

IZAAK WALTON LEAGUE OF AMERICA  
Fredericksburg-Rappahannock Chapter  
Pistol, Rifle, and Shotgun Range Rules  
Sept 4, 2012

These Rules supersede all prior Pistol, Rifle, and Shotgun Range Rules.

1. PURPOSE: The purpose of these rules is as follows:
  - A. To provide for a Range Safety Program.
  - B. To provide guidance in the form of rules for the use and maintenance of the Pistol, Rifle, and Shotgun Ranges.
  - C. To provide for safety when pursuing the shooting sports on the IWLA ranges.
  - D. To provide for the enforcement of these rules and establish penalties for the violation thereof.
2. RESPONSIBILITIES: It is the responsibility of each IWLA Member using these facilities to read, be familiar with, and to follow these Rules. Each Member shall accompany and be responsible for the actions of their guests and insure that these Rules are obeyed. Every IWLA Member is responsible for reporting to the Chapter President, a member of the Board of Directors or a member of the Range Committee any person observed in violation of these Rules.
3. PROCEDURES: The Range Committee shall oversee and enforce these Rules, as well as maintain and repair the ranges. The Chapter President, any member of the Board of Directors, and/or any member of the Range Committee has the authority to immediately suspend the range privileges of any IWLA Member or any other person for the violation of any of these Rules.
  - A. The decision of the Range Committee or any member thereof may be brought before the Chapter President and the Board of Directors prior to the next monthly meeting of the Board to appeal the decision of the Range Committee or Committee member.
  - B. The names of the Range Committee members shall be appended to these Rules as well as posted on the Clubhouse bulletin boards, both inside and outside the Clubhouse. All IWLA Members have the authority to ask anyone using the ranges for identification as well as to ask that person or persons to immediately cease any activity in violation of these Rules. Membership cards must be displayed when using the ranges.

During scheduled matches one person shall be appointed as the Chief Range Officer in order to control movement and firing on that range or ranges, and to ensure compliance with these Rules and any other match rules. Assistant Range Officers shall also be appointed to assist the Chief Range Officer as necessary. When IWLA Members or their guests are participation in Cowboy Action practice or matches, a designated Single Action Shooting Society Range Officer shall accompany and supervise each shooter while they are firing.

## RANGE LOCATIONS AND DESCRIPTIONS

Range #1 (the Bobby Cox Pavilion): Two handgun firing points at a distance of 25 yards and two handgun firing points at a distance of 50 yards. (This is the range located closest to the Clubhouse)

Range #2: Four handgun firing points total at a distance of 25 yards (This is the range located across from the Pond)

Range 3: Seven long gun firing points total at distances of 50 yards and 100 yards. (This is the “Rifle range” located past the dam, before the Shotgun range)

Range 4: Shotgun firing points primarily for skeet and trap shooting. (This is the range located past the dam and rifle range)

Range #5: A multipoint archery range. The portion of the archery ranges located between the Manahoc Bowman Clubhouse and the proposed Range #6 is open to all IWLA Members. The remainder of the ranges is limited to members of the Manahoc Bowmen (an IWLA subgroup).

## RANGE USE LIMITATIONS

Range #1 (the Bobby Cox Pavilion): 25 yards – limited to handguns firing common handgun ammunition up to and including .45 Colt. In addition, .17 HMR, .22 LR, and .22 WMR rifles are permitted. Large caliber handguns in .44 Magnum or more powerful calibers are not permitted due to the limited capabilities of the 25 yard backstop. All Black Powder handguns are also permitted on this range. In addition, sub caliber 9mm, .40 S&W, and 45 ACP are allowed. NO shotguns allowed.

50 yards – limited to handguns and carbines firing common handgun ammunition up to and including .45 long Colt and .44 Mag. In addition, .17 HMR, .22 LR, and .22 WMR rifles are permitted, as well as sub caliber 9mm, 40 S&W, and 45ACP rifle/pistol type weapons.

Range #2: 25 yards – limited to handguns firing common handgun ammunition up to and including .45 long Colt. In addition, .17 HMR, .22 LR, .22 WMR, and sub caliber 9mm, 40 S&W, and .45 ACP pistols/rifles are permitted. All black powder handguns are also permitted on this range. No AR 15 or AK47 rifle/pistol type weapons allowed. No shotguns allowed.

Range #3: All long guns and handguns up to and including .416 Rigby, .458 Winchester Magnum, and .460 Weatherby Magnum may be fired on this range. In addition, all black powder rifles, rifle caliber single shot pistols, and shotgun (buckshot or slugs for patterning only) may be fired on this range. No centerfire rifles in excess of .49 caliber are allowed on this range, including .50 BMG.

