

Sporting Shooters' Association of Australia
Mackay Branch Inc.
STANDING ORDERS - GEORGE RANGE

SECTION 1 – GENERAL

These Range Standing Orders (SO's) cover the use of the 'George Range' amenity operated and managed by SSAA Mackay Branch Inc.

Requests for exemptions from any provisions of these SO's shall be submitted in writing to the SSAA Mackay Branch Inc. executive for consideration.

Applying for or renewing George Range amenity membership requires signed confirmation of having read and understood the Standing Orders

1.1 Revisions

These SO's have been published and revised on the dates listed below:

Original publication: May 1, 2009
Revision dates: Aug 24/09, Nov 22/09, June 06/10, Dec 08/15

SECTION 2 – RANGE FACILITY

2.1 Range Description

This range complex has multiple ranges. Ranges are numbered and divided by concrete walls.

- Range 1 and 2 – 50m handgun / handgun calibres and Single Action
- Range 3 – Any firearm
- Range 4 – Any firearm / Range 4 has two firing lines.
 - The Bench Firing Line and Forward Line are not to be used concurrently.

Approved matches, at times, use multiple ranges depending upon need.

The range proper is a Fauna Sanctuary. No wildlife of any sort is to be harmed.
Remove any livestock from the range prior to shooting.

SECTION 3 – PERSONNEL

3.1 Range Officer (RO)

The RO has complete authority on the range to conduct approved shooting matches and match practices.

RO's must hold a current Queensland firearms' licence. All Range Officers names are to be clearly displayed at any active range.

RO's have the responsibility to supervise all personnel (shooting and non-shooting alike) present on the range and, with reasonable cause, may have Amenity members and/or non-members removed at his/her discretion.

A Range Officer will appoint assistant range officers as necessary to ensure the supervision of persons.

In the case where multiple disciplines / shoots are conducted simultaneously, the Range Officer whose discipline / shoot was the first established on the range (i.e. chronologically), will assume the position and responsibility of Chief Range Officer who will take responsibility for overall safety

Complaints against Range Officers, or others, are to be in writing and forwarded to the Secretary.

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3.2 Unlicensed Shooters

In accordance with Section 53 of the Weapons Act, Unlicensed shooters, or licensed shooters who are not authorised to possess the firearm he/she proposes to physically possess and use, must complete a Form 33

NOTE that a photo endorsed by the Range Officer is required. This also applies to juniors (ages 11-17)

A new Form 33 is to be completed on every subsequent attendance until the necessary firearm licence is able to be presented.

The Range Register must be completed in addition to the Form 33

The Form 33A register is only to be used for large groups i.e. Firearm Safety Courses.

All shooters shall ensure the RO endorses the Form 33 / 33A Register as well as the Range Register in accordance with Section 53(3) of the Weapons Act **prior to the commencement of shooting.**

3.3 Attendance and Membership

In accordance with the legislation, licensed shooters must advise the Club Secretary of their record of participation and all Classes of firearms in their possession at the end of each financial year. Members who are unable to meet the attendance requirements should seek advice from the Range Operator (SSAA Mackay Branch Inc. executive)

Participation Booklets are available through Shoot Captains

Persons wishing to shoot must either be an Amenity member or be the guest of an Amenity member. When the Range Caretaker (if licensed) is in residence he/she may assume the role of RO and/or Amenity member.

Daily RANGE FEES apply to adult persons who are not financial Amenity members of SSAA (Qld) 'George Range'.

If shooting:

- at least two persons, both of whom are of an age to physically possess a firearm, must be in attendance at any given time.
- One of these persons must be a licensed adult who will assume the role of Range Officer and thus check licences, amenity cards; collect and receipt range fees and endorse the relevant range registers.

NOTE: The 'two person' requirement does not apply to Licensed Firearms Instructors engaged in Firearms Safety Courses / duties

3.4 Guests and Spectators

Guests (children and adults) are the responsibility of the adult Amenity member with whom they came and must remain under adult supervision at all times.

