

# FALLS TOWNSHIP RIFLE & PISTOL ASSOCIATION RULES

*NOTE: Violations may result in disciplinary actions, including termination of membership.*

## Definitions for Underlined Terms in Rules

**Unloaded**: A gun is unloaded when the chamber is empty, the action is open, and the magazine is removed. Muzzleloaders must also have an empty flash pan, or no percussion cap affixed.

**Cased**: A gun which is cased is stored in a secure case, box, wrapper, or in a hard-sided holster that covers the trigger guard.

**Endorsement**: Members, matches, or events which have been cleared to engage in certain activities which require special training. Contact the membership committee for details (membership@ftrpa.com). Endorsements (MG for machine gun, H for draw from holster, S for being able to place approved steel targets, RSO for Range Safety Officer, LC for large caliber) are displayed on the badge.

**Cease Fire**: A command given by anyone on the range to immediately stop firing and unload and flag any uncased guns.

**Cold Range**: A range which has had a cease fire called by anyone on the range who, once they ensure all guns are unloaded, will sound the horn once, and activate the flashing red light.

**Hot Range**: A range where loading of guns and firing is permitted, with no person being ahead of the shooting line. To make the range hot, shooters should ensure the downrange area is clear of persons and it is safe to resume shooting. Shooter shall indicate a hot range by sounding the horn twice, and switching off the flashing red light.

**Club-Provided Steel**: Any steel target placed by club directors, match directors, or members of the committee the Board of Directors designates to place, maintain, and test targets.

**Safe Direction**: Muzzle pointed either downrange while at the line or pointed up and not pointed at any person or dwelling. This includes when the gun is being cased or uncased.

**Empty Chamber Indicator**: A plastic flag-like device, brightly colored, which is inserted into the chamber to indicate to other shooters that the firing chamber is empty. ECIs are provided on all shooting ranges.

## Code of Conduct

1. Members are expected to foster, expand, and perpetuate the practice of target shooting and the spirit of good fellowship among all sportsmen. To this end members shall not:
  - 1.1. Engage in harassment, intimidation, written or verbal abuse, or threatening behavior aimed at any member, guest, or volunteer. Disagreements must be handled with mutual respect.
  - 1.2. Initiate a fight, scuffle.
  - 1.3. Take a poor attitude if correcting or being corrected for a rule violation by other members. If you feel a correction is improper, appeal the dispute to the Board of Directors for adjudication.

## Club Rules

- 2.1. Alcoholic beverages, unlawful controlled substances, and people under the influence thereof, are prohibited on the premises.
- 2.2. Members and guests are required to sign-in upon arrival and sign-out before departing using the log located at the sign-in desk. Members must sign-in each of their guests and pay any guest fees required.
- 2.3. Members are not permitted to give or loan their badge to another person permitting access to the property unsupervised, including immediate family.
- 2.4. While on the premises, members must display their valid membership badge (as defined by the Board of Directors) in plain view and non-members must wear a guest name tag available at the sign-in desk.
- 2.5. Members are required to properly supervise their guests to ensure safe shooting and compliance with our rules. Members will be accountable for any rule broken by their guests which is not immediately corrected.
- 2.6. Members and guests must obey all posted signage and may not remove or add signage not approved by the Board of Directors.
- 2.7. The Indoor Range is open for shooting 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. Outdoor ranges are open from 8:00AM to sunset. Programs may have extended hours. Events may reserve club facilities for special events. Members may only use reserved facilities at the discretion of the event coordinator or match director. Members are encouraged to check the club calendar before coming to use a specific facility.

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- 2.8. Shooters are responsible for following state and federal law regarding the transportation, possession, and use of guns, ammunition, and accessories. NFA items are permitted only with a lawfully issued tax stamp.
- 2.9. Members must clean up their shooting area after finishing shooting, including removing all casings on the shooting line and taking it with you or depositing it in the brass bucket on the range. Members may take their own brass or another member's brass with permission, but any brass in the brass bucket is club property and may not be taken. Reloaders can make arrangements with the club if they would like to sort range brass.

