

Welcome to the Stillwater Rifle and Pistol Club

What you should expect at our range and what we expect of you!

Going to our rifle range is fun and easy, once you know a few simple rules.

The main thing that all gun ranges have in common is that it's all about **safety first**. Aside from that every range is different. Knowing how we operate at our range will benefit you and others members shooting a long side of you.

At our range we require a **Range Officer** to be on site when any shooting is going on. Each of our full membership members go through the basic Range Orientation class. This qualifies you to be a Range Officer at our range. The first full member at our range is the "Range Officer in-charge" until he or she leaves. The range officer duty is then handed off to the next range officer there. As a range officer, it is your job to supervise the activities going on at the range, point out rules and handle any problem or questions that may occur.

Two of the most common range commands are "**cease firing**" and "**commence firing**". The "commence firing" is the command given to tell everyone it's safe to shoot. "Cease firing" is used whenever all shooting must stop. During a ceasefire, there is no handling of the firearms.

The things to remember then are:

1. Chamber of your firearm is to be empty and ammunition source (magazine) is removed.
2. Action is open
3. Hands off!
4. Step away from the firing line.

Other things to remember:

1. Do not fire at rails, supports or target frames.
2. Shoot only range approved targets.
3. If you set out frames to support your targets before starting, remember to take them home with you once you are done. (If you bring with you, take it home with you!)
4. **It's good range etiquette to leave the range better than you found it!**

5 things you need at the range!

Don't be intimidated: Going shooting is much less gear-intensive than you may think.

1. **A gun case.** You'll want something to transport your firearm in. Gun cases are available in just about every conceivable size at prices that won't hurt your wallet.
2. **Ear Protection.** Even a .22 caliber rifle can produce a sound of 140 decibels (dB), which is enough to cause hearing damage. You can protect your ears without breaking the bank. Foam inserts, especially doubled up with earmuffs, work wonders.

3. **Eye Protection.** Eye protection is crucial and mandatory at our range! Protect your eyes with a pair of shooting glasses. Look for glasses that are impact resistant and specifically labeled for use in the shooting sports
4. **Ammunition** designed for your firearm! Check your owner's manual to make sure you only buy ammunition and reload recommended ammo by the gun's manufacturer.
5. **Targets.** Of course, you'll want something to shoot at and at our range we do not provide targets for you to use. You should be ready to bring your target frame, card board and targets to be use while you are at the range. (Again, if you bring to the range, take it home with you when you leave!) Do not leave your used cardboard or used targets there at the range to blow away and make a mess of our range. No explosive or glass targets are allow on our range.

Safety Tips: **Gun Safety is everyone's responsibility!**

Always keep the gun pointed in a safe direction.

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

Always keep the gun unloaded until ready to use.

Those are called the "**BIG THREE**" rules, and following them at all times will help keep you safe.

But there's still plenty more to know.

1. Know your target and what is beyond it.
You must be sure that there is something that will serve as a backstop to capture bullets that miss or go through the target.
2. Know how to use the gun safely. Before handling a gun, learn how it operates. Read the owner's manual, and work with it until you know how to safely open and close the action and how to unload the gun.
3. Be sure your gun is safe to operate. Just like other tools, guns need regular maintenance. Regular cleaning and proper storage are a part of the gun's general upkeep.
4. Use only the correct ammunition for your gun.
5. Wear eye and ear protection.
6. Never use alcohol or drugs before or while shooting. Even if you don't drink or do drugs, be aware that some legal drugs, like prescription medicine or over the counter remedies, can impair your ability to shoot safely.

Further information will be given to you when you go through the Basic Range Orientation Class. This is just to get you started in what is expected from you as a fellow member.