

# Springview Ranges Limited

## Range Safety Regulations – Version August 2021

**MANDATORY** - EVERY MEMBER MUST KEEP A COPY OF THIS DOCUMENT AND SIGN AND DATE A COPY FOR CLUB RECORDS.

***For the purposes of this document the word “FIREARM” refers to any gun of any kind which fires any kind of projectile and so therefore includes, Section 1 Firearms, Section 2 Shotguns, Air Rifles and Air Pistols & Air Soft Guns. This document was revised 01/08/2021***

### BREECH FLAGS/PLUGS

- 1) Breech flags must be fitted into every gun on site while not in use
- 2) Breech flags must be fitted every time a cease fire is called
- 3) If you do not have breech flag on any given day ask a member of staff and we will provide one. You must equip yourself with sufficient breech flags
- 4) Once you have finished shooting and you wish to adjust sights or handle the gun loaded or not it MUST be pointed down range with a breech flag fitted
- 5) Breech flags must be the “plug” type so as to physically prevent a live round being chambered. Some shotgun flags are not of this type and only serve to keep the action open. We do not permit this kind at the range

### CLEARING FIREARMS

- 1) We now require two FAC holders to independently clear firearms. This is known as the “Buddy System” Two holders of an FAC are required to clear a single firearm or alternatively ask a range officer to clear your firearm for you.
- 2) You must not attempt to clear a firearm on your own and then remove it from the firing point.
- 3) Your firearm should be declared as clear only when a removable magazine is removed, a fixed magazine is verified as empty the action racked 3 times and the chamber inspected for ammunition. A breech flag should be fitted once the gun is cleared.

### MALFUNCTIONS

- 1) If your firearm malfunctions on the firing point you must point it down range and if possible try and lock the action open. Immediately summon the attention of a range officer or another FAC holder to ensure somebody other than you is aware of the problem.
- 2) If your gun has malfunctioned you must get permission from the range officer on duty to use the firearm again. Only a range officer can permit this as the R/O may wish to check that the firearms action is sound prior to use.
- 3) Ensure the barrel is clear from obstructions but DO NOT change the direction of the muzzle so that it points anywhere but the sand trap

### CHAMBERING LIVE AMMUNITION

- 1) You must NOT chamber a round of ammunition unless the stock of the gun is held into the shoulder (If a rifle) and the barrel pointed towards the sand trap. Remember the firearm can discharge even if you do not pull the trigger. The risk of this is even higher using Rimfire ammunition

### RATES OF FIRE (ALL FIREARMS)

- 1) Please keep your rates of fire sensible. Firearms can and do malfunction which could result in the gun “running away” or firing when you do not wish them to. Your most important priority is to ensure the muzzle is pointed directly at the sand trap the moment a magazine is fitted or live ammunition is loaded whether in the chamber or not. *Think before each shot and remember that the projectile is still lethal at over 1.5 miles.*
- 2) Long barrel pistols require extra caution and you must not simply fire them as fast as you can. *Think before each shot and remember that the projectile is still lethal at 1.5 miles.*

## **CORRECT CALIBER USE**

1) You must ensure the correct caliber ammunition is used in your own and club firearms. Failure to do so can result in catastrophic failure or damage to the firearm. This could cause serious injury or death to the shooter or those nearby.

## **OTHER MEMBERS FIREARMS (Section 1)**

Your firearms are licensed to you only. You may only use firearms you have **lawful authority** to use and are **listed on your certificate**. You may use with our permission any of the club firearms. If it is brought to our attention or we notice members sharing firearms we may revoke your membership immediately. NEVER let a probationary member handle or use your firearms.

