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# NORTH OLMSTED SPORTSMAN'S CLUB



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## RULES AND POLICIES

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Revision Date: August 10, 2021

“Written range safety rules will be established by the Director of Range Safety with the approval of The Board of Trustees and will be posted clearly in the clubhouse. The range rules will be strictly adhered to by all shooters at all times. Range officers shall have the authority to expel any shooter from the range for the breaking of any of the range safety rules”. – NOSC Constitution and Bylaws

Each NOSC member should have a copy of these “Rules and Policies”, if you have internet access please see the Club’s web site and print yourself a copy; for those without internet access, please contact a range officer.

“The objectives of the Club shall be to promote the interest of legitimate sport with rod and gun; to propagate and restock suitable fields and streams with game and fish; to uphold the laws for the protection and propagation of game and fish within the state of Ohio; to further such legislation as is proper to provide better hunting and fishing; to protect the Second Amendment of the Constitution of the United States of America; and any and all things deemed suitable or necessary for promoting the welfare and well being of said Club.” – NOSC Constitution and Bylaws.”

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## SECTION I - FIREARM SAFETY

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### **The Rules In This Section Apply To All Members And Guests On NOSC Premises.**

1. All Federal, State, and Local firearms laws must be observed.
2. Bearing a holstered handgun is permitted on the premises with certain restrictions as stated in this document and must be carried in a secure and safe manner.
3. All firearms that are in the open and not being fired must be in a safe condition and have an Empty Chamber Indicator (ECI) properly installed at all times, where possible.

A firearm is considered safe if it is unloaded and either enclosed in a case or in accordance with the following:

- Muzzle pointed in a safe direction.
- Finger off the trigger and outside the trigger guard.
- Action open if possible.
- Empty chamber indicator in place if possible.

An Empty Chamber Indicator (ECI) is a highly visible device, which when inserted into the firearm's chamber clearly shows that the firearm's chamber is empty.

4. A loaded firearm may not be handled while off the range firing line, except at the designated FIREARM CLEARING station. No loaded firearm may be handled in the clubhouse portion of the building except at the firearm clearing station.
5. No firearm may be removed from a holster while on the range, except as part of a NOSC approved IDPA activity or with the express written consent of the board of directors.
6. A firearm carried in a holster on the range must remain concealed.
7. A firearm being handled must always be pointed in a safe direction, whether it is believed to be unloaded or not. A safe direction means that the firearm is pointed so that even if it were to discharge it would not cause injury or damage.
8. When handling any firearm, immediately engage the safety device if possible and, if the firearm has a removable magazine, remove it before opening the action and looking into the chamber(s), which should be clear of ammunition.
9. There shall be no discharging of firearms on NOSC property outside of the building except during those days and hours, and abiding by the rules of the Trap Range.

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## Section II - General Range Rules.

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The rules in this section apply to all members and guests on any NOSC Range. Additional rules may apply to a particular range or type of shooting, such as the indoor range, trap range, or IPDA event.

A sign-in log will be available on the range. Each shooter must sign the log – by doing so the shooter acknowledges that he or she is familiar of all NOSC “Rules and Policies.”

### RANGE SAFETY

**Range Safety Officers (RSO) and Certified Range Safety Officers (CRSO) are NOSC-Trained members who are responsible for the club, its members and its assets. Members are encouraged to ask the Range Safety Officer for clarification of any NOSC “Rule or Policy.”**

