



Volume

1

SEDBERGH SHOOTING CLUB

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Safety Training Program

Version 2 – January 2013

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Safety Training Course

The following 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.

Safe Equipment.

Safe Practice.

Safe Place.

The 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.**

(Each unit is cross referenced to the applicable NRA Probationary Training Course Manual lesson guides where applicable).

Safety (Unit L1)

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.

If we remove a link from this chain the accident cannot happen.

A firearm is safe if it is:

Verified as unloaded.

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

NEVER rely on a safety catch.

Pointing in a safe direction.

Remember:

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

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 Safety Supervisor.

A firearm in your possession is your responsibility.

Equipment (Unit L2) Ref NRA Unit 2

Types of Firearms

Underlever Rifle



Photo Arundel Militaria

Bolt Action Rifle



Photo Arundel Militaria

Semi-Automatic .22 Rifle



Photo Arundel Militaria

Muzzleloading Rifle



Photo Arundel Militaria

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Muzzleloading Pistol



Photo Arundel Militaria

Muzzleloading Revolver



Photo Arundel Militaria

Personal Protective Equipment

1. Hearing Protection
Ear Defenders or Plugs are **MANDATORY** on or near the firing point.
2. Eye Protection
Strongly recommended.

Loading, Unloading & Clearing Firearms

(Unit L3) Ref NRA Unit P4

Loading - Range Requirements

Sedbergh Shooting Club Facility:

Before loading:

The red range flag must be raised and you must have all round clear visibility of the range complex and the adjacent road.

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

Targets are in post holders.

Military Gallery Ranges

Before loading:

Red range flags flying, red butt flag is lowered.

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

Sedbergh Shooting Club & Military Ranges

Mandatory ear protection must be worn.

Only then will the RCO will give the command to load.

Loading – Firearm Requirements

Breech Loading Firearms

Weapons may now be loaded with ammunition, not before.

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.

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 firing point.

Further details on muzzle loading will be found at pages 23, 24 and 25.

Holding a loaded rifle pointing above the horizontal is **DANGEROUS** as a round fired in this position can travel outside the danger area.

Unloading Firearms

Bolt Action Rifles:

Open the bolt and check that there are no live rounds or empty cases in the magazine or chamber.

Single Action Rifles such as a Martini:

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

Tubular Magazine Rifles:

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

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

Long Barrel Revolver:

Open the chamber and check that there are no live rounds or empty cases.

Long Range Single Pistol:

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

Clearing Firearms

When?

Before leaving the firing point.
When instructed to by RCO / Safety Supervisor.

How?

Attract the RCO / Safety Supervisor's attention.
Hold firearm horizontally and present for inspection.

Who?

Only the RCO or appointed Safety Supervisor.

Leaving the Firing Point

Only after cleared to do so by RCO / Safety Supervisor.
Only with the bolt out or Flag in or the firearm in a gun slip.

Emergency Stop Procedure (Unit L4)

In the event of an emergency, the RCO will shout “STOP, STOP, STOP”.

You will IMMEDIATELY cease firing and await further instructions.

If you observe any potentially dangerous situation, you have the authority to give the “STOP, STOP, STOP” command.

Misfire Procedure (Unit L5) Ref NRA Unit P5

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

A slow burn or hang fire is DANGEROUS and could injure the firer or bystanders if it detonates during extraction.

Therefore, in the case of a misfire, stay in the aim for 30 seconds.

Inform RCO/Safety Supervisor.

Try to recall if you heard the firing pin operate.

Ensure clear to the right and behind.

Keep hand clear and eject the round.

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

If not struck carry out further investigation, e.g. check the firing pin.

Check that there is no obstruction in the barrel.

Communications (Unit L6) Ref NRA Unit P7

Sedbergh Shooting Club

Communication aids such as telephone, radio are not necessary during club shoots, as verbal commands can be heard within the firing point. SSC has no butt parties or lookouts. Radios are available for special events if necessary.

Military Gallery Ranges

The RCO is in overall control of proceedings and, except in an emergency, only he can order the butt flag to be raised or lowered and firing to commence.

The RCO will maintain direct radio/telephone communications with the butt party.

