

# DUTCHESS COUNTY PISTOL ASSOCIATION, INC.

## PROCEDURES, SAFETY RULES, RESTRICTIONS, RANGE USE RULES & POLICIES

Dutchess County Pistol Association Inc. is a members' club and is not open to the public. DCPA is dedicated to safety. Obeying safety rules ensures an efficient and orderly club operation.

*All members and guests must be in compliance with all federal, New York State, and local laws, at all times, while on DCPA premises.*

Any violation of these procedures, policies, restrictions, and regulations should be reported to a club officer or a member of the Board of Directors. Violations will be investigated by the Executive Committee and may result in disciplinary action as per DCPA bylaws.

**A deviation from any rule, regulation, and or policy is only allowed with the prior authorization of the Executive Committee or the Board of Directors.**

### **Parking**

- Park all vehicles in the main parking lot and up to second gate of Range 3.
- No vehicles are allowed forward of any firing line.
- No loaded firearms in the parking areas unless holstered.

### **General Information**

- Every Member has a DUTY to report rules violations and unsafe acts.
- Membership cards must be presented upon request. If you suspect a person is not a member, ask to see their card and ensure it is current. If in doubt, record the automobile license number and report it to a club officer.
- Members must provide their own staplers and tape.
- No “donated” or “free” items are to be left on club property unless approved by the Executive Committee.

### **Safety Rules**

- When two (2) or more persons are using the range in non-organized shooting, such as practice or plinking, **one person must assume charge of the range.** The first person to arrive at the range will assume range officer duty, unless otherwise determined by mutual consent and that person will see that all safety rules are followed.
- All persons on the range will fire, make the line safe, or move forward only on the command of the range officer.
- Before anyone moves forward of the firing line, all firearms on the firing line must be holstered or laid on the table, muzzle pointed down range, slides open, magazines out, cylinders open and empty. **THE RANGE OFFICER MUST VISUALLY CHECK EACH FIREARM ON THE LINE** before calling the line safe and giving the command to move forward to change targets.

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- **Anyone seeing an unsafe condition must declare a cease-fire.**
- Every shooter has the personal responsibility to make sure that each bullet fired impacts safely in the dirt berm.
- Loading and unloading of guns **must** be done **only** on the firing line.
- **ALWAYS** wear safety glasses and ear protection while on a “hot” range (meaning when guns are loaded and people are shooting).
- **ALWAYS** keep the gun pointed in a safe direction – down range in the dirt berm.
- **ALWAYS** keep your finger off the trigger until ready to fire.
- **ALWAYS** keep the action open with the gun unloaded, benched, and muzzle pointed in a safe direction or keep the handgun holstered when someone is downrange.
- **DO NOT** handle any firearm when someone is downrange.
- **ALWAYS** treat guns as if they are loaded.
- **Always fire downrange into the dirt berm. The wood at the top and bottom of the dirt berm are NOT impact areas.**
- **No firing is allowed over or to the sides of the DIRT BERM. Firing is NOT permitted in any other direction other than into the DIRT BERM.**

### **Range Hours**

- Informal shooting is permitted from 9 a.m. to 9 p.m., except during work parties (see the yearly Schedule of Events Shooting Program for range availability).
- After 8 p.m. no magnum ammunition can be shot.

### **Procedures for Using the Range**

- Enter using the combination to pass through the gate. Close the gate behind you, leaving it **unlocked**. The 4-digit combination is located on your membership card.
- Spin the combination of the lock. Do **NOT** leave it set to the facilities combination.
- Sign in at the Stat Office before using any of the 4 ranges.
- Place donations for targets in the container provided.
- **Turn on the red warning light(s) for the range you are using. This indicates someone is shooting.**
- **Before setting up your equipment, check to ensure no one is down range.**
- **Before going down range to place your target, check to ensure that no one is shooting and the line is safe.**
- Follow all safety procedures while using the range.
- Clean the area used and pick up your spent brass when you are finished shooting.
- If appropriate, turn off the furnace timer and close all the front windows before leaving. The last person leaving the range must **turn off the outside spotlights, overhead lights, as well as the red light(s).**
- Return all targets and backers to the Stat Office after shooting.

