



Airfield Shooting Club

Wakefield, Virginia

PO Box 250, Wakefield, VA 23888 • www.airfieldshootingclub.org • NRA • VSSA • Est. 2005

Range Rules

19 Oct 2024

REVISIONS

Date Issues	Description of Changes
18 July 2020	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Complete rewrite.
28 Aug 2022	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Added Revision Page • Pg 9, Section I-F-7. Expanded the types of prohibited targets. • Pg 10, Section I-G-1&2. Included .22 spinner type targets under authorized targets and added No. 2 about the condition of the steel targets. Added section 9 about a clay target holder stand that is authorized. • Pg 12, Section II-B-4 Added 21ft and 33ft as an authorized distance on the SRB
27 Sept 2023	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pg 7, Section I-D-7b, added wording on the removal of the Black flag. • Pg 12, Section I-G7 updated the wording for Steel Target location • Pg 12, Section II-B3 changed wording to allow shooting from lanes 1-9 directly in front of the SRB. • Pg 12, Section II-B4 changed the authorized target frame locations on the SRB to be only at the PVC pipe locations. Removed reference to portable bases that no longer exist. • Pg 12, Section II-B5 modified the wording preventing putting target frames behind each other. • Pg 12, Section II-B6 modified the wording to change target types that are authorized at all frame locations that are not in the berm. • Pg 18, Section IV: Emergency Information, updated the emergency equipment and its location. • Throughout – corrected minor grammar
11/11/23	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Added Archery Rules, Section I-H to address archery use on the range.
10/19/24	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pg 10, Section I-G4 provided clarity on electrical conduit • Pg 10, Section I-G6 added lead core to safe distance description • Pg 11, Section I-G6d & 7 provided details of shooting steel with frangible ammunition • Pg 19, RSO section – added guidance on how to run a range.

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Section I: General Information

A. Member Rights and Responsibility

1. Members are responsible for maintaining a thorough knowledge of, and complying with, these Rules and Regulations. Further, members are also required to ensure that their guests comply. Violation of these Rules and Regulations, and any amendments that the Board of Directors (hereinafter the Board) may enact from time to time, will result in disciplinary action, which may include expulsion from the Club without reimbursement of dues paid.
2. Members and authorized users will have their valid Club membership card on display at all times while on the range. They will provide their membership card for inspection to any Club member, 4-H center employee, or peace officer upon request. All guests and family members must wear a "Guest" badge.
3. Members are not to share the ASC combinations with guests. This includes the bathroom combination. Members may unlock the bathroom door for their guests when they arrive and lock it upon leaving.
4. Anyone under the age of 18 must be accompanied by an adult member when on the range.
5. The range is for the sole use of the Club members and their guests and other authorized personnel. No member shall authorize or give permission, oral or written, to any non-member to use the range facilities except as described above.
6. Members are expected to be familiar with and in compliance with State and Federal laws regarding firearms and ammunition.

B. Safety

1. The three (3) Fundamental NRA Gun Safety Rules shall be strictly enforced:
 - a. Always keep the gun pointed in a safe direction;
 - b. Always keep your finger off the trigger until ready to shoot; and
 - c. Always keep the gun unloaded until ready to use.
2. Members and their guests shall maintain "muzzle control" and consider firearms to be loaded at all times. Keep muzzles pointed down range when on the firing line unless the firearm is cased or placed in one of the gun racks. Muzzle up is appropriate for bringing any uncased firearm to the line or moving laterally along the firing line, especially if other shooters are already on the line.
3. Animals are not to be shot on the range. If an animal is seen downrange, the first person to notice the animal should call "Cease-Fire". The line should be made safe until the animal is clear of the range.
4. Use good judgment and wear eye and ear protection when appropriate. Note that ASC recommends use of eye and ear protection. Members and guests assume all risks. Minors must wear hearing and eye protection anytime black powder, centerfire or rimfire firearms are in use.

5. Exercise care and common sense at the range. Watch yourself and fellow members. Members are expected to quickly and firmly act to correct unsafe practices and save someone from avoidable injury or death.
6. DO NOT become upset if you are corrected for a safety violation. We all make mistakes and can benefit from the counsel of others.
7. All firearms shall be unloaded when arriving and departing the range (see the exception in [Section III](#) of these rules, the Range Safety Officer Manual, for lawfully carried handguns, which are to remain holstered). It is recommended that you arrive at the range with your unloaded firearms cased so that you may move your firearms to the firing line whether the range is “HOT” or “COLD.” Uncased firearms shall only be moved to the firing line when the range is “HOT” and shall be moved unloaded, actions open, magazines removed and with the muzzle up.
8. Fire only “aimed shots” at selected targets. Indiscriminate rapid firing is prohibited!
9. If moving between the 50-yard and 100-meter ranges it is strongly recommended that you unload and case your firearm before moving. If for some reason you cannot case your firearm it will be necessary to coordinate with the RSOs for both ranges before picking up your unloaded, uncased firearm to move it. The action shall be open, magazines removed and the muzzle should be pointed up while moving the firearm.
10. No person shall consume alcoholic beverages at the range facility. No person will be permitted at the range facility if impaired by drugs or alcohol.
11. Violation of any Club safety rules may result in disciplinary action by the Board of Directors up to and including expulsion from the Club without refund.

