

# Tondu Target Shooting Club (TTSC)

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## Conventions / Definitions

The following abbreviations and conventions will be used throughout this document.

1	TTSC	Tondu Target Shooting Club
2	NRA	National Rifle Association
3	BASC	British Association for Shooting and Conservation
4	RO	Range Operator
5	RCO	Range Conducting Officer
6	RSO	Range Safety Officer
7	NSP	Normal Safety Precautions
8	FAC	FireArms Certificate
9	NDA	No Danger Area
10	NSRA	National Small-bore Rifle Association
11	BP	Black Powder
12	FT	Field Target
13	BAFT	British Field Target Association

## Confidentiality / Copyright notice

### Confidentiality Agreement

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### Scope

These Standing orders are issued under the authority of the Chairman and Secretary of Tondu Target Shooting Club and supersede any previously issued orders.

### Executive Summary

The information contained within this document is designed to give a clear understanding of the safe and efficient operation of the specified ranges. These instructions are to be followed by all members and visitors to the Tondu Target Shooting Club Range Complex

## Objectives

- To ensure that everyone visiting, shooting and neighbouring TTSC are not put at risk.
- To ensure that range certification standards, as amended, are complied with.
- To ensure that the different inherent risks of shooting various disciplines are taken into account in establishing a safe and enjoyable shooting environment.
- To ensure that TTSC operates within its public liability insurance policy.
- To ensure that the law, Home Office guidance and NSRA requirements relating to firearms are followed.
- To ensure that TTSC can demonstrate a responsible and well controlled Home Office approved NDA club to relevant authorities, including The Police.

## RANGE STANDING ORDERS

1. These standing orders apply to all ranges which have current range safety certificates. Only firearms of the type and calibre specified in the safety certificate may be used on the appropriate range.  
All persons shooting or present on any club range will at all times comply with posted instructions and with the instructions of the range officer.  
The RO/RCO/RSO HAS COMPLETE CONTROL OF THE RANGES.  
Dangerous handling of firearms shall be cause for immediate removal from the firing point, and will result in disciplinary action being taken.
2. The key holder opening the clubhouse must, upon entry, complete the range diary opening the club for use. If shooting is not taking place, this can be noted in the comments field (Range not open).
3. If the club has been opened, but not for shooting, the member opening the club, must ensure that any club members that then arrive are advised that ranges haven't been checked or opened for shooting. If shooting is to take place then a timed and dated note must be made to that effect in the range opening book.
4. All members and visitors must sign in on entering the clubhouse upon arrival, even if they are not intending to shoot.  
All members must enter the firearms used on their gun use record form.  
All probationers must enter the firearms used on their probationary record form.
5. Probationary members, guests, and members who do not possess a valid firearms certificate, are warned that taking, or attempting to take, live ammunition from the range, is a criminal offence, and may result in immediate expulsion from the Club and criminal prosecution under the Firearms Acts.  
Anybody using the range that does not hold a firearms certificate must sign a declaration to the above. Probationary members and guests, who are unable to prove they hold a current FAC, must have this declaration witnessed by a full club member
6. All persons shooting at the club for the first time shall either complete the necessary application for probationary membership, or report to the range officer and prove their membership of another club, or show that they are covered by other exemptions in the firearms act, or Home Office guidance on approved clubs.
7. No firearm shall be loaded until the shooter has taken up position on the firing point and the range officer has given the order to load.
8. All firearms are to be proved clear to the range officer on entry to the range.
9. A member introducing a guest will be responsible for ensuring that the guest obeys all standing orders and instructions.
10. When any club range is in use, at least 2 persons must be on club premises, one of which must be a full member of the club. One person must be nominated to act as the range officer.
11. No one will be allowed on the firing point except persons shooting, instructors, coaches, and the range officer. Spectators or observers at the discretion of the range officer.
12. During the loading and unloading of any firearm or during sight adjustment, the firearm shall be pointing down range and towards the stop butt. The muzzle must at all times be aiming below the level of the top of the stop butt wall. If a bipod is in use, the rifle butt must be supported so the muzzle is not angled above the stop butt wall, whether loaded or unloaded.
13. No one shall advance beyond the firing point unless instructed to do so by the range officer. Before allowing this, the range officer shall order all firearms to be unloaded and proved clear.  
Wherever possible, a breach flag must be used or the bolt removed.  
No firearms are to be moved onto, removed from or touched whilst people are forward of the firing point.
14. No hard targets shall be used.  
The target shall be mounted centrally on the target holder, so as to prevent intentional shots striking the target frame.  
Auto-resetting polymer targets are allowed on the 50M and 100yrd ranges, but only for live firing. NO AIR WEAPONS TO USE THEM.