It is the responsibility of non-shooting members, guests and spectators to document their attendance in the Visitors' Register.

Spectators are the responsibility of the RO. The RO may appoint another club member to assist in the supervision of spectators.

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SECTION 4 – RANGE OPERATIONS

4.1 Security

Shooting on the range will only occur in the presence of a Range Officer.

The entrance to the range proper may, at times, be locked. Shoot Captains, members of the executive, and any persons the range operator deems necessary will have keys. Shoot captains will, if necessary, ensure all gates are closed upon leaving the range.

Range Register cabinets will be locked – Shoot captains will ensure the range registers are locked away prior to leaving the range.

4.2 Flags

A RED flag must be flown from the flagpole at the main entrance to the complex when firing is being conducted on any range within the facility. The Red flag is not to be flown when there is no shooting on the range. During night shoots, the red flag is to be clearly illuminated by means of the spotlight mounted on the clubhouse.

4.3 Firearms

All firearms must be brought cased to the firing line. Under no circumstances will a firearm be uncased at a vehicle and carried to the firing line.

No firearm is to be removed from the firing line unless it has been inspected and cleared by a range officer. The firearm is then cased and in due course, returned to the owner's vehicle.

4.4 Targets

Position targets to avoid bullets striking the concrete dividing walls.

Full Metal Jacketed projectiles:-

... are prohibited on pistol ranges one and two.

... may only be used on other ranges IF the rules of an Approved Match AND the associated Shoot Captain/Range Officer permits. (e.g. Silhouette Pistol / Rifle)

Never shoot at objects outside range boundaries.

Glass targets are not permitted.

Practice targets are NOT to be left on the range. Take them home.

Steel targets are not to be shot from distances that could cause dangerous ricochets.

Minimum distance at which steel targets are shot is dependent upon SSAA (Qld) Inc. rulings and specific shooting disciplines. The following minimum distances are to be maintained.

Pistols Calibres using lead projectiles.....	10 metres	refer Definitions
Rifles – Rimfire.....	25 metres	
Rifles – Centrefire.....	50 metres	

When steel targets are being used everyone, including spectators, on the range / bay MUST wear safety glasses.

Steel Silhouette targets are not to be used without the permission of the relevant shoot captain.

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4.5 Range Registers

Upon arrival at the range every person, who intends to shoot, must sign the Range Register/s.

Registers are to be completed legibly.

Persons not intent on shooting should sign the Visitors' Register.

Range Registers are positioned at the rear of the firing line. The registers are to be maintained in accordance with the Weapons Act. Range Officers are to pay particular attention to the additional recording requirements for handgun ranges as well as noting the sighting of 'photographic proof of identity' for Forms 33 / 33A.

The Range Officer is required to physically sight participants' firearms licences. Amenity members and visitors who are not able to produce their licence will not be permitted to shoot as this would be in contravention of the Weapons Act.

All entries must be checked and endorsed by a Range Officer before commencement of shooting.

4.6 Ammunition

The use of tracer, incendiary, explosive or similar ammunition is prohibited.

The muzzle velocity and muzzle energy of ammunition is to conform to the conditions of the Range Approval/s which are displayed in the Amenity office.

4.7 Firing

The following firing guidelines are applicable to all ranges on the complex:

- The range is closed to shooting on Tuesdays unless prior arrangements have been made with the Executive.
- Shooting is only to occur between 6 AM and 6 PM with the exception of Friday and Saturday when 'Sanctioned Matches' may shoot up until 9:30 PM.
- No firing if target visibility is reduced as determined by the RO.
- Shooters must be under RO direction.
- Firearms shall never be left unattended. Ensure a licensed person stays at the firing line.
- No firearm is to be removed from the firing line unless it has been inspected and cleared by a range officer.
- Any person who believes there may be a risk to people, livestock or property must call a cease-fire.
- Red Lights signal range / bay closure. No shooting or handling of firearms, except in Fumble Zone or designated Safety Areas.
- Members who wish to use a range, which adjoins to a range on which a designated competition is taking place, must inform the competition Range Officer and /or Chief Range Officer and abide by safety requirements deemed necessary by the RO and / or CRO
- Shooters may move forward of the firing line whilst firing is in being conducted in adjoining ranges, BUT must not under any circumstance venture past the end of the concrete dividing walls.

