

# Sawgrass Sport Shooting Association

## Range Rules

### **SAFETY RULES (Cold Range)**

#### **I. FUNDAMENTAL GUN SAFETY RULES**

Always keep the gun pointed in a safe direction.

Always keep your finger off the trigger until ready to shoot.

Always keep the gun unloaded until you are ready to shoot.

#### **II. FOLLOW THESE SAFETY RULES WHEN HANDLING FIREARMS**

1. Eye and ear protection must be worn by everyone (including observers) on the range when firing is occurring.
2. All weapons must be treated as if they are loaded.
3. No handling of weapons behind the firing line. Example, if one or more shooters move forward of the tables to shoot closer, the firing line moves forward with them and all persons behind must cease handling firearms or move forward with the firing line.
4. When transporting pistols, rifles or shotguns (shotguns only when permitted) to the range, unload them at home before you pack them for travel. Put them in a holster, gun rug, or case and put them in a secure place in your vehicle for the trip to the range. Do not load or unload firearms in the parking area at the range.
5. At the range, loading and unloading shall only be done at the firing line while the range is declared "hot."
6. Be sure of your target and what is beyond it.
7. Be sure the gun is safe to operate.
8. All shooters must be familiar with and be competent in the use of their firearms.

- a. All shooters must know how to safely clear their firearm when it malfunctions (squibs, jams, etc.) and,
  - b. Firearms with malfunctions that render them inoperable should be made safe and be removed from the range as soon as possible.
  - c. If your firearm has a safety, use it. Make it a habit, it may save a life.
9. Use only the correct ammunition for your gun.
  10. Never use drugs or alcohol before or while shooting; never use tobacco products at the range.
  11. Guns will not be left **unattended** unless they are on the firing line while the range is cold and shooters are adjusting or retrieving targets.
  12. Actions must be open at all times except when firing, holstered, or encased. Rifles and shotguns (when permitted) will have the bolt open, safety on until ready to fire.
  13. Firing must be aimed, controlled fire. No point shooting, hip shooting, or quick drawing allowed unless approved and under direct supervision of the range officer.
  14. The firing line is defined as the position of the forward-most shooter. Any movement of the firing line must be verbally agreed upon by all shooters present. There shall be no gun handling of any kind behind the firing line. Those wishing to shoot paper targets closer than the typical 7 yard line of the steel target tables may move the PVC target stands closer to the firing line. Members are prohibited from shooting any firearm from a distance greater than the 25 yard firing line.
  15. Targets shall be on stands and not placed on the ground or suspended by rope. Stands shall be placed so that bullets will pass through the target and impact the berm.
  16. **As a safety requirement, a minimum of two people are required for range use. No exceptions, range officers included.**
  17. Always get the trauma kit out of the target shed and move it to the range before handling any firearms.
  18. If you have a cell phone, make it visibly accessible in case of an emergency. Example, place it near the trauma kit.
  19. Immediately stop all firing if any action or condition appears unsafe.

20. When the firing line or range is declared “Cold” or a “Cease Fire” is called, **stop shooting**. When the range is going **cold**, unload your firearm and either holster, encase, or place it on the shooting table, revolvers with the cylinder open in the up position, muzzle pointed down range, and semi-autos will have the magazine out, slide locked to the rear, ejection port up, and muzzle pointed down range. Each shooter will then **acknowledge** that the range is “Cold” and step away from the firing line or shooting tables until the range is declared “Hot”. While the firing line or range is “Cold,” no one will handle a firearm for any reason.

### **III. POLICE AND CONCEALED WEAPONS LICENSE (Hot Range)**

**Rifles and Shotguns are specifically not included in this section.**

The Paul Brown Range is a training and qualification range for police and may include members of the SSSA who hold concealed weapons licenses. Police and concealed weapons license holders are not expected to disarm themselves prior to going to the range. When police are working, they normally carry loaded weapons. They train with loaded weapons as required for training curriculum. If you are at the range when police or concealed weapons license holders are there, expect to see a variation of the range rules in sections I and II. Hot range rules are similar, but there are some subtle differences. If you do not have a concealed weapons license, you will be expected to follow the rules in sections I and II above until you make your weapon hot. Then you may transition to “**Hot Range**” and follow these additional rules.