8" thin aluminium foil trays can be used on the River range and 25M Pistol range, but only by people who have attended and passed the UKPSA Safety course and hold a Competition License. The use by any others is not allowed.

Re-settable knock-down targets shall only be used for field air rifle shooting.

The use of these targets with anything other than air rifle/pistol is not permitted.

15. Before leaving the firing point, all firearms and magazines shall be proved empty by the range officer.
16. No firearms are to be left unattended. Only club firearms may be stored on club premises in the armoury.
17. Any cartridges that misfire shall be dismantled or made safe and removed from the club by the owner.
18. No firing is to take place before 0800hrs or after 2200hrs.
19. The 50m target shed door must be shut before firing commences.
20. No field target air rifles/pistols are to be used on the 10m air weapon range, which is located in the indoor range
21. No smoking allowed on any firing point or in any building.
22. All firearms must be proved empty and safe and flagged, if possible, before being brought into either clubhouse  
Firearms brought into the clubhouses boxed must be proved empty and safe immediately on being unboxed.  
The safe handling and storage of all firearms is the responsibility of the owner.
23. No firearms are to be cleaned in the New Clubhouse.
24. The 100yd firing point is for prone shooting only, with or without a rest.  
The range safety certificate does not permit shooting from a standing, kneeling or sitting position.
25. The red flags must be flying on the outdoor ranges before shooting commences.  
These must be taken down when shooting ceases.
26. Butt Safety Flag, pistol, 50M and 100 yrd ranges. A red flag is to be displayed at the firing point to indicate that it is unsafe to load. The procedure for operating the flag is as follows:
  - a. Flag Down. When the RCO has confirmed that the butt is clear he should instruct that the butt safety flag is lowered. Only when the flag has been lowered may he give the order to load.
  - b. Flag Up. When firing is complete and all firearms have been cleared and removed from the firing point the RCO can instruct that butt safety flag is raised.
27. At the end of shooting, the shooter must ensure that:
  - a. The sand in the bullet catcher must be raked in an upwards direction to prevent tunnelling and to preserve the angle of the bullet catcher.
  - b. Any debris should be removed from the bullet catcher.
    - i. i.e. leaves, fallen branches, ricochet inducing surfaces etc

## Permissible firearms

	Range name	Range	
Range 1.	25 metre (riverside range).	25m	Small-bore pistol: Standing only.
Range 2.	25 yards indoor.	25yds:	Small-bore only: prone and sitting only.
		20yds	Small-bore pistol & rifle: Standing and sitting only.
Range 3.	50 metre.	50m	Small-bore rifle: Prone, kneeling or sitting and standing Small-bore pistol: - Standing or benchrest
Range 4.	100 yard.	100yds	Small-bore rifle: - Prone only.
Range 5.	25 metre (new pistol range)	25m	Centre-fire pistol, max calibre .455":- standing, kneeling or sitting. Small-bore pistol: Standing, kneeling or sitting. Small-bore rifle: Standing, kneeling or sitting. Muzzle loading pistol, muzzle loading rifle, no maximum calibre, standing, kneeling or sitting. Carbines: – using CF pistol cartridges up to .455" – standing, kneeling or sitting.
Range 6	Field Target	Up to 50M	Air rifle 12 ft/lb and under.

All shooting is to take place from the designated firing points for each range and NOT FROM ANY CLOSER TO THE TARGET.

## Range Limitations

1. No ammunition or firearm combination shall be used that results in a muzzle velocity greater than 1100ft/sec. Is to be used on any TTSC ranges.
2. The following apply to the 25m pistol range
  - a. 1496 ft.lbs muzzle energy.
  - b. Lead bullets only.
  - c. Black powder shall only be loaded from:
    - i. A powder flask with a cut-off device.
    - ii. Individual closed or capped measure.
    - iii. An intermediate load measure.
  - d. No open containers of black powder shall be left exposed on range or firing point.
3. No fully automatic firearms
4. No firearms that have had alterations or modifications made to them that makes them illegal or unsafe are to be used.
5. Polymer targets can be used, when placed in the sand of the butts, with life firing rifles.

