



**ALWAYS** keep the gun pointed in a safe direction.

**ALWAYS** keep your finger off the trigger until ready to shoot.

**ALWAYS** keep the gun unloaded until ready to use.

***HAVE FUN - BE SAFE - BE RESPONSIBLE - BE COURTEOUS***  
***This is our Club!!!!***

The policies/procedures contained within this Range Briefing apply to **ALL** Tri State Gun Club (known as the Club or the Range) members, guests, match participants, and spectators while on the Club property.

During Club-sanctioned matches the Match Director may modify these procedures (more or less restrictive to allow, within reason, the standards of their particular discipline to be applied) with the approval of the Board of Directors (BoD) for that specific match

### **SAFETY**

S1. **EVERYONE** is a Safety Officer!

- a. Call “Cease Fire” if you observe an unsafe act and inform the individual of the violation or unsafe act.
  - i. If the individual does not comply:
    1. Go to a safe place and report the situation as soon as possible to a Club officer. Your statement should include who, what, when, and where.
    2. ***Do not get into an argument over it!***
  - ii. The Officers and BoD will take appropriate action.

S2. Speed limit on Club property is 15 miles per hour. Be on the look-out for ATVs and motorcycles travelling at high speeds along the county road, they won't be looking for you!

S3. No alcoholic beverages or illegal drugs on the Club property!

- a. This policy includes prior to arrival and while on the range.
- b. Also included in this policy are legally prescribed drugs that have a label warning not to operate a car or heavy machinery while using that medication.
- c. If you or a member of your group appears to be under the influence, you will be asked to leave
- d. Exceptions: With regard to alcohol, non-shooting events involving alcoholic beverages may be permitted with prior approval from the BoD.

S4. Know your target and what is beyond it

- a. Think first before you shoot!
- b. Whether you are at the range or in the woods you *must* know what lies beyond your target.
- c. In all cases, the shooter must ensure a suitable backstop is in place to capture bullets that miss or go through the target.
- d. Some bullets can travel a mile or more after leaving the muzzle.

- e. Consider whether whatever lies beyond your target presents a ricochet hazard.

S5. All care should be taken to ensure that rounds never leave the confines of the range.

- a. Highways and communities surround the Club on all sides. The following events have been identified as scenarios that are likely to result in a round to leaving the confines of the range:
  - i. The muzzle is elevated above the bullet-stopping berm when discharging a firearm. Keep the firearm pointed downrange and your finger off the trigger, even when chambering a round.
  - ii. Be sure to place targets so that all rounds pass thru the target and travel directly into the bullet stopping berm.
  - iii. On the rifle ranges, mount targets only at the marked target line. If the shooter wants to shoot from a closer distance they must move closer to the established target line—do not attempt to move targets closer to the firing line.
  - iv. Bullets striking the range floor may cause a ricochet.
    - 1. Ricochet causes the bullet to travel in an un-controlled manner that could leave the confines of the range
  - v. Do not lay steel targets directly on the berm. Use a hanger or hanging device so that the bullets are deflected downward
  - vi. Rapid fire and automatic firearms fire. Rapid fire is defined as firing more than one (1) shot per two (2) seconds. Rapid fire presents risk of uncontrolled muzzle deviation.
    - 1. Conduct rifle rapid fire within 15 yards of a bullet-stopping berm.
    - 2. The chance of pistol's muzzle climbing above a berm during rapid fire is reduced significantly, so pistol rapid fire is permitted on all ranges.
  - vii. Allowing an inexperienced individual to shoot without close supervision, especially while firing large-bore guns, increases the risk of a bullet leaving the confines of the range and shall be avoided.
- b. Shoot from as close to a target as you wish (except steel). Do not shoot thru an established shelter, do not shoot from beyond the extension of the side berms, and do not shoot into a side berm.

S6. Wear Eye and Ear Protection

- a. Gun discharges emit debris and hot gas that can cause eye injury.
  - i. While shooting steel targets there is danger from bullet fragments. All shooters and spectators must wear safety glasses on the pistol side
- b. The sound of a gunshot can damage unprotected ears. Worse still, the damage is usually not obvious until much, much later, when you get older.
- c. Take care of yourself: wear safety glasses and hearing protection/earplugs *whenever* shooting.

S7. Aircraft have the right of way! We fly our bullets in airspace owned and operated by the U.S. Army.