A butt supervisor will be detailed to handle radio/telephone communication with the RCO.

Visual communications:

The butt flag is lowered when firing may commence.

The butt flag is raised when firing line is clear.

Audible communications:

A whistle may be used to attract the attention of the firing detail.

Loss of Communications is to be treated as **an emergency situation**.

In the event that communications between the butts and firing point are disrupted, the butt party should lower the targets, raise the butt flag and await further instructions.

Initial Sight Setting (Unit L7)

Ref NRA Unit P8 (Partial)

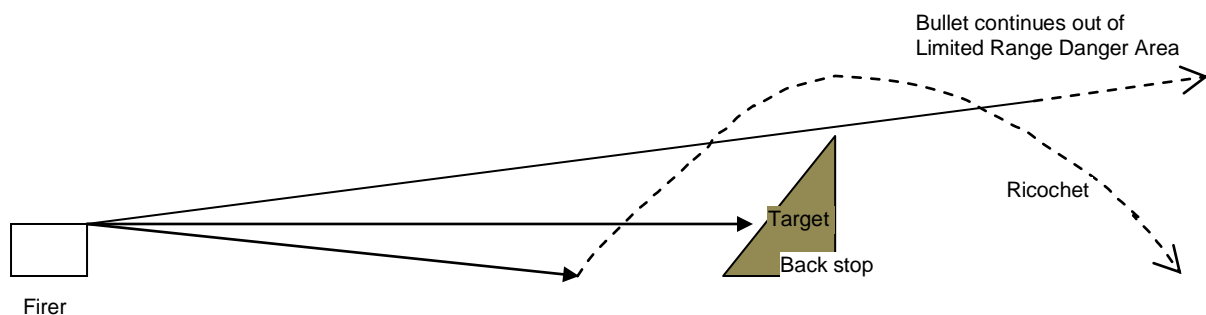
Initial Sight Elevation Settings

Limited Range Danger Area, Military gallery ranges, such as Ponteland & MOD
Approved private ranges such as Sedbergh Shooting Club range facility at Dillicar, use an earth mound to capture the bullet.

The area of land to the side and beyond, known as the Limited Range Danger Area, is to capture "spent" rounds only - i.e. ricochets.

A bullet fired directly over the backstop can travel outside the Limited Range Danger Area and therefore, **NO ROUND MUST BE FIRED WITH THE POTENTIAL TO FLY OVER THE BACKSTOP.**

The Danger of Incorrect Sight Settings



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



Photo Arundel Militaria

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. 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. 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



Photo Arundel Militaria

Aperture sights are used only on rifles. These are fitted with the same type of front sight as used with open sights. 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 shifting focus between the front sight and target. This reduces the aperture to a blurred outline as seen by the marksman. Since the shooter has only two points to focus on, 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.

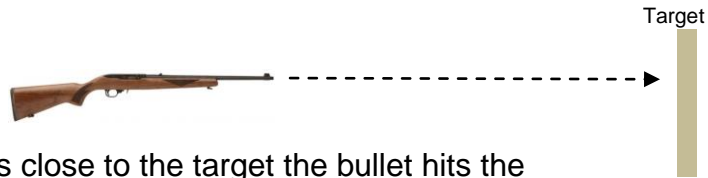
Telescopic Sights



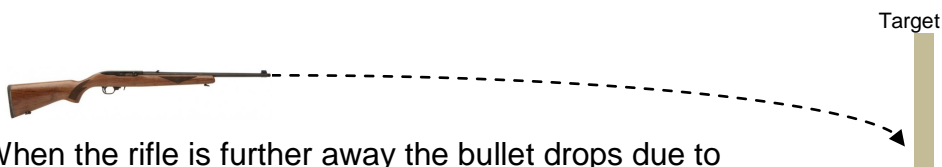
Photo Arundel Militaria

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 shift focus rapidly between the target, the front sight and the rear sight. The aperture sight is optically superior to the open sight in that focusing is reduced to two points. 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.

