



## PISTOL LEAGUE SAFETY RULES - STANDARD OPERATING PROCEDURES

The Match Director will appoint a Range Officer (RO) for each match.

The RO is the final word on all safety, match, and scoring issues for the range and match.

- ▶ Firearms brought to the range must be UNLOADED.
- ▶ No holstered firearms allowed on the range.
- ▶ RSC's concealed weapon (CCW/CPL) policy rules apply. Keep them concealed.
- ▶ Person's under 18 must be accompanied by "their parent" at all times. On and off the range.
  
- ▶ EVERYONE must wear eye and hearing protection while on a "HOT" range.
  
- ▶ Carry your shooting bag, firearms, ammunition, and magazines to and from the booth.
  
- ▶ Handle all firearms in the booth only.
  
- ▶ Firearms placed on the bench will have actions locked open or cylinders open (revolvers). We will also place a unloaded chamber indicator to show that the chamber is clear.
  
- ▶ **FIREARMS ARE ONLY HANDLED INSIDE THE BOOTH AND POINTED DOWN-RANGE.**
  
- ▶ Do not handle firearms if there is someone down range during a SAFE / COLD RANGE.
  
- ▶ Observe the 180° degree rule. No firearms pointed towards your left or right at any time.
  
- ▶ The RO or Match Director may ask anyone to leave the range at any time if they feel someone has created an unsafe shooting condition.
  
- ▶ If you have any questions, please feel free to ask the RO or Match Director during a Safe / Cold Range period.

**TERMS:** "HOT RANGE" The range is ready to commence firing. Everyone is behind the firing line. Eyes and ear protection required.

**Squib Load:** Is an extremely dangerous situation caused when the bullet does not exit the barrel and becomes stuck inside the barrel. If you hear a lighter than normal sound when shooting or have a concern about whether or not the gun functioned properly, put the SAFETY ON and place your firearm on the bench (muzzle downrange) and get the attention of the RO. **DO NOT TRY AND "SHOOT OUT" A SQUIB LOAD.**

### **Starting Position**

The gun is held pointed at the ground approximately 10 feet in front of the shooter with trigger finger OUTSIDE of the trigger guard. At no time should the muzzle of the firearm be raised above the top of the target backer.

### **Firing Position**

Standing at the firing line with firearm held in one or two hands. Sights on *your* target. No portion of the shooter's body may rest upon or touch the bench.

## Jammed or Non-Functioning Firearm:

During **Slow Fire Stage Only:** (One Five Minute string) If it appears to be a simple jam or feeding problem, you may action the slide (muzzle pointed down-range) and clear the jammed ammo / casings or confirm that the magazine has been inserted properly. You may also reload using another magazine or ammo. If more involved – Raise your non-firing hand to alert the RO.

During **Timed** (Two :20 second strings) **and Rapid Fire** (Two :10 second strings) Strings: Put the SAFETY ON and place the firearm on the bench (muzzle down range)  
Raise your hand and the RO will acknowledge your situation and advise on what to do.

## Additional Safety Tips:

- ▶ Please be aware that the slide or bolt on semi-auto pistols will retract back as fast as the bullet leaves the muzzle. Do not place your off-hand near the rear of the moving slide or bolt. (Slide Bite)
- ▶ Do not place your off-hand fingers near or in front of the cylinder gaps on a revolver.

**SAFETY IS NO ACCIDENT.** Please interact immediately if you see an unsafe shooting condition. Inform the RO immediately of any accidental discharge or unsafe firearms handling.

**IN CASE OF AN ACCIDENT:** Contact the RO IMMEDIATELY. RSC has telephones and first aid kits available in the clubhouse and shoot building. RSC also has several members who are trained paramedics (law enforcement, fire fighters, doctors, nurses, etc). **CALL 9-1-1**

### NRA THREE GUN SAFETY RULES

#### Shooting Commands:

- “The Range is HOT”.
- “On the line with 5 rounds (or 10 rounds) load”: Load your firearm with 5 (or 10) rounds.
- “Is the line ready?” If you are having problems with your firearm – raise your hand.  
Shooter may assume the “Starting Position”
- “The line is ready.” There are no issues on the line.
- “Ready on the right”, — “Ready on the left”. Shooter may assume the “Firing Position”.
- “Ready on the firing line”: These 3 commands are read at the same time intervals (3 secs.)
- “Fire” (or loud alarm) will sound. Commence firing.
- After the string has completed a “Cease Fire” or a loud alarm will sound. ▶ Cease Fire
- “Any Alibis?” If a shooter has an alibi he/she will complete the alibi string after all other competitors have completed their targets or per the RO’s instructions.
- “Magazines out, slides back, and cylinders open”  
RO will check and confirm that all firearms have been made “SAFE / COLD”.
- “The Range is SAFE” - — “Go forward and change targets”  
Eyes and hearing protection may be removed.

*Submitted by: Scott Fries, NRA Chief Range Safety Officer*