

Range Standing Orders
For
Ravenshoe Highlanders Shooting Complex

SECTION 1 – GENERAL

These Range Standing Orders (SO's) cover the use of the range facility operated by the Sporting Shooters Association of Australia Ravenshoe and District Branch (SSAA Ravenshoe) and Ravenshoe Mt Garnet Rifle Club.

All Range Officers and range users are required to read and sign these SO's yearly.

Requests for exemptions from any provisions of these SO's shall be submitted in writing to the Club Executive for consideration.

Revisions

These SO's are current as of July 2009.

SECTION 2 – RANGE FACILITY

Special Considerations. Category H Class C weapons are only permitted to be shot in approved matches / practice for this class.

2.1 Range Description

This range complex has multiple ranges. The description of the operational ranges are listed below:

- Full Bore Range – 600 yard full bore range starting at front entrance.
- SSAA Range – 300m Pistol and Rifle range with covered firing line to the left of the Full Bore Range.

For Number of Firing Points, Firing Distances, Approved Firearms and velocity and power restrictions see Range Approvals copy attached.

SECTION 3 – PERSONNEL

3.1 Range Officer (RO)

The RO has complete authority on the range property and is the only person empowered to conduct authorised shooting practices and matches.

RO's must hold a current Queensland weapons licence. The Range Officer's name is to be clearly displayed at any active range.

RO's have the responsibility to supervise all personnel (shooting and non-shooting alike) present on the property and may have members and/or non-members removed at his/her discretion.

Unlicensed Shooters. In accordance with Section 53 of the Weapons Act, Unlicensed shooters or licenced shooters who are not authorised to possess the weapon he/she proposes to physically possess and use must complete a Form 33. The Range Officer must then sign the Form 33 in accordance with Sect 53(3) of the Weapons Act.

Unlicensed shooters must be supervised one on one by licensed member when handling firearms.

Unlicensed shooters are not permitted to have in their possession any ammunition until they are in the firing position.

Unlicensed shooters must be a member of the SSAA Ravenshoe to participate in Category H competitions. To be eligible to join SSAA Ravenshoe for Category H you must complete a Form QP 0515 - Application for Statement of Eligibility to Join an Approved Pistol Shooting Club at the Police Station to include in you application or hold a current Rifle Licence which you have held for more than 1 year.

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3.2 Attendance and Membership

To retain Club Membership, licensed members with handguns must meet the legally required participation in each July – June financial year. Members' participation records must be completed at the end of a qualifying shoot and be countersigned by the range officer.

Members with 1 class of pistol must complete 6 shoots per financial year. Members with 2 or more classes of pistol must complete 4 shoots for each pistol class on separate days.

Members who are unable to meet the Club attendance requirements should advise the Management Committee and seek advice regarding response to the Weapons Licensing Branch. The Management Committee will consider all such requests at their regular meetings.

The Management Committee will review the eligibility of all individual Club Members at least once per financial year.

In accordance with the legislation, licensed shooters must advise the Club Secretary of all Classes of firearms in their possession during July of each year. Classes are:

HA	Air Pistol
HB	Centre fire not more than .38 calibre or black powder pistol
HC	Centre fire more than .38 but not more than .45 calibre
HD	Rim fire pistol

3.3 Guests and Spectators

Guests (children and adults) are the responsibility of the adult club member who they came with and must remain under adult control at all times.

Spectators are the responsibility of the RO. The RO may appoint another club member to assist in supervision of spectators.

SECTION 4 – RANGE OPERATIONS

4.1 Flags

A RED flag must be flown from the flagpole at the main entrance to the complex when firing is being conducted on any range within the facility. Red flags are not to be flown when there is no shooting on the range. During night shoots, red flags are to be either clearly illuminated or replaced by red lights. Each individual range has specific flag(s), which must be flown when in use. They are:

Red flag at the entrance gate

FULL BORE RANGE

- RED flag at the rear of the firing line being used

SSAA RANGE

- RED flag at the rear of the firing line

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4.2 TARGETS

Only approved targets can be used.

At no time are glass, soft drink cans or any other non-approved or impromptu targets to be used on the range facility without the clearance of the SSAA Ravenshoe or Ravenshoe Mt Garnet Rifle Club Executive.

4.3 RANGE REGISTER

Each club is to have it's own Range Use Register (Form 20 must be used and cannot be amended). This is to be maintained in accordance with the Weapons Act. Range Officers are to pay particular attention to the additional recording requirements for handgun ranges.

The Range Officer is required to physically sight participants' firearms licences. Club members and visitors who are not able to produce their licence will not be permitted to shoot as this would be in contravention of the Weapons Act.

