

WESTFIELD SPORTSMAN'S CLUB RANGE RULES

EFFECTIVE 1 OCTOBER 2023, THE FOLLOWING ADMINISTRATIVE PROCEDURES AND RANGE SAFETY RULES WILL BE OBEYED AT ALL TIMES BY ANY AND ALL PERSONS ON THE PROPERTY OF THE WESTFIELD SPORTSMAN'S CLUB - WITHOUT EXCEPTION.

1. AVAILABILITY OF RANGES:

- 1.1. The Executive Board will endeavor to keep the gun and bow ranges open twelve hours per day, three hundred and sixty-five days per year weather and light conditions permitting.
- 1.2. In the interest of safety and to ensure ranges are being used only by authorized persons acting in compliance with standing rules and procedures, a Range Safety Officer (RSO) MUST be present on club property and "ON DUTY" any time a GUN RANGE is in use.
- 1.3. GUN RANGES will be closed when there is no Range Safety Officer present and 'on duty' on WSC property.
- 1.4. Point of information. From time-to-time circumstances may prevent a Range Safety Officer (RSO) from standing his tour of duty. In these instances, if the Club is unable to provide a substitute RSO, it will be necessary to close the GUN RANGES until a RSO becomes available. We apologize in advance for any future inconvenience.

2. RANGE SAFETY OFFICERS:

2.1. Points of information:

- Range Safety Officers are unpaid volunteers that have been trained by certified instructors and sacrifice their own personal time to assist with the day-to-day operations of the club's facilities. Their responsibility is to ensure that all individuals authorized to use the club's facilities do so in a safe and proper manner.
- Range Safety Officers have absolute authority to take whatever action they deem appropriate to ensure the safe and proper use of the club's facilities. This does include expelling members from the club, on the spot, if they deem necessary.
- A Range Safety Officer's word is law. Members must comply with RSOs' directives or immediately leave club property. Protracted arguing with any RSO will not be tolerated and may result in the member forfeiting their membership. Please refer to section 2.2 if any member feels they have been treated unfairly.

- 2.2. Any member/s that feel that an RSO's actions/directives are unreasonable, arbitrary or capricious, should document the incident in detail and submit a complaint (in writing or in person and as soon as possible) to the Executive Board. The Executive Board will investigate the incident and take whatever action it deems to be appropriate.

3. RELEASE FROM INDEMNITY AGREEMENT:

Prior to use of any club facility by any adult person they must first, in the presence of a Club Officer, sign and deliver to the Club Secretary or the Secretary's designated representative a Release from Indemnity Agreement (RIA). This includes all regular members, all spousal members, all prospective members and all non-members participating in sanctioned events and members of their entourages. Additionally, parents and legal guardians must, in the presence of a Club Officer, execute an RIA for any minor child they intend to bring on club property whether in their custody or under the custody of an authorized family member for any reason. RIAs for members and their families are valid from the date of receipt until their membership expires (normally 2400 hours, 30 September). RIAs for non-member event participants expire

at the end of the event, once the match director declares the match closed. The Executive Board may waive the RIA requirement as it deems appropriate under special circumstances.

4. GENERAL:

- 4.1. All persons present on club property will obey all federal, state, and local laws in addition to the rules and regulations of the Club.
- 4.2. Alcoholic beverages, controlled substances, drugs (including prescription medications that might impair an individual's judgment or coordination) are not allowed on the club property at any time. Nothing in this rule shall prevent individuals with serious medical conditions from possessing prescription medications as may be needed in an emergency situation on club property.
- 4.3. Use of hearing protection on and around active firing lines is mandatory. Use of eye protection on and around active firing lines is strongly recommended.

5. PROHIBITED ITEMS:

- 5.1. Fully automatic weapons to include machine guns, submachine guns, machine pistols and assault weapons capable of fully automatic or burst fire.
- 5.2. Cyclic rate accelerators of any name or mechanical design for semi-automatic weapons.
- 5.3. Release triggers on double barrel shotguns.
- 5.4. Rules 5.1 and 5.2 apply to all persons including civilians and military and police both on and off duty. Any member bringing a weapon or device as described in 5.1 or 5.2 onto club property may, at the discretion of the Executive Board, have their membership revoked for a period of time as the Board deems appropriate.