- a. A helicopter flight corridor (500ft AGL) runs east/west behind the rifle ranges.
  - i. Hold your fire and point firearm muzzles downward until the helicopters have passed and are clear.
  - ii. Maintain situational awareness and be a responsible neighbor.

**Note: Flying Drones (UAV) we are located 3 miles from Cairns AAF make sure you comply with FAA guidance prior to flying**

- See for guidance [http://www.faa.gov/UAS/model aircraft/](http://www.faa.gov/UAS/model_aircraft/)

S8. Holstered handguns, may be worn anywhere on Club property.

- a. Hip holsters are preferred. Due to the muzzle orientation of cross-draw and shoulder holsters we discourage their use in casual shooting or competitions.

**Note: If you feel strongly about using this sort of holster for completion discuss it with the Match Director and Range safety Officers prior to the competition.**

- b. Properly permitted individuals may carry concealed handguns on Club property.

S9. Shooting steel targets (plates/poppers/any other steel targets).

- a. Shooters and spectators **MUST** wear eye protection! This is non-negotiable. This includes EVERYONE within sight of the steel targets.
- b. Pistol caliber carbines in the following calibers are permitted in the pistol bays: 9mm, .45 ACP, .45 Colt, .357 Mag, .38, .44 Special (NOT Magnum), .40 S&W, .380, 10mm (ball ammo only), and all traditional Cowboy loads. Centerfire rifles/carbines in any other caliber are NOT permitted.
- c. No shotguns or shot shells fired from a pistol are permitted.
- d. Lead core, solid lead, coated lead, or frangible bullets only. No steel core, tungsten core, solid copper, solid brass, or solid gilding metal bullets are permitted.
- e. Shoot no closer than 10 yards from the steel. (Marked by 10 yard line signs.)
- f. No guns/ammunition with a power factor greater than .357 Magnum (IDPA Power Factor 250).
  - i. .44 Magnum, 50AE, 454 Casull, 500 S&W are not allowed on steel.

S10. Exploding targets or other explosive devices are not allowed without express consent from the BoD.

S11. Know how to use the gun safely.

- a. Before handling a gun learn how it operates.
- b. Read the owner's manual. If you do not have a manual contact the gun's manufacturer and ask them to send you one.
- c. Know your gun's basic parts, how to safely open and close the action, and how to remove ammunition from the gun.

- d. No matter how much you know about guns always take the time to learn the proper way to operate any new or unfamiliar firearm.
  - e. Never assume that because one gun resembles another they operate in exactly the same way.
  - f. A gun's safety device is a mechanical device that can fail. The best safety device in the world is the one between your ears.
- S12. Be sure your gun is safe to operate.
- a. Just like other tools, guns need regular maintenance to work. Regular cleaning and proper storage are a part of the gun's general upkeep.
  - b. If there is any question regarding a gun's ability to function have it examined by a knowledgeable gunsmith.
  - c. Some items that should raise a "red flag" about whether a gun is safe to use
    - i. Visible damage
    - ii. If nobody you know has fired the gun in the last few years
    - iii. Consider the gun's age. Some guns made before the 20th century are unsafe to use with modern ammunition.
- S13. Use only the correct ammunition for your gun.
- d. Just like other tools, guns need regular maintenance to work. Regular cleaning and proper storage are a part of the gun's general upkeep.
  - e. If there is any question regarding a gun's ability to function, have it examined by a knowledgeable gunsmith.
  - f. Do not shoot the gun unless you know you have the proper ammunition. Using the wrong ammunition in your gun can cause severe damage to the gun or to the person holding it.
  - a. Each gun is intended for use with a specific caliber or cartridge.
    - i. Only cartridges designed for that particular gun may be safely fired.
    - ii. Most guns have the ammunition caliber stamped on the barrel or the slide.
    - iii. The owner's manual will also list the cartridge or cartridges appropriate for your gun. (Remember the Four B's: Book, Brass, Barrel, and Box. Make sure all four match.)
  - b. Ammunition is identified by information printed on the cartridge box and sometimes stamped on the cartridge head.

## **PROCEDURES**

### P1. The firing line:

- a. Established by mutual consent of all shooters on a given range.
- b. The firing line is hot or cold with consent of all shooters.
- c. Shooters should be on the same lateral line, not in front or behind, another shooter on the same range regardless of the distance.