C. Range Commands

1. The following commands are to be used by the RSO when there are two or more people on the line.
 - a. “Cease-fire” - STOP FIRING immediately upon hearing “CEASE-FIRE” from anyone. Keep the muzzle pointed in a safe direction and your finger off of the trigger and wait for further instructions from the Range Safety Officer. Anyone can call a Cease-fire.
 - b. “Unload” – Remove all sources of ammunition from the firearm (magazines, cylinders) open the action and ensure the chamber is empty. For a muzzle-loading firearm to be considered unloaded; it must be discharged into the berm with RSO approval.
 - c. “Show Clear” – Show the RSO or the person next to you (the RSO will dictate) that the firearm is unloaded. Once this is done, set the firearm on the bench with the action open. If the action cannot remain open, insert and leave an Empty Chamber Indicator (ECI) in the action.
 - d. “Cold Range” – Step back behind the red line (this is painted on the concrete). When the range is COLD, there shall be NO handling of firearms or ammunition. DO NOT handle, load, clean, or inspect firearms when the range is “COLD.” All firearms are to be on the bench (or grounded) with actions open, the chambers

cleared, and magazines removed or emptied. Shooters should be behind the red line unless placing cased firearm on the table/bench. Shooters wishing to place targets on backers may do so at the tables/benches only if they have cased (or placed on a gun rack) all firearms at their shooting point. If someone wishes to stand, sit, or lie down ahead of the red line, in order to check target placement, while the range is cold their firearms should also be cased or on a rack.

- e. “You May Go Down Range” - DO NOT move down range until the command “You may now go down range” is given by the Range Safety Officer. If you are not going down range, you must remain behind the red line.
- f. “Range is Hot” – Once the range is called HOT, you may handle firearms and ammunition. You may load magazines or speedloaders and chamber a round. You are not authorized to start shooting. Dryfiring (process of shooting WITHOUT ammunition) is authorized.
- g. “Commence Fire” – You may start shooting only after the “Commence fire” command is given by the Range Safety Officer.

D. Range Operation

1. Range Hours are sunrise to sunset unless authorized by the Airfield Conference Center and the ASC Board of Directors.
2. The range will be closed to use by members and their guest(s) on summer weekdays while 4-H campers use the range. Other range closures may occur from time to time due to special events taking place at the range. Examples may include weddings, family gatherings, or other special events as requested by the Airfield Conference Center and approved by the ASC Board. Always check the website calendar to ensure the range is open before scheduling a trip to the range. Be sure to read all remarks related to a closure notice as some closures will be for an entire day, while others may only be for a limited period of time during the day. The Match Director, or work party leader (as applicable) shall determine whether to use the Black Flag (See [Section I-D-7b](#)) or not, and whether it is necessary/warranted to close adjoining ranges.
3. Noise restrictions apply on Sunday mornings before noon. No rifle or handgun louder than a .22 may be fired on any rifle/pistol range. No shotgun louder than a 20 gauge may be fired on any clays range. Suppressed firearms in other chamberings may be allowed so long as noise does not exceed the above limits.
4. Combinations shall not be shared with non-members. All combination locks shall be set to “0-0-0-0” after opening. It is recommended that you unlock the restrooms for your guests when you arrive and lock it when you leave.
5. Immediately upon arriving at the range, Club members must sign the range usage log indicating date, time of entry, member number, name(s) of guest(s). Just prior to departing the range, the member will enter the time of departure and the approximate number of rounds shot on which range to assist with the lead management program.
6. You may bring firearms to the line in the following conditions:
 - a. When the range is cold, ONLY cased firearms may be brought to the firing line.

- b. When the range is hot, you may bring cased firearms or uncased firearms to the line. Uncased firearms must be brought to the line with the muzzle up, actions open, removable magazines out, fixed magazines emptied.
7. Range Flags - The following flag colors are used to describe the condition of the range:
 - a. **Red** – This means the range is active. It does not indicate if it is hot or cold, just that someone is on it. If a member is the first shooter on site, raise the red range flag. The last member to depart the range shall lower the range flag.
 - b. **Black** – This means the range is closed and is not available for use. No firearms (except concealed carry) shall be allowed on the range during this time. Signs, indicating range closure, may also be placed on or near a closed range. Ranges will be closed while maintenance is being performed on a range. In order to maximize safety, adjacent ranges may be closed while maintenance is performed on the adjoining range. For example: if maintenance is being performed on any shotgun range, all shotgun ranges (skeet and trap) may be closed. Likewise, when maintenance is being performed on either the 50-yard or 100-meter range, both of those ranges may remain closed until the maintenance has been completed. A black Flag can only be removed by the person that puts the black flag out and they have verified the issue they put it out for has been resolved; or when authorized by a Board member. No member is allowed to remove a black flag they did not put out unless they have confirmed with the Maintenance Office and/or the Chief Instructor.
8. The Club member, or authorized range user, who is the first one on a range shall normally assume the responsibilities of Range Safety Officer (RSO) and shall display one of the provided RSO badges so that anyone wishing to locate the RSO can readily identify him/her. When both the 50-yard and 100-meter ranges are in use there must be a separate RSO on duty for each range. Prior to the Range Safety Officer leaving that range, another Club member or authorized range user shall assume the responsibilities of Range Safety Officer and display the RSO badge. One member must always assume the responsibility as the Range Safety Officer for the safety and control of each range as defined under "[Section III: Range Safety Officer Manual](#)" before any firing may take place. If no Club member will assume the duties of Range Safety Officer, the range will be closed.
9. Members and their guests using the range must obey the commands and instructions of the designated Range Safety Officer. Failure to obey the instructions of the Range Safety Officer will result in severe disciplinary consequences which may include expulsion from the Club.
10. Each Member shall be responsible for any and all damages to the ranges and other ASC property caused by themselves and/or his/her guests. Intentional destruction to ASC property shall result in dismissal from the Club without reimbursement and possible prosecution and/or civil action.
11. Firing Line – The normal firing line is under the pavilion roofs on the 50-yard and 100-meter ranges. Members may, however, by mutual agreement with everyone on the line of that particular range at the time, move the firing line downrange. When the line has been

