

Range Orientation for Steel Target Use

I. Introduction

- **Welcome and Purpose:** Brief overview of the orientation's goals. (What this orientation will cover)
 - Basic Firearm Safety
 - Review of Range Rules
 - Steel Target Placement and Orientation
 - Emergency First Aid
 - Importance of safety and responsible firearm use.
- **Protecting Lives:**
 - The primary goal of firearm safety is to prevent accidents that can result in injury or death. By following established safety protocols, shooters protect themselves, fellow range members, and bystanders.
- **Promoting a Safe Environment:**
 - A culture of safety fosters a welcoming and responsible atmosphere at the range. When everyone adheres to safety rules, it enhances the overall experience and encourages participation.
- **Building Trust:**
 - Responsible firearm use builds trust among club members and the community. When individuals demonstrate that they prioritize safety, it reflects positively on the entire organization and the 2A community.
- **Legal and Liability Considerations:**
 - Understanding and adhering to safety guidelines can help mitigate legal risks and liability.
 - Here we have various considerations to keep in mind when using the range such as the pond and the walking trails located behind the backstop.
 - Massachusetts is a strong-willed anti-gun state and it would not take much for us to get shut down.
- **Educating Others:**
 - Experienced shooters have a responsibility to educate new members about safe practices. Sharing knowledge helps cultivate a community of informed and responsible firearm users.
- **Enhancing Skill Development:**
 - Safety protocols often include structured training and practice, which not only prevent accidents but also improve shooting skills. A focus on safety leads to better performance and confidence.
- **Long-Term Sustainability:**

- By promoting responsible use, ranges can ensure their longevity. As members engage safely, they contribute to a positive reputation, attracting new members and maintaining community support.
- **Personal Accountability:**
 - Responsible firearm use requires individuals to be accountable for their actions. This includes being aware of one's surroundings, properly handling firearms, and making informed decisions.
 - By prioritizing safety and responsible use, range members can enjoy their sport while minimizing risks, fostering a community built on trust, respect, and enjoyment.

II. Basic Firearm Safety

- **1. The Four Fundamental Rules of Firearm Safety**
 - **Treat Every Firearm as if it is Loaded:**
 - Explanation: Always assume a firearm is loaded, even if you believe it is not.
 - Discussion: Share experiences or scenarios where this principle prevented an accident.
 - **Never Point a Firearm at Anything You're Not Willing to Destroy:**
 - Explanation: Keep the muzzle pointed in a safe direction at all times.
 - Discussion: Discuss safe directions and how to assess your surroundings. Down range is the only safe direction on the range.
 - **Keep Your Finger Off the Trigger Until You Are Ready to Shoot:**
 - Explanation: Only place your finger on the trigger when you are aimed at your target and ready to fire.
 - Discussion: Explore the importance of trigger discipline and how it can prevent accidental discharges.
 - **Be Sure of Your Target and What's Beyond It:**
 - Explanation: Know your target and what lies beyond it to avoid unintended consequences.
 - Discussion: Talk about the importance of awareness and identification of potential hazards. What are some hazards around the range that shooters should be aware of?
- **2. Additional Safety Practices**
 - **Use of Eye and Ear Protection:** Discuss the importance of wearing appropriate protective gear to prevent injury.

- Hearing damage is cumulative and unrepairable. This can happen when the nerves in your ear are repeatedly damaged due to exposure from any loud noises. Do not be on the firing line when the range is in use without proper hearing protection (Double up if you have to). If you see someone on the range without hearing protection, immediately call a ceasefire.
 - You only have one set of eyes and they tend to be fragile. Some form of eye protection must be worn at all times while the range is hot. If you wear glasses for vision correction, they are acceptable, but we do encourage you to use additional over the glasses style eye protection as well. Firearms can discharge debris, including shell casings, gunpowder residue, and fragments from the target or backstop. Eye protection shields the eyes from these potentially harmful materials.
 - **Proper Handling and Storage:**
 - Cover safe methods for handling firearms, including loading, unloading, and storage practices. First and foremost, always keep your firearm pointed in a safe direction, no matter what you are intending to do with it. When it is not in use, it should be left on one of the shooting benches with the chamber open.
 - **Understanding Range Commands:**
 - Introduce common range commands (e.g., "Cease Fire," "Range Hot" "All Clear") and their importance in maintaining order and safety.
 - **Anyone on the range can call a ceasefire at any time for any reason.**
 - If someone wants to go down range, to adjust or hang a target, they must announce their intention, call "cease fire" and everyone must step back from the benches and away from any firearms, once complete the "all clear" can be given and people are allowed to walk down range.
 - Once everyone is safely back behind the firing line, the "Range Hot" command can be given and activity can resume.
- **3. Specific Situations and Scenarios**
 - **What to Do if You Encounter a Malfunction:**
 - ***In the Event of a Misfire:***
 - **Keep the Muzzle Pointed Downrange**
 - Maintain control of the firearm and ensure it is aimed safely at the target area.
 - **Wait:** Remain in that position for at least 30 seconds to a minute. Sometimes, a misfire can be caused by a hang fire (a delay in ignition).
 - **Unload Safely:**
 - After waiting, if the round hasn't fired, proceed to unload the firearm, ensuring your finger remains off the trigger.

- **Check the Chamber:**
 - Inspect the chamber for the misfired round and remove it carefully. Follow your firearm's manual for specific instructions.
- **Examine the Ammunition:**
 - Inspect the misfired round for any visible issues before disposing of it according to your range's procedures (dud boxes are located on each range).
- ***In the Event of a Gun Jam***
 - **Keep the Muzzle Pointed Downrange:**
 - Just like with a misfire, ensure the firearm is aimed in a safe direction.
 - **Identify the Jam:**
 - Determine the type of jam (failure to feed, failure to extract, etc.) by observing the situation.
 - **Clear the Jam:**
 - Follow the specific clearing procedure for your firearm. This may involve:
 - Removing the magazine.
 - Racking the slide or bolt back and forth to attempt to clear the jam.
 - Locking the slide back and pivoting the firearm to allow the obstruction to fall out
 - Inspecting the chamber and magazine for obstructions.
 - If the jam cannot be easily cleared, keep the firearm open and pointed in a safe direction, then seek assistance.
 - In the event of a failure to extract, the cartridge may need to be pried out from the chamber (Never stick anything down the barrel of a firearm with a potentially live round in the chamber).
- ***General Tips***
 - **Stay Calm:** Panic can lead to unsafe actions. Take a moment to assess the situation.
 - **Practice:** Familiarize yourself with your firearm's manual and practice clearing jams and misfires in a controlled environment.
 - **Follow Range Protocols:** Always adhere to the range's specific safety protocols regarding misfires and jams.
 - By following these steps, you can handle misfires and jams safely and effectively.