## Ammunition Restrictions.

The following ammunition is illegal and **MUST NOT** be used on any range administered by TTSC.

1. Tracer Ammunition.
2. Incendiary Ammunition.
3. Armour Piercing Ammunition.
4. Explosive Ammunition.

Note

The use of:

**Frangible ammunition.**

**Jacketed ammunition**

Is not permitted on any range.



## **RANGE SAFETY IN THE OPERATION OF THE TONDU RANGES.**

There are 6 ranges at Tondu TSC. These are: -

The River range.

The Indoor range.

The 50m range.

The 100yd range.

The 25m Pistol range.

The Field Target range

Any or all of these ranges may be in use at any time. It is essential that whoever is acting as the Range Officer ensures that the ranges are in a fit condition to use and that there are no unauthorised people on the ranges before or during shooting.

The ranges can be operated in three groups.

### **1. The Indoor Range & the 25m Pistol Range.**

These are accessible only from the firing point and all parts of the ranges are visible at all times.

Range control is carried out from behind the firing point in accordance with Range Standing Orders.

### **2. The River Range.**

Apart from checking that no one is moving along the river, this range is operated as in **1:** above.

### **3. 50m & 100yd Ranges.**

As there is the possibility of unauthorised persons being on the 50m & 100yd ranges, this area must be checked BEFORE shooting commences.

This is done by looking down both ranges from the right-hand end of the 100yd firing point, and also when putting out targets on either of the two ranges before shooting commences.

These ranges can both be in operation at the same time.

When shooting is taking place on both ranges at the same time, the Range Officer must ensure that shooters on both ranges have finished their detail, as the length of time for 50m & 100yd details may be different.

The 50m & 100yd ranges shall be treated as one range for proving firearms “Clear” before the order is given to “Bench firearms, Advance and change targets”.

If the FT range is in use, the 50M and 100yrd ranges will be closed.

#### **a. 50m Range.**

When operating on this range, the 100yd stop butt wall cannot be seen from the firing point **1** position.

All range clearance must take place from firing point **20** on the 50m range, from which position both the 50m AND the 100yd stop butts are visible at the same time. The target shed door must be closed before firing commences.

##### ***i. Changing Targets, 50m Range.***

When a detail has finished on the 50m range, shooting must cease on the 100yd range before a target change can take place.

Only after proving firearms clear on BOTH ranges can changing targets take place.

The 50m range AND the 100yd range MUST be checked to ensure there is no one on the 100yd range, as they may not be visible from the 50m range.

Only when there is no one forward of BOTH sets of firing points can the order to recommence firing be given.

#### **b. 100yd Range.**

##### ***i. Changing Targets, 100yd Range.***

This range must operate as for the 50m range.

When a detail has finished on the 100yd range, shooting must cease on the 50m range before a target change can take place.

Only after proving firearms clear on BOTH ranges can changing targets take place.

Only when there is no one forward of BOTH sets of firing points can the order to recommence firing be given.

#### **4. Field Target Range.**

This range is located behind and around the 50M and 100yrd ranges. No shooting is to take place if either the 50M or 100yrd ranges are in use.

Selected days are been made available where priority is given to the FT range over the 50M and 100yrd ranges.

Range Control will be in accordance with BAFT regulations.

## Firearm Safety Instructions

### Proving Firearms Clear.

Note.

The following process shall be used to confirm the firearm is empty after the command “Unload, show clear” has been given, and at all times before any one advances forward of the firing point, on the command of the Range Officer.

All firearms shall be kept pointing downrange whilst being proved “clear”. In cases of misfires or failure to discharge the bullet, all other shooters shall be instructed to step back from the firing point and follow the instructions of the Range Officer until the firearm has been declared “Safe”.

After each firearm has been proved “Clear”, the shooter will be ordered to “Bench Firearm” and will step back from the firing point.