moved forward, all shooters on that range must shoot from the newly established firing line until someone wishes to shoot from the normal firing line. Those shooting from forward of the normal line should check with any members just arriving to see if they are willing to shoot from the same firing line or if those forward need to move back to the normal line. Except during scheduled matches, those wishing to shoot from the normal firing line shall have priority. The firing line shall not be moved farther back than the normal firing line under the pavilion roofs. In all circumstances those firing shall be on a line parallel to the berm. In no case will anyone load a firearm or fire with someone, on the same range, forward of a muzzle.

12. Clean Up - Police-up after using the range. Place target papers, cans, etc. in appropriate trash containers. Target frames may remain upright and in place on the range, but cardboard backers should be removed from them. Cardboard backers which are still usable should be returned to the designated storage area; those which are too shot up for further use should be placed in trash containers or in the dumpster. Take home unfired ammunition, spray cans, etc. DO NOT place these in the trash containers.
13. Duds should be placed in the “Dud Cans” or taken home. All shooters should be aware that we share this facility with 4-H and any duds or other ammunition left on the range may be found and picked up by young shooters.
14. Mining of lead from the range berms, floors, etc. is strictly prohibited. DO NOT remove brass from the brass buckets. Once in the bucket the brass is considered Club property, which the Club recycles.
15. Fully automatic fire is prohibited on all ranges.
16. Leaving the range – The last person to leave the range shall ensure the following:
 - a. Range flags are stored
 - b. Sign in Shed is locked and the lock set to “0-0-0-0”
 - c. Bathrooms – lights out and doors locked
 - d. Gate locked and lock set to “0-0-0-0”

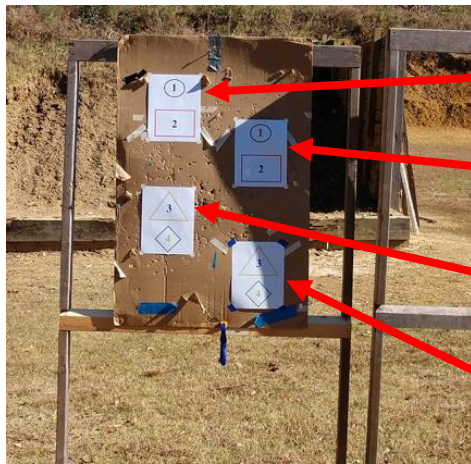
E. Guests

1. Except during ASC sponsored functions (i.e. WOT, Sight-In Day, training programs, etc.) anyone who brings a guest shall remain present at the range with that guest (on the same range) at all times until the guest’s departure. Members bringing guests to the range are directly and totally responsible for their conduct and actions while on the range. Members of the immediate family must be accompanied by the related ASC member.
2. Members may not bring more than six guests per visit. Members may not shoot while they have more than 2 guests shooting at one time.
3. All guests (including family members) must be at the same shooting point or an immediately adjacent shooting point.
4. Guests shall be required to sign the Range Release, Waiver, and Indemnification log for each visit to the range. Member sponsors will be responsible to ensure their guest sign the waiver log.

5. Spouses and minor children of members intending to utilize range facilities will be required to sign the Release/Waiver form one time. The signed form will be provided to the Club secretary, who in turn will forward a copy to the 4-H Center for their records.

F. Targets

1. Target locations - Targets shall only be authorized at the Target frame or at the berm. Placing self-standing targets anywhere but at the berm is unauthorized due to the possibility of ricochet.
2. Target frames – Use only target frames labeled for the range and the distance you are shooting on. Be sure to place targets in a position that prevents the shooting of the frames. DO NOT use frames marked for "youth" or "4-H" use only.
3. DO NOT place targets on, or in front of the support frame. Cardboard backers are available for use with the frames. All targets should be fastened to the cardboard so that bullets aimed at the target will NOT hit the target frame. Targets shall be placed in line with the shooter's position so as to avoid cross firing on the range.
4. Position targets on the cardboard so that all rounds will impact in the lower half of the berm (impact zone). For example, targets to be shot from the prone position may need to be placed lower than targets intended to be shot from the standing position. Use common sense and, if necessary, another person, viewing from the firing line to assist you in placing targets at the proper elevation. NOTE: Rounds should NOT impact the floor of the range, target stands or wooden range structures. See Figure below.



This Target is a little high. Shots will impact toward the top of the berm.

This Target is perfect. Shots will impact correctly.

