

Shepton Mallet Rifle & Pistol Club Safety Bye laws.

1. The Clubroom and Range shall be open for the use of Members during such periods as the Committee may from time to time determine. The times of opening shall be displayed on the Club notice board. The Committee may, if they see fit, designate separate periods for competition shooting and for practice shooting. Rimfire target rifle and air gun shooters shall always have separately designated periods and must not use the firing point at the same time. During a designated period other disciplines may be shot if time and space is available.
2. No RF rifle or air gun of a calibre greater than .22 inch is permitted to be fired on the range
3. A RESPONSIBLE MEMBER MUST be in attendance at all times that the Range is open. A Responsible Member is defined as being a Club Member and a current Range Conducting Officer (RCO) as recognised by the NSRA.
4. There MUST ALWAYS be at least TWO PERSONS present before shooting commences, one of whom must be a Responsible Member. (See 3 above). The Clubroom must NEVER be left empty when the outside door is not secured.
5. No Member under the age of 18 years shall be permitted to be on the Club premises or to have access to Club weapons or ammunition unless under the supervision of a Responsible Member. A competent junior may however shoot without supervision. Normally it is the Club Coach who introduces Juniors and Probationary Members to the safety and skills of small bore target shooting.
6. IN NO CIRCUMSTANCES MAY A WEAPON BE LOADED EXCEPT ON THE FIRING POINT WITH THE MUZZLE POINTING DOWN THE RANGE AT THE STOP BUTTS. For the purpose of this byelaw a weapon is deemed loaded if it's breech is closed.
7. Breech flags should always be fitted in rifles when in the Clubroom and should only be removed when the instruction to commence shooting has been given on the firing point. Breech flags should be refitted on completion of shooting. Semi automatics shall have their magazines removed and slides open.
8. Weapons must be carried with the muzzle uppermost.
9. If it is necessary for a person to go forward of the firing point once firing has commenced (ie to replace a fallen target), all firing is to cease, all weapons are to be unloaded, breech flags fitted, the weapons placed on the ground or pistol counter as appropriate and the shooters to stand away from the weapons, BEFORE the door between the firing point and the range is opened. Weapons must not be touched whilst any person is forward of the firing point.

10. A weapon must NEVER BE POINTED AT ANOTHER PERSON. If it is necessary to make adjustments to equipment or weapon before entering the firing point, do so with discretion and with regard to byelaw 6 and the people in the Club Room.
11. Whilst in use, and not in a case, all weapons are to have their breech's open; semi automatics shall have their magazines removed and slides open. Rifles must be placed upright in the racks provided.
12. The Committee strongly recommends that all Members wear hearing protectors during shooting.
13. No firing detail shall commence until:
 - 13.1 No person is forward of the firing point.
 - 13.2 The door between the firing point and the range is shut.
 - 13.3 The door between the firing point and the Clubroom is shut (thus illuminating the red light in the Clubroom).
14. No person may enter or leave the firing point once the detail has commenced. Persons who have finished shooting should remain quietly in position until all shooting has ceased.
15. On completion of a detail Members are required to leave the firing point, taking their equipment with them as soon as possible. All empty cases are to be placed in the receptacle provided. If a live round is dropped or ejected, IT MUST BE FOUND on completion of the detail and rendered safe.
16. All Members attending the Clubroom or Range must sign their individual Attendance sheets. Non members are required to sign the visitor's book and non member shooters must sign the declaration regarding non removal of ammunition.
17. All Members should have a single name block. When they wish to shoot; the name block should be placed on the detail board. If the Member is not ready to shoot when the detail is called, he/she shall forfeit that detail.
18. All ammunition used on the Range should be purchased from the Club. Where other ammunition is used a 'corkage' is to be paid by the user at a rate decided by the Committee.
19. NO AMMUNITION IS TO BE REMOVED FROM THE RANGE UNLESS THE PERSONS FIREARMS CERTIFICATE IS PRODUCED AND THE APPROPRIATE ENTRY MADE BY THE SECRETARY.
20. No Club weapons may be removed from the range confines, without the written consent of the Secretary.

21. The Responsible Member designated is required to open and secure the premises, to ensure the ready use stock of ammunition and Club weapons are correct at the beginning and end of the session, to ensure that all monies received and ammunition sales etc, are entered on the Club account sheet and that they balance. He/She is responsible for the safe custody of the weapons, ammunition and monies or delegating responsibility to another Responsible Member. The Responsible Member is also required to ensure that the Byelaws are complied with. Again he/she may delegate this responsibility to another Responsible Member.

22. Any person or Member contravening the Byelaws, acting dangerously, or bringing the Club into disrepute may, at the discretion of the Committee, be debarred from participating in the activities of the Club or expelled from the Club. The matter may also be referred to the NSRA or other appropriate authority.

Rewritten November 2010 and ratified at 2010 SMRPC AGM

M.W.Stanford