4.8 Safety / Danger Zones

The range has a safety (danger) area designed for specific firearms and calibres. These areas are out of bounds (no trespassing) areas designed to contain overshot and ricocheting bullets. Every reasonable effort shall be extended by the RO to ensure that the safety area does not have people in it during range operations.

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4.9 Fumble Zone

Designated Fumble Zones / Safe Areas are signposted. These areas are for gun handling / holstering - casing of handguns / cleaning / related gun maintenance and dry fire.

No Ammunition may be taken into any Designated Fumble Zone under any circumstances.

The Fumble Zone may be used at any time and is not dependent upon range closure

4.10 Storage / Holsters

All handguns must be holstered (or cased with actions open) and magazines removed, except when under the instruction of an RO, while on an active firing line or while in the inspection area.

Firearms are always to be pointed downrange when not holstered.

Holsters must be in accordance with the requirements of the match rules. e.g. Semi-auto and double action handguns must not have their trigger exposed.

Holsters that are not in accordance with match rules are to be discouraged. i.e. low thigh holsters

Only persons who have a 'Holster Proficiency Card' may draw from the holster if the match rules permit.

4.11 Match Completion

At the conclusion of all matches or practices the RO will ensure that:

- all targets frames are returned to the storage shed;
- firing points are checked for brass and other debris;
- all firearms and ammunition have been removed from the range;
- flags are lowered and secured;
- Range Register Box locked;
- Buildings locked and entrance gates secured.

SECTION 5 –RANGE SAFETY CONSIDERATIONS

5.1 Communications

When Ranges 1 and 2 are active, both range officers are to maintain verbal contact.

(NOTE: During some matches UHF communications or loud hailer may be required.)

5.2 Hearing And Eye Protection

Hearing and eye protection for all attendees at the range in near proximity to an active firing line is strongly recommended.

5.3 Alcohol/Drugs

Any person deemed by the RO to be under the influence of alcohol or drugs will not be permitted to shoot.

5.4 Smoking

Smoking is not permitted within 10m of any blackpowder firearms being used or loaded.

Smokers / shooters should be encouraged to wash their hands after shooting and before smoking due to the hazard posed by the possible ingestion of lead.

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5.5 Clothing

Complete camouflage clothing is prohibited and partial camouflage clothing is discouraged. The only exception is the uniform of serving members of the armed services officially shooting on the range.

Writing, slogans or images on clothing that may be deemed as inappropriate or offensive are not permitted.

Any clothing that may interfere with safe handling of firearms is to be corrected or removed.

Enclosed and secure footwear is to be worn whilst on the firing line. No thongs, crocs or similar footwear

5.6 First Aid Kit / Phone

A first aid kit and emergency phone is located at the entrance/s to the club house.

SECTION 6 – EMERGENCY INFORMATION

6.1 EMERGENCY PHONE NUMBERS For emergencies call 000

The following are non-emergency contact numbers. .

Fire – Walkerston	4959 2389
Ambulance – Rockhampton	4938 4887
Police – Eton	4954 1120
Police - Mirani	4959 1524

A list of these non-emergency phone numbers is displayed at the clubhouse adjacent to the phone.

Definitions:

PISTOL CALIBRES:	Cartridges that were manufactured solely for a handgun or handgun / rifle combination. i.e. .357, 44.40; however, excluding 'rifle' calibres that are used in handguns e.g. .223 in a Thompson Contender.
SHOOT CAPTAIN:	Branch Member appointed by the Executive to manage the match / shoot.
RANGE OFFICER:	Licensed (firearm) person appointed by the Range Operator
RANGE OPERATOR:	SSAA Mackay Branch Inc. executive