

Traditional Muzzle Loaders & Approved Metal Target Requirements

This section addresses the use, including approvals and restrictions, of falling steel targets on the range by traditional muzzle loader shooters ONLY. The following is an outline of the conditions/provision.

-- APPROVED TARGETS: NMLRA National Muzzle Loading Rifle Association approved falling steel targets for small bore and large bore silhouette match division.

-- TARGET DISTANCE: Falling steel targets must be placed at a minimum distance of 40 yards. No targets are allowed to be placed closer than the 40 yard distance.

-- APPROVED FIREARM TYPE: Only traditional (side hammer) muzzle loaders may be used to shoot at these targets. This includes traditional type flint or percussion ignition firearms. Traditional open sights (iron sights) are used.

-- PROHIBITED FIREARMS: In-line muzzle loaders and any muzzle loader not complying with the "APPROVED FIREARM TYPE" are prohibited from shooting at steel targets. There is to be absolutely no center fire rifle or pistol shooting at steel targets of any kind on the range.

-- APPROVED AMMUNITION TYPE: Patched round lead ball is the only approved type that is allowed to be shot at the falling steel targets.

-- PROHIBITED AMMUNITION TYPE: Anything other than patched round lead ball is prohibited. No sabots or jacketed ammo of any kind is allowed to be shot at falling steel targets.

-- SAFETY REQUIREMENTS: As a necessary safety requirement while shooting flint lock ignition firearms, it is mandatory that safety glasses be worn and that a barrier/partition be placed on the "lock side" of the shooter to shield the adjoining shooting position.

-- RSO NOTE: Range safety officers are reminded that all muzzle loaders must be discharged before declaring the range cold or safe. Smoking is not allowed near the benches where muzzle loaders are being used. There is to be no loading of firearms with the hammer in the cocked position. For additional rules, see section addressing "Black Powder Muzzle Loading Rifle Or Pistol Rules".

Targets That Are Not Permitted

For safety considerations, a number of targets are not permitted.

- No targets of opportunity such as wildlife & birds.
- No steel reactive or stationary targets to be used with centerfire rifles or pistols using smokeless powder
- No explosive targets are allowed
- No junk targets (old computers, etc) are allowed
- If in doubt, RSO makes final determination of target use

When a shooter is done for the day, it is his/her responsibility to retrieve the target stand/backer from down range, remove and properly dispose of the targets and return the stand/base to the shed in an organized manner. If a target stand/backer is taken from the pistol side shed then it must be returned to that shed. Likewise, if a target stand/backer is taken from the rifle bench side shed then it should be returned to that shed.

