

# St. John's Rod and Gun Club

## Range Operating Instructions



# **Section 1 – General**

These Range Operating Instructions cover the use of the range facilities operated by the St. John's Rod and Gun Club, located on TCH near Holyrood, Newfoundland and Labrador.

All Club members and guests/users are required to read and abide by these Range Operating Instructions prior to using the Range. This document is filed with the Chief Firearms Officer Newfoundland and Labrador and is a legal document comprising part of the requirements for the St. John's Rod and Gun Club's certification and approval under the firearm legislation.

Any breach of the instructions herein can and may be pursued and charges laid under the law.

Our range approval extends to the .308 Winchester calibers and below (see Appendix "A"). All calibres listed in the .338 Lapua Magnum class and any other equivalent high-powered magnum calibres, can only be used if the muzzle direction is limited by firing from the wire mesh screen position, through the open area of the screen. Note that 50 calibre centrefire (50 BMG class) are not approved for use on club ranges.

Our ranges operate basically as unsupervised and as such, if more than one person is present, one of the shooters must assume the role of Range Officer.

Under legislation the Club carries insurance for the facilities and has insurance for its members. Therefore, only members in good standing (dues paid) may use the facilities legally. It is illegal for non-members to use the range facilities, unless they are guests, and then only under the immediate and direct supervision (in law means arm's length while using a firearm) of a member in good standing.

Prior to using the range facilities, all club members and range users are required to read these Range Operating Instructions and the Range Safety Instructions, available on the Club website. Your signature of the Club membership or membership renewal application signifies your commitment to read and abide by these rules.

## **1.1 Revisions**

These Operating Instructions have been published and revised on the dates listed below:

Original publication	- April 3, 2001
1 <sup>st</sup> Revision	- March 2002
2 <sup>nd</sup> Revision	- March 29, 2006
3 <sup>rd</sup> Revision	- July 9, 2006
4 <sup>th</sup> Revision	- March 12, 2007
5 <sup>th</sup> Revision	- August 22, 2012
6 <sup>th</sup> Revision	- May 11, 2013
7 <sup>th</sup> Revision	- January 27, 2015
8 <sup>th</sup> Revision	- March 14, 2015
9 <sup>th</sup> Revision	- July 18, 2017
10 <sup>th</sup> Revision	- August 2, 2017
11 <sup>th</sup> Revision	- November 20, 2018

## Section 2 – Range Facilities

### 2.1 Range Description

The Club facility has multiple operational ranges with descriptions listed below:

- Range A – 12 lane 25 m handgun/rifle range;
- Range B – 15 lane 50/100/200 yd rifle range;
- Range C – 25 yd handgun range and 50 yd rifle range;
- Range D – Trap range: 4 houses with 5 firing positions each;
- Range E – Sporting Clays trail: 10 stations with 1 firing position each, including a Five Stand range; and,
- Range F – 12 Station 3D Archery trail.
- Range G – Sporting Clays Trail: 4 stations.

### Range A – Handgun Range

Location: Adjacent to Range C on the clubhouse(west) side

Description: 25 m handgun/rifle range

No. Firing Points: 12

Firing Distance: 25 m

Approved Firearms:

- Centre fire handguns, all types;
- Rimfire rifles and handguns, all types;
- Centre fire rifles of permitted calibres;
- Muzzle loading firearms of permitted calibres;
- Air rifles, all types;
- Shotguns are **NOT** permitted;
- Pistols chambered for shotgun shells not permitted; and,
- No “Homemade” firearms/devices permitted.

Maximum Approved Calibre:

- Centre fire handguns - .357 S&W Magnum class or smaller (see Appendix A);
- Muzzle loading pistols/rifles of most calibres (see Appendix A);
- Rimfire rifles and handguns - .22LR High Velocity or smaller (see Appendix A); and
- Centre fire rifles - .308 class or smaller (see Appendix A).

Approved Targets:

- Paper, balloons, plastic pop bottles, self-healing, and frangible clay targets.

Approved Ammunition:

- Full Metal Jacket (FMJ), Soft Point (SP), lead bullets.
- No shotgun ammunition of any size is permitted.