1. You must have a retention holster equivalent to level II or higher. In the following example, make sure your gun is unloaded. Do this over a table with a heavy cloth or towel on the table. Put the gun in the holster as you would carry it, turn the holster upside down making sure that if the gun falls out it will land on the table and cloth safely, and not be damaged. Shake the holster. The firearm should remain in the holster.
2. The holster must cover the trigger guard. On semi-automatics, the holster must cover the trigger guard and allow space to access the magazine release without removing the gun from the holster.
3. Shoulder holsters and cross-draw holsters are not permitted.
4. Concealed weapons purse (a purse specifically made for firearms carry) may be carried to and placed on the firing line with the gun’s muzzle pointed down range while still in the purse. The gun may only be accessed when the range is declared “**hot.**”

5. Ankle holsters are permitted only when under direct supervision of a range officer.
6. Revolvers in a holster and on your person:
  - a. May only be removed from the holster (drawn) at the firing line while the range is **“hot,”** and
  - b. May only be loaded and unloaded at the firing line while the range is **“hot.”**
  - c. Speed loaders may be removed or placed in the speed loader holster at any time.
  - d. Speed loaders may be loaded or unloaded at any time.
  - e. The gun does not have to be unloaded after a string of fire or when the range is declared **“cold,”** but it must be holstered and cannot be removed until the range has been declared **“hot.”**
7. Semi-automatics in a holster and on your person:
  - a. May only be removed from the holster (drawn) at the firing line while the range is **“hot,”** and
  - b. May only be loaded and unloaded at the firing line while the range is **“hot.”**
  - c. Magazines may be removed or inserted at any time.
  - d. You may load the magazine or unload it at any time.
  - e. The gun does not have to be unloaded after a string of fire or when the range is declared **“cold,”** but it must be holstered and cannot be removed until the range has been declared **“hot.”**
8. You may place the revolver or semi-auto unloaded on the tables while the firing line is **“hot”** as long as the firing line is at the tables, there is no one in front of the tables, and you must follow the rules in section I and II, i.e, unloaded guns Section II., 20.
9. Neither revolvers nor semi-autos may be removed from the holster, tables or concealed weapons purse while the range has been declared **“cold.”**
10. The firearm may remain hot in the holster, loaded magazine in place, while the range is **“cold,”** but may only be removed from the holster when the range is declared **“hot.”**
11. An unfired round may be in the chamber at any time; the gun must remain in the holster until the firing line has been declared **“hot”** and acknowledged by other shooters.

12. The safest place for your firearm is in its holster.

#### **IV. STEEL TARGET SAFETY RULES**

1. Do not shoot closer than 7 yards from the steel targets.
2. A shooter's alignment must be perpendicular to the target surface.
3. Do not allow someone to stand several yards away parallel to your shooting position and closer than 15 yards away from the target. Splatter returns up to a 45 degree angle from the face of the target. An observer near you or behind you is safe.
4. Never shoot on any steel targets that have craters, dimples, or have become warped.
5. Never shoot any type of slugs or rifled slugs at steel targets on this range.
6. Do not shoot any magnum ammunition at steel on this range. Exception, .22 magnum pistol and .357 magnum pistol may be used on steel.
7. Hollow point copper jacketed bullets including rimfire are acceptable.
8. Hard cast lead bullets and copper plated bullets such as the CCI Blazer brand work very well on steel targets. There are numerous brands of fragmentation bullets that work well including frangible ammunition.