The shooter will not then touch the firearm until instructed to do so by the Range Officer.

### PROVING RIFLES “UNLOADED” ON THE RANGE.

**The clearance of all firearms shall take place with the firearm pointing downrange into the bullet catcher.**

### Rifles and Carbines.

#### Single shot rifles and carbines.

These may be bolt action, Martini or falling block action, or break-barrel types.

On the Range Officer’s command “Unload, show clear”:-

1. Open the action until the chamber can be seen to be empty.
2. Bench the firearm.
3. Insert a breech flag.
4. The firearm has now been proved “Clear” and you may advance to change targets when instructed by the Range Officer.

#### Rifles and carbines with tubular magazines.

These may be underlever, slide (pump) action, bolt action or self-loading types.

It is important to remember that with firearms with tubular magazines, the breech may be shown to be empty, but there may still be live rounds in the magazine.

On the Range Officer’s command “Unload, show clear”:-

1. Open the action until the chamber can be seen to be empty.
2. On the orders of the Range Officer, cycle the action two times, ending with the action “Open”.
3. Show the breech to be empty.
4. Insert a breech flag.
5. Bench the firearm.

6. The firearm has now been proved "Clear" and you may advance to change targets when instructed by the Range Officer.

### **Rifles and carbines with removable clip magazines.**

These are usually bolt action or self-loading types.

On the Range Officer's command "Unload, show clear": -

1. Remove and bench the clip magazine if fitted.
2. Open the action until the chamber can be seen to be empty.
3. For bolt actions, leave the bolt "open". For self-loading actions, lock back the bolt mechanism in the "Open" position,
4. Insert a breech flag.
5. Bench the firearm.
6. The firearm has now been proved "Clear" and you may advance to change targets when instructed by the Range Officer.

### **PROVING CARTRIDGE PISTOLS "UNLOADED" ON THE RANGE.**

#### **Single Shot and Pistols.**

These may be bolt action, falling block, or break-barrel types.

On the Range Officer's command "Unload, show clear": -

1. Open the action until the chamber can be seen to be empty.
2. For bolt actions, leave the bolt "open".
3. Insert a breech flag.
4. Bench the firearm.
5. The firearm has now been proved "Clear" and you may advance to change targets when instructed by the Range Officer.

#### **Revolvers.**

On the Range Officer's command "Unload, show clear": -

1. Double action revolvers
  - a. With the firearm pointing downrange, open the cylinder latch and swing out the cylinder.
  - b. Eject any fired or unfired cartridges.
  - c. Show all chambers in the cylinder to be empty.
2. Single action revolvers with loading gate
  - a. Open the loading gate.
  - b. Eject any fired or unfired cartridges.
  - c. Show all chambers in the cylinder to be empty.
  - d. Leave the loading gate open.
3. Wait for the Range Officer to inspect the firearm and give the command "Firearm Clear, Bench Firearm".
4. Bench the firearm with the loading gate "open".
5. The firearm has now been proved "Clear" and you may advance to change targets when instructed by the Range Officer.

## Self-loading Pistols.

On the Range Officer's command "Unload, show clear": -

1. Remove and bench the clip magazine.
2. Open the action until the chamber can be seen to be empty and lock the action in the "Open" position.
3. Insert a breech flag.
4. Bench the firearm.
5. The firearm has now been proved "Clear" and you may advance to change targets when instructed by the Range Officer.

## PROVING BP FIREARMS "UNLOADED "ON THE RANGE.

### REVOLVER.

When firing has ceased:

1. Set the revolver to half cock:
2. Rotate the cylinder to check that all the caps have been fired.
3. Without looking down the muzzle, observe the front of the cylinder and rotate the cylinder to check that all chambers have been fired.
4. If there are any chambers that have not been discharged, wait for 30 seconds with the pistol pointing down range, re-cap and fire down range on the instructions of the Range Officer.
5. Re- check as above.
6. The firearm has now been proved "Clear" and you may advance to change targets when instructed by the Range Officer.

### SINGLE OR DOUBLE BARREL PERCUSSION FIREARMS.

**Note:** For single or double-barrelled firearms, a quick check as to whether or not it is loaded can easily be carried out by having the ram-rod marked with an easily visible mark at the position for "empty", and other marks showing its position with a powder charge only and also with a powder and ball.