Range Use Registers are to be tightly controlled to ensure that unauthorised people cannot access the details within them.

4.4 AMMUNITION

The use of tracer, incendiary, explosive or similar ammunition is prohibited.

The muzzle velocity and muzzle energy of ammunition is to conform to the conditions of the Range Approvals.

4.5 PERMITTED ARCS OF FIRE

The maximum permitted arcs of fire for each range are listed below:

FULL BORE RANGE

- No greater than 5° to the centre line

SSAA RANGE

- All shooting parallel to the centre line

4.6 FIRING

The following firing guidelines are applicable to all ranges on the complex:

- No firing if target visibility is reduced as determined by the RO.
- Shooters with loaded firearms must be under RO direction.
- Firearms shall never be left unattended.
- Any person who believes there may be a risk to people, livestock or property must call a cease-fire.
- Also refer to the rules for closures described in paragraph 4.8.

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4.7 SAFETY ZONES

Each range has a safety (danger) area designed for specific firearms and calibres. These areas are out of bounds (no trespassing) areas designed to contain overshoot and ricocheting bullets. Every reasonable effort shall be extended by the RO to ensure that the safety area does not have people in it during range operations.

4.8 ROAD/RANGE CLOSURE DURING RANGE OPERATIONS

Due to the configurations of the range complex specific road and range closures must be in effect during the operations of certain ranges. These closures are listed below:

<u>Active Range</u>	<u>Closure</u>
Full Bore Range	When firing from distances other than 300 yards SSAA Range must be closed.
SSAA Range	Full Bore Range is closed for all distances other than 300 yards. When using category H firearms with a muzzle velocity over 1400 foot per second and muzzle energy 500 foot pounds; the RO or appointed delegate must confirm the communications tower and tower access road are un-occupied and the tower access road closed. The range cannot be opened for category H firearms with a muzzle velocity over 1400 foot per second and mussel energy 500 foot pounds if the communications tower or access road are occupied.

4.9 STORAGE

All handguns must be holstered or cased with actions open and magazines removed except while on an active firing line or while in the inspection area. Firearms are always to be pointed downrange when not holstered.

4.10 MATCH COMPLETION

At the conclusion of all matches or practices the RO will ensure that:

- all targets frames are returned to the storage area;
- all silhouettes are returned to their storage area/positions;
- firing points are checked for brass and other debris;
- all firearms and ammunition have been removed from the range;
- all flags are lowered; and
- buildings and entrance gate are secure

SECTION 5 –RANGE SAFETY CONSIDERATIONS

5.1 COMMUNICATIONS

When Full Bore and SSAA Range are active, both range officers are to maintain verbal contact.

5.2 SPECTATORS

Spectators will follow all directions given to them by the Range Officer or delegated Club member. Spectators must remain 5 meters behind any active firing line or the designated spectator areas.

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5.3 HEARING AND EYE PROTECTION

Hearing protection for all attendees at the range in near proximity to an active firing line is mandatory.

Eye protection for all attendees at the range in near proximity to an active firing line is mandatory.

5.4 ALCOHOL/DRUGS

Any person deemed by the RO to be under the influence of alcohol or drugs will not be permitted to shoot. No alcohol is to be consumed anywhere on the range while it is open for shooting (red flags are up) unless in an area designated by the Range Officer during the evening of shooting competitions going over more than one day.

5.5 SMOKING

Due to the extreme fire hazard in the range area, smoking is not permitted in wooded areas.

Smoking is not permitted within 10m of any blackpowder firearms being used or loaded.

Smoking is not permitted on any firing point.

Smoking is only permitted in the designated areas.

Smokers should be encouraged to wash their hands after shooting and before smoking due to the hazard posed by the possible ingestion of lead.

All smoking materials (butts, etc.) are to be disposed of in the containers provided.

5.6 PROTECTIVE CLOTHING

Appropriate clothing must be worn at all times. Clothing must provide protection to the shooter but not hinder the safe operation of the firearms being used.

Appropriate enclosed footwear is to be worn at all times.

Clothing that assists the shooter and is contrary to the rules of the competition being shot is to be removed from the range.

5.7 FIRST AID KIT

A first aid kit is to be located to centre rear of the firing line. The locations of first aid kits are to be clearly visible by a Red Cross logo.

SECTION 6 – EMERGENCY INFORMATION

6.1 EMERGENCY PHONE NUMBERS

The following are non-emergency contact numbers. For emergencies call 000.

Doctor - 40962287

A list of these emergency phone numbers is to be clearly displayed at the clubhouse and to the rear of the firing lines.