

# **Delaware Rifle and Pistol Club, Inc. Safety Rules and Regulations**

**Members and guests are responsible for reading, knowing, and following these rules and regulations.**

## General Rules

1. Members are responsible for the safety of all in attendance while on DRPC property (Range, Ready Room, Classroom, and grounds).
2. A member is **NOT** permitted to bring guests into the Club **TO SHOOT** before completing the probationary year and completing the Guest Supervision Training Class. Members who joined before July 1, 2011, must complete the Guest Supervision Class to retain guest privileges. Probationary members may bring **Non-shooting** guests into the building but they are **NOT** permitted on the Range while shooting is in progress and are **NOT** permitted to handle firearms or ammunition.
3. Members are responsible for their own behavior and of their guest(s). Members and guests shall conduct themselves in a safe and sportsman-like manner. Members and guests shall follow the directions of Range Safety Officers, Club Officers, and Instructors.
4. Members and guests must sign the attendance log book upon entering the building. **All guests, whether engaged in shooting activities or not, must personally sign with the word "guest" following their name.** Log entries shall include the date, time, and activity, and shooting position(s) used.
5. Members are responsible for reviewing the Guest Supervision Manual with their guests and complying with the instructions included. **This should be done in the Ready Room.**
6. Illegal drugs and alcoholic beverages are prohibited on Club property. Members should be aware of prescription or over-the-counter medications and personal medical conditions which could affect their ability to safely handle firearms.
7. Smoking is prohibited in the building. A smoking station is provided outside the main entrance.
8. All firearms transported into DRPC property shall be unloaded and in a case (hard case, soft case, range bag, etc.). **Open carry is prohibited outside the building on DRPC property but is permitted inside the building.** Members and guests who hold a concealed carry license (CCW) **recognized** by the State of Delaware, may carry concealed on the property. A properly holstered and concealed gun is considered to be "cased". The gun cannot be removed from the holster except on the Range under "**HOT**" conditions.

## Ready Room and Classroom Rules

1. Gun handling in the Ready Room shall occur **ONLY** at the **GUN HANDLING** table.
2. Uncased guns placed on the handling table shall have the action open (slide locked back, revolver cylinder open), a chamber flag inserted, and be pointed at the GUN HANDLING AREA sign (the only safe direction in the Ready Room).
3. **NO AMMUNITION** shall be placed on the gun handling table; this includes cases, range bags, boxes, magazines, etc., which contain ammunition. **Empty magazines** are permitted on the gun handling table.
4. Ammunition may be handled at any other location in the Ready Room for the purpose of loading magazines.
5. Guns may be dry-fired and disassembled/reassembled for cleaning at the gun handling table only while keeping the gun pointed in the safe direction.
6. Gun handling is not permitted in the Classroom except under the direct supervision of an Instructor during training.
7. No ammunition shall be handled in the Classroom.
8. Guns and ammunition may be brought into the Classroom for security purposes provided they are secured in and remain in a case, range bag, closed ammunition container (factory box or plastic ammo box), etc.
9. The Classroom is for use by the members for DRPC related activities in accordance with DRPC Bylaws. Any other use must be approved in advance by the Board of Directors.

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# Range Rules and Safe Gun Handling Procedures

## NRA Basic Safety Rules

- Always keep the muzzle pointed in a safe direction. Level and down range is the only safe direction on the range
- Always keep finger off the trigger until ready to shoot. (Out of and off the trigger guard until sights and target are clearly visible in line of sight.)
- Always keep the gun unloaded and action open until ready to use.

1. Guns must be cased (soft case, hard case, range bag, etc.) when transported to and from the Range. Guns may be uncased or cased **ONLY** at the shooting benches or tables with the range in the "**HOT**" condition. Guns must be pointed level and downrange with finger off the trigger while casing or uncasing. Once uncased, long guns may be transported muzzle pointing up to the storage rack.

2. Guns, ammunition, or other items shall not be handled or touched at the shooting benches or tables, when the Range is in the "**COLD**" condition or persons are down range of the permanent benches. Loaded magazines are permitted on the shooting benches and tables.