## **SHOOTING ON THE RANGES**

- 1) You must NOT shoot across ranges. This increases the chance of a ricochet or the projectile skimming across the sand
- 2) You may only shoot targets which allow the projectile to pass clean through with no resistance or will not divert the path of the projectile
- 3) You must be seated while shooting unless expressly given permission by a member of staff and if given permission is given once does not mean you can do this every time you shoot.
- 4) Members may not shoot from any of the uncovered "Observation Areas"
- 5) Downloaded full-bore rifle loads must be inspected by a member of staff and if permission is granted to use them you may **ONLY SHOOT PAPER TARGETS** placed against the sand trap.
- 6) You must ensure your muzzle is always pointed at the sand trap. A heavier slower projectile poses more chance of a ricochet and so must only be permitted to hit a paper target with the sand trap directly behind it.
- 7) If your rifle is fitted with a bipod you **MUST NOT** place a loaded magazine or chamber a round unless the rifle is in your shoulder and pointing directly at the sand trap
- 8) All projectiles must directly strike the sand trap. Do not shoot at the ground.
- 9) If the range has a marker flag marking the maximum height of your muzzle you must ensure your projectiles do not hit any higher than this. This is to ensure your projectiles hit the sand at its widest point. No exceptions. If your target moves higher for any reason you must NOT shoot it.
- 10) You must not place your finger on the trigger or inside the trigger guard until you have committed to firing a shot, and to do this you must ensure the muzzle is pointed at the sand trap.
- 11) You may only shoot ball or target ammunition unless you have been given permission to use expanding ammunition on site for zeroing purposes.
- 12) You must ensure the safe custody of all firearms and ammunition you use on the range.
- 13) You must heed the ammunition muzzle velocity limits. They are there for a reason and must not be exceeded.

## **ADDITIONAL SAFETY REGULATIONS IN EFFECT AS OF 01/04/2021**

- 1) *You may only shoot the steel targets provided by us with 22 Long Rifle Ammunition, any other rimfire ammunition e.g. 17 HMR or 22 WMR or ANY centre fire calibers or muzzle loading projectile is strictly forbidden and may pose a hazard to other range users. Any persons shooting the steel plates with any other caliber can expect to have their membership cancelled by us immediately.*

*We have thoroughly tested the steel plates with 22 Rimfire (22 Long Rifle) ammunition ONLY, other calibers may pose a ricochet/bullet splash hazard and can cause damage to the supporting structures or the plates themselves.*

- 2) *You MUST ensure your projectiles do not strike the supporting posts (They are taped white in colour for ease of recognition) for the range canopy. If we discover a bullet hole or any damage we have no option but to cease fire the range and view the CCTV to find the person responsible. We may have to cease fire the range for a period of days or more if the structure is determined to be unsound. This will result in instant revocation of membership and we will inform the police of the decision and the damage. Should the range be unable to operate for any period of time we may also seek financial compensation for any damage and revenue losses from any such persons.*

## REPORTING OTHER MEMBERS WHERE THERE ARE SAFETY CONCERNS

- 1) We want to ensure a friendly environment on all of our ranges and this is encouraged. We must also protect the safety of our members, visitors, staff and the general public and for this reason it is vital that any member who is in breach of any safety regulations is reported to a member of staff immediately where possible or as soon as is possible. We will keep your details confidential at all times but we must ensure our safety regulations are followed at all times.
- 2) If you think someone is or has done something unsafe it is your absolute duty to report it to us.
- 3) Springview Ranges may revoke the membership of any member they deem unsafe and a range officer does not necessarily have to see any breaches of rules for them self. We rely on the integrity of our members to keep all shooters safe.
- 4) Reporting any unsafe shooter keeps everybody safe. You may be required to provide your statement to us in writing and we will keep this information confidential unless there is police involvement and they may require your statement.
- 5) If Springview Ranges chose to revoke a membership it is club policy and the law to report it immediately to the Firearms Licensing department.
- 6) If Springview Ranges decides that you require further training due to any safety concerns we fully reserve the right to suspend your full membership status and place you in a training program which restricts the firearms and ammunition and calibres you may use until we are sure that you are a safe shot.
- 7) Complacency with firearms is dangerous – Never take the chance. Safety is paramount.

## MINIMUM ATTENDANCE RECORD

Probationary members are required as a condition of membership to visit the ranges a minimum of twelve (12) times per year

Full members are required as a condition of membership to visit the ranges a minimum of eight (8) times per year

Members who not meet this minimum requirement will have their membership terminated if attendance falls below this level. All cancellations must be reported to the Firearms Licensing Department.

***We will not support any members with zero or minimal attendance and we will not support those who wish to use our membership scheme to justify possession of firearms. Please ensure you attend on a regular basis.***

## DECLARATION

I have read the above safety regulations and agree to abide by them. I understand that failure to do so may result in my membership being revoked and the Police Firearms Licensing department informed of this.

***I confirm that I am not a prohibited person under Section 21 of the Firearms Act 1968***

***I confirm that I am not subject to any pending matters with the criminal justice system which could impact my suitability to use or be in possession of firearms and ammunition.***

Name..... Date / /

Signature.....

Staff Signature..... Date / /