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- Place ammunition misfires (duds) in the containers located on the ranges and Stat Office building. Do not throw ammunition in the grass, under the bench, in garbage cans, or in the brass barrel.
- Sign out in the Stat Office completing all the information on the sign in/out sheet. Note any unusual conditions found, such as, door was open, lights on, etc.
- Exit through the gate, closing and locking it behind you. Remember to “spin” the combination lock, so that the combination is not visible.

### **Guests Requirements**

- **Guests must read and understand the statement on the “DCPA Log Book” and sign in completing all fields.**
- Members and their guests must sign-in before and sign-out after shooting.
- **Guests must sign in using their name and not use the word “guest” when signing in the Log Book. Also, they must indicate who they are a guest of in the Comment section of the Log Book.**
- Members are allowed no more than two shooting guests at any one time.
- Members must accompany their guests at all times.
- Members are responsible for their guest's conduct and safe gun handling.
- All New York State laws pertaining to the use of firearms must be adhered to at all times.
- Non-members are not covered by DCPA insurance.

### **Range Use Rules, Regulations and Restrictions**

The following *Restrictions* apply to members and their guests when using any of the ranges.

*Note: Some deviations for “controlled events only” (such as matches, organized shooting activities and leagues), have been granted by Executive Committee or Board of Directors.*

### **Restrictions for All Ranges**

- **No** alcoholic beverages allowed on any range.
- **No** smoking allowed on any range.
- **No** rifles or shotguns allowed except:
  - ◆ .22 rifles are permitted by special approval of the Board of Directors and administered by the Sporterifle Chairperson and the Rimfire Steel Plate Program Chairperson.
  - ◆ Cowboy Action rifle and shotgun shooting is permitted by special approval of the Board of Directors and administered by the Cowboy Action Chairperson.
- **No** magnums are allowed on Range 1. Magnum ammunition can be fired **only** on Range 2 and **NOT** after 8 p.m.
- **No** cartridges of shotgun or rifle calibers allowed in pistols (such as Thompson Contender, etc.). If in doubt, check with the Board of Directors.

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- No armor piercing or tracer ammunition.
- No bottles, cans, glass or other items are to be used as targets. **Use paper/cardboard targets and only the appropriate club's steel/action targets (meaning you cannot bring your own steel/reaction targets to the range).**
- No Prone shooting.

**Range 1**

**No shooting forward of the static firing line on Range 1.** Shoot **only** at targets in frames on the 25 and 50 yard lines. **No** magnums are allowed on Range 1.

One target per backer, placed in the center of the backer. If putting more than one target up, you must move to the bench position in front of the target and shoot from that bench. No cross fires. Bullets are to strike the dirt berm.

**Note: Remember to turn on the Red Warning Lights that indicate shooting is taking place.**

**Range 2**

Range 2 is a 50 yard range, with a dynamic (variable) target placement between 10 and 50 yards.

Shoot only at targets attached to the Club frames and stands available on Range 2. Targets shall be set to a height and shot from an angle that allows impact of the bullet to strike **ONLY** the target and dirt berm and no other object/surface prior to impact with the dirt berm.

- Place targets from 10 to 50 yards, but **NOT** within 3 feet of the cement wall or within 3 feet of the right side of the tree-lined berm.
- Targets must be placed in such a way that the bullet goes straight into the target and then into the dirt berm.
- No bullets are to strike the cement wall, ground in front of the dirt berm, the wood fence on top of the berm, or go over the wood fence.
- One target per backer, placed in the center of the backer.

