SAFETY TRAINING COURSE

PRESTON & DISTRICT RIFLE & PISTOL CLUB

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SAFETY TRAINING COURSE

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List of Abbreviations

MLAGB	Muzzle Loaders Association of Great Britain
NRA	National Rifle Association
NSRA	National Smallbore Rifle Association
PDRPC	Preston & District Rifle & Pistol Club
PPE	Personal Protective Equipment
RCO	Range Conducting Officer
RSO	Range Safety Officer
SSS	Safe Shooting System
CoP	Code of Practice

The Law (Unit 1)

Note that this unit is for information only and is not tested

Some people are **legally prohibited** from possessing firearms under Section 21 of the Firearms Act.

Prohibited persons will not be permitted on the range.

A prohibited person is:

- Anyone who has been sentenced to a preventative detention or to imprisonment or corrective training for a term of three years or more.
- Anyone who has been sentenced to be detained for a term of three years or more in a young offenders institution in Scotland.

A prohibited person is banned for life from having in their possession any firearm or ammunition, including an air weapon.

Anyone who has been sentenced to:

- Youth detention centres
- corrective training for less than three years
- imprisonment for a term of more than three months but less than three years (including a suspended sentence)
- detention for more than three months but less than three years in a detention centre or young offenders institution in Scotland

shall not at anytime during the five years after their release, have a firearm or ammunition in their possession.

It is also an offence for someone to sell or transfer a firearm or ammunition to, or repair, test or prove a firearm or ammunition for a person who they know or have reasonable grounds for believing, to be prohibited from having a firearm or ammunition in their possession.

Anyone who has been sentenced to a suspended prison sentence of 3 months or more is prohibited from having in their possession any firearm or ammunition, and includes air weapons, for 5 years from the second day after the date on which sentence has been passed.

Other convictions are not necessarily a bar to membership but must be disclosed.

Lancashire Police Firearms Licensing department are informed of all prospective members during the membership application. procedure.

Safety (Unit 2)

This course is primarily intended for probationary and full members using the PDRPC indoor 25m range situated at Lightfoot Green Lane, but sections of the course are applicable to situations when our club uses Military ranges such as at Altcar. NOTE that an additional NRA approved training course must be completed prior to a member shooting on a military range.

This Training Course has been prepared in response to the requirement for all civilian shooting clubs using military ranges to adopt a Safe Shooting System based on the principles of:

Safe Person.

A competent person within the NRA Safe Shooting System is someone who is deemed competent by virtue of his qualifications, currency, experience and maturity.

Safe Equipment.

The indoor range is licensed for specific types of firearm and calibre of ammunition. The individual firer is responsible for ensuring that his firearm is properly maintained and that the ammunition used is, in every respect, safe and within the range safety parameters.

Safe Practice.

The club publishes range standing orders (available on the website for download) which detail the rules and conduct that must be adhered to whilst on the range. Qualified NRA RCOs are responsible for the safe running of the range.

Safe Place.

A safe place is one in which the controls which are necessary to enable shooting to be conducted safely have been identified and directed by the range standing orders. The range is regularly inspected by the police to ensure that its structure and operating procedures are up to the required standard.
The range was originally constructed in accordance with the guidance of the NRA and NSRA.

This course is structured on the NRA Safe Shooting System, (SSS) as modified to reflect local conditions and shooting practice but with **NO COMPROMISE ON SAFETY STANDARDS.**

The 4 Safety Rules

Accompanying the NRA Safe Shooting System, we have 4 Safety Rules which, if you follow them, will endeavour to make your shooting now and in the future as safe as possible. Commit them to memory! They are:

1) ALWAYS PROVE A FIREARM IS UNLOADED WHENEVER YOU PICK IT UP, OR HAND IT TO ANYONE, OR TAKE IT FROM ANYONE

It is essential that the condition of a firearm (whether or not it is loaded) is known before being handled.

Always assume that a firearm is loaded until proved otherwise.

Unless the firearm is being fired on a range, it must never be loaded and must be seen to be unloaded and safe.

2) ALWAYS POINT THE FIREARM AT YOUR TARGET

Directional control of a firearm is absolutely essential, and the only direction acceptable is toward your target from the firing point designated.

NEVER PLACE YOUR FINGER ON THE TRIGGER UNTIL YOU ARE READY TO SHOOT

This rule doesn't mean that the gun has to be carefully aimed at the target before the finger can be placed on the trigger, rather that the finger can be placed on the trigger when the firearm is in the shooting position pointing towards the target but before being carefully aimed.

NEVER POINT A FIREARM AT ANYONE

This means **NEVER** point a firearm at anybody as a result of horseplay, joking, lack of discipline or lack of thought. There are, of course, some perfectly legitimate exceptions, such as these:

- An instructor checking a student's eye alignment with the sights, under strictly controlled conditions
- Visually checking the bore from the muzzle end for obstructions or condition, on firearms such as the Ruger 10/22, where it is not possible to look through the barrel from the receiver end
- Using a pull-through to clean the barrel – the gun is pointing straight at your hand or head.