This Target is too low. Shots will impact the knee wall.

This Target is too low. Shots will go impact the ground and ricochet.

5. All targets shall be attached to the cardboard with tape. Staples are not allowed.
6. Bowling pins may be safely hung in a target frame by a single point at the top of the pin.
7. DO NOT use glass, stone, solid metal, or breakable objects which create a hazardous debris as targets or can cause ricochets. Used metal tanks such as propane, helium, freon etc. are strictly prohibited.
8. Tannerite may only be used on ranges in pre-formed commercial manufactured targets. Shooter manufactured and/or mixed Tannerite targets are strictly prohibited on the ASC

ranges. Tannerite target use shall not produce excessive noise so as to disturb Airfield Conference Center personnel or guests or disturb other shooters on the ASC range.

9. Steel target stands for clay targets like the one shown can be used at the berm. They must be in a vertical orientation, horizontal could cause upward deflections or ricochet and leave the range. The vertical bar must be ½” or less and the horizontal holders must be 5” or less with no significant surface to cause an issue. When in doubt ask the board for clarification.



G. Steel targets

1. Material - Steel reactive targets for use with centerfire firearms should be commercially produced from steel with certified Brinell Hardness Numbers of not less than 500. Metallic silhouette targets, such as those used for rimfire silhouette competition may be made of other suitable materials, but these targets may only be shot using .22 long rifle ammunition with lead or copper plated bullets. .22 caliber targets such as Spinners can be used only with .22 rimfire and must be placed in or at the berm to capture rounds in the appropriate area.
2. Condition – Steel targets should be smooth and free from pockmarks, cracks etc. Irregularities in the surface can cause uncontrolled ricochets.
3. Hanging steel targets - If hanging steel targets within the club’s existing frames, targets must be hung by two points so as to minimize twisting as this could cause dangerous ricochets. The method of hanging should allow for the target to swing forward and backward. Ensure that the height is such that close misses will result in the rounds impacting in the lower half of the berm.
4. Self-standing steel targets – The frames used to support these targets shall be made of a non-ricochet capable material such as wood or plastic. The use of steel frame is prohibited as it can cause unpredictable ricochets. The use of electrical conduit is acceptable due to its thin wall.
5. Fixed Steel Targets - If you have a self-standing fixed steel target, it is important to have the steel angled down (Top tipped toward the shooter) so that the round ricochets down toward the ground.
6. Safe Distance -To prevent ricochet injury to you or someone else when shooting steel, the following are the minimum distance(s) for regular lead core ammunition, depending on caliber.
 - a. Pistols and Pistol Caliber Rifles – a MINIMUM 25 ft away from the target.
 - b. Shotgun – Must use 7.5 lead shot or smaller (8, 9) a MINIMUM of 50 ft away from the target. Steel shot is not authorized when you are shooting steel targets.
 - c. Centerfire rifle caliber – With any centerfire rifle or pistol that shoots rifle cartridges you should be at a MINIMUM of 100 yds away from the target. This means that steel targets may only be shot with a rifle caliber on the 100-meter range.



- d. Frangible Ammunition Use and Distance. Frangible ammunition is a type of ammunition whose “bullet” is actually a compressed powder that disintegrates when it impacts something hard like steel. This is overall safer than lead core bullets due to lack of ricochet. The only thing that results when a frangible bullet hits a piece of steel is a fine powder. There are “jacketed frangible” ammunition types where this is not the case as the jacket may ricochet. When using frangible ammunition, it is the shooters responsibility to show the RSO that they are using frangible ammunition if steel is not positioned at the lead core based ammunition distances and locations.
- 1) Non-Jacketed Frangible Ammunition – Pistol Caliber distance is 3’ and Rifle Caliber is 15’.
 - 2) Jacketed Frangible ammunition. The minimum safe distance will be 15’ for pistol caliber and 50’ for rifle caliber.

7. Target Location –

- a. Using Lead core ammunition - For the 50 yd and 100m ranges, steel targets may be placed on the target frames at the berm or on the berm in those ranges. For the Short Range Berm, steel targets must be placed in the berm. There are special free standing tstructurearget frames that can be used to hang steel in the Short Range Berm. This is due to lead abatement concerns. You may at the discretion of the RSO and in accordance with 1.D.10, move the firing line forward to obtain a shorter but no closer than the safe distance required from the steel.
- b. Using Frangible ammunition – Because frangible ammunition does not have lead in the bullet, the shooter may hang steel from any target frame (maintaining the safe distance) or place the steel in any location as long as safe distance is maintained and the bullet impacts the lower half of the berm if the steel is missed.

H. Archery use on Pistol/Rifle Ranges

1. Archery is permitted on the SRB, 50 yd and 100m.
2. All safety rules in [Section I-B](#) will remain in effect and apply to the archery equipment used.
3. All Range Commands in [Section I-C](#) will be followed. The bow will be considered the “firearm” and the arrow/bolt is the “ammunition”. In addition to the following clarifications:
 - a. Bows/Crossbows will not be handled by anyone while people are down range.
 - b. Arrows/bolts will be in a quiver unless range is hot and shooting.
 - c. In addition to having the arrow/bolt removed a crossbow must be de-cocked to considered “clear”.
4. Keep arrows pointed down or down range
5. Inspect your equipment (bow, string and arrow) frequently. Firing damaged equipment may cause injury so do not do it.
6. Wear all appropriate safety gear.
7. Do not “dry fire” the bow.
8. Place the targets directly in front of the berm and in an authorized firing lane.