**Notes:**

(1) Shoot only from a standing position as this allows for direct impact of the dirt berm and keeps the bullets from going over the wall after impact. **Be sure that the angle created with your shooting position and your target, places the bullet impact in the dirt berm.**

(2) **Remember to turn on the Red Warning Lights that indicate shooting is taking place.**

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**Range 3**

Enter the range through the “Dutch-style” door of the shooting shed. **DO NOT WALK AROUND TO THE FRONT OF THE SHOOTING SHED**, as this may put you in front of a shooter.

Range 3 is a 25 yard range, with a dynamic (variable) target placement and firing line. Targets are to be placed as close to the dirt berm as practical. Shooting can be done inside or outside of the shooting shed. For example, if you are shooting outside the shooting shed, place your target at the 25 yard line and move back towards the shooting shed to the distance you want to shoot.

Shoot only from a standing position. This allows for direct impact of the dirt berm and keeps the bullets from going over the wall after impact. **Be sure that the angle created with your shooting position and your target places the bullet impact into the dirt berm.**

**NOTE: Be mindful that when someone is shooting forward of the shooting shed, no one behind the shooter may handle firearms. If other shooters wish to shoot at the same time, all shooters must shoot from the same firing line.**

Shoot only at targets attached to the Clubs frames and stands that are available on R3. Targets shall be set to a height and shot from an angle that allows impact of the bullet to strike **ONLY** the target and dirt berm.

**Range 4 – (Air Gun Range ONLY)**

Air guns with lead pellets only.

**NOTE: Air guns over 20 foot pounds are to be used only on ranges 1, 2, or 3.**

**Summary of Changes:**

<b>07-08 -09</b>	Minor grammatical and organization, in addition to the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>● <b>Page 1: Parking:</b> - added the word “main” to the first bullet.</li><li>● <b>Page 1: General Information:</b> Added bullet stating that members have a duty to report rule infractions.</li><li>● <b>Page 1: Safety Rules:</b> Added that one person must be in charge of range and ensure safety rules are followed and that all persons will follow the R.O. commands. Added “holstered or” laid... to the third bullet. Added a bullet stating that anyone seeing an unsafe condition must declare a cease-fire. Added statement that R.O. must visually check firearms before calling the line safe. Added bullets stating that every shooter has the responsibility to make sure that each bullet fired impacts safely in to the dirt berm and that loading and unloading of guns must be done only on the firing line. Added bullets to always fire down range into the dirt berm and not in the wood fence.</li><li>● <b>Page 2 and 3: Procedures for Using the Range:</b> Added to sign in before using range. Added to sign in statement the words “before using any of the 4 ranges.” Added meaning of</li></ul>
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	<p>the red lights. Added bullets to ensure line is safe before putting up targets or setting up equipment. Also, described where the dud boxes are located.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Page 3: Guest Requirements:</b> Added that guests must read statement on log book and indicate who they are a guest of.</li> <li>• <b>Page 3: Restrictions:</b> Added to 5<sup>th</sup> bullet “or shotgun caliber.” Added No Prone shooting.</li> <li>• <b>Page 4: Range 1:</b> Added that only one target per backer, and if more than one target up, move to the bench position in front of that target, and no cross fires.</li> <li>• <b>Page 4: Range 2:</b> Added bullets to describe placement of targets and eliminated the shooting forward of the firing line.</li> <li>• <b>Pages 5: Range 3:</b> Added to enter thru the door of the shed and revised the paragraph on target placement. Added to shoot only from a standing position.</li> </ul>
10-8-08	<p>Page 1: Added second paragraph regarding compliance with laws.  Page 2: <b>Range Hours:</b> Deleted phrase stating that one cannot shoot during State Championships.  Page 2: <b>Procedures:</b> Updated to state that “dud” boxes are now located on each range.  Page 3: Added <b>Note</b> regarding deviations granted for controlled events.  Page 3: <b>Restrictions:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◆ Added Rimfire Steel Plate Program Chairman</li> </ul> <p>Added statement that you cannot bring your own steel targets and must use the appropriate Club’s steel/reaction targets.</p>

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