Abiding by the NRA Safe Shooting System and these 4 Safety rules should ensure your shooting career will be a long, safe and happy one

Muzzle Awareness

Simply put, muzzle awareness is core to good firearms handling. Poor muzzle awareness will always generate negative comments from other range users and if the situation appears to look threatening even by accident, it will almost certainly result in removal from the range and subsequent disciplinary action taken against the offender.

What is muzzle awareness?

Muzzle awareness is always being aware of, and paying attention to, where the barrel is pointing when the firearm is either being handled or when it has been set aside. The end of the barrel (muzzle) should always be pointing in a **SAFE** direction, **ALWAYS**.

If a firearm is pointed at you, your natural reaction would be one of self-preservation and you will move out of the line the firearm is pointing. Nobody likes to be staring down the barrel of a firearm!

Good Handling Skills

From the very start you will be instructed about muzzle awareness. If there is a malfunction with a firearm, for instance, we can become fixated with the area in question and take our eye off the overriding control factor which is where the firearm is pointing.

The 4 Safety Rules **ALL** relate to muzzle awareness, please refresh the rules in your mind again before moving on through the manual.

Imagine there is a taught, strong wire running down the barrel of the firearm you are handling and it is attached to the target you are firing at. It would be almost impossible to move the barrel direction away from the target. This would equate to superb muzzle awareness as the muzzle cannot point anywhere else but the target.

Unfortunately for all of us, we will be muzzle swept at some time in our shooting career. This is when somebody inadvertently points a firearm at us. Whatever the reason is, it equates to bad handling skills on the part of the person handling the firearm, and depending on the severity of the event, it will tell you a great deal about the person's level of expertise with firearms. This behaviour will almost certainly result in action being taken against the offender too, including dismissal from the NRA, its ranges and potentially notification and subsequent Police involvement.

The term "muzzle swept" basically means a person has accidentally or deliberately pointed a firearm at another person in the process of moving it from one position to another. If you are muzzle swept, a tactful word with the offender is usually all it needs to prevent further action, but if it happens again, please report it to the Range Office, a word with whoever is running the range should suffice.

In order for any accident to happen a chain of events must occur:

1. Firearm loaded.
2. Firearm pointing in an unsafe direction.
3. Action closed.
4. Someone in the line of fire.
5. Finger on the trigger.

Adopting safe procedures will interrupt this chain of events thus preventing an accident.

A firearm is SAFE if it is:

Verified as unloaded.

This must be visually obvious to everyone on the firing line (bolt out/action open PLUS flag in for breech loading firearms).

Pointing in a safe direction.

NEVER rely on a safety catch.

Remember:

Never load a firearm unless on a firing point and with permission from the RCO./RSO

Loaded firearms MUST ALWAYS be held pointing, horizontally, towards the target.

NEVER point a firearm at anyone.

Always assume a firearm is loaded.

Before removing a firearm from the firing point, prove it is clear to the RCO or RSO.

A firearm in your possession is your responsibility.

Equipment (Unit 3)

Types of Firearms/Weapons that may be used on the Indoor Range

Underlever Rifles in calibres .22 rimfire and .38 centrefire

Bolt Action Sporting Rifles in calibres .22 rimfire and .38 centrefire

Bolt Action Target Rifles in calibre .22 rimfire

Martini Action Target Rifles in calibre .22 rimfire

Semi-Automatic Rifle in calibre.22 rimfire

Air Rifle

Air Pistol

Long Barrel Pistol in .22 rimfire

Long Barrel Revolver in calibres .22 rimfire and .38 centrefire (Not shareable unless serial number is on users ticket)

Revolver Carbine - is shareable in this configuration only

Muzzleloading Pistol

Muzzleloading Revolver

Photo Arundel Militaria

Personal Protective Equipment: (PPE)

1. Hearing Protection -
   Ear Defenders or Plugs are **MANDATORY** on or near the firing point and are available upon request.

2. Eye Protection -
   Strongly recommended.when shooting and are available upon request.

Shooting accessories that are required on the range:

1. Breech Flag -

A breech flag is to indicate that there is NO LIVE ROUND IN THE CHAMBER and must be inserted into the empty breech of any firearm or air weapon (if physically possible) when the weapon is on the shooting bench, see below.

2. Rifle Rests -

When shooting in a sitting position a rifle rest may be used.

Rifle rests are available upon request.

3. Spotting Scope -

Particularly when using open sights it can be useful to use a spotting scope in order to observe the position of the shot in the target.

Spotting scopes are available upon request.

4. Targets -

Only paper targets or special clay discs are to be used (paper targets are available on the range).

Targets are to be placed on the strings at the correct distances as follows:
20 yards or 25m for .22 rimfire and .38 centrefire.