## Range Safety Rules for All Ranges

- 3.1. Guns must always be pointed in a safe direction, even when casing and uncasing.
- 3.2. Eye and ear protection are mandatory on all hot ranges where firearms may be used.
- 3.3. Unless being carried under 3.4, all guns which are brought onto the property must be unloaded and cased. Guns may be moved around the property uncased provided the firearm is unloaded, empty chamber indicator inserted, and at all times pointed in a safe direction.
- 3.4. Notwithstanding 3.3, holstered and loaded firearms may be carried in compliance with Pennsylvania law on the premises, but members and guests may only draw their carried firearm in an emergency. This does not apply to members who have a club endorsement which allows draw-from-holster, or to persons taking part in an approved class or match. Members with a holster endorsement are permitted to draw from a hard-sided holster which completely encloses the trigger, made of polymer or leather, placed strong-side only.
- 3.5. Guns may only be loaded and fired at the firing line with the muzzle pointed downrange. Uncased guns not being actively used must always be unloaded with an empty chamber indicator inserted.
- 3.6. Shooters shall keep their fingers outside the trigger guard until on target and ready to shoot.
- 3.7. Shooters must utilize their sights: no hip or point shooting is permitted. Shooters are responsible for ensuring that any projectiles will safely impact the berm/backstop after passing through or impacting the target. No rounds may be fired that cause damage to or leave the property.
- 3.8. Shooters must obey all range commands immediately. If the cease fire command is given by anyone on the range, everyone on the firing line must immediately stop firing, unload, insert an empty chamber indicator, and step away from their firearm.
- 3.9. All guns not being carried under 3.4 on a cold range shall be and remain unloaded with an empty chamber indicator inserted. There shall be no handling or touching of any gun whatsoever on a cold range. No one is permitted ahead of the shooting line on a hot range. Loading ammunition into detached magazines is permitted on a cold range, but no magazine shall be inserted into any gun.
- 3.10. No armor-piercing, tracer, or incendiary ammunition may be fired on the premises. Steel core ammunition (green or silver tip) may not be fired at any steel targets, but is not restricted for use at the club on other targets.
- 3.11. Fully-automatic firearms may only be used at the club by those holding the required endorsement or to persons taking part in an approved class or match.
- 3.12. Except for muzzleloaders, use of .50BMG, .50BMG near-equivalent firearms, or firearms greater than .50 caliber, may only be used at the club by those holding the required endorsement or those being instructed in an approved class or match.

## Indoor Range Rules

- 4.1. Shooters must use the ventilation fans when shooting firearms on the indoor range.
- 4.2. Only pistol caliber cartridges listed in Appendix A of these rules, rimfire cartridges of at least .22 caliber, and lead air gun pellets are permitted on the Indoor Range.
- 4.3. Shot shells of any gauge/caliber, steel shot or BBs fired from air guns, and black powder ammunition are prohibited.
- 4.4. Shotguns or other firearms using shot shells are prohibited.
- 4.5. Black powder firearms are prohibited.

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- 4.6. Only paper\_targets\_are permitted. Approved club-sanctioned events may use steel targets. Rimfire swingers are permitted for members who have a steel target endorsement on their badge, provided they are affixed to the designated space in the bullet trap and shot with allowed rimfire ammunition.

## Fifty-Yard Range Rules

- 5.1. Shot shells may only be fired at positions 1 and 2. This is the only place on club property shot may be used. Shotguns firing rifled slugs and sabots may be fired from any other position on the 50-yard range.
- 5.2. Only paper\_and club-provided steel targets may be fired upon unless the member has an endorsement for steel targets and the targets are placed at designated positions.
- 5.3. Any steel targets on this range are limited to calibers in Appendix A of these rules, with either a handgun or rifle.
- 5.4. Club-provided steel targets may not be moved. Members with club steel endorsements must place steel targets at allowed positions or traps. Members without a steel endorsement may not place their own steel targets or utilize any steel traps.

## Rifle Range Rules

- 6.1. No shot shells of any gauge/caliber are permitted.
- 6.2. Shotguns firing single projectiles (e.g., slugs or sabots), handguns, and black powder firearms may be fired at targets set at 75- and 100-yard distances only.
- 6.3. No black powder firearms, except in-line muzzleloaders, may be used on the 200-yard range.
- 6.4. Handguns are prohibited on the 200-yard range.
- 6.5. Only paper and club-provided steel targets may be fired upon unless the member has an endorsement for steel targets and the targets are placed at designated positions. Paper targets may be placed at designated 75-, 100-, or 200-yard distances only.
- 6.6. The club-provided steel at the 100-yard position may be fired on from positions 1 or 2 only. The 200-yard club-provided steel may be fired on from positions 17 or 18 only.
- 6.7. Club-provided steel targets may not be moved. Members with club steel endorsements may place steel targets at designated positions or traps. Members without a steel endorsement may not use any traps intended for steel targets.

## Plinking Range Rules

- 7.1. No shot shells of any gauge/caliber are permitted.
- 7.2. Shooters may fire on paper, balloons, clay, plaster, plastic, and thin metal targets such as cans.
- 7.3. Targets such as paper or balloons which may be stapled to a target holder can be placed at intermediate distances provided shots passing through impact the backstop. Any other target must be placed under or very close to the eyebrow. Be mindful of the edges of the eyebrow so that rounds do not ricochet out.
- 7.4. Thick metal targets must either be club-provided steel targets or be placed by a member with a steel target endorsement. These targets may be fired upon with pistol calibers only, as defined in Appendix A, and placed under or very close to the eyebrow.
- 7.5. Shooters must clean up and remove any items that were used as targets during their shooting session. If you can't clean it up, you can't shoot it. Note that clay birds or other small fragments of degradable material can be left, if they will just incorporate into the berm.
- 7.6. Prohibited targets include material a .22LR bullet will not easily pass through, and that could cause ricochet or other hazard. When in doubt, ask an RSO or Board Member (contact inquiry@ftrpa.com). Examples are:
  - Thick steel other than approved AR-500 steel targets (cans, lids, and other thin metals bullets easily pass through are fine, pots and pans, cast iron plates, manhole covers, etc. would not be)
  - Glass or ceramic objects of any kind that would create hazardous shards.
  - Any objects that contain hazardous materials (e.g., electronics, noxious chemicals, batteries, paint cans, etc.)