#### **V. MEMBERS DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES**

1. Immediately challenge and report (to the president or other officer) anyone who appears to be in violation of any access, range, safety rules or protocols.
2. A breach of any SSSA Rules may result in immediate dismissal from the range and/or the loss of membership privileges.
3. Each member is responsible for range safety. When two or more shooters are present, each member will coordinate and agree with the others to ensure range safety rules are followed.

#### **VI. EMERGENCY PROCEDURES**



6. Do not release gate combination to anyone else. This includes other members, guests and non-members. Lock all gates/doors when leaving the property except when others are on the range or dock area.

7. The range gate and the main gate shall be open at all times during shooting.

8. Vehicles are not allowed on the range except when transporting targets or during target setup, loading and unloading etc. (Special arrangements/accommodations will be extended to the handicapped where possible.) Vehicles shall be parked in an orderly manner in the designated parking area.

9. SSSA membership photo I.D. range cards must be worn prominently on an outer garment while using the range facilities. Anyone without a membership card (excluding guests accompanied by members) will be asked to produce a card or leave the range.

10. Please clean up the range when you are finished. This includes picking up the brass or aluminum casings. Please dispose of unwanted shell casings by placing them in the brass container on the range. Those members wanting brass for reloading can take whatever brass casings they want.

11. Any live rounds or misfires should **not** be left on the ground or put in the brass bucket. Deposit these rounds in the "ammo bunker" located in the far southeast corner of the range.

## **VIII. ADMINISTRATIVE RULES**

1. In order to track the use of the range and its users, shooters are required to log in and out. Any problems should be noted in the log book. Members shall log in before they start shooting. If members have shooting or non-shooting guests, they will log in the book and a Hold Harmless Agreement completed before any shooting starts. (See attachments.) Members (and guests) shall sign out prior to leaving noting the type and quantity of rounds fired. Members are responsible for their guest's fees. Place the fee in the lock box with your name and guest name attached.

2. A member must:

- a. Be a current member of an FOP or an FOPA, and
- b. Have displayed on their person an SSSA membership photo I.D. range card.

3. Range Fees:

- a. Family members under the age of 18 pay no fee when accompanied by their parent member.

- b. Invited guests \$10 per visit. (An invited guest is limited to two (2) visits per year.)
4. Guests using the range must be accompanied by and under the direct supervision of a current member. A member may not have more than two (2) guest shooters or two (2) family members including those under the age of 18 on the range at any time. Persons under the age of 18 must be accompanied by their member parent.
5. Children and pets must be under direct adult supervision/control at all times.
6. Members shall be assessed at \$20 fine per discharge for any round not impacting the berm area.
7. These rules and regulations shall govern:
  - a. The use of the range facilities for SSSA sponsored activities, and
  - b. The occasional use of the range facilities by other organized shooting activities whose aims and purposes are in keeping with the mission and purpose of the SSSA.
8. Legal Documents:
  - a. A Hold Harmless Agreement signed by the affected member shall be on file before an SSSA membership photo I.D. range card can be issued, and
  - b. **All guests** are required to register in the range log book and complete a Hold Harmless Agreement at **each** visit.
9. No tobacco products of any kind are permitted on the range.

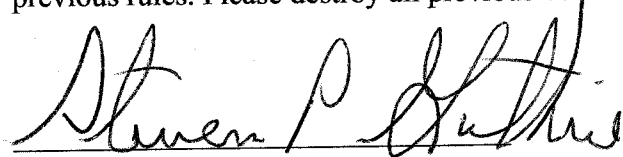
### **Follow the Fundamental Rules of Firearms Safety**

- **Treat all firearms as though they are loaded**
- **Always point the muzzle in a safe direction**
- **Always keep your finger outside the trigger guard until you are on target and have decided to fire**



- **Be sure of your target and what is beyond the target**

These Rules adopted by the SSSA in a regular board meeting March 5, 2016 and supersedes any previous rules. Please destroy all previous versions.

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Steven P. Guthrie". The signature is written in a cursive style and is positioned above a horizontal line.

Steven P. Guthrie, President SSSA