Notes regarding Air Weapon targets:

- Air weapon targets are to be mounted on the special freestanding target frames.
- The protective curtain must be pulled across the bullet stop to prevent pellets bouncing off the rubber.
- Air weapon target frames may be placed at 10m, 20 yards or 25m.

Loading, Unloading & Clearing Firearms (Unit 4)

Loading - PDRPC Indoor Range Requirements

Before loading:

Range Register filled in; be prepared to show your Club Card, NRA Competence Card & FAC .

Only weapons cleared as safe will be allowed to be placed on the shooting benches otherwise they are placed in the rack at the rear of the range.

RCO/RSO will allow shooters to move forward and change their targets.

When any person is in front of the firing point no weapons are to be handled.

Only when all shooters are behind the firing point will the RCO/RSO allow weapons to be taken from the rack and placed on the shooting benches (muzzle forward/action open and breech flag inserted).

Mandatory ear protection must be worn.

Only then will the RCO/RSO give the command to load

Loading Firearms:

Breech Loading Firearms

When instructed by the RCO weapons/magazines may now be loaded with ammunition and magazines inserted into the weapon.

Lift your Rifle into a horizontal position.

Point at your own target.

With your weapon in the horizontal position operate the action to place a round in the chamber.

> For bolt action rifles - slide the bolt forward and rotate downwards to close the bolt placing a round into the chamber, using the palm of your hands. If the hand is curled around the bolt as it rotates, the fingers may go through the trigger guard, and could cause an accidental discharge.
> For lever action rifles - operate the lever taking care that your trigger finger is clear of the lever otherwise you may trap your trigger finger between the trigger and the lever causing injury and accidental discharge.

Remember that a weapon can also discharge as the action is closed **WITHOUT THE TRIGGER BEING TOUCHED** as the result of:

1. Rifle malfunction.

2. Primer being seated too high.

Any such incident must be reported to the RCO.

Muzzleloading Firearms:

Must be capped off to clear any fouling from the primer nipples prior to loading.

Once loaded with powder, bullet or ball (and chambers lubed in the case of revolvers) caps may only be placed on the nipples at the firing point.

NO BLACKPOWDER or PYRODEX is allowed on the shooting bench.

Further details on muzzle loading will be found in Unit 11 of this course.

IMPORTANT POINT - The range is designed to capture bullets fired outside of a small arc of misalignment with the target . This is done by way of specially designed baffles along the sides and roof of the range. It is **DANGEROUS** to point a loaded weapon anywhere other than at your target..

Unloading Firearms:

Bolt Action Rifles:

Open the bolt and check that there are no live rounds or empty cases in the magazine or chamber. Detach any removeable magazine. Insert breech flag.

Semi Automatic Rifles:

Open and lock back the action and check that there are no live rounds or empty cases in the breech or chamber. Detach the removeable magazine. Insert breech flag.

Single Action Rifles such as a Martini:

Open the action and check that there is no live round or empty case in the chamber. Insert breech flag.

Tubular Magazine Rifles:

Work the action until there are no live rounds or empty cases in the chamber or magazine. Insert breech flag.

Muzzle Loading Rifles & Single Shot Pistol:

Remove the spent primer cap. Then check the firearm is clear by placing the loading rod down the barrel until it touches the chamber, mark the rod, withdraw it and check the rod on the outside of the barrel from muzzle to chamber to ensure it is clear.

Muzzleloading Revolvers:

Remove the spent primer caps then check all chambers are clear.

Long Barrel Pistol (Semi Auto):

Remove the magazine then pull back and lock the action and check that there is no live round or empty case in the chamber. Insert breech flag.

Long Barrel Revolver:

Open the chamber and check that there are no live rounds or empty cases, leave cylinder open on the bench for the RSO to check weapon is clear..

Air Weapon:

Remove any magazine, open the breech and check that there is no pellet in the chamber. Insert breech flag if possible

NOTE: it is YOUR responsibility to ensure that your weapon is unloaded (clear) and prove this to the RCO.

Clearing Firearms

When?

Between shooting details
Before leaving the firing point.
When instructed to by RCO/RSO.

How?

Attract the RCO /RSO's attention.

Hold firearm horizontally and present for inspection.

Note: for rifles with tubular magazines operate the action 3 times in the presence of the RCO/RSO.

Who?

Only the RCO/RSO or appointed Safety Supervisor.

Removing a Firearm from the Firing Point

Firearm must be:

Unloaded (action open/bolt out and magazine removed)

Cleared by the RCO/RSO.

THEN , with permission from the RCO, the firearm may be removed from the firing point. Either held muzzle vertical or in a gunslip.

Emergency Stop Procedure (Unit 5)

In the event of an emergency, the RCO will shout

"STOP, STOP, STOP".

