

It is intended that substantial changes be made to Appendix I Bisley Camp Standing Orders and Appendix II Bisley Range Safety Regulations, ready for implementation in 2013. It is proposed that the draft version will be available from the second half of 2012 for comment, on the NRA website.

BISLEY RANGE SAFETY REGULATIONS

Note: These Regulations will be amended as necessary and range users must check the current version displayed in the Range Office.

1 General

These Regulations govern the safe conduct of shooting on the NRA ranges at Bisley. All users of the ranges are bound by the Regulations, other than HM Forces and Government agencies operating under their own procedures with the prior approval of the NRA. The Regulations are augmented by, and should be read in conjunction with, the Rules of Shooting published annually by the NRA, the Regulations for Butt Markers and the regulations governing the administration of the ranges, which can be seen in the Range Office. In the interests of safety, any breach of these Regulations is to be reported immediately to an official of the NRA.

The NRA disclaims responsibility for any accident, injury, loss or damage arising from non-compliance with these Regulations.

Throughout these Regulations, unless the context explicitly makes clear otherwise, the expression "CE" means the Chief Executive or his authorised officers.

2 Firearms and Ammunition

- a All shooters are responsible for ensuring that their firearms and ammunition are safe to use. All firearms and ammunition must be made available for inspection and testing whenever required. The regulations concerning dangerous ammunition are laid out in Appendix V of the NRA Handbook, Rules of Shooting (the Bisley Bible), which is available on request.
- b Unless the CE has given prior permission in writing, use of the following on Bisley ranges is prohibited:
 - i Tracer; incendiary; armour piercing; armour piercing incendiary (API); depleted uranium; ammunition containing any igniferous or explosive substance.
 - ii Projectiles of any construction other than lead core with gilding metal or soft iron jacket, including specifically mono-metallic bullets (ie made from a single metal) except solid lead bullets.
- c The use on any NRA range of cartridges such as .50" Browning MG, 0.55" Boyes Anti-tank, 12.7mm Russian MG, or cartridges of similar or greater power, whether 'downloaded' or not, is absolutely forbidden, regardless of the type of firearm used to fire them.
- d **Limits as to Calibre, Muzzle Velocity and Muzzle Energy**

No firearm and ammunition combination which develops a muzzle energy exceeding 7000 J (5160 ft lb) may be used on any of the Bisley ranges without the specific permission of the CE which must be sought in writing well in advance of the planned use. The following specific limits apply:

- i for Rifle ranges, no specific calibre limitation but:
 - a maximum muzzle velocity of 1000 m/s (3280 ft/s) and
 - a maximum muzzle energy of 4500 J (3319 ft lb);

- ii for Gallery Rifle and Pistol ranges, no specific calibre limitation but:
a maximum muzzle velocity of 655 m/s (2150 ft/s) and
a maximum muzzle energy of 2030 J (1496 ft lb).
- iii for High Muzzle Energy (HME) firearms (see sub-para g below) the limits are:
a maximum muzzle velocity of 1000 m/s (3280 ft/s) and
a maximum muzzle energy of 7000 J (5160 ft lb);
In this case, special zeroing procedures are required as explained in regulation 2gi below.

e Additional Limits on Rifles other than Gallery Rifles

Rifles other than Gallery Rifles are to be fired from the prone or back position except where expressly provided by the conditions of a particular discipline or approved competition rules. The intention to fire from any other position must be notified to the Range Office at the time of booking to allow suitable target allocation on the range.

f Additional Limits on Antique and Muzzle Loading Rifles, Muskets and Pistols

- i None of the above firearms may be discharged on the 300m (AMS), Zero, Running Boar, Running Target or any of the Clay, Small-bore or Air Gun ranges;
- ii Permission for Muzzle Loading Rifles/Muskets to be discharged on any of the pistol ranges must be obtained from the CE in advance.
- iii Permission to fire firearms of large calibre whose ammunition is initiated by a black powder or equivalent charge, ie cannons, must be obtained from the CE in advance.

g Additional Limits on High Muzzle Energy (HME) Firearms

- i A High Muzzle Energy (HME) Firearm is defined as any firearm which, using a particular round, develops a muzzle energy (ME) in excess of 4500 J (3,319 ft lb). A special zeroing procedure is required with these firearms before they may be shot at any distance on any range at Bisley. The firearm may be zeroed on the NRA Zero Range using a special target supplied by the Range Office, or at a distance of 200 yards on a special target under the direction of a RCO qualified to conduct HME zeroing (see regulation 5 below).
- ii The muzzle energy of a firearm may be calculated from the bullet mass and the muzzle velocity. The attached graph may be used to determine whether a particular firearm/ammunition combination is HME or not. If the ME exceeds 4500 J then the advice of the Ranges Supervisors should be sought.
- iii .338" calibre HME rifles may not be used on any of the ranges due to Range Danger Area and Air Danger Height requirements, which exceed the available range safety template and air danger height available.