6. MINORS:

- 6.1. Minors less than 18 years of age must be either immediately or directly supervised by an adult member parent, grandparent or guardian at all times. In a sanctioned gun or archery activity, a Club Instructor or Range Officer may act as a minor's supervisor with written permission from the minor's parent, grandparent, or guardian however a parent grandparent or guardian must be present at the event. Minors must submit written parental permission to participate in any sanctioned event or activity.
- 6.2. Rules 6.3 through 6.8 are applicable to SPRING, AIR, CO2, BLACK POWDER, BLACK POWDER SUBSTITUTE and SMOKELESS POWDER firearms of any type.
- 6.3. No minor under the age of 12 years may handle or discharge any gun of any type on WSC property. If near a range, minors under 12 must remain 6 feet behind the firing lines. No minors may go down range unless accompanied by an adult.
- 6.4. Minors under the age of 21 years may handle and discharge handguns ONLY while participating in a club sanctioned and state approved License to Carry Firearms safety class and even then, ONLY while under the direct supervision of a Massachusetts certified firearms safety instructor.
- 6.5. 12-18 years old WITHOUT FID. Non-large capacity rifle or shotgun only. NO HANDGUNS. Adult member in IMMEDIATE SUPERVISION. One gun between minor and supervisor.

Non-large capacity: Unless exempted by the MA Attorney General, LARGE CAPACITY is defined as any semi-automatic firearm of any type that has a fixed or detachable magazine holding more than ten rounds of ammunition (five + for shotguns) or that is capable of accepting or of being readily modified to accept a fixed or detachable magazine holding more than ten rounds of ammunition (five+ for shotguns) with the exception of tube fed .22 caliber rim fire rifles.

- 6.6. 15-18 years old WITH FID Non-large capacity rifle or shotgun only. NO HANDGUNS. Adult member in DIRECT SUPERVISION
- 6.7. 18 -21 years old WITH FID Non-large capacity rifle or shotgun only. NO HANDGUNS. No supervision required.
- 6.8. 12-15 years old using a BOW. Adult member in IMMEDIATE SUPERVISION. One bow between minor and supervisor.

7. NON-MEMBERS ON CLUB PROPERTY:

- 7.1. All non-members entering WSC property must comply with RULE 3.0.
- 7.2. The RIA can usually be executed at the main club house. If no one is there to assist the non-member they must leave WSC property immediately. They may return at a later date and try again or call (413) 562-0771 and make an appointment to meet with a club officer who will assist them.
- 7.3. Prospective members must first report to the main club house to execute an RIA. They then have the option of joining the club immediately or of being given a guided tour of the facilities by a range officer. Should they opt not to join they must leave the property immediately and may not return again except to secure a membership.
- 7.4. Non-member event participants and their entourages will execute their RIAs at a location designated by the event director. They may move about on paved roads and observe other activities but may only participate in activities directly related to the event they came to participate in.
- 7.5. There are no "GUESTS" at the Westfield Sportsman's Club. Members bringing their friends onto WSC property will immediately proceed with them to the main club house and turn them over to a club officer for disposition.

8. OUTSIDE ORGANIZATIONS:

- 8.1. Outside Organizations must execute an RIA before using any WSC facilities.
- 8.2. Outside Organizations must provide WSC with certificates of insurance in the amount of two million dollars (\$2,000,000.00) per event (incident)/ four million dollars (\$4, 000,000) total, naming WSC as "Additional Names/Insured" and providing workman's compensation in amounts required by statute. Insurance carriers are subject to approval by WSC's Executive Board.

9. ARCHERY:

- 9.1. Informal use of any bow or arrow launching device (as opposed to formal use in a sanctioned event) is restricted to club members and their families and subject to the rules of the WSC.
- 9.2. Non-members may use the archery facilities only under the supervision of a club officer or instructor while participating in a sanctioned archery event. (See also Rule 3.0 and Rule 6.1)
- 9.3. The use of broad head tipped arrows is prohibited in the archery area but is allowed on Gun Range 6. Members are required to provide their own backstops when shooting arrows on Gun Range 6.
- 9.4. No shooting from an elevated position that hasn't been provided by WSC.
- 9.5. The archery course must be shot in numerical order (1, 2, 3, etc.) NOT in reverse!
- 9.6. Crossbows are allowed; however, members must bring their own targets to shoot. Using Gun Range 6 is also recommended.

10. FIREARMS:

- 10.1. Informal use of any firearm (as opposed to formal use in a sanctioned event) is restricted to club members and their families and subject to the rules of the WSC.
- 10.2. Non-members may use firearms on WSC ranges when under the supervision of a club officer or instructor only while participating in a sanctioned event. (See Rule 3 and Rule 6. all.)
- 10.3. Members without FIDs or LTCs may use firearms on WSC ranges provided they are not "prohibited persons" as defined by law and they are under the immediate supervision of a member with a license appropriate to the gun in use and there is only one gun between supervisor and non-licensed shooter.
- 10.4. No person under the age of twenty-one years (except as described in section 6.4) is authorized to handle or discharge any handgun on WSC property nor is any person under the age of twelve years allowed to handle or discharge any type of firearm on WSC property.
- 10.5. Range 2: Rimfire rifles may be used on Range 2
- 10.6. Ranges 1, 3, and 4: Pistol caliber rifles may be used on Ranges 1, 3, 4 and 5a & 5b. Targets must be located not more than three feet in front of an impact berm. Shooters may engage targets from any safe distance. When a shooter engages a target from a short distance, the shooter's positions become the firing line and any other persons on the range behind the shooter may not handle guns or ammunition until the shooter finishes firing and returns to a safe location. As a Range Officer for further clarification or assistance if you need further guidance.

