



CHESTER ROD AND GUN CLUB

RANGE RULES

Effective August 1, 2021 through July 31, 2022
Approved by the Board of Directors June 7, 2021.

General Safety Rules

- a. Rapid fire is NOT allowed on the Outdoor Rifle Range, Outdoor Pistol Range and Indoor Pistol Range at Chester Rod and Gun Club.
 - 1) Rapid fire is described as follows: the discharge of any firearm faster than 2 second increments. In other words, time between each shot shall be no faster than 2 seconds.
 - 2) Exceptions:
 - A) Club sanctioned events with club approved RO's present
*Example: NRA Pistol League, USPSA, IDPA or Steel Challenge
 - B) Classroom or teaching environment described as follows:
 - Pre-authorized and approved Course(s) of Fire (COF)'s by CRGC's Chief Range Safety Officer (CRSO)
 - BOD approved Instructors with currently active credentials which fit the COF's presented.
 - In addition, all current instructor policies must be adhered to. There will be "NO Exceptions to this policy."
- b. Always treat the gun as if it is loaded.
- c. Always point the muzzle in a safe direction.
- d. Always keep fingers away from the trigger, indexed high on the frame or on the side until ready to fire.
- e. Always keep firearms unloaded and the action open until ready to shoot on the firing line.
- f. Never point a firearm at anything you do not intend to destroy.
- g. Be sure of your target and what is beyond it.
- h. Check that the barrel is clear of obstructions.
- i. Always use the proper ammunition for the firearm.
- j. If the firearm fails to fire, hold the shooting position for several seconds in a safe direction then carefully unload the firearm.
- k. Shooting Cross Lane or Cross Range is **PROHIBITED**. Shooters **MUST** align themselves directly in front of the target they intend to shoot.
- l. Shooters and spectators **MUST** wear eye and ear protection appropriate for the respective activity.
- m. Going down range is **PROHIBITED** while others are still shooting.
- n. **When a range has been declared "Cold" handling of firearms is PROHIBITED, and shooters MUST unload their firearm and step away from the firing line.**

General Rules for All Ranges

- a. All Associate and full members **MUST** qualify or re-qualify on the ranges they wish to use in the years ending in “0” and “5”.
 - i. Members wishing to shoot on the Indoor and Outdoor Pistol, Plate Rack or Bowling Pin Ranges must qualify on the Indoor Pistol Range.
 - ii. Members wishing to qualify on the Outdoor Rifle Range will need to qualify on that range.
 - iii. Members wishing to use any of the archery ranges, sporting clay ranges and the action shooting bays will continue to be qualified or re-qualified by those discipline chairmen.
- b. **Outdoor shooting hours are from 9:00am until 30 minutes after sunset but no later than 8:00pm during the school year and 9:00pm during school vacation.**
- c. Firearm silencers or suppressors are permitted on the relevant ranges. However, eye and ear protection **MUST** still be worn.
- d. Other than during club events supervised by approved club range officers or certified instructors, members may only use the club ranges after successfully completing the qualification requirements for the desired range.
- e. An automated external defibrillator (AED) is available in the clubhouse. General purpose First Aid kits and Trauma Kits are available at most of the ranges.
- f. Children **MUST** be under close supervision by their parent(s) or responsible adult.
- g. Members on Club property **MUST** visibly display their membership badge. If any Club member requests to see the badge it **MUST** be shown.
- h. Guests **MUST** be accompanied by a current club member who will be responsible for their conduct while on club property (except for events open to the public).
 - i. Members may bring multiple guests; however, they **MUST** always be accompanied by the member.
 - ii. The member and guest(s) **MUST** share **one** shooting lane. **Only one person can shoot in the lane at a time while others observe.** (Exception is the dueling tree at the Steel Plate Range)
 - iii. Before observing or actively participating **all adult guests MUST** sign a club liability release form, pay the appropriate fee and be given a temporary badge which must be visible while on club property.
 - iv. Guests must return the temporary badge when leaving club property.
- i. **Drawing a firearm from a holster on CRGC property is PROHIBITED with the following exceptions:**
 - i. During Law Enforcement training and qualification on a closed range.
 - ii. For instruction in drawing from holster, any student who is in the presence of a nationally Certified Draw from Holster Instructor while on a Utility Bay is permitted to draw from holster (subject to the limitations in the CRGC Instructor Policy).
 - iii. To comply with steps in the “**Draw to clear and load to carry**” policy.
 - iv. See “Action Shooting Range Rules” for more details on drawing from holster.
- j. The following procedure “**Draw to clear and load to carry policy**” is to be used by anyone wishing to shoot their loaded carry firearm at any authorized range:
 - i. Upon arrival at the range or clubhouse entrance, proceed to the provided **RED SAFETY BARREL**. On the Outdoor Pistol Range, Steel Plate Range and Outdoor Rifle Ranges, make sure that the range is “**hot**” and there are no shooters down range before proceeding.
 - ii. Draw the loaded firearm and insert the muzzle into the barrel. Unload as required for the type of firearm. For ALL firearms– verify the chamber or cylinders are clear.