1. No one is permitted to shoot without a Range Safety Officer present on the Range. A Range Safety Officer may not shoot alone unless there is at least one other person present on the NOSC premises.
2. Heed all commands and directives of the Range Safety Officer.
3. All persons on or near the firing line during live fire must wear proper ear and eye protection.
4. While on the firing line, the shooter’s finger must be off the trigger and out of the trigger guard until ready to shoot. The finger must be well outside the trigger guard to prevent accidentally slipping onto the trigger. This does not apply to a Bullseye shooter at a bona fide Bullseye activity.
5. No one may move forward of a firing line until the Range Safety Officer has declared the line safe and given the command to go forward. No firearm may be touched while any person is forward of the firing line.
6. If a misfire occurs, the shooter should assume that the round is a delayed or hang-fire discharge and keep the muzzle pointed in a safe direction, wait a short period of time and then clear the firearm.
7. If a firearm discharge feels or sounds abnormally light, the shooter should assume that the barrel might be obstructed. Clear the firearm and check for an obstruction by running a rod or ECI through the barrel from the muzzle to the breach.
8. If the shooter has any type of firearm failure that he or she does cannot safely remedy, the shooter should keep the firearm pointed down range and raise a hand to ask the Range Safety Officer for assistance.
9. If any shooter demonstrates inability to fire safely and keep all rounds down range either through lack of skills or use of improper equipment, evidenced by having more than two rounds impact outside of the rubber backstop area, the Range Safety Officer may terminate their range session.
10. If, in the opinion of the Range Safety Officer, a person is under the influence of alcohol or other drugs or otherwise physically or mentally unable to be 100% safe with a firearm, the person will not be allowed to handle any firearm and will be asked to leave the Range.
11. An adult must supervise any shooter under the age of 16 all times on the firing line.
12. Only paper targets are permitted on the indoor range. Clay or paper targets are permitted on the shotgun range. Exceptions to this rule may be made by the Trustees on a case by case basis.
13. The Range Officer will determine the location of the firing line and firing location of shooters.
14. The Range Safety Officer reserves the right to inspect any firearms or ammunition for safety considerations.
15. Tracer, armor piercing, exploding, and steel core ammunition are prohibited.
16. Members not actively engaged in Archery, IDPA or Trap shall wear their name badge at all times while at the club.

## **PERSONAL CONDUCT**

1. Discourteous action on any shooter's part will result in expulsion from the Range for the remainder of the shooting session.
2. Do not touch or handle anyone else's equipment without his or her permission unless there is an immediate safety issue.
3. Damage caused to the Range such as caused by errant rounds is the financial responsibility of the shooter. The Range Safety Officer shall report such damage to the Director of Range Safety or a Trustee.
4. The shooters at the close of the shooting session are responsible for cleaning up the Range.
5. Food and beverages are prohibited on the Range.

## **GUESTS**

1. Guests of a member will be permitted to shoot on any of the Club Ranges only in the company of a sponsoring member.  

Guest who wishes to use the range must complete and sign a copy of the North Olmsted Sportsman's Club acknowledgement of risk. The parent or legal guardian, and the sponsoring member of a minor must also sign the acknowledgement. The acknowledgement will be kept on file for future reference.
2. The member sponsoring a non-member must accompany the guest at all times and shall be responsible for the safety and conduct of the guest with the due regard for the North Olmsted Sportsman's Club and fellow members.
3. The Range Safety Officer reserves the right to limit the number of guests present on the Range at any given time.
4. The sponsoring member of a non-member (guest) is obligated to limit a guest's visits to four separate shooting sessions. Thereafter, members are to encourage the guest to join NOSC.  

Participation in any of NOSC's instructional programs shall not be restricted by the number of shooting privileges afforded them while taking part in the programs.
5. Visiting clubs or organizations are responsible for insuring that the people they bring and/or invite to an NOSC Range have had an appropriate range and safety orientation.

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### Section III - Indoor Range

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The following rules apply to all members and guests using the indoor range, except during IPDA shooting events. All of the rules in the firearm safety and general range rules sections apply to the indoor range as well.

#### RANGE COMMANDS

**CEASE FIRE** – The shooter must stop shooting immediately, remove his or her finger from the trigger, keep the muzzle pointed in a safe direction and await further commands. Any person who sees an unsafe condition on the Range has the responsibility to call a CEASE FIRE.

**MAKE THE LINE SAFE** – The shooters on the firing line must unload his or her firearm and place the firearm on the bench. A firearm is considered loaded if: the action is closed, the action is open and an Empty Chamber Indicator (ECI) is not in place, the action is open and there is a case in the chamber, regardless of whether the case is empty or not, if it is a clip fed firearm and the clip is partially or wholly inserted in the firearm, regardless of whether there are any cartridges in the clip, it is a magazine fed firearm and there is a cartridge (fired or not) in the magazine.