Section II: Range Specifics

A. Specific about the 50-yard or 100-meter Range

1. Drawing from the holster is authorized. The holster type and draw method, however should prevent pointing the muzzle in an unsafe direction. Special procedures of moving the body to point down range during the draw are required when using cross draw, drawing from a purse or horizontal shoulder holsters. Please seek guidance if you are unsure how to draw safely without pointing the firearm in an unsafe direction. It is **STRONGLY** recommended that individuals practice drawing and holstering with either a training pistol or a verified unloaded firearm first until the process is safe.
2. **DO NOT** set targets nor shoot at anything closer than 12-feet laterally from the range separation wall on the 50-yard or 100-meter range.
3. Any member observed purposely shooting into the range separation wall will be subject to expulsion from the membership without refund. If a guest is observed purposely shooting the wall the guest will be asked to leave the range and never return. The member responsible for this guest will be subject to expulsion without refund.
4. **DO NOT** shoot the Range Arrow (on the 50-yard range) nor the post it is mounted on. Rounds that impact to the right of the Range Arrow could exit the range. Shooting the Range Arrow or its pole is grounds for immediate dismissal from the Club without refund.
5. **DO NOT** shoot from the first shooting section or “bay” on the far right of the 50-yard range closest to the range separation wall.
6. Targets shall be only positioned at the berm at the 100-meter range. This is due to the raised firing position on that range. Bullets fired at targets placed closer to the firing line could result in ricochets which may not hit the back berm. (The one exception to this is silhouette targets as used for 4-H .22 rimfire competition. Silhouette targets may be placed at 77-meters on the 100-meter range when special target stands have been erected so as to place targets high enough so that misses will impact the lower half of the back berm.)

B. Short Range Berm (SRB) (on the far left of the 50-yard range)

1. RSO shall verify that no person is behind the SRB before calling the range “HOT”.
2. Make sure all rounds impact the lower half of the SRB. Only shoot from a position or angle at the SRB that will allow the rounds to impact the SRB only.
3. Shoot targets on the SRB utilizing shooting positions 1 through 9 of the 50-yard range (Left most positions in front of SRB). Targets shall be placed in line with the shooter’s position so as to avoid cross firing on the range.
4. Target frames may only be placed in the PVC pipe that is located at predetermined spots in the ground.
5. When shooting at targets on the SRB, ensure that you are using only one frame per shooting position (i.e. please remove any frames directly behind) so that rounds cannot impact frames.

6. Use **ONLY** paper targets or non-metallic targets (i.e., self-healing) when shooting at targets on frames outside of the berm on the **SRB**.
7. **DO NOT** shoot at any of the structure that is used to form the **SRB**! Ensure your target placement prevents errant rounds from hitting the structure.
8. All other rules and regulations of the **ASC** remain in full force and effect when using the **SRB** on the 50-yard range.
9. **VIOLATION OF THESE SRB RULES MAY RESULT IN DISCIPLINE OR EXPULSION FROM THE CLUB AND THE RANGE!!!**

C. Shotgun Fields:

1. ASC members who wish to use the shotgun fields must be qualified by the ASC Shotgun Director or his or her designee. Members should fully understand the skeet/trap operations and billing requirements before using the Shotgun fields. Note: You may use the shotgun field without being qualified only if you are a guest of another member who is qualified.
2. Shot Size – Only shot size 7-1/2 or smaller (7-1/2, 8, 8-1/2 & 9) are acceptable.
3. Use good judgment and wear eye and ear protection when appropriate. Note that ASC recommends use of eye and ear protection. Members and guests assume all risks.
4. Keep your finger off of the trigger until ready to shoot. This generally means right before you call for the bird.
5. Maintain muzzle control. Muzzles should be pointed in a safe direction at all times. It does not matter that your gun may be unloaded; do not let it point at any part of any person, period. For example: Toe pads are not to be used to rest the muzzle, the muzzles of hinged action shotguns are not allowed to swing past the heads of shooters. The safe direction on the skeet range while on the shooting pad is towards the crossing stake. On the skeet range(s) loaded guns should never point back past the low or high house. On the trap fields the safe direction is downrange (past the house).
6. Ensure that all firearms remain unloaded with actions open at all times except when on a shooting pad and ready to shoot. Check that your action is open and your chamber(s) empty before leaving the shooting pad. (It is understood that the actions on hinged action shotguns must be closed during assembly and disassembly and that it is expected that the actions on these guns will be closed when placing the gun on a gun rack. Upon removal of a hinged action shotgun from a rack, the muzzle(s) should remain pointed in a safe direction and the action opened immediately.)
7. When a “Cease-fire” is called, immediately stop shooting and keep your firearm pointed in a safe direction with your finger off of the trigger. If a Range Safety Officer (RSO), Instructor or Match Referee is present, wait for further instructions. If no RSO, Instructor or Match Referee is present, evaluate the situation and open the action and unload when it is safe to do so. A “Cease-fire” should be called if any person or animal is seen down range.
8. Open your action, unload, and make the line safe if someone leaves the group to reload traps or enters a trap house for any reason. Keep your action open and step off of the shooting station. See Rule 17 below regarding the orange cone on the trap range.
9. Turn off traps and release arms before reloading traps. The body part you save may be your own!
10. DO NOT allow unauthorized persons to load traps. Unauthorized persons are not allowed in the skeet or trap houses.
11. DO NOT pick up dropped shells while standing on a shooting pad. Leave the shell on the ground until you are finished at that station and pick it up only after your gun is unloaded as you leave the station. (At his/her discretion the person doing the pulling may pick up a dropped shell for the shooter.)