Flight of the Bullet



When the rifle is close to the target the bullet hits the centre, providing the sights are correctly set to the bore



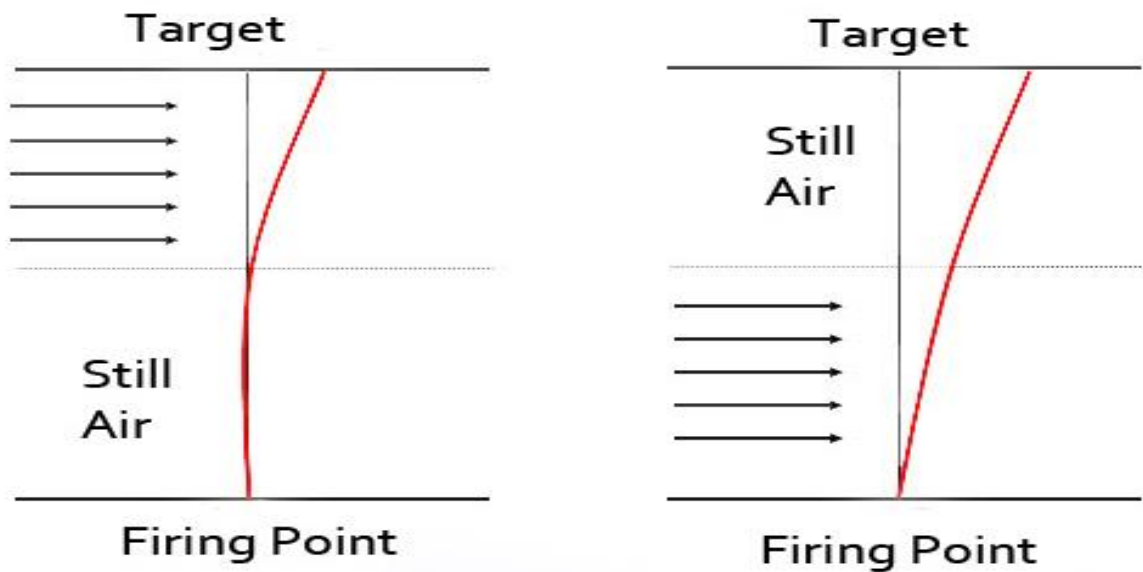
When the rifle is further away the bullet drops due to gravity and air resistance



To hit the target the front of the barrel must be raised. The longer the range, the greater the elevation of the barrel.

Windage

The Effect of Wind on a Bullet



Military Guidelines for Wind:

5mph – 8kph	Can be felt on your face -	Referred to as a Gentle Wind
10mph – 16kph	Moves Leaves on trees -	Referred to as a Moderate Wind
15mph – 24kph	Lifts dust of the floor -	Referred to as a Fresh Wind
20mph – 32kph	Moves small trees -	Referred to as a Strong Wind
25mph – 40kph	Moves large trees -	Referred to as a Very Strong Wind

Care of Equipment (Unit L8) **Ref NRA Unit P11**

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 breach 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 Be aware that overcharging whilst reloading can cause excessive pressure.
- 2 Ensure that you use the correct bullet diameter.
- 3 Incorrectly seated primers can lead to unexpected discharge of your firearm.
- 4 Be sure to regularly check your case condition.

IF IN DOUBT ASK

Special Procedures for Military Ranges (Unit L9)

Warcop

Warcop range is a Field Firing Range with no markers gallery or stop butts.

Entry to the range:

Report to the RCO on the designated range, book in and await instructions from the RCO.

When entering or leaving the range DO NOT open, or enter through, any closed barriers unless instructed to do so.

The RCO will point out the safe arcs of fire & give a briefing.

Do not handle any military debris (pyrotechnics etc.) found on the range - inform the RCO.

In the event of a medical emergency DO NOT call the emergency services direct. Call range control who will halt live firing across the area before calling for an air ambulance.

Altcar

Altcar range is a TAVR gallery range with butts and two look out posts.

Entry to the range:

Report to the gatehouse and present your Altcar Pass.

Report to the RCO on the designated range, book in and await instructions from the RCO.

When entering or leaving the range DO NOT open, or enter through, any closed barriers unless instructed to do so.

The RCO will point out the designated targets and give a briefing.

