

Rowan County Wildlife Association Inc.

Range Manual

(Revised 2 October 2015)

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1.0 INTRODUCTION

While members are not expected to memorize these RANGE & CLUB RULES in their entirety, they should review and be familiar with those rules that pertain to the specific ranges they may use. Members are strongly encouraged to keep a copy of these rules for their future reference while at the range.

These rules are current as of the date indicated; however, they may be revised from time to time. RCWA's most current Range & Club Rules can be found at our web site: www.rcwanc.com.

A list of RCWA Officers, Board of Directors, as well as Match Directors, match schedules and other information may be found on RCWA's web site: www.rcwanc.com and calendar cards.

RCWA Member and Board of Directors Meetings is listed on our website and calendar cards.

1.1 MEDICAL EMERGENCY

In case of a medical emergency call 911, if the gate is locked go to the entrance gate, unlock the lock and wait on emergency services to give them directions to the injured party.

2.0 GENERAL RULES

Members are encouraged to use the facilities of the Rowan County Wildlife Association, Inc., hereinafter known as "RCWA" as often as they like. These rules are intended to

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make our activities safe, convenient and enjoyable for everyone. **Please follow basic rules of common sense, safety and courtesy.**

The speed limit in front of the clubhouse and on the drive adjacent to all ranges is 5 mph. The speed limit on the entrance road is 10 mph.

Vehicles may only be driven on Range #1 to and from the berms to replace targets, etc., or for maintenance purposes, or as necessary during matches. The light system must be used when going to the 50yd and 100yd Target Lines. When going to the 200yd Target Line and Target Trailer both the light system and the orange flag must be used while down range. All vehicles must remain visible from the firing line. The Board of Directors or the Range Officer (during matches) may approve exceptions (in written form) for physically handicapped members.

The possession or use of illegal drugs under any circumstances is prohibited on Club property. Violation of this rule by any member will result in their membership terminated and permanent expulsion from all RCWA property.

No Alcoholic Beverages Are Permitted on RCWA Property for Any Reason. Consumption of alcohol before or during shooting is prohibited. Any member who consumes any alcohol immediately prior to or during shooting will result in their membership terminated and permanent expulsion from all RCWA property.

All loaded firearms must be holstered around the clubhouse and or parking areas. Firearms in the clubhouse must be unloaded with actions opened except for legally concealed handguns. Loaded firearms may not be handled in the clubhouse for any reason.

National Firearms Act (NFA) "Class III" firearms with full-automatic-fire capability may only be fired with written permission from the Board of Directors. You must have a copy of this written permission with you if you have full-automatic-fire NFA firearms on RCWA property. You must also have a copy of your Form 1, Form 2, Form 3, Form 4, Form 5 or Form 7 (whichever is applicable) with you if you have NFA firearms on RCWA property.

RCWA Members with Bump fire or slide fire stocks may only be fired with written permission from the Board of Directors.

FIRING THE FOLLOWING TYPES OF AMMUNITION IS PROHIBITED ON ALL CLUB RANGES:

- 1. TRACER ROUNDS**
- 2. FLECHETTE ROUNDS**
- 3. EXPLODING ROUNDS**
- 4. INCENDIARY ROUNDS**

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EXPLODING TARGETS ARE PROHIBITED ON ALL CLUB PROPERTY.

ENTRANCE GATE next to Majolica Road: **All members shall lock the entrance gate after entering and all members shall lock the entrance gate when exiting RCWA property, unless the gate is already locked open.** If the chain and lock are simply draped over the gate when you enter or exit, please lock the gate.

Only Club officers or officer-authorized personnel may lock open the entrance gate. All group matches, law enforcement training, clinics, events and activities that occur on RCWA property must have prior approval from the RCWA Board of Directors and must comply with all regulations established by the Board of Directors.