Range #4: All shotguns up to and including 10 gauge when loaded with shot loads for skeet, trap or patterning purposes. In addition, when

accompanied by a designated Single Action Shooting Range Officer, those Members and guests practicing for Cowboy Action matches or instruction of new Cowboy Action shooters may use this range for revolver caliber rifles as well as for shotguns, PROVIDED that approved targets are used and that all revolver caliber rifle loads be restricted to those low-power loads using cast lead or swaged lead projectiles as specified by the rules of the Single Action Shooting Society. No buckshot or slugs (use rifle range).

Range # 5: Restricted to archery. NO FIREARMS MAY BE DISCHARGED ON ANY PART OF THESE RANGES. There is no restriction on bow size or type or pull weight except as may be decreed by the Manahoc Bowmen. Use broadheads only on broadhead targets.

### RANGE OPERATIONS

Ranges shall be CLOSED as follows:

1. During the hours of darkness, i.e., from ½ hour after sunset until sunrise, however, please be mindful that we do have neighbors and let this guide your early morning shooting.
2. Prior to 12:00 Noon on Sundays.
3. On IWLA workdays (usually the Saturday following the monthly meeting) from sunrise until after the work for that day has been completed. However, should you arrive at the range to shoot while work is being performed by IWLA volunteers, please feel free to join in and help them. Should you be unable to think of anything to do to help, there is always a need for picking up the spent brass on all of the firing ranges.
4. At other times as directed by the Chapter President or the Board of Directors for safety reasons when there are designated activities which would make it unsafe to use the ranges or when they are being used for other purposes. However, this does not preclude the use of the ranges when there are Cub Scouts, Boy Scouts, family or other gatherings unless it has been specifically designated as a “Range Closed Day.”

The use of ranges shall be on a first-come, first-served basis. Share the range with others. Shooters are allowed only one bench/area each. If all of the shooting positions are full and other shooters are waiting, shooters on the line are limited to ONE HOUR each from the time that they took their position on the line. Ranges can only be reserved by prior written permission of the Board of Directors or Range Committee/Officer.

The areas around the shooting benches and backstops shall be cleaned up by the shooter(s) before leaving the range. All expended, unwanted brass shall be placed in the provided plastic buckets for the use of those who reload. All other trash (targets, cardboard/wood, etc) should be removed from the range and disposed of by the shooter(s).

All IWLA Members shall display their IWLA membership cards while on the firing ranges.

Guests are permitted; however, their actions are the responsibility of the Member bringing them into the IWLA Park. Guests on the Ranges are limited to two (2) per Member at one time. Also, if the guests live within the “service area” of this Chapter, their attendance as guests should be limited, and they should be encouraged to join rather than be frequent guests. No Member shall ever divulge the combination to the gate lock.

All Members and guests shall report any continuing unsafe or prohibited actions or the refusal by any Member or guest to correct any unsafe or prohibited action when advised of such by any IWLA Member to the Chapter President, a member of the Board of Directors, or a member of the Range Committee as soon as practically possible.

All new Members must complete an IWLA Range Safety Course prior to firing on any of the IWLA archery, pistol, rifle, or shotgun ranges. In addition, all members and guests must execute an “ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF RISKS, RELEASE, AND INDEMNITY AGREEMENT” (Waiver of Liability) prior to firing on any of the IWLA pistol, rifle, or shotgun ranges. The Waiver Forms will be available on the porch of the Clubhouse, and at the meetings.

## GENERAL SAFETY RULES

Always adhere to these five primary Rules of Gun Safety:

1. Treat every weapon as if it were loaded.
2. Never point your weapon at anything you don't intend to shoot.
3. Keep your weapon on safe until you intend to fire.
4. Keep your finger straight and off the trigger until you are ready to fire.
5. Know your target and what is beyond it.

In addition, every IWLA Member and guest shall follow these additional general safety rules:

All shooters and any other persons in the immediate vicinity of any range shall wear eye and ear protection when firearms are being fired.

All firearm barrels should be checked for obstructions prior to firing, especially if the firearm has been dropped onto the ground.

The muzzles of all firearms shall be kept under control and pointed downrange at all times (see #2). At no time shall the muzzle of any firearm be pointed over the backstop or berm when firing or preparing to fire.

Dry firing is only permitted on the firing line.

The actions of all uncased firearms shall be open except when the shooter is on the firing line and is firing or preparing to fire.

All firearms shall be unloaded with the actions open (or with a chamber flag inserted) and the safety engaged and placed on the shooting bench before going downrange to check your targets. Firearms shall not be handled for any reason when another shooter is downrange.

No shooter shall continue to use any firearm when it is malfunctioning, in need of repair, or has any other condition which makes it unsafe to use.

All inexperienced shooters shall be supervised by an experienced shooter at all times when on the range.