- **Responding to an Emergency:**
 - **1. Stay Calm**
 - Take a deep breath to maintain composure. Panic can easily escalate even the most minor situation.
 - **2. Identify the Emergency**
 - Assess the nature of the emergency (e.g., injury, firearm malfunction, fire).
 - Emergencies can happen at anytime and anywhere and can range in severity from a minor scratch to a major medical emergency.
 - Once assessed, you should strategize a reasonable plan of action.
 - **3. Cease Fire**
 - Immediately call for a “Cease Fire”.
 - Ensure all shooters stop firing and keep their firearms pointed downrange.
 - **4. Secure the Area**
 - Make sure that no one handles their firearms until the situation is cleared and it is safe to do so.
 - Clear the area around the emergency, if possible, while keeping everyone safe.
 - **5. Provide Assistance**
 - If someone is injured:
 - Ensure the area is safe before approaching.
 - Administer first aid if trained and necessary.
 - Do not move the injured person unless there is an immediate threat (like fire).
 - For firearm malfunctions:
 - Follow the proper procedures for handling misfires or jams.
 - Consult an experienced range officer if needed.
 - **6. Call for Help**
 - If the situation requires medical attention, have someone call emergency services. (Emergency phone numbers are listed on the range rules board on the top left corner)
 - Provide clear information about the location, nature of the emergency, and any specific details they may need.
 - **7. Maintain Communication**
 - Keep everyone informed about what is happening and what they should do.
 - Ensure that the range officer or designated safety personnel is aware of the situation.

- **8. Document the Incident**
 - After the emergency is resolved, document what happened, including the time, nature of the emergency, and any actions taken. (Incident forms are located on the back table in the red folder or hanging on the information board)
 - Incident forms should be submitted to the Big Bore Range Committee immediately via mailbox and email follow up.
 - This can be important for safety reviews and potential improvements to protocols.
- **9. Review and Reflect**
 - After the incident, conduct a debriefing session with range officers and members to discuss what happened, how it was handled, and what improvements can be made to emergency protocols.
 - Self-reflection is also important, to assess how you might handle emergencies in the future. Thinking about things such as what could have been done differently and how it may have affected the outcome, can be important learning exercises that we can take to improve our future actions.
- **General Tips**
 - Training: Regularly train and conduct drills for handling emergencies to ensure everyone knows the procedures.
 - Emergency Equipment: Ensure first aid kits, fire extinguishers, and other emergency supplies are readily accessible on the range.
 - Know Your Resources: Be familiar with the location of the nearest medical facilities and emergency contacts.
- **4. Conclusion and Q&A**
 - **Recap Key Points:**
 - Summarize the four fundamental rules and additional safety practices.
 - **Open Floor for Questions:**
 - Encourage participants to ask questions or share their experiences related to firearm safety.
- **5. Practical Demonstration (if applicable)**
 - **Live Demonstration:**
 - If possible, include a live demonstration of safe handling, loading, and unloading practices to reinforce learning.
- **6. Closing Remarks**
 - **Encouragement for Continued Learning:**

- Emphasize the importance of ongoing education and training. Firearm safety should be practiced every time you're on the range.
- **Provide Resources:**
 - Offer materials or resources for further learning, including books, websites, or upcoming courses.
 - Be careful of what you see on YouTube, there is good content out there but it is usually in an ocean of trash.
 - GOAL is a great local training recourse, but training can be found anywhere. There are many reputable places out there that offer all sorts of training, you just have to look.

III. Range Rules and Standard Operating Procedures

- **Standard Operating Procedures:**
 - 1. Live fire conducted at the Lowell Sportsmen's Club (LSC) is designed to provide authorized personnel access to a facility where they can become proficient with privately owned firearms and archery equipment.
 - **2. Facilities for Use:**
 - a. Indoor Shooting Range – 6 shooting stations, 50 ft with target retrieval system
 - b. Indoor and Outdoor Archery Ranges – moveable (inside), 3D and field targets.
 - c. Trap and Skeet Range – 4 trap fields (one doubles) and one skeet field.
 - d. Outdoor Shooting Ranges – 10-100 yd range w/3 benches and 20 yd black powder w/2 benches.
 - e. Outdoor Pistol Range – 50 ft range w/4 stations.
 - **3. Range Limitations and Safety requirements.** Live-fire shooters will:
 - a. Fire only on designated ranges during scheduled hours of operation.
 - b. Fire only authorized firearms and ammunition.
 - c. Fire at authorized range targets only. No recognizable person, cartoon or realistic form may be used. Standard purchase bad guy/hostage type targets are acceptable.
 - d. Metal silhouette or steel targets are to be used for matches and not for recreational shooting. Steel targets must be a minimum distance of 15 yards for pistols and 100 yards for rifle. Always check with the Target manufacturers specifications for the type of target and shooting style as it may specify minimum distances and target arrangement/angles depending upon target quality, caliber and bullet type.
 - e. Ensure all projectiles impact within the established range safety limits.

