

RANGE RULES

Chilliwack Fish & Game Protective Association

May 2017 Revision

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1. INTRODUCTION

These Range Rules are of general application and pertain to all ranges and facilities located at 48685 Chilliwack Lake Road, Chilliwack, BC, operated by the Chilliwack Fish & Game Protective Association, hereafter, CFGPA or the Club.

1.1 Every request made or direction given by a Range Safety Officer, hereafter RSO, will be responded to immediately. The first person arriving on an unoccupied range is deemed to be the designated RSO for that range and is required to perform all functions to safely operate the range.

1.2 The Chief Range Safety Officer, hereafter CRSO, has overall authority over range safety. CRSO is defined as the person who oversees, monitors, and coordinates range activities. Direction of the CRSO must be followed at all times. Any disagreement with the CRSO can be presented to the Board of Directors. (See section 8.1) During competitive matches, the Match Director assumes the role of the CRSO. Should there be times when there is no CRSO, the responsibilities of this position will fall to the Board of Directors, hereafter referred to as the Board.

1.3 Deliberate disregard for the safety of others or of Range or Club facilities will be treated as a serious breach of Range rules.

1.4 Safety is everyone's responsibility. Range users are expected to watch out for unsafe or dangerous situations and/or conditions and, if appropriate, report them to the RSO or a Club Officer. Club Officers include board members, section coordinators, committee chairs and members and club staff, such as caretaker.

1.5 These rules are not negotiable. Breach of these rules may result in the immediate suspension of the offender's privileges and/or removal from the Range. Incidents will be reviewed by the Board of Directors and may result in sanction up to and including the offender's membership being cancelled.

2. GENERAL RULES

2.1 Live firing at the CGFPA Range Complex is designed to allow members and authorized guests access to a facility where they can become proficient with privately owned firearms. Members are encouraged to use the facilities of the CFGPA Club as often as they like. These rules are intended to make club activities safe, convenient and enjoyable for everyone. Members are expected to follow the basic rules of common sense, safety and courtesy.

2.2 The speed limit on all Club roads is 10 km/h. Vehicles may not be driven on any range, including firing points, except for maintenance or as necessary during matches and then, only

on the approval of a Club Officer. Physically handicapped members, for example, employing electric wheel chairs and scooters are exempt from this restriction.

2.3 The possession or use of illegal drugs under any circumstances is prohibited. Any member who consumes any alcohol immediately prior to or during shooting shall be suspended from the Club. Any member handling any firearm of any type on ranges during or immediately after consumption of alcohol shall be suspended until the Board has reviewed the infraction.

2.4 Only Club Officers or authorized maintenance personnel may open locked buildings. Closed gates may not be opened without prior authorization by a Club Officer.

2.5 Group matches, clinics, events and activities must be approved by the Club's Board of Directors and must comply with all regulations established by the Club for their conduct.

3. PROHIBITED ITEMS

3.1 Tracer rounds

3.2 Armour-piercing rounds

3.3 Exploding rounds

3.4 Flares

3.5 Smoke grenades

3.6 Irritant or debilitating anti-personnel gas

3.7 38 mm rounds of any type

3.8 Bear Bangers

3.9 Flash Bangs

3.10 Exploding Targets (Tannerite or similar products)

3.11 All items prohibited by law

3.12 Any other ammunition or device the Board of Directors deems unsafe

3.13 The Board has the authority to grant limited time exemptions to the above for Law Enforcement or for supervised matches.

4. MEMBERSHIP AND CLUB RANGE USAGE

4.1 Visitors may not use range facilities except as guests of a member or, when attending an invitational shoot or, as a guest of the Club when authorized by a Club Officer.

4.2 Guests may use range facilities only after being signed in by a member and after paying the daily range fee. These costs are posted at the information kiosk behind the Range Use Flags.

4.3 It is the responsibility of the host member to be certain his/her guest is familiar with, and abides by, CFGPA's Range Rules.

4.4 Members may bring a maximum of two guests per visit. A guest may use the Club only three times. After three visits, guests are expected to apply for a membership if they wish to continue using the facilities. All guests must be registered at the range for insurance purposes. If a member is found on the range with an unregistered guest(s), the member's range access privileges will be revoked for a period of three months.

4.5 When a member brings a guest to CFGPA, the member is responsible for the guest at all times while on Club property. The member must ensure that safety equipment is used and all range rules and firearm safety practices are followed. Inexperienced shooters must be directly supervised by members and, in such cases, the member and guest cannot shoot at the same time.

