



**OSPREY SHOOTING SOLUTIONS, LLC**  
**COLORADO SPRINGS, COLORADO**  
**(719) 330-9245**

25 AUG 2020

SUBJECT: Osprey Shooting Solutions (OSS) Range Rules and Procedures (SOP)

1. Purpose: This memorandum specifies the Range Safety Standard Operating Procedures (SOP) and gives general procedural guidance for all training activities on OSS occupied ranges.
2. Applicability: This SOP applies to all OSS range usage, courses, matches, events, and all persons involved in range operations.
3. General Range Safety Protocol: All persons, US and foreign, are responsible to know and follow the Universal Rules of Firearm Safety and the basic rules of the range, as outlined below. Failure to follow range safety protocol and/or the unsafe handling of firearms, intentionally or unintentionally, may result in removal from live fire training and activities until the behavior is assessed and corrected.
4. Conduct on the Range: Prior to any live fire activities, the designated Range Safety Officer (RSO) or Primary Instructor will give a mandatory verbal safety briefing to all cadre, participants and/or spectators on the range. The general range safety brief format as well as loading, unloading, and clearing procedures for common firearms, and minimum safe distances for shooting steel follows below.
5. Point of contact for this memorandum is Robert Edgar Mills at (719) 330-9245 and [edgarmills@ospreyshootingsolutions.com](mailto:edgarmills@ospreyshootingsolutions.com)

ROBERT EDGAR MILLS  
Owner  
Osprey Shooting Solutions, LLC

## Subject: Osprey Shooting Solutions (OSS) Range Standard Operating Procedures (SOP)

### **Range Safety Brief Format:**

1. Introduce key cadre and task organization: Primary Instructor, CRSO, RSOs, Primary Medic, Communications.
2. Range orientation: Range fan, limitations, capabilities, and facilities.
3. Medical/Emergency plan: Beginning with incident through end state at emergency care facility to include contingencies and primary/alternate routes to emergency facility (if in a rural area or outside of emergency services reasonable response time window).

### **Universal Rules of Firearm Safety:**

1. Always know the status of your firearms. "Treat all firearms as though they are loaded".
2. Never let your muzzle point at, cross, or cover anything you do not intend to shoot. Muzzle awareness always!
3. Keep your finger off the trigger and out of the trigger well until you align your sights on target.
4. Know your target, what is in the foreground, background, left and right of it.

### **Basic Rules of the Range:**

1. Always keep positive control (holstered, slung, at least one hand positively grasping the firearm) of any firearm while handling or employing it.
2. Shooters will never leave a loaded (hot) firearm unattended; you must unload and clear any firearm prior to setting it down and moving away.
3. A firearm may remain loaded if the firearm is either holstered (pistol), or slung (rifle), and shooter keeps positive control (unless organizational rules apply i.e. USPSA, IDPA).
4. Always unload, clear and lock slide/bolt to the rear when handing a firearm to another individual unless instructed otherwise by the RSO or designated instructor.
5. All firearms will be oriented down range or in a safe direction when loading and unloading.
6. No one will load, unload, adjust sights or otherwise manipulate a firearm while any persons are forward of the firing line.
7. Ballistic eye protection and hearing protection will always be worn during live fire.
8. A medical trauma kit will be present, in a designated staging area during all live fire activities.

Subject: Osprey Shooting Solutions (OSS) Range Standard Operating Procedures (SOP)

9. Anyone can declare **CEASE FIRE** when the potential for an unsafe action or unsafe conditions exist.
10. All dry fire will be conducted on a designated firing line facing down range or designated area.
11. Shooters will only fire at designated targets.
12. Shooters will only fire within the designated range limits.
13. While shooting and moving no one will be forward of the shooter, an RSO will move with the shooter.
14. Shooters may move "up range" with a hot firearm if the firearm is in the high-gun position (pointed straight up/"temple index") or pointed at the ground directly in front of the shooter. Shooters will make certain the muzzle is in a safe direction while moving.
15. In case of a negligent discharge (ND), **CEASE FIRE** command will be given, and all shooters will freeze in place until the RSO or instructor assesses the situation and determines a proper course of action.
16. Common range commands are:
  - a. Load - Load your firearm and ensure a round is chambered.
  - b. Unload and Show Clear - Unload and lock slide open for visual inspection.
  - c. Hammer Down and Holster - Ride the slide forward, dry fire on target and holster.
  - d. Safe and Sling - Ensure rifle is on safe and let it hang with positive control.
  - e. Are You Ready? - Your time to ensure your firearm is loaded and prepared for the next drill, stage, or exercise.
  - f. Stand By - Immediately precedes the beep of the shot timer by one second.
  - g. Cease Fire - Stop firing and all movement.

**Minimum Safe Distance (MSD) Guidelines for Steel Targets:**

1. When engaging steel targets, shooters and RSOs will keep a minimum safe distance from the steel targets being engaged.
2. RSOs will angle all steel targets a minimum of 20° downward facing the firing line to safely deflect back splash into the ground.
3. MSD with standard ball or lead pistol ammunition and frangible is 7 meters.

