



HEARTLAND PUBLIC SHOOTING PARK Recreational Rifle and Handgun Range Safety Briefing

(This Range Safety Briefing **MUST** be read by every shooter at check-in)



INTRODUCTION

Heartland Public Shooting Park hosts shooters who represent a wide range of abilities and experience with firearms. Our procedures and rules are designed to provide a safe environment for all shooters, no matter what level of experience they have.

Every shooter is required to conduct themselves according to our Safety Rules. Please read them carefully so you understand what is expected for your own safety – and for the safety of those around you.

Anytime the Rifle and Handgun Ranges are open, a Range Safety Officer (RSO) will be present. The RSO oversees safe operation of the Range, and to use our facility you agree to follow the instructions of the RSO on duty.

SAFE GUN HANDLING RULES

1. ALWAYS KEEP THE GUN POINTED IN A SAFE DIRECTION AND TREAT EVERY WEAPON AS IF IT IS LOADED.
2. ALWAYS KEEP YOUR FINGER OFF THE TRIGGER UNTIL YOU ARE READY TO SHOOT.
3. ALWAYS KEEP THE ACTION OPEN AND THE FIREARM UNLOADED UNTIL YOU ARE READY TO USE IT.
4. KNOW YOUR TARGET, AND WHAT IS BEHIND AND BEYOND YOUR TARGET.
5. BE SURE THE GUN IS IN GOOD REPAIR AND SAFE TO OPERATE.
6. KNOW HOW TO OPERATE THE GUN SAFELY.
7. USE ONLY THE CORRECT AMMUNITION FOR YOUR GUN.
8. ALWAYS WEAR EYE AND EAR PROTECTION.
9. NEVER USE ALCOHOL OR DRUGS BEFORE OR WHILE SHOOTING.
10. STORE GUNS SO THEY ARE NOT ACCESSIBLE TO UNAUTHORIZED PERSONS.

GENERAL RANGE RULES

1. KNOW AND OBEY ALL RANGE COMMANDS.
2. KNOW WHERE OTHERS ARE AT ALL TIMES.
3. SHOOT ONLY AT AUTHORIZED TARGETS.
4. GROUND LEVEL TARGETS ARE NOT AUTHORIZED WITHOUT A PROPER BACKSTOP.
5. FOLLOW THE INSTRUCTIONS OF THE RANGE SAFETY OFFICER IMMEDIATELY. IF YOU HAVE QUESTIONS, CARRY OUT THE INSTRUCTIONS FIRST – THEN ASK FOR AN EXPLANATION.
6. WHEN A "CEASE FIRE" IS CALLED, YOU WILL REMOVE THE MAGAZINE FROM YOUR WEAPON, UNLOAD ANY AMMUNITION IN THE CHAMBER OR INTERNAL MAGAZINE, OPEN THE ACTION, INSERT THE EMPTY CHAMBER INDICATOR AND GROUND OR BENCH THE FIREARM FOR THE DURATION OF THE CEASE FIRE.
7. HPSP MAINTAINS A COMPLETE SEPARATION BETWEEN PEOPLE AND GUNS DURING A CEASE FIRE. WHILE THE CEASE FIRE IS IN EFFECT, DO NOT HANDLE, TOUCH OR MOVE ANY FIREARM. DO NOT STAND AT THE FIRING LINE. STAND BEHIND THE YELLOW SAFETY LINE.
8. ALWAYS KEEP THE MUZZLE POINTED AT THE BACKSTOP DURING LIVE FIRE PERIODS. WHEN THE RSO STATES THAT GUNS MAY BE MOVED, HPSP REQUIRES THAT THE MUZZLE BE POINTED STRAIGHT UP WHILE THE GUN IS MOVING. DO NOT MOVE A GUN WITH THE MUZZLE POINTED DOWN OR HELD LEVEL.

RANGE COMMANDS

HPSP uses "plain language" commands that are somewhat different from the standard line commands used at many ranges. We do this so the commands are clear to inexperienced shooters and public shooters who are not familiar with military or NRA command phrases. Here is the sequence of commands beginning from a Cease Fire period:

- A. "Shooters may step to the line and make ready to fire." (Shooters are permitted to do everything to ready the firearm except pulling the trigger.)
- B. "Everyone check eyes and ears." (The fire command will not be given until all persons under the roof of the range are wearing eye and ear protection.)
- C. "Fire at will." (All shooters are free to fire their weapons until "Cease Fire" is called.)
- D. "Cease fire." (All shooters will stop firing their weapons immediately.)
- E. "Make your weapon safe, remove magazines and insert your empty chamber indicator." (All firearms must be fully emptied of ammunition and the yellow flag must be properly placed in the open chamber.)
- F. "If you have a gun you want to bring to the line or remove from the line, or if you want to move to a different distance, you may move the gun now." (Move your firearms to or from a rack or to a different shooting bench, keeping the muzzle pointed skyward while moving the gun.)
- G. "Step behind the yellow line." (No shooters will be permitted to go downrange until all persons are physically separated from the guns at the line.)
- H. "Anyone wanting to check, change or hang targets may do so." (Shooters are permitted to go downrange to targets. All others remain **BEHIND THE YELLOW LINE.**)

Once all persons have returned from downrange, the sequence begins again with command "A".