- f. Call “Cease firing” and make all firearms safe when a shooter moves forward of the firing line or during any unsafe conditions.
- g. Call “Cease firing” if a firing line becomes staggered (one shooter forward of another) anywhere on the firing line.
- h. Use appropriate eye and ear protection during any live firing.
- i. Notify the Range Safety Officer (RSO) and/or Chief Range Safety Officer (CRSO) of any safety infractions.
- j. Pickup all spent cartridges, paper/plastic and other debris that accumulates on the range. Dispose of them in the containers provided.
- **4. Authorized and Prohibited Firearms.**
 - a. Only use firearms specified for ranges under specific range rules.
 - b. Fully automatic firearms are only authorized upon prior written approval from the Board of Directors (BOD) and the CRSO. The member must provide the proper Federal Firearms Licenses (FFL) and all required paperwork prior to live fire.
 - c. The following type of firearms shooting is FORBIDDEN, except for special events with the permission from the BOD, CRSO or the on-site events coordinator.
 - ➤ Combat shooting, Fast-draw shooting, Shooting from the hip, Cross-firing.
 - ➤ Shooting at anything other than paper, clay or cardboard targets.
- **5. Authorized Personnel.** The following persons are allowed to fire on the ranges: Note: See specific range rules for additional authorizations/restrictions.
 - a. An LSC member who has been approved by the Board of Directors (BOD).
 - b. A guest of an LSC member in accordance with the By-Laws of the club.
 - c. Participants in organized practices, training and shooting events.
 - d. Invited guests and participants must have an LSC member present who assumes full responsibility for the conduct of quests and participants.
 - e. Other guests with prior approval of the BOD on a case-by-case basis.
- **6. Personnel responsibilities:**
 - **A. Board of Directors.**
 - 1. Ensure range functionality.
 - 2. Approves all special requests for club uses.
 - 3. Ensure the CRSO has access to a range schedule at least one month in advance of planned activities. Schedules should include matches, recreational fire and any special instructions for the events.
 - 4. Provide CRSO and RSO training, as needed using the NRA Range Safety Officer Training Programs.

- **B. Chief Range Safety Officer, CRSO.**
 - 1. Ensure a RSO is on duty prior to scheduled live fire events on specified ranges.
 - 2. Ensure each RSO understands and can execute live-fire procedures. (Live fire must be conducted in accordance with the SOP and specific Range Rules.)
 - 3. Maintain a log of trained NRA RSO individuals and schedules (as needed).
 - 4. Review all range reports and logs. Report to BOD any issues, violations and failure of SOP compliance.
- **C. Range Safety Officers, RSO**
 - 1. At least one RSO must be present on the range during live fire and has complete control of the shooting activities and conduct of the shooters. Commands given by an RSO must be obeyed immediately. Failure to do so is cause for revocation or suspension of range privileges. The RSO may, at his/her discretion, stop anyone from shooting if he/she feels that they represent an unsafe condition.
 - 2. The first RSO on site has the responsibility as the RSO (unless transferred to another RSO when additional shooters arrive). When the RSO departs, responsibility transfers to another RSO on the range.
 - 3. For formally scheduled shooting events:
 - a. Arrive one half hour prior to scheduled live fire. Review the Range Safety Briefing at the end of this document and the specific Range Rules.
 - b. Conduct and complete a Range Inspection Checklist for the range in use.
 - c. Ensure at least one RSO is on duty prior to and during the live fire.
 - d. Shooters will check in with the designated RSO at the scheduled range.
 - e. Ensure members have club identification badge prior to shooting.
 - f. Conduct live fire in accordance with specific Range Rules and Match Rules.
- **D. Lowell Sportsmen's Club members.**
 - 1. Shooters will conduct themselves in an orderly manner and will be responsible for the conduct of all guests they bring.

- 2. Shooters are responsible for their firearm & equipment while on club property.
 - 3. Firearms out of their case/holster and not being used must be benched, actions open and facing up, chambers empty (or have empty chamber indicator/flag installed), magazines out, and muzzles pointed downrange and safeties on if applicable.
 - 4. Follow all instructions given by the RSO.
 - 5. Load firearms only after commands from RSO are given to do so.
 - 6. Do not point firearms at anything other than authorized targets.
 - 7. Give the command to “Cease Fire” if an unsafe condition arises.
 - 8. Pick up all spent cartridges, paper/plastic and other debris that accumulates on the range and deposit it in appropriate containers.
 - 9. Pets are not allowed on the firing Line during live fire.
- **7. Hours of Operation and Scheduling.** The Board of Directors develops a schedule of live fire based on special requests received at least one month prior to the event. The schedule will be posted for all members to view.
 - **8. Alcoholic Beverages and Drugs.** Shooters may not consume alcoholic beverages prior to or during any live firing.
 - 1. The consumption of alcohol may take place in designated areas only after completion of live fire and firearms are properly stored.
 - 2. Use of controlled substances is strictly forbidden.
 - **9. Food and Beverages.** No eating or drinking on the firing lines. The consumption of food and nonalcoholic beverages are permitted in designated areas only.
 - **10. Medical Emergency:** In the event of a medical emergency Dial 911 and notify the RSO/CRSO immediately. The club telephone is located inside the clubhouse next to the restrooms. See attached Emergency Medical Procedures and related documents necessary to document the medical emergency.
 - **11. Violation of Range Rules:** Any member violating these rules or conducting himself/herself in an unsafe or nonsportsman like manner may have his/her privilege of using the ranges suspended or revoked per the Lowell Sportsmen’s Club by-laws. Range Safety Officers may have any person removed from the premises if the RSO feels that the person is conducting himself/herself in an unsafe or non-sportsman like manner.
 - **12. Basic firing range safety rules.** Other rules may be added for specific ranges.
 - 1. Always keep your gun pointed in a safe direction.
 - 2. Always keep your finger off the trigger until you are ready to shoot.
 - 3. Always keep your gun unloaded and action open until ready to use.