1. Set the hammer to half cock:
2. Check that the cap has been fired.
3. If the firearm does not appear to have been discharged, wait for 30 seconds with the firearm pointing down range, re-cap and fire down range on the instructions of the Range Officer.
4. Re- check as above.
5. In the case of a double-barrelled firearm, treat each barrel separately.

### SINGLE OR DOUBLE BARREL FLINT LOCK FIREARMS.

1. Set the hammer to half cock:
2. Make sure the frizzen pan is open.
3. If the firearm has fired, it is now safe. If not, see "Miss-fires"
4. The firearm has now been proved "Clear" and you may advance to change targets when instructed by the Range Officer.

## **FIREARM SAFETY INSTRUCTIONS PART 2**

### **Actions for dealing with miss-fires and malfunctions.**

A malfunction is where the action of the firearm fails to function and/or jams. The action to be taken to clear and prove safe the firearm is similar to that in “Miss-fire”

#### **Miss-fires.**

When dealing with a misfire, the safety catch must be applied if fitted.

Note: - The removal from the range of miss-fired rounds is the responsibility of the shooter. Miss-fired rounds may NOT be left on club premises.

#### ***For Single shot firearms: -***

1. With the firearm pointing downrange, wait 30 seconds and call for the attention of the Range Officer.
2. Under the instruction of the Range Officer, open the action and remove the miss-fired round.
3. Confirm that the barrel is clear of obstruction.
4. Under the instruction of the Range Officer, recommence firing.

#### ***For firearms with clip magazines: -***

1. With the firearm pointing downrange, wait 30 seconds and call for the attention of the Range Officer.
2. Under the instruction of the Range Officer, remove the magazine clip and open the action.
3. Remove the miss-fired round and confirm that the barrel is clear of obstruction.
4. Under the instruction of the Range Officer, reload and recommence firing.

#### ***For firearms with tubular magazines: -***

If the tube magazine is loaded from the front: -

1. With the firearm pointing downrange, wait 30 seconds and call for the attention of the Range Officer.
2. Under the instruction of the Range Officer, open the action, remove the loading tube and slide out all unfired cartridges.
3. With the magazine proved clear, remove the miss-fired round and confirm that the barrel is clear of obstruction.
4. Under the instruction of the Range Officer, reload and recommence firing.

NOTE: - If the magazine is loaded through a loading gate in the frame of the firearm it is not normally possible to empty the magazine without cycling all the rounds through the action of the firearm.

In this case: -

1. With the firearm pointing downrange, wait 30 seconds and call for the attention of the Range Officer.

2. Under the instruction of the Range Officer, open the action and remove the miss-fired cartridge.
3. With the firearm pointing downrange, cycle the action WITHOUT FIRING to empty the magazine.
4. With the magazine proved clear, confirm that the barrel is clear of obstruction.
5. Under the instruction of the Range Officer, reload and recommence firing.

### **Bullet does not leave the barrel.**

With reloaded ammunition, the failure of the bullet to leave the barrel is usually caused by either insufficient powder charge to propel the bullet through the barrel, or no powder charge has been loaded into the cartridge.

The bullet is left as an obstruction completely blocking the barrel.

**NOTE: -** *Firing a round with a blocked barrel can cause serious damage or injury. If there is any reason to suspect the above, i.e.: low recoil, no muzzle report, or no bullet hole in the target, follow the instructions for clearing the same type of firearm.*

If no powder charge has been loaded into the cartridge, it is possible that there may be a double charge in another cartridge.

This can also cause serious damage or injury. DO NOT use any further cartridges from this batch until they have ALL been checked away from the range.

### **Rifles and Carbines**

1. With the firearm pointing downrange, wait 30 seconds and call for the attention of the Range Officer.
2. Open the action and eject the cartridge.
3. Under the instruction of the Range Officer, and with the breech proved "Clear", use a ram-rod from the muzzle on the firearm to drive the bullet from the barrel.
4. Inspect the barrel to confirm it is clear of obstructions and undamaged.
5. On the command of the Range Officer, recommence firing.

For repeating firearms, use the procedure under "Misfires", then follow 1 to 5 above.