12. DO NOT load more than two shells at a time on skeet stations 1 through 7, and only one shell at a time on station 8. Note: Instructors conducting training which has been authorized by the Airfield Conference Center or the ASC Board may instruct their shooters to load more than two rounds only if required for instructional purposes.
13. DO NOT distract other shooters with your conduct or actions.
14. DO NOT look in or stand in front of the low house window on the skeet range, or the trap bunker opening on the trap range.
15. DO NOT track or shoot your target beyond “absolute vertical” on skeet station eight (8).
16. DO NOT fire a shotgun that just gave an unusual report. Unload and check the bore for obstructions.
17. DO NOT handle or load uncased firearms when on the trap range if an orange cone is on the trap bunker roof. The cone indicates that someone is inside the bunker loading clays or performing maintenance.
18. DO NOT use the trap bunker on Field Three (far right as you stand at the pavilion and look toward the shotgun fields) as that is for the exclusive use of 4-H.)
19. DO NOT handle uncased handguns or rifles on the shotgun fields or in and around the parking lot and picnic pavilion. Additionally, do not insert ammunition into or otherwise load handgun or rifle magazines or speedloaders in these areas.
20. Shotgun instructors may, with board approval, designate temporary shooting positions outside the concrete pads. These temporary positions must be clearly marked and all rules pertaining to the permanent shooting pads shall apply to the temporary shooting positions as well.

Note:

Scheduled matches and ASC sanctioned training events may have their own set of rules, some of which may differ slightly from the above rules. The ASC Board of Directors has authorized the event and agreed that safety can be maintained if the event rules are followed. Check with the Match Director or lead instructor to see what differences, if any, may be applicable.

Section III: Range Safety Officer Manual

Range safety is everyone's responsibility. We all must be involved in order to ensure that our range is run in a safe manner. We have written this manual to help you to understand your role as a Range Safety Officer.

Our standard operating procedure is that the first shooter at the range takes on the responsibility of the Range Safety Officer on that range. If there is a scheduled event at the range the member in charge of that event will either act as Range Safety Officer, or will designate a Range Safety Officer who will act under the direction of the member in charge of the event. When you stand duty as the Range Safety Officer, take charge. People will be looking to you for direction, guidance and safety.

Some judgment is necessary when deciding whether the Range Safety Officer (RSO) needs to devote all of his/her attention to keeping range operations safe and when it is OK to shoot while acting as RSO. General guidance is that when everyone on the range is an experienced shooter the RSO may shoot when no more than two other shooters are sharing use of the range with him/her. When the RSO is unfamiliar with the shooters on the line, it is best that the RSO devote his/her full attention to range safety and forego shooting until comfortable with their knowledge, skills and attitude or until relieved. Arrangements should be made to pass Range Safety Officer responsibilities to another member after perhaps 30-minutes so that everyone has an opportunity to shoot.

We run a cold range. A cold range is one in which all firearms are brought to the line unloaded and cased. It is at the command of the Range Safety Officer that firearms are uncased, loaded and fired. To accommodate concealed carry permit holders and others (such as law enforcement officers) who arrive at the range with a holstered firearm on their person, we will consider a loaded and holstered firearm, carried on the person, to be a cased firearm. Note: this rule is intended to apply only to a holstered firearm worn on the person and specifically does NOT apply to a loaded firearm in a holster which is not on the person. You may carry a gun to the range holstered. You may leave the range with the gun holstered. However, while you are using it the same rules for safety will apply to your firearm as all others.

In order to provide additional safety while we have people downrange anyone not going downrange must step behind and remain behind the red lines that are painted on the pavilion floors of the 50-yard. and 100-meter ranges while the range is cold. When returning from hanging/placing targets, all persons must wait behind the red lines until the range is called hot again by the RSO. This rule is intended to help ensure that no one casually reaches down to reposition a firearm or adjust a scope while people are downrange. Remaining behind the red lines provides an additional buffer against someone momentarily forgetting that handling uncased firearms is not allowed while the range is cold. There are two exceptions to this rule as noted in [Section I-C-1-d.](#)

Before moving between the 50 and 100-meter ranges it is strongly recommended that shooter(s) unload and case firearms. If for some reason the shooter is unable to case firearms then the move must be coordinated with the RSOs on both ranges before the (unloaded) uncased firearm to be moved is picked up off of the bench. Remember, at a cold range, handling firearms for any reason except to bring a cased firearm to the line is prohibited. Please, don't assume anything. As Range Safety Officer make all of your decisions with safety foremost in mind.

While the line is "Hot" you should be alert for any unsafe gun handling practices. Corrections should be polite, but firm. You should also ensure that targets are placed, relative to the shooter, so that all rounds land within the lower half (impact zone) of the back berm. Rounds should not impact in the grass or dirt in front of the berm, nor should they hit target frames. Refer to the Range Rules for further guidance.

