

CLAIRTON SPORTSMEN'S CLUB

RANGE SAFETY RULES

- General Range Safety Rules
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- Shotgun Patterning Board
- Dog Training Areas

These rules are subject to revision as deemed necessary at any time.
Please check the Club web site @ www.clairtonsc.org for the current revision.

Safety First ... Safety Always!

Range Safety Rules
Revision 3
March 9, 2022

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GENERAL RANGE SAFETY RULES

1. Except for Club sponsored activities or events, all members and guests must sign the off hours sign in book located on the Clubhouse porch and pay the required fees.
2. Hunting or Trapping is not permitted on Club property.
3. Weapons must be used on designated ranges ONLY.
4. All range specific rules apply.
5. Members are directly responsible for their guests and their actions.
6. Members must possess a valid Club membership card and present it upon request.
7. Eye and Ear protection is required on any active shooting range for shooters and non-shooters alike. Archery is exempt from this requirement.
8. SAFE FIREARMS HANDLING RULES TO LIVE BY:
 - a. Treat every gun as if it were loaded (It's always the "unloaded" gun that "accidentally went off".)
 - b. Never point at anything except your intended target. (BB, air, and pellet-guns count too.)
 - c. If you have a malfunction, direct the muzzle toward the ground in front of the firing line and call for a CEASE FIRE.
 - d. Keep your finger off the trigger and out of the trigger guard unless firing.
 - e. Always be sure of your backstop. Know your target and what is beyond.
9. Horseplay will not be tolerated on the Club grounds.
10. Failure to follow any and all Club rules will result in disciplinary action.
11. Shooting hours on any range are 9 AM until dusk. Some exceptions apply.

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PISTOL RANGE #1 SAFETY RULES

1. General Range Safety Rules apply.

CAUTION: PISTOL RANGE #1 consists of two separate covered firing lines (upper & lower firing lines). These two firing lines are treated as ONE RANGE.

2. **CEASE FIRE & ACTIVATION OF DOWN RANGE LIGHTS & SIREN:**

When it is necessary to go down range to change targets or to repair a firearm malfunction, the following actions must be completed:

- Call for a **CEASE FIRE**.
 - Make sure that **ALL** shooters (upper & lower firing lines) are aware of the **CEASE FIRE** and that **ALL** firearms actions are opened, chambers empty, magazines removed (if possible), and firearms are grounded.
 - Activate the **LIGHTS & SIREN** only after above conditions have been met, and raise the **CEASE FIRE** board.
 - Proceed down range or repair the firearm malfunction.
 - When the Range is clear or the firearm malfunction has been corrected, announce that the **RANGE IS GOING HOT**, lower the **CEASE FIRE** board, and turn the **Lights & Siren OFF**.
3. During a **CEASE FIRE**, there is to be no handling of firearms, magazines, or ammunition. Firearms unattended behind the firing lines must also have actions opened, chambers empty, magazines removed (if possible) and are grounded. A cased firearm meets these criteria. (Note: Use of an Open Bolt Indicator O.B.I. is recommended to designate compliance).
 4. If a **MALFUNCTION OF A LOADED FIREARM** occurs, the person having the malfunction must call for a **CEASE FIRE**. All firing will cease until the firearm is cleared. Any attempts to clear the firearm must have the muzzle pointed in a safe direction, downrange and directed to the impact area and/or the ground. No one is to go forward of the line while a firearm is being cleared.
 5. All shooting must be conducted from the designated firing line/bay. The 7 ½ yard line/bay shoots at 7 ½ yard targets, the 15 yard line/bay shoots at the 15 yard target, and so on. Cross firing is not permitted.