3.0 RANGE USAGE RULES & HOURS OF OPERATION

Range safety is a must for RCWA to remain a safe place to shoot. If you see dangerous or prohibited activity taking place, speak to the person(s) involved - they may simply be unaware of the danger or rule violation. If it is not possible to correct any safety or rule violation problem diplomatically, ask another club member for help. **Please get the vehicle license tag number of the person(s) involved and give it to a Range Safety Officer or a RCWA Officer or a member of the Board of Directors.** Also report any damage to Club property to a Range Safety Officer or a RCWA Officer or a member of the Board of Directors.

Ranges #1 through #9 and Ranges A through L

All members and guests are expected to follow RCWA's rules, and all members share the responsibility to enforce these rules.

Dependents and guests of a member must be accompanied by the member while at ranges #1 - #9 and Ranges A through L, the lake and archery range. Only a member may bring guests to the range. Visitors may not use any range facilities except as guests of a member, or as guests while participating in sanctioned matches that are authorized by the Board of Directors. Guests must remain with their host member at all times while on RCWA property. It is the responsibility of the host member to be certain his/her guests are familiar with and abides by RCWA's RANGE & CLUB RULES.

Ranges #1 through #9 and Ranges A through L - are for use by all members and their guest when accompanied by a member. No ranges may be reserved without RCWA's Board Approval. For example, if you leave a range to take a break or go to lunch, other members may use the range. When you return you must wait for other members to finish using the range or allows you to join them. Ranges are for use on a first come first served basis.

Members may bring guest to the range, but only 2 may shoot at a time. When a member brings a guest to RCWA, the member must not shoot while their guests are

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shooting. The guests may not shoot while the member is shooting. The member is responsible for their guests at all times while on RCWA property. The member that is responsible for his/her guests is responsible for payment of any damages caused by his/her guests to RCWA property. Failure of a member to pay for damages within the time specified by the Board of Directors will result in their membership termination and permanent expulsion from all RCWA property.

Membership badges must be visible at all times while on Club property with the exception of shotgun ranges when open to the public. Members unable to produce a current membership badge or card and unaccompanied visitors will be asked to leave. Members pay for the privilege of shooting at RCWA and are expected to see that other range users are wearing current membership badges or are the guests of, and accompanied by, a member. Any person without a current membership badge or not accompanied by a member should be asked to leave the ranges immediately. If you do not feel comfortable ordering an unauthorized person to leave, ask another club member and/or call 911 and have the Rowan County Sheriff's Department remove the person(s) from RCWA property. Also, get the vehicle license tag number of the person(s) involved and give it to a range manager or officer or a Board of Director Member. Also report any damage to RCWA property to a range manager or officer or a member of the Board of Directors.

NOTE: Range L is for Pistols Only – Rimfire Pistols and Centerfire Pistols (Pistol Calibers Only).

HOURS OF OPERATION

MONDAY – SATURDAY

8 A.M. to 8:30 P.M. or dark.

SUNDAY

Rimfire Pistols and Rifles - 8 A.M. to 8:30 P.M. or dark.

Centerfire Pistols, Centerfire Rifles and Muzzle Loading Pistols & Rifles -

12 P.M. to 8:30 P.M. or dark.

An exception for shooting after 8:30 P.M. or dark will only apply to RCWA Board Approved night shoots.

4.0 Shotgun Fields (Ranges)

Skeet, Trap, Five Stand or Sporting Clays fields (ranges) are open to the public and members on specified days as established by the manager of these fields (ranges). Hours of Operation: See the schedule on our website at www.rcwanc.com. Look under the heading Shotgun Shooting Sports for hours of operation. You may also ask the shotgun range manager.

5.0 SPECIFIC RANGES & RULES

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Failing to abide by rules and regulations will result in the loss of range privileges and/or membership. This is your range so take care of the bays and berms. Additional Range Rules and information is posted on our website and on the front of the clubhouse. It is every member's responsibility to keep up with all updated Range Rules and regulations. Periodically review our website for updates.

