



Ontario Cowboy Mounted Shooting Association

OCMSA Safety Policy Requirement Outline

The goal of the OCMSA is to promote and grow the sport of Cowboy Mounted Shooting in Canada, and in Ontario in particular. Our Wrangler Program, our Participating Members, our out-of-province competitors, including, American competitors, are an integral part of this effort. As such, our goal is to ensure that all participants at OCMSA events are prepared to compete in a safe, fun, and controlled manner.

The OCMSA works within the framework of:

- RCMP Guidelines for Mounted Shooting in Canada
- RCMP (Canadian) Firearm law
- Mounted Shooters of Canada (MSC) Guidelines
- Cowboy Mounted Shooting Association (CMSA) Rules and Guidelines
- Ontario Cowboy Mounted Shooting (OCMSA) Policies
- Insurance requirements

In all cases however, Canadian firearm law, safe handling of firearms, with safe and humane handling of horse shall prevail.

The following outline identifies the requirements for:

1. Completing an OCMSA Safety Session – Adult Individuals new to the Sport.
2. Completing an OCMSA Safety Session – Individuals less than 18 years of age and new to the Sport.
3. Ontario - Adult Resident Participating Members – 18 years old or older.
4. Ontario - Wrangler Resident Participating Members – less than 18 years old.
5. Canadian, out-of-province, experienced Adult competitors – 18 years old or older.
6. Canadian, out-of-province, experienced Wrangler competitors - less than 18 years old.
7. American, experienced, competitors traveling from the USA to Ontario to compete in our OCMSA events.
8. Mounted Shooting Horses' ability and readiness to have firearms discharged by their riders from their back.



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The Safety Assessment Sessions provided by the OCMSA gives the OCMSA the ability to provide safety training, and or, assess individuals who have had previous training and experience, for their safety awareness, safe firearm handling ability, skill as a rider, and assessment of mounted shooting horses' suitability to compete.

Requirements for Participating in Cowboy Mounted Shooting in Ontario

1. Completing an OCMSA Safety Session - Adult Individuals new to Cowboy Mounted Shooting. (This session is intended for individuals to demonstrate their safe riding and firearm handling). As such, riders must:

- Be 18 years of age or older, and
- Must have OEF Insurance or equivalent
- Will complete a minimum of eight hours of safety training by the OCMSA, including, at least three hours of LIVE (blank ammo) FIRE on ground and on horseback, and
- Will demonstrate safe firearm handling and controlled horsemanship on an experienced mounted shooting horse, or
- Will demonstrate safe firearm handling and controlled horsemanship on a borrowed experienced mounted shooting horse.
- In the two above cases this individual will need to demonstrate future individual horse suitability before such individual can compete on their horse, and
- Must have read and understand the RCMP's Cowboy Mounted Shooting Associations Suggested Operating Conditions/Requirements/Guidelines
<http://www.ocmsa.ca/info.html>

Notes:

- Inexperienced mounted shooting horses will need to be qualified separately from this rider safety session.
- It is understood that the horse and the rider must demonstrate that each are safe. As such, it is recommended that the safety session be completed on an experienced mounted shooting horse. Inexperienced horses are welcome, but may not receive the safety or training approval by the end of the Safety Session.



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2. Completing an OCMSA Safety Session – Individuals 12 - 18 years of age and new to the Cowboy Mounted Shooting. As such, riders:

- Must wear a helmet, and
- Will be less than 18 years, and
- Must have OEF Insurance or equivalent
- Will complete a minimum of eight hours of safety training by the OCMSA, including, at least three hours of LIVE (blank ammo) FIRE on GROUND ONLY, and
- Will demonstrate safe firearm handling, on the ground, and controlled horsemanship on an experienced mounted shooting horse, or
- Will demonstrate safe firearm handling, on the ground, and controlled horsemanship on a borrowed experienced mounted shooting horse.
- In the two above cases this individual will need to demonstrate future individual horse suitability before such individual can compete on their horse, and
- Parents must sign a Wrangler Letter of Consent, and
- Must have their parents or guardian read and understand the RCMP's Cowboy Mounted Shooting Associations Suggested Operating Conditions/Requirements/Guidelines : <http://www.ocmsa.ca/info.html>

Notes:

- Inexperienced mounted shooting horses will need to be qualified separately from this rider safety session. (This requirement is mainly for when this individual competes in the USA, as a Level 1)
- It is understood that the horse and the rider must demonstrate that each are safe. As such, it is recommended that the safety session be completed on an experienced mounted shooting horse. Inexperienced mounted shooting horses are welcome, but may not receive the safety or training approval by the end of the Safety Session.



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3. Ontario – Adult Resident Participating Members – 18 years old or older

- Be a Participating Member of the OCMSA,
- Must have OEF Insurance or equivalent
- Be 18 years of age or older
- Possess a valid RPAL
- Have completed a minimum of eight hours of safety training by the OCMSA, including, at least three hours of LIVE (blank ammo) FIRE on ground and on horseback, or
- Have had completed other safety training and have already safely competed in other parts of Canada or the United States in cowboy mounted shooting, (experienced cowboy mounted shooters), and
- Participating Member will need to demonstrate individual horse suitability before such individual can compete on their horse, and
- Must have read and understand the RCMP's Cowboy Mounted Shooting Associations Suggested Operating Conditions/Requirements/Guidelines:
<http://www.ocmsa.ca/info.html>

4. Ontario - Wrangler Participating Members – 12- 18 years old must: (Firearm safety training is not applicable to Wranglers under 12,)

- Must wear a helmet, and
- Be a Participating Member of the OCMSA, and
- Must have OEF Insurance or equivalent, and
- Be less than 18 years of age, and
- Have completed a minimum of eight hours of safety training by the OCMSA, including, at least three hours of LIVE (blank ammo) GROUND FIRE ONLY training, and
- Will demonstrate safe firearm handling, ON THE GROUND, and controlled horsemanship on an experienced mounted shooting horse, or
- Will demonstrate safe firearm handling, ON THE GROUND, and controlled horsemanship on a borrowed experienced mounted shooting horse.



