

RANGE SAFETY REGULATIONS : FOR CERTIFICATION OF MEMBERS

In order for a Range Safety Certificate to be issued (as per attached sample) to an Ordinary Member, Dedicated Member or Yearly Occasional Member, the following needs to be carried out by a designated Safety Officer at a CTSASA registered club:-

1. Instruction in shotgun carrying and storing:
 - a. Safe carrying of shotgun – club premises
 - i. Shotgun to be carried unloaded in a shotgun bag or case, OR
 - ii. Shotgun to be carried 'broken' and unloaded
 - iii. Over and under and side-by-side shotguns to be carried 'broken' either over the arm or over the shoulder. If carried over the shoulder, barrels must be in front.
 - iv. Semi-Automatic or Pump action shotguns when carried out of a bag should be carried with the barrels pointing upwards, breech open and facing forward.
 - v. Gun racks should be used if provided. Shotgun must be unloaded and closed in a vertical rack.
 - vi. Shotguns must not be closed and placed on a table or seat unless in a gun bag.
 - vii. Members must observe additional club rules regarding storing of shotguns.
 - viii. Members are encouraged to make use of a properly constructed and SABS approved armory or safe if available.
 - ix. Shotguns must be placed in a gun bag or a gun case when in a clubhouse.
 - b. Safe carrying of shotgun – range procedures
 - i. As per 1.a.i. to iv. above
 - ii. Whilst on official practice or competition, shotguns must not be loaded unless on a shooting stand when it is the shooter's turn to shoot.
 - iii. Under no circumstances may a shotgun be fired out of turn or from a different stand from the shooter whose turn it is to shoot.
 - iv. Shotguns may not be pointed, whether loaded or unloaded, at any animate or inanimate object except when it is the shooter's turn to shoot on the shooting stand when only the clay target may be fired upon.
2. Instruction in safe loading and firing:
 - a. Shooters to ensure the correct gauge cartridges are used.
 - b. Cartridges must only be loaded into the shotgun whilst on the shooting stand and when it is the shooter's turn to shoot.
 - c. Shotguns must always be pointing down range.
 - d. After firing, the shooter must not turn around with the shotgun until the shotgun is empty of cartridges and the shotgun is open.
 - e. At all times, the shooter must be aware of the background to the shooting range/target trajectory and be alert to any possible danger for anyone or anything in the background.
 - f. In the case of a failure to fire, the shotgun must be kept pointing down range. If a failure to fire occurs in a competition, the specific rules for that discipline should apply but generally the shotgun should be kept closed until the umpire has checked it for safety.
 - g. Help should be sought if the shotgun will not open with live cartridges still inside as the shotgun will have to be taken apart in a safe manner.
 - h. At all times with a failure to fire the shotgun must be kept pointing down range even whilst waiting for additional help.
3. Specific rules
 - a. Snap caps : may not be inserted into a shotgun unless the shooter is on a shooting stand with the shotgun pointing safely down range.
 - b. When taking a shotgun out of a shooting bag, the shotgun should be 'broken' immediately upon extraction.
 - c. In the case of a semi-automatic or pump action, the barrels must not point at anyone or pointed in a direction that would be considered unsafe, e.g. at another car or the side of a building.
4. At all times, no alcohol to be served to any shooter/competitor/member during shooting practice or competition.
5. Completion of appropriate form to be submitted to CTSASA to confirm that the member has been instructed as per above and to request the Range Safety Certificate.