4.6 Members must wear their ID/fob card while on Club property. Lost ID/fob cards will be replaced upon application to the Membership Chairperson. Members unable to produce a current membership card and unaccompanied visitors, except prospective members participating in a guided tour, will be asked to leave.

4.7 Members pay for the privilege of shooting at CFGPA and expect that other range users are current members or are the guests of, and accompanied by, a member. Any person without a current membership card or valid temporary range usage card, or unaccompanied by a host member, should be asked to identify themselves as to whether they are a member. If they are not a member or bona fide guest, then they should be asked to leave. If a member does not feel comfortable doing this, they are to notify a Club Officer as soon as possible.

4.8 Hours of Operation: Range hours are from 09:00 to one half hour before sunset or as posted. The times posted at the particular range shall be considered to be the operational time. Members can check the website for scheduled days and hours of operation. It is mandatory to check the posted times on the Range Gate. Shooting outside these hours is strictly forbidden.

4.9 All Members shall swipe their ID/fob card upon entering and leaving the range.

5. GENERAL SAFETY

5.1 In order for CFGPA to remain a safe place to shoot, all members and guests are expected to follow the Club's rules, and all members share the responsibility to enforce these rules. If a member sees a dangerous or prohibited activity taking place, they are to speak to the persons involved. This should be done respectfully and in a non-confrontational fashion. Often, violators may simply be unaware of the danger or rule infraction.

5.2 If it is not possible to correct any safety or rule violation diplomatically, members are to notify the RSO responsible for the specific range immediately, or the CRSO. Also, members are to report any damage to Club property to a Club Officer.

6. BASIC SAFETY RULES

ACTS and PROVE from the Canadian Firearms Safety Course, as well as the following Basic Safety Rules apply at *all ranges at all times*:

6.1 *Four Cardinal Rules of Firearms Safety:*

- 6.1.1** Keep your finger off the trigger until your sights are on the target and you are ready to shoot.
- 6.1.2** Assume all firearms are loaded.
- 6.1.3** Never point a firearm at anything you are not willing to destroy.
- 6.1.4** Be aware of your target and what is beyond it.

6.2 *Shooters will:*

- 6.2.1** Shoot only on scheduled ranges.
- 6.2.2** Shoot only authorized firearms and ammunition.
- 6.2.3** Shoot only at authorized target types.
- 6.2.4** Only be allowed on firing line after completing the Range Orientation, unless accompanied by a member who has completed the orientation.
- 6.2.5** Ensure all projectiles impact within the established range safety limits.
- 6.2.6** Ensure the range flags and/or lights are displayed on the firing line on the outdoor ranges.
- 6.2.7** Ensure firearms used are mechanically safe to operate.
- 6.2.8** Keep firearms unloaded with the action open until ready to shoot.
- 6.2.9** Only load firearms at the firing line.
- 6.2.10** Ensure spectators are positioned behind the shooters and are wearing eye and ear protection.
- 6.2.11** Shoot only from a shooting bench or directly behind the firing line. In dynamic shooting events and/or practice, the firing line can move with the shooter.
- 6.2.12** Never discharge firearms in front of the specified firing line.
- 6.2.13** Call "Cease Fire" and make safe all firearms when a shooter moves forward of the firing line or if any unsafe condition is observed.
- 6.2.14** On hearing the order "Cease Fire", unload firearms and lay them down if firing from positions other than off a bench. If using a bench, the firearms will be laid on the bench with actions facing up and opened. Shooters will step to the rear of their firearms.

- 6.2.15 Call "Cease Fire" if any wildlife appears on or over the range. Resume firing only when the wildlife has left the area.
- 6.2.16 Use eye and ear protection while shooting or observing. It is recommended that younger shooters use both plugs and muffs. Impact resistant glasses are to be worn at all times.
- 6.2.17 Notify the RSO or CRSO immediately of any safety infractions.
- 6.2.18 Police all brass, paper, and other debris that accumulate on the range and dispose of them in the containers provided.
- 6.2.19 Not walk on the sand berms on the rifle range and set up targets from the rear of the berm.
- 6.2.20 Avoid shooting at the berms in front of the target frames on the rifle range. This displaces the soil of the berm which then has to be replaced.
- 6.2.21 Will NOT handle firearms while people are forward of the firing line.
- 6.2.22 Make sure that every shooter using the range understands that the firing line has been cleared before moving down range.
- 6.2.23 Verify that each shooter knows that the line is going hot before calling the firing line "hot" again.