- 4. No firearm will be loaded until the shooter is in position at his/her firing line/station and the command to load has been given or implied (skeet/trap).
- 5. No person will go forward of the firing line until all firearms on the line are safe.
- 6. Firearms out of their case/holster and not being used must be benched, actions open and facing up, chambers empty (or have empty chamber indicator/flag installed), magazines out, and muzzles pointed downrange and safeties on if applicable.
- 7. It is the shooter's responsibility to ensure that the line is safe.
- 8. No handling of firearms while anyone is down range.
- 9. Ear & eye protection is required by everyone (including spectators) on the ranges.
- 10. Members who are licensed for concealed carry and carrying the firearm are considered "SAFE" and may go forward of the firing line while carrying. If a "CARRY" firearm is handled at any time on the range, then that firearm is considered "HOT" and all range rules apply until the carrier leaves the range.
- 11. The following are FORBIDDEN for health and safety reasons:
 - a. Eating or drinking while on the range or in the indoor range room.
 - b. Smoking while on the range and inside the indoor range room.
 - c. Loud talking or other distractions while people are shooting.
- 12. See the Archery Range rules for archery specific safety rules.
- **Emergency Medical Contacts:**
 - ➤ Emergency Communications EMS 911
 - ➤ Chelmsford Police Business 1-978-256-2521
 - ➤ Chelmsford Fire Department 1-978-250-5265
 - ➤ Poison Control Center 1-800-222-1222
 - ➤ State Police Andover Barracks 1-978-475-3800
- **Response Guidelines for Injury or illness:**
 - 1. Call a "Cease Fire" if a live fire is being conducted.
 - 2. The RSO is to be notified of injury or illness and ensure all firearms/bows are unloaded/clear.
 - 3. If required, EMS will be notified immediately (See Contact References above) of the location of injured or ill person and the range will be made safe for EMS responders.
 - a. Provide the club address (see Header above) and your contact phone number.

- b. State the nature of the injury or illness of the injured person.
- c. Inform EMS of the aid being given to the injured or ill person.
- d. Ensure EMS is aware of all conditions that may be hazardous or impeded care being provided to ill or injured person (e.g., Steep entrance to big bore range, narrow roads, access to field archery/pond areas).
- e. Ensure someone will meet and direct EMS to the injured or ill person.
- 4. The RSO will help the person with the injury or illness until more qualified personnel arrive. Additionally, the RSO is responsible for the following:
 - a. Identify him/herself to the injured or ill person and inform them of their medical training and aid to be offered.
 - b. Receive permission from injured or ill person prior to providing care. If the injured or ill is a minor, permission must be given by parent or guardian (if available) prior to being given care.
 - c. Assume implied permission if the injured or ill is a minor and parent or guardian is not present, or if the individual is unconscious or unable to respond.
 - d. Refrain from giving care to any person who is conscious & alert that refuses care.
 - e. Do not move the injured or ill person unless a life threatening condition will occur.
 - f. Provide care only within level of training.
 - g. Never dispense any medication or other substance unless directed to do so by EMS or Poison Control Center.
 - h. Record all pertinent information for EMS when they arrive.
- 5. The RSO will/or assign someone to secure the person's firearm and equipment.
- 6. The RSO is responsible for completing an Injury Report Form, collecting witness information/statement forms and submitting it to the CRSO and the BOD (See Injury Report Form).

- **Big Bore Range Rules:**

- **1. Use of the range.** The following are the only persons permitted to use the Big Bore Range:
 - a. An LSC member who has been approved by the Board of Directors (BOD).
 - b. A guest of an LSC member in accordance with the By-Laws of the club.

- c. Participants in organized practices, training and shooting events.
 - d. The range is for use on a first come, first served basis during posted times.
- **2. Firearms And Ammunition Firearms permitted:**
 - a. Any rim-fire, center fire, break-action pistols, revolvers, or semi-automatic pistols.
 - b. Any modern long gun .50 caliber or less.
 - c. Any primitive handgun or long gun .90 caliber or less.
 - Ammunition permitted:
 - a. Any modern .50 caliber or less.
 - b. Any primitive .90 caliber or less.
 - Forbidden under all circumstances:
 - a. Fully automatic firearms except with prior written approval from BOD and Chief Range Safety Officer (CRSO).
 - b. Tracer, incendiary, or armor piercing rounds.
- **3. Shooting Rules**
 - All shooters will sign in on the Big Bore Range log.
 - Two red flags will be displayed at the entrance to the range.
 - Use the Range Inspection Checklist prior to shooting.
 - All shooting must be from the authorized firing line, except by special permission from the on-site event coordinator.
 - Recreational Shooting will be at PAPER or CARDBOARD targets.
 - No recognizable person in either cartoon or realistic form may be used.
 - Standard purchased “bad guy/hostage” type targets are acceptable.
 - Metal silhouette or steel targets are to be used for matches and not for recreational shooting.
 - Steel targets must be a minimum distance of 15 yards for pistols and 100 yards for rifles. Always check with the Target manufactures specifications for the type of target and shooting style as it may specify minimum distances and target arrangement depending upon caliber and bullet.
 - The following type of shooting is FORBIDDEN, except for special events with the permission from the BOD, CRSO or the on-site events coordinator.
 - a. Combat shooting, Fast-draw shooting, Shooting from the hip, Cross-firing.
 - b. Recreational shooting at anything other than paper or cardboard targets.
 - c. Intentionally shooting at range support structures or target frame supports.
 - Upon completion of a shooting session, the shooters are required to:

- a. Pick up all spent cartridges, paper/plastic and other debris that accumulates on the range and deposit it in appropriate containers.
 - b. Replace target frames to the designated storage area.
 - c. Use the Range Inspection Checklist to ensure the range is ready for the next shooters.
 - d. The last RSO out will remove the red flags and store them in their holder.
 - e. Ensure all individuals sign out on the range log.
- **4. Range Safety**
- At least one Range Safety Officer (RSO) must be present on the range during live fire and has complete control of the shooting activities and conduct of the shooters.
 - Commands given by an RSO must be obeyed immediately. Failure to do so is cause for revocation or suspension of range privileges.
 - The RSO may, at his/her discretion, stop anyone from shooting if he/she feels that they represent an unsafe condition. The following range safety rules must always be followed:
 - a. Always keep your gun pointed in a safe direction.
 - b. Always keep your finger off the trigger until you are ready to shoot.
 - c. Always keep your gun unloaded and action open until ready to use.
 - d. No firearm will be loaded until the shooter is in position at his/her firing line and the command to load has been given.
 - e. No person will go forward of the firing line until all firearms on the line are safe with actions open, slides back, magazines out, and/or cylinders open. It is the shooter's responsibility to ensure that the line is safe.
 - f. No handling of firearms while anyone is down range.
 - g. Ear and eye protection are mandatory while on the Range.
 - h. Members who are licensed for concealed carry and carrying the firearm are considered "SAFE" and may go forward of the firing line while carrying. If a "CARRY" firearm is handled at any time on the range, then that firearm is considered "HOT" and all range rules apply until the carrier leaves the range.
 - i. All shooting must be from the authorized firing line only.
 - j. Shooting from the prone position must be from the provided platforms (not the ground).