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PISTOL RANGE #1 SAFETY RULES (continued)

6. All shooting must be directed at paper targets fastened to the permanent backboards, except for Club provided metal targets at 100 yards. All bullets must enter earthen back-tops. Firing at the wooden framework is expressly forbidden. Remove paper targets from backboards after shooting.
7. When aiming, loading or unloading, all muzzles must be at target level or lower.
8. Handguns and .22 caliber rimfire rifles are permitted. **Only straight walled pistol calibers are permitted.**
9. Handguns and .22 caliber rifles may be loaded to capacity.
10. Armor piercing or incendiary cartridges are not permitted.
11. Rapid firing is not permitted at any time. All shooting must be controlled. You may fire one shot every three seconds.
12. Holstering / unholstering of firearms are not permitted. All firearms must be unloaded and cased when brought to the range.
13. If you are the last shooter on the range, confirm that the Lights & Siren are OFF, or the CEASE FIRE board has been lowered.

PISTOL RANGE #2 & #3 SAFETY RULES

1. General Range Safety Rules apply.
2. **CEASE FIRE:**

When it is necessary to go down range to change targets or to repair a firearm malfunction, the following actions must be completed:

 - Call for a **CEASE FIRE**.
 - Make sure that **ALL** shooters are aware of the **CEASE FIRE** and that **ALL** firearms actions are opened, chambers empty, magazines removed (if possible), and firearms are grounded.
 - Proceed down range or repair the firearm malfunction only after the above conditions have been met.
 - When the Range is clear or the firearm malfunction has been corrected, announce that the **RANGE IS GOING HOT**.
3. During a CEASE FIRE, there is to be no handling of firearms, magazines, or ammunition. Firearms unattended behind the firing lines must also have actions opened, chambers empty, magazines removed (if possible) and are grounded. A cased firearm meets these criteria. (Note: Use of an Open Bolt Indicator O.B.I. is recommended to designate compliance).
4. If a MALFUNCTION OF A LOADED FIREARM occurs, the person having the malfunction must call for a CEASE FIRE. All firing will cease until the firearm is cleared. Any attempts to clear the firearm must have the muzzle pointed in a safe direction, downrange and directed to the impact area and/or the ground. No one is to go forward of the line while a firearm is being cleared.
5. All shooting must be conducted from the designated firing line or benches provided. Cross firing is not permitted.
6. All shooting must be directed at paper targets fastened to the provided backboards. All bullets must enter earthen back-stops. Firing at the wooden framework is expressly forbidden. Remove paper targets from backboards after shooting.

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PISTOL RANGE #2 SAFETY RULES
&
PISTOL RANGE #3 SAFETY RULES
(CONTINUED)

7. Rapid firing is not permitted at any time. All shooting must be controlled. You may fire one shot every three seconds.
8. When aiming, loading or unloading, all muzzles must be at target level or lower.
9. Only handguns are permitted. **Only straight walled pistol calibers are permitted.**
10. Handguns may be loaded to capacity.
11. Holstering / unholstering of firearms are not permitted. All firearms must be unloaded and cased when brought to the range.

RIFLE RANGE SAFETY RULES

1. General Range Safety Rules apply.
2. **CEASE FIRE & ACTIVATION OF DOWN RANGE LIGHTS & SIREN:**
When it is necessary to go down range to change targets or to repair a firearm malfunction, the following actions must be completed:
 - Call for a **CEASE FIRE**.
 - Make sure that **ALL** shooters are aware of the **CEASE FIRE** and that **ALL** firearms actions are opened, chambers empty, magazines removed (if possible), and firearms are grounded.
 - Activate the **LIGHTS & SIREN** only after above conditions have been met, and raise the **CEASE FIRE** board.
 - Proceed down range or repair the firearm malfunction.
 - When the Range is clear or the firearm malfunction has been corrected, announce that the **RANGE IS GOING HOT**, lower the **CEASE FIRE** board, and turn the **Lights & Siren OFF**.
3. During a **CEASE FIRE**, there is to be no handling of firearms, magazines, or ammunition. Firearms unattended behind the firing lines must also have actions opened, chambers empty, magazines removed (if possible) and are grounded. A cased firearm meets these criteria. (Note: Use of an Open Bolt Indicator O.B.I. is recommended to designate compliance).
4. If a **MALFUNCTION OF A LOADED FIREARM** occurs, the person having the malfunction must call for a **CEASE FIRE**. All firing will cease until the firearm is cleared. Any attempts to clear the firearm must have the muzzle pointed in a safe direction, downrange and directed to the impact area and/or the ground. No one is to go forward of the line while a firearm is being cleared.
5. When a Range Officer is present, all firing will be under his/her supervision.
6. When the adjacent Supervised CMP range is in use, an orange traffic cone will be placed in front of the covered range benches along with the 'Cease-Fire'/Checking Targets sign. If you see the orange cone in front of the benches, it means someone is downrange and both ranges are to remain cold (no firing), until that shooter has returned. If in doubt, **CONFIRM** that no one is down range. When the supervised range is in use, the person(s) using that range are in control of both ranges.