7. RANGE ETIQUETTE

The following rules will help ensure respect for everyone using the range. Shooters are expected to be courteous to others so collectively everybody can enjoy recreational sport shooting. The CFGPA supports and encourages many different shooting disciplines and members are expected to share this practice and philosophy.

- 7.1 Arrange for supervision of children in a safe area while shooting.
- 7.2 Be considerate of others. Set enough targets at one time to shoot for a reasonable period of time and then check with other shooters to get on "all clear" before going down range.
- 7.3 Observe the rules for proper target positioning.
- 7.4 Return the portable target frames to the wall in the covered sections.
- 7.5 Keep projectiles within the confines of the range.
- 7.6 Clean up targets when finished shooting, placing them in trash receptacles.
- 7.7 When finished shooting, rake the displaced material on the berm in front of your target.
- 7.8 Do not damage any of the equipment on the range - ***especially target frames.***

7.9 Police firing area. Before leaving, members are expected to leave the ranges at least as clean as they found them.

7.10 If a shooter fills up a trashcan, they are to take the full garbage bag with them and deposit it in the dumpster in the parking lot.

7.11 Place misfired cartridges in the Red Steel Receptacle on the Rifle Range.

7.12 Return the portable target skids and stands to the side of the range.

8. APPEALS

8.1 Appeals of CRSO, RSO, and Club Officer decisions may be made in writing to the Board describing the circumstances of the incident which lead to the Appeal Process. The reasons and the substantiation of the grounds for the Appeal will be submitted to the Board of Directors within 72 hours of the incident by the person(s) involved. This can be done via e-mail or by regular mail. Mail must be postmarked within 72 hours of the incident.

9. CARRYING FIREARMS

9.1 Loaded, holstered hand guns may only be worn by persons participating in an event/practice for which this is required, and only when on a firing station or moving between firing stations in an event or during practice.

9.2 Shooters are permitted to have holstered unloaded hand guns when moving about the Ranges while setting up and/or patching targets, or any other administrative function.

9.3 Holstered unloaded handguns are permitted anywhere on club property.

9.4 During matches utilizing multiple ranges, rifles transported between ranges will have the magazine removed, if applicable, and a chamber flag inserted or be cased. Muzzles must be pointed up or down. Rifles transported in carts will have muzzles pointed downwards.

10. TARGETS

10.1 Paper targets attached to solid stands are acceptable on every range for rifle, pistol and shotguns with slugs. Shotguns using shot can use large (40"x40") plastic bags on shotgun patterning steel frames. No shot can be used with solid target stands, such as. wood, foam, etc.

10.2 Paper targets are to be centred on the frames to prevent damage to the frame structure, and placed high enough so that the bullet will impact the backstop and not the berms or ground behind the targets.

10.3 Shooters will stay at least 10 metres away from metal plate targets when using handguns.

10.4 Black powder targets on the Black Powder Trail are not to be shot from the Rifle Range or the Limited Distance Ranges.

10.5 Metal silhouette, knockdown and spinning metal targets are acceptable for match or practice. Club owned steel targets cannot be shot with rifle caliber firearms as metal targets can be severely damaged. The exception to this is metal targets that are permanently positioned on the rifle range. Shooter owned steel plate targets must be submitted to the Board or CRSO for approval prior to use on the ranges.

10.6 Balloon target frames and clay bird target frames complete with targets may be used. Shooters must clean up all debris from these targets.

10.7 Metal objects such as old propane tanks, etc. or other targets that present a hazard are forbidden. As well, targets that create debris on the ranges are not to be used if they cannot be cleaned up by the shooter.

11. RANGES

11.1 General:

11.1.1 Range Flags and/or lights must be displayed at the firing line whenever any of the ranges are in use.

11.1.2 The first person arriving on an unoccupied range is deemed to be the designated RSO for that range and is required to perform all the functions to operate the range safely. Upon leaving the range, he/she will designate a person to assume his/her duties. If no one accepts his/her instructions or he/she is alone, he/she will close the range down, including taking down the range flags.

11.1.3 Ammunition dropped on the ground and spent casings ejected during shooting will remain there until the all clear is given and shooters are free to move from their firing positions.

