



Fairfax Rod & Gun Club Inc. - Range Rules - Effective October 15th, 2007

These Range Rules have been approved by the Board of Directors and supersede any previously issued. The Board may grant exception to these Rules consistent with safety and other requirements.

The purpose of these Rules is to ensure the safety of individuals using Club facilities and to protect Club property. They are applicable to all members, spouses, dependents, guests, visitors, and those participating in or observing open events. Violation may constitute grounds for suspension of range privileges or other disciplinary action by the Board. If an activity is not explicitly permitted by these Rules it is not allowed.

Enforcement

Range-qualified Club members and the Club Manager are considered Range Safety Officers (RSO) responsible for ensuring members and other persons comply with the Rules and otherwise act in a safe, responsible, and courteous manner. If an observed violation or other situation can not be resolved immediately, or if it is of a serious nature, the violation should be reported to the Safety Committee Chairman, members of the Safety Committee, the Club Manager, or any Board member. A formal complaint may be submitted to the Board in accordance with Club By-Laws.

General Firearms Safety

1. All firearms must be unloaded when transported on Club property, except for persons with lawful authorization to carry a concealed handgun. Only on-duty law enforcement officers may carry in exposed holsters if complete personal control of the firearm is maintained at all times. Exposed carry is restricted to Club sanctioned or Board authorized activities.
2. Wearing eye and ear protection is mandatory for all persons on or near active ranges. The rope marker is considered the boundary of shotgun ranges.
3. Drawing from a holster requires a Special Use/Range Exception Permit from the Board.
4. Those lawfully carrying a concealed handgun shall not remove the firearm from its holster or other carrying device until at an active/"hot" firing line while facing down range. The handgun must be placed immediately on the range counter or bench with the muzzle pointed down range. Relevant Range Rules must be followed thereafter. Upon completion of shooting, the handgun may be loaded and holstered, or otherwise placed in a carrying device, while the shooter is facing downrange at the firing line. At no time should an uncased loaded handgun be pointed other than down range.
5. No loaded firearm may be left unattended or otherwise not in full control of its owner. A firearm in a locked vehicle is considered under control.
6. Actions of uncased firearms must be open except when ready to fire. Closed breech firearms may be closed and placed in a stationary gun rack after a safety check to ensure they are unloaded.
7. Only one firearm at a time may be uncased or otherwise immediately available to each shooter. Firearms in cases, shooting boxes, holsters, or a stationary rack behind the line are considered not immediately available to a shooter. Only ammunition for the firearm in use is allowed at the firing point.
8. No firearm may be loaded until the shooter is on a firing point and ready to shoot on an active range (please see specific Range Rules section for muzzle loaders). A firearm is considered loaded if any part of a shell, cartridge, or charge is within any part of the firearm. Detached magazines and clips may be pre-loaded.

9. All firing must be from established firing lines or shooting stations unless specially allowed on a specific range or during an approved training session.
10. The working of actions, dry firing, pointing in various directions, etc., increase risk of accidental discharge and should be limited to the ranges and conducted only in a safe direction.

Prohibited Firearms, Ammunition and Targets

1. Firearms prohibited under laws and regulations of the US and Virginia.
2. Fully automatic firearms (machine guns), including those with any device or crank capable of causing fully automatic fire.
3. Combination guns (shotgun-rifle firearms) cannot be loaded with ammunition not allowed on a particular range, nor can the prohibited ammunition be on the person of the shooter during shooting.
4. Firearms chambered for the .50 BMG cartridge are prohibited.
5. Tracer, armor piercing, incendiary, or explosive ammunition.
6. Exploding and other targets that leave glass, metal, or hazardous remains.
7. Targets set on the ground or on or near baffles and support posts. See specific range rules table for placement of personal targets. No personally placed target shall create an unsafe condition. Personal targets must be removed at conclusion of each shooting session.