**LINE IS SAFE** – The line is declared safe only after the Range Safety Officer has visually inspected each firearm and confirmed to be not loaded. No person on the Range may handle a firearm.

**LINE IS NO LONGER SAFE** – After the Range Safety Officer has visually confirmed that everyone is back behind the firing line the Range Officer will give this command.

**SHOOTERS ON THE LINE MAY LOAD** – Persons on the firing line may load their firearms.

**COMMENCE FIRE** – Shooters on the line may fire at will.

#### FIREARMS AND AMMUNITION

1. Only handguns, rimfire rifles, and center-fire rifles firing pistol cartridges may be used. No shotgun patterning (including pistols firing shot shells) may be done.
2. Handguns with a sight radius of four (4) inches or less may only be functionally tested at a distance of 21 feet or less from the range backstop, and under the direct supervision of the Range Safety Officer.
3. Any type of standard handgun ammunition may be used; however, extensive use of hollow-point ammunition causes rapid backstop deterioration and is discouraged.
4. In the event that a mechanical problem with a firearm should occur such as a failure to feed, failure to fire, jam, etc., the shooter should keep the firearm pointed down range. If the firearm can be safely cleared it should be done on the firing line. If the firearm cannot be safely cleared, do not remove the firearm from the line and ask the Range Safety Officer for assistance.
5. In the event that a safe firearm has to be repaired or disassembled it should be done in the Clubhouse and not on the firing line. Minor repairs and sight adjustments that can be accomplished in a short time with minor distraction may be performed on the firing line.

## RANGE HOURS

The Indoor Range hours of operation are 10:00 AM to 10:00 PM. Shooting shall not start before 10:00 AM and all shooting must stop immediately at 10:00 PM. For special events, shooting may start earlier than 10:00 AM, if approved by The Board of Trustees. No shooting on Christmas, Easter, or on the day and during the hours Halloween is observed by the City of North Olmsted.

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## SECTION IV. IDPA SHOOTING

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The following rules apply to all members and guests participating in IDPA - style shooting on the indoor range. All of the rules in the firearm safety and general range rules sections apply as well.

IDPA-style shooting is governed by the equipment and competition rules of the International Defensive Pistol Association.

### LOADING COMMANDS

**FACE DOWN RANGE, LOAD AND MAKE READY** – The shooter must face down range, remove the firearm from its holster, load the firearm and prepare to fire the firearm. If the firearm has a manual safety, it must be engaged. Whether the firearm is holstered or not depends on the specific course of fire.

**STANDBY** – The shooter should be ready to commence with the course of fire that starts with the beep of the timer.

### UNLOADING COMMANDS

**UNLOAD AND SHOW CLEAR** – The shooter must remove and stow the magazine from a semi-auto, or the casings and or live rounds from a revolver, lock the slide open, or keep the cylinder open, and allow the Range Officer to see the chamber(s) are empty.

**SLIDE FORWARD or CLOSE CYLINDER** – The shooter must close the slide or cylinder of the empty firearm.

**HAMMER DOWN – PULL TRIGGER** – While pointing the muzzle at the range backstop, the shooter must pull the trigger to show a clear firearm.

**HOLSTER** – The shooter must return the firearm to its holster.

**RANGE IS SAFE** – The Range Safety Officer has ensured that the shooter's firearm is cleared and holstered. The shooter may proceed down range to view his or her targets. The scorer and other participants may go down range to score, repair, reset targets, and pick up brass.

### CORRECTIVE COMMANDS

**MUZZLE** - The muzzle of the shooter's firearm is pointed in an unsafe direction. Point the muzzle down range.

**FINGER** – The shooter's finger is on the trigger or in the trigger guard when it should not be. The shooter must remove his or her finger from the trigger and place it outside of the trigger guard on the firearm's frame of the firearm.

