

North Thompson Fish & Game Club Society



Range Policies and Safety Rules

Purpose:

To set out the **Range Policies and Safety Rules** that are to be followed with regard to the use of any shooting range, or facilities used for the purpose of shooting, which falls under the control of the North Thompson Fish and Game Club Society, hereafter referred to as the Club in this document . These Policies and Safety Rules will reflect the attitude and commitment of the Club towards the safety of its members and guests when they are on Club Range facilities or at Club sponsored events at said Range facilities.

Abbreviations and Definitions:

"The Club" – The North Thompson Fish and Game Club is a non-profit public organization, affiliated with the BC Wildlife Federation, whose activities include but are not limited to, target practice or target shooting competitions at an identified approved shooting range.

"Club Range" or "Range" includes all buildings, ranges and facilities situated on the Range property off the Gorman Lake Rd.

"Directors or Executive" - refers to the Board of Directors of the Club.

"Direct Supervision" means to be under the visual and physical supervision of a Shooting Member of the Club. ie: "one on one".

"Event" - refers to a scheduled shooting match, practice or any non-shooting activity on the Range property that has been sanctioned by the Club Executive.

"CAS" - Cowboy Action Shooting also known as Western Action Shooting, Single Action Shooting, or Cowboy 3-gun, is a competitive shooting sport utilizing a combination of pistol(s), rifle, and/or shotgun in a variety of "old west themed" courses of fire.

"F-Class" or Full Bore – a shooting discipline where competitors strive for accuracy at long range. At present we are limited to 700 Meters.

"IPSC" - International Practical Shooting Confederation -is a dynamic shooting sport where the principles of Accuracy, Speed and Power are balanced in a unique scoring system.

"Military Class" a shooting discipline where shooters are only permitted to shoot military rifles and calibers in use prior to 1964. Shooting from a trench, steel targets are shot from 100 to 700 Meters.

"Skeet" a form of clay pigeon shooting where the shooter is presented with one or two targets from high or low stations on either side. Two targets can be consecutive or simultaneous.

"Sporting Clays" a form of clay pigeon shooting that consists of multiple shooting stations laid out over scenic, natural terrain, such that target presentations simulate the unpredictability of live quarry shooting. This event utilizes the full Range property.

"Range-of-Fire" is where a permanent shooting shed, structure or the like has been built, from which a shooting match or practice is conducted. It extends from the staging area behind the Firing Line to the butts/backstops.

"Range Officer (R/O)" - means an individual who oversees the shooting activities at the firing line of a shooting range.

"Shooting Range" - means a place that is designed or intended for the safe discharge, on a regular and structured basis, of firearms for the purpose of target practice or target shooting competitions.

Range Policies

1. General

.1 These Range Policies detail the guidelines and procedures required for the safe operation of any Range facility controlled by the Club.

.2 The Executive of the Club, in compliance with the Shooting Clubs and Shooting Ranges Regulations SOR/98-212 of the Federal Firearms Act, is responsible for, and will have absolute and final authority of the writing and publication of these Range Policies and Safety Rules for any shooting range or facility falling under the control of the Club.

.3 The Executive and Chief Range Officer of the Club will liaise with the Provincial Chief Firearms Officer in all matters relating to Range operations.

2. Membership

.1 With regards to "Article 2.2 - Kinds of Membership" of the Club By-Laws, the requirements of a "Shooting Member" will be:

a) To possess a valid Possession and Acquisition License (PAL) to prove their Firearms Safety training; and

b) to attend an Orientation Class prior to a shooting membership being granted; and

c) to pay a one-time fee for the Orientation Class, the cost of which will be set annually by the executive of the Club.

.2 Upon initial acceptance of the application of a "Shooting Member", he/she will be granted a Regular Membership status until the above requirements have been satisfied.

.3 Once the requirements of Article 2.1.a, b, and c have been achieved, the new "Shooting Member" will receive a membership card with a unique ID number and be issued a key for the gate at the Range. An annual fee, the amount to be set by the executive of the Club, will be charged for the key, over and above the regular membership fees.

.4 RCMP officers, who wish to become a club Shooting Member and do not have a Firearms Possession and Acquisition License, are only permitted to use RCMP issued firearms at the Range, in accordance with the Firearms Act/Criminal Code. RCMP officers who are club Shooting Members and who subsequently wish to shoot any firearm not issued by the RCMP must provide the club with proof of obtaining a Firearms Possession and Acquisition License.

