

# Safety Regulations

The following regulations are intended to ensure that both the members of the club and visitors to the club can enjoy the sport in a safe and accident free environment. The Club has a duty to protect the Landowners and their agents (workers, guests) and members of the public who may wander onto the shooting ground.

*Should you not understand ANY point contained herein then you must seek clarification BEFORE shooting or bringing a weapon onto the club grounds.*

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**1. Following these regulations is mandatory for all members and visitors, and is a condition of membership of the club. Failure to adhere to these rules will be classed as unsafe conduct and dealt with under the rules of the club.**

**2. All guns must be legal (within the allowed power range), and in a safe condition. The club reserve the right to test ANY weapon whether during competition or not.**

Club members act as Marshals/Range Officers on a rotation basis. The Acting Marshall can normally be identified by his Fluorescent jacket. On a competition day there may be more than one Marshall.

**3. ALL members and guests MUST obey instructions from a Marshall.**

However, where you are advised by another member on a safety issue, and the member is NOT acting as a marshal, you MUST, nonetheless, take heed of what you are advised.

## Entry and Exit

It is essential to ensure that guns arriving in the benching area are not loaded or dangerous, and also that they leave the ground in a safe condition. Therefore guns must be in a safe condition BEFORE ENTERING the bench/club area and ALWAYS on leaving the firing line. Either a marshal or another member should witness the clearing of your weapon. (See Rule 11).

**4. On arrival at the club, weapons must be bagged and in a safe condition. Your first action on removing your gun from the case is to ensure that it is not cocked / loaded from previous use. This must be done at the firing line or designated position.**

**5. On leaving the grounds weapons must be empty and safe. (Having a loaded air rifle in a public place is illegal – even if in a case.) Never carry an uncovered or uncased gun out of the shooting area, for example - into or from the car park – and never fill your gun in the car park.**

## General Safety

There are a number of rules which ensure the safe handling of weapons once in use.

**6. ALL weapons will be regarded as LOADED and READY TO FIRE. There will be no exceptions at any time.**

7. No Weapon will be pointed at any person, animal or building, under any circumstances. (Always carry your gun "Muzzle Down).
8. Guns must NEVER be loaded or sighted (Looking down the scope) at any place other than the firing line and pointing towards the target area and must be unloaded when moving from lane to lane. Do not load a gun until ready to take the shot.
9. Multi-shot rifles must have only one pellet loaded at a time and the magazine MUST be removed between lanes or when the rifle is not in use.
10. Weapons should remain cased when not in use.
11. Before leaving the firing line you must demonstrate to another person that your weapon is cleared and safe. Multi-shot weapons must have their magazine removed.

## **On the Range.**

At Tawd Vale, the firing line is normally the forward blue rope, and all shots are discharged into the area beyond. Always familiarise yourself with the position of this line before commencing to shoot as it can vary from time to time.

There is also a safety system – people have to enter the target area from time to time and it is essential that no one is shooting. One blast on the horn – means STOP and two blasts means ALL CLEAR. Whistles may be used at times instead of horns.

12. No shooting will ever commence unless the range is declared OPEN by the acting Marshal and the All CLEAR signal has been given (Two blasts on the horn/whistle.) and the relevant warning signs are displayed.
13. On a signal from the Marshal – one horn / whistle blast – ALL weapons will be cleared into the ground a safe distance in front of the firing point. No aimed shot is to be taken after the horn / whistle. **The weapon must kept down in a rest position during a cease-fire.** Shooting can only continue after two blasts of the horn/whistle have been given. **IF YOU ARE NOT SURE – DON'T SHOOT.**
14. Entry to the area beyond the firing line is restricted to range officials only.
15. All shots are to be aimed only at the official targets provided – or discharged into the ground. Targets are set in accordance with safety considerations. It is not permitted to shoot at targets that are not intended to be shot from that lane/position.
16. Except for safety reasons, never distract someone that is shooting.
17. All shooters should be aware of the beyond the target capabilities of their weapons.

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*Having read the above rules, if there are any points you do not understand or you wish to discuss further, please seek clarification from a club official BEFORE commencing to shoot or use the club's facilities.*