

SHONGUM SPORTSMAN ASSOCIATION
P.O. BOX 431
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CLUBHOUSE 866-746-6485

RANGE RULES and SOPs

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leave the ranges in better shape than you found them

1. Club Membership ID

All members of Shongum Sportsman Association will display/wear their ID membership cards. Any member of the club may be challenged or told to abide by this official rule by any other member of the club whenever they are on club property.

2. Alcoholic Beverages

NO ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES may be consumed by participants prior to or during any formal or informal shooting on club property. Any person visibly impaired at any time shall be removed from the range. Included in this category are cold/allergy medications or prescription medicines which would impair performance.

3. Carrying Firearms

All holstered/cased and un-holstered/uncased firearms must be carried UNLOADED with the muzzle pointed in a safe direction when moving to and from the firing line. Firearms with detachable magazines must be carried with magazine out, actions locked open [exceptions made for matches].

Revolvers must be carried with cylinder open [exceptions made for matches].

Rifles & Shotguns must be carried with the action open.

Do not leave loaded firearms unattended.

Every effort must be made to ALWAYS point the muzzle at the target impact area when loading, unloading or sighting targets.

4. Line Safety

All shooters must be able to understand and communicate in English. Any person not physically or mentally able to safely handle and use of firearms or bows will not be allowed to participate in any shooting activity. Only shooters and coaches will be on the firing line. Spectators are to be behind the firing line, which is the yellow tape line on the floor or behind the shooter on the outdoor ranges. Three feet behind is a good rule of thumb.

These calls are for informal shooting and must be issued when more than one person is shooting. Formal matches will be "called" by the Match or Line Officer, according to the governing Match rules. Other specific rules may apply during scheduled, supervised matches.

Prior to going down-range, the line call will be. "Is the line safe?" The reply will be. "The line is safe!" or, "The line is not safe!"

Prior to firing, the line call will be "Is the line ready to fire?" "Ready on the left,

Ready on the right, Proceed to fire!"

5. Firearms handling

Under NO circumstances will anyone handle firearm, parts of a firearm or any other items on the bench when someone is down-range. [Exceptions for loading magazines will be allowed at organized matches such as Pistol League & IPSC]

Firearms are never to be pointed purposely at a person or persons.

Before going DOWN-RANGE, the firing line must be declared SAFE.

All firearms must be unloaded and have their actions OPEN [slides back, magazines out, cylinders open and empty and bolts open] Open bolt indicators are recommended.

Jammed guns are to be repaired on the firing line ONLY.

6. Targets

All targets must be placed at the bullet impact area in the *indoor range*.

Do not shoot at any area of the backstop that is not normally an area of bullet impact.

Do not shoot at glass, metal plates, rocks or any other hard target.

Any aluminum or plastic containers used as targets must be removed and properly discarded when you are done.

Regulation falling-plates and silhouette targets are permitted with the approval of the Range Safety Officer.

7. Physical Safety

Eye and ear protection is highly recommended for participants and observers alike on all ranges. It is strongly recommended that pregnant women exempt themselves from shooting but may observe from a safe distance.

8. Outdoor Ranges

Hours on all outdoor ranges Daily 9AM to 1/2 hour before sunset, Sunday 10AM to 1/2 hour before sunset.

Procedure for firing on the Outdoor Range at targets forward of the 100 yard impact area.

Purpose

The purpose is to create a procedure that allows for the safe discharge of firearms at distances less than 100 yards from the 100 yard firing line at Shongum Sportsman's Association 100 yard Outdoor Range.

Scope

This document covers procedures, targets and target locations for firing firearms at targets placed less than 100 yards from the 100 yard firing line.

This document does not supersede any form of organized discharge of firearms in a format that has been pre-approved by the E-committee and the Chief Range Safety Officer.

Body

All discharge of firearms must be in accordance with [SSA], Federal and State requirements.

Firearms discharged at targets less than 100 yards from the 100 yard firing line [from here on as discharge] will in the off hand position or from a [SSA] approved bench rest bench only.

The seated bench rest shall meet the dimensional requirements of the US Bench Rest Shooting Assoc. The prone bench rest dimensions will be supplied will be supplied and specified by [SSA]. Discharge will be conducted on positions 5 through 15 only.

Positions 1 through 4 may be utilized when a tree planting berm is placed to the left of position 1. Positions 16 through 20 may be utilized in the future if the stone is removed from the right side bank.

Only targets hung from target frames meeting the following requirements will be utilized.

The top bar of the frame will not exceed 54 inches, 4 1/2 feet from the ground and the bottom bar no less than 30 inches from the ground. The width of the target frame will be 24 inches which is the standard width of the official SSA target frame as determined by the target frame holders at the 100 yard line. All target frames intended for the use as specified in this document will be painted blue to identify said frames as meeting the afore stated requirements. Only target frames meeting the afore stated dimensional requirements and identified with blue paint will be allowed with the parameters allowed by this document. Targets will only be placed within the top, bottom and side bars of the upper box formed by the afore mentioned top, bottom and side bars of the target frame.