.5 It is understood and agreed by all, that a shooting membership in the Club is not a rite, but a privilege that can be revoked at any time for just cause.

3. Orientation Class

.1 The Club Executive and the Chief Range Officer shall ensure that all shooters are familiar with these Policies and Safety Rules prior to them using the Range shooting facilities.

.2 Regular Club members are not permitted to shoot at the Range without the direct supervision of a shooting member until they have completed the orientation class.

.3 The following items will be discussed at the Orientation Class.

a) Range Safety Rules

b) Range Standing Orders

c) General Firing Line Commands

4. Access to Facilities

.1 Membership Cards

- a) The Club Range and facilities are for the exclusive use of Shooting Members of the Club, who are in good standing.
- b) Club Shooting Membership cards shall be issued to members in good standing and validated annually. All members must show their membership card upon the request of a Range Officer or Club Member at any Club event.

.2 Guests

- a) A limited number of guests may be invited onto the Club facilities under the terms and conditions contained in this policy.
- b) Club members are responsible for the behavior of their guest while on Club facilities.
- c) A guest is defined as another shooter or spotter who accompanies a Club Shooting Member for the purpose of practice, competition or the sighting in of hunting rifles. Spectators are not considered to be "guests".
- d) Normally only **one** guest is permitted to accompany each Shooting Member.
- e) A guest may visit a Club facility only **once** as a shooter or observer, without becoming a Shooting Member of the club. Junior shooters under the age of eighteen and Regular Members who have not achieved shooting member status, both of who are under the direct supervision of a Shooting Member, will be exempt from this rule. The Club reserves the right to include or exclude guests from any event organized by the club. On such occasions the one visit rule may not apply.
- f) Persons, groups or other shooting clubs or organizations, wishing to use or rent Club facilities for the purposes connected with a commercial business or other venture i.e. professional guiding, training, retail sales, police or military etc., are not included in the Club's definition of guests. Special permission must be obtained from the Club executive for any and all commercial use of the Club's facilities.
- g) All Shooting Members and their guests, or any other shooting club or organization, or any commercial/business group using the Club facilities must obey the rules pertaining to the use of those facilities. All Range Policies and Safety Rules will be adhered to, whether or not a Director or a Club Trained Range Officer is in attendance.
- h) The Chief Range Officer or the Directors of the Club cannot be denied access to the Club's facilities by other entities that have been granted use of those facilities.

.3 Range Closures

- a) The Club Executive retains the right to control the times and method of access to the Range Site and facilities. The Club Executive may declare the Range closed at any time.
- b) The Range is closed to shooting from May 15 to July 1, or at any time when there are cattle at large on the Range property.
- c) At any time that the Range is closed a sign indicating such shall be displayed at the main gate.
- d) When the Range is declared "CLOSED", no one shall attempt to use those facilities without the consent of the Club Executive. The Chief Range Officer must be notified of any changes to the closure status of the Range Site.

.4 Range Access Gates

- a) Subject to Article 4.4 b) c) d) & f) below, when the Club Range is declared OPEN, all gates will remain closed and locked at all times. The lock and keys for the main entry gate will be changed on a yearly basis.
- b) The access gate onto the rifle range, keyed the same as the main entry gate, must remain closed and locked at all times that the rifle range is open. During those times, access onto the rifle range through this gate is only permitted if the warning barrier at the firing line is down. The "Green Flag" at the firing line will be flown and remain in effect at all times that the warning barrier is down. This access gate may be used by shooters wishing to drive to the building to drop off equipment, or to the far end of the Range to change targets.

4. Access to Facilities – cont.

.4 Range Access Gates – cont.

c) When the rifle range is OPEN, any member entering onto the range through the rifle range access gate, shall ensure that the gate is locked behind them, and the barrier at the firing line is down with the "Green Flag" in effect. The barrier shall only be raised by the member who lowered it unless an inspection is carried out to ensure there are no members on the range.

d) At all times that a shooting event is occurring on the rifle range, the Club Range shall be declared OPEN and all access gates onto the rifle range are to remain closed and locked.

e) When the Range is CLOSED for maintenance, sanctioned events or any reason authorized by the Club Executive, all access gates onto the ranges may remain open. At such times the barrier at the firing line shall remain down, the Green firing line flag shall be flown and a "Range Closed" sign shall be posted at the main entrance gate.

f) The main entrance gate is to remain closed and locked at all times, except when a sanctioned event is occurring. At that time it may be left open for non-members to attain access.