### **Revolvers**

1. With the firearm pointing downrange, wait 30 seconds and call for the attention of the Range Officer.
2. Open the action, loading gate or cylinder latch and eject any fired or unfired cartridges.
3. Under the instruction of the Range Officer, and with the cylinder or breech proved "Clear", use a ram-rod from the muzzle on the firearm to drive the bullet from the barrel.
4. Inspect the barrel to confirm it is clear of obstructions and undamaged.
5. On the command of the Range Officer, recommence firing.

### **Percussion revolvers. Repeated failure to fire.**

If a chamber repeatedly fails to fire:

1. With all other shooters back from the firing point. Wait 2 minutes with the firearm pointing downrange.
2. Call for the attention of the Range Officer.
3. Under the supervision of the Range Officer:

- a. Using a nipple wrench, remove the nipple from the chamber and make sure it is clear.
  - b. Check that there is powder in the chamber and carefully re-prime the chamber with more powder.
  - c. Replace the nipple, re-cap the chamber and discharge the firearm. If the firearm still fails to fire it must be made safe.
1. Wait 2 minutes with the firearm pointing downrange.
  2. Using a nipple wrench, remove the nipple from the chamber.
  3. Remove the cylinder from the firearm.
  4. Put the cylinder in oil or water to soak any remaining powder charge in the chamber.
  5. Use a worm to remove the bullet.

### **Single or Double Barrel Percussion Firearms.**

1. Set the hammer to half cock.
2. Check that the cap has been fired.
3. If the firearm does not appear to have been discharged, wait 30 seconds with the firearm pointing downrange, re-cap and fire downrange on the instructions of the Range Officer.
4. Re-check the above.
5. In the case of a double-barrelled firearm, treat each barrel separately.

### ***Repeated failure to fire***

If the firearm repeatedly fails to fire:

1. With all other shooters back from the firing point. Wait 2 minutes with the firearm pointing downrange.
2. Call for the attention of the Range Officer.
3. Under the supervision of the Range Officer:
  - a. Using a nipple wrench, remove the nipple from the chamber and make sure it is clear.
  - b. Carefully re-prime the chamber with more powder.
  - c. Replace the nipple, re-cap and discharge the firearm.

If the firearm still fails to fire it must be made safe.

1. Wait 2 minutes with the firearm pointing downrange.
2. Use a worm to remove the bullet.
3. Use a proprietary CO2 device fitting in place of, or fitted to, the nipple to blow the charge/bullet out of the barrel with the firearm pointing downrange.

### **IF A FLINTLOCK FIREARM HAS NOT FIRED.**

For all of the following procedures, wait 30 seconds before taking any action with the firearm pointing downrange at all times.

### ***Flash in the pan.***

The powder in the frizzen pan fires but does not fire the charge in the barrel.

1. The firearm **MUST** be kept pointing down range for at least 30 seconds to see whether or not the main charge in the barrel is going to fire. If it does **NOT** fire:
2. Re-set hammer to half cock
3. Clear touch-hole with a brass or copper touch-hole pricker.
4. Clean the pan with a pan brush.
5. Re-prime pan.



6. Close frizzen.
7. Re-cock and fire.
8. Repeat if required.

### *Hang fire.*

The charge in the frizzen pan fires, but the charge in the barrel does not immediately fire.

1. The priming charge may or may not be heard fizzling in the touch-hole.
2. The firearm **MUST** be kept pointing down range for at least 30 seconds to see whether or not the main charge in the barrel is going to fire. If it does **NOT** fire:
3. Re-set hammer to half cock.
4. Clear touch-hole with a brass or copper touch-hole pricker.
5. Clean the pan with a pan brush.
6. Re-prime pan.
7. Close frizzen.
8. Re-cock and fire.
9. Repeat if required.

### *Repeated failure to fire.*

1. Repeat the procedure for “Flash in the pan”.
2. With all other shooters back from the firing point. Wait 2 minutes with the firearm pointing down range.
3. Call for the attention of the Range Officer.
4. Repeat items 1 & 2.
5. Under supervision of the Range Officer, withdraw the charge from the muzzle end using an appropriate worm.
6. With the bullet and charge removed, the firearm is now safe for removal from the firing point.