- iii. With the action open, if possible, re-holster the empty firearm and proceed to the firing line without handling the firearm in transit.
- iv. Conduct your shooting activity in compliance with the relevant range rules.
- v. When finished shooting, unload and clear the firearm with the muzzle pointing down range.
- vi. Re-holster the empty firearm with the action open if possible and proceed to the safety barrel.
- vii. At the safety barrel, reload the firearm while the muzzle is in the barrel and re-holster.
- k. All spent cartridges, targets, hulls, and other shooting trash (no household trash) shall be disposed of in the respective trash containers, brass buckets, hull buckets, or one of the dumpsters, which are located at the clubhouse or by the Outdoor Rifle Range.
- l. ATV's are allowed during weekly events, club maintenance and for those using the Sporting Clays course. ATV's are subject to the club's 15 mph speed limit.
- m. **The following target materials are allowed for all permissible ammunition: paper, cardboard, ballistic polymer, balloons, and flat AR500 steel.**
- n. **In addition, non-AR500 flat steel is allowed with .22 caliber ammunition.**
- o. **All other target materials are prohibited.**
- m. Any type of target designed to be shot on the ground is **PROHIBITED**.
- n. Tracer ammunition is **PROHIBITED on all ranges**.
- o. Shooting steel core or armor piercing ammunition at any steel targets is strictly **PROHIBITED**.
- p. Exploding targets and exploding projectiles are **PROHIBITED on all ranges**.
- q. All Class III fully automatic firearms are **PROHIBITED** on all ranges. Any mechanical device attached to any firearm enabling it to simulate automatic fire, is **PROHIBITED** on all ranges. These mechanical devices include but are not limited to bump fire stocks, binary triggers, or a crank fire device. This prohibition covers all future technologies and enhancements that simulate automatic fire.
- r. Alcohol and the consumption thereof are **PROHIBITED** on Club property.
- s. Persons whose ability to handle a firearm is impaired by alcohol or any drugs, prescribed or illegal, are **PROHIBITED** from Club property.
- t. "No Muzzle Over the Berm" - Firearm muzzles may not point over the berm at any time. All reloads must be performed with the firearm as level as possible and pointing at the berm.

General Indoor Range Rules

- a. The indoor ranges are available for shooting 24/7 except when closed for monthly BOD Meetings, monthly Membership Meetings, New Member Orientation, New Member Safety Meeting, scheduled activities, and maintenance.
- b. All adult guests entering the ranges **MUST** sign a liability release form. Guests entering our property to observe are required to fill out a liability release form.. For guest policy information, see Section h. of the "General Rules for All Ranges."

