

Range Safety Rules

General safety rules for all ranges. Every shooter is responsible for knowing and following them.

A cease fire can be called by ANYONE, at any time, for any unsafe condition. When you hear "CEASE FIRE," stop shooting immediately, unload, open your action, set the firearm down, and step back from the firing line.

The Four Fundamental Rules

- 1 Treat every firearm as if it is loaded.**
- 2 Never point the muzzle at anything you are not willing to destroy.** Keep it pointed downrange or in another safe direction at all times.
- 3 Keep your finger off the trigger** until your sights are on the target and you have decided to shoot.
- 4 Be sure of your target and what is beyond it.** Every shot must end in the backstop.

General Range Rules

- Eye and ear protection are required for everyone on or near an active firing line, including spectators.
- No alcohol, drugs, or medication that affects judgment before or while shooting.
- Ranges are open during daylight hours only. Sign the range log when you arrive.
- Firearms stay unloaded and cased, with actions open, until you are at the firing line and the range is hot.
- Handle firearms only at the firing line. Never handle a firearm while anyone is downrange.
- Shoot only from the designated firing line or shooting positions, and only at the designated targets and backstops.
- Every shot must strike the backstop or berm. No shooting over the berm, at the ground in front of it, or across ranges.
- Know your firearm and ammunition. Use only the correct ammunition for your firearm.
- If you have a misfire or malfunction, keep the muzzle downrange and wait at least 30 seconds before opening the action.
- Leave the range as you found it or better: pick up your brass, hulls, targets, and trash.

Cease Fire and Going Downrange

- Before anyone goes downrange, every shooter must call and confirm a cease fire.
- During a cease fire: unload, open actions, set firearms down (or bench them with actions open), and step behind the line.
- Do not touch any firearm, magazine, or ammunition while anyone is downrange.
- The range goes hot again only after everyone is back behind the firing line and all shooters agree it is clear.

Targets

- Use paper, cardboard, and club-approved steel targets only.
- No glass, bottles, cans, appliances, propane tanks, or other items that shatter or ricochet.
- No exploding targets or tracer ammunition.
- Place targets so every shot ends in the backstop, never on or in front of the berm top.
- Steel targets: keep safe distances (generally 10 yards or more for pistol, 100 yards or more for centerfire rifle), use only lead or jacketed ammunition (no steel-core or armor-piercing), and never shoot damaged or cratered steel.

Archery and the 3D Course

- Never nock an arrow or draw your bow while anyone is in front of the shooting line or on the course ahead of you.
- Walk the 3D course in the posted direction and stay behind the shooter.
- Call out before walking forward to retrieve arrows, and stand to the side while pulling arrows.
- Use only field points or target points on foam targets. No broadheads on range targets.
- Never dry-fire a bow.

Guests, Youth, and New Shooters

- Members are responsible for their guests and must stay with them the entire time they are at the range.
- Shooters under 18 must be directly supervised by a parent, guardian, or responsible adult member.
- New shooters should get a range and safety orientation from an experienced member before shooting alone.
- If you see something unsafe, speak up. Safety is everyone's job.

These are general range safety guidelines. The club's posted range rules and any instructions from a board member or range officer always take precedence. Violations may result in loss of range privileges.

Emergency: call 911. Sanilac Sportsman's Club, 3200 Goetze Road, Deckerville, MI 48427.