



**IMPALA SPORT SHOOTING CLUB**

## **RANGE RULES AND REGULATIONS**

(Amended March 2018)

### **1. PREAMBLE**

- 1.1 In the full realisation that, although a firearm is used in our sport as an instrument of precision and pleasure, it remains at all times a LETHAL instrument, and that these rules were not made to hamper or hinder your sport, but to protect you.
- 1.2 These Rules and Regulations are to be read and interpreted in conjunction with the Club Constitution.

### **2. PREMISES**

The Range premises comprises the area allocated, as per the current Ethekeweni lease, as amended from time to time, excluding the road leading to the lower parking areas.

### **3. INDEMNITIES AND INSURANCES**

All members using the Premises shall only do so AFTER having duly completed and signed the Range Register, paid any prescribed fee and be in possession of their valid SAGA membership card.

- 3.1 Visitors may only shoot once they have completed the Indemnity Form, signed the Range Register, paid the prescribed fee and be in possession of their valid SAGA membership card.
- 3.2 Members of other Clubs which have reciprocity agreements with the Club, may only shoot once they have completed and signed the Range Register, paid the prescribed fee and be in possession of their valid SAGA membership card.
- 3.3 No person shall engage in any shooting activity, unless they are fully acquainted with and are in possession of a copy of these Range Rules and Regulations.

### **4. CHILDREN**

Children will not be permitted on the premises, unless under the CONSTANT CONTROL AND CARE of an adult.

### **5. STATE OF FIREARMS**

- 5.1 AT ALL TIMES, assembled firearms shall be deemed to be in a LOADED STATE and shall be handled with the respect and attention due to a firearm in that state; and
- 5.2 No firearms shall be carried onto the range in a loaded state, regardless of how carried.
- 5.3 All loaded firearms shall be unloaded upon arrival at the premises, in the safe area, at the top of the driveway of the bottom range.

- 5.4 If it is obvious that the premises are deserted, and if the member is alone on the premises, firearms will be allowed to be carried in a loaded state, with the safety catch engaged, or hammer down on an empty cylinder in the case of a revolver.

## **6. FIREARMS, LICENCES AND MEMBERSHIP CARDS**

Any person carrying a firearm shall carry the relevant licence on their person and must produce such document, on request of a Club Official. The same applies for Club and SAGA membership cards. UNLICENCED firearms are FORBIDDEN on the premises.

## **7. TYPES OF FIREARMS AND CALIBRES**

- 7.1 All types of HANDGUNS, SHOTGUNS, .22 RIMFIRE RIFLES AND CENTRE FIRE RIFLES (EXCEPT FULLY AUTOMATIC WEAPONS INCLUDING HANDGUNS, RIFLES, SHOTGUNS AND HAND MACHINE CARBINES WHICH ARE EXCLUDED) are allowed on the premises.
- 7.2 The firing of TRACERS is strictly forbidden.
- 7.3 Centre Fire Rifles are only allowed on the Eighty (80) metre range, which is fitted with shooting tunnels and bays, THROUGH WHICH these rifles shall be fired. The chairman must give his permission and notify all of the Club Committee members in writing (e-mail) prior to the use of a Centre Fire Rifle on the range.

## **8. USE OF RANGES.**

- 8.1 The BOTTOM two ranges are accredited for use/training of Handgun, Rifle and Shotgun.
- 8.2 The MIDDLE range (200m) may only be used by firing through the elevation limiting tyres/devices. These are designed to ensure that ALL bullets are contained by the backstop. The BOLT of the rifle may only be closed once the shooter is in position, to ensure that all shots are contained by the backstop. NO SEMI-AUTO CENTER FIRE RIFLES ARE ALLOWED ON THIS RANGE. The placement of targets is critical to the retention and containment of bullets. This range may only be used by members only, when a Club Committee member is present AND with the approval of the chairman.
- 8.2.1 The MIDDLE range, short ranges can be used for handgun and .22LR shooting, only when the 200m range is not being used.
- 8.3 The TOP range is a Shotgun range for Sporting Clays, Handgun leagues, .22LR CLUB shoots, and may be used for sighting and chronographing manual rifles with the following restrictions, namely:
- 8.3.1 Rifles may only be fired by members only from the bench and the target may only be placed at the 25m backstop OR 100m backstop;
- 8.3.2 A maximum of 20 rounds of CENTER FIRE AMMUNITION may be fired in ONE session;
- 8.3.3 A committee member must be present and the approval of the chairman has to be obtained in writing, BEFORE use; and
- 8.3.4 NO SEMI-AUTOMATIC CENTER FIRE RIFLES ARE ALLOWED ON THIS RANGE.