11.2 Rifle Range:

11.2.1 The following are approved for use on the rifle range:

- 11.2.1.1 Rifles smaller than 50-caliber center fire
- 11.2.1.2 Pistols and shotguns of any calibre or gauge
- 11.2.1.3 Black Powder rifles to 84 caliber
- 11.2.1.4 Cross Bows

11.2.2 The rifle range uses a system of red and green lights for safety and are to be employed as follows:

11.2.2.1 **Green Light:** Shooters may move forward of the firing point to place, score and patch targets only after the firing line has been declared "clear" and the shooters are directed to move forward by the RSO. Movement may then take place onto and off of the firing line. Shooters may handle ammo and magazines, but not firearms.

11.2.2.2 **Red Light:** This light signals that the firing line is "hot" and shooting will take place. No one must be forward of the firing line at this time. Uncasing firearms and placing them on the benches, organizing equipment, etc., may take place.

11.2.3 All firearms must remain unloaded with actions open except when on the firing line and authorized to be loaded.

11.2.4 When range is "clear", actions must remain open when on the bench with the ejection ports facing upwards so chambers are visible. In the case of handguns, having them unloaded and holstered is also acceptable. If on a bench, revolvers must have cylinders open.

11.2.5 All rounds must impact between the prominent white "X" markers positioned down range and below a line drawn between the center of these two white X's.

11.3 **Trap Range**

11.3.1 The automatic equipment on the Trap Range will be available for use only when the range is staffed by authorized Club personnel.

11.3.2 Shooters must use only 7 1/2 shot or smaller. Slugs are not permitted but may be used on the rifle range.

11.3.3 Lead shot only is permitted.

- 11.3.4** Shooting is to take place from designated shooting stations.
- 11.3.5** Shotguns must be fired from the shoulder.
- 11.3.6** Shooters are to clean up spent hulls and pieces of targets when finished.
- 11.3.7** Black Powder shotguns, either muzzle loader or black powder cartridge, are permitted.
- 11.3.8** Should a misfire occur, the shooter is to call out "misfire" then wait 30 seconds before opening the action.
- 11.3.9** All shotguns, even empty, must be handled with care.
- 11.3.10** Shotguns are to be carried with the action open.
- 11.3.11** Muzzles must be pointed in a safe direction - either down towards the ground (preferably) or upwards, and not carried in a manner where the barrel sweeps across other people.
- 11.3.12** Shotguns are to be placed in a stand or case when not in use.
- 11.3.13** Shotguns are to be kept open and unloaded at all times except when on a firing station preparing to shoot.
- 11.3.14** Shooters are to load no more than one shell at a time unless shooting doubles targets.
- 11.3.15** Shooters must not place shells into any part of the gun until standing on the shooting station with gun pointed safely toward the ground.
- 11.3.16** When the trap machines are to be filled, a Green Flag will be displayed on the field near the trap house. While this flag is displayed, shooters will immediately cease all firing, open the action, remove all shells from the gun and either ground the shotgun or place it in a rack.
- 11.3.17** While personnel are in the trap houses, shooters may not sight shotguns down range in the direction of the trap house and/or these individuals.
- 11.3.18** Only authorized personnel may make adjustments to the trap machines or enter the trap houses, except when requested to do so by authorized personnel to assist loading targets.
- 11.3.19** Shooters may only retrieve empty hulls after the shooting discipline has ceased.

11.4 Archery Range

11.4.1 The archery range is located in the area to the right of the trap range. The normal direction of shooting is on the same axis as the Trap Range. Care must be taken to ensure that shafts do not enter the Limited Distance Ranges. The Archery Range cannot be operated when the Trap Range is in use. Only Long Bows, Re-curve Bows, Compound Bows can be used. **Cross bows are not permitted on the archery range.**

11.4.2 The general safety rules articulated in this document apply to archery. In addition, archers must:

11.4.2.1 Inspect equipment for damage before shooting.

11.4.2.2 Check arrows for cracks, loose vanes, bends, broken nocks or any condition that may cause the arrow to fly erratically or to rupture when released. Serious injuries can be avoided by taking the time to inspect for damage.

11.4.2.3 Check bows for frayed strings, loose pulleys, warped limbs, cracks or other damage that may result in breakage when at full draw. Where a pool of equipment is used by several students over a period of time, be sure to assess damage by inspecting after each use.