You will **IMMEDIATELY CEASE FIRING** by removing your finger from the trigger and await further instructions**. Do not attempt to unload the weapon**

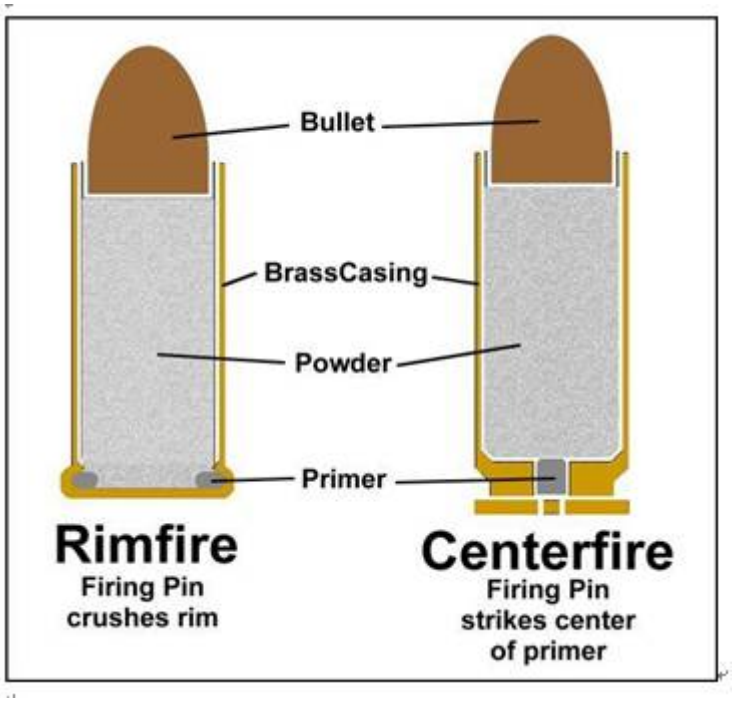
If you observe any potentially dangerous situation, YOU have the authority to give the "**STOP, STOP, STOP**" command.

Misfire Procedure (Unit 6)

A misfire is when the trigger has been pulled, but the round has not fired.

There are 3 potential failures that may cause a misfire:

1. Rifle malfunction
2. A slow burn or hang fire of the cartridge
3. A failure of the cartridge primer



Therefore, in the case of a misfire, stay in the aim position for 30 seconds in order to eliminate the possibility of a hang fire. A slow burn or hang fire is DANGEROUS and could injure the firer or bystanders if it detonates during extraction.

If you do not feel confident to proceed with clearing the misfire inform the RCO/RSO or appointed Safety Supervisor so that they can assist.

Try to recall if you heard the firing pin operate.

Ensure clear to the right and behind.

Keep hand and face clear and carefully eject the round.

If the primer has been struck segregate the round and **do not use it again.**

If the primer has not been struck carry out further investigation, e.g. Check the firing

pin. Check that there is no obstruction in the barrel.

Communications (Unit 7) (not tested)

PDRPC Indoor Range

Communication aids such as telephone, radio are not necessary during club shoots, as verbal commands can be heard within the firing point..

If you are hard of hearing, please make this aware to the Range Officer on duty.

Sights and Sight Setting (Unit 8)

Note that this unit is for information only and is not tested

Initial Sight Elevation Settings

Club rifles should be sighted correctly wen issued from the gun safe.

PLEASE DO NOT ADJUST THE SIGHTS ON CLUB ISSUED RIFLES

But if you are unable to hit the target from a seated position then cease fire and inform the RCO/RSO.

If you have brought an new rifle into the range and are unsure about the correct sight adjustments then ask and experienced Coach how to set up your firearm.

The Danger of Incorrect Sight Settings

Bullet strikes outside of the protected area of the bullet stop causing damage to the range .

Methods of Achieving a Safe Condition

1 Bore sighting (visual).

2 Laser bore sighting.

3 Use of a zeroing target, at restricted range, before moving back to longer ranges.

DO NOT TAKE CHANCES, if in doubt ask an experienced Coach, or Safety Supervisor to assist you to set up your firearm.

Common Sight Systems

Open Sights

Open sights consist of two components: The first is a front sight in the form of an edge-on vertical blade. This type is the most common type of sight fitted to handguns (above left). Rifle front sights are often fixed onto some kind of ramp on the muzzle end. The second component is a rear sight, which is a transverse metal blade with a vertical V- or U-shaped slot cut into it.

The front sight is positioned so that it can be viewed level with the top shoulder of the rear sight and is centered between the slot of the rear sight in line with the marksman's eye. It is important that the shooter concentrates and focuses on the foresight only. This may take much practice.

On rifles, the rear sight is often mounted on a ramp and adjusted for elevation with an undermounted, stepped slider. When zeroing a pistol or a rifle, the factory-fitted rear sight can be moved laterally to compensate for windage by drifting it sideways in the dovetail mounting notch with a small punch and a light hammer.

There are many variations of open sights available. Some have a colored bead attached to the foresight to enhance visibility; others have rear sights that are screw-adjustable for both windage and elevation.

