

WESTFIELD SPORTSMAN'S CLUB RANGE RULES

REVISED: OCTOBER 1, 2025

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.
 - 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.
- 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. Parents or legal guardians may also authorize non family members to bring their minor children on club property. These non-family persons must be adult club members and must be named on an RIA as a designated supervisor signed by a parent or legal guardian. 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 2400 hours on the last day of the event. 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 are encouraged to 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, air rifles 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. All the above rules apply to all persons including civilians, military and police both on and off duty. Any member bringing a weapon or device as described in the above sections onto club property may, at the discretion of the Executive Board, have their membership revoked for a period of time the Board deems appropriate.

6. MINORS:

- 6.1. Minors less than 18 years of age must be under an appropriate level of supervision by an adult member at all times. Said adult member will be authorized as such on an RIA executed by a parent or legal guardian. In a sanctioned gun or archery activity, a Club Instructor, Match Director or Range Officer may act as a minor's supervisor with written permission of the minor's parent or legal guardian. Minors must have written parental permission to participate in sanctioned classes or events and be accompanied by a parent or authorized adult who need not be a club member.
- 6.2. Unless specifically prohibited by legal statute and in full compliance with the Range Rules of the Westfield Sportsman's Club, any unlicensed member over the age of twelve (12) years may handle and shoot any conventional type of firearm provided they are under the "Immediate Supervision" of a member licensed to possess or carry such type of firearm. No minor under the age of 12 years may handle or discharge any gun of any type on WSC property.
- 6.3. Children under the age of 12 shall not be on any firing line, inside the indoor/outdoor range, or under the shooting pavilions at any time. They must remain a safe distance from the firing line and be supervised by another adult member who is not engaged in any other activity other than watching them.
- 6.4. Minors age 12-17 without an FID card must be under the "immediate supervision" of a holder of a valid firearm identification card or license to carry appropriate for the firearm in use and the parent or guardian of the minor has granted consent for such activities on the "Indemnity Agreement Form" (One gun between minor and supervisor)
- 6.5. Minors age 15-17 possessing an FID card may handle and shoot rifles and shotguns that are NOT large capacity or semi-automatic when under the "Direct Supervision" of an adult WSC member. The adult member must be listed on the indemnity release form as authorized to supervise the minor. If the adult member possesses an LTC, they may allow the minor to handle and/or shoot any legal firearm, but must transition to "Immediate Supervision" mode. (One firearm accessible to shooter and supervisor)

6.5.1. "Large capacity firearm", any firearm that: (i) is semiautomatic with a fixed large capacity feeding device; (ii) is semiautomatic and capable of accepting, or readily modifiable to accept, any detachable large capacity feeding device when both are in the same person's possession or under their control in a vehicle; (iii) employs a rotating cylinder capable of accepting more than 10 rounds of ammunition or more than 5 shotgun shells; or (iv) is an assault-style firearm. The term "large capacity firearm" shall be a secondary designation and shall apply to a weapon in addition to its primary designation as a firearm, and shall not include, any firearm that: (i) operates by manual bolt, pump, lever or slide action; (ii) is a single-shot weapon; (iii) has been modified so as to render it permanently inoperable or otherwise rendered permanently unable to be designated a large capacity firearm; or (iv) is an antique or relic, theatrical prop or other weapon that is not capable of firing a projectile and which is not intended for use as a functional weapon and cannot be readily modified through a combination of available parts into an operable large capacity firearm.

6.6. "Immediate Supervision" means the shooter is being supervised by a member with a license appropriate to the gun being used. The gun in use is the only gun accessible to the shooter and supervisor and the supervisor's undivided attention is focused on the shooter. All actions of the shooter shall be supervised at all times and the supervisor shall be in such proximity to the shooter to have the ability to take immediate physical action to prevent the shooter from causing injury to himself, bystanders and/or property.

6.7. "Direct Supervision" means one properly licensed supervisor watching one shooter. The supervisor shall be close enough to observe and communicate with the shooter at all times. The supervisor and minor may shoot at the same time as long as the minor meets the requirements of paragraph 6.5.

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 entourage 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) naming WSC as "Additional Names" and providing workman's compensation in amounts required by statute. Insurance carriers shall be rated "X" or higher and 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 EXCEPT in designated marked areas. Members are required to provide their own backstops and/or targets.
- 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 where posted; however, members must bring their own targets.

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 twelve years is allowed to handle or discharge any type of firearm or BOW on WSC property.
- 10.5. Range 2: Rimfire rifles may be used on Range 2
- 10.6. Ranges 1, 3, 4, 5a, 5b, and 6: Pistol caliber rifles may be used on these ranges. Steel targets shall be placed three feet (3') in front of an impact berm. Soft targets may be engaged at any safe distance from the firing line.

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.
- 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 10 yards (thirty feet) or the manufacturer's recommended minimum safe distance. But never less than 10 yards (thirty 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.

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. Firearms 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. The firing line is established by the front of the concrete, the front of the benches or shelving that has been installed/placed by the WSC or the front edge of the overhang.
 - 12.4.1. All shooting will be done from the firing line except when all shooters are in agreement to move the line forward and the RSO on duty concurs.
 - 12.4.2. First arrivals on a range may establish a "down range" firing line, however if later arrivals wish to use the range and an agreement between all parties cannot be reached then rule 12.4 applies.

13. POND

- 13.1. Please practice catch and release when possible. A limit of 3 trout may be kept daily per membership (regular member, free spouse, junior shooters, and any children under 12). Any bass kept must be 12" or larger.
- 13.2. No ice fishing or walking on the ice
- 13.3. Boats are only allowed for approved events: (maintenance, stocking pond, etc.)
- 13.4. ATV's, off-road motorbikes, snowmobiles, are prohibited in the pond area and any part of the club property, unless previously approved as a work vehicle.

14. WALKERS

- 14.1. A "Free Walker" membership is required to follow ALL club rules, like any other member.
- 14.2. Free Walkers do not have voting privileges.