

# GENERAL RANGE RULES & CLUB REGULATIONS

(APPLICABLE TO ALL RANGES- AS OF JAN, 1997) Revised June 2004

*Range rules along with safe firearms practices and etiquettes will not stop a bullet after it leaves the barrel. Learn the rules to your sport!*

1. Always point the muzzle in a safe direction. Never allow muzzle to point in any direction whereby an accidental discharge would allow a projectile or shot to leave club property.
2. Keep fingers off the trigger, and outside the trigger-guard, until ready to shoot.
3. Keep the action open and firearm unloaded until ready to use. (Use gun rack.)
4. Know how the firearm operates, read manufactures instruction manual.
5. At no time may a loaded firearm be left unattended.
6. Firearms must not be handled by persons other than the owner, without the owner's specific consent.
7. Be sure the firearm and ammunition are compatible.
8. When on the range, do not have more than one firearm and its' ammunition on the firing point at any one time.
9. Be sure of the target and what is beyond. When shooting on ranges also be aware of what is adjacent to the range and backstop. It is the responsibility of all members to be familiar with, and to observe the rules of the Ranges on which they are shooting.
10. Appropriate eye and ear protection are mandatory. All (Spectators and Shooters) in the immediate Firing Line area must wear both hearing and eye protection.
11. No alcohol or illegal drugs shall be used by anyone using ranges, or just prior to using ranges. Immediate dismissal from property shall be required, and possible revocation of membership. One alcoholic drink or drug usage makes all ranges off limits for the day.
12. No smoking permitted on ranges when black powder firearms are being used.
13. Know and obey all range commands.
14. Know where others are at all times and be prepared to react to any circumstance out of the ordinary.
15. Shoot only authorized paper targets. WCSC supplied target frames or approved frames and mountings must be used.
16. Place trash in proper container and police your brass. Do not dispose of duds in trash—use dud round container only!! Retrieve used targets and dispose of in trash.
17. Do not shoot across the range. Shoot down the "alley" into the target in your lane.
18. Rifle/pistol range hours are from 9:00 am to sunset.
19. Use only firearms authorized for given WC&SC range. I.E.: No rifle/pistol on shotgun ranges and no birdshot/buckshot on rifle/pistol range. Violation of the Rifle range "Multiple projectile" ammunition will result in a \$100.00 fine.
20. All firing must be from designated firing points.
21. Range officers;( RO) are in charge and responsible for range safety. Any disputes will be resolved by R.O. Range officer decisions are final, and if disputed can be brought up with club officers for review at monthly meeting.
22. Be aware that circumstances may require additional rule unique to a particular situation.
23. Open, unload and bench all firearms during cease-fires and stand back from firing points. Range safe conditions, No handling of firearms when others are down range.
24. Absolutely no walking on or placing targets on backstops (berms).

*No ground targets are to be used at any time.*

*All targets must be backed up by a berm to avoid ricochet.*

26. Every member has a duty and responsibility for enforcement of the rules, to check memberships, and should notify a WC&SC director of any problems.

27. Have your Range Access Card (Membership Card) displayed at all times while on club property and show it when you are requested to do so by any member. Your club card is not transferable and will be seized if used by someone other than the named member and revoked. There is a \$3.00 charge to replace lost cards.
28. No vehicles are allowed on ranges except for maintenance and construction, when ranges are closed.
29. Members are responsible for their guests. Members must remain with, and supervise their guests. Limit to the members of guests is (2) at any one time. WC&SC members have priority on the Range. Guests are expected to join WC&SC after (3) visits.
30. Persons under 12 years of age are not allowed/permitted to discharge a firearm. Members and guests between 12 and 16 years of age have one year to obtain\* valid New York State Hunter Safety Training Certificate. Call the DEC Region 8 Avon office 585-226-2466 ask for Wildlife. A parent or guardian must supervise youth. Parental consent forms are required on file for 12 to 16 year old members shooting if parent[s] not present.  
\*Club regulation, in addition any adult who is not familiar with firearms safety should also attend the class.
31. All guns must be unloaded when going to and coming from the ranges.
32. Personal steel targets, breakable targets, cans, cups, etc. may not be shot on any Range
33. All members must be certified for each range. No grandfather clause exists. If a member has been certified on one range and uses another that he is not certified for, he will be expelled from the club. There are no exceptions.
34. For safety reasons R.O. cannot shoot if any other shooters are on the Range. RO must be relived by another RO.
35. All members are required to follow New York State/County and National regulatory laws in regards to firearms and ammunition.

## **WCSC SPECIFIC RANGE RULES FOR RIFLE/PISTOL**

**Range Hours 9:00 A.M. to Sunset—NO SHOOTING AFTER DARK**

1. Firearms must be pointed down range at all times, point firearms at back berm during loading.
2. Firearms must be unloaded, actions open, magazines removed, warning light and alarm on, before going ahead of the Firing Line. All persons must stand clear of the firing positions while down range. RO or last person up from down range area will ensure safe range before the commence fire command is given.
3. No shooting at anything but paper targets posted on WC&SC approved target backers with 2" x 2" posts of the proper height. Center your target on target backer. Numbers or posts must not be used as targets. No steel targets / swingers or clay skeet targets allowed.
4. No shooting at less than 25 yards. Exception is the retractable pistol backer.
6. All shooting is to be done at the target directly in front of your position. No lane cross fire allowed.
7. All shooting must be done from behind the Firing Line except during scheduled, sanctioned matches, which require a firing position ahead of the Firing Line, and are under control of a duly appointed Range Officer (RO).
8. Shotguns with slugs are permitted. Please shoot at a distance from which you are sure of hitting your target.
9. Please dispose of dud rounds in the box provided. Do not throw in the trash.
10. Chronographs may be used on the Range only if they are equipped with sky screens and are re-settable from behind the firing line.
11. There is no fast drawing pistols/revolvers from the holster to fire.
12. THERE WILL BE NO "MINING" OF LEAD.
13. When you have finished using the Range, clean up the paper and brass from your firing position, and place in the trash containers provided.