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RIFLE RANGE SAFETY RULES

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7. Magazines / clips may be loaded to five rounds capacity maximum. Armor piercing or incendiary cartridges are not permitted.
8. All shooting must be directed at paper targets fastened to the permanent backboards. All bullets must enter earthen backstops. Shooting at the wooden framework is expressly forbidden. Remove paper targets from backboards after shooting.
9. Rifles, pistols and shotguns (slugs only) may be used on the rifle range. 50 caliber BMGs are NOT permitted.
10. Diagonal shooting (cross firing) is not permitted. There are 10 benches and 5 target backboards. Each 4x8 plywood sheet backboard represents 2 targets. Benches 1 & 2 fire on the first target backboard (left to right), benches 2 & 3 on the second and so forth.
11. When finished firing, all targets are to be removed and placed in the proper receptacle. Spent brass should be taken home or placed in the brass buckets provided. Absolutely no live ammo or misfires are to be placed in the burn bins or trash barrels.
12. Black powder MUZZLELOADERS ONLY, may place a REMOVABLE target frame down range 25 yards. The firing point is to the right of the #10 bench in the grassy area only. This target frame must be removed upon completion of firing. All firing must be done from a point equal to the normal.
13. Semi-automatic and manually operated rifles, pistols, shotguns, and muzzleloaders are permitted.
14. Metallic swinging targets are permitted and must be used for rim fire shooting only. They must be placed in front of the backstops (no farther than 18 inches) to adsorb the bullets. All targets must be removed when you are finished shooting. No other personal portable targets are permitted.
15. If you are the last shooter on the range, confirm that the Lights & Siren are OFF, or the CEASE FIRE board has been lowered.

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MUZZLELOADER RANGE SAFETY RULES TRAIL WALK

1. General Range Safety Rules apply.
2. Single barrel primitive styled flintlock or cap lock rifles are permitted.
3. Cowboy action rifles (straight wall pistol calibers), revolvers and .22 standard velocity rim fire are acceptable. For .22 calibers, the maximum velocity standard for revolvers is 1000 fps. The maximum velocity standard for rifles is 1400fps.
4. Absolutely no high power firearms or jacketed bullets are permitted.
5. Muzzleloaders are permitted to fire round balls only.
6. Loading directly from horn or flask is not permitted. Measurer must be used.
7. All shooters will walk a marked trail, unloaded and unprimed for safety, with slings used only for carrying your weapon.
8. All shooting will be from a standing position, unaided by shooting sticks (unless noted at target area), slings or other external aids, unless noted at the target area. All loading will be from the bag.
9. The testing of priming powder and / or snapping of caps will be done on target #1 only. Weapons must be pointed at target area.
10. **Hawk and Knife Targets:** The cut tree sections are not to be used as firearm targets. They are for thrown hawks and knives only.

OUTDOOR ARCHERY RANGE SAFETY RULES

The outdoor archery range is divided into two (2) halves of 14 targets each. Targets 1-14 begin at the practice range behind the barn (indoor range) and run parallel to the club road toward Coal Valley Road. Targets 15-28 begin across the club road and wind back ending across the road from the barn.

The archery practice range is one firing point with several targets at various distances. Archers may practice at any distance where targets are located, but must fire from a common point.

The archery metric practice range is for F.I.T.A. METRIC shooting and equipment only. There is one line of targets that may be shot from marked distances of 15 to 90 meters. This range is located across the Club road from the barn. It will be used during the spring and summer months at which time the broad-head range will be closed. The broad-head range will re-open September 1st.