11.4.2.4 Shoot only those arrows that have been matched to the shooter's draw length and have spines matched to the bow's draw weight.

11.4.2.5 Never dry fire a bow. The resistance of an arrow is needed to prevent damage to the bow limbs.

11.4.2.6 Never draw a bow that was set up for someone else. Draw lengths and weights vary. A person with a 32 inch draw length drawing a bow with a 28-inch draw can cause a bow limb to rupture with sufficient force to cause serious injury. Additionally, drawing an arrow that is too short may cause the arrow to slip behind the handle, effectively blocking forward travel, rupturing the arrow and causing serious injury to the archer.

11.4.2.7 Never intentionally over draw a bow.

11.4.2.8 Not use broadhead arrows for basic instruction.

11.4.2.9 Never carry broadhead arrows with the razor tips unsheathed.

11.4.2.10 Check surroundings before drawing the bow to shoot. Tree limbs, low ceilings or other objects may obstruct the bow's action, causing either a bad shot or injury to the archer.

11.4.2.11 When aiming at a target, the loaded bow should travel from the ground up.

11.4.2.12 Use proper gear, including armguards to prevent string burns and contusions to the forearm, finger tabs to save fingertips from abrasions and bow slings to maintain control of the bow.

11.5 Limited Distance Ranges

11.5.1 The field of fire is below the back berm in each Bay and 1 foot/30 cm in from each concrete side wall where applicable.

11.5.2 All rounds must impact within the parameters of the berms.

11.5.3 At no time can a shooter move between bays with a loaded firearm.

11.6 Indoor Range

11.6.1 The following are approved for use on the Indoor Range:

11.6.1.1 BB guns, air rifles, air pistols.

11.6.1.2 22 caliber rim fire rifles and certain pistol caliber carbines.

11.6.1.3 Handguns up to .45 caliber.

11.6.2 Ammunition

11.6.2.1 It is preferred that lead bullets with light loads (target loads) are used on this range due to the design of the backstop bullet trap.

11.6.2.2 No magnum, tracer, steel jacketed/core or armour piercing ammunition can be used.

11.6.2.3 Pistol and pistol caliber carbine bullets shall not exceed 1,400 feet per second and .22 calibre bullets shall not exceed 1400 feet per second.

11.6.2.4 Jacketed ammo may not be discharged any closer than 10 metres from the backstop.

12. HANDGUN SHOOTING

12.1 Casual handgun practice is defined as a practice where the individual who is shooting and is not engaged in a sanctioned event.

12.2 Loaded holstered handguns are not permitted other than on ranges where they can be used.

12.3 Only when on the firing line may the handgun be loaded.

12.4 During a match, only after the handgun is cleared by the RSO will it be holstered before the shooter moves forward to check targets.

12.5 Holsters that are attached to the belt on the left or right side of the body are permitted as are drop leg/thigh holsters. Any other style must receive approval from the Board, CRO or Match Director before use.

12.6 The Club highly recommends that those individuals without holster training seek assistance from the CFGPA IDPA section.

13. BLACK POWDER/MUZZLE-LOADING SHOOTING

13.1 The Black Powder Trail is to be used for recognized matches only. Black powder targets located on this trail are only to be engaged during Black Powder events.

13.2 Only muzzle loading black powder firearms may be used on the black powder trail.

13.3 The Black Powder Trail requires a Group Leader/Safety Officer at each position. Each group has a score keeper and is considered the Safety Officer for that position.

13.4 There will be visual and verbal communication to maintain safety on the trail. Radios will not be used given the primitive nature of the sport.

13.5 A Primary Safety Officer/Range officer is mandatory to operate the Black Powder Trail.

13.6 The Primary Safety Officer is the final arbiter of any dispute concerning organization or safety. This rule applies on both the Black Powder Trail and the rifle range.

13.7 Smoking is not permitted on or near the firing line at any time.

13.8 There will be no open top containers of powder on the firing line or loading benches at any time.

13.9 Shooters must use a powder measure and never load directly from a powder can or horn.

13.10 Shooters can only cap or prime firearms at firing line.

13.11 Shooters must never blow down gun barrels as a spark could ignite unburned powder.

13.12 Extreme caution must be used when clearing misfires, including reasonable care to inform neighbouring shooters. The breeching of the firearm or pulling of a ball or bullet must be done with muzzle pointed down range, in such a manner that there is no danger to persons or property.