P2. On a HOT line:

- a. Handle firearms, load, shoot, adjust scope/sights, case/uncase, and show/tell. Keep all firearms pointed down range at the bullet-stopping berm. Firearms may be moved to or from the line while cased at any time. If not cased or holstered, the firearms must be moved open and unloaded with the muzzle up/down, the action/cylinder open, and fingers outside of the trigger guard while the line is hot.
- b. For holstered handguns, only remove the gun from the holster to load or shoot when you are in the position from which you intend to shoot. After firing return the handgun to the holster before turning up-range.
- c. Un-holstered handguns are carried empty, slide back (cylinder open for revolvers), magazine removed, and muzzle pointed in a safe direction. Do not load the gun until you are ON a HOT line and IN the position from which you intend to shoot.
- d. Carry long guns (rifles and shotguns) are unloaded, either cased or carried empty, with the bolt/slide open and the muzzle oriented in a safe direction. Do not load until you are ON a HOT line and IN the position from which you intend to shoot.

P3. On a COLD line:

- a. No one touches a firearm for any reason! All firearms should be holstered, cased, or grounded. If grounded, the firearm should be empty with magazines out and the action open.
- b. Shooters can move down range to post/paste/recover targets, police casings, load rounds into external magazines, and otherwise handle ammo.
- c. Do not move a firearm to/from your vehicle to/from the firing line while the line is cold. This is to preclude individuals from being downrange while persons are handling firearms behind them on the firing line. Wait until the line is hot again.

P4. Safe Areas are show-and-tell areas or areas set aside to perform minor maintenance on your firearm.

- a. Make sure your firearm is cleared prior to going to the safe area.
- b. There is no live ammunition allowed in the safe area.
- c. "Safe Area" signs indicate the tables used as safe areas.

P5. Supervise guests and minors at all times.

- a. You are limited to two shooting guests on the line at a time (one is recommended).
- b. You must monitor and control all shooting activities of your guests.
  - i. This means that you are not shooting when they are.
  - ii. Brief them on all applicable safety and procedural rules prior to shooting activities.
  - iii. Have each person sign a waiver/release. Blank waivers are located in the Clubhouse. The signed releases should be placed in the completed waiver box in the Clubhouse.
- c. You are responsible and liable for the conduct of your guests.

## P6. Range Use

- a. Rifle Ranges - The General Purpose Ranges (25yd, 50yd, and 100yd) and the Law Enforcement Officer (LEO) Range may be shot with any rifle (up to .50 caliber), pistol, revolver, and any black powder rifle of any caliber.
  - i. 100yd Rifle Range – The right-most 3 target stands can be used for sighting in or practicing with shotgun slugs or sabot rounds. THESE 3 targets ONLY, and on THIS range ONLY.
  - ii. Law Enforcement Officer (LEO) Range: Firearms shooting shot shells are allowed on firing positions 11 and greater, Please use target backers that are in the worst condition for Shotgun/shot shell activities. As with all activities please police your spent ammunition and used targets
  - iii. Primitive Arms Range Only be used for Club organized shoots
    1. Firearms allowed: Muzzle Loading rifles, pistols and those allowed in the Tri-State Regulators Cowboy matches.
    2. We prefer you shoot solid lead projectiles. Jacketed projectiles are used at the match directors discretion
- b. Pistol Ranges.
  - i. Pistols, revolvers, and rimfire rifles are authorized for use in the pistol bays.
  - ii. Pistol caliber carbines in the following calibers are permitted in the pistol bays: 9mm, .45 ACP, .45 Colt, .357 Mag, .38, .44 Special (NOT Magnum), .40 S&W, .380, 10mm (ball ammo only), and all traditional Cowboy loads. Centerfire rifles/carbines in any other caliber are NOT permitted.
  - iii. Steel targets are not permitted in the Bulls-Eye Bay (Bay 1) to prevent splatter from spilling over to CR 437.
  - iv. No shot shell or shotgun of any type or configuration, which includes any handguns firing shot shells.
- c. Shotgun Range - All shot shell guns of any caliber or configuration may be fired. NO centerfire or rimfire allowed UNLESS firing shot shells.
  - i. Clays Range Briefing: Contact a BoD member or Officer for a detailed briefing on clays machine operations
- d. Air Rifle Range – Only air guns of 20 foot pounds of energy or less are to be used on the steel targets. Do NOT use air guns larger than .22 cal. Steel BB 's are not allowed on the steel targets due to ricochet hazard.
- e. Tracer ammunition is not permitted on any range as it presents a fire hazard.
- f. Archery ranges:
  - i. No broad-heads or crossbows allowed.
  - ii. Zero/practice lane behind the Clubhouse marked with distances out to 80 yards.
  - iii. The 3D archery range is a 15-target walking trail that is available for general Club member and accompanied guest use. No preset distances on the 3D range, group choice.
  - iv. Please limit use to 2 arrows per target per round.