### *Charged firearm with no powder in frizzen pan.*

It is essential to understand that a flintlock firearm can still be fired even if there has been no priming charge put in the frizzen pan.

If the flint in the cock is dropped onto an empty frizzen, there is still the possibility of a spark going through the touch-hole and igniting the main charge in the barrel.

A flintlock must be treated as fully “loaded” even if the frizzen pan is unprimed.

## **FIREARM SAFETY INSTRUCTIONS**

### **AIRGUNS AND BOTTLES.**

#### **SAFETY.**

Safety with any type of firearm is everyone's responsibility. The following rules **MUST** be obeyed at all times.

- 1. NEVER POINT A GUN AT ANYONE.**
- 2. ALWAYS TREAT A GUN AS IF IT WERE LOADED.**

#### **HANDLING GUNS.**

1. When you get out your gun, check that it is unloaded and that it is not cocked.
2. Show that the gun is unloaded before handing it to another person.
3. When you put away your gun, always check it is unloaded and not cocked.
4. Never put away a loaded gun.
5. When you are given a gun, first check it is unloaded and not cocked. If you do not know how to do this, ask the owner to instruct you in its operation.
6. Never pick up a gun without the permission of the owner.

**IT IS BETTER TO CHECK THAT A GUN IS UNLOADED 100 TIMES, THAN TO FIND OUT THAT FAILURE TO CHECK ONCE IS NOT ENOUGH.**

#### **OPERATING THE GUN**

5. Keep the gun pointing downrange at all times during use.
6. Load the gun whilst it is pointing downrange.
7. If you are using a break-back or underlever rifle where the breech could snap shut on your fingers, keep hold of the barrel or cocking lever when inserting the pellet.

#### **MOVING AROUND WITH GUNS.**

1. Never move between lanes with a loaded gun.
2. When moving between lanes, open the breech and remove any magazine from the rifle.
3. When carrying a gun:
  - a. It must not be cocked.
  - b. The breech must be open.
  - c. The magazine removed.
  - d. The gun is carried vertically.
4. Keep your gun in a case when not in use.

#### **RANGE COMMANDS**

1. If you hear a single note on a whistle or the command '**STOP**', stop shooting immediately.
2. Obey any instructions from range officials immediately.
3. Never go forward of the firing line without the permission of the range officials.

## GENERAL.

1. Do not rely on safety catches to keep your companions safe.
2. Do not attract people's attention when they are shooting as it may cause them to turn round.
3. Observe the usual safety rules when dry firing.
  - a. Only dry fire when the gun is pointing downrange.

## SAFETY WITH COMPRESSED AIR

Many modern air rifles use compressed air as a power source. It provides for convenient and effortless shooting, but we must never underestimate the amount of energy that is stored up inside a cylinder.

A compressed air cylinder is a potential bomb if handled incorrectly.

1. Make sure the bottle is in test.
2. Do not get oil or grease in the high pressure system.
3. Store bottles away from sources of heat.
4. Do not drop bottles and avoid hard knocks to the cylinder or decanting set.
5. Always check the charge pressure of unknown bottles.
6. Avoid contact between skin and high pressure air.
7. Do not use any bottle or fittings that appear to be damaged.
8. When tightening bottle fittings, use a minimum of pressure. Hand tight is generally enough.
9. When using buddy bottles or other removable cylinders, never stand in front of the bottle as it is charged.
10. Always keep control of buddy bottles and hoses when charging.
11. Do not look directly at gauges when filling cylinders.
12. Always charge your gun slowly. i.e.: Do not open the air valve fully immediately.

## SAFETY WITH CO2 CARTRIDGES

CO2 cartridges provide a convenient power source for modern rifles and pistols. However, they require special care in operation in addition to the normal safety rules.

### *In the club room.*

1. Do not load magazines in the club room.
2. Do not install CO2 cartridges in the club room.

### *On the firing point.*

1. When installing the CO2 capsule, the gun must be pointing downrange.
2. When fitting the magazine, the gun must be pointing downrange.
3. When exhausting spent CO2 capsules, the gun must point downrange.
4. Take care when handling exhausted CO2 capsules as they can become very cold.

### *Before leaving the firing point.*

6. Remove the magazine and make sure it is empty.
7. Put the gun in its case.