5. Range Officers

.1 Chief Range Officer (CRO) The Chief Range Officer will:

- a) be the Club Safety Officer appointed by and responsible to the Executive.
- b) be responsible for the Range Officer training program.
- c) be responsible for the publication of Firing Line Commands and Range Standing Orders to be posted at all Club Range facilities.
- d) ensure all Range activities are conducted according to Range Safety Rules.
- e) attend to Range inspection requirements, record keeping, and initiate range maintenance requirements in co-ordination with the Range Development and Maintenance Committee.

.2 Range Officers (R/O)

a) At any time when there is more than one person shooting at a Range facility, a Range Officer must take charge. The Range Officer's primary duty is to control the Range/Course-Of-Fire in a manner that ensures the safety of shooters and spectators at all times. A Range Officer may be a Club Trained Range Officer, be the first person at the Range, or be chosen by consensus. A Club Trained Range Officer will be trained and certified by the Club's Chief Range Officer and be identified as a Range Officer on his/her Shooting Member ID card. Range Officers will control the shooting activities of the Club and are empowered to evict shooters who fail to follow these rules. The Range Officer will determine the line behind which all non-shooters must remain. The Range Officer may declare any firearm unsafe and therefore ban it from the Range. The Club insurance policy will indemnify all Range Officers against any loss in the event that an action for damages is brought against him/her.

b) The following classes of Range Officers will be recognized:

- i) "Club Trained Range Officer" - One who is trained in the general conduct of an informal range practice and is capable of organizing and conducting a safe shooting practice with a limited number of shooters. ie. a Shooting Member who has passed the Range Officer Training Program.
- ii) "Discipline Range Officer" - One who is trained and certified in a specific discipline and is capable of conducting practices of that discipline, ie. IPSC or CAS. This is to make the distinction from a Match Range Officer who is certified to run competitions in the applicable discipline.
- iii) "Match Range Officer" - The highest form of Range Officer. One who is capable of running a competition for many shooters in specific disciplines and who also is charged with following the extra stringent requirements of competition. This is not to confuse this position with a "**Match Director**" who is responsible for organizing a match and who would have numerous Match Range Officers working for him/her.

6. Penalties

.1 Any member failing to obey the rules set down in this document can be disciplined by the executive. The first step in this process is to "**eject**" the member from the facility, normally done by a Range Officer. Upon being notified of his/her ejection, the member shall immediately leave the Range or facility. The Range Officer shall notify the Executive in writing, not more than five days after the incident, of the reasons for the ejection. A copy of the notification will go to the ejected member. The incident will be discussed, resolved and recorded at the next regular Executive meeting. The ejected member will be notified of the time and date of the meeting and be informed of his right to appear and appeal the ejection. Until the matter is resolved the member shall be suspended from any use of the Range facilities.

.2 Any guest failing to obey the rules may be asked to leave the facilities by any paid up member or Range Officer. If a **guest** is ejected from a range or facility, the Executive has the power to determine the penalties assessed against the **sponsoring member** and give notice that further such behavior will not be tolerated. A letter to this effect will be sent to the member. A note to this effect shall also be recorded in the minutes of the Executive Meeting at which the matter is discussed.

.3 Where a member has committed a serious breach of the Range Rules, endangered other shooters or the general public, brought the reputation of the Club into disrepute or has been ejected from a facility by a Range Officer, the member will be barred from the Range for a period to be determined by the Executive. In any such case the period of disbarment shall not be less than thirty (30) days and not more than six (6) months.

.4 Normally, the penalty outlined in 6.3 above shall also be applied against a member receiving his/her second reprimand or complaint within six (6) months of the first incident.

.5 Should a member commit subsequent breaches, the Executive has the authority, at an Executive meeting, to implement "Termination of Membership" in the Club, as per "Article 2.7 - Termination of Membership" of the Club Bylaws.

.6 Should a "Termination of Membership" be passed at an Executive Meeting, the terminated member is **not** entitled to a refund of any portion of his/her membership fees as per "Article 2.8 - Forfeiture of Property Interest" of the Club Bylaws.

.7 If a membership is revoked by the Executive, the reasons for this action shall be recorded in the Minutes of the Executive meeting at which the matter is decided. Normally a Director or Deputy Director of the shooting discipline in which the rule infraction occurred shall be present at the Executive meeting.