All shooters will be required for either of the following duties RCO (NRA Qualified), butt duties or lookouts.

In the event of a medical emergency DO NOT call the emergency services direct. Call range control who will halt live firing across the area before calling for an ambulance.

Security (Unit L10) Ref NRA Unit P1 (Partial)

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 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 Sedbergh Shooting Club or one of the National Bodies such as the NRA, NSRA, MLGB or British Deer Society.

Security Requirements

There are specific requirements governing the secure storage of 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.

Sedbergh Shooting Club (Unit L11) Dillicar Facility

Basic Rules:

Always close the gate behind you.

There must be a minimum of **two full members**, before shooting can commence.

There must be a **designated RCO** at all times.

You can only shoot in daylight hours, no artificial light is allowed.

If the visibility is bad (you can't see around the danger area) **DON'T SHOOT**.

If visibility is satisfactory, raise the red flag.

Use shorter targets (2032mm with black band) for 25 yds or 25 metres.

Use longer targets (2362mm) for 50 metres.

Shooting Bays are numbered.

You may only shoot prone supported at Bay 1 and 2 and standing supported Bay 3 to 6.

Blackpowder Shooters use Bays 6 and 5 in that priority. Load at the shelves provided at the Gable End of the firing point, just right of Bay 6.

No Blackpowder or Pyrodex is allowed on the firing point bench whilst shooting is in progress.

No Blackpowder or Pyrodex is allowed in the Club Hut.

You must check zero your firearms on every shoot.

SCC Range License and Range Layout

All firing must take place from Bays 1 to 6 at the firing point,

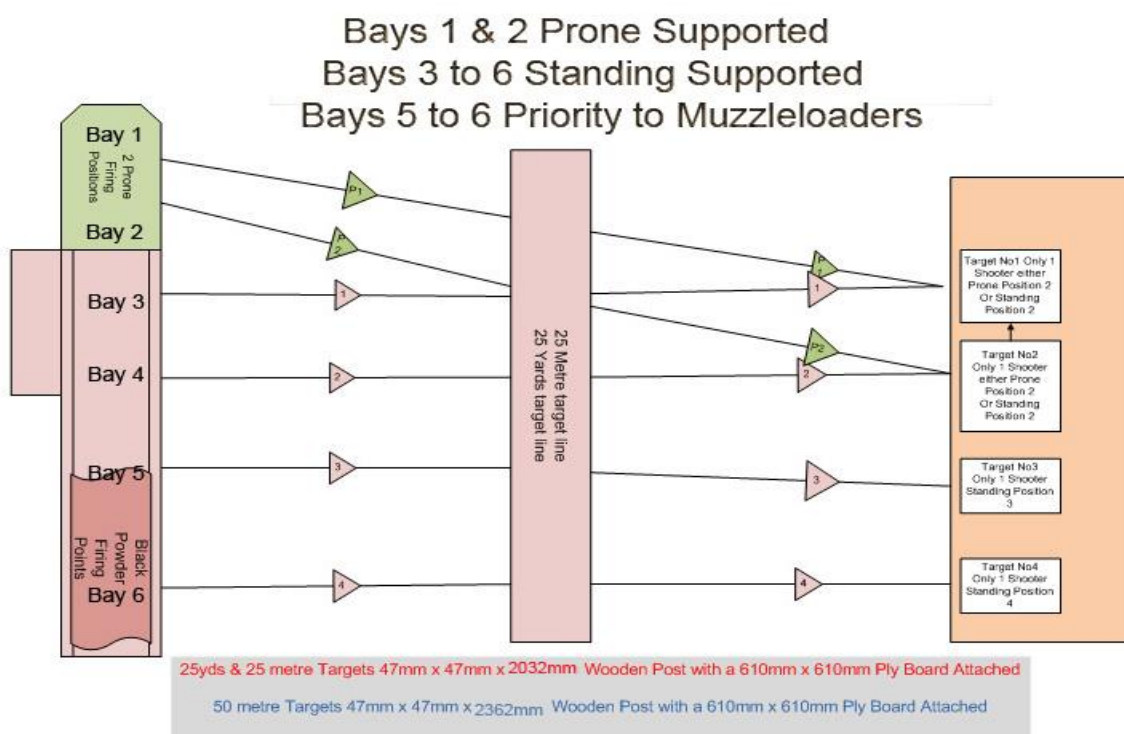
21.5mil rule applies, ie maximum elevation or depression of barrel from the horizontal is 21.5 mil. Note that 21.5mil is equal to 1.2 degrees.