14. The prone, kneeling, sitting and Creedmoor position may be fired in designated positions only. When firing the Creedmoor position, the muzzle must be as close to the Firing Line as possible. These positions are to be used on the DCM portion of the Range only.
15. No smoking in the Range Storage Buildings.
16. Ranges are for use by members and escorted guests ONLY, except for participation in events open to the general public. Members are responsible for the actions and close control of family and guests.
17. Coming to or from the firing line, guns are to be unloaded and completely clear of ammunition. (i.e. unloaded, magazine out)
18. Tracer, explosive, or incendiary ammunition or targets are prohibited.
19. Members are always responsible for safe facility use and must take immediate action to stop an unsafe situation
20. No shooting at cement overhead baffles, or hanging targets on support posts
21. **Damage** to club property or unsafe use of guns is grounds for revoking membership
22. No person shall monopolize a firing point to the exclusion of others.
23. All uncased long arms. Not in use, will be secured in gun rack provided, with action open.

## WCSC SPECIFIC RANGE RULES FOR SHOTGUN RANGES

Skeet-5 Stand and Sporting clays & private portable machines

### General Safety Rules and Regulations:

1. Breech loading Damascus twist steel barrels are prohibited, unless they have tubes bringing it up to current safety specifications. Black Powder Breech loading Damascus twist steel barrels firearms allowed.
2. Maximum shot size is limited to #7-1/2 and 3.25 grains of powder. Only shot is allowed, no slugs or buckshot.
3. Shooters on a firing position must NOT leave the position until the action is open and the firearm is unloaded. Break action guns may be closed when placed in gun racks.
4. Shoot only at clay targets, or WCSC approved targets. No cans, building materials, boxes, wood, etc. permitted.
5. Shooting activities on trap/skeet/5-stand or sporting clay ranges must conform to specified firing lanes.
6. Hand traps may be used, provided safety precautions to protect the thrower are taken, and provided the thrower is not the primary instructor, or Range Officer.
7. Targets can be thrown from hand traps, seat traps or traps mounted on stable supports. Where the training objective is to teach the fundamentals of hitting a moving target. All participants should stand well clear of machine arms and target trajectories.
8. Action of gun is to remain open while at the facility except when it is your turn to shoot.
9. Gun MUST NOT be loaded until you are in a shooting position.
10. Gun MUST be pointed down range while loading.
11. Load no more than 2 shells at skeet stations 1 through 7 or trap doubles, and Load no more than 1 shell at skeet station 8 or trap singles. 5-stand & sporting clay fields load only 2 shells. "Open or Out"
12. In case of gun or ammunition malfunction, the gun MUST be pointed down range until cleared.
13. No hulls are to be PICKED UP during skeet or trap round. Pick up your hulls when done shooting!
14. Do not walk in FRONT of any trap house.
15. All persons (Spectators and Shooters) in the immediate Firing Line area must wear both hearing and eye protection.

16. Members under 12 years of age are not allowed on the firing lines, or permitted to discharge a firearm. Air guns allowed if closely supervised by an adult. Definition of "closely", the adult is standing next to the youth!
17. Please properly dispose of duds. DO NOT THROW IN TRASH
18. Leave the range's better than you found it - place debris, boxes, etc. in containers.

## **Shotgun Patterning Board located south east of the #2 Skeet field**

1. No lead shot larger than #2.
2. Warning: Beware of ricochet'

Revised June 2004 wjb

### **Williamson Conservation & Sporting Club, Inc. 1936 Range Commands**

#### **Purpose**

The purpose of range commands is to provide concise, clear and standard methods of range operation. This provides the shooters or participants with easy to understand guidelines and enhances safety.

#### **Superseding Commands**

All sanctioned competitions and many organizations have standardized range commands that may supersede the commands contained herein. The designated range officer may also modify the specific command language if all command steps are followed.

#### **Basic Range Commands**

The following commands are provided along with their purpose and a description of the action that should result. All commands are given by a designated range or safety official, except for cease-fire - or misfire. A cease-fire may be called by anyone detecting an unsafe situation. In the event of a misfire, the shooter having trouble should alert the range officer immediately. If a range officer is not formally assigned, then participants should mutually designate a person to perform the function.

### **Commands and Actions**

#### **A. To indicate EMERGENCY or HAZARDOUS CONDITIONS**

##### **Command: CEASE FIRE!**

**Purpose:** Stop all shooting routinely or, in case of emergency, immediately.

**Action:** Participants immediately stop shooting, continue to keep the muzzle pointed down range, remove finger from within the trigger guard, unload and clear the firearm and await further instructions from the range officer.

##### **Command: MISFIRE!**

**Purpose:** Notify the range officer and other participants that a round did not fire when the trigger was pulled and to alert other shooters along the line that a hazardous condition may exist.

**Action:** The shooter experiencing the misfire continues to keep the firearm pointed down range removes the finger from within the trigger guard and awaits further instructions.

- A. The range officer may or may not call a general cease-fire depending upon the situation.
- B. Shooters immediately adjacent to the misfire should cease fire, unload; open and either ground or bench their firearms and step back from the line.
- C. The remaining shooters may continue to fire as directed by a range officer or may cease fire at their option and await further instructions.

# **Williamson** **Conservation & Sporting Club**