Exception: Shooters may load magazines while standing or sitting behind the **YELLOW** safety line.

3. When entering or exiting the Range with it in a "**HOT**" condition, one door of the sound vestibule must be closed before the other door is opened. Once through the vestibule, both doors shall be closed and securely latched.

4. Check for range damage (floors, walls, baffles, shooting benches and tables, yellow painted areas) before and after shooting. Mark any range damage with the date, time, and initials. Record the damage on the notes page of the attendance log book including damage location, date, time and finder's name.

5. Eye and hearing protection are required for all persons on the Range when the Range is in the "**HOT**" condition.

6. Ventilation fans must be on during shooting. Exception: air rifles and air pistols

7. Targets should be stapled to cardboard and centered in the black curtain.

8. Targets shall be placed between the black curtain and the yellow target line on the floor.

9. Target lights must be turned on as a minimum. All other lighting is optional.

10. Shooting closer than the 21-foot **RED** line is prohibited. The stationary table at the 21-foot line shall not be moved. The rolling shooting table may be used as a temporary firing line anywhere between the permanent shooting benches and the 21-foot line.

11. The 21 - foot firing line (also known as the 21' shooting tables) takes precedence over all other firing lines.

12. Guns shall be cased when moving to or from one firing line to another. (For example, between the 50-foot line and the 21-foot line or the rolling table.)

13. When moving from one shooting position to another at the permanent shooting benches or tables, guns shall have the action open (slide locked back, bolt open, revolver cylinder open), magazine removed and chamber flag inserted, and the muzzle pointed up. Exception: As specifically directed otherwise by a Range Safety Officer or Instructor.

14. Moving while shooting and/or with a loaded gun is prohibited. Exception: See the Holster Rules.

15. Passing a loaded firearm from one person to another is prohibited except under the direct supervision of an Instructor or Range Safety Officer.

16. Cross lane shooting. At no time shall a shooter engage a target more than one hanger position different from the position in front of which he/she is standing (e.g., a shooter at position 4 may engage a target at position 3 or 5). No targets may be engaged on positions 1 or 8 when shooting cross lanes.

17. Loaded guns shall not be adjusted, repaired, or worked on, with or without tools on the firing line. Exception: This does not include minor adjustments to sights while keeping the finger off the trigger and muzzle pointed level and down range.

18. Should a misfire occur, keep the gun pointed downrange and wait for 30 seconds, then unload, clear, insert chamber flag, and place the gun on the shooting bench. Resume shooting after determining the cause of the misfire and the range is in the "**HOT**" condition.

19. Put "Dud" ammunition in the yellow container provided.

20. When a "**CEASE FIRE**" order is given, stop shooting immediately, take finger off the trigger, unload and clear the gun, insert chamber flag and place the gun on the shooting bench.

21. Should a negligent discharge occur, stop shooting immediately and attempt to determine and correct the cause before resuming shooting. Notify a member of the Board of Directors as soon as possible, if range damage or injury occurs.

22. Should a serious injury or medical emergency occur, stop shooting activities and render appropriate assistance and/or call 911. Notify a member of the Board of Directors as soon as possible.

23. Clean up spent brass, target debris, and powder and bullet residue when finished shooting. Center fire brass may be claimed by the shooter or placed in the center fire brass container. Rimfire brass is the property of DRPC and is placed in the rimfire containers.

24. Eating, drinking, and smoking are prohibited on the Range **at all times**.

25. Pregnant women should consult their physician before engaging in shooting activities.

26. Hands should be washed after shooting or Range clean up activities.

27. Loose-fitting clothing and open-toe shoes should be avoided due to flying hot brass.

## 28. Ammunition

### Allowed ammunition:

- .22 rimfire cartridges (.22 Short, .22 Long, .22 Long Rifle, .22 WMR); .17 rimfire cartridges (.17 HMR, .17 Mach 2) and .177 air gun pellets.
- Center fire handgun cartridges (originally developed as a handgun cartridge) with velocities under 1400 fps (feet per second) when fired from a handgun, carbine, or rifle.