- k. Pistol shooters may set up a target to within 3 to 25 yards of the firing line.
- l. Rifle and shotgun targets may be set up from 25 to 100 yards from the firing line.
- m. To avoid ricochets from the ground, targets shall be set up with the height of the aim point in line with 100-yard berm.
- n. All rifle sighting-in will begin with the shooter placing targets at the 25-yard position. Once target attainment is achieved at 25 yards the shooter may then shoot at targets positioned up to the 100-yard backstop. The purpose is to minimize rounds leaving the range.
- o. Participating in a formal shooting event may require additional safety precautions not listed here. Follow all range commands of the RSO during these events.
- p. The following are FORBIDDEN for health and safety reasons:
 - a. Eating or drinking while on the Range.
 - b. Smoking while on the range.
 - c. Loud talking or other distractions while people are shooting.

IV. Steel Target Placement and Orientation

- ***1. Safety Considerations***
 - **Understanding Ricochet Risks:**
 - **Injury to Shooters and Bystanders:**
 - Ricochets can cause bullets to bounce off the target and travel unpredictably, potentially striking anyone in the vicinity. This can lead to serious injuries or even fatalities.
 - **Damage to Property:**
 - Ricocheting bullets can damage nearby structures, vehicles, or equipment. This could result in costly repairs or liability issues for the range or shooters.
 - **Uncontrolled Trajectory:**
 - Unlike bullets that hit a target directly, ricocheted bullets can change direction at unpredictable angles. This makes it difficult to anticipate where the bullet will go, increasing the risk to everyone present.
 - **Target Material Considerations:**

- The type of target material plays a role in ricochet risk. Steel targets, if not placed correctly, can create more pronounced ricochet risks, especially with high-velocity or hard projectiles.
- **Environmental Hazards:**
 - Outdoor ranges with uneven terrain or obstacles can exacerbate ricochet risks. Bullets may bounce off rocks, trees, or other natural features, increasing the likelihood of unexpected trajectories.
- **Failure to Follow Safety Protocols:**
 - Inadequate safety measures or improper placement of targets can significantly increase the risk of ricochets. It's crucial to follow established guidelines for target distance, angle, and height to minimize these risks.
- **Mitigation Strategies**
 - To reduce the risk of ricochets, you **MUST** follow these strategies:
 - **Proper Target Placement:**
 - Ensure targets are placed at appropriate distances and angles to direct potential ricochets safely into the ground.
 - Rifles shall not be fired at a steel target any closer than 100 yards.
 - Rifle targets shall be secured to the rifle target carriers only and are designed to have a minimum of a 25-degree forward tilt.
 - Rifle targets should have some back-and-forth swing, but no rotational movement.
 - Forward swing must also be limited to allow no more than a 15-degree vertical position.
 - Pistols shall not be fired at steel targets any closer than 15 yards.
 - Pistol targets shall be secured to the pistol target carriers only and are designed to have a minimum of a 40-degree forward tilt.
 - Pistol target carriers are designed to hold the steel targets solidly and allow little to no movement.
 - The target angle shall be set by the target carrier and should be approx. 45-degrees
 - **Use of Appropriate Ammunition:**
 - Avoid using high-velocity or armor-piercing ammunition with the steel targets, as these are more

likely to create dangerous ricochets and cause damage to the targets.

- Green tip ammunition is explicitly **prohibited** by range rules and completely outlawed in the state, so you shouldn't have it here on the range anyway.
- **Safety Equipment:**
 - Ensure all shooters wear eye and ear protection to safeguard against potential injuries from ricochets.
- **Maintenance checks:**
 - Targets shall be checked for defects before and after each use.
 - Defects can be seen as chipping, cracks, or pitting.
 - If a defect is found, target shall be marked with a **RED "X"**, and left in the storage container and a committee member shall be alerted.
 - A committee member shall inspect all targets and carriers monthly (first week of each month) and remove or repair immediately.
 - Cracked targets shall be disposed of or cannibalized for use elsewhere.
 - Chipped edges may be ground smooth if applicable and reused.
 - Pitted targets may be repaired depending on the severity of the damage. This must be looked at on a case-by-case basis.
- **2. Target Placement Guidelines**
 - **Distance from Shooter, Minimum Distances:**
 - For centerfire rifles, a minimum distance of 100 yards is required per range rules and manufacture specifications.
 - For pistols, a minimum of 15 yards is required, also per range rules and manufacturer guidelines.
 - For shotguns, **slugs only** may be fired at a minimum distance of 100 yards and should follow all of the same rules as rifles.
 - **ABSOLUTLY NO BIRDSHOT OR BUCKSHOT**
 - For black powder users, please follow the same rules as rifles and pistols depending on whichever you may be using.
 - *Special Note:* Black powder residue may cause corrosion, so please wipe clean the targets after use.
 - **Height and Angle:**

- **Target Height:** The height of all targets shall be governed by the target carrier and no adjustments shall be made by anyone. Target carriers shall be placed firmly on the ground in their specified locations.
 - **Pistols:**
 - Pistol target carriers shall be tall enough that the “head” of the target is approx. at shoulder height from a standing position.
 - They should also allow room for error, such as missing high not resulting in impacts to the “No Blue Sky” system
 - Differences in height should also be taken into consideration, factoring for shorter shooters would result in a safer situation versus factoring for taller shooters.
 - The average shooters height used for target placement and carrier construction shall be 5’6”
 - **Rifles:**
 - Rifle target carriers shall be tall enough that any risk of ground impacts is mitigated and short enough that there are no risks of impacts with the ”No Blue Sky” system.
 - They should be shorter versus taller, as impacts with the ground at this distance poses minimal risk for ricochets leaving the range.
 - Minimum finished target Hight should be no less then 12”
- **Angle of Targets:** Steel targets should be angled downward (pitched towards the shooter) (a minimum of 15 degrees) to direct potential ricochets into the ground rather than towards the shooter.
 - **Rifles:**
 - Rifle targets shall be secured to the rifle target carriers only and are designed to have a minimum of a 25-degree forward tilt.
 - Rifle targets should have some back-and-forth swing, but no rotational movement.
 - Forward swing must also be limited to allow no more than a 15-degree vertical position.
 - **Pistols:**
 - Pistol targets shall be secured to the pistol target carriers only and are designed to have a minimum of a 40-degree forward tilt.
 - Pistol target carriers are designed to hold the steel targets solidly and allow little to no movement.
 - The target angle shall be set by the target carrier and should be approx. 45-degrees
- **Spacing Between Targets:**