## **Range B – Rifle Range**

Location: Immediately adjacent to the Range parking lot (refer to site plan)

Description: 50/100/200 yd rifle range

No. Firing Points: 15

Firing Distances: 50/100/200 yds

Approved firearms:

- Centre fire handguns, all types;
- Centre fire rifles of permitted calibres;
- Rim fire rifles and handguns, all types;
- Muzzle loading firearms of permitted calibres
- Shotguns, all types;
- Air rifles, all types; and,
- Bows using arrows or bolts.
- No “Homemade” firearms/devices permitted

Maximum Approved Calibre:

- Handguns .357 S&W Magnum class or smaller (see Appendix “A”); and
- Rifles .308 Winchester or smaller (see Appendix “A”) and all calibres listed in the .338 Lapua Magnum class, only if muzzle direction is limited by firing from the wire mesh screen position and through the open area of the screen; and
- Shotguns – 10 Gauge.

Approved Targets:

- Paper, balloons, plastic pop bottles, self-healing, and frangible clay targets; and metal reactive targets as approved by the executive (50 yd minimum distance for rifle and 11 yd for handguns).

Approved Ammunition:

- Full Metal Jacket (FMJ), Soft Point (SP), lead bullets, slugs, and lead/steel shot.

## **Range C – Handgun Range**

Location: To the immediate right of Range parking lot (refer to site plan)

Description: 25 yd handgun range, 50 yd rifle range

No. Firing Points: Varies at discretion of Range Officer

Firing Distances: 25 yd (Handgun) 50 yd (Rifle)

Approved firearms:

- Centre fire handgun calibers of all types fired from handguns or rifles;
- Rim fire rifles and handguns, all types;
- Muzzle loading firearms of permitted calibre;
- Shotguns, all types;
- Centre fire rifles, all types;
- Air rifles, all types;
- Bows/cross bows using arrows or bolts; and,
- No “Homemade” firearms/devices permitted.

Maximum Approved Caliber:

- Centre fire handguns - .357 S&W Magnum class or smaller (see Appendix "A");
- Rim fire rifles and handguns - .22LR High Velocity or smaller (see Appendix "A");
- Shotguns – 10 Gauge; and,
- Rifles .308 Winchester or smaller (see Appendix "A").

Approved Targets:

- Paper, balloons, plastic pop bottles, self-healing, and frangible clay targets; metal reactive targets as approved by the executive (50 yd minimum distance for rifle and 11 yd for handguns).

Approved Ammunition:

- Full Metal Jacket (FMJ), Soft Point (SP), lead bullets, slugs, and lead/steel shot.

**NB - .50 BMG class of centrefire rifles is not permitted on any club range.**

### **Range D – Trap Range**

Location:	Adjacent to the Clubhouse (refer to site plan)
Description:	Trap range with 4 trap houses
No. Firing Points:	4 x 5 stations
Firing Distances:	Standard
Approved Firearms:	Shotguns
Maximum Approved Gauge:	10 Gauge
Approved Ammunition:	Shot size No. 7 1/2 or smaller

### **Range E – Sporting Clays**

Location:	Adjacent to the Clubhouse (refer to site plan)
Description:	Sporting Clays range with 10 stations
No. Firing Points:	10 x 1 stations
Firing Distances:	Standard
Approved Firearms:	Shotguns
Maximum Approved Gauge:	10 Gauge
Approved Ammunition:	Shot size No. 7 1/2 or smaller

### **Range F – 3D Archery Trail**

Location:	Along the road going in front of the clubhouse (refer to site plan)
Description:	Archery trail with 12 stations
No. Firing Points:	12 x 1 stations
Firing Distances:	Various
Approved Firearms:	Bows and arrows only

**Note:** Archery is not under the authority of the Canadian Firearms Office

## **Range G – Sporting Clays**

Location:	Adjacent to the Clubhouse and along the club road to the gravel pit (refer to site plan)
Description:	Sporting Clays range with 4 stations
No. Firing Points:	4 x 1 stations
Firing Distances:	Standard
Approved Firearms:	Shotguns
Maximum Approved Gauge:	10 Gauge
Approved Ammunition:	Shot size No. 7 1/2 or smaller

## **Section 3 – Personnel**

### **3.1 Range Safety Officer**

The Range Safety Officers (RSOs) are members trained by the club to conduct or control shooting activities and to ensure compliance with the Club Operations and Safety Instructions.

