

FOREST LAKE SPORTSMEN'S CLUB

RANGE OFFICER GUIDE

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NOTES

I. INTRODUCTION

Thank you for volunteering for range officer duty with the Forest Lake Sportsmen's Club. It is your job to provide for the shooters, a safe and friendly shooting experience.

During your time on the range, you are an ambassador of FLSC. Your actions while in uniform (blaze orange vest) will create a good or bad impression on the shooter. Good impressions last a long time. Bad impressions last a lifetime.

You'll need to use all of your senses. Watch for little things such as:

- Making sure people use the right ammunition for their gun
- Listen for things that people say that could lead to an unsafe situation
- Friendly enforcement of the Range Rules
- Make sure no-one wanders in front of the firing line, even to pickup brass
- Children unsupervised by their parents
- Making sure guns are clean and working properly
- Helping people sight in their guns, and being comfortable
 & confident with them
- The names of some gun dealers. Some are really good, and some are really bad
- Support your other Range Officers this is a team effort, and should be fun
- Make shooters feel glad they came with a friendly goodbye, good luck, and thanks for coming.
- Most of all, if you have any questions, don't be afraid to ask!

II. ACCIDENTS, EMERGENCIES, & FIRST-AID

In the event of an accident or an emergency, stay with the victim and comfort as you see fit. Have another range officer notify the Rifle Range Manager who has our well-supplied First Aid Kit (in the cabin) and who will make decisions as to what action should be taken. If you have a cell phone don't hesitate to **bring it with you**, it could save a life.

When calling an emergency phone number, make sure that you include the GPS number listed below so emergency staff can easily find the rifle range.

Rifle Range Gate #1 G.P.S. #24111
Phone Number 651-466-0253 (if turned on)

III. WORK HOURS

In order for everything to be on schedule when shooting time begins, Range Officers are encouraged to arrive **early**. You should park your vehicle in the far rear of the parking lot.

Tasks that must be completed prior to the shooters arriving include:

- Unload supplies
- Install targets down range
- Secure spotting scopes at benches
- · Clean up ranges
- Start fires (only if safe to do so)
- Make coffee

Make sure each shooting lane has at least 3-4 sand bags and/or a wood rest and sandbags.

X. IN APPRECIATION

Thank you for showing interest in your club by volunteering your time at the annual FLSC Sight-In Days event. Your support and willingness greatly helps to make our goals a reality.

Range Officer duty not only helps the club, but it goes a long way to saving the lives of some of our shooters who, without your one-on-one contact giving them the proper way to handle a firearm, may otherwise come to harm without your effort.

Using your skills helping shooters also brings more game animals to bag and greatly diminishes the number of animals that would be lost due to poor habits of the hunter.



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IX. ADJUSTING IRON SIGHTS

The basic rule of thumb for adjusting iron sights is to **move** the rear sight in the direction that you want the bullet holes to go on the target. In other words, if you want to go further to the right, move the rear sight to the right.

If the person has dovetail sights, and they need to be adjusted manually, a brass drift should be used to move it.

If you do not have a brass drift, you can take a spent brass shell, and insert a screwdriver, or suitable rod and lightly tap the rod or screwdriver with a small hammer.

When adjusting dovetail sights, always make a reference mark with a pencil to determine where you started.



IV. RANGE RULES

- 1. Safety is Priority.
- NO SMOKING ONCE YOU GO DOWN THE HILL!
- 3. No shooting before 9:00 am Monday through Saturday, 10:00 am on Sundays.
- 4. People may not sign up after 3:30pm
- 5. The Range Officer is in complete control of operation & safety of the range.
- 6. No shooting without a FLSC Range Officer present.
- 7. All Guns must be kept in a case until they are at the shooting range. This means that guns must be put in cases when being moved between ranges, including the parking lot.
- 8. Actions must be open, with chambers & magazines empty on all firearms unless you are on the shooting line & the "Commence Fire" command has been given.
- 9. Everyone not shooting must stay behind the yellow firing line during regular shooting.
- 10. When the range officer closes the range & turns on the **RED** light, **everyone** must step back behind the yellow line with all guns unloaded, actions open, and guns set in the gun rack to the rear of the shooting area.