7. Types of Firearms

.1 All firearms must be in good working order and comply with all regulations. Each range will have a list posted of the firearms approved to be used on that range. No firearms that have had alterations or modifications made to them that make them illegal or unsafe may be used on these ranges at any time.

.2 Any use of prohibited weapons on club facilities will require the approval of the Club Executive. Generally, only short barreled pistols will be exempt from this policy, that being those handguns referred to in subsection 12(6.1) of the Federal Firearms Act.

.3 No shotgun firing will be allowed except at areas set aside for shotgun shooting. Special events or disciplines may allow the discharge of shotguns in areas that are considered rifle or handgun areas. ie. Skeet, Sporting Clay or Cowboy Action Shooting Events. The handgun and small bore range is shared with the skeet shooting facility. (See Articles 10.5 & 10.6 on page 6)

8. Records

.1 Records will be kept for every shooter at the Range in accordance with the Shooting Clubs and Shooting Range Regulations SOR/98-212 of the Federal Firearms Act.

.2 Prior to leaving the Range, **all shooters** of **restricted or prohibited firearms** must complete and leave in the secure lock box at the pistol range, a record of their shoot, whether it is for either practice or competition shooting. The **Restricted/Prohibited Firearms Shooting Record** must be completed in full for both the member and his/her guest. This policy originated as a result of Federal Legislation. It is compulsory and there will be no exception.

Range Safety Rules

9. Purpose

.1 To set forth the rules and regulations required to govern the use and safety of any shooting range or facility controlled by the Club.

.2 To ensure that all persons, authorized groups and disciplines using said range or facility will adhere to these Range Rules.

10. Range Access and Authorization

.1 The Club Range is closed to shooting from May 15 to July 1, or at any time when there are cattle at large on the Range property.

.2. Each range is authorized for use by the Provincial Chief Firearms Officer during daylight hours only and is certified for use with various categories of firearms. (See Article 7 - Types of Firearms on page 5)

.3 All shooters at the Range shall be in possession of a Federal Possession and Acquisition License, or be under the direct supervision of a Shooting Member of the Club.

.4 All shooters at the Range must show their Shooting Member Card and/or their Possession and Acquisition License upon the request of a Range Officer or a Club Member.

.5 Handgun and small bore shooters share the same range with the skeet shooting facility. Handgun and small bore shooters may shoot at the long gun range when the small bore range is closed for skeet shooting, providing they do not interfere with any event occurring there.

.6 The skeet machines at the small bore range are **not** to be used by any other than the match Directors and their trained maintenance personnel.

.7 When a Sporting Clays match or practice has been scheduled, both the pistol and rifle ranges shall be closed to any other use for the duration of the event. A sign declaring the "Range Closed" shall be posted at the main entrance gate.

.8 When the rifle range is open, any member entering onto the range through the rifle range access gate, shall ensure that the barrier at the firing line is down and the "Green Flag" is in effect. The barrier shall only be raised by the member who lowered it unless an inspection is carried out to ensure there are no members on the range. This gate must remain closed and locked at all times when the Club Range is open. (See article 4.4 - Range Access Gates, on pages 3 & 4).

.9 At any time on the Range property, for safety and liability reasons, no shooting machinery shall be handled, loaded or operated by any person other than the Match Directors and their trained maintenance personnel.

11. Flags

.1) Whenever a range is in use the large **RED** warning flag will be flown from the flagstaff located at each range. Once shooting activities have finished for the day, the flag will be lowered. This warning flag, not to be confused with the firing line flags, is meant to be changed when the range is opened or closed, not throughout the course of normal shooting activities. At Sporting Clay events, this warning flag shall be flown at the start of the course and remain so until the event is finished.

.2) At the firing line, everyone will use the **RED** and **GREEN** flags for range control.

RED FLAG = DANGER, do not proceed onto the range, GREEN FLAG = SAFE

12. First Aid Kit

.1 A First Aid kit is available in the First Aid room on the back side of the outhouse building. The main entrance gate key will open the lock. During organized shoots the Match Directors will make sure provision for medical treatment is readily available, i.e. a cell phone and/or a vehicle that can be used for emergency evacuation.

.2 A **Personal Injury Report Form** shall be completed in the event of a personal injury caused by the discharge of a firearm,

13. Eye/ Ear Protection

.1 Eye and Ear protection shall be worn by all persons on the firing lines as well as all spectators and score keepers involved at a shooting event or practice. Archery ranges require eye protection only.