Calling the Range:

There are standard, basic commands that you should become familiar with. These range commands are described in [Section I – Range Commands](#)". As an RSO you should know when to call these and what to look for.

1. Cease-fire
 - a. Called by anyone not just the RSO.
 - b. Why called: There are generally two conditions that you will call a Cease-fire; 1- When an unsafe condition exists and 2- before an RSO makes the line Cold. It is recommended to let the shooters on the line know beforehand that you will shortly be going "cold" and calling cease-fire. This will give the shooters a moment or two to finish their last shot.
 - c. RSO Action: Ensure the line stops firing, finger off the trigger and muzzle pointed in a safe direction. If it was not called by the RSO, determine why the Cease-fire was called and then provide direction.
2. Unload
 - a. Called by RSO - This command is generally used in conjunction with "Show Clear" command (i.e., "Unload and Show Clear").
 - b. Why called: In preparation to make the line "Cold". This gets the firearms in a safe condition.
 - c. RSO Action: Ensure that all shooters start unloading their firearms. Unloading includes removing detachable magazines and all ammunition from the firearm (cylinders and chambers). For a muzzle-loading firearm to be considered unloaded; it must be discharged into the berm with RSO approval and supervision. This should be communicated to the line for safety (i.e., eye and hearing protection should remain on).
3. Show Clear
 - a. Called by RSO
 - b. Why called: In preparation to make the line cold.
 - c. RSO Action: Either visually inspect each firearm to be unloaded or direct each shooter to have a person next to them to verify the firearm is clear. After it is verified clear the shooter shall, leave the action open and the muzzle pointed downrange and place it on the bench. As an option the action may be closed if it is going to be cased. For muzzle loaders, this is not the time for a muzzleloader to

discharge his gun into the berm. That should have been done prior to the cease-fire. Once a firearm is cleared personnel should step behind the red line.

4. “The Range is Now Cold” or “Cold Range”
 - a. Called by RSO
 - b. Why called: To make the line safe to allow things like going forward of the line etc.
 - c. RSO Action: Ensure that all firearms have been showed clear and are benched with muzzles pointed down range, actions open or cased. Then verify all personnel are behind the red line with no magazines, ammo or firearms in their hands. At this point you would call the range Cold. There will be no handling of uncased firearms, including a holstered firearm, or ammunition, speedloaders, or magazines for any reason from this point until the line is again called “hot”. The line is now safe. Again, make sure that there is no handling of firearms or ammo at this time!
5. You May Now Go Down Range
 - a. Called by RSO - You may combine this with the Range Is Now Cold command (i.e. “The Range is now Cold, You May Go Down Range”)
 - b. Why called: To allow people to go forward of the firing line. This may be to address targets or take care of something down range.
 - c. RSO Actions: Be sure the line is safe and then ensure no one who stays behind touches any firearms or ammunition.
6. The Range Is Now Hot (may use “Hot for Handling”)
 - a. Called by RSO
 - b. Why called: To allow for handling of firearms (uncase them etc), load magazines, firearms etc. Possibly to allow a person to remove a firearm from the line without a case.
 - c. RSO Actions: Before calling the range hot, ensure that all personnel are accounted for. It is recommended that you count the number of people before and after. Be sure that no one is behind the Short Range Berm if on the 50-yard range. At this point be sure that people are not shooting. They are only allowed to handle Firearms and ammunition. Shooters may now pack up their firearms and equipment if they are leaving the line. This is a good time to verify the targets are in a proper location to ensure safe hits on the berm.
7. Commence Firing
 - a. Called by the RSO - This command may be combined with “The Range Is Now Hot (i.e. The Range Is Now Hot, You may commence Firing”)
 - b. Why called: To allow shooters to start shooting.
 - c. RSO Actions: Ensure that all personnel in the area have eye and hearing protection on. It is a good idea to reverify that down range is clear. While the line is “Hot” you should be alert for any unsafe gun handling practices. Corrections should be polite, but firm. Be sure rounds do not impact in the grass or dirt in front of the berm, nor should they hit target frames. Refer to the Range Rules and Regulations for further guidance.

During matches and teaching situations other commands may be used but the intent is always the same: safety. We may not all use the same wording when we are calling range commands. Some people will, at times, combine commands but remember that the aim of the exercise is safety and accurate communication is essential to safety. When you serve as an RSO make sure that your commands are understood and carried out by those present.

Running the Range:

When running the range there are things the RSO should look for. RSOs should help enforce a safe environment and provide courteous correction or guidance on the rules to other members. Some of the major items that you should look for are:

