames only.
- No food, glass, hazardous materials (e.g. paint cans, batteries, aerosol cans etc.) are allowed.

### **GENERAL RULES**

- Hours of operation are 9:00 a.m. until sunset. [Sunset is defined by the National Weather Service and printed in the daily newspaper not last light.]
- No outdoor shooting is allowed on Eater Sunday or Memorial Day.
- You must dispose of all targets when shooting is completed.

## ARCHERY RANGE

### BOWS

- All bows, including crossbows, recurve and compound bows are allowed.
- No firearms of any kind allowed.

### ARROWS

- Target and field points only.
- Broadheads or hunting points are allowed.

### TARGETS

- Paper targets only.
- Other targets are supplied by the Club.
- Targets must be on the target frames.
- No glass, tin cans, bottles etc.

### GENERAL RULES

- No one is allowed down range until the range is declared all clear.
- No drawing of any bows with an arrow unless the bow is pointed down range.
- The range will be closed during work parties.

### GUEST POLICY

- Each member is allowed two (2) shooting guests at a time. Exceptions can be made with prior permission of the executive board.
- The member must directly supervise and coach the guest at all times. No exceptions!
- Any guest may only come as a guest twice in any calendar year. If the guest wishes to use the facilities more than twice they are expected to join the Club.
- Members are responsible for the actions of their guest. If the guest violates any club rule, the member will be held responsible.
- Arrangements can be made for special groups with the executive board.

### DUES

- The dues year is from January 1st to December 31st. Dues must be paid by February 1st, and if not paid the member will be dropped from the membership roll according to the By-Laws.

### **DISCIPLINARY ACTION**

- The violation of any club rule may result in disciplinary action.
- The executive board shall be responsible for all disciplinary actions.
- The executive board, having sole discretion, may suspend or terminate membership privileges. If termination of membership privileges are due to safety violations the members license issuing authority will be notified.

### **RULE CHANGES**

- The executive committee shall administer and oversee the management of the club. The executive board shall promulgate, modify and/or change, as they deem necessary, the rules and regulations of the club to fulfill their obligation.

**SAFETY FIRST, SAFETY LAST AND SAFETY ALWAYS !!**