Outdoor Rifle and Pistol Range Rules

- a. Any shooter wishing to go downrange **MUST** verify the range is "**cold**", raise the safety gate, and verify that the red warning beacons are flashing prior to going forward of the firing line. Upon return to the firing line, verify no one is downrange, then lower the safety gate prior to declaring the range "**hot**" and allowing live fire to recommence.
- b. All shooters **MUST** unload their firearm and remain behind the safety line marked on the concrete pad while the range is "**cold**" until the range is "**hot**" again.
- c. Handling of ammunition and/or reloading a magazine is allowed behind the safety line marked on the concrete pad while the range is "**cold**".

- d. Any firearms, cased or uncased, may not be brought to the firing line or removed from the firing line while the range is “cold”, and the red beacons are flashing.
- e. Targets **MUST** be placed in the fixed target stand holders at the set distances.
- f. **It is the member’s responsibility to place all targets at a height that ensures the bullets travel parallel to the ground and only impact the middle section of the berm.**
- g. Paper targets, cardboard silhouettes, and balloons may be used on these ranges. You are allowed 2 targets on a rifle target frame and 1 target on a pistol target frame, centered on the cardboard portion of the frame. Balloons may be hung at the appropriate height from string attached to separated target holders.
- h. Personal steel such as metal spinning, knockdown, or suspended gong targets may be used on the Pistol Range. They **MUST** be placed within 3’ of the base of the berm. When other shooters arrive on the pistol range you may allow them to share your steel targets, or you must shoot your personal steel from the pistol shed or remove the steel targets.
- i. Personal steel used on the rifle range **MUST** be placed in the club designated bunker on the 150-yard berm. NO EXECPTIONS. You must shoot your personal steel from the rifle shed.
- j. All rifles **MUST** be shot on the rifle range and all pistols **MUST** be shot on the pistol range. The **exceptions** are as follows:
 - i. Pistols that use center fire rifle cartridges and pistols used for hunting as specified by NH Fish & Game are allowed on the Rifle Range.
 - ii. Shotguns using slugs, or 00 buckshot are allowed on the Rifle Range.
 - iii. Hunting pistols **MUST** be shot at the Rifle Range firing line at 75 to 150 yards. Any pistol shooting at 50 yards or less **MUST** be done on the Outdoor Pistol Range.
 - iv. Only rimfire rifles are permitted on the pistol range if a lane is available.
 - v. Short barrel rifles (any barrel shorter than 16”) and or AK and AR pistols are prohibited on the rifle range but are allowed on the Outdoor Pistol Range or any Utility Bay.
 - vi. Pistol caliber carbines are permitted on the outdoor pistol range (9 MM, .38 SPL through 45 ACP)

Outdoor Archery Range Rules

- a. Before observing or actively participating **all adult guests MUST** sign a liability release form, pay the appropriate fee and be given a temporary badge which must be visible while on club property. For additional guest policy information, see Section h. of the “General Rules for All Ranges.
- b. All members must qualify on Indoor Range Prior to using the Outdoor Archery Range (appointments for qualifying can be scheduled by contacting the Archery Committee via club email).
- c. All members shooting cross bows, must be qualified prior to using the Outdoor Cross Bow Range. (Appointments for Qualifying can be scheduled by contacting the Archery Committee via email).
- d. All archers **MUST** shoot from the designated firing line.
- e. Archers **MUST** raise the black front and back sunscreens before shooting and lower them when finished shooting.
- f. **For errant shots that hit the wooden target holder, do not try to dig out the arrowhead.** Unscrew the arrow shaft and leave the arrowhead imbedded in the wood.
- g. Only arrows with field tips and target tips are allowed on club targets.
- h. A lane to the left of the 50-yard target has been provided for shooting Crossbows or Broad heads or Practice Broad heads.
- i. The club provided movable crossbow target stand **MUST** stay in the extreme left lane.
- j. Sighting in Crossbows **MUST** be done beginning at 10 yards (move Cross Bow movable target) to make sure bolts are on target. Errant shots from this area could cause bolts to fly erratically.
- k. Crossbow bolts **MUST NOT** be loaded on the Bow until the bow is pointed down range.