1. Handling of firearms:
 - a. Guns shall always be pointed down range. Even before picking them out of a case.
 - b. Fingers should remain off the trigger unless they are ready to shoot.
 - c. Any time guns are set down on the bench, they should be unloaded and actions open and facing up if possible. When actions are not able to be locked open, it is recommended that an empty chamber indicator (weed eater string) be used to indicate it is unloaded.
2. Rounds impacting the lower half of the berm:
 - a. This involves making sure that targets are correctly positioned based on the shooting position and the height of the shooter.
 - b. If targets are placed too high or too low then rounds will not impact the right location of the berm.
 - c. Correct target height changes when position changes (ie prone, bench, standing) and with shooter height (one is tall and the other short).
3. Use of steel:
 - a. Maintain proper distance
 - b. Steel is in a good condition
 - c. Steel is hung correctly
 - d. Steel is at a proper distance
 - e. Ensure frangible ammunition is being used if the position of the steel requires its use.
4. Safety:
 - a. Eye and hearing protection is used as required
 - b. People are behind the red line during cold range
 - c. No handling of guns or ammunition when cold
5. Drawing from the holster:
 - a. Ensure trigger finger is clear until the firearm is pointed down range
 - b. At no time should the gun ever be pointed anywhere but down or down range when the hand is on the gun.
 - c. Ensure the support hand remains behind the muzzle during the draw and holstering process
 - d. Ensure no cover garments are in the way of the holster when placing the gun back in its holster.

Section IV: Emergency Information

For medical and personal emergencies	911
Sussex County Sheriff's Office	(434) 246-5000
Virginia State Police (Waverly)	(804) 834-2368
4-H Administration Building (Sun-Thu: 8am-5pm, Fri-Sat: typically, 24 hours)	(757) 899-4901
Ivor Medical Center	(757) 859-6161
Waverly Medical Center	(804) 834-8871
Wakefield Volunteer Fire Department (non-emergency)	(757) 899-2302
Obici Hospital, Suffolk (see directions below)	(757) 934-4800
Southside Regional Hospital (Petersburg)	(804) 765-5000
Southampton Memorial Hospital (Franklin)	(757) 569-6100

In case of a medical emergency, we have provided first aid/trauma kits. One is located in the ASC shed on the 100-meter shooting pavilion and the other is located in the low house on the skeet field. There is also an AED on the 50 yd range. If you do not have a cell phone and there is not one available, the nearest phone is at the Airfield Conference Center.

It is suggested that we call before we send someone to Ivor Medical Center; if they are backed up they will likely send us to Waverly. However, since Ivor is closer, it will generally be quicker to send minor injuries there (sprains, cuts that need stitching, swelling, etc).

For major injuries, contact 911 and the Wakefield Volunteer Fire Dept., Waverly Rescue Squad and/or Ivor Rescue Squad will respond. If it is a fairly serious injury, but does not need EMS attention immediately, consider transporting the injured person to the Sentara Obici Hospital in Suffolk.

To get to Obici, take Route 460 East to exit Route 10, turn left. Proceed to third traffic light and the Sentara Obici Hospital campus is on the right. (Distance is about 34-miles from the range to the hospital.)

Natural Emergencies

If a natural emergency were to occur, fire, flood, trees falling etc, the first responsibility of the RSO is to ensure immediate safety. The general order of which is to secure the line, address immediate injuries, notification of emergency services, secure the range as needed and notification of the Airfield Conference Center and the ASC Board.

Inclement Weather

The RSO will suspend all shooting under clearly unsafe weather conditions such as, but not limited to; hail storms, lightning and tornadoes. Shooting may resume when the condition has passed. When lightning is observed by any shoot staff a cease fire will be called immediately. RSOs will insure that all the ranges are cleared of participants and staff, with all taking cover. RSO will continue to monitor lightning strikes, starting a new time clock with each observed strike. After a duration of 20 minutes with no strikes, the RSO shall reopen the ranges.

Section V: Emergency Procedures:

In the event an accident happens please perform the following. This is just a guide, and every situation is different as such common sense should be applied.

1. Make the Line safe. This will involve Cease-fire, Unload and Show Clear, the Range is Now Cold. Secure the firearms of any victims involved in the accident.
2. Assess the situation. Determine the criticality of the accident. Render aid as appropriate.

The following assumes a serious situation requiring medical help.

3. Direct someone to call 911
4. Direct someone to get the Trauma Kit from the shed on the 100-meter range or Low House. Render aid as able. Ask if anyone is medically trained – could be someone on another range.
5. Direct someone to be at the entrance to the 4-H road to guide the emergency services vehicles in.
6. Direct someone to ensure the road for emergency vehicles is clear.
7. Direct someone to gather statements from witnesses (see form attached)
8. Complete Report
9. Contact Board members to notify them of the situation.

ACCIDENT/INCIDENT REPORTING FORM

Date: _____

Report generated by: _____

Phone No. _____

Person Injured: _____

Phone No. _____

1. Nature and Extent of Injury: _____

2. Location of the Incident and conditions of area: _____

3. How did the injury occur: _____

4. What first aid was given and by who: _____

5. Disposition (taken to what hospital, time of transport etc): _____

6. What family or guardian was notified and when: _____

7. What PPE was worn (safety glasses/Hearing protection): _____

8. Were pictures taken of the scene? If so by who (name & phone): _____

9. Witness A: Name: _____ Phone No. _____

10. Witness B: Name: _____ Phone No. _____

11. Witness C: Name: _____ Phone No. _____

BE SURE TO INCLUDE A STATEMENT FROM WITNESSES

ACCIDENT/INCIDENT REPORTING FORM

12. Notes and Comments: _____

13. Diagram if needed:

**ACCIDENT/INCIDENT REPORTING FORM
WITNESS STATEMENT**

Name: _____ Phone No. _____

Observation of what happened. Try to detail things like position, range commands, safety briefings, material conditions etc.