1. Sky drawing is not permitted.
2. Walk the ranges forward only. Travel the course in ascending numbers, so as not to emerge midway of a target lane.
3. Broad-heads (hunting tips) are to be used only on the broad-head range located above the metric archery range.
4. Shooting is to be at paper target faces only on hay bales. There is to be no shooting at any object or animal, except during 3D target shoots.
5. When searching for a lost arrow, stand your bow crossways in front of the target to indicate your intent.
6. When you arrive at a target and seeing a bow standing in front of the target, hold your position. Someone is searching for a lost arrow. Do not shoot.
7. No member of a shooting group is to step forward of the position until all members have completed shooting at that particular target.
8. The range is open to all members during legal shooting hours, except during an organized shoot. During these times the ranges are for only those participating in the event.

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9. A slow moving shooting group should permit a faster group to shoot through as a courtesy.
10. When a tournament director or a range officer is present on the range, all shooting will be under his/her supervision.
11. Shooting is permitted from the Club elevated structures during the 3-D shoots. Only one adult or one adult and one youth are permitted at a time. Personal tree stands are not permitted.
12. Standing on tree stumps, ladders, etc. is not permitted. Back quivers are not permitted.
13. Pistol crossbows are not permitted.
14. Safety rules for crossbows follow the same rules. Note: Draw weight of crossbows is limited to allowable limits as set by PA Game Commission as legal for hunting.
15. Destroying any hay bale to retrieve a buried arrow or bolt is forbidden.

INDOOR ARCHERY RANGE SAFETY RULES

1. All shooting will be from the 20 yard marker unless otherwise stated by the director of shooting for the day
2. Shooters must straddle the designated shooting line.
3. All shooting shall be at targets affixed to bales directly in front of the shooter. Cross firing is not permitted.
4. A maximum of six (6) arrows per round are permitted unless otherwise specified by the range officer. Broadheads are not permitted.
5. Only equipment authorized by the director of shooting for the day will be permitted on the range. Any equipment in question shall be restricted from use until such time as to have been determined safe for use on the indoor range. Pistol crossbows are not permitted.
6. The director of shooting will have the authority to restrict any equipment from the range that appears to be in such condition as to pose a danger to others. For example, a bow with a badly frayed string will be restricted.
7. Eating or drinking in the indoor range shooting room is not permitted.

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8. Back quivers are not permitted.
9. Archers are not to have an arrow in his/her bow unless they are in a proper shooting position at the assigned distance and the range is cleared for shooting.
10. Youth archers or archers under the age of 16 are not permitted to use the indoor range unless accompanied by an adult member.
11. Shooter may not handle, move, or tamper with, in any way, other shooters equipment, unless consent is given, by the owner.
12. Late comers will not be permitted to shoot after scoring has begun during an event. This eliminates possible confusion and errors as event director may also be a participant in the match.

INDOOR RANGE CROSSBOW SAFETY RULES

1. Indoor Archery Range Safety Rules apply.
2. Target faces will be same, but shooter must reinforce back of target to limit loosing bolts (arrows) in bales.
3. The crossbow and parts must be of safe materials.
4. Crossbow shooters shall stand to shoot from the offhand position. Rests of any type are not permitted.
5. Bolts may be of any material, but must not be of such design as to unreasonably damage target faces, butts or backstops
6. Optical aids may be used in locating hits on targets.
7. Draw weight is limited to legal limits as defined by PA Game Commission.
8. Crossbows must be equipped with a safety devise on the firing mechanism (i.e. a trigger safety).
9. The bow limbs are not to exceed 38 inches strung. The bolt must extend beyond the bow limbs.

