

# Highland Rod and Gun Sportsman Club, Inc.

## Rifle and Pistol Range Rules

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### Section I

#### Gun Handling Rules

1. Be aware that shooting can be a dangerous sport. Shooting activities are at the shooters and spectator's own risk.
2. Always point the muzzle in a safe downrange direction. Never allow the muzzle of a firearm to cross the path of or point toward another individual.
3. Keep your finger off the trigger, and outside the trigger guard until ready to fire or until the command "**commence firing**" has been given.
4. Keep the action open and firearms unloaded on the firing range until ready to use.
5. Know how the firearms operate.
6. Be sure the firearm and ammunition are compatible.
7. Carry only one gauge/caliber of ammunition when shooting. When at the shooting range with more than one firearm, use one at a time and when completed shooting, store that firearm and its ammunition before using the next on.
8. Be sure of the target and what is beyond, bullets must impact into the lower 1/3 of the backstop.
9. Alcohol and Drug Policy: Discharging or handling firearms or bows after consuming alcohol on the same day is prohibited. All firearms and bows must be properly secured if consuming or taking drugs that impairs an individual. Discharging or handling firearms or bows while under the influence of alcohol or drug(s) that impair mental alertness, judgment, or physical coordination is prohibited. **Violators of this policy shall be permanently expelled from the Club per Club Bylaws.**
10. Be aware that certain circumstances may require changes or additional rules.

## Section II

### General Rang Rules

1. Know and obey all range commands.
2. It is strongly recommended that all shooters and spectators wear eye and ear protection at all times while on or at the range. Shooters and spectators assume all risk if they choose not to wear such protection.
3. Know where others are on or around the firing range. Be aware of the location of private residences beyond backstops and earth berms.
4. Shoot only at authorized yardages, targets, supplied frames, and other authorized targets, such as clay pigeons, balloons, and plastic bottles. If used, clay pigeons, balloons, and plastic bottles shall be placed against the middle 1/3 of the 50 yard berm **ONLY** and be maintained at the height of supplied target frames. The only targets allowed on the 100 yard range shall be paper targets. These targets must be used on the club supplied target frames. On the 50 yard and 100 yard ranges, the target frames must be set in the frame support rails located immediately in front of the earth berms. Shoot only into backstops and earth berms. Never place targets on or at the top or bottom of the earth berm.
5. Ground level targets are permitted only in the covered pistol range, immediately in front of the 25 yard position.
6. First member utilizing the range will be in command of the range until that member leaves the range. When the first member leaves the range, they will appoint another member to be in command.
7. Unload, open the action, remove the magazine, and ground and/or bench all firearms and stand behind the colored line on the range building floor, while other are down range.
8. Do not handle any firearms or stand in front of the colored line on the range building's floor during a cease fire or while others are down range.
9. Always keep the muzzle pointed at the backstop. Never allow the muzzle to point in any other direction.
10. Rapid fire is permitted only when controlled with a 3'0" x 3'-0" target area.

11. No fully-automatic firearms may be used on the property or on the range at any time, **NO EXCEPTIONS.**
12. Shooters must pick up all of their spent casings and clean their shooting area before leaving the range.
13. Only paper targets backed by supplied wooden frames, or other authorized targets, will be allowed on the 50 yard and 100 yard ranges. Bowling pins and metal silhouettes will be allowed on the covered 25 yard pistol range **only**; bowling pins and metal silhouettes must be set at 25 yards. Minimum caliber for use on bowling pins shall be .38 +P or 9mm.
14. Unsighted weapons must begin the sighting in procedure inside the covered twenty-five yard pistol range, worked up from the distance to the ability of the shooter to ensure that the fired projectiles are passing through the target and hitting the backstop.
15. When a ceasefire is called, all ranges shall observe the ceasefire.
16. Ceasefires, checking targets, and target changes on the rifle range shall be coordinated with users of the North trap field. No shooting is allowed on the rifle or pistol range while someone is downrange on the North trap field. No one shall go downrange on the rifle or pistol range while a squad is shooting on the North trap field. In the event that someone goes downrange on the rifle range, pistol range, or the North trap field, shooting will stop immediately. The range officer shall then remind shooters of coordination requirements.
17. The Range Committee or Safety Committee may determine that the range should be closed for safety purposes. A sign will be posted on the range, and no shooting will be permitted until the Range Committee or the Safety Committee decides otherwise.

## Section III

### Administrative Rules & Regulations

1. Members must have a current badge to be recognized by a range officer to have membership privileges on pistol/rifle range. Members must have a current badge on his or her person to be recognized by other members to have membership privileges on pistol/rifle range.
2. The rifle range is open for membership use from 9:00 AM to 8:00 PM both Saturday and Sunday (light permitting). The rifle range is open for membership use from 9:00 AM to dusk weekdays. The pistol range is open weekends and weekdays from 9:00 AM to 9:00 PM.
3. Non-members are not allowed on the pistol/rifle range unless accompanied by a member.
4. Only one guest is allowed to fire on the pistol/rifle range with the full supervision of the member accompanying him or her. A member may have more than one guest at the range, but only one guest may shoot at one time. The member is not allowed to shoot while his or her guest is shooting. **At no time will the member leave the guest unsupervised.**
5. Guests will be charged (\$5.00) five dollars each to fire on the pistol/rifle range unless the accompanying member is part of the immediate family (i.e. spouse and children under the age of 21).
6. Members & guest(s) must sign in and out of log book on the pistol/rifle range with information required on the log's pages.

