

Sporting Shooters' Association of Australia
Mackay Branch Inc.
STANDING ORDERS - GEORGE RANGE

SECTION 1 – GENERAL

These Range Standing Orders (SO's) cover the use of the 'George Range' facility operated by the SSAA Mackay Branch Inc.

Requests for exemptions from any provisions of these SO's shall be submitted in writing to the Club Executive for consideration.

Applying for or renewing branch membership requires signed confirmation that these SO's have been read and comprehended.

1.1 Revisions

These SO's have been published and revised on the dates listed below:

Original publication: May 1, 2009
Revision dates: Aug 24/09, Nov 22/09, June 06/10, May 18/11

SECTION 2 – RANGE FACILITY

2.1 Range Description

This range complex has multiple ranges. Ranges are numbered and divided by concrete walls.

- Range 1 and 2 – 50m handgun / handgun calibres and Single Action
- Range 3 – Any firearm
- Range 4 – Any firearm / Range 4 has two firing lines.
 - The Bench Firing Line and Forward Line are not to be used concurrently.

Approved matches, at times, use multiple ranges depending upon need.

The range is a Fauna Sanctuary. No wildlife of any sort is to be harmed.
Remove any livestock from the range prior to shooting.

SECTION 3 – PERSONNEL

3.1 Range Officer (RO)

The RO has complete authority on the range property to conduct approved shooting matches and match practices.

RO's must hold a current Queensland weapon's licence. All Range Officers names are to be clearly displayed at any active range.

RO's have the responsibility to supervise all personnel (shooting and non-shooting alike) present on the property and, with reasonable cause, may have Amenity members and/or non-members removed at his/her discretion.

A Range Officer will appoint assistant range officers as necessary to ensure the supervision of persons.

In the case where multiple disciplines are conducted simultaneously, the Range Officer whose discipline was the first established on the range (i.e. chronologically), will assume the position and responsibility of Chief Range Officer.

Complaints against Range Officers, or others, are to be in writing and forwarded to the Secretary.

SSAA Mackay Branch Inc.
STANDING ORDERS - GEORGE RANGE

3.2 Unlicensed Shooters

In accordance with Section 53 of the Weapons Act, Unlicensed shooters or licensed shooters who are not authorised to possess the weapon he/she proposes to physically possess and use must complete a Form 33.

The initial presence on the range will require the unlicensed shooter to complete of a Form 33. NOTE that an endorsed photo is required.

At subsequent attendances the RO may only require the unlicensed shooter to complete an entry in the Form 33A Register. (Endorsed photo required)

The Range Register must be completed in addition to the Form 33 or 33A.

The RO must endorse the Form 33 and or the 33A Register as well as the Range Register in accordance with Sect 53(3) of the Weapons Act **prior to the commencement of shooting.**

3.3 Attendance and Membership

To retain Club Amenity Membership, licensed members with handguns must meet the legally required participation in each July – June financial year. Members' participation records must be completed at the end of a qualifying shoot and be countersigned by the range officer.

Members who are unable to meet the attendance requirements should advise the Management Committee and seek advice regarding response to the Weapons' Licensing Branch.

In accordance with the legislation, licensed shooters must advise the Club Secretary of all Classes of firearms in their possession during July of each year. Classes are listed in the Participation Booklet which is available from the Executive Committee.

Persons wishing to shoot must either be an Amenity member or be the guest of an Amenity member. When the Range Caretaker (if licensed) is in residence he/she may assume the role of RO and/or Amenity member.

Daily RANGE FEES apply to adult persons who are not financial Amenity members of SSAA Mackay Branch Inc.

If shooting:

- at least two persons, both of whom are of an age to physically possess a firearm, must be in attendance at any given time.
- One of these persons must be a licensed adult who will assume the role of Range Officer and thus endorse the relevant range registers.
- If the RO intends to shoot another adult licensed person must be in attendance.

The above does not apply to Firearms Instructors engaged in Licensing Courses.

3.4 Guests and Spectators

Guests (children and adults) are the responsibility of the adult Amenity member who they came with and must remain under adult control at all times.