P7. Targets:

- a. Do not fire at posts, supports, or target frames.
- b. Mount all targets directly to the backer boards with staples, pins, or tape so that all bullets impact the berms. Items that cannot be mounted on the target boards are not to be used as targets anywhere on the Club property (clay targets placed directly on the berm or in holders are the only exception to this rule). Do not shoot cans, bottles, fruit, vegetables, electronics, or household appliances on Club property.
- c. Arrange multiple targets vertically on the boards, not horizontally, to help protect the support stakes holding the board. Never attach targets to range structures such as the falling plate racks, barrels, fences, barrels, furniture, or any other props. Remove and discard all targets when finished.
- d. No aerial targets of any kind except clay pigeons on the shotgun range.
- e. No target meant to be placed directly on the ground is permitted.

P8. Brass or shell casings.

- a. Gather all center-fire shell casings and shotgun hulls. Center-fire brass may be kept or deposited in the provided receptacles on at each range/bay at the discretion of the shooter. Shotgun hulls can be kept or discarded in the trash cans.
- b. Sweep rimfire brass off the cement slabs. Other than the slabs, rimfire casings can lie wherever they fall. (Rimfire casings will not damage the mower, while centerfire casings may do so.)
- c. Place all “duds” or live rounds in the brass cans or remove them from the range.  
**Live rounds left lying around are a safety hazard!**

P9. Shooters with new optics or sights, even if laser bore-sighted, must use the following procedure:

- a. Start at the 25yd General Purpose Range to check your zero.
- b. Confirm it on the 50yd General Purpose Range.
- c. Move on to the 100yd Main Rifle Range.
- d. This only has to happen the first time a firearm/optic combo are being used.

**This procedure reduces the risk of a bullet leaving the range.**

P10. The Club is open and available for member use 24 hours a day/7 days a week, but **shooting hours are from 9 am until official sunset or 9 pm**, whichever is earlier.

### **ADMINISTRATIVE**

A1. Contact information for the Club officers is located at each gate and on the website.

A2. All ranges are COLD during the general member ship meeting (1<sup>st</sup> Sunday of every Month 3:00PM to 4:30PM).

A3. Wear your Club ID card at all times. If you see a shooter not displaying their card ask to see it.

January 6, 2018



- A4. Electronic gates and locks, when activated, the gate will stay fully open for 30 seconds. **NEVER** share the gate and lock combinations with guest or non-member. This compromises the security/safety of our Club and will result in a forced gate and building combination change.
- A5. All animals brought onto the Club property are the owner's responsibility,
- a. Control your animal
  - b. Clean up after the animal.
- A6. Adopting a facility/range or participating in Club workdays is voluntary, though highly encouraged.
- a. Adopting a facility or range will earn \$25 in work chits per quarter per range or facility.
  - b. Members will earn a \$5.00 Club chit for each 2 hours. The work can be during a scheduled workday or working independently as arranged with the Vice President.
  - c. Work chits can be used for Club matches, Club dues, and pro shop items.
- A7. This is Our Club! Use every square inch of the Club facilities.
- a. Use any equipment available; **RETURN** it when you are finished.
  - b. Help keep the facility clean and organized.
  - c. If something is broken or out of order, fix it if you are capable. If it is beyond your capability, please notify the Vice President or leave a note at the coffee pot in the main building.
  - d. How it looks, how it is maintained, and how it operates is our responsibility.
  - e. **We** make it what it is.

### Remember

**Safety is everyone's responsibility!** You are responsible for your own safety, the safety of others, and for the behavior of your guests.

**ALWAYS** keep the gun pointed in a safe direction.

**ALWAYS** keep your finger off the trigger until ready to shoot.

**ALWAYS** keep the gun unloaded until ready to use

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