Range Safety Officer's have the responsibility to supervise all general members, guests, and spectators (shooting and non-shooting alike) present on the property. An RSO may ask a member to leave the club property if he or she feels there is an immediate safety concern that cannot be resolved through discussion. All such incidents are to be reported to the Executive.

Rental groups, groups within the club running sanctioned shoots, and corporate members are to be supervised by their own RSOs sanctioned by the Executive.

The names of Range Safety Officers who are current and active are listed on the Club website.

All RSO's operating the facility must have a valid RSO certification from the club or from a recognized agency or have equivalent experience and deemed acceptable by the St. John's Rod and Gun Club executive. The St. John's Rod and Gun Club recognizes RSO qualifications from the Club RSO course, or from the following agencies or groups:

- RCMP (Range Master course);
- Canadian Armed Forces Range Safety Officer;
- DFO, Ports Canada Police, or DNR;
- National Range Officers Institute of Canada; and
- IDPA, IPSC those trained by other clubs and individuals listed on the Club website, whose equivalent qualifications are deemed acceptable by the St. John's Rod and Gun Club.

### **3.2 Guests and Spectators**

A guest is a non-member who wishes to shoot at the club under the direct supervision of a club member. A spectator is a visitor to the club who will be observing activities but not shooting or handling firearms or ammunition.

A member is permitted a guest(s) to the club. Guests and spectators (children and adults) and pets are the responsibility of the St. John's Rod and Gun Club member who they came with and must remain under adult supervision at all times. All guests are required to pay a \$5 daily fee payable in the Longbranch or Clubhouse. All guests must sign the club's log book. When shooting guests must be under direct arms-length supervision of their member sponsor at all times. Only one guest may participate in shooting activities at a time and are not permitted to shoot alone. While the member is shooting the guest cannot shoot.

While spectators are the responsibility of the member who brought them, they are also under the control of the Range Safety Officer. The Range Safety Officer may delegate that responsibility for them to another member of the St. John's Rod and Gun Club.

## **Section 4 – Range Operations**

### **4.1 Ranges IN USE/NOT IN USE Sign**

Upon entering the Club, the first person to use any of the ranges are to place the sign in the "RANGES IN USE" position. The last person to leave the facility is to ensure that the sign is placed in the "RANGES NOT IN USE" position.

### **4.2 Flags**

Red Flags are located at each individual shooting range and are to be raised anytime the range is in use.

The red flag must be raised before any firearm is brought to the firing line and lowered when all the firearms have been removed from the firing line.

When using range "E", Flags at Range "D" must also be raised as well

### **4.3 Joint Operation of Ranges B and C**

When both Range B and C are in operation at the same time, NO ONE is permitted to go beyond the 100 yd target stands on Range B. Anyone going to the 200 yd target stand on Range B, while Range C is active, MUST coordinate this with the Range Officer on Range C. With the consent of the Range Officer on Range C, a cease fire may be called on Range C to permit individuals to go to the 200 yd target stand on Range B

### **4.4 Special Operating Instructions for Range C**

Due to the flexible nature of Range C the following operating instructions apply:

- The Range Officer determines where the firing line will be and the number of shooting positions; and
- All targets MUST be situated so that bullets impact on the BACK BERM.

### **4.5 Targets**

Only approved targets as described below may be used at any Range within the shooting facility of the St. John's Rod and Gun Club:

- Range A – Paper, balloon, plastic pop bottles, self healing and frangible clay targets;
- Range B – Paper, steel reactive (minimum 50 yd for centrefire and rimfire rifle and 11 yd for handguns), balloons, plastic pop bottles, self-healing and frangible clay targets;
- Range C – Paper, steel reactive (minimum 50 yd for centrefire and rimfire rifle and 11 yd for handguns), balloons, plastic pop bottles, self-healing and frangible clay targets;
- Range D – Frangible clay targets only; and
- Range E – Frangible clay targets only.

At no time shall any other targets such as glass, pop cans, or disused electronic equipment be used on any range.

Targets must be attached to the disposable plastic backing (Coroplast) and not to the wooden frames.

It is strictly forbidden to attach any targets to the main support posts or in any fashion that they cover the support posts.

Frangible clay targets may be placed on the backstops clear of the range floor and no higher than 9 ft.

Plastic pop bottles and fragments and old paper and balloons must be removed when shooting is finished.