Check zero every visit.

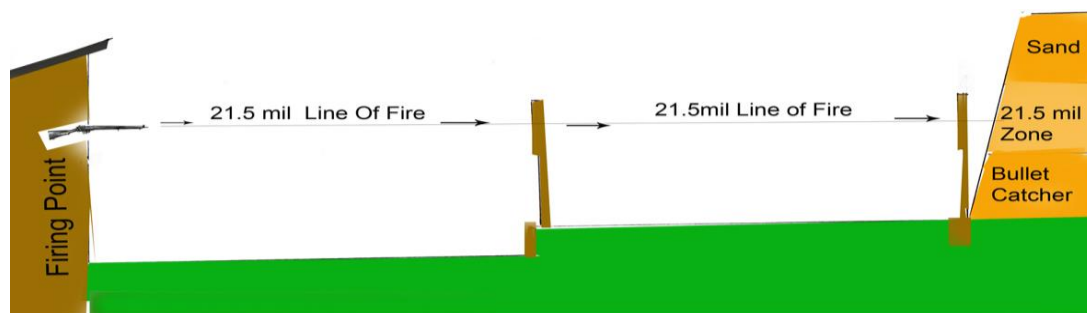
No shotguns over .410".

Maximum Muzzle Velocity 655m/s 2,149 fps.

Maximum Muzzle Energy 2030 J, 1,498 ft lbs.



Sedbergh Shooting Club Dillicar Facility. shooting using the 21.5mil rule.

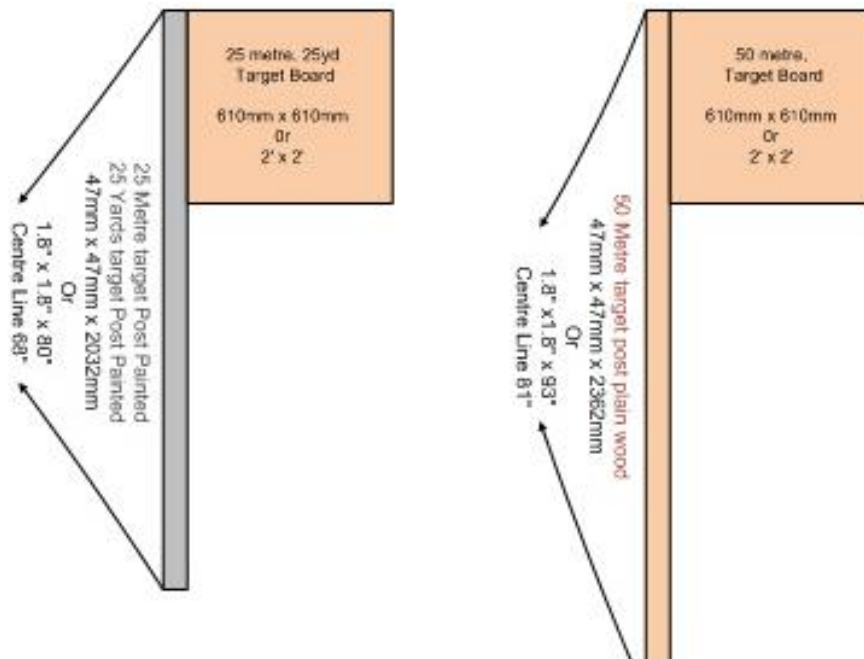


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SCC Targets

Target dimensions for Sedburgh Shooting Club targets must comply with this specification to comply with the 21 mil cone of fire rule. Check size against wall markers.



Note, depending on prevailing wind direction and speed the boards may be fitted to face either to the right (illustrated) or left.

Muzzleloading Firearms (Unit L12)

Cap and Ball Revolvers

Only use bays 5 and 6 and take your instructions from the RCO.