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## Air Gun Range Rules

- 8.1. Only air rifles and air pistols powered by means of pre-charged pneumatic, CO<sub>2</sub>, break-barrel, or pump-action are permitted to be used on this range. No firearms may be used.
- 8.2. Only .177 and .22 caliber lead or lead-core pellets may be shot. No BBs or steel pellets permitted.
- 8.3. Eye protection is required when the range is hot. Ear protection is not required.
- 8.4. Allowed Targets:
  - Club-provided steel targets that are permanently placed in the shooting area.
  - Paper targets.
  - Member-provided vertically hanging reactive metal swingers. No horizontally mounted targets.

## Archery Range Rules

- 9.1. No firearms may be uncased, unholstered, or fired on the archery ranges.
- 9.2. Crossbows and bows may be cocked or drawn only at the firing positions on the practice range. Crossbows are only permitted to be used on the 3D range during 3D matches.
- 9.3. Only field points may be fired at range butts. Broadheads may only be used on your own targets.
- 9.4. No sky drawing. Bows must never be pointed over the backstop when drawing.
- 9.5. Air guns are only permitted during approved competitions.

## Curtis Lake Rules

- 10.1. The only activities allowed on the lake are boating and fishing, which may be done either from a boat or the shoreline. No ice fishing, skating, or swimming is permitted in or on Curtis Lake.
- 10.2. Any person unable to swim fishing from the shore must wear an approved life vest.
- 10.3. Fishing from the shoreline is not permitted in the archery range area when the archery course is in use.
- 10.4. Persons using the lake must comply with all PA Fish and Boat Commission regulations.
- 10.5. No littering, dumping, or discharging of guns is permitted over or into the lake.
- 10.6. Boating rules:
  - Everyone on board must wear an approved life vest.
  - No hunting, carrying, or discharging of guns is permitted while in a boat.
  - The maximum boat length is 16 feet.
  - Boats may be launched from the designated launch ramp only.
  - Only electric motors may be used to power any boat on the lake. "Slow Speed, No Wake" applies.
  - No boats may be left on the premises unattended without prior permission from officers or the Board.

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## Appendix A

**Cartridges Approved for use on the Indoor Range and club provided steel targets outdoors:**

All Rimfire Cartridges (.22 or larger)	9x21mm
5.7x28mm	9mm Steyr
.22 Remington Jet	9x23 Winchester
.25 ACP	.380 ACP (9mm Kurz) (9x17mm)
.25 NAA	.38 Special
.25 WCF (.25-20)	.357 Magnum
7mm Nambu	.357 SIG
7.62 Nagant Revolver	.38 ACP
7.62x25 Tokarev	.38 Super Automatic
.30 Luger	.38 S&W (Colt New Police)
.30 Mauser	.38 WCF (.38-40)
.30 Super Carry	9x18mm Makarov
.32 H&R Magnum	.380 Short & Long Revolver
.32 S&W	.41 Long Colt
.32 S&W Long (Colt New Police)	.40 S&W
.32 NAA	10mm Automatic
.327 Federal Magnum	.41 Short Colt
.32 WCF (.32-20)	.41 Remington Magnum
.32 Automatic (7.65mm Browning)	.41 Action Express
.32 Short Colt	10.4mm Italian Revolver
.32 Long Colt	.44 Russian
.32 S&W Gallery	.44 Special & Magnum
.32 Colt	.44 Bull Dog
.320 Revolver	.44 WCF (.44-40)
7.5mm Swiss Army Revolver	.460 Rowland
.35 Automatic	.45 Webley
.35 S&W Auto	.45 Auto Rim
8mm Rast-Gasser	.45 GAP
8mm Nambu	.45 Automatic Short/.45 HP
8mm Lebel Revolver	.45 Automatic Match
7.5mm Nagant Revolver	.45 ACP
9mm Ultra (Police)	.45 Long Colt
9mm Mauser	.455 Webley Mk I and Mk II
9mm Winchester Magnum	.455 Colt (Enfield)
.356 TSW	.45 S&W (Schofield)
9mm Glisenti	.455 Webley Automatic
9x19mm Luger (Parabellum)	.450 Revolver (Adams, Colt)

### Strictly Prohibited on Indoor Range:

- Any cartridge not on the approved list
- Shot shells, shotguns and other firearms using shot shells
- Black Powder cartridges and firearms
- Steel shot and BBs