

# ZRC RANGE SAFETY RULES

Revised 02/06

**Use:** If you are a Member of ZRC, you have access to the Range and the Practice Target Shed anytime the range is not being used for scheduled ZRC activities. Examples of these activities are matches, fun shoots, and times when the range has been scheduled for use by police, military, etc. With this access, there will be times when you may be at the range by yourself or with other Members or Guests doing casual shooting that is not supervised by a ZRC Official. It is every Member's responsibility to insure that all shooting is conducted safely. Please be courteous and work with other people at the range so that all involved can get the greatest use of the Range. The primary use of the range is shooting. It has a measured distance of 300 yards. There are 12 Firing Points at the 200 and 300 yard lines. The Pits have 12 vertically moving Target Frames. There are three Shooting Benches, one each at 100, 200 and 300 yards. All unsupervised shooting at the Range is to be done from the 200 yard line. Those shooters who wish to shoot at a lesser distance will mount their targets on the portable target stands that are placed in the practice shed. These can then be placed at any distance from the 200 yard line that you wish to shoot. If you are the only shooter on the range, you may shoot from the 300 or 100 yard lines, but if other shooters arrive and they wish to shoot from the 200 yard line, everyone must move there. If everyone agrees that they wish to shoot from the 300 or 100 yard lines then they may all move there. These requirements are not intended to penalize or favor any members. They are intended to help accommodate as many members as possible. If everyone will cooperate with each other, everyone should be able to enjoy the range. There are Latrine facilities available, but no water. Members are permitted to camp overnight on the range, but all their equipment and vehicles must be kept in the area below the level of the range proper on the right side of the range as you look at the pits. Access to this area is gained by the road that forks off to the right before you pass the 300 yard line. Open fires are restricted to this camping area and are subject to regulations prescribed by the Ohio Division of Forestry. There is one area in the camping area that is designated for a fire. Members and Guests are responsible for maintaining the premises and removal/proper disposal of trash generated at the Range. DO NOT leave live rounds or empty cartridge cases on the Range. These can become a serious safety issue when mowing. Do not cut trees or shrubs. Do not use trees or buildings for targets or back stops.

**Guests:** Members are allowed to bring guests to the Range with them but the guests must leave the Range when the member leaves. Members are responsible for the actions of their guests. Guests must be informed of the club rules and must abide by all the rules. No member is authorized to permit a non-member to use the range when the member is not present. No member is permitted to give the Main Gate Combination to a non-member.

**Restrictions:** Range availability is at the discretion of the Club Officers. The largest calibers permitted on the range are: Pistols no larger than .45; Rifles no larger than .45; and Muzzle Loaders no larger than .58 caliber; Shotguns no larger than 10 gauge. There will be no firing of .50 caliber BMG at any time. No one is permitted to fire fully automatic weapons (Class 3) without the permission of at least 3 ZRC Officers. The Officers will require the member to provide the proper Federal Licenses and one Officer must be at the Range and act as a Chief Range Safety Officer during firing.

**Main Gate & Registration:** Do not give the Main Gate or the Practice Target Shed combination to anyone. Other than on a scheduled event day, when you enter the range, you must lock the main gate behind you and the combination numbers on the lock must

be scrambled. In that way, if someone else comes to the range they must be a member to get in. When you arrive at the range, you must sign-in on the sheet provided in the mail box on the back of the wooden sign in the parking area. When you are finished shooting you must: clean up your brass and trash, neatly put away anything you have taken out of the practice shed, lock the practice shed and sign out on the sheet in the mail box. **Take your trash home with you.** On your way out, make sure that you lock the gate behind you.