## **Section IV**

### **Range qualification, responsibilities and privileges**

1. All new members must be qualified on the use of the range.
2. Qualifications will be scheduled and supervised by the range committee chairman. Basic instruction on the safe use of firearms will be provided to new members as needed. The ability to handle and shoot a firearm safely and a basic understanding of the principles/operation of the types of firearms allowed on the range will be the criteria considered for range qualification.
3. All members will be responsible to take positive control to assure that the range facilities are used properly. Each member and guest user must obey posted and/or written rules and regulations and control and/or stop anyone who is a danger to him/herself or others.
4. All members have complete authority to remove any person from the range or property for not following the rules and regulations or who poses a danger to him/herself, others or property.
5. Any member may bring a member not following said rules and regulations up on charges of misconduct to the Board of Governors.
6. Members administrative duties are as follows:
  - a) Members must have badge or card.
  - b) All members and guests are required to sign in and out.
  - c) Collection of guest fees (All members are responsible for the fees of their guests).
  - d) Return of target frames and range cleanliness.

## Section V

### Range Commands and Actions

1. Command: **“Cease Fire”**

Purpose: To stop all firing.

Action:

All participants shall unload, open, remove magazines and bench or ground all firearms and stand behind the red line on the range building’s floor. If activities are complete for the day, step back from the line or clear the area by backing away firearms, ammunition, and other gear and clean up the area.

2. Command: **“Ready on the firing line!”**

Purpose: To notify all participants that the range is about to be under live fire.

Action:

Anyone not ready at this point, should call a ranger officer, otherwise, await the next command.

3. Command: **“Commence Firing”**

Purpose: To declare the ranges formally open for live fire.

Action:

The participants may commence the prescribed course of fire. Muzzleloaders may snap caps prior to loading. No muzzleloader may be loaded before the command to fire has been given.

4. Command: **“Range is clear”**

Purpose: To alert all shooters along the line that travel beyond the firing line for purpose of target change or retrieval, the removal of brass and trash is approved.

Action:

Participants may move down range as directed or desired to change, remove targets or to clean up. The next relay shall not take up positions on the firing line until told to do so. Participants not going down range are to stand behind the red line on the floor and away from firearms. No firearms will be handled while others are down range.

5. Command: **“Misfire”**

Purpose: To notify the range officer and other participants that a round did not fire when the trigger was pulled and to alert other shooters along the line that a hazardous condition may exist, especially with muzzleloaders.

Action:

- a) The shooters experiencing the misfire continues to keep the firearm pointed downrange, removes the finger from within the trigger guard and awaits further instructions.
- b) The range officer may or may not call a general cease-fire depending upon the situation.
- c) Shooters immediately adjacent to the misfire should cease fire, unload, open and either ground or bench their firearm.
- d) The remaining shooters may continue to fire as directed by a ranger officer or may cease fire at their option and await further instructions.

6. Command: **“Hangfire”**

Purpose: To notify the range officer and other participants that a round did not fire when the trigger was pulled and to alert other shooters along the line that a hazardous condition may exist.

Action:

- a) The shooters experiencing the hangfire continues to keep the firearm pointed downrange, removes the finger from within the trigger guard and awaits further instructions.
- b) The shooters must keep the firearm pointed downrange for at least 30 seconds and muzzleloaders must keep the firearm pointed downrange at least 2 minutes.
- c) The range officer may or may not call a general cease-fire depending upon the situation.
- d) Shooters immediately adjacent to the misfire should cease fire, unload, open and either ground or bench the firearm.
- e) The remaining shooters may continue to fire as directed by a range officer, otherwise, wait for the next command.

7. Command: **“Squib load”**

Purpose: To notify the range officer and other participants that a round did fire when the trigger was pulled but the sound and recoil was different and to alert other shooters along the line that a hazardous condition may exist.

Action:

- a) The shooter experiencing a squib load continues to keep the firearm pointed downrange, removes the finger from within the trigger guard and awaits further instruction.
- b) The shooter should unload the gun and make sure the chamber is empty.
- c) Shooter should insert a cleaning rod down the barrel from the chamber end (if possible) to determine if the bullet is or is not lodged in the barrel.

I hereby certify that I have read and clearly understood all these rules and agree to abide by them.

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**Signature**

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**Date**

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**Print Name**

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**Membership Number**

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**Email Address**

All new members must complete all requirements for membership in order to have full access to Highland Rod and Gun Club. It will be the responsibility of the new member to obtain signatures from all chairpersons showing they have met that requirement prior to the issuance of his/her badge and keys.

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**Pistol and Rifle Range Chairperson**

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**Building and Grounds Chairperson**

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**Secretary/Newsletter**

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**Membership Chairperson**