- Ensure adequate spacing between targets to prevent bullets from impacting neighboring targets. A minimum distance of 3-5 feet is often suggested, but will be dictated by the target carriers (targets will be installed together on a singular carrier).
 - **Proper Location of Targets and Shooting Positions:**
 - All steel targets shall be placed in front of and used from Stations 4 & 5
 - Station 5 is preferred and shall be used first.
 - Station 4 shall be only used if there are too many shooters for only one station.
 - If both pistols and rifles are being used at the same time, pistols shall be placed in the Station 5 position and rifles on the Station 4 position.
 - Steel target use is being limited to these stations to mitigate any risk of spalling and ricochets potentially heading towards the pond or walking trails.
- **3. Who's Allowed to Use the Steel Targets and When**
 - **Proper Use:**
 - Steel target use is limited to those who possess a current Steel Target Button and are a member in good standing.
 - Button holders are also allowed 1 guest only at a time and must supervise their guests at all times while guests are using the range and targets.
 - Members are not allowed to be shooting while their guests are handling firearms.
 - Members are fully responsible for their guests' actions while on the property.
 - Steel targets are permitted to be used while other members are using the range.
 - Button holders are responsible to police steel target usage.
 - Button holders are not allowed to permit non-button holders to use steel targets other than their 1 allowed guest.
 - If an unauthorized user attempts to use the steel targets, the button holder on the range must immediately call a "cease fire" and advise the unauthorized user that they are violating range rules.
 - All violations **MUST** be reported to the Big Bore Range Committee via email or anonymous reporting in mailbox.
 - Reports should minimally contain a date, time, and brief description of what happened and what corrective action was taken.
 - All violations will be investigated by the committee and follow up action will be taken.
 - Serious safety and repeated violations will be reported to the Eboard.

- **Process for obtaining Steel Target Button:** Steel Target buttons are available to all members in good standing after:
 - Submitting a completed application to the Big Bore Range Committee.
 - First time button holders **MUST** complete an onsite orientation.
 - Orientations should be held at least monthly and will be administered by the Big Bore Range Committee.
 - Applicants must then complete a Steel Target Competency Test and receive a passing grade.
 - Passing grade is defined as 90% or higher.
 - Upon receiving a passing grade, the applicant can pay for and receive their button and will also receive a combination to the shed where the steel targets are stored.
 - Price for Steel Target Buttons is set at \$20
 - Steel target buttons are good for only the year listed on the button and must be renewed on a yearly basis.
- ***4. Maintenance and Inspection***
 - **Inspections:**
 - Targets should be checked by the user for deformities and damage before and after each use.
 - Targets that show signs of cracking, chipping, bending, or warping are considered damaged and should not be used.
 - Targets that are deemed damaged should be marked with a red “X” and the committee should be notified.
 - All targets should be inspected by a committee member at least once per month and repair or replace as necessary.
 - **General Maintenance:**
 - Maintenance should occur every time the targets are used.
 - Upon placing out targets, they should receive a fresh coat of paint to protect against rust.
 - Upon returning targets to storage, they should be wiped clean of any dirt or debris (bullet debris may need to be scrapped from surfaces).
- ***5. Proper Use During Shooting***
 - **When you get to the range:**
 - Ensure you are displaying your membership card and steel target button.
 - Unlock steel target shed and fill out sign in sheet.
 - Select your targets and complete the above-mentioned damage checks.
 - Hang your targets using the provided carriers ensuring that you're using the appropriate carriers for the desired shooting you're planning on doing

- Solid holder with steeper angle for pistol shooting (no closer than 15 yards)
 - Swinging holder for rifle shooting (no closer than 100 yards)
 - Make sure all carrier fasteners are tight where necessary.
 - Give target a fresh coat of paint to protect against rust and to ensure a bright target.
 - Begin normal use
 - **When you're done:**
 - Remove targets and recheck for damage.
 - Wipe down each target to remove any debris (scrape if necessary).
 - Place targets back into storage shed.
 - Remove target carriers from range.
 - Replace anything else you might have removed from shed (Paint, Rags, Scrappers, Etc.,)
 - Sign out on provided sheet.
 - Relock shed.
 - **Mishaps and Potentially Unsafe Situations:**
 - If for any reason you encounter an unsafe situation, notify the Big Bore Range Committee **immediately**.
 - The direct email addresses for the Co-Chairs are:
 - Sean: Saltiestdogg@gmail.com
 - George: xX1Geo4Xx@gmail.com
 - If at any time you notice spalling or ricochets, immediately stop what you're doing and check for proper angle, target placement, and damage.
 - If another range user shoots at your target, **immediately call a ceasefire**.
 - Cross firing on steel targets significantly changes the trajectory of spalling and ricochets creating a potentially dangerous situation.
 - This section may be updated periodically to address any unforeseen issues we may come across, feel free to ask about any updates or check back periodically.
- **6. Conclusion and Q&A**
 - **Recap Key Points:**
 - Summarize the critical aspects of safety, proper placement, and maintenance of steel targets.
 - **Open Floor for Questions:**
 - Encourage participants to ask questions or share their experiences with steel targets.
- **7. Practical Demonstration (if applicable)**
 - **Live Demonstration:**

- Include a demonstration of how to set up a steel target safely, demonstrating proper angles, distances, and any adjustments needed.
- **Additional Tips:**
 - Safety Gear: Ensure everyone is equipped with proper safety gear during demonstrations.
 - By following this orientation, club members can use steel targets effectively and safely, enhancing their shooting experience.