- l. **Broad heads and practice Broadheads are PROHIBITED from being shot at club targets.**
- m. Personal broadhead or crossbow targets may be used in the extreme left lane of the archery range. Please move the club provided movable crossbow target stand.
- n. Personal backstops and targets should not be placed in line with any club target stands or targets.
- o. Members are asked to remove any refuse items (water bottles, soda cans, etc.) from the outdoor range when they leave. Broken arrows should be discarded in the club's dumpster in the parking lot.

Utility Bays Range Rules

- a. All action shooting rules apply to all utility bays if you are "Action Shooting" qualified.
 - i. Exception: Utility Bay 3 which doubles as our bowling pin bay. At no time will any member draw from holster over the concrete pads used for pins.
- b. **Members who are NOT action shooting qualified must adhere to the following rules.**
 - i. Targets **MUST** be placed within 3 feet from the bottom of the forward berm.
 - ii. Side berms may **NOT** be used.
 - iii. All shooters **MUST** shoot from a fixed firing line.
 - iv. Tables may be used if needed to provide shooters with support for establishing a fixed firing line or to place firearms on.
 - v. Shoot from a maximum distance of 20 yards (60 feet).
 - vi. Use only the target frames provided by CRGC.
 - vii. Pistols, pistol caliber carbines, rifles, shotguns and short barreled rifles may be used.
 - viii. **CRGC "Cold Range" protocol applies.**

Patterning Board

- a. One patterning board is available at concrete target frame building.
- b. Shooters **MUST** bring their own cardboard/paper for the frame if so desired.
- c. Turkey loads and steel shot may be used at the cardboard/paper patterning frame.

Steel Plate Range Rules

- a. The steel plate racks and dueling tree **MUST** be shot from the designated firing line.
- b. Only one shooter at a time can engage a Steel Plate Rack. Although two shooters can engage the Dueling Tree at the same time if shooting side by side on the firing line.
- c. Steel Plate racks may be engaged from a standing low ready position, kneeling, or sitting at a table.
- d. If more than one person would like to use a plate rack, each person or pair shall yield the use of the plate rack to the next waiting shooter(s) at the completion of the active shooter's course of fire.
- e. **ONLY PISTOLS, REVOLVERS or PISTOL CALIBER CARBINES** are permitted in the Center Fire Steel Plates Range.
- f. 9 mm and .38 caliber through .45 ACP are permitted in the Center Fire Pistol area.
- g. Only .22 caliber pistols (up to .22LR) are permitted in the .22 Rim Fire Pistol area.
- h. .22 caliber Magnum are prohibited in the .22 Rim Fire Pistol area.
- i. Center fire rifle ammo, 5.7 X 28mm, 4.6x30mm, .380 autos and smaller caliber or low velocity ammunition is prohibited in the Center Fire Steel Plate Range.
- j. Action Shooting qualified members are permitted to draw from the holster on this range.

- k. Inspect all targets before use for damage, functionality, etc. Never shoot on steel that is cratered, pitted, or damaged in any way. Report any damage to the Range Committee.

Bowling Pin Range Rules (Utility Bay 3)

- a. Pin shooting practice is permitted year-round.
- b. Pistols or revolvers 9 mm, .38 and up may be used.
- c. .22 caliber handguns may be used.
- d. **.380 auto pistols are Prohibited.**
- e. Center fire rifle ammo, 5.7 X 28mm, 4.6x30mm, .380 autos and smaller caliber or low velocity ammunition is **PROHIBITED** while being used as a Bowling Pin Range.
- f. **Rifles and Pistol Caliber Carbines are PROHIBITED** while being used as a Bowling Pin Range.
- g. When not being used as a Bowling Pins Range this range may also be used as an Action Shooting Range subject to **ALL** Action Shooting Range rules.