**Safety Rule #1:** All people using the range are responsible for keeping the muzzle of their firearm pointed in a safe direction at all times. This is the primary Rule of Gun Safety. A Safe Direction means that the firearm is pointed so that even if it goes off, it would not cause injury or damage to anyone or anything in the Range Complex or outside the Range. The key to this rule is to control where the muzzle or front end of the barrel is pointed at all times. Common sense dictates the safest direction, depending on different circumstances. **Parallel to the firing line is never a safe direction.**

**Safety Rule #2:** Everyone is to keep their finger off the trigger until ready to shoot. When holding a firearm, and not in position to fire with the firearm pointed at the intended target, rest your trigger finger outside the Trigger Guard along side the firearm. Until you are actually ready to fire, **do not touch the trigger.**

**Safety Rule #3:** Always keep the firearm unloaded until ready to use. Whenever you pick up a firearm, always keep it pointed in a safe direction, keep your finger off the trigger, engage the manual safety if possible, remove the ammunition source (magazine or magazine tube, open the action, visually and physically inspect the chamber(s) and magazine area. These areas should be clear of all ammunition. You should then leave the action open. **If you do not know how to open the action or inspect the chamber(s), leave the firearm alone and get help from someone who does.**

**Safety Rule #4:** Know your target and what is beyond. All rounds fired at the Range must be fired into the Approved Impact Area only. The Approved Impact Area, as you look down range from the 300 yard Firing Position is: no farther left or right than the top of the berm in front of the target carriers, no higher than the exposed dirt area on the other side of the creek behind the berm and no lower than 25 yards down range in front of the 200 yard Firing Points. Be aware that there is always a chance that unauthorized personnel might enter the Range from any direction, so check before firing. **THINK FIRST. SHOOT SECOND.**

**Safety Rule #5:** Be sure your firearm is safe to shoot. Just like other tools, firearms need regular maintenance to remain operable. Regular cleaning and proper storage are part of the firearm's general upkeep. If there are questions concerning a firearm's ability to function safely, a knowledgeable gunsmith should look at it before you try to fire it.

**Safety Rule #6:** Know how to use the firearm safely. Before handling a firearm, learn how it operates. Know the basic parts, how to safely open and close the action and remove ammunition from the firearm or magazine. Remember, a firearm's mechanical safety is never fool proof. **Nothing can ever replace safe firearm handling.**

**Safety Rule #7:** Use only the correct ammunition for your gun or firearm. Only BB's, pellets, cartridges or shells designed for a particular gun or firearm can be fired safely in that gun or firearm. Most guns or firearms have the ammunition type stamped on the barrel. Ammunition can be identified by information printed on the box and sometimes stamped on the cartridge. Do not attempt to shoot a gun or firearm with the wrong ammunition. If you are not sure you have the right ammunition, do not attempt to shoot the gun or firearm.

**Safety Rule #8:** Wear eye and ear protection as appropriate. Firearms are loud and noise can cause severe hearing loss. They can also emit debris and hot gas that can cause eye injuries. For these reasons, shooters and spectators must wear hearing and eye protection. Before firing, all shooters must check with others at the Range and advise them that they are about to commence firing. During matches, this will be handled by the Chief Range Safety Officer. (CRSO)

**Safety Rule #9:** Never use alcohol or drugs before or while shooting. Alcohol, as well as any other substance that may impair normal mental or physical bodily functions, must not be used before or while handling or shooting guns or firearms.

**Safety Rule #10:** Every person at the Range is responsible for their own safety and the safety of all others. Anytime anyone witnesses an unsafe situation, that person will immediately call "Cease Fire". All people present at the time are to immediately stop shooting, clear all ammunition from all firearms, ground the firearms with actions open. Shooting may resume after the unsafe situation has been corrected. If the problem was an unsafe act committed by a person on the Range, the situation will be resolved by the procedure described in the paragraph below entitled (Unsafe Acts). Some examples of situations that would require a Cease Fire are: 1. Anytime a person or animal might show up in front of the firing line. It is possible for people to gain access to the range through the woods. 2. If a vehicle such as an ATV shows up in front of the firing line. 3. If a person on the firing line is having trouble with a firearm and needs help to resolve the problem. 4. If a person on the firing line becomes ill and requires assistance. 5. Any other instance that could not be safely handled while firing is in progress.

**Safety Rule #11:** No one is ever to be in front of the firing points while firing is in progress except those people sealed in the pits. (Procedures for people in the pits are explained in the paragraph below entitled (Pits)). The Range has designated firing lines with numbers placed in the ground at the front of the firing line. During any shooting, while there is more than one person on the range, the individual shooting will position his equipment so that the muzzle of the firearm is in line with the numbers. **No one will shoot or set up to shoot if they are not in line with everyone else who might be on the firing line, no matter how far to the left or right of the other person they might be.** If you are not in line, it is too easy to unintentionally turn the muzzle of your firearm in a direction that could endanger other people on the Range.