V. First Aid Overview

Disclaimer:

Please be advised that the trainers conducting this session are not certified first aid professionals. The information provided during this training is for general knowledge and educational purposes only. It is not intended to replace professional medical advice, certification courses, or emergency medical services. For official first aid certification or in the event of a medical emergency, please consult a licensed medical professional or certified first aid provider.

Basic First Aid Training:

- **1. Assess the Situation**
 - Ensure the area is safe for you and the injured person.
 - Check for responsiveness. If the person is unresponsive, call for help immediately (911 or local emergency services).
- **2. CPR (Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation)** Performing CPR can be crucial in an emergency situation. This a simplified guide:
 - Call for Help: If you're alone, call emergency services immediately or ask someone else to do so.
 - Check for Responsiveness: Gently shake the person and shout, “Are you okay?”
 - Position the Person: If unresponsive and not breathing normally, carefully roll them onto their back on a firm surface.
 - Open the Airway: Tilt the head back slightly by placing one hand on the forehead and using the other hand to lift the chin.
 - Check for Breathing: Look, listen, and feel for normal breathing for no more than 10 seconds. If they are not breathing or only gasping, proceed with CPR.
 - Start Chest Compressions:
 - Place the heel of one hand on the center of the chest, place the other hand on top, interlock fingers, and keep your arms straight.

- Push hard and fast (about 2 inches deep at a rate of 100-120 compressions per minute).
 - Children: Use one hand for compressions and perform rescue breaths the same way.
 - Rescue Breaths (if trained):
 - After 30 compressions, give 2 rescue breaths:
 - Pinch the nose shut, take a normal breath, seal your lips around the person's mouth, and give 2 breaths (each about 1 second long, making the chest rise).
 - Continue: Repeat the cycle of 30 chest compressions followed by 2 rescue breaths until help arrives or the person starts breathing.
 - Important Notes:
 - If you're untrained, focus on hands-only CPR: continuous chest compressions without rescue breaths.
 - Use an AED (automated external defibrillator) if available and follow the voice prompts.
 - Training:
 - Consider taking a CPR class to practice these skills hands-on, as real-life situations can be more complex.
- **3. Control Bleeding**
 - Apply pressure: Use a clean cloth or bandage to apply firm pressure directly on the wound.
 - If bleeding doesn't stop, add more cloth on top and continue applying pressure.
 - If a limb is bleeding profusely, consider elevating it above heart level if it doesn't cause more pain.
- **4. Treating Burns**
 - Cool the burn: Use cool (not cold) water for 10-20 minutes.
 - Cover the burn: Use a sterile, non-stick bandage.
 - Do not apply ice or ointments directly on severe burns.
- **5. Choking**
 - For adults/children: Encourage them to cough if they can. If they can't, for Adults and Children Over 1 Year Old:
 - Assess the Situation: If the person can't breathe, cough, or speak, they may be choking.
 - Call for Help: If someone else is nearby, ask them to call emergency services.
 - Position yourself behind the choking person.
 - Make a Fist: Place your fist just above their navel (belly button).
 - Grab Your Fist: With your other hand, grasp your fist.
 - Perform Abdominal Thrusts:

- Pull your hands inward and upward with quick, forceful thrusts. Repeat until the object is expelled or the person can breathe.
 - For Pregnant Women or Larger Individuals:
 - If the person is pregnant or very large, place your hands higher, just under the breastbone, and perform thrusts inward and upward.
 - For Infants (Under 1 Year):
 - Position the Infant: Sit down and hold the infant face down on your forearm, supporting their head and neck.
 - Give Back Blows: Use the heel of your hand to give 5 firm back blows between the infant's shoulder blades.
 - Turn the Infant Over: If the object doesn't come out, turn the infant face up while supporting their head.
 - Give Chest Thrusts: Use two or three fingers to push down on the chest, just below the nipple line, giving 5 quick thrusts.
 - Important Notes:
 - If the person becomes unconscious, begin CPR and call for emergency help.
 - Never perform the Heimlich maneuver on someone who is able to cough or breathe.
- **6. Sprains and Strains**
 - R.I.C.E. method:
 - Rest the injured area.
 - Ice the area for 15-20 minutes every hour.
 - Compress with an elastic bandage.
 - Elevate the injury above the heart if possible.
- **7. Recognizing Shock**
 - Signs include pale skin, rapid breathing, weakness, and confusion.
 - Lay the person down, keep them warm, and elevate their legs if no injury is suspected.
- **8. Seizures**
 - Move nearby objects away to prevent injury.
 - Cushion their head and place them on their side if possible.
 - Do not hold them down or put anything in their mouth.
 - Time the seizure; if it lasts more than 5 minutes, call for help.
- **9. Calling for Help**
 - Always call for professional medical assistance when unsure about the severity of an injury or illness.

Using an Automated External Defibrillator (AED):

- You might need to use an Automated External Defibrillator (AED) in situations where someone is experiencing sudden cardiac arrest (SCA). Here are some key scenarios:
 - Unresponsive Person: If someone suddenly collapses and is unresponsive, check for breathing. If they are not breathing or only gasping, it's a sign they may need an AED.
 - Chest Pain or Discomfort: If a person is experiencing severe chest pain, discomfort, or other symptoms of a heart attack (like shortness of breath, nausea, or sweating) and then collapses.
 - Fainting or Loss of Consciousness: If someone faints and does not regain consciousness quickly, or if they appear very weak or unresponsive.
 - Seizure-like Symptoms: After a seizure, if a person does not regain consciousness and shows signs of not breathing normally, an AED may be necessary.
 - Athletic Events: In sporting events, players or spectators may experience cardiac arrest. Quick access to an AED can be life-saving.
- ***Steps to Use an AED:***
 - Call for Help: Ensure emergency services are notified.
 - Turn on the AED: It will give you verbal instructions.
 - Attach Pads: Place the pads on the bare chest as indicated (one on the upper right chest and one on the lower left).
 - Stand Clear: Ensure no one is touching the person while the AED analyzes the heart rhythm.
 - Follow Instructions: If a shock is advised, ensure everyone is clear and press the shock button.
- ***Remember:***
 - Time is critical in cardiac arrest situations. The sooner an AED is used, the better the chances of survival.
 - AEDs are designed for layperson use and provide step-by-step instructions.