The target must be placed directly in front of the firing position. The target must be placed directly in front of the firing position. Under no circumstance will targets be engaged from the ground prone position unless they are at the 100 yard line impact area. All reactive targets approved for SSA use must be placed in the 100 yard impact area unless the reactive targets are being utilized in conjunction with a pre-approved organized event. The sigh-in sheet procedure will remain in effect to cover situations in which individuals will have to move forward of the firing line to safely engage targets placed in the impact area of the 100 yard line [example; reactive targets]. Target frames will not be placed any closer than the 25 yard from the firing line. Targets and target frames for the above stated purpose shall be supplied by the shooter and must meet the afore stated requirements. Bases for the target stands do not have to meet any specific requirement other than they afford a steady platform for the target, does not damage SSA property and is not a source of ricochets or back splatter.

Failure to follow the above stated requirements and the use of sand bags and or rocks to stabilize the target base will be considered an extremely serious safety violation and will because for permanent loss of membership and any future range visitation rights.

Brass, cardboard boxes, paper, bags and any other debris is to be picked up and brought home with the shooter. All frames are to be removed from the bullet impact area and returned to their storage area. All targets are to be removed from the frames when leaving. All pistol, rifle, shotgun and archery must not begin before nor extend after stated hours. All caliber of ammunition is permitted on the Outdoor Range for all firearms that can be legally owned and operated within the state of New Jersey by citizens of the state.

Fifty [50] caliber [BMG] ammunition is prohibited. [Black powder is exempted] The firing of a Cannon [black powder and wad only-no projectiles] is permitted with prior

approval of the Chief Range Safety Officer and the E-board. The use of "Open Bolt Indicators" is required at many club events and many matches and is recommended at all other times.

9. Indoor Range

Hours: Daily and Sunday 9AM till 10PM.

All shooters, members and guests must sign in using the Guest and Sign in book provided. The only type of *rifle* permitted is 22 Long Rifle, 22 long and 22 short rimfire. Air powered pistols and rifles [bb and pellet] guns] are permitted.

Strictly observe and shoot only permitted ammunition. A list of "Indoor Range Permitted Handgun Ammunition" is posted to the left of the door entering the range.

Steel core, penetrating, incendiary, tracer and armor piercing is not permitted.

Center-fire rifles of any caliber, shotguns and black powder firearms are not permitted.

Reactive targets [steel, bowling pins, etc] are not permitted except for club-sanctioned events.

Shooters will fire into the metal bullet traps only.

After shooting, housekeeping rules apply. All brass is to be picked up and placed in the container labeled BRASS ONLY. The floor is to be swept of powder and all sweepings are to be disposed of. DUD CAN, This is not the home of your reloading mistakes. If you have reloading mistakes, contact Bob Begley or Will Jones, we will let you know how to make the mistakes safe and how to correct it. I Bob Begley suggest any interested in reloading to take the NRA reloading course. It will cost you a few bucks, but it may save you a hospital visit.

10. Bowmen & Trap shooters

Bowmen and Trap shooters will follow the rules applicable to their sport.

11. Violations

Any one observed violating any range safety rule will be subject to immediate Removal from the range facility and probably expulsion from Shongum Sportsman Association in accordance with the By-Laws of the Association.

12. Incidents, Accidents and Injuries

Any incident, accident or injury, however minor, which occurs on club property, must be formally written up by the injured party/parties and/or witnesses and submitted to the Chief Range Safety Officer. The Chief Range Safety Officer must be notified as soon as possible by telephone of any incident that occurs on club property. The Chief Range Safety Officer will convene with the Ethics Committee, who will investigate and give a report, along with recommendations for any disciplinary action, to the Executive Committee. The Executive Committee will notify the parties involved of their findings.

13. Transporting Firearms and Ammunition

The transportation of all firearms to and from the range must be in compliance with the Laws of the State of New Jersey. It is suggested that members transport firearms and ammunition in separate locked containers. Do not carry loaded magazines. Carry your NJ Firearms ID Card and a copy of your pistol purchase permit or proof of pistol ownership.

14. Guests

A guest is a non-member who participates in Event Activities. Since Shongum is a "Members Only" Association, there are activities in which Guests may participate. Guests must observe all range rules, including Eye and Ear protection. Guests must relinquish their place on the firing line to a club member when no other option is available to the member. Guests must sign in the Guest Sign-in Book provided.

Club Guests- A non-member participant in any regular or special event will be considered a Guest of the Association.

Member Guests- A non-member who accompanies a member to the range facilities shall be considered a Guest of the member. It is the direct responsibility of the member to supervise the activities of a member guest. A member guest may not use the facilities of the Association without the presence, accompaniment and supervision of the member.