Aperture Sights

Aperture sights are used only on rifles. These are fitted with the same type of front sight as used with open sights either vertical blade or ring shaped element. The rear sight, however, is a small ring that forms an aperture. This is mounted closer to the shooter's eye, either on the receiver, the tang, or on the cocking piece of the rifle. When aiming, the shooter's eye automatically centers itself through the aperture while the rear aperture causes the target and foresight to both be in focus. This reduces the aperture to a blurred outline as seen by the marksman. Since the shooter has now only to concentrate on aligning the target with the foresight acquisition time is greatly improved. In addition, intrinsic accuracy is enhanced because of the greater distance between the front and rear sights. The zeroing process is simplified with the use of vertical and horizontal windage and elevation-adjusting screws.

Telescopic Sights

Telescopic sights offer the greatest accuracy and quickest target acquisition of all commonly available sights. The most important attribute of the telescopic sight is its optical superiority from the focusing point of view. With an open sight, the shooter must target and rear sight are out of focus. The aperture sight is opticallysuperior to the open sight in that the target and foresight are both in focus. The crosshairs on a telescopic sight, however, put the shooter's focal point on the same plane as the target. This factor reduces misalignment due to focusing inaccuracy to zero. Additionally, the extra magnification allows for longer-range shooting and better target definition. Zeroing a telescopic sight is a simple, easily repeated operation achieved by rotating knurled knobs on the top and side of the scope. These factors all combine to make the telescopic sight the most efficient and easiest sight to use.

Care of Equipment (Unit 9)

Note that this unit is for information only and is not tested

The shooter is responsible and **LEGALLY LIABLE** for ensuring that his own equipment and ammunition are safe and suitable for use.

Cleaning:

After firing, cleaning should be carried out as soon as practical. The residue left from burnt propellant will harden after a few hours and become difficult to remove. If left in the bore, this hardened residue can act as an abrasive when the weapon is next fired.

All metal parts must be protected from rust by oiling. However, excessive lubrication in the bore will increase barrel pressure, so remove this excess before firing. Ensure the breech face is dry before firing but lightly oil the bearing surfaces of the bolt.

Inspection

Always inspect the weapon for defects during the cleaning process. Ensure the safety catch works correctly by pulling the trigger when cocked with the safety applied.

Ensure the weapon will not 'slam fire' by pushing the action forward harder than usual and checking that the firing pin has not gone forward.

Inspect metal parts for cracks and looseness where the action connects with the stock.

Set up:

1 Sights should always be check zeroed after changing the sight. This is particularly the case with telescopic sights.

2 Ensure your sights are correctly set for the required distance.

Ammunition:

1 Factory loaded ammunition as supplied by the club will comply with the range safety rules and is usually consistent and accurate. Note that misfires may occur with any ammunition whether factory loaded or home loaded.

2 Be aware that overcharging whilst reloading can cause excessive pressure.

3 Ensure that you reload using the correct bullet diameter.

4 Incorrectly seated primers can lead to unexpected discharge of your firearm.

5 Be sure to regularly check the condition of your brass cases.

IF IN DOUBT ASK

Use of the 357 Carbine (for information only)

The 357/38 revolver carbine is available for all club members to use in the configuration shown below. It is a 6 shot revolver and can only be used at the club with 38 special loads. Eye protection is mandatory unless the user wears glasses as there is a back blast from the chamber which is usual but not as dramatic as holding a revolver at arm's length.

It is vital that the carbine is held into the shoulder and with your hands placed as shown. It is very dangerous to have a part of the body at the front of the cylinder. Do not hold the barrel.
Revolvers run "dirty" and each shooter needs to spray with oil and clean the revolver after use.
The revolver does have accessories to make if into a LBR however this makes it a section 5 firearm and club members with out the specific serial number on their personal ticket can not shoot it. They are also not insured and therefore we only offer it for use with the carbine stock.

Security (Unit 10)

Note that this unit is for information only and is not tested

Firearms Ownership

A firearm in your possession is your responsibility.

When in transit firearms must be securely fastened in a purpose made gun case or slip.

Never leave firearms unattended or on view when in transit.

Never leave firearms or ammunition unattended on the range.

Never handle another person's firearms without permission.

Issue of Firearms Certificate

In the UK, ownership of firearms is strictly controlled.

Good reason is necessary for a Firearms Certificate.

Good reasons:

Membership of a Home Office Approved Club e.g. membership of a local club such as Preston & District Rifle & Pistol Club or one of the National Bodies such as the NRA, NSRA, MLAGB or British Deer Society.

Firearm certificates are only renewed where a shooter can demonstrate that a firearm in his possession has been regularly used. Filling in the firearm register can assist in proving this fact. Note that it is the FAC holders responsibility to ensure that the register is filled in.

Security Requirements

There are specific requirements governing the secure storage or firearms and ammunition. You will be required to prove that you meet these requirements.