ALL RANGES:

1. **DO NOT** handle any firearm when people are down range or forward of firing points.
2. All weapons are to be unloaded and all actions open prior to anyone going down range.
3. Treat all firearms as loaded at all times while on the ranges.
4. Keep Muzzles pointed in a safe direction
5. Do not point your firearm at anything you do not want to destroy.
6. Always be sure of target, backstop and immediate surroundings. Shoot only into established backstops.
7. You are responsible for your actions and the actions of your guests.
8. Pick up shot shell hulls, trash and targets after shooting.
9. **Approved targets on Ranges 1 – 9 and A - L are paper or cardboard targets placed on the target wire.**
 - a) **Shooting steel plates with rifles and pistols are allowed on Ranges 1 & 5 through 9, and shooting steel plates with pistols (handguns) are allowed on Ranges 2, 3 & 4 – only if the steel plates are placed at the base of the berm to prevent rounds from leaving the bay and from hitting any target posts or frames.** Steel plates must be approved for the caliber of weapon used.
 - b) Steel plates for Pistol Targets – a minimum distance of 11 yards with target being a minimum of 11 degrees down angle.
 - c) Steel plates for Rifle Targets – a minimum distance of 20 yards with target being a minimum of 22 degrees down angle.
 - d) Be very careful with these targets – ricochets are common, and lead splatter from steel plates is a serious hazard. Keep targets near the backstop at the base of the berm to limit danger. Spectators must stand back from the firing line. Ear and Eye protection is required by all spectators.
10. Unapproved targets are cans, bottles, produce, pallets, lumber, target posts or frames, rocks, ammunition, clay birds (skeet, trap, 5-stand or sporting clays), explosive devices, **ground bouncers, wobble type targets, walking/flipping type of targets, or any other targets placed on the ground,** or anything that could cause a round to leave the range.
11. **DO NOT** put targets on top of or on the target frame posts or other wood members holding the wire or on top of or on an eyebrow (eyebrows are located on Ranges #2 - #4 and A – L to keep bullets from leaving the range). Placing targets on these locations is prohibited.

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12. All loaded firearms must be holstered around the clubhouse and/or parking areas.
Firearms inside the clubhouse must be unloaded with the actions open except for legally concealed handguns or open carry handguns. Loaded firearms may not be handled in the clubhouse for any reason.
13. Stop any unsafe action you see on the range to avoid any possible accidents.
14. If you find anyone that is not a RCWA member on the range, ask them to leave unless they are accompanied by a member. Also get the license tag number of anyone that is not a member or accompanied by a member and give to one of the RCWA officers.
15. The use of alcohol or illegal drugs on RCWA property is prohibited. If you encounter this situation, call the Rowan County Sheriff's Department (911) if they refuse to leave. Also get the license tag number and give to one of the RCWA officers.
16. Range 5 is designated for use by the Rowan County Sheriff's Department at posted times in Range 5, at the clubhouse, and on our website. Please use other ranges on those dates and times.
17. **Range 1 only: Each shooter must use the light system (Black button down range – Red button when you return). If you are going down range to the 200-yard targets, always use the flag in addition to the down range warning system.**
 - a) **Never handle a firearm or leave a firearm loaded while someone is down range.**
 - b) **Anytime any lights are flashing on/off and/or the flag is up, the firing of any weapon is prohibited.**
 - c) **Firing across established shooting lanes is prohibited.**
 - d) **Approved targets on Range 1 are paper or cardboard targets placed on the target wire.**
 - e) **All shooting must be done from the established firing line (under the shelter).**
 - f) **Be considerate of others if you arrive on Range #1 and members are shooting. Before pushing the Black button to go down range, ask those shooting if they will be at a stopping point in a few minutes. You would expect to be treated the same if you were firing and someone else needed to go down range.**
 - g) **Always check with other shooters to get an "all clear" before going down range.**
 - h) **Personally make sure that every shooter using the range understands that the firing line has been cleared before moving down range.**
 - i) **Be considerate of others – set enough targets at one time to shoot for 15 to 30 minutes.**
 - j) **Before calling the firing line "hot" again, personally verify that each shooter knows that the line is going hot.**
 - k) **Note: See 9. b) and c) above if shooting steel plates with rifles and pistols.**

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The Board of Directors may make exceptions to some of these rules for special situations or circumstances. Any exceptions by the board will be made in written form.