## **4.6 Log Book**

The Range facility has a usage Log Book, which shall be filled out by each member/guest before active firing commences

Log books are located in the Long Branch and the Main Clubhouse. A member is required to sign one of these logs before using the range. Signing both is not required.

Each member shall maintain an attendance record for themselves and each guest they bring and submit same to the Club executive upon request.

## **4.7 Ammunition**

All spent cartridge cases or shot shell hulls shall be collected and disposed in containers provided. Spent shot shell hulls shall be collected and placed in the garbage cans on or in plastic bags near the Clubhouse.

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

Only authorized calibres and types of ammunition may be used on any range of this facility.

## **1.8. Authorized Arcs of Fire**

- Not to exceed 2.5 degrees vertical and 5 degrees horizontal from line of fire.
- Due to the danger of ricochets, targets stands are to be used instead of targets being placed on the ground
- It is strictly prohibited to fire at any target placed on the ground, including reactive ground bouncing targets.
- It is strictly prohibited to fire diagonally in such a way that it will cross fire other shooters path of fire.

## **4.9 Firing**

The following guidelines are applicable to all ranges on the St. John's Rod and Gun Club facility:

- Firing may commence at dawn (sunrise) and continue until dusk (sunset);
- Firing between the hours from dusk to dawn is **strictly prohibited**;
- Only members of the St. John's Rod and Gun club or their guests may fire on any range of this facility;
- Current Membership Card must be displayed on your person when handling or using firearms on Club property and ranges;
- Firing will cease immediately if an aircraft approaches, overflies, or is aligned with the firing line of any range. Firing may recommence after the aircraft has moved to a location which is clear of the firing line / safety area of the range in use;



- Firing shall be terminated if weather phenomena, such as fog, snow, hail, smoke, or heavy rain, etc., obscure visibility of the intended target or range area;
- Firearms (handgun/rifle range) must be brought to the firing line cased and may be uncased with muzzles pointing down range only when the range is declared active. Firearms **MUST NOT** be un cased during a range cease fire.;
- Firearms shall only be loaded just prior to the intended firing of the firearm and only when the user is located at an approved firing position within each range;
- Loaded firearms shall never be left unattended; and
- Firearms not being used on the rifle/pistol firing line shall be first unloaded, inspected by the RSO, then either cased or racked with the action left open.

## **4.10 Explosives**

The detonation of any explosive device, including ‘Tannerite’ or similar explosive targets on range property is strictly prohibited.

## **4.11 Hunting**

Hunting on all range property is strictly prohibited.

## **4.12 Safety Zones**

Each range has a safety (danger) area designed for specific firearms and calibers. These areas are out of bounds to all individuals and are designed to contain overshoot and ricocheting bullets. Before shooting commences every reasonable effort shall be exercised to ensure that the safety areas do not have people in them during range operations.

## **4.13 Road/Range Closures during Range Operations**

Due to the configuration of the range complex specific road and range closures shall be in effect at certain times. These closures will be posted on the range and on the Club Website.

## **4.14 Garbage**

All waste targets (paper or other) are to be removed from target stands after shooting and disposed of. When possible, all garbage shall be collected and removed from the range property immediately after all firing has been discontinued. Garbage containers on site are expected to be used if garbage cannot be removed from the property. Members are requested to remove full garbage bags from the containers and deposit them in the large garbage container adjacent to the Wildlife Shed. Replacement garbage bags are available in the Long Branch.

## **4.15 Unloaded Firearms**

All handguns shall be unloaded and holstered or cased except while on an active firing line. All firearms except handguns, not actively being used on the firing line shall be unloaded and cased, or unloaded (actions open) and placed on one of the range gun racks, with the muzzle pointed skyward in accordance with safe storage regulations.

## **4.16 Match/Practice Completion**

At the conclusion of all shooting matches or practices each member shall ensure that:

- All target frames are returned to the storage shed;

- Firing points are policed for brass and other debris or spent and unspent cartridges;
- All flags are lowered; and
- Buildings and gates are secured and/or locked as appropriate.

## **Section 5 – Range Safety Considerations**

### **5.1 Range Safety Vehicle and Equipment**

A range safety vehicle shall be designated for each open/invitational event. This vehicle shall:

- Be located as close as possible to the active range (firing line);
- Have the keys in the ignition;
- Have a working cell phone;
- Be suitable to transport an injured party to the nearest medical facility; and
- Should contain a suitable first aid kit.