(CONTINUED ON BACK)

AT THE RANGE

1. Upon arrival, please wait for the Range Safety Officer at your vehicle. The RSO must check your barrel to ensure the bore is not obstructed in any way and Empty Chamber Indicator is in place before the gun can be taken to the firing line.
2. Follow the instructions of the RSO in transporting your gun from the vehicle to the range.
3. Whenever you are carrying a gun, it is the policy of HPSP to hold the gun with the barrel pointed skyward, action open and empty chamber indicator in place. The empty chamber indicator must be visible while carrying firearms. Consequently, firearms cannot be carried inside cases to the line.
4. The RSO is responsible for the safety of all shooters and visitors. Instructions given by the RSO must be followed without question.
5. This is a COLD RANGE. That means you cannot load or handle a loaded firearm until the RSO gives you permission to do so.
6. The RSO will assign a shooting bench to you. You may place any shooting equipment or accessories on the assigned bench, but the firearm may not be taken to the firing line until the RSO specifically instructs you to do so.
7. The RSO will also provide your first paper target, which is included with your admission fee.
8. Once at the bench, the firearm should always be pointed DOWNRANGE (toward the backstop berm.)
9. The muzzle of your gun should never move outside an angle of control that is defined as 45 degrees to the left or right of the center line to the target. NEVER point the muzzle of loaded gun above the berm.
10. At certain times, the RSO may be supervising multiple ranges. DO NOT go downrange until the RSO is present and a cease-fire is in effect. Under some conditions, the RSO may instruct you and other shooters at your range to self-direct cease-fires. Unless such instructions have been given, shooters may NOT self-direct cease-fires.
11. The rifle range is not designed for the trajectories of defensive handguns. Only hunting handguns, fired from a seated or benched position, are allowed on the rifle ranges.
12. "Shooting from the hip" is not permitted at any recreational range. Holstered pistols, and drawing from a holster, is not permitted.
13. No rapid shooting is permitted. Firing faster than one shot per second is a violation of our rules.
14. Stop shooting immediately upon the "Cease Fire" command, without regard to who called the command. Any shooter or spectator who observes an unsafe condition is authorized to call "Cease Fire," and all other shooters are obligated to stop firing and step away from their firearm.
15. Eating, smoking and drinking from open (non-lidded) containers is prohibited. Lead particles are attracted to moist surfaces such as food, cigarette filters and beverage rims. Ingesting lead from any of those sources is dangerous.
16. Airborne lead particles contaminate every surface at the range. Hands should be washed in COLD water and soap to remove particles. (Warm or hot water opens skin pores and allows the lead to penetrate the skin.)
17. Pregnant women and children under the age of 7 should consult a physician before visiting the range. They should be aware of the dangers of lead exposure.
18. Young people under the age of 12 are required to wear EAR MUFFS to protect their hearing. The size and structure of the ear canal in children under 12 is not suited to adult ear plugs, and plugs cannot be safely used.
19. Shooters must remain behind the firing line at all times while shooting is in progress, and may not shoot from any position forward of the firing line. Prone shooting is NOT permitted at our recreational range.
20. Targets:
 - Shoot only at authorized targets. Targets are designed for certain range distances and physical conditions, unauthorized targets may cause hazards when used at our range.
 - All targets must be placed so that all shots impact the backstop berm.
 - Multiple paper targets are allowed on frame backers provided the targets do not exceed the size of the backer.
 - All personal targets must be approved by the RSO prior to use.
 - No exploding targets are allowed at recreational ranges.
 - No targets that clearly represent human forms, profiles or figures are allowed. FBI/Q-type targets, of a design that does not create a clearly human torso/head shape (bowling pin shape), may be allowed at the discretion of the RSO.
 - No cans, bottles or non-paper targets are permitted.
 - Targets are to be removed from the target frame upon completion of shooting.
21. Shooters should remove their empty brass casings from the range prior to leaving. You are free to take your own brass with you. If you are not keeping your brass, deposit it in a brass bucket. You may not remove brass deposited by other shooters from a bucket.
22. Shooters under 16 years of age must be accompanied by an adult on the range. The adult may be a parent, coach or any other person 18 years of age and older for rifle; and 21 years of age or older for handgun.
23. Range B (the Rimfire "Plinking" Range) is restricted to .22 rimfire ammunition only (22 Long Rifle or slower.) .17 caliber ammunition is NOT permitted, due to their higher impact energy which exceeds the capacity of the range to contain ricochets.

PROHIBITED FIREARMS AND AMMUNITION

The range was designed to contain and control the impact of hunting and defensive rounds. The following firearms and ammunition are prohibited, because they exceed HPSP's design capability:

- 50 BMG caliber firearms are prohibited
- Fully-automatic firearms are prohibited, including bump-stocks and similar accessories that mimic full-auto fire conditions.
- Tracer-type ammunition is prohibited, due to the risk of wildfire ignition.
- Steel core or armor-piercing ammunition is limited to paper targets only. DO NOT USE ON STEEL TARGETS.
- The mining of lead from any range berm is prohibited.

THANK YOU FOR VISITING HEARTLAND PUBLIC SHOOTING PARK!
FOR INFORMATION AND UPCOMING EVENTS, VISIT www.HeartlandPublicShootingPark.com.

(Revised January, 2015)