**STOP OR CEASE FIRE** – The shooter must stop shooting immediately, remove his or her finger from the trigger, keep the muzzle pointed in a safe direction and await further commands. Any person who sees an unsafe condition on the Range has the responsibility to call for a CEASE FIRE.

**COVER** – This is IPDA procedural command that warns the shooter that he or she is not making sufficient use of cover according to rules of the IDPA governing body.

## **SAFETY**

1. All concealed carry firearms must be unloaded at the FIREARM CLEARING station immediately upon entering the building for IDPA events. When leaving the range, the concealed carry firearms may be reloaded at the FIREARM CLEARING station, but the carrier must leave immediately.
2. No one may enter any part of the Range with a loaded firearm.
3. All areas of the Clubhouse outside of the Indoor Range are considered the Safe Area for all participants and observers of the IDPA event. All firearms must be unloaded with magazines out. Cleared firearms may be handled in the Safe Area.
4. On the Range, all firearms must be unloaded with magazines out. No person may handle a firearm in any manner. The normal condition of pistols not actually engaged is holstered and unloaded, with hammer down and magazine removed.
5. When at the firing position, the shooter may load only when the Range Safety Officer gives the command FACE DOWN RANGE, LOAD AND MAKE READY.
6. The shooter's finger must be outside the trigger guard during loading, unloading, drawing, re-holstering, while moving (unless engaging targets) or during remedial action.
7. The minimum age of participants in IDPA events at NOSC is 18 years of age.

## **FIREARMS AND AMMUNITION**

1. Any type of firearm and ammunition that conforms to the Equipment and Competition Rules of the International Defensive Pistol Association may be used, with the exception of hollow-point ammunition.
2. No use of hollow-point ammunition is permitted on NOSC range during IDPA events.

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## SECTION V. - TRAPSHOOTING

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The following rules apply to all members and guests using the trap range. All of the rules in the firearm safety and general range rules sections apply as well.

Shooting is governed by the rules and regulations of the amateur trapshooting association (ATA).

1. Trap Range usage requires two Range Safety Officers to operate. The Scorekeeper and the Squad Leader (person on station one when beginning the round) are considered temporary Range Safety Officers for that round of shooting only. The Scorekeeper being the Range Safety Officer of record.
2. All guns must have the action opened and contain no live or empty shells at any time, except while the shooter is on the firing line. A break open gun's action may be closed when it is in a gun rack but it shall not contain a live or empty shell.
3. Barrels are to be pointed in a safe direction at all times.
4. All shooters are required to unload their guns when changing posts, or when commanded to MAKE THE LINE SAFE.
5. A shooter shall place a live shell in his/her gun only when on a post facing the traps.
6. Only one (1) shooter per post is allowed at any time, unless a scheduled and designated "Protection" or "Oakley" shoot is in progress.
7. Regardless of prior trap shooting experience, every first-time shooter must have an experienced trap shooter accompany him or her for their first round of trap.
8. Trap help must never emerge from the trap house until authorized. Range Officer will "make the line safe" before authorizing trap help to enter or leave.

Stock Trap & Return: Before entering the trap house the trap help will place the orange cone atop the trap house and the Range Safety Officer will assure that the line is safe until help emerges from the trap house, removes the cone, and returns behind the shooting line.

Stock Trap & Remain: Help will remain in the trap house until notified by the Range Safety Officer that it is safe to emerge.

9. The squad "on the ready" should be on the benches behind the current squad, and take the line smartly when asked, in order to maximize the time available to all shooters. Shooters who are chronically late to the line may be removed from the "squadding" rotation.
10. Please remember that we have automatic voice release devices in use, and refrain from excessive noise on the firing line.
11. ATA TARGET LOADS ONLY!! (Max 7.5 shot, 1.125 oz.) The Range Safety Officer reserves the right to prohibit any loads that sound unusually heavy.
12. All shooters should sign in at the desk upon arrival to insure proper squadding.
13. Shooting hours are every other Sunday from 1:00 PM - 5:00 PM EST. No shooting on Christmas, Easter, or on the day and during the hours Halloween is observed by the City of North Olmsted.