The Club holds a copy of the Firearms Security Handbook – Home Office Guidance to Police and can give advice to members in support of their application.

Preston & District Rifle & Pistol Club Indoor Range Standing Orders (Unit 11)

Range Officers Commands:

“EAR MUFFS ON”

“LOAD AND MAKE READY”

“COMMENCE” or “START”

“STOP, UNLOAD AND SHOW CLEAR”

“GO FORWARD AND CHANGE TARGETS”

IF AT ANY TIME DURING THE SHOOTING DETAIL THE COMMAND

“STOP STOP STOP” IS HEARD, THE SHOOTER MUST

CEASE FIRE IMMEDIATELY, TAKE FINGER OFF THE TRIGGER, KEEP WEAPON POINTING AT TARGET AREA AND AWAIT FURTHER INSTRUCTION

Range Conduct:

1. If you see anything that is dangerous or appears to be dangerous shout **"STOP STOP STOP"**
2. The action of all weapons must be **OPEN AT ALL TIMES** when not actually in use.
3. **NEVER** give or receive a weapon with the action closed.
4. On the range **DO NOT TOUCH** a weapon at all when anyone is in front of the firing point.
5. Weapons on the firing point must **ALWAYS POINT DOWN THE RANGE.**
6. PRE-LOADING IS NOT PERMITTED. This includes Magazines, Tubular Magazines and Cylinders
7. Black Powder Loads to be SUFFICIENT to penetrate the anti-splash curtain and to be proven to the Range Officer prior to commencement of shooting by test shoot or historical data.
8. In the event of a malfunction – **LAY THE WEAPON DOWN** and refer to the Range Officer.
9. **NEVER** turn around with the loaded weapon in your hand.
10. **ALWAYS** check for live cartridges or empty cases unseen in the chamber or magazine. In the case of lever action rifles always operate several times to prove that ammunition is not hidden beneath the load ramp. Insert a finger into the breech to make absolutely sure that it's empty.
11. **ALWAYS** follow the Range Officer's instructions.
12. **ALWAYS** position yourself in the middle of the firing point and make sure that your target is in line with the middle of the designated target area. Shoot down the white firing line.
13. **ONLY STANDING OR BENCH REST** shooting permitted. **PRONE** shooting is restricted and at the discretion of the Duty RSO. Subject to restricted and separate shooting details of a maximum of two prone shooters with sufficient separation (ie Lanes 2 & 4 may only be utilised and only prone shooters on the range).
14. When you have finished shooting **KEEP SILENT AND REMAIN IN POSITION** until everyone else has finished shooting. Do not remove hearing protection until permission given.
15. **IT IS MANDATORY TO WEAR EAR DEFENDERS** at all times when a firearms shooting detail is taking place.
16. Check and check again that the weapon is **EMPTY** before leaving the firing point.
17. Mobile phones must be **SWITCHED TO SILENT** in the range and used only in emergencies. Other items that may hinder safety such as MP3 players etc must not be used in any circumstances.

IF YOU SEE ANYONE DOING ANYTHING WHICH CONTRAVENES THESE RULES

TELL THEM AND THE RANGE OFFICER OR OTHER OFFICIAL OF THE CLUB. SAFETY IS OF PARAMOUNT IMPORTANCE AND ALL MEMBERS OWE A DUTY OF CARE TO EACH OTHER AND TO THE CLUB

Additional Range Rules:

Everyone attending the range must sign in with the duty officer.

Everyone then must present themselves to the RCO on duty.

Any breach of the range rules will result in the member being ordered off the range.

NEVER USE ALCOHOL OR DRUGS before or while shooting, this includes prescription drugs that may hinder your ability to concentrate and be alert.

Safe handling and use of a firearm is **YOUR** responsibility at all times. Failure to follow safe handling rules may result in severe personal injury or death to you or others.

Before handling any firearm understand its operation and never allow a firearm to be used by individuals who do not understand its safe operation.

ALWAYS TREAT A FIREARM AS IF IT WERE LOADED AND MIGHT FIRE.

Remember to keep your finger off the trigger until aiming and ready to discharge the firearm.

Do not take anyone's word that a firearm is unloaded - ALWAYS CHECK FOR YOURSELF.

Never pass a firearm to another person until you have ensured that the cylinder or action is open and that you have visually and physically checked that it is unloaded.

ALWAYS use the correct ammunition for the particular firearm.

Always be aware of other people. The shooter (and all others in the shooting area) must be in a position that is out of the line of fire and danger area.