### **5.2 Spectators**

Spectators shall follow all directions given to them by a Range Officer or delegated Club member. Spectators shall remain at least 2 meters behind any active firing line.

### **5.3 Hearing and Eye Protection**

It is **MANDATORY** that Shooters and Range staff in near proximity to an active firing line shall wear or provide for adequate hearing protection. Shooters and Range staff in near proximity to an active firing line should wear adequate eye protection.

### **5.4 Alcohol/Drugs**

Any member under the influence, or any person deemed by a Range Officer to be under the influence of alcohol or drugs shall not be permitted to handle or discharge a firearm.

### **5.5 Smoking**

Smoking is not permitted within the Clubhouse, Long Branch, or on **ANY** firing line. Smoking is permitted in other areas, provided it does not interfere with other members and guests. All smoking apparatus shall be immediately extinguished upon the direction of a Range Officer.

All discarded smoking materials (butts, etc.) shall be disposed of or extinguished in approved containers. Due to the hazard of fire, smokers shall ensure all discarded materials are completely extinguished prior to their disposal.

## **Section 6 – Emergency Information**

### **6.1 Emergency Telephone Numbers**

**Hospital**

**777-6300**

**Ambulance**

**728-7221**

**Fire**  
**Poison Control**

**229-6766**  
**722-1110**

**RCMP**

**772-5400**

## Appendix A

The following tables provide information on authorized firearms that are equivalent to the “**Maximum Approved Calibres**” as stipulated within these Operating guidelines.

Calibres in the shaded area and any other equivalent high-powered magnum calibres may not be used at the Club legally, unless muzzle direction is limited by firing from the position of and through the open area of the wire mesh screen.

Calibres not listed which have a power factor equivalent to one of the groups listed are deemed to be part of that group.

Approved Calibre	Nominal Maximum Range	Equivalent Caliber that will remain within the designated safety zone/area
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.338 Lapua Mag.	6322 metres	.338 Lapua Magnum 7 mm Remington Mag. .300 Winchester Mag. .340 Weatherby Mag. .378 Weatherby Mag.	.300 Weatherby Mag. .308 Norma Magnum .375 H&H Magnum .358 Norma Magnum	8 mm Remington Mag. .300 H&H Magnum .338 Winchester Mag. .350 Remington Mag.
.308 Winchester	4359 metres	.308 Winchester 7 mm-08 Remington 6.5 X 53R Mannlicher 6.5 X 55 Swedish Mauser 6.5 X 57 Mauser 6.5 X 57R Mauser 6.5 X 58R Sauer 6.5 X 58 Portugal Vergueiro 6.5 X 58R Krag-Jorgensen	6.5 X 61 Mauser 8 mm Mauser 6.5 X 50 Arisaka 6.5 X 52 Mannlicher-Carcano 6.5 X 53R Mannlicher 7 X 57 Mauser 7 X 57R Mauser	.250 Savage .257 Roberts .270 Winchester .307 Winchester .358 Winchester .303 British .350 Remington Mag. .300 Savage .30-06 Springfield
.223 Remington	4121 metres	.223 Remington .22 Hornet .220 Swift .22-250 Remington .223 Remington Magnum .30 Remington .303 Savage .32 Winchester Special .35 Remington .38-55 Winchester .38-40 Winchester .30 M1 Carbine	.348 Winchester .351 Winchester .356 Winchester .22 Savage Hi-Power .25 Remington 7.62X39 Russian .30-30 Winchester .222 Remington .25-20 WCF .25-35 Winchester .256 Winchester	.50-90 sharps .32-20 Winchester .44-40 Winchester .444 Marlin .44 Ball .375 Winchester .45-70 US Government .458 Winchester 6mm Lee Navy .30-40 Krag
.357 Magnum	2136 metres	.357 Magnum		

9 mm Parabellum	2073 metres	9 mm Parabellum .44 Magnum	7.65 Parabellum .50 Muzzleloader cast bullet	
.22 LR High Velocity	1685 metres	.22 LR HV .22 LR Std. Velocity .22 Long .22 Short .58 Muzzleloader ball	.54 Muzzleloader Ball .44 Muzzleloader Ball .45 Muzzleloader Ball .40 Muzzleloader Ball .36 Muzzleloader Ball	.32 Muzzleloader Ball 9 mm Browning short .25 ACP .32 ACP