Use loading shelf on the right of bay 6.

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 stop 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 5 and 6 and take your instructions from the RCO.

Use loading shelf on the right of bay 6.

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.

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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.

Muzzle Loading Rifle

Only use bays 5 and 6 and take your instructions from the RCO.

Use loading shelf on the right of bay 6.

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

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

Place black powder into empty barrel.

Place Bullet or Patched Bullet on the crown of the barrel then use a loading rod a drive the patched bullet onto the black powder.

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

Withdraw your loading rod.

Take the rifle 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 rifle 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 rifle is clear.

Clean up the bay before leaving.

General Information Muzzle Loading

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 is required to hold black powder (Local Firearms Dept).

RCA Documents are required to transport black powder.

H & SE, SPD D5, Rose Court, 2 Southwark Bridge, London SE1 9HF.

A photocopy of your explosives license should be sent with your request, no fees.

I would recommend any muzzle loader to buy "The Modern Muzzle Loader" by Andrew Courtney. This is a MLGB comprehensive book and a complete guide for modern and original muzzle loading firearms.



Sedbergh Shooting Club

Code of Practice for Coaches – Key Principles

Rights

Coaches must respect and champion the rights of every individual to participate in shooting and be aware of the of the probationary members level of development.

Relationship

Coaches must develop a relationship with shooters (and others) based on openness, honesty, mutual trust and respect. Keep your fellow coaches fully up to date on the probationer's progress.

Responsibilities

Coaches must demonstrate proper personal behaviour and conduct at all times. The coach should be a good role model, well behaved, clean and tidy, punctual, respectful, no foul language whilst making sure the correct equipment is in place for the training. The coach should ensure that the correct paperwork in place and fully functional. All training should be fun, give praise on a regular basis, the probationers are our future.

Responsibilities

To maximise benefits and minimise the risks to shooters, coaches must themselves attain a high level of competence through qualifications and a commitment to ongoing training that ensures safe and correct practise. The club rules are to be explained along with first aid and fire drills. The coach should carry out a quick safety inspection, ensuring that the range flag is flying, there is a clear sighting of the road and entrance area and ensuring that the range danger area is clear. The coach should be technically competent on the subject being taught.

Children

If a child is being coached, coaches must take into account their physical and mental capabilities, don't push or cajole a child beyond their capabilities. Where a child is being coached obtain the parent's or guardian's authority before training and keep them fully informed as to the child's progress. It is unwise to a coach a child, or transport a child who is not a close family member, on a one to one basis. We insist that the parent or guardian must transport the child to and from the range and must maintain a visual sighting of the child during training.

Sedbergh Shooting Club Written Test for Probationary Members.

SSC Probationary Member's

Name.....

Date

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 4)

Question 2

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

- 1.
- 2.

(Score 2)

Question 3

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

(Score 1)

Question 4

You have a misfire. List the actions you would take in their correct order:

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.
- 4.
- 5.

(Score 5)

Sedbergh Shooting Club Written Test for Probationary Members cont.

Name:.....

Question 5

List three procedures that you could carry out when zeroing the sights on your rifle:

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.

(Score 3)

Question 6

Specifically relating to the SSC Range License restrictions:

a) What size target post do you need at 50 metres? Circle the correct answer.

- 2032mm
- 2068mm
- 2362mm

(Score 1)

b) Which bays do you use for muzzle loading weapons? Circle the correct answer.

- Bays 1 and 2
- Bays 3 and 4
- Bays 5 and 6

(Score 1)

c) At 50 metres, what is your weapon angle restricted to? Circle the correct answer.

- 42mil rule
- 30mil rule
- 21.5mil rule

(Score 1)

d) What is the maximum muzzle energy? Circle the correct answer.

- 3030j
- 2030j
- 1990j

(Score 1)

e) Write five criteria that need to be met before shooting can start:

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.
- 4.
- 5.

(Score 1)

Sedbergh Shooting Club Record of Completion of Training Program



Name

I have received the Safety Training Program (STP) booklet Version 2 dated January 2013 date..... initials

I have read the STP booklet 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 Sedbergh Shooting Club.

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

Date..... Name..... Signature