General Rules

1. No person that has used any alcohol, or drugs that affect the ability to use firearms safely, is permitted on or near a firing line or forward of safety lines or barriers. Drinking alcohol prior to shooting the same day is prohibited.
2. No hunting is allowed. No wildlife or habitat, such as protected plants, shall be disturbed or damaged in any manner.
3. Each person is required to clean up their firing point, including spent shot shell hulls, casings, cleaning material, trash, etc. and return target frames and other equipment to proper storage locations.
4. A valid Virginia fishing license is required to fish Cotting Lake. Virginia regulations apply. Bass are catch and release only. Shooting, bow fishing and trapping are prohibited.
5. Instructions on Club signage are to be obeyed. Maximum speed is 15 mph, unless posted otherwise.
6. Closed ranges must not be used.
7. Do not shoot at Club infrastructure including, but not limited to, clay target houses, fences, baffles, posts, and target frames. Property damaged in this manner will result in Board action.
8. Pets must be under control at all times and fecal matter must be removed promptly. No pets are allowed in the clubhouse.

Access to Ranges

1. Range safety badges with the member's full name clearly displayed shall be visibly worn at all times while on ranges.
2. Unsupervised use of Club ranges is limited to: a) range-qualified members, spouses and dependents, and b) certain Special Use Permit holders.
3. Range-qualified members and spouses over 21 years old may supervise members that are not range-qualified and guests not to exceed four persons at a time.
4. Dependents may be range-qualified if they are between age 18 and 23 years, and full time students or in the US military. They may not bring guests to Club property or supervise guests and others not range qualified.
5. Participants (other than Club members) in supervised Club-sponsored events may not shoot on another range unless directly supervised by a range-qualified member or spouse.

Shotgun Ranges

1. No more than two shells may be loaded into any shotgun at any one time
2. No rifle or handgun, regardless of type of ammunition, may be used.
3. No shot larger than 7 ½ lead or 6 steel is allowed, except on the Pattern Range where any shot (no slugs) may be used.
4. Clay targets only may be used except paper targets only shall be used on the Pattern Range.
5. Use cones available at the clubhouse instead of clay targets for practice/training markers.
6. All rounds or partial practice rounds must be reported and paid for in the Clubhouse.
7. Skeet shooters on fields adjacent to trap fields shall stand down during the reloading of the trap houses. A closed shotgun field shall be maintained as a buffer between active skeet and trap fields during trap tournament shooting only.
8. The Club Manager controls access and use of the shotgun fields for practice.
9. Do not attempt to adjust, maintain or repair equipment unless specifically authorized to do so. Skeet shooters may (1) load clay targets. Trap shooters may (1) load clay targets, (2) change trap height, distance and speed settings, and (3) change singles-doubles settings. 5-stand shall be serviced by authorized personnel only.

Rifle and Pistol Ranges

1. When more than one person is using a range during practice sessions one range-qualified person shall be designated the RSO. This person will oversee safety during the session and call cease fires at least every ½ hour unless participants mutually agree otherwise. During cease fire periods the RSO will ensure: 1) safety lights are activated; 2) all firearms are unloaded with magazines removed and actions open; 3) all persons not going down range remain behind the firing line or yellow “Ready” line, and 4) there is no handling of firearms prior to the RSO giving a commence fire command.
2. Paper targets must be mounted on Club-supplied backers and frames. Unless shooting from a rest, targets must be centered on the backer to avoid frame damage.
3. Only Standard Velocity ammunition shall be fired at falling plate targets; magnum ammunition, either factory or handloaded, producing in excess of 1,100 fps muzzle velocity are prohibited. Do not shoot at damaged or cratered plates.
4. Use of shot shells is prohibited. Shotgun slugs may be used on the Lea Valley and Mann Ranges.
5. No more than two positions may be occupied by a member/spouse, dependents, and guests when others are waiting to shoot.