Non-shooting members, guests and spectators must document their attendance in the Visitors' Register.

Spectators are the responsibility of the RO. The RO may appoint another club member to assist in the supervision of spectators.

SSAA Mackay Branch Inc.
STANDING ORDERS - GEORGE RANGE

SECTION 4 – RANGE OPERATIONS

4.1 Security

Shooting on the range will only occur in the presence of a Range Officer.

The entrance to the range proper may, at times, be locked. Shoot Captains, members of the executive, and any persons the range operator deems necessary will have keys. Shoot captains will, if necessary, ensure all gates are closed upon leaving the range.

Range Register cabinets will be locked – Shoot captains will ensure the range registers are locked away prior to leaving the range.

4.2 Flags

A RED flag must be flown from the flagpole at the main entrance to the complex when firing is being conducted on any range within the facility. The Red flag is not to be flown when there is no shooting on the range. During night shoots, the red flag is to be clearly illuminated by means of the spotlight mounted on the clubhouse.

4.3 Firearms

All firearms must be brought cased to the firing line. Under no circumstances will a firearm be uncased at a vehicle and carried to the firing line.

No firearm is to be removed from the firing line unless it has been inspected and cleared by a range officer. The firearm is then cased and in due course, returned to the owner's vehicle.

4.4 Targets

Position targets to avoid bullets striking the concrete dividing walls.

Full Metal Jacketed projectiles:-

... are prohibited on pistol ranges one and two.

... may only be used on other ranges IF the rules of an Approved Match AND the associated Shoot Captain/Range Officer permits. (eg Silhouette Pistol / Rifle)

Never shoot at objects outside range boundaries.

Glass targets are not permitted.

Practice targets are NOT to be left on the range. Take them home.

Steel targets are not to be shot from distances that could cause dangerous ricochets.

Minimum distance at which steel targets are shot is dependant upon the rulings within specific shooting disciplines. The following minimum distances shall be enforced with the exception of shooting discipline rulings.

Pistols Calibres using lead projectiles.....	7 metres	refer Definitions
Rifles – Rimfire.....	25 metres	
Rifles – Centrefire.....	50 metres	

When steel targets are being used everyone, including spectators, on the range / bay MUST wear safety glasses.

Steel Silhouette targets are not to be used without the permission of the relevant shoot captain.

SSAA Mackay Branch Inc.
STANDING ORDERS - GEORGE RANGE

4.5 Range Registers

Upon arrival at the range every person, who intends to shoot, must sign the Range Register/s.

Persons not intent on shooting are required to sign the Visitors' Register.

Range Registers are positioned at the rear of the firing line. The registers are to be maintained in accordance with the Weapons Act. Range Officers are to pay particular attention to the additional recording requirements for handgun ranges as well as noting the sighting of 'photographic proof of identity' for Forms 33 / 33A.

The Range Officer is required to physically sight participants' firearms licences. Amenity members and visitors who are not able to produce their licence will not be permitted to shoot as this would be in contravention of the Weapons Act.

All entries must be checked and endorsed before commencement of shooting.

4.6 Ammunition

The use of tracer, incendiary, explosive or similar ammunition is prohibited.

The muzzle velocity and muzzle energy of ammunition is to conform to the conditions of the Range Approval/s which are displayed in the office.

4.7 Firing

The following firing guidelines are applicable to all ranges on the complex:

- The range is closed to shooting on Mondays and Tuesdays unless prior arrangements have been made with the Executive.
- Shooting is only to occur between 6 AM and 6 PM Wednesday to Sunday with the exception of Friday and Saturday when 'Sanctioned Matches' may shoot up until 9:30 PM.
- No firing if target visibility is reduced as determined by the RO.
- Shooters with loaded firearms must be under RO direction.
- Firearms shall never be left unattended.
- No firearm is to be removed from the firing line unless it has been inspected and cleared by a range officer.
- Any person who believes there may be a risk to people, livestock or property must call a cease-fire.
- Red Lights signal range / bay closure. No shooting or handling of firearms, except in Fumble Zone or designated Safety Areas.
- Members who wish to use a range, which adjoins to a range on which a designated competition is taking place, must seek the permission of the competition Range Officer and /or Chief Range Officer.
- Shooters may move forward of the firing line whilst firing is in being conducted in adjoining ranges, BUT must not under any circumstance venture past the end of the concrete dividing walls.