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- In the two above cases this individual will need to demonstrate future individual horse suitability.
- Parents must sign a Wrangler Letter of Consent, and
- Must have their parents or guardian read and understand the RCMP's Cowboy Mounted Shooting Associations Suggested Operating Conditions/Requirements/Guidelines : <http://www.ocmsa.ca/info.html> and,
- Parents must sign a Wrangler Letter of Consent, and
- Upon turning 18 years of age and wishing to compete as a Level 1 or higher in Canada, and discharge firearms from horseback, the individual must complete an additional 3 hours training of live fire from horse back. Or, have safely competed in the USA and discharged firearms from horseback in those competitions, as a Level 1 or higher.

5. Canadian, out-of-province, experienced Adult competitors

- Be a Participating Member of the OCMSA, or
- Belong to a Canadian affiliated Mounted Shooting Club, and
- Must have OEF Insurance or equivalent, and
- Must be 18 years of age or older, and
- Must possess a valid RPAL, and
- Have completed a minimum of eight hours of safety training by the OCMSA, or a Canadian affiliate club; including, at least three hours of LIVE (blank ammo) FIRE training, on ground and on horseback, or
- Will demonstrate safe firearm handling and controlled horsemanship on an experienced cowboy mounted shooting horse, or
- Has completed other safety training and has already safely competed in other parts of Canada or the United States, (experienced cowboy mounted shooters) and can demonstrate safe and controlled riding and handling of firearms.
- Must have read and understand the RCMP's Cowboy Mounted Shooting Associations Suggested Operating Conditions/Requirements/Guidelines: <http://www.ocmsa.ca/info.html>



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6. Canadian, out-of-province, experienced Wrangler competitors - 12 - 18 years old. (Firearm safety training is not applicable to Wranglers under 12)

- Be a Participating Member of the OCMSA, or
- Belong to a Canadian affiliated Mounted Shooting Club, and
- Must have OEF Insurance or equivalent, and
- Must be less than 18 years of age, and
- Have completed a minimum of eight hours of safety training by the OCMSA, or a Canadian affiliate club; including, at least three hours of LIVE (blank ammo) FIRE training, from GROUND ONLY, and
- Will demonstrate safe firearm handling on the Ground ONLY and controlled horsemanship on an experienced cowboy mounted shooting horse, or
- Has completed other safety training and has already safely competed in other parts of Canada or the United States, (experienced cowboy mounted shooters) and can demonstrate safe and controlled riding and handling of firearms, and
- Parents must sign a Wrangler Letter of Consent, and
- Must have their parents or guardian read and understand the RCMP's Cowboy Mounted Shooting Associations Suggested Operating Conditions/Requirements/Guidelines : <http://www.ocmsa.ca/info.html>

7. American, experienced, competitors traveling from the USA to Ontario to compete in OCMSA events.

- Be a Participating Member of the OCMSA, or
- Belong to a Canadian affiliated Mounted Shooting Club, or,
- Purchase a Day Membership suitable for the event to be entered, as per entry form, and
- Must have OEF Insurance or equivalent, and
- Must be 18 years of age or older to compete in Adult Level classes, and discharge firearms from horseback, and



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- Will demonstrate safe firearm handling and controlled horsemanship on a experienced mounted shooting horse, or
- Will demonstrate safe firearm handling and controlled horsemanship on a borrowed and experienced mounted shooting horse, or
- Has had other safety training and has already safely competed in other parts of Canada or the United States, (experienced cowboy mounted shooters) and can demonstrate safe and controlled riding and handling of firearms, and
- Individuals less than 18 years of age must compete in one of the OCMSA Wrangler classes as specified in the OCMSA Wrangler Class Outline, and
- Have access to and review as required, the RCMP's Cowboy Mounted Shooting Associations Suggested Operating Conditions/Requirements/Guidelines: <http://www.ocmsa.ca/info.html>

Note:

Non-Resident Shooters - For an individual without a valid Canadian firearms license, a Non-Resident Firearm Declaration (form RCMP 5589) that has been confirmed by a customs officer at his or her point of entry has the same effect as a firearms license for up to 60 days. All of the CFO offices can be reached from Monday to Friday, between 9 a.m. and 4:30 p.m., at 1-800-731-4000.

8. **Mounted Shooting Horses' ability and readiness to have firearms discharged by their riders from their back** - Mounted Shooting Horses must demonstrate that they are capable of having firearms discharged from their back. This is fundamentally important for the safety of the rider and the horse. As such, an individual must demonstrate:

- That their horse is safe, and adequately trained to be ridden and shot off in a competition like environment, and
- Earplugs are strongly recommended for the horse.
- All horses ridden in competition must be sound, and showing no signs of illness.
- The Range Master has the final authority and decision on a horse's soundness and readiness for competition.