



# Aurora Sportsmen's Club

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## Practical Rifle Orientation

Topics to help the shooter understand the operating procedures and safety aspects of shooting the practical rifle matches at Aurora Sportsmen's Club

<http://www.aurorasc.org>



# The Three Most Important Rules

- 1. Safety**
- 2. Have Fun**
- 3. When confused, refer to rule #1**



# Registration

- \* Flight 1 – Arrive at the range in time to COMPLETE registration by 9:00 AM for the **mandatory** safety briefing. Flight 2 Arrive in time to complete registration for an 11:30 briefing
- \* Match fees are \$10 for ASC members and \$20 for non-members
- \* All non-member participants must fill out a “Waiver of all Claims” form in addition to the match sign-up form and score-sheets



## Safety – Cold Range

- \* All guns are to arrive at the range unloaded and properly cased
- \* Rifles are to be uncased **ONLY** when called to the line, under the supervision of a Range Officer
- \* Rifles must be transported stage to stage in a case, chamber flag inserted.



# Safety Area

- \* Purpose of the Safety Area
  - \* Checking equipment for fit and function (to work on the rifle)



**NO AMMUNITION, SNAP CAPS, OR  
EMPTY BRASS IS TO BE HANDLED IN THE  
SAFETY AREA - EVER**



# Safety - 180

- \* Rifle muzzles must never be pointed greater than 90 degrees from the perpendicular of the back berm
- \* Pointing of the competitors muzzle past this point will result in immediate disqualification from the event.



# Safety– Sweeping

- \* Sweeping is covering one's self or another person with the muzzle of your rifle
- \* Sweeping anyone, including yourself, will result in immediate disqualification from the match



## Safety – Finger in the Trigger Guard

- \* Fingers must be outside the trigger guard during loading, unloading, or while moving (unless engaging targets) or during remedial action.
- \* Dangerous or repeated “finger in trigger guard” violations during loading, unloading, reloading, or remedial action may result in disqualification from the match.





# Safety – Range Safety

Who's Responsibility is Range Safety?

**EVERYONES!**

- \* At ANY point during the match, if anyone notices ANY unsafe act, they should yell “STOP!!”
- \* EVERYONE should IMMEDIATELY stop what you're doing and inform a Range Officer or Match Director of the safety issue!



# Range Commands

- Make Ready” – This command signifies the start of “the Course of Fire”. Under the direct supervision of the Range Officer the competitor must face down range, or in a safe direction as specified by the Range Officer, fit eye and ear protection, and prepare the rifle in accordance with the written stage briefing. The competitor must then assume the required start position. At this point, the Range Officer will proceed.
  - Once the “Make Ready” command has been given, the competitor must not move away from the start location prior to issuance of the “Start Signal” without the prior approval, and under the direct supervision, of the Range Officer.
- “Are You Ready?” – The lack of any negative response from the competitor indicates that he fully understands the requirements of the course of fire and is ready to proceed. If the competitor is not ready at the “Are You Ready?” command, he must state “Not Ready”. It is suggested that when the competitor is ready he should assume the required start position to indicate his readiness to the Range Officer.
- “Standby” – This command should be followed by the start signal with-in 1 to 4 seconds.
- “Start Signal” – The signal for the competitor to begin their attempt at the course of fire. If a competitor fails to react to a start signal, for any reason, the Range Officer will confirm that the competitor is ready to attempt the course of fire, and will resume the range commands from “Are You Ready?”.
- “Stop” – Any Range Officer assigned to a stage may issue this command at any time during the course of fire. The competitor must immediately cease firing, stop moving and wait for further instructions from the Range Officer.
- “If You Are Finished, Unload And Show Clear” – If the competitor has finished shooting, he must lower his rifle and present it for inspection by the Range Officer with the muzzle pointed down range, magazine removed, bolt locked or held open, and chamber empty.
- “If Clear, Hammer Down” – After issuance of this command, the competitor is prohibited from firing. While continuing to point the rifle safely downrange, the competitor must release the bolt and pull the



# Helpful Hints

- \* **The Range Officer is there to help as the “Safety and Range Officer” Not a “Range Nazi”.**
- \* **If you disagree with the R.O., discuss it in a courteous and professional manner.**

The R.O. has final say in ALL Safety and Scoring Issues\*

\* It is highly unlikely that a Match Director will overturn an R.S.O.'s Scoring Decision