4.8 Safety / Danger Zones

The range has a safety (danger) area designed for specific firearms and calibres. These areas are out of bounds (no trespassing) areas designed to contain overshot and ricocheting bullets. Every reasonable effort shall be extended by the RO to ensure that the safety area does not have people in it during range operations.

SSAA Mackay Branch Inc.
STANDING ORDERS - GEORGE RANGE

4.9 Fumble Zone

The designated Fumble Zone is signposted and situated behind range 1. This is for gun handling/dry fire practice during competition. **No Live Ammunition** may be taken into or handled in any Designated Fumble Zone under any circumstances.

4.10 Storage / Holsters

All handguns must be holstered (or cased with actions open) and magazines removed, except when under the instruction of an RO, while on an active firing line or while in the inspection area. Firearms are always to be pointed downrange when not holstered.

Holsters must be in accordance with the requirements of the match rules. eg. Semi-auto and double action handguns must not have their trigger exposed.

Holsters that are not in accordance with match rules are to be discouraged. ie low thigh holsters

Only persons who have a 'Holster Proficiency Card' may draw from the holster if the match rules permit.

4.11 Match Completion

At the conclusion of all matches or practices the RO will ensure that:

- all targets frames are returned to the storage shed;
- firing points are checked for brass and other debris;
- all firearms and ammunition have been removed from the range;
- all flags are lowered;
- Range Register Box locked;
- Buildings locked and entrance gates secured.

SECTION 5 –RANGE SAFETY CONSIDERATIONS

5.1 Communications

When Ranges 1 and 2 are active, both range officers are to maintain verbal contact.

(NOTE: During some matches UHF communications or loud hailer may be required.)

5.2 Hearing And Eye Protection

Hearing and eye protection for all attendees at the range in near proximity to an active firing line is strongly recommended.

5.3 Alcohol/Drugs

Any person deemed by the RO to be under the influence of alcohol or drugs will not be permitted to shoot.

5.4 Smoking

Smoking is not permitted within 10m of any blackpowder firearms being used or loaded.

Smokers should be encouraged to wash their hands after shooting and before smoking due to the hazard posed by the possible ingestion of lead.

SSAA Mackay Branch Inc.
STANDING ORDERS - GEORGE RANGE

5.5 Clothing

Complete camouflage clothing is prohibited and partial camouflage clothing is discouraged. The only exception is the uniform of serving members of the armed services officially shooting on the range.

Writing, slogans or images on clothing that may be deemed as inappropriate or offensive are not permitted.

Any clothing that may interfere with safe handling of firearms is to be corrected or removed.

Dress appropriately. A neat and tidy appearance including a sleeved shirt is encouraged.

Enclosed footwear is to be worn when handling firearms and participating in shooting activities. Thongs, sandals, or open loose fitting shoes are not acceptable. (refer Definitions)

5.6 First Aid Kit / Phone

A first aid kit and emergency phone is located at the entrance/s to the club house.

SECTION 6 – EMERGENCY INFORMATION

6.1 EMERGENCY PHONE NUMBERS For emergencies call 000

The following are non-emergency contact numbers. .

Fire – Walkerston	4959 2389
Ambulance – Rockhampton	4938 4887
Police – Eton	4954 1120
Police - Mirani	4959 1524

A list of these non-emergency phone numbers is displayed at the clubhouse adjacent to the phone.

Definitions:

PISTOL CALIBRES:- Those cartridges that were manufactured solely for a handgun or handgun / rifle combination. i.e. .357, 44.40 however excludes 'rifle' calibres that are used in handguns eg. .223 in a Thompson Contender.

SHOOT CAPTAIN:- Member appointed by the Executive to manage the shoot.

ENCLOSED FOOTWEAR:- the foot is closed in, surrounded completely, on all sides.