Subject: Osprey Shooting Solutions (OSS) Range Standard Operating Procedures (SOP)

4. MSD with 12g lead shot is 10 meters. MSD with 12g slugs is 100 meters.
5. MSD with .223/5.56mm ball ammunition is 50 meters. Shooters **WILL NOT ENGAGE** steel targets of any kind with Steel-Core or Green Tip M855 or Enhanced Penetrating Rounds (EPR) M855A1.
6. Never use armor-piercing, steel-core, or other hardened ammunition to engage steel targets. These guidelines are for safety of the shooters as well as preservation of the steel.

**Loading, Unloading and Clearing Procedures for Common Firearms:**

1. Loading, Unloading and Clearing Procedures for the **AR Style Carbine**

a. During the employment of the carbine it is on safe with the finger off the trigger unless the shooter is actively engaging a target.

b. Loading procedures for the carbine

- 1) Ensure it is on "Safe".
- 2) Lock the bolt to the rear.
- 3) Insert a magazine and ensure it is properly seated.
- 4) Disengage the bolt catch and visually observe the bolt chamber a round.
- 5) Tap the forward assist to ensure the bolt is fully seated and locked.

c. Unloading and clearing procedures for the carbine

- 1) Ensure it is on "Safe" (if it will go on safe).
- 2) Remove the magazine.
- 3) Lock the bolt to the rear, observe the round eject.
- 4) Visually inspect the chamber, magazine well, and bolt face to ensure it is clear (during low light conditions or night fire, use a light source or buddy check).
- 5) Ride the bolt forward.
- 6) Aim down range, place it on "Semi" and press the trigger. This is an added procedural safety requirement to ensure the firearm is clear.
- 7) Charge it and place on "Safe".

Subject: Osprey Shooting Solutions (OSS) Range Standard Operating Procedures (SOP)

2. Loading, Unloading and Clearing Procedures for **Pistol**

a. During the employment of the pistol it is de-cocked (if present) and on “Fire” with the finger off the trigger unless the shooter is actively engaging a target. When the shooter ends the engagement, the finger is off the trigger and it is decocked and the safety/decocking lever placed back in the “Fire” position.

b. Loading procedures for the pistol

- 1) Ensure the safety/decock lever is in the safe/down position.
- 2) Lock the slide to the rear.
- 3) Insert a magazine and ensure it is properly seated.
- 4) Disengage the slide release, visually observe the round chamber. Ensure the slide is fully forward (in battery).
- 5) Place the safety/decock lever in the fire/up position (if present).
- 6) Holster the pistol and ensure it is secure.

c. Unloading and clearing procedures for the pistol

- 1) Ensure it is in the safe/down position (if present).
- 2) Remove the magazine.
- 3) Pull and lock the slide to the rear, observe the round eject.
- 4) Visually inspect the chamber, magazine well, and slide face and ensure the it is clear (during low light conditions or night fire, use a light source or buddy check).
- 5) Ride the slide forward.
- 6) Aim down range, place it on fire/down and press the trigger. This is an added procedural safety requirement to ensure the firearm is clear.
- 7) Holster the pistol and ensure it is secure.
- 8) Procedures will change slightly according to type of pistol used.

3. Loading, Unloading and Clearing Procedures for the **Combat Shotgun**

a. During employment of the shotgun as a breaching tool it will be carried with the tube magazine loaded, the action closed on an empty chamber and placed on “Fire”. Once fired, a dry husk will be left in the chamber until the next use. If a new round is loaded inadvertently you must take a tactical pause and go through unloading and re-loading procedures to get back to

Subject: Osprey Shooting Solutions (OSS) Range Standard Operating Procedures (SOP)

carry configuration. If carried as a tactical weapon it will be carried loaded and on "Safe" until sights are on target and ready to engage.

b. Loading procedures for the shotgun

1) Autoloader

- a) Ensure it is on "Safe".
- b) Lock the bolt to the rear.
- c) Insert one shot shell into the chamber and disengage the bolt catch.
- d) Insert shot shells into the tube magazine through the bottom ejection port.

2) Pump Action

- a) Ensure it is on "Safe".
- b) Press the slide release and open the action pulling the slide to the rear.
- c) Insert one shot shell into the chamber and close the action.
- d) Insert shot shells into the tube magazine through the bottom ejection port.

c. Unloading/clearing procedures for the Combat Shotgun

1) Autoloader or Pump Action

- a) Ensure it is on "Safe".
- b) Cycle the bolt or slide until all rounds eject.
- c) With the action open, visually inspect the chamber.
- d) Close the action, aim downrange, place on "Fire" and squeeze the trigger (this is an added safety requirement to ensure the firearm is clear).
- e) Cycle the shotgun and place it on "Safe".