

SSAA Fraser Coast Branch Inc

ABN 41 757 152 369

Summary of Pistol Range Standing Orders for All Shooters

1. The range officer is responsible for range safety and his or her instructions must be followed at all times.
2. You must treat every uncased firearm as if it is loaded at all times. That means you must point the muzzle in a safe direction. A safe direction is usually pointing upwards unless you are at the firing line where the muzzle may be pointed down range.
3. If you are unsure about anything ask the range officer for advice.
4. Immediately upon arrival at the range, sign the attendance register, and present your licence and range pass card to the range officer, or complete the paperwork to enable you to shoot. Pay any required fees.
If you do not have a firearms licence you will be required to have photo identification and to present that to the range officer.
5. Firearms must remain cased at all times except at the firing line or in a designated safe area. (See below for special rules for holster use and black powder pistols.)
6. A safe area is an area set aside for the repair or adjustment of firearms. There must be no ammunition in the safe area.
You should seek permission from the range officer before uncasing in the safe area.
7. The range conditions are as follows:-

SAFE When the range is safe there must be no handling of firearms except in the designated safe area and no handling of ammunition. The red flag at the firing line will be up.
All pistols must be unloaded and open if they are uncased.
The range officer will allow shooters to go forward.

OPEN When the range is open for shooting there must be nobody forward of the firing line, shooters should be on the firing line, and spectators or shooters awaiting a detail should be back from the firing line. The red flag at the firing line will be down.
8. The range officer may prohibit the use of a particular firearm or ammunition if he considers it to be unsafe or unsuitable.
9. Closed shoes must be worn by all shooters.
10. Eye and ear protection is recommended for all shooters and spectators. Eye protection is mandatory for shooting at steel targets and for use with black powder pistols.
11. Consumption of alcohol is prohibited prior to or during shooting.
12. If you have a malfunction while shooting:-
Cease firing
Hold the pistol in one hand pointing down the range
Raise the other hand to attract the attention of the range officer
Follow the range officer's instructions

This is a summary of the range standing orders. The SSAA range rules, range standing orders and range approval notices are posted on the notice board. Please read and if you have any questions ask.

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Shooting Procedures

13. When target setting is complete the range officer will declare the RANGE OPEN and will instruct shooters that they may GO TO THE FIRING LINE AND UNCASE. Pistols must be uncased at the firing line pointing down range, and must remain pointing down range.
14. The range officer will give the command to LOAD AND MAKE READY at which time the pistol may be loaded at the firing line. You will be told how many rounds to load.
A round may be inserted into the breach or the cylinder closed and the pistol may be cocked. It should be pointed down the range at an angle of about 45 degrees, with the finger outside of the trigger guard.
15. The range officer will ask ARE YOU READY? If you are not ready you should say so and the range officer will wait 15 seconds and then repeat the question.
16. The next command is STAND BY. This mainly used in timed or rapid fire matches to indicate that the targets are about to turn.
17. There may be a command COMMENCE FIRING or it may be handled by targets turning towards you.
18. There may be a command CEASE FIRE or the targets may turn away.
19. There must be no rounds fired before the command to commence firing or after the command to cease fire.
20. The next command is UNLOAD AND SHOW CLEAR. You must remove all ammunition from the pistol and any magazine, and place the pistol on the bench with the slide locked back or the cylinder or loading gate open. Then stand back from the bench.
21. The range officer or an assistant range officer will visually inspect all pistols and declare them clear.
22. The range officer will then declare the range SAFE and give permission to move forward to score and patch targets.
23. While the range is safe there must be no handling of firearms or ammunition and you must stay back from the firing bench.
24. The range officer or a safety officer will remain at the firing line.
25. At the end of the match, after the pistol is cleared and before the range is declared SAFE the range officer will give you permission to CASE AND REMOVE. You may then pack the pistol into its case and remove it from the firing line. It must remain pointing down the range at all times until it is in its case.
26. In some matches it is necessary to move along the line or down the range closer to the targets, when directed by the range officer. When moving the pistol it must be unloaded and open and be held by the barrel with the muzzle pointing upwards.

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Black Powder Pistols

27. Black powder pistols are loaded at the bench behind the firing line. Black powder is not allowed on the firing line. Black powder pistols may not be capped or primed except at the firing line. No smoking is allowed within 10 metres of the loading bench.
28. When the range officer declares the **RANGE OPEN** and gives the command to **UNCASE**, black powder shooters may uncase in the black powder loading area. Pistols must point upwards.
29. With permission from the range officer, shooters may take unloaded pistols to the line and fire a cap down range to clear the pistol.
30. The range officer will give the command to **LOAD** at which time the pistol may be loaded in the black powder loading area but may not be capped or primed. Pistols must not be charged directly from powder containers. Powder horns and dippers or powder flasks are to be used.
31. When the range officer gives the command **COMMENCE FIRING** black powder pistols may be taken to the firing line, and then capped or primed and firing may commence.
32. This is normally a 13 round match and the pistol will be taken back to the loading area as often as necessary to reload. Pistols are not cleared before they are taken for reloading.
33. At the end of the match the pistols will normally be in the reloading area and pointing upwards.
34. The range officer will inspect the pistols to ensure that they are neither loaded nor capped/primed before declaring **RANGE SAFE**.

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Holsters

35. Shooters who have holster accreditation may use holsters in certain matches. Holster accreditation cards must be presented to the range officer for checking before holsters may be used.
36. The pistol will normally be uncased at the firing line when the range officer gives the **UNCASE** command.
However the range officer may allow pistols to be uncased and holstered (unloaded) in the safe area, under the supervision of the range officer who will confirm that the pistol is safe.
37. Holster retention is to be checked in the safe area.
38. A dropped pistol is only to be picked up when directed by the range officer.
39. After the command **LOAD**, shooters may load their pistol, apply the safety if there is one, and place the pistol in a holster.
40. After the command to **COMMENCE FIRING**, or when the targets turn, shooters may draw the pistol and commence firing.
41. The pistol must always point downwards or down range and the finger must not be in the trigger guard until the pistol is pointing down range. At no stage is the pistol allowed to point behind the shooter so care is required when drawing the pistol.
42. After firing and at the **UNLOAD AND SHOW CLEAR** the pistol is cleared and left open in the usual way for inspection by the range officer, but it is held for inspection rather than being placed on a bench.
43. Once inspected and declared clear the hammer may be dropped and the unloaded pistol may be placed back into the holster. Pistols with removable magazines are holstered without a magazine in them.
44. At the conclusion of the match pistols are inspected by the range officer at the firing line and are cleared to be cased and removed.