## **9. EAR AND EYE PROTECTORS**

No persons shall be allowed on the premises, unless they are wearing proper ear and eye protection. This includes all spectators and children.

## 10. LIQUOR AND DRUGS

- 10.1 No person who is obviously under the influence of alcohol or drugs shall be allowed on the premises;
- 10.2 Liquor will not be allowed to be consumed on the Premises during shooting activity;
- 10.3 After completion of a shooting session, alcohol may be consumed, after all firearms are unloaded, declared safe and packed away in carry bags or worn in a proper belt holster, without a magazine inserted, in the case of a pistol or without any ammunition in the cylinder, in the case of a revolver; and
- 10.4 No person shall carry a loaded firearm whilst consuming alcohol, except the nominated Range or Safety Officer.

## 11. RICOCHETS

- 11.1 It is forbidden to shoot at targets which may splinter, shatter and cause injury or cause the bullet to ricochet such as glass, rocks, concrete, etc.; and
- 11.2 Only authorised impact reaction equipment may be used on the range, ensuring the accepted safety distances. Low targets must have tyres placed behind them to limit the occurrence of ricochets.

## 12. SHOOTING PROCEDURES

- 12.1 Any shooting activity is conducted under the control of the Section Secretary (or his authorised representative) and who is authorised to decide on all matters pertaining to the shooting activity or the conduct of any person ON the range, as well as OFF the range;
- 12.2 All shooting activities shall take place under the absolute control of a qualified Range Officer or designated Safety Officer;
- 12.3 Any member who wishes to use any part of the premises, on a day designated to a specific section's shooting activity, as per the calendar on the Club website and whilst he is not a member of that section, must request permission from the relevant Secretary, prior to commencing shooting.

## 13. WARNING FLAGS

Without exception, no shooting activity may take place without at least ONE red flag being appropriately placed as per the following guidelines:

- 13.1 One red flag shall be displayed at one of the following points, based on where the shooting activity is taking place:
  - 13.1.1 at the top of the driveway leading to the bottom range, when the bottom range is in use; and
  - 13.1.2 on the road leading to the top range, at the fork to the middle range, when either the top or middle range is in use.

## 14. SAFETY RULES

- 14.1 Range Officers and nominated officials will be allowed to carry one handgun in a belt holster and in a loaded safe state (safety catch engaged).
- 14.2 On arrival at the range, no firearm shall be removed from its carry bag, without the prior consent of the Range Officer.

- 14.3 If shooting is in progress, no persons shall approach the firing line until the command RANGE CLEAR is given, after which they may enter the shooting area.
- 14.4 It is strictly forbidden, except in the case of a Range Officer, to touch another shooter's firearm without the prior consent of the Range or Safety Officer.
- 14.5 Any person who interferes or whose actions interfere with or annoys shooters, will be ordered off the Range.
- 14.6 Shooters shall at any time, if so requested, submit their firearms and/or ammunition for inspection by a Range or Safety Officer. The firearm and/or ammunition may be declared unsafe and shall be locked away.
- 14.7 Non-shooters shall remain clear of the firing line at all times, unless authorized by the Range Officer;
- 14.8 If shooting is performed in front of the benches on the bottom range, non-shooters shall be at least five (5) metres behind the firing line, until all firearms and the range have been declared safe.

## **15 GENERAL SAFETY RULES**

- 15.1 Members should avoid coming to the range alone, for their own safety.
- 15.2 Members are only allowed to use the range between Sunrise and Sunset, Monday to Friday.
- 15.3 The use of the range on Saturday and Sunday is restricted to the hours of 07:00 to 15:00. These times may be varied by the Club Committee in the event of Provincial or National shooting competitions.
- 15.4 The Club premises are situated close to private dwellings. Members should avoid creating a nuisance by disturbing the Club's neighbours, especially on Sunday afternoons.
- 15.5 The use of center-fire manual rifles is limited to occasional sighting-in and chronographing and must be approved by the Chairman prior to shooting and a Club Committee member must be present during the shooting.
- 15.6 When using the range, members shall cease shooting immediately if any person is seen downrange. A clear and non-abusive instruction shall be given to them, to vacate the area.