Muzzleloading

1. No smoking or other lighted materials may be on the firing line or within 15 feet of loading benches. No source of ignition should be present during loading.
2. No open powder containers may be on a range except to load powder measures behind the firing line. No powder containers may be on the firing line.
3. No loading from a flask, horn or other container that contains more than one charge. A small container may be used to prime flintlock firearms.
4. Firearms must be firmly supported in an upright position during loading with the muzzle not pointing at the loader’s body or otherwise in an unsafe direction.
5. Firearms may be loaded, except priming or capping, at loading benches in rear of the firing line. Firearms using prepared cartridges may be loaded at the firing line.
6. No capping or priming until on the firing line and ready to fire.
7. Firearms must be unloaded, including unprimed/uncapped, and placed upright in a rack or safely against a loading bench before being considered safe. Uncased firearms should be carried muzzle up when transporting to and from the firing line.
8. After announcement of cease fire periods, shooters shall be given the opportunity to complete loading and discharge their firearms or alternatively firearms may be unprimed/decapped and placed upright at the loading bench and not be handled until a commence fire command is issued.

9. Rapid fire strings of two or more shots per minute may be performed only on the Lea Range with mutual consent of those on the firing line.

Specific Range Rules

Note additional rules and information may be posted at each range. Lower ranges are open from 9:00am until sundown.

Range	Restrictions	Firearms/Ammo	Targets	Notes
Lea Valley	Under roof: Left (25-100m) Handguns on left bank from Left concrete firing point only for plates. ----- Center (200m) ----- Center (40-100m)	Handgun calibers, and .22 RF rifles on left bank - CF, BP & .22 rifles under roof ----- CF, RF, BP rifles ----- CF, RF, BP rifles & SG slugs	Paper, metal gongs swinging, falling plates, metallic silhouettes No targets may be placed on top of a berm or closer than 40m berm in center portion of range	No ammo capable of damage to metal targets No cross firing or shooting from station inappropriate to target type
Porasky	Open only for scheduled events	CF, RF, BP rifles & pistols		Operation of moving targets and range restricted to specific persons
Culver	100yd (positions 1-6) Benchrest or Standing ----- 200-300yd (positions 7-9) Benchrest only	CF, RF, BP rifles Restricted handguns ----- CF rifles >2,000fps MV	Paper only	Thompson Contender or equivalent in rifle calibers, or scoped handguns 1,200+fps MV may be used from a bench rest 100 yd firing point if target and berm only are struck

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Range	Restrictions	Firearms/Ammo	Targets	Notes
Benson	Lanes 4-10 are closed, except for matches ----- Benchrest (Lanes 1-3) ----- Highpower (Lanes 11-15)	CF, RF, BP rifles	Paper only Use short target frames only at 100 yd with targets mounted to ensure rounds impact >12 inches below top of mid-range berm ----- Short target frames (or lower 1/3 mounting on pit targets) for rifles with <2,000fps MV shot in standing position	----- Benchrest only ----- 4-position shooting From HP line – no benchrest
Mann	High power to left, rimfire rifles to right, no handguns except as noted	CF, RF, BP rifles + SG slugs	Paper only At 50yds targets must be mounted to ensure rounds impact >12 inches below top of berm	All shooting positions + benchrest allowed. Thompson Contender or equivalent in rifle calibers, or scoped handguns 1200+fps MV, may be used from bench rest or prone position if target and berm only are struck.
Walsh	Standing and benchrest only	CF, RF & BP handguns, RF rifles + Airguns	Paper only	Lower 50 yd frames prior to shooting at 25 yds
Sieger	Standing and benchrest only	CF, RF & BP handguns, RF rifles + Airguns	Paper, falling plates Steel spinner targets may be used on left firing point	Note metal target ammo restrictions Round/fragments must impact ground safely
Archery – Airgun	Shoot only from designated point to designated target. Crossbows from shielded Firing point only ----- Airgun use 2 points to right of archery only	Target or field points only on bales ----- BB or pellet guns <1,000 fps	Paper on bales or personally-owned broadhead targets directly in front of bales. ----- BB guns on paper only, pellet guns may be used on spinners; none on archery targets	Crossbows must be unloaded with tension released (not cocked) during cease fires or departure from firing line. Multiple range users must shoot from same distance. Spinners must be placed on ground in front of target.

End of Range Rules.