



OSPREY SHOOTING SOLUTIONS, LLC

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

1. This memorandum specifies the Range Safety Standard Operating Procedures (SOP) and gives general procedural guidance for all training activities on OSS occupied ranges and training areas.
2. This SOP applies to all OSS range usage, courses, matches, events, and all persons involved in OSS training.
3. 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 training until the behavior is assessed and corrected, or being permanently barred from training with OSS.
4. Prior to any live fire or force-on-force activities, the designated Range Safety Officer (RSO) or Primary Instructor will give a mandatory safety briefing to all cadre, participants, and any spectators on the range. The general range safety brief format, force-on-force guidelines, loading, unloading, and clearing procedures for common firearms, and minimum safe distances for shooting steel all follow below.
5. Point of contact for this memorandum is Robert Edgar Mills at (719) 330-9245, edgarmills@ospreyshootingsolutions.com

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Range Safety Brief Format:

1. Introduce cadre and task organization: Primary Instructor, 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 and expected EMS response times. Include 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. Identify your target (threat) and what is in the forefront, 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, other commercial ranges with "cold" rules).
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.
9. Anyone can declare **CEASE FIRE** when the potential for an unsafe action or unsafe conditions exists.

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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 are responsible to ensure 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. Shooter Ready? - Your time to ensure your firearm is loaded and prepared for the next drill, stage, or exercise. Speak up if not ready.
 - c. Stand By - Immediately precedes the beep of the shot timer, normally by one second.
 - d. Unload and Show Clear - Unload and lock slide/bolt open for visual inspection.
 - e. Hammer Down and Holster - Ride the slide forward, dry fire on target and holster.
 - f. Holster - Holster your pistol, may be loaded, or unloaded.
 - g. Safe and Sling - Ensure rifle is on safe and let it hang with positive control, may be loaded, or unloaded.
 - h. 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 yards.
4. MSD with 12g lead shot is 10 yards. MSD with 12g slugs is 100 yards.
5. MSD with .223/5.56mm ball ammunition is 50 yards.

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6. Shooters **WILL NOT ENGAGE** steel targets of any kind with Steel-Core Green Tip M855, Enhanced Penetrating Rounds (EPR) M855A1, armor piercing rounds, or any other hardened ammunition. This is for shooter safety as well as preservation of the steel.

Ultimate Training Munitions (UTM) Guidelines:

1. UTM is an excellent training tool when used to serve clearly defined training objectives. All OSS courses that use UTM adhere to the following safety measures:

- a. All exposed skin will be covered with thick clothing or designated protective gear to include long sleeves and long pants.
- b. Designated paintball masks or approved goggles and face shield will be worn.
- c. Neck gaiter, double wrapped Shemagh, or other approved neck protection will be worn.
- d. Bump helmet or thick head gear (no bandana only or mesh ball cap) will be worn.
- e. Gloves will be worn.
- f. Athletic cup or padded crotch protection will be worn.
- g. Shooters will not engage an opponent within one yard/three feet of shooter's muzzle.
- h. Shooters will not aim at opponents' head or crotch.
- i. Shooters will not engage an opponent who is unarmed or has "died" or surrendered.

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. Execute press check.
 - 5) Tap the forward assist to ensure the bolt is fully seated and locked. Close dust cover.

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- 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, physically feel the chamber, 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 measure and relieves any spring tension for storage.
 - 7) Charge it and place on "Safe". Situation dependent.

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

a. During the employment of the double action (DA) 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 de-cocked, and the safety/de-cocking lever placed back in the "Fire" position. Striker fired pistols with no manual have no unique requirements.

- b. Loading procedures for the pistol.
 - 1) Ensure the safety/de-cock lever is in the safe/down position(DA pistols).
 - 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. Execute press check. Ensure the slide is fully forward (in battery).
 - 5) Place the safety/de-cock 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) Lock the slide to the rear, observe the round eject.

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4) Visually inspect the chamber, magazine well, and slide face and ensure that it is clear (during low light conditions or night fire, feel the chamber, use a light source, or buddy check).

5) Ride the slide forward.

6) Aim down range, place it on fire/down (if present) and press the trigger. This is an added procedural safety measure.

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 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. Auto loaders will be placed back on safe when not engaging.

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".

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- 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 measure).
- e) Cycle the shotgun and place it on "Safe".