5.1 Shotgun Fields (Ranges)

These include Skeet, Trap, Five Stand and Sporting Clays fields (ranges), and are for shotguns only, firing at clay targets. No slug or buckshot ammunition, or any loads of lead shot larger than #7½, are permitted on these ranges.

1. HEARING AND EYE PROTECTION IS REQUIRED AT ALL TIMES.
2. Carry your shotgun either with the breech broken or with the breech bolt open, depending on type.
3. Keep your muzzle pointed in a safe direction – either down towards the ground (preferably) or upwards, *do not carry in a manner where your barrel sweeps across other people.*
4. Place your shotgun in a stand or case when not in use.
5. Keep your shotgun open and unloaded at all times except when you are on a firing station preparing to shoot.
6. Do not load more than two shells at a time.
7. Do not place shells into any part of the gun until you are standing on the shooting station with your gun pointed safely toward the flight area.
8. Maintain control of your shotgun at all times so as to pose no threat to others.
9. You are responsible for your actions and the actions of your guests.
10. Pick up shot shell hulls and trash after shooting.
11. Stop any unsafe action you see on the range to avoid any possible accident.
12. Only one shooter, from a single firing station, may fire at a time. No more than one person may occupy a firing station at the same time, except when a coach and pupils are working together (and in that case, there may be only one shotgun on the station).
13. The person pulling targets (the “puller/trapper”) is in charge of the field, and all shooters must follow their commands. When the command “Cease Firing” is given by anyone, immediately cease all firing, open your action and remove all shells from your gun.
14. While personnel are in the trap house loading the machines you may not sight your weapon down range in the direction of the trap house or personnel.

5.2 Shotgun Patterning Board

You may pattern your shotgun in the area designated for this purpose. *Clean up spent hulls and pieces of target when you are finished.*

5.3 Shotgun Limitations

Authorized shotguns:

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1. 12 gauge or smaller
2. Shoot only 2 ¾ inch or shorter shells
3. Use only 7 ½ shot or smaller
4. LEAD SHOT , STEEL SHOT or other approved shot types
5. Shoot only from designated shooting stations
6. Shotguns must be shot from the shoulder except for **Approved** exhibition shooters
7. Shotguns without shoulder stocks may not be used on the shotgun ranges

6.0 Matches and Competitions

All matches and competitions have rules established by various organizations that regulate these programs. Due to the length of these rules you need to locate the agency that regulates these competitions and obtain a copy of these rules by mail or by computer or by other electronic means. Each match or competition has a range officer that will inform you of specific rules that apply to RCWA ranges.

7.0 Clubhouse and Classroom Rental

The clubhouse and classroom is available for rent by contacting the RCWA's Treasure to schedule dates and times. Rental is available only to members in good standing by paying the current security deposit and use fee in advance.

8.0 PENALTY FOR VIOLATION OF RULES

Except as provided elsewhere herein, violation of RANGE & CLUB RULES will result in action deemed appropriate by the RCWA Board of Directors or other club official (Range Officer, etc.) based upon the nature of the violation and the conduct and demeanor of the offending party. Penalties may include, but are not limited to Suspension and/or a repeat of the "Member Orientation," or permanent expulsion from RCWA property. Members are responsible for the conduct of their guests and as such will be held accountable for Range Rule violations committed by such guests. Appeals of any penalties will be in accordance with the By-Laws of the RCWA.

9.0 No Hunting on RCWA Property.

10.0 Website – www.rcwanc.com.

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