14. Firearms and Ammunition

.1 Only approved firearms will be used on the Club facilities. (See Article 7- Types of Firearms, on page 5)

.2 Ammunition shall be of the conventional type. Armour piercing, incendiary and other forms of specialized ammunition shall **NOT** be used. Full metal jacket ammunition is acceptable.

.3 At Skeet and Sporting Clay events, only target loads are permitted. No shot size larger than 7.5 can be used. (acceptable sizes are: 7.5, 8, 8.5 or 9)

.4 The Club is **not** responsible for the issue of ammunition, except for practices or matches where it is provided as part of the fee structure. Hand loads will not be provided on such occasions.

.5 In the event of ammunition being provided by the Club, the Range Officer will ensure that after firing ceases, any live rounds are sorted from empty cases and both are returned to Club storage.

.6 A **Live Ammunition Disposal** container will be labeled as such and provided by the Club at each range. The purpose of this container is for the safe discard of defective ("dud") ammunition. This container is for **live ammunition** only and is not to be used for any other disposal, i.e. spent cases.

15. Range Officer R/O

.1 At any time when there is more than one person shooting at a range facility, a Range Officer must take charge. A Range Officer may be a Club Certified Range Officer, be the first person at the Range or be chosen by consensus to "take charge". He/she shall exercise complete control of all activity, maintain range discipline and govern in accordance with these Range Policies and Safety Rules. (See Article 5 - Range Officers on page 4).

16. Number of Firing Points

.1 Individual firing positions will be provided for each target. Only those persons using the authorized firing positions will be permitted to shoot. Cross firing will not be permitted!

.2 A Range Officer may permit more than one discipline to practice on a given range at the same time, providing **all** Firing Line Commands are observed by both disciplines.

.3 Only one coach/spotter per shooter is authorized and must remain under the control of a Range Officer during any firing exercises.

.4 Prior to the commencement of firing, the Range Officer will:

- a) inspect the range for safety hazards; and
- b) ensure all shooters have had training or are monitored by a competent individual, with respect to:
 - i) the firearm to be used,
 - ii) safe firearm handling,
 - iii) the Range Safety Rules, and applicable range commands.

17. Pointing of Firearms (Horizontal Rule)

.1 All shooters will remain cognizant of muzzle direction while moving a firearm to or from the firing line. Handguns will be brought to the firing line in cases or boxes only. When moving a shotgun or rifle to the firing line, open the action and keep the muzzle pointed up.

.2 Before the commencement of a shoot, all firearms shall be unloaded and, when directed by the Range Officer, be placed on the firing line pointing at the stop butt.

.3 In all cases of initial "make ready" (that is the closing of the action with a live round chambered), the firearm must remain in the Horizontal position pointing at the stop butt.

.4 IPSC and CAS rules require shooters to start their practices and/or competition from the holster, and this is acceptable for those disciplines. At no other time during the practice or competition shall any firearm be pointed in any direction other than at the stop butt. Range Officers are cautioned about mixing disciplines on the same range.

18. Loading of Firearms

.1 Firearms will be loaded only upon orders from the Range Officer. Firearms will be unloaded before being removed from the firing line. Loaded firearms will never be left unattended.

19. Stoppages

.1 Most disciplines require stoppages to be remedied by the shooter. In the most extreme case where a shooter can't clear a stoppage, he/she will immediately lay down his/her firearm, pointing it down range, and raise his/her hand. The Range Officer will call a "**Cease Fire - Unload and Show Clear**" to ensure that other firearms are made safe.(Article 20.3 below) All personnel will stand back from the firing line before any action is taken to remove the stoppage. After the stoppage is removed the Range Officer will inspect the firearm for serviceability and only then will he allow firing to re-commence.

20. Conduct of Organized Practices and Matches

.1 All posted rules are to be obeyed by each member and guest. All members and guests shall obey the Range Officer's commands and directions. It is understood that each discipline has its own Range Commands and Rules. Generally the following apply:

a) General Firing Line Commands will be found in Appendix "A" of this document.

b) Those disciplines requiring specific rules will seek assistance from the Chief Range Officer in the preparation of their own Firing Line Commands, if not listed as appendixes to these Range Policies and Safety Rules.

c) "Firing Line Commands" that are issued for each discipline must be a part of the daily Shooter's Meeting" to be held for each match.