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## SECTION VI. - ARCHERY

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The following rules apply to all members and guests using the archery range. All applicable rules in the firearm safety and general range rules sections apply as well, unless otherwise noted below.

1. All NOSC range officers must attend an orientation session with the Archery Director before being allowed to serve as a Range Safety Officer for the archery program. Archery RSOs are designated by a special sticker on their badge.
2. As on all NOSC ranges, no one is permitted to shoot without a Range Safety Officer present on the Range. A Range Safety Officer may not shoot alone.
3. Regardless of prior archery shooting experience, every first-time shooter must have an experienced NOSC archery shooter accompany him or her for their first archery shoot.
4. You must have your membership card on your person.
5. The three "Caution Archery In Progress" signs shall be posted whenever there are active shooters on the outdoor archery range.
6. Archers when not shooting should remain behind the firing line and avoid disturbing the shooters.
7. Arrows shall be nocked only while on the firing line. Bows may only be drawn while on the firing line.
8. Archers may not draw at an angle significantly above the line of flight to the target ("sky drawing").
9. Only targets provided by NOSC, or approved by the Archery Director, shall be used on the archery range.
10. When finished shooting, archers should step back from the firing line.
11. When looking for lost arrows, at least one person shall remain near the target or firing line.
12. Broadheads are not permitted on the archery ranges.
13. Shooting hours are 10 AM to ½ hour before sunset. Archery range is closed on the days of the trap program.

### **RANGE COMMANDS**

**ARCHERS MAY NOCK AND FIRE** – Commence shooting.

**CLEAR DOWNRANGE** – Archers may move to firing line.

**BOWS DOWN, ARCHERS MAY RETRIEVE** – Make equipment safe and advance to the target line to retrieve arrows.

**HOLD / CEASE FIRE** – Stop shooting immediately, even if you are at full draw.

### **WHISTLE COMMANDS (Optional)**

**ONE BLAST** – Commence shooting.

**TWO BLASTS** – Archers may move to firing line.

**THREE BLASTS** – Make equipment safe and advance to the target line to retrieve arrows.

**FIVE OR MORE BLASTS** – Stop shooting immediately, even if you are at full draw.

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## SECTION VII - CLUB POLICIES

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This section contains information regarding NOSC not covered in the previous sections.

### RANGE OFFICERS

1. Range Officers are issued key cards that allow access to the building and provide a record of entry.
2. If the Range is not scheduled for an approved activity it may be opened for shooting, provided there is a Range Safety Officer and one other person present.
3. Range Officer Training is offered multiple times each year and is held in the Clubhouse. The dates of the training will be announced.
4. NOSC has two levels of Range Safety Officer.
  - a. Range Safety Officers may supervise no more than three shooters on the range who are not also RSO's.
  - b. Certified Range Safety Officers (CRSO) may supervise any number of shooters but are not permitted to shoot if the 3:1 ratio from 4a is exceeded.
  - c. Exceptions to 4a and 4b may be decided by The Board of Trustees on a case by case basis.
5. All members are invited to attend and become an NOSC Range Safety Officer after they have been a member for one year. Range Safety Officers must re-qualify each year by attending any Range Safety Officer Training or Refresher session.

### CLUBHOUSE AND RANGE RENTAL

The Clubhouse and Indoor Range is available for rent for non-member activities when not being used for Club events. Contact a NOSC Trustee to arrange a rental.

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### APPENDIX A. DUES AND FEES

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Annual Membership Dues	_____	\$ 175.00 plus tax
Membership Initiation Fee	_____	\$ 200.00 plus tax
Clubhouse Rental Fee (excluding range use)	_____	\$ 100.00 per day
Range Rental Fee (Members, Family, and Guests)	_____	\$ 25.00 per hour – 3 Hour Minimum
Range Rental Fee (Outside Groups or Organizations)	_____	\$ Established by Trustee's on a case by case basis.