PDRPC Range Layout and Range Limits

Note that this unit is for information only and is not tested

All firing must take place from Benches on lanes 1 to 5 at the firing point,

Lane 1 - Air Weapons, Muzzle loading pistols, Firearms rimfire and centrefire

Lane 2 - Air Weapons, Firearms rimfire and centrefire

Lane 3- Firearms rimfire and centrefire

Lane 4- Firearms rimfire and centrefire

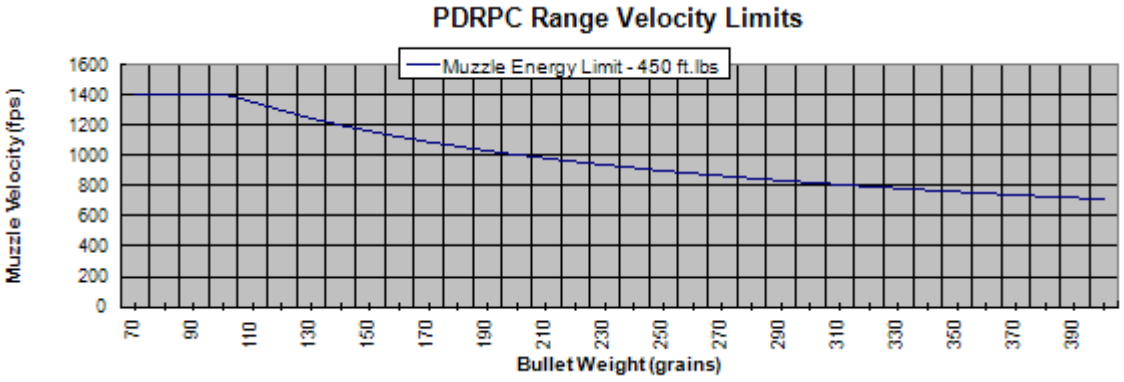
Lane 5 - Muzzle loading pistols, Firearms rimfire and centrefire

No shotguns are allowed.

Only Lead Round Nosed Bullets to be used- NO Wadcutters, Semi Wadcutters or Jacketed Ammunition are to be used

Maximum Rimfire calibre is 0.22"
Maximum Centrefire calibre is 0.45" (pistol calibre carbine loads only NO centrefire rifle unless specific loads are checked and passed off by the Club Committee)

Maximum Muzzle Velocity 1410fps. Maximum Muzzle Energy 450 ft.lbs (610 Joules)



Muzzleloading Firearms (Unit 12)

Note that this unit is for information only and is not tested

Loading Cap and Ball Revolvers

Only use bays 1 and 5 and take your instructions from the RCO.

Use the loading shelf on the tops of the fan covers to keep the powder and caps.

(no powder or caps on the firing point table in order to prevent accidental ignition

during firing).

Apply primer caps and cap off at the firing point, pointing the revolver down range.

Remove spent caps.

Place revolver on loading stand at half cock.

Place black powder into empty chamber, (place filler, if used, on top of black powder).

Place ball or bullet onto powder or filler, rotate this loaded cylinder to the loading ram and press the ram home to compress the load flush with the top of the cylinder.

Repeat this process until the all cylinders are loaded.

Smear grease over the loaded chambers to prevent a flash over.

Take the revolver to the firing point, point the gun down range and apply primer caps.

Take aim and shoot, when finished remove spent caps and reload.

When you have finished shooting show the RCO the rear of the revolver with no primers on the nipples, then show the RCO the empty cylinders.

Clean up the bay before leaving.

Percussion Pistol

Only use bays 1 and 5 and take your instructions from the RCO.

Use loading shelf on the tops of the fan covers to keep the powder and caps.

(no powder or caps on the firing point table in order to prevent accidental ignition

during firing).

Apply primer cap and cap off at the firing point, pointing the pistol down range.

Remove spent cap, blow down barrel to check if the pistol is clear.

Place black powder into empty barrel, (place filler, if used, on top of black powder).

Place patched ball on the crown of the barrel then use a loading rod a drive the patched ball onto the black powder.

As a safety precaution mark your loading rod before withdrawing it to provide a visual marker to check if your pistol is loaded or unloaded.

Withdraw your loading rod.

Take the pistol to the firing point, point the gun down range and apply primer cap.

Take aim and shoot, when finished remove spent cap blow down the barrel to ensure there are no embers in the barrel and reload.

When you have finished shooting show the RCO the rear of the pistol with no primer on the nipple. Place reloading rod down the barrel until it touches the breech, mark the rod, withdraw it and place on top of the barrel to ensure that the pistol is clear.

Clean up the bay before leaving.

General Information Muzzle Loading

Use only **Black Powder** or **Hodgdon 777** powder. Pyrodex is non preferred as it contains silca that creates a health hazard after firing.

Muzzleloaders are required to carry the necessary tools to clear their guns and to deal with emergencies (such as pulling projectiles from barrels).

An Explosive License and a transportation license are required to hold and

transport black powder (Apply via your Local Firearms Dept).

Handloaded Ammunition

Note that this unit is for information only and is not tested

Handloads to be used on MOD land , Bisley or the PDRPC Indoor Range:

Any person who handloads/reloads ammunition for use on NRA or any MOD range or range covered by insurance provided through the NRA must first read and agree to abide by the NRA Code of Practice (CoP) for Handloading Firearms Ammunition.