IV. RANGE RULES (continued)

- 11. Any unsafe situation will be corrected immediately, or the offender will be asked to leave. Repeat offenders will not be allowed on the range.
- 12. Anyone observing an unsafe situation on the range should notify the Range Officer immediately and the Range Officer should rectify the problem or close the range and notify the Rifle Range Manager. The Range Officer may not have seen the infraction but should handle the issue as soon as he (or she) is notified.
- 13. No shooting at anything other than targets posted on the designated target holders at the backstop.
- 14. No hunting or shooting at wildlife.
- 15. No shooting on the 200/300 yard range with guns not designed for long range (i.e., .22 rimfire and 30-30 Win).
- 16. Only range officers are permitted to go down range.
- 17. Muzzles must point downrange at all times unless in the gun rack or in a case.
- 18. No alcoholic beverages allowed on the rifle range or in the parking lot.
- 19. No one under the influence of alcohol or illegal substances is allowed on the rifle range.

VIII. NEW GUNS & SELDOM USED GUNS

Whenever your hear someone mention that they have a new gun, or a gun that hasn't been shot in a long time, you should pay special attention. Here are some potential problems to look for:

Grease in the Barrel

New guns are packed in grease. Sometimes the stores do a poor job, or completely ignore cleaning the bore of grease. This grease can cause a barrel obstruction. You should make sure that the barrel is inspected and cleaned.

Debris in the Barrel

Guns that haven't been shot for a long time may have things in the barrel that don't belong there, such as spider eggs and dust. Again, inspect the barrel with a bore light, and get it cleaned.

Poorly Mounted Scopes

It is amazing how many firearms dealers in the area are incapable of properly mounting new scopes. Problems include loose mounts, loose screws, missing screws, and scopes mounted backwards. The club cannot assume any liability for fixing a customer's equipment, so make sure that they do any adjustments and screw tightening. Green, blue, or Red LocTite should be used on all screws. A little is all that you need, and if you can see the coloring of it, you've used too much. Remember that LocTite has a shelf life of about 6 months, so buy a fresh tube before the season, and keep it refrigerated.

VII. SIGHTING IN A SCOPE

Sighting in a scope is a relatively easy process. It involves moving the proper dial in the direction that you want to go.

If the scope is ¼ inch per click at 100 yards, it will be 1/8 inch per click at 50 yards and will be 1/16 inch per click at 25 yards. In other words, a scope designated as being ¼ inch per click at 100 would have to be moved 4 clicks per inch at 100, 8 clicks per inch at 50 and 16 clicks per inch at 25. Be advised some scopes have different fractional values at 100 yards and some scopes are soft, that is they don't click. A penny usually makes a pretty inexpensive adjustment tool.

Tap the scope lightly with a screwdriver handle after each adjustment to suitably set the springs in the scope so the adjustment registers.

Number of Inches	Clicks at 25 Yards	Clicks at 50 Yards	Clicks at 100 Yards
1 Inch	16	8	4
2 Inches	32	16	8
3 Inches	48	24	12
4 Inches	64	32	16

- 20. Members may shoot after 4pm & must finish by sunset.
- 21. Every shooter, spotter, spectator, and/or range officer will wear ear protection. Eye protection is encouraged but not mandatory.
- 22. GUN SAFETY!!! When a bullet leaves the barrel of your firearm, it cannot be called back. It can cause irreversible damage to a person or property that YOU would be responsible for, and would have to live with.



V. SPECIAL RULES FOR MUZZLE-LOADERS

- Muzzle-loaders are welcome at our club. Due to the nature of the beast, special precautions must be taken to limit our exposure to fire.
- Muzzle-loaders should be loaded on the bench behind the shooting bench. Priming powder or percussion caps should not be installed until the shooter is at the shooting bench.
- 3. Shooters on either side of the muzzle loader should be warned about brass fragments from a percussion cap or powder flash from a flintlock coming their way.
- 4. Handgun shooters should use the manufacturer's Recommended powder charge and not exceed it as it will cause burning powder out of the barrel to possibly ignite the carpeting in the tube.
- 5. Never allow a shooter to load powder into any muzzle-loader from a powder horn or other bulk container of black powder.
- 6. Only allow powder to be poured from a powder measure or pre measured vials.
- 7. Make sure the shooter cleans the area of any grains of powder that may have been spilled during loading or shooting.

VI. SPECIAL CONSIDERATION FOR SHOTGUNS

Shotguns may be fired on the rifle range with slugs only. The use of shot is forbidden.

Rifled slugs should be used in smooth bore barrels. There is an exception where some rifled slugs are made for rifled barrels, and are specifically marked on the package, therefore non-rifled slugs (Sabots) should be used in rifled barrels.

If a person is uncertain if their smooth bore shotgun can shoot a slug, a simple test can be made to determine the barrel size. **If a dime can pass through the barrel**, the general rule is that a slug can pass through it. If not, the barrel will split or explode. Full Chokes cannot pass slugs.



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