11. TARGETS:

- 11.1. Targets will be placed high enough off the ground so that bullets fired at them will not be a ricochet hazard. (i.e., No ground targets)
- 11.2. Soft targets must be located so that bullets missing or passing through them are stopped by an impact berm.
- 11.3. Steel targets must be located so that bullets missing them are stopped by an impact berm and bullets striking them are deflected downward into the ground. This may be affected by using either swinging targets or angling the top face of static targets forward towards the firing line.
- 11.4. The minimum safe distance for a steel target on Range 1 is (100 yards). Any steel target on Range 1 must be located not more than five feet forward of an impact berm.
- 11.5. The minimum safe distance for shooting steel targets with any handgun or rimfire rifle is fifteen feet or the manufacturer's recommended minimum safe distance. But never less than fifteen feet!
- 11.6. Shooting cross range at extreme angles is prohibited.
- 11.7. Plastic jugs, tin cans, clay pigeons, etc. may be used as targets; however, members must clean up their trash before leaving the range.
- 11.8. Shooting at junk such as water heaters, washing machines, computers, televisions, bowling balls, glass bottles, etc. is prohibited. If in doubt about the suitability of a target, ask a Range Safety Officer.
- 11.9. Shooter may place clay pigeons and small swinging targets directly onto impact berms provided the targets are located no higher than halfway up the height of the berm. When placing targets on the berm, members will exercise caution and not extend any part of their bodies above the top of the berm. If placing a target necessitates walking up the face of a

berm, the shooter will limit the disturbance to the berm's face to the maximum extent possible. Digging is not allowed in any of the WSC berms.

- 11.10. Range 1: Targets will not be placed directly upon the ramped dirt embankment in front of the High-Power pit. Any targets placed on this ramp must be suspended so as to provide a minimum of two feet clearance below the bottom of the target and must not be more than three feet from the edge of the pit.
- 11.11 Indoor/Outdoor Range: Only paper targets are allowed when using the target retrieval system. No steel targets are to be hung on roll out target carriers, in order to prevent damage to the target retrieval system.

12. RANGE ETIQUETTE:

- 12.1. The NRA Rules of Gun Safety and WSC range specific restrictions will be obeyed by all persons using WSC gun ranges. These rules and restrictions are posted on every range. If in doubt, ask a Range Safety Officer for clarification.
- 12.2. Any person in the vicinity of a hot firing line should call a "CEASE FIRE" any time they perceive a danger to life or property to be present. If the problem can't be corrected on the spot, a Range Safety Officer should be summoned to resolve the problem.
- 12.3. Shooters will at reasonable intervals cease firing to allow new arrivals to go down range to place targets. No person shall move forward of a firing line without first insuring that a cease fire has been called and that the entire firing line is safe. To prevent theft, guns left on the firing line will be, under guard, secured in a vehicle, or mechanically disabled (bolt removed) while the owner is downrange. Guns and ammunition will not be handled on a firing line while any persons are forward of the line unless they are in a target pit and permission to fire has been given by the Pit Master.
- 12.4. When a shooter engages a target from a short distance, the shooter's position becomes the firing line and any other persons on the range behind the shooter may not handle guns or ammunition until the shooter finishes firing and returns to a safe location. As a Range Officer for further clarification or assistance if you need further guidance.
- 12.5 Drawing from a holster is prohibited in the indoor/outdoor range.

13. POND:

- 13.1 Please practice catch and release when possible.
- 13.2 Any bass kept must be 12 inches or longer.
- 13.3 A limit of 3 trout may be kept daily per membership (definition of membership = regular member + (free) spouse and/or junior shooters + any children under age 12)
- 13.4 No ice fishing or walking on ice.
- 13.5 Boats are allowed for approved events only (i.e., maintenance, stocking pond, etc.)
- 13.6 ATVs, motorbikes, snowmobiles, etc are prohibited in the pond area AND any other part of club property, unless previously approved as a work vehicle.

14. WALKERS:

- 14.1 A Free Walker Member is required to follow ALL Club Rules, like any other member.
- 14.2 Free Walkers do not have voting privileges.