As our indoor range is insured through the NRA, ALL members who handload ammunition for use on the indoor range or on MOD ranges are required to read and agree to abide by the NRA Code of Practice for Handloading Firearms Ammunition

Failure to comply with the NRA recommendations within the CoP may invalidate insurance, leaving the club and individuals directly responsible for meeting any financial claim, and may result in damage to firearms, injury and even death.
The CoP provides guidance for the safe preparation and use of firearms ammunition. It is not intended to provide comprehensive instruction on handloading techniques, nor is it intended to replace or be a substitute for handloading manuals or handloading training courses, such as the one offered by the NRA.

The NRA Code of Practice for Handloading Firearms Ammunition and the declaration form is available in the downloads section of the club website.

Preston & District Rifle & Pistol Club

Written Test for Probationary Members.

Name..... **Date** .....

Probationary Member Number......

A written test sheet score of 75% is required to gain a pass in this test.
Maximum possible score is 20.

Question 1

List the four principles of the Safe Shooting System:

1.

2.

3.

4. Score..... (Max 4)

Question 2

What 2 conditions are required to ensure that a weapon is safe?

1.

2. Score..... (Max 2)

Question 3

When on the range what must you NOT do when any person is in front of the firing point?

1. Score.....(Max 1)

Question 4

What 2 things must you do before you remove a firearm from the firing point?

1.

2. Score.....(Max 2)

Question 5

You hear the emergency stop command, what should you do immediately?

1. Score.....(Max 1)

Question 6

You observe a potentially dangerous situation on the range, what should you do?

1. Score.....(Max 1)

Question 7

You have a misfire. What is the first thing you should do?

1. Score..... (Max 1)

Question 8

What is the function of a breech flag?

1. Score..... (Max 1)

Question 9

Between shooting details how should a semi automatic rifle be left on the bench?

1.

2.

3. Score..... (Max 3)

Question 10

After shooting who is responsible for ensuring that a weapon is safe?

1. Score..... (Max 1)

Question 11

What type of targets may be used on the indoor range?

1. Score..... (Max 1)

Question 12

When using air weapons how do you prevent pellets bouncing off the bullet stop?

1. Score..... (Max 1)

Question 13

What type of PPE is Mandatory on the range when shooting is taking place?

1. Score..... (Max 1)

Preston & District Rifle & Pistol Club

Record of Completion of Training Program

Name ……

I have attended the Safety Training Course (version 1 dated April 2021) date……. initials …….

I have read the Safety Training Course material and have understood the contents date……..... initials …….

I have had the opportunity to ask questions regarding the content of STP date …….. initials ……..

I agree to abide by the safety guidelines outlined in the STP date……. initials …….

I am aware that I can contact any of the committee members if I have questions or concerns after my probationary period finishes date……. initials …….

☐

Training Officer

I have met this probationer and introduced myself as the current training officer on at least 2 occasions at Preston & District Rifle & Pistol Shooting Club.

I have taken all reasonable steps to ensure the shooting competence of the above named person.

Date……. Name……. Signature ……..

Preston & District Rifle & Pistol Club

Written Test for Probationary Members.

Name..... **Date** .....

Probationary Member Number......

A written test sheet score of 75% is required to gain a pass in this test.
Maximum possible score is 20.

Question 1

List the four principles of the Safe Shooting System:

1. Safe Person
2. Safe Equipment
3. Safe Practice
4. Safe Place Score..... (Max 4)

Question 2

What 2 conditions are required to ensure that a weapon is safe?

1. Verified Unloaded
2. Pointing in safe direction Score..... (Max 2)

Question 3

When on the range what must you NOT do when any person is in front of the firing point?

1. Handle a firearm Score.....(Max 1)

Question 4

What 2 things must you do before you remove a firearm from the firing point?

1. Unload
2. Have it cleared by RCO Score.....(Max 2)

Question 5

You hear the emergency stop command, what should you do immediately?

1. Cease fire Score.....(Max 1)

Question 6

You observe a potentially dangerous situation on the range, what should you do?

1. Shout stop stop stop Score.....(Max 1)

Question 7

You have a misfire. What is the first thing you should do?

1. Wait 30 seconds Score..... (Max 1)

Question 8

What is the function of a breech flag?

1. Prove no live round in breech Score..... (Max 1)

Question 9

Between shooting details how should a semi automatic rifle be left on the bench?

2. Action open

2. Magazine out

3. Breech Flag in Score..... (Max 3)

Question 10

After shooting who is responsible for ensuring that a weapon is safe?

1. The shooter Score..... (Max 1)

Question 11

What type of target may be used on the indoor range?

1. Paper Score..... (Max 1)

Question 12

When using air weapons how do you prevent pellets bouncing off the bullet stop?

1. Pull the curtain across Score..... (Max 1)

Question 13

What type of PPE is Mandatory on the range when shooting is taking place?

1. Ear protection Score..... (Max 1)