### General Range Rules and Information.

**Unsafe Acts.** If you are at the range and you observe an unsafe act being performed by another person on the range, you **must** tell that person that they **must** follow the Range Safety Rules. If they are not aware of these rules, copies are posted in the practice shed, on the wooden sign near the sign in mail box and behind the pits. If the person refuses to conform to the rules, **do not** get into a confrontation. Try to get the person's name and or vehicle description and license number and report the information to a club officer along with the date and time of the incident. The Club Officers will take the necessary action to correct the problem. **If the violation puts you in danger and cannot be corrected, leave the Range immediately.**

**Firing Points.** All rounds, fired at the Range, must be fired from the Approved Shooting Area and directed at the Approved Impact Area. The Approved Shooting Area as you are looking down range is: on the left, an imaginary line that runs from the left most Firing Point at the 300 yard line to the left end of the berm in front of the target carriers. On the

right, an imaginary line that runs from the right most Firing Point at the 300 yard line to the right end of the berm in front of the target carriers. No shooting is permitted from any other location on the property. The firing points on the 300 yard line can be identified by white markers placed in the ground numbered from 1 thru 16 moving right to left. No shooting is permitted diagonally across the Range and no shooting is permitted from the Approved Impact Area toward the Firing Lines. Should there be the slightest doubt as to what is permissible and what is not, contact a Club Officer before firing.

**Pits.** Anytime there are people in the Pits during live fire, there must be a person on the line acting as the Line Safety Officer and one member in the Pits acting as the Pit Officer. Each of these individuals must be in two way radio contact at all times. No one is permitted to leave the Pits without permission from the Pit Officer. The Pit Officer must get approval from the Line Safety Officer before allowing anyone to leave the Pits. Before giving permission to the Pit Officer, the Line Safety Officer must insure that all firearms on the line are empty and grounded with the actions open. If you use the Target Carriers in the Pits, you must also use the cardboard backers that are located in the practice shed.  
**Do not attach targets to the uprights or cross members of the Target Carriers.**

**Driveway.** When firing from the 300 yard line, you must close the driveway gate located at the 300 yard line. This is to prevent anyone from driving in front of the 300 yard line while firing is in progress. The gate should be opened immediately after 300 yard firing is completed.

**Targets & Trash.** If you bring target material to the Range to shoot at, you must remove it when you are finished. We do not have trash removal at the range. We depend on members to clean up after themselves. When you come to the range, throw a trash bag in with your shooting gear. If someone else has left debris on the Range, it would help if you could also take some home with you.

**Practice Shed.** As a Member, you have access to the Practice Target Shed. Please keep it in a neat and clean condition. Please take any trash that you generate or see laying around home with you. We try to keep a supply of targets and equipment in this shed for your use, but these supplies do not seem to last too long. To be on the safe side, bring whatever you need to complete your shooting day with you.

**Emergencies.** The location of the Range rarely allows the use of smaller Cell Phones (<1.0 watts). Bag Phones (normally 3.0 – 5.0 watts will normally work if the antenna is high enough. You might have to drive out of the Range to a higher location to get service. Muskingum County does have 911 service. If you need to need to give a location for the Range it is 3/10 of a mile East of the intersection of Sugar Grove and Mock Roads on the South side of the road. If directing emergency service personnel from Duncan Falls, they would take Route 60 South to Cutler Lake Road, turn left on Cutler Lake Road to Mock Road, turn left on Mock Road and follow to Sugar Grove Road, turn right on Sugar Grove Road and follow for 3/10 mile and the Range Gate will be on the right side of the road. If you need to drive to the nearest hospital, follow the above route back to Route 60. Take Route 60 North to Zanesville. When you enter Zanesville, Route 60 and Route 146 North merge. Follow Route 146. Shortly after you cross over Maple Avenue, Good Samaritan Hospital will be on your right. Bethesda Hospital can be reached by turning right on Maple Avenue and heading North, but it is a little further. Any emergency situation that occurs at the Range must be reported to a Club Officer after it is resolved.