Indoor Pistol Range Rules

- a. The following are the **only firearms permitted** on the indoor pistol range:
 - i. Handguns .22 up to .45ACP or 45 long Colt (with less than 16" barrel length).
 - ii. Pistol Caliber Carbines using .22LR, 9mm, 38/.357, 40 S&W, or 45 ACP ammunition.
 - iii. .22 Short or Long Rifle caliber rimfire rifles.
 - iv. Pellet and BB rifles and handguns are allowed.
- b. The following are **PROHIBITED** on the indoor pistol range:
 - i. Center fire rifles shooting center fire rifle caliber ammunition, .22 Magnum rifles, or shotguns.
 - ii. Shot shells, centerfire rifle rounds, .17HMR, 5.7x28mm and 4.6x30mm rounds. All bottleneck style centerfire ammunition except .357 Sig.
- c. Handling of firearms is **PROHIBITED** in the Ready Room.
- d. The indoor pistol range ventilation system **MUST** be turned on prior to using the range and turned off when all shooters are finished.
- e. Shoot only from within the booth. Shooters **MUST** use the appropriate target holder rod to ensure rounds travel parallel to the floor.
- f. Shooters are permitted to shoot standing, sitting or kneeling.
- g. The minimum target distance from the firing line is 20 feet, indicated by the line on the walls downrange.
- h. Unless authorized for qualification or re-qualification by the Chief Range Safety Officer all targets **MUST** fit on the provided cardboard and must be attached below the line indicated at 3" from the top.
- i. The maximum target size permitted is 12"x 17", unless authorized for qualification or re-qualification by the Chief Range Safety Officer. All targets **MUST** fit within this 12" X 17" footprint. No exceptions
- j. All cardboard backers provided or fabricated must be 12" wide X 20" in length. Targets must be positioned 3" from the top edge of backer. At no time will any target hang lower than the backer or extended past the width.
- k. Balloons, paper or cardboard targets only.

Indoor Archery Range Rules

- a. Before observing or actively participating **all adult guests MUST** sign a liability release form, pay the appropriate fee and be given a temporary badge which must be visible while

on club property. For additional guest policy information, see Section h. of the “General Rules for All Ranges.

- b. All members must qualify on Indoor Range (appointments for qualifying can be scheduled by contacting the Archery Committee via club email).
- c. When shooting at the 30-yard line all shooters must stop and waive the right of way to anyone using the bathroom. Shooting will not resume until the member leaves the area.
- d. Only field or target tips are allowed. **Broadheads or Practice Broadheads are PROHIBITED.**
- e. Crossbows are **PROHIBITED.**
- f. Lubricant on arrows is **PROHIBITED** as it will cause staining on the face of the backstop.
- g. Arrows **MUST NEVER** be nocked while archers are in front of the firing line.
- h. Archers **MUST** keep bows with an arrow nocked pointed down range.
- i. All archers **MUST** shoot from same firing line.
- j. Use only the provided plastic pins to attach a target to the face of the backstop.
- k. When withdrawing arrows, place hand on the face of the backstop while withdrawing the arrow(s) as slowly as possible to prevent tearing of the backstop.
- l. In the event of an errant shot that hit foam sections of the backstop, follow the same procedures as outlined in item “k” above.
- m. When finished shooting, remove the pins from the backstop and return them to their proper location.
- n. Do not try to remove arrow heads from wood or black backstop boarder. Please unscrew arrowhead from arrow.
- o. Any member using Broadhead’s or Practice Broadheads on Indoor Archery targets or on Outdoor Archery targets will be held responsible for all damage

Sporting Clays Ranges

- a. Hand throwing of clays is **PROHIBITED** on club property.
- b. Only shotguns are allowed on the Sporting Clays ranges.
- c. Only lead shot sizes 7-1/2, 8, or 9 are permitted.
- d. Turkey loads, buckshot, and slugs are **PROHIBITED.**
- e. Shooters **MUST** shoot from established shooting positions.
- f. Moving traps or shooting positions from their established locations is **PROHIBITED.**
- g. Use of any of the club’s automatic traps is **PROHIBITED** except by members certified on the Designated Practice Traps.
- h. Certified Clays members shall be issued a colored sticker for their club badge.
- i. Access to the Sporting Clays area is through the swing gate by Utility Bay 8.
- j. Members **MUST** use the club’s clay pigeons provided at the Designated Practice Traps.
- k. Only members authorized by the Clays Committee are permitted to adjust or service any Club traps. Club traps may only be moved as approved by the Chief Range Safety Officer.
- l. Everyone **MUST** stay on course paths during live fire activities.