## **16. LOADING AND UNLOADING**

After each shooting activity or series of activities:

- 16.1 shooters shall make sure that no cartridges or spent cartridge cases are left in their firearms;
- 16.2 all firearms shall have the magazine out, breech block left open, slide locked back, cylinder swung out and safe for inspection;
- 16.3 Once the firing line has been declared safe, firearms may not be touched for whatever reason, unless or until permission to do so is granted by a Range Officer;
- 16.4 No firearms shall be packed away into carry bags, containers, holster and/or cases on completion of a shoot until such a time as they are declared safe by a Range Officer, thereafter they will not again be removed from their respective containers, holsters and/or cases without the Range Officer's consent.
- 16.5 No firearm shall be loaded (Cylinder locked home, magazine inserted and slide or breech block released) until shooters have taken their places at the firing point and the command to LOAD has been issued by the Range Officer;

## **17. POINTING OF FIREARMS**

After loading, shooters shall keep their firearms pointing DOWN-RANGE, in the direction of targets.

At no time shall loaded firearms be lowered below bench level or pointed towards either side or the rear.

## **18. IN THE CASE OF AN EMERGENCY**

- 18.1 Whilst shooting is in progress, the signal to cease firing will be given either verbally and/or by a sharp blast of a whistle. In such a case, all shooting must cease immediately.
- 18.2 Shooters shall immediately engage the safety catch, remove the magazine, place their firearms on the ground, pointing DOWN-RANGE and stand back.
- 18.3 If shooting is done from a belt holster, shooters will engage the safety catch, holster the firearm and place their hands on their head. Wait for the next command to unload or continue with the exercise.

## **19 USE OF TARGETS**

- 19.1 Authorised reaction targets such as impact plates (Pepper Poppers), falling plates, metallic silhouettes, pendulums, etc. may not be placed at less than ten (10) metres from the shooting position;
- 19.2 Non-shottists are to stay well clear of the firing line to avoid bullet splinters;
- 19.3 Soft reaction target such as clay pigeons, plastic bottles, etc., are allowed on the range;
- 19.4 It is strictly forbidden to use Glass bottles or other objects that create hazardous litter, as targets.
- 19.5 All used targets shall be removed from the Range premises on completion of shooting activities.
- 19.6 Damaged Club equipment shall be removed from the range and set aside for repairs. The Stores and Equipment Officer or a Committee member shall be notified immediately.

## **20 CLEANLINESS OF THE PREMISES**

- 20.1 The cleanliness of the Range is the collective responsibility of each member or visitor and it is therefore expected from everyone, to remove all unwanted articles that they have brought to the range, for disposal.
- 20.2 It is expected of members to assist the Committee, when a notice is published, requesting help to clean the Range.

## **21 AUTHORISED ORGANISATIONS**

- 21.1 Authorised organisations may only use the bottom range, as it is accredited for training by NRCS.
- 21.2 The use of the range is authorised by a Memorandum of Understanding, entered into with the chairman of the Club or his nominated representative.
- 21.3 Shooting activities may not be undertaken outside of the scope of the Memorandum of Understanding, without authorisation.
- 21.4 Authorised organisations must supply their own targets and target frames. No club equipment may be used.

## 22 FIRST AID KIT

A FIRST AID KIT shall be provided for all official shoots.

## 23 TRESPASSES

Should any member of the Club arrive at the Range and encounter people using the premises illegally, such member shall record the vehicle registration number and contact a member of the Club Committee, as soon as possible. Such members shall report intruders to the Bellair Police Station (SAPS).

It is therefore the responsibility of each member to ensure that Members and Affiliated members (Clubs and Bodies) only, have the exclusive use of OUR Range.

## 24 KEYS

- 24.1 Keys provided to members, who qualify to obtain them, by virtue of having been a member for one year, shall keep their keys in a safe place.
- 24.2 Such keys shall be returned to the Stores and Equipment Officer or to a Club Committee member when no longer required or on resignation.
- 24.3 Any member who lends his key to a non-member will immediately be suspended from Club membership.
- 24.4 It is the duty of all members and users of the range to ensure that the access (main entrance gate) is kept locked while shooting activities are in progress.

## 25 BORROWING OF RANGE EQUIPMENT


Should any member of the Club wish to borrow any piece of equipment, such member shall apply for permission to do so, from the Stores and Equipment Officer or from a member of the Club Committee.

## 26 CONCLUSION

- 26.1 The responsibility rests with each member, without exception, to be conversant with these Rules and Regulations and to consider himself bound to observe and comply with these Rules and Regulations.
- 26.2 Any member who infringes any of these Rules and Regulations, wholly or in part, is guilty of an offence and shall be subject to such disciplinary measures as may be considered necessary by the Committee, as provided for in Clause 12.11 of the Club Constitution.

BY ORDER OF THE COMMITTEE

10 March 2018

 (Chairman)