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SKEET RANGE SAFETY RULES

1. General Range Safety Rules apply.
2. Shooting is only permitted from Stations 1 through 8, and at clay targets thrown from high and low skeet houses.
3. When not on a shooting station or when moving around Club grounds, carry shotguns with the action open, unloaded, and with the muzzle pointed in a safe direction.
4. Shotguns shall not be loaded until the shooter is properly positioned on a shooting station. Loading is defined as putting a shell into any part of a firearm.
5. When preparing to leave a station, open the action and unload the shotgun with the muzzle pointed downrange.
6. Shotguns may be loaded with two shells when shooting high and low house singles from Stations 1 through 7, when shooting doubles, or when shooting two singles at Station 8 low.
7. Loading of more than two shells is not permitted.
8. Only shotguns are permitted. Shot larger than 7 ½ is not permitted.
9. If delays occur while shooting, the shooter shall unload the shotgun and open the action until the delay has been resolved.
10. Empty shell casings shall not be retrieved until the round is completed and the skeet machines have been turned off.
11. Shooting squads larger than five are not permitted when other shooters or squads are waiting to shoot.

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TRAP RANGE SAFETY RULES

1. General Range Safety Rules apply.
2. Shooting is only permitted from Stations 1 through 5, from the 16 yard line through the 27 yard line, and at clay targets thrown from the respective trap house.
3. When moving between stations or when moving around Club grounds, carry shotguns with the action open, unloaded, and with the muzzle pointed in a safe direction.
4. Shotguns shall not be loaded until the shooter is properly positioned on a shooting station. Loading is defined as putting a shell into any part of a firearm.
5. When preparing to leave a station, open the action and unload the shotgun with the muzzle pointed downrange.
6. Shotguns may be loaded with two shells when shooting doubles events.
7. Loading of more than two shells is not permitted.
8. Only shotguns are permitted. Shot larger than 7 ½ is not permitted.
9. If delays occur while shooting, all shooters shall unload their shotgun and open the action until the delay has been resolved.
10. Empty shell casings shall not be retrieved until the round is completed.

WOBBLE TRAP RANGE SAFETY RULES

The Low Wobble Trap is located on Trap House 1.

1. General Range Safety Rules apply.
2. Shooting is only permitted from Stations 1 through 6, and at clay targets thrown from the respective trap house.
3. When moving between stations or when moving around Club grounds, carry shotguns with the action open, unloaded, and with the muzzle pointed in a safe direction.
4. Shotguns shall not be loaded until the shooter is properly positioned on a shooting station. Loading is defined as putting a shell into any part of a firearm.
5. When preparing to leave a station, open the action and unload the shotgun with the muzzle pointed downrange.
6. Shotguns may be loaded with two shells when shooting doubles events.
7. Loading of more than two shells is not permitted.
8. Only shotguns are permitted. Shot larger than 7 ½ is not permitted.
9. If delays occur while shooting, all shooters shall unload their shotguns and open the action until the delay has been resolved.
10. Empty shell casings shall not be retrieved until the round is completed.

HAND THROWING OF CLAY TARGETS

1. General Range Safety Rules apply.
2. Trap Range Safety Rules apply.
3. Hand throwing and shooting of clay targets may be performed at Trap 3 OR between the High Wobble Trap and the Low Wobble Trap.
4. If the Wobble Traps Ranges are in use and the Trap Ranges are not, hand throwing may be performed from Trap 3.
5. If the Trap Ranges are in use and the Wobble Trap Ranges are not, hand throwing may be performed from between the High Wobble Trap and the Low Wobble Trap.
6. The thrower shall be positioned off to one side of and behind the shooter.
7. Only one shooter is permitted at a time.

SHOTGUN PATTERNING BOARD

The Patterning Board is located on the left side of Trap 1 (Low Wobble Trap)

1. General Range Safety Rules apply.
2. Only shotguns are permitted. Slugs are not permitted.
3. Shooting stations are concrete slabs in the ground at 20, 40 & 60 yards.
4. The Patterning Board cannot be used when the Skeet, Trap, or Wobble Trap ranges are in use.

DOG TRAINING AREAS

1. All general safety rules apply.
2. Exception: Eye and ear protection is not required unless blank ammunition is used.
3. Approved areas include the area located at the top of the hill as you come up the entrance road, to the left of the Action Pistol ranges, and the area located near the garage and Trap # 8 field under the high voltage power lines.
4. Dog owners are responsible for their dogs and their action.

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