.2 During casual practice, it is permissible for different firearms to be used at the same time on the Firing Line as long as all shooters follow the same relay timing and cease fire protocols. They will be controlled by one Range Officer, who may have another Range Officer as his assistant. During a **Sanctioned Match** the Range Officer will only accommodate other firing practices if they will not interfere with the members shooting the match. Mixing of drastically different shooting disciplines on the same relay shall not be allowed.

.3 On completion of a match or practice, the Range Officer shall give the order " **Cease Fire**" or "**Cease Fire - Unload and Show Clear**". All shooters shall immediately repeat the command, stop shooting and unload their firearms, whether or not they have actually finished their exercise. All firearms will be laid on the firing line, pointing down range at the stop butt with breeches open and magazine removed, to be inspected by the Range Officer. (Bolts that will not hold open mechanically will be held open by the shooter for inspection or by use of a chamber flag.) Shooters will then take two steps back from the firing line. After inspection, the Range Officer will call "**The line is clear**" and request rifles to be racked or pistols boxed. Firearms may be removed from the firing line at this time. Only after firearms are racked or boxed, and shooters are two steps back from the firing line, may the Range officer change the flag to green and allow shooters to proceed forward to examine targets. **Firearms may not be handled under the Green Flag!** Upon returning from the butts, shooters will remain two steps behind the line and firearms will not be touched by anyone without orders from the Range Officer.

.4 Prior to shooters leaving the Range of Fire at the end of an event or practice, an inspection will be carried out by the Range Officer on all firearms to ensure that firearms are unloaded and no live ammunition remains on the firing line.

.5 When electronic target markers are used, channel four (4) shall be reserved for Club use.

.6 To avoid disrupting an organized match, persons who arrive late shall be disqualified from participating in the event.

21. Range Care and General Conduct

.1 The Facilities of the Club are provided to allow safe shooting. Your membership fees are used to maintain them.

.2 Care should be used to prevent damage to target stands, shooter's benches, frames, lights or any other equipment due to careless or reckless use of firearms.

.3 Shooters misusing or being reckless with firearms will be subject to disciplinary action.

.4 Horseplay or boisterous conduct will not be tolerated.

.5 No person under the influence of any intoxicant shall handle any firearm.

No liquor/drugs or anyone under the influence thereof is allowed on the Range-of-Fire.

.6 Only authorized targets will be used. The use of any glass as targets is strictly prohibited.

21. Range Care and General Conduct – cont.

.7 Users are responsible for cleaning the range on conclusion of firing. All target materials shall be removed from the site or placed in the provided garbage containers. If moved, all shooting benches and target stands shall be returned to their original position. Each individual shall collect his empty cases and place them in a container provided for that purpose.

.8 It is the responsibility of each Shooting Member to acquaint him/herself with the Range Standing Orders and to abide by those orders.

22. Range Gates and General Bookkeeping

.1 All gates at the Range will remain closed and locked when the Range is open. (See Article 4.4 - Range Access Gates on pages 3 & 4).

.2 A Range **sign in book** is located in the Range sign in booth by the Main Entrance Gate. A sign in book will also be maintained at the Archery Range. All members, spectators and guests must sign in.

.3 Members can sign in using only their Shooter ID number if desired. Guests and spectators will be signed in by their sponsoring member using the guest or spectator's legal name, phone number and the sponsoring member's ID number. Simply entering "guest" or "spectator" is not acceptable for either the Club or the Club insurance. Misuse in this regard may result in disciplinary action against the member.

.4 All shooters of **restricted** or **prohibited firearms** are required to complete a **Restricted/Prohibited Firearms Shooting Record** each and every time they shoot it at the Range, for either practice or competition shooting. (See Article 8.2 on page 6).

23. Cleaning of Firearms

.1 Prior to loading and firing, shooters should inspect their bores and clean their firearms. Cleaning of firearms is an individual responsibility and should be done at home or at an approved location away from the firing line, always having cognizance of muzzle direction.

24. Security

.1 On completion of shooting, the Range Officer shall insure that the range is inspected for fire and/or other hazards before securing and leaving the premises.

25. Suggestions

.1 If you have a suggestion for maintenance or note any deficiencies, contact a member of the Executive or the Chief Range Officer

*North Thompson Fish & Game
Club Society
Range Policies & Rules*



Appendix "A"

GENERAL FIRING LINE COMMANDS

- **Firearms not in use must be unloaded, have actions open and magazines removed and be kept racked or cased at all times.**
- The Range Officer (R/O) will use the **RED** and **GREEN** flags for range control.
- **GREEN FLAG - Range is SAFE:**

NO firearms may be handled under the green flag! The shooters will remain behind the Firing Line until the R/O gives the command to change or set targets.