### Prohibited ammunition:

- BB's
- Center fire rifle cartridges (e.g., .223 Remington, 5.56 NATO, .308 Winchester, .30-06, .30 Carbine, .300 Blackout, etc.)
- Black powder and black powder substitute cartridges or muzzle loads.
- Shot shells regardless of projectile type
- Shot cartridges/"snake loads" regardless of caliber
- Air gun pellets larger than .177 caliber
- Tracer, armor piercing, steel or aluminum core, and incendiary ammunition
- Paint balls

## 29. Firearms

### Prohibited firearms

- BB guns
- Fully automatic or select fire pistols, carbines, and rifles
- Shotguns
- Muzzle loading pistol, rifles and shotguns
- Air guns over .177 caliber

## 30. Targets

### Allowed targets:

- Paper or cardboard targets that can be hung from the target hangers.
- Self-sealing plastic such as Newbold ® type targets

### Prohibited targets:

Any material capable of deflecting a round, causing a ricochet, or breaking apart into flying debris, such as:

- Steel targets (except during Club sponsored events)
- Metal cans of any kind
- Liquid-filled objects such as water or milk bottles.
- Glass or hard plastic objects

Photographs of identifiable people.

All targets shall be placed so that a round fired at them will go through directly to the backstop.

Requests to use non-standard targets or materials that are not covered by the above rules must be submitted to the Board of Directors and approved in advance.

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## Range Commands

The two primary range commands are:

- The Range is "**COLD**"
- The Range is "**HOT**"

When the Range is "COLD" or taking the Range "**COLD**":

1. No one is at the shooting benches or tables
2. Everyone must be behind the **YELLOW SAFETY LINE** or an **ARM'S - LENGTH AWAY** from the shooting tables unless they are going down range.
3. No one may handle guns or ammunition anywhere on the range. Exception: Magazines may be loaded while standing or sitting behind the **YELLOW SAFETY LINE**.
4. All shooters shall check all guns on benches or tables to confirm they are unloaded, actions open (slides open, bolts open, revolver cylinders open), magazines out and chamber flags inserted.

**WHEN ALL SHOOTERS HAVE CONFIRMED THE ABOVE CONDITIONS AND AGREE, IT IS SAFE TO GO DOWNRANGE.**

When taking the Range from "**COLD**" to "**HOT**", ALL shooters must confirm:

1. Down range is clear and all shooters are behind the **YELLOW SAFETY LINE** or behind the shooting tables.
2. Target lights are on.
3. Ventilation system is on.
4. Everyone has eye and hearing protection.
5. All shooters make contact and agree that the Range is ready to go "**HOT**"
6. All shooters verbally declare that the Range is "**HOT**".

When the Range is "**HOT**", shooters at the benches or tables are permitted to:

- load magazines
- handle guns
- load guns
- begin firing



## Holster Rules

Delaware Rifle and Pistol Club members may practice drawing and firing using a holster under the following rules. **GUESTS ARE NOT ALLOWED TO PRACTICE USING HOLSTERS.**

1. **All holsters must be strong-side, belt-mounted holsters that:**

- hold the gun securely at all times.
- fully cover the trigger and trigger guard.
- do not have any feature that could get inside the trigger guard and accidentally depress the trigger when re-holstering
- are worn normally on the side of the body (i.e., at or slightly behind the point of the hip bone, but not in the front of the body or behind the back).
- are not canted to the rear more than 5 degrees from vertical.

2. Drawing and firing directly from concealment is prohibited. All shooting following drawing from a holster must be done between the front of the permanent 50-foot benches and the 21-foot **RED** safety line. The only motion permitted while shooting is advancing directly toward the target. Lateral or rearward movement and turning and shooting is not permitted.

3. No one other than the shooter engaged in holster practice is permitted forward of the permanent 50-foot benches when the Range is in the "**HOT**" condition, unless the person is an NRA Certified Instructor or Range Safety Officer and is engaged in training the person practicing with a holster.

