

NMPC POTENTIAL NEW MEMBER TRAINING GUIDE - ALPHA

SAFETY PROCEDURES

About this unit

In this unit the student is to receive safety instruction on the safe handling of firearms and ammunition. The student will learn about ranges, range procedures and range orders for the safe conduct of shooting activities. This instruction period should be generic as the individual once a club member shoot on other ranges such as NRA Bisley or MOD run facilities.

Practical Activities

During the student's visit to the range he/she will get the opportunity to see, handle and fire a range of different firearms.

To complete this unit the student must show that they can:

- Prove that a firearm is clear
- Move on and off the firing point and range in a safe manner
- Comply with all instructions relating to safety from your coach

Continuous assessment of this unit will take place throughout the day.

The following definitions should help you to understand some of the terms used in this guide:

Range: An area of land or building which has been approved for the shooting and has a range safety certificate.

Range Standing Orders: Safety regulations that details the way in which the range must be used.

Range Conducting Officer: The person who is responsible for the safe running of the range. The RCO controls all persons on the range.

Performance criteria

The Student must:

1. Demonstrate safety awareness at all times on the range.
2. Prove that a firearm is clear when they are asked to do so.
3. Move on and off the firing point correctly with due regard for other range users.
4. Use personal safety equipment,
(Hearing protection and eye protection as detailed in the range orders).

Knowledge and Understanding

The student must know and understand:

- (a) How and why you must be able to prove that a firearm is clear.
- (b) Security of firearms and ammunition both on the range and when travelling to and from the range
- (c) Basic range design: e.g. firing point, markers' gallery, target, stop butt (bullet catcher), danger area.
- (d) Emergency procedures on a range.
- (e) Range signs, **flags** and signals.
- (f) The regulations relating to range safety can be found in Range Standing Orders.
- (g) All activities on a range are controlled by the Range conducting Officer (RCO).
- (h) Range etiquette and protocols.

LOADING, FIRING & UNLOADING PROCEDURES

About this Unit:

In this unit the student will learn about the safe method of loading, firing and unloading firearms.

Practical range work will include:

Loading, live firing and unloading under one to one supervision.

To complete this unit you must show that you:

- Know when you may load a firearm and how to load it safely.
- Know when you may fire and how to fire correctly.
- Know when and how you should unload and prove clear.
- Comply with the "bolt out/breach flag in" NRA rule (if applicable to the discipline).

Performance criteria

The student must:

- 1) Load the firearm correctly
- 2) Fire the firearm ensuring that they are taking carefully aimed shots at their own target
- 3) Unload the firearm correctly and prove that is clear to the instructor/coach/RCO
- 4) Either remove the bolt or insert a breach flag before leaving the firing point.
(NRA rule if applicable to your discipline).

Knowledge and Understanding

The student must know and understand:

- a) When it is permissible to load a firearm.
- b) How to load a firearm safely
- c) Why the barrel must always be horizontal when closing the bolt (or opening the bolt) on a live round
- d) How to take carefully aimed shots at their target.
- e) How to operate the trigger correctly.
- f) The maximum elevation of the barrel above the horizontal must not exceed 70mils (4 degrees) or there is a danger that any shots fired could pass over the stop butt and travel beyond the range danger area. (this would of course require a greater degree of elevation on Rumble Range due to chalk face).
- g) When you should unload the firearm.
- h) How to unload the firearm safely.
- i) Why and how to prove that the firearm is clear (unloaded)
- j) The “bolt out/flag in” rule before leaving the firing point (if applicable)