- **RED FLAG - Range is HOT:**

Only under the RED flag can any firearm be handled and **ONLY** by the direction of the R/O.

To start, the R/O will display the RED Flag and announce:

1. **"SHOOTERS TO THE RANGE-OF-FIRE!"**

Shooters will bring their firearms to the staging area. This is the area behind the firing line, farthest back of the Range-of-Fire. Pistols and revolvers can be brought to the Range-of-Fire in boxes or cases only, and rifles must have their barrel pointing straight up and placed in rifle racks

The R/O will change the flag to GREEN and announce:

2. **"SET UP, CHECK AND/OR CHANGE TARGETS!"**

On the command of the R/O, the shooters may now go down range to set up or change targets. **Rifles must be racked and pistols boxed when people are down range. Firearms will not be handled under the GREEN FLAG!**

The R/O may ask "Has everyone returned from downrange?"

When ALL shooters and/or target setters have returned behind the firing line the R/O will change the flag to RED and announce:

3. "EYES AND EARS!"

All shooters, spotters and spectators must wear EYE & EAR protection.

4. "SHOOTERS TO THE FIRING LINE - PREPARE YOUR EQUIPMENT!"

During this time, firearms may be brought forward to the firing line, shooters may adjust sights, arrange and load magazines, bullet trays, spotting scopes etc. **Firearms will remain unloaded.** A set amount of time will be allowed and announced by the R/O.

When the set period of time elapses the R/O will announce:

5. "LOAD AND MAKE READY!"

The shooters may now insert their magazine, close their bolt or slide with a live round into the chamber, or close their cylinder and bring the firearm to the shooting position. This command may include the number of rounds that may be loaded for each string of fire or relay.

6. "READY ON THE LEFT?"

"READY ON THE RIGHT?"

"READY ON THE FIRING LINE?"

In a competition the R/O will announce the specifics of the shoot, An example: "You will have 30 seconds for each of 2 strings of 5 shots each at 20 yards at your own target".

7. "COMMENCE FIRE!"

8. At any time during the shoot a "CEASE FIRE!" or "CEASE FIRE - UNLOAD AND SHOW CLEAR!" may be called. A "CEASE FIRE" may be called by ANYONE

When a "CEASE FIRE" is called, all firing stops at once! Shooters will repeat the command to ensure all have heard. Firearms are unloaded. Actions are opened, magazines removed. Firearms are laid on the mat or on the table. Their muzzles point in a safe direction down range. The shooters will step back from the firing line. During a "CEASE FIRE", no one will handle firearms or ammunition or return to the firing line. The Range Officer will inspect each firearm to ensure the chamber is empty, the action is open and the magazine is removed.

At this point, if the Range Officer did not call the "CEASE FIRE", he/she will intervene to determine the reason for the "CEASE FIRE". Once the situation has been addressed, the Range Officer will give the next command, which may be to return to the firing line to carry on the shoot, Command #4 above. If the cease fire was called to end the shoot, once he/she has finished inspecting the firearms, the Range Officer may give the command...

9. "THE LINE IS CLEAR!"

At this time the flag is still RED.

If the shoot is over, firearms may be removed from the Firing Line.

If the shoot is to continue, the Range Officer will request all firearms to be racked or cased, change the flag to GREEN and return to Command #2. Firearms will not be handled under the GREEN FLAG!

North Thompson Fish & Game Club Society Range Policies & Safety Rules



Appendix "B"