4. Movement with a loaded or unloaded holstered gun is permitted. Loaded guns equipped with a manual safety must have the safety engaged prior to being holstered. Double action/single action guns equipped with a decocker must be decockered prior to being holstered.

5. Guns may remain holstered while changing or pasting targets with the Range in the "**COLD**" condition provided at no time is the gun removed from the holster until the range is in the "**HOT**" condition and the shooter is ready to load and fire.

6. With the exception of drawing and re-holstering the gun, the gun must be kept level and downrange while handling; this includes magazine changes, changing hands (e.g. from strong to weak hand), etc. Tactical/speed magazine changes are not permitted. Fingers must be off the trigger and trigger guard while reloading and until a target is engaged.

7. Cross lane shooting. At no time shall a shooter engage a target more than one hanger position different from the position in front of which he/she is standing (e.g., a shooter at position 4 may engage a target at position 3 or 5). No targets may be engaged on positions 1 or 8 when shooting cross lanes.

8. Use of the range facilities at DRPC is on a “first come” basis. It has long been Club custom, however, to give first priority to shooters wishing to do static shooting from the 50-foot line and second priority to the 21-foot line or other down-range firing line. Since holster practice limits the number of people who can actively shoot at the same time, members engaged in these activities shall finish their holster practice within not more than 30 minutes if other members are waiting to shoot. Members and their guests already engaged in static shooting activities may not be pre-empted by members wishing to engage in holster practice. As always, members are encouraged to communicate, and to use common sense and courtesy in using the range facilities.

9. Safe Un-holstering of Firearms Being Carried Concealed. - Legal concealed carry is allowed on the grounds of the Delaware Rifle and Pistol Club, including inside all Club facilities. There are no restrictions on how members may carry a concealed firearm; however, for purposes of practicing with it, a firearm being carried concealed may only be taken from concealment on the range, at either the 50-foot benches or the 21-foot or rolling table, while the range has been declared "**HOT**". It is the responsibility of the individual to keep the firearm pointed in a safe direction during the complete act of taking it from its concealed carry position and to not allow the muzzle to sweep either themselves or anyone else on the line. At no time while being taken from the holster, may the firearm be pointed up range or at a side wall in the range. Once clear of concealment, the firearm must be safely pointed down range, unloaded and benched prior to any further handling or use. These steps must be followed in reverse sequence when returning the firearm to its concealed carry position, whether loaded or not.

10. Concealed or open carry firearms shall not be drawn, loaded, unloaded, or holstered on DRPC property, except on the Range in the "**HOT**" condition.

## Terms Used in this Document

1. **DRPC and Club:** Mean the Delaware Rifle and Pistol Club.
2. **Instructor:** A DRPC certified or NRA certified firearms instructor.
3. **Range Safety Officer:** A DRPC certified or NRA certified Range Safety Officer.
4. **DRPC property:** includes parking lot, building, outbuildings, and lands owned by Delaware Rifle and Pistol Club.
5. **Negligent discharge** includes but is not limited to the following:
  - discharge of a gun while the Range is in the "**COLD**" condition
  - discharge of a gun before the "commence firing" command is given during a sanctioned event.
  - discharge of a gun where the bullet does not strike the yellow backstops or the bullet trap (black curtain). Bullets striking floors, walls, baffles, tables, etc. are considered to be range damage resulting from a negligent discharge.
  - discharge from a semi-automatic firearm which fires more than one shot with a single trigger pull ("doubling" or going full-auto)
6. **Injury:** an incident that causes bodily harm requiring medical treatment beyond minor first aid, i.e., application of a band aid.
7. **Illegal drugs:** Current Federal laws prohibit any person who is "an unlawful user of or is addicted to any controlled substance" (Controlled Substance Act, 21 USC 802 (102)) from shipping, transporting, receiving, or possessing firearms or ammunition (18 USC 922(g)(3)). **"There are no exceptions under Federal Law for marijuana used for medicinal or recreational purposes"**(Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms, and Explosives) **irrespective of State Laws. Users of medical or recreational marijuana are not permitted to be Delaware Rifle and Pistol Club members.**