Advanced Bleeding control:

Tourniquets:

- You might need to use a tourniquet in situations where there is severe, life-threatening bleeding, specifically from a limb (arm or leg) that cannot be controlled by direct pressure. Here are some specific scenarios:
 - Traumatic Injuries: If someone has a deep cut or injury from an accident (like a car crash, fall, or gunshot wound) that results in arterial bleeding (bright red, spurting blood).
 - Amputation: If a limb has been partially or completely amputated and is bleeding heavily.

- Severe Bleeding: If you apply direct pressure to a bleeding wound and it doesn't stop, or if the person is losing a significant amount of blood.
- Combat or Tactical Situations: In military or tactical environments, where injuries may occur from blasts or gunfire.
- **Steps to Apply a Tourniquet:**
 - Get the Right Equipment: Use a commercially made tourniquet if available (e.g., CAT, SOFTT), but an improvised tourniquet can be made with a wide cloth and a stick if necessary.
 - Position the Tourniquet: Place it 2-3 inches above the wound, avoiding joints. If you're using an improvised one, ensure it is wide enough to avoid further tissue damage.
 - Tighten: Pull the ends of the tourniquet to tighten it until the bleeding stops. You may need to twist a stick or rod if it's a makeshift tourniquet.
 - Secure: Ensure the tourniquet stays in place. Note the time of application; this is critical for medical responders.
 - Seek Medical Help: Always call for emergency services after applying a tourniquet, as the person will need further medical evaluation and treatment.
- **Important Tips:**
 - Tourniquets should be used as a last resort when direct pressure fails.
 - A tourniquet may cause tissue damage if left on for too long, so it's crucial to get professional help as soon as possible.
 - Always use a tourniquet according to guidelines or training received.

QuikClot:

- You might need to use QuikClot (or other hemostatic agents) in situations involving severe, life-threatening bleeding that is not responding to direct pressure. Here are specific scenarios where QuikClot can be particularly useful:
 - Traumatic Injuries: In cases of deep cuts or wounds from accidents, falls, or penetrative injuries (like gunshot wounds) where arterial bleeding is present.
 - Severe Bleeding: When traditional methods of controlling bleeding (such as applying direct pressure or a tourniquet) are ineffective or impractical, especially in situations where the bleeding is profuse.
 - Combat or Tactical Situations: In military or emergency responder settings where injuries may occur from blasts, shrapnel, or gunfire.
 - Outdoor Activities: For hikers, campers, or adventurers who may encounter accidents in remote areas where immediate medical assistance is not available.
- **Steps to Use QuikClot:**
 - Prepare the Area: Ensure the environment is safe and assess the injury.
 - Apply Direct Pressure: If possible, apply direct pressure to the wound before using QuikClot.

- Open the Package: Open the QuikClot package without contaminating the granules.
- Pour the Granules: Gently pour the granules directly onto the bleeding wound, covering it adequately.
- Apply Pressure: Use a clean cloth or your hand to maintain pressure on the wound for several minutes to help the clotting process.
- Secure the Wound: Once the bleeding has stopped, cover the area with a sterile dressing or bandage.
- Seek Medical Help: Always call for emergency assistance, as the person will need further evaluation and care.
- **Important Tips:**
 - QuikClot is designed for external use only and should not be applied inside body cavities or to puncture wounds.
 - Follow the manufacturer's instructions, as there are different types of hemostatic agents with specific application guidelines.
 - Familiarize yourself with the product and practice using it, if possible, especially in high-risk environments.

Chest Seal:

- You might need to use a chest seal in situations involving penetrating chest injuries that could lead to a collapsed lung (pneumothorax) or other serious respiratory complications. Here are specific scenarios where a chest seal is appropriate:
 - Gunshot Wounds: When someone has been shot in the chest, creating a potential open wound that can allow air to enter the chest cavity.
 - Stab Wounds: Similar to gunshot wounds, stab wounds to the chest can cause air to enter the pleural space, which can lead to pneumothorax tension.
 - Blunt Trauma: Severe blunt trauma to the chest (like from a car accident) that results in an open wound or significant damage to the chest wall.
 - Puncture Wounds: Any penetrating injury that compromises the integrity of the chest cavity and could allow air to enter.
- **Steps to Use a Chest Seal:**
 - Assess the Injury: Ensure the area is safe and check the severity of the chest injury.
 - Position the Patient: If possible, have the patient sit up or lean to the injured side to reduce pressure on the lung.
- **Apply the Seal:**
 - Use a commercially made chest seal if available (like a HyFin or SAM chest seal).
 - If a commercial seal is not available, you can use a plastic wrap or a piece of clean plastic.

- Ensure the seal covers the entire wound and adheres well to the skin.
- Create a One-Way Valve: If using improvised materials, consider leaving a corner of the seal open to allow air to escape from the pleural space (acting as a one-way valve) to prevent tension pneumothorax.
- Monitor the Patient: Keep an eye on their breathing and consciousness. If they show signs of distress or worsening condition, immediately seek medical assistance.
- Seek Medical Help: Always call for emergency medical services, as the person will need further evaluation and treatment.
- **Important Tips:**
 - Do not remove a chest seal once it's in place, as it can disrupt any clotted blood and lead to more bleeding.
 - Be aware of signs of pneumothorax tension (increased respiratory distress, altered mental status, or tracheal deviation) and be prepared to act accordingly (Needle Decompression is not advised unless properly trained).
 - Familiarize yourself with the proper application and types of chest seals through training or practice.

Conclusion and Q & A

- Reiterate how to respond to an injury (keeping calm, calling for help, providing aid etc).
- Location of first aid kits and emergency contact numbers.
- Encourage members to practice safety, take a certified first aid course to practice skills, and enjoy their time on the range.
- **Q & A Session**
 - Open the floor for any questions or clarifications.
 - Recap key points.

VI. Final Conclusion

- **Recap and reiterate important key points from the orientation:**
 - Importance of Firearm Safety
 - Purpose and importance of Range Rules
 - Important considerations regarding Steel Target Placement and Orientation
 - Purpose and importance of Emergency First Aid training
- **Q & A**
 - Open the floor for questions and comments.