RANGE STANDING ORDERS

- **The Club Range off Gorman Lake Road is closed to shooting from May 15 to July 1, or at any time when there are cattle at large on the range property.**
- Whenever a range is in use the large **RED** warning flag will be flown from the flagstaff located at each range. Once shooting activities have finished for the day, the flag will be lowered. This warning flag, not to be confused with the firing line flags, is meant to be changed when the range is opened or closed, not throughout the course of normal shooting activities.
- All members, spectators and guests must sign in the log book upon entering the Range property.
- A guest may visit a NTF&G Club facility only **once** as a shooter or observer, without becoming a Shooting Member of the Club. Junior shooters under the age of eighteen and Regular Club members who have not achieved Shooting Member status, both of who are under the direct supervision of a Shooting Member, will be exempt from this rule.
- Only one guest per member. The member assumes responsibility for the actions and safety of his guest.
- All shooters at the Range shall be in possession of a Federal Possession and Acquisition License, or be under the direct supervision of a Shooting Member of the NTF&G Club
- All shooters must show their Shooting Member Card or their Possession and Acquisition License upon the request of a Range Officer or a Club Member at any NTF&G Club event.
- Prior to leaving the Range, **all shooters of restricted or prohibited firearms** must complete and leave in the secure lock box at the pistol range, a record of their shoot, whether it is for either practice or competition shooting. The **Restricted/Prohibited Firearms Shooting Record** must be completed in full for both the member and his/her guest. This policy is a result of Federal Legislation. It is compulsory and there will be no exception.
- Ear and Eye protection must be worn by **ALL** persons on the range while shooting is in progress.
- Treat all firearms as if they are loaded.
- Remember your PAL training and practice all safety rules
- Handguns will be brought to the firing line in cases or boxes only.
- When moving a shotgun or rifle to the firing line, open the action and keep the muzzle pointed up.
- Never bring loaded firearms onto the Range premises or to the Range-of-Fire.
- Never leave the Range-of-Fire or the Range premises with a loaded firearm.
- The First Person at the Range will be accepted as the Range Officer unless otherwise mutually agreed upon. The Range Officer has complete authority on the NTF&G Club Range.
- Obey the Range Officer's commands.
- The R/O will determine the line behind which all non-shooters must remain.
- The R/O may declare any firearm unsafe and therefore ban it from the Range.

- When a "CEASE FIRE" is called, **ALL** shooters will repeat the command to ensure all have heard. Firearms are unloaded and magazines removed. Actions are opened. Firearms are laid on the mat or on the table with their muzzles pointing in a safe direction down range. The shooters will step back from the firing line and await further instruction from the Range Officer. The Range Officer will inspect the firearms on the firing line before proceeding.
- Everyone will use the **RED** and **GREEN** flags for range control at the firing line.
RED FLAG = DANGER, do not proceed onto the range, GREEN FLAG = SAFE.
- Firearms or ammunition may not be handled under the Green Flag!
- All firearms must be open and empty and boxed or racked when people are down range.
- Shooters returning from down range will remain behind the firing line and wait for further instruction from the Range Officer.
- Any member entering onto the range through the rifle range access gate shall ensure that the barrier at the firing line is down and the "Green Flag" is in effect. The barrier shall only be raised by the member who lowered it unless an inspection is carried out to ensure there are no members on the range. This gate is to remain closed at all times that the Range is open.
- Only the caliber of firearm for which each range has been approved may be used on that range.
- Only handguns - rim fire and center fire - and rim fire rifles and center fire rifles in hand gun calibers will be allowed on the Small Bore Range. No high velocity rifles are permitted there.
- In general, no shotgun firing will be allowed except at areas set aside for shotgun events. Special events or disciplines may allow the discharge of shotguns in areas that are generally considered rifle or handgun areas. i.e. Skeet, Sporting Clay or Cowboy Action Shooting Events
- The **Live Ammunition Disposal** container is for the safe discard of defective ("dud") ammunition. This container is for **live ammunition** only and is not to be used for any other disposal, i.e. spent cases.
- Only approved targets will be used on either range, **NO GLASS** is permitted.
- When electronic target markers are used, channel four (4) shall be reserved for NTF&G Club use.
- The use of any incendiary device or ammunition on club property is expressly forbidden.
- No smoking is permitted inside any range building.
- No person under the influence of any intoxicant shall handle any firearm.
- No liquor/drugs or anyone under the influence thereof is allowed on the Range-of-Fire.
- Only at camps as authorized by the Club, after the day's shooting is complete and all firearms safely secured, may the consumption of liquor be allowed.
- Vandalism will not be tolerated - Vandals will be expelled from the club and may be prosecuted.
- No pets are allowed on the Range-of-Fire at any time.
- All pets at the Club Range must be on a leash at all times. Pet owners must clean up after their animals.
- Shooting of any wildlife is prohibited!
- Loud and abusive language will not be tolerated.
- To avoid disrupting an organized match, persons who arrive late shall be disqualified from participating in the event.
- At any time on the Range property, for safety and liability reasons, no shooting machinery shall be handled, loaded or operated by any person other than the Match Directors and their trained maintenance personnel.
- Keep our Range clean. If moved, shooting benches and target frames shall be returned to their original position. Police your casings and dispose of them in the supplied containers. All target materials shall be removed from the site or placed in the provided garbage containers.