Action Shooting Range Rules

These rules apply on all Utility Bays, subject to any exceptions as noted.

- a. Certified Action Shooting members shall be issued a colored sticker for their club badge.
- b. **Drawing from a holster is only permitted on the Utility Bays and Steel Plate ranges by certified Action Shooting members.**
- c. Handguns, rifles, and shotguns may be shot on the Utility Bay ranges.
- d. All shooting **MUST** take place within the boundaries of the berms and the designated muzzle safe limits.
- e. Firearms **MUST** arrive unloaded and cased or holstered following the “**Draw to clear and load to carry**” policy.

- f. Utility Bays on which action shooting is occurring may be run “hot or “cold”.
- g. You must inform shooters arriving of the range being run “HOT”.
- h. On a “cold” range:
 - i. Firearms **MUST** be unloaded and holstered until ready to shoot on the firing line. After shooting, the action will be opened, and the firearm verified “Clear”.
- i. On a “hot” range, pistols **MUST** remain in holsters until shooter is on the firing line ready to shoot. PCCs, shotguns and rifles **MUST** be carried slung, muzzle down, with safeties on until shooter is on the firing line.
- j. All targets **MUST** be placed on the appropriate holders and positioned so that all bullets safely impact the berm. Moving targets may also be used.
- k. Solo draw from holster is permitted by “CERTIFIED” action shooting members.
- l. Shooters without Action Shooting certification may only draw from holster under the following conditions:
 - i. During an Action Shooting certification class administered by Certified Draw from Holster Instructor.
 - ii. During a private instruction class in the presence of a club approved Certified Draw from Holster Instructor.
 - iii. During AS events under supervision of an AS RO.
- m. Cardboard, paper, balloons or ballistic plastic/rubber targets are permitted at any distance within the confine of the berms.
- n. Spinning or knockdown targets are permitted. They **MUST** be placed within 3’ of the berms.
- o. Steel targets are permitted per manufacturer’s recommended minimum safe distance using recommended ammunition, but no less than 7 yards from the firing line.
- p. Only lead #7.5, #8, or #9 birdshot may be used when shooting steel targets with shotguns.
- q. Shooting steel with centerfire rifles or pistols using bottleneck centerfire cartridges, except .357 Sig is strictly **PROHIBITED**.
- r. “No Muzzle Over the Berm” - Firearm muzzles may not point over the berm at any time. All reloads must be performed with the firearm as level as possible and pointing at the berm.
- s. IDPA, USPSA and SCSA match rules do not allow CRGC to enforce all club rules during a match. Therefore, a Match Disqualification cannot be issued to violators of the “No Muzzle Over the Berm” rule. However, after one warning, violators of this rule **MUST** safely unloaded and case their firearms. Violators **MUST** leave the CRGC property and are not allowed to return for a minimum of 45 days. A DNF (Did Not Finish/Did Not Fire) will be issued for any remaining match stages.

Statement

- a. A signed statement signifying understanding of these Range Rules, willingness to comply with these rules and a release of liability **MUST** be on file.
- b. A new statement **MUST** be signed each year and submitted as part of membership renewal applications. Life and waived memberships are also required to provide these statements.
- c. An electronically transmitted/submitted Membership Application or Membership Renewal document with appropriately checked boxes expressing willingness to comply with these rules and agreement to a release of liability will be **binding verification that sender will execute the respective document either by written signature or electronic means.**

Discipline

Members may be subject to discipline per CRGC Bylaws Article XIII Section I for violation of the Ranges Rules committed by themselves, family members, or guests.