Permanent Member Guests- The immediate family [spouse and dependent children] of a member shall be considered permanent member guests. Dependent child is one who is declared as a legal dependant on an Internal Revenue Service Annual Tax return of the member.

Occasional Member Guest- a non-member who accompanies and participates in the shooting activities of the member shall be considered an Occasional Member Guest and may not accompany more than twice a year. No more than two occasional member guests may accompany a member to the range at any one time.

15 Ranges and Clubhouse

Do not give or loan your keys or access card to anyone.
Keep area clean, sweep floor of all debris. Turn off all lights, fans, electrical equipment, air conditioners, ventilation systems etc. when not in use. Especially when leaving range. Make sure door locks when you leave the range.

16 Shooting Accessories

Bring your own stuff: targets, target holders, stapler, staples, clips, push pins, eye and ear protection etc.

17. Events

An Event is considered an activity whereby selective club facilities are dedicated to a specific purpose that benefits the membership at large.

Types of Events

Regular Event

A regular event is a recurring event that is regularly scheduled [e.g. High Power Matches, IPSC, Cowboy Action, Women League, Pistol League, etc.]

Special Event

A Special Event is a non-recurring, occasional event that is not regularly scheduled [e.g. Reloading Class, Firearms and Safety Training, Picnic, Police training, Women day].

Event Activity Form

An Event Activity Form may be obtained from the Event Chairman, forms rack in the Clubhouse or our Web Site. This form must be submitted by a member to the Events Chairman, who will submit it to the Executive Committee and schedule it on the calendar,

Events will be scheduled on a first come/first served basis.

For the purpose of order and pre-notification to our membership.

All Event activity requests should be submitted [90] ninety days prior to the event for a normal review, approval and publication in the newsletter.

An Event activity request which is submitted less than ninety days prior to the event will be considered on it's merits. If approved, special notification may be required to inform the membership of the activity.

For the purpose of protecting the assets of the Association, the Executive Committee may impose any condition reasonable and appropriate such as:

The purchase and possession of a separate Insurance Policy covering the event.
The presence of a Shongum Elected Officer during the event. The person running the event is the person in charge of that event. He or she is responsible for the safety of all participants and spectators.

18. Pistol pit and Trap shooters

Individual Trap Shooters

When shooting trap with your own trap or club hand trap, you must throw birds from designated spot between Trap House one and two.

Individual Pistol pit shooters

If anyone is shooting trap, you must stay to the left of the raspberry colored markers

[parallel to the back of all trap houses].

Scheduled Events/Shoots-Trap and Pistol Pit

If a future Trap Event/Shoot is planned where the use of all Trap houses is expected, The Shotgun chairman will notify the Pistol chairman in advance, to avoid any conflict.

*** END OF RANGE RULES***

Caliber Restrictions all ranges.

50 Browning BMG
Tracers
Penetrating
Incendiary
Armor piercing

Allowed Indoor Range Handgun Ammunition

Rifle

All BB, pellet air, CO2 or spring activated

22 short, 22 long and 22 long rifle only.

Pistol

22 22 short, long and long rifle

25 25 ACP or 6.35 MM

30 7.65 Luger or Parabellum
30 carbine pistol

32 32 ACP
7.65 MM Browning
32 S&W
32 S&W long
32 Colt New Police
32 H&R Magnum

357
357 Magnum
357 Sig

38

38 S&W
38 Colt New Police
380 MK1
38-40 Winchester/ WCF9
38 S&W Special
38 Super Auto
38 Super +P

380
380 ACP

40
40 S&W

41
41 Remington Special and Magnum

44
44 S&W Special
44 Special
44 Remington Magnum
44 Magnum
44-40 Winchester/WCF
440 CorBon

45
45 ACP
45 Auto Rim
45 Colt/Long Colt
45 Gap
45 Schofield

Metric

7.65 MM
7.65 MM Luger
7.65 MM Parabellum
7.62 X 25 Russian Tokarev

9 MM
9 MM Kurtz
9 MM Short
9 MM Luger
9 MM Parabellum
9X21
9X23

9X25

10 MM

10 MM Auto

The above handgun ammunition either lead core, soft alloy core or jacketed has been approved by vote of the membership. If you want to shoot ammo which is not on the list, bring a sample and specifications to the next Regular meeting. It will be examined by the Chief Range Safety Officer and put up for vote by the membership. If accepted it will be added to the list.

Backstop Damage (Bullet Traps)

Steel and hard core ammunition is not permitted. Any ammunition that causes damage to the backstop is not permitted. Please know what you are shooting, if in doubt, please contact a club officer for advice. Examine Backstop for damage; report any damage to the Chief Range Safety Officer. Damage to the backstop could result in the revocation of jacketed ammo on the indoor range.