The shooter shall advise all persons in the immediate vicinity whenever new loads are being fired in a firearm, and that, consequently, there is the danger of a catastrophic malfunction, i.e., the exploding gun syndrome.

Shooters desiring to fire at their targets at a distance closer than that from the shooting bench to the backstop may go down range when safe to the preferred distance in lieu of the prohibited practice of placing the target short of the backstop.

Any unsafe or prohibited action on the range shall be corrected immediately upon being advised of such by any IWLA Member or guest.

## PERMISSABLE TARGETS AND METHODS

Paper or cardboard targets.

Clay pigeons, either thrown on the shotgun range for skeet shooting or stationary on the backstop on one of the pistol or rifle ranges.

“Pepper Poppers” and other reactive steel targets designed to channel the projectile downward and minimize ricochets. Shooters must get prior written approval from a Range Officer, Board Member or member of the Range Committee for the use of any metal target.

Appropriate reactive steel targets designed specifically for Cowboy Action Shooting which channel the projectile downward and minimize ricochets. The use of these targets is approved for the shotgun range only, and under proper conditions.

All targets shall be placed on or behind the established target line, on the backstop or suspended in front of the backstop. No midrange target may be used, except during the aforementioned supervised Cowboy Action Shooting.

Targets shall be attached to cardboard, plywood or other appropriate target holders which may be properly attached to ropes or cables, or other appropriate target holders as available. No targets shall be placed directly on or in front of the side or base poles.

## PROHIBITED ACTIVITIES

These Prohibited Activities shall be considered major violations of the IWLA Range Rules and shall make the offender liable to expulsion from the IWLA either for a specified period or permanently. Violations by guests shall place the Member in jeopardy of the same punishment.

Consumption of alcoholic beverages during or immediately prior to using the firing ranges.

Furnishing the gate code to any non-member, even to a family member in the absence of a Family Membership (defined as husband and wife only, in which case both are entitled to have the gate code. However, children of this type of membership are not to be given the gate code). However, disabled Members shall be exempt from this requirement upon application to and the determination of the Board of Directors that this would unduly inconvenience them.

Placing targets between the shooting benches and the backstop, i.e., midrange, instead of at the backstop.

Firing any weapon in fully automatic mode, using SlamFire stocks or the equivalent, or any other device designed and/or marketed to cause a semi-automatic firearm to perform in a manner similar or identical to a fully automatic firearm.

Shooting at or near utility poles, electrical wires or any other non-approved target not in front of the backstop.

Shooting at glass, metal, or any other item not specifically approved as a target.

Shooting at targets on the ground in front of the backstop, on any structure designed to protect the backstop, or on the support posts or crosspieces (as opposed to placing targets on the dirt backstop, which is permissible).

The use of armor-piercing or tracer ammunition and/or .50 BMG ammunition.

Shooting at any game or wildlife at any time.

Horseplay while on the firing line.

Deliberately shooting at the target support posts or cables.

Deliberately shooting over the backstop or berms.

Using the range without having your IWLA membership card displayed.

Shooting prior to all persons being behind the firing line.

Rapid, uncontrolled fire from any type of weapon. However, rapid, controlled fire is permissible.

Leaving your trash on the premises of the IWLA Park without placing it in an authorized trash receptacle. This includes spent brass, shotshell hulls, ammunition boxes, and/or targets left at the backstop. However, this does not preclude a shooter from leaving a target holder, i.e., cardboard or wood, or unused targets at the backstop for use by other shooters.

Shooting across the pond, or anywhere not deemed a firearms or archery range.

The use of any firearm on any range that is not allowed by our Rules.

Driving any vehicle downrange, except for designated workparties.

Using any range for personal gain, or for any commercial purpose, i.e., making money.

Use of any range by non-members for any type of training exercises (requires prior written approval by the Board of Directors).

Refusal to correct any unsafe or prohibited action when advised by any Member or guest that your actions are unsafe or prohibited.

All Members shall report any continuing or prohibited actions on the refusal by any Member or guest to correct any unsafe or prohibited action when advised as such by any Member to the Chapter President, a member of the Board of Directors, or a member of the Range Committee as soon as practically possible.

## PENALTIES

### Offense

### Minimum Penalty

Any Infraction

As recommended by the Range Committee or Determined by the Board Of Directors.

All infractions involving safety shall be considered Major Uncorrected Infractions.

## IMPLEMENTATION

These revised Pistol, Rifle, and Shotgun Range Rules shall take effect immediately upon their approval by the Board of Directors of the Fredericksburg-Rappahannock Chapter, Izaak Walton League of America.

Approved and Adopted by the Board of Directors on September 4, 2012

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_  
Greg Raines, Chapter President