h Additional Limits on Section 5 Firearms

The use of Section 5 firearms (automatic/semi-automatic or pistols) including machine guns/submachine guns, both unconverted and converted to single shot, are only permitted with prior permission from the CE. Such permission will rarely be given.

i Additional Limits on Shotguns

- i Shotguns may be used on Clay Target ranges. Solid shot or slug is not permitted on Clay Target ranges. Restrictions on the size of lead shot which may be used on Clay Target ranges may have to be applied from time to time.
- ii Shotguns may be used on Time Limit range with the prior permission of the Chairman BSRC.

- iii Shotguns firing solid shot or slug may be used on Stickledown, Century, or Short Siberia ranges with the prior permission of the CE. On these ranges, projectiles other than solid shot or slug may generally only be used on Butt Zero (between the 800 and 900 yard firing points on Stickledown) unless the match conditions of an event authorised by the NRA requires their use elsewhere. All such use must conform to range safety parameters.
- iv Shotguns may be used elsewhere on Bisley (eg for vermin control) only with the prior permission of the CE.

3 Ranges and permitted Firearms

Ranges and the firearms permitted on them are as follows:

Rifle Ranges

- i **Stickledown** (Gallery, 800 - 1200 yards). Rifles; gallery rifles, shotguns and pistols by special arrangement only. Shotguns firing solid slug may be used only with the prior permission of the CE. Electronic targets are available.
- ii **Century** (Gallery, 100 - 600 yards). Rifles; gallery rifles, shotguns and pistols by special arrangement only. Electronic targets are available.
- iii **300m** (Butt 10) (Gallery, 100 yards - 300 metres). Rifles; gallery rifles, shotguns and pistols by special arrangement only.
- iv **300 metres** (AMS) (Gallery, 300 metres only). Target rifles and rifles conforming to ISSF Regulations not exceeding 8mm, limited availability.
- v **Short Siberia** (Gallery, 100 and 200 yards only). Rifles; gallery rifles, shotguns and pistols by special arrangement only.
- vi **Zero** (No Danger Area Range, 71' 7"). Fullbore rifles only. The prone or supine (back) positions only may be used.
- vii **Snail Trap** (No Danger Area). This is situated in the Zero Range, and may be used for all firearms except muzzle loading. The published instructions must be followed.

Gallery Rifle and Pistol Ranges

Fullbore centre fire rifles other than gallery rifles may never be used on pistol ranges unless approved in advance by the CE. Small-bore prone target rifles may be used on Melville but only by prior arrangement with the Range Office.

- viii **Melville** (Gallery Rifle and Pistol, turning targets at 25 and 50 metres). Gallery rifles and pistols; muzzle loading and prone .22" rimfire rifles by special arrangement only.
- ix **Cheylesmore** (No Danger Area Range). (Gallery Rifle and Pistol, turning targets at 25 metres only). Gallery rifles and cartridge pistols only.
- x **Time Limit** (Gallery Rifle and Pistol, and Shotgun, 10, 25 and 50 metres). Gallery rifles, shotgun, air rifles and air pistols only. Administered by the British Sporting Rifle Club.

Moving Target Ranges

- xi **Running Deer** (Running and Static Targets at 100 metres only). Administered by the British Sporting Rifle Club.
- xii **Running Boar** (Running and Static Targets at 50 metres only). GRCF, GRSB and small-bore rifles only. Administered by the British Sporting Rifle Club.
- xiii **Running Target** (Running Target at 10 metres only). Air rifles only (in the Clubhouse). Administered by the British Sporting Rifle Club.

Clay Target Ranges

- xiv **Cottesloe Heath** Sporting Clay Target and FITASC Sporting and FITASC layouts. Shotgun only. Administered by Bisley Shooting Ground.
- xv **Long Siberia** Sporting Clay Target and FITASC Sporting and FITASC layouts. Shotgun only. Administered by Bisley Shooting Ground.
- xvi **Shorts Clay Target Ranges** Skeet, Olympic Trap, ABT, DTL and Practice. Shotgun only. Administered by National Clay Shooting Centre.

Small-bore and Air Gun Ranges

- xvii **Winans** (No Danger Area Range, 10 and 25 metres). Air Rifles and Air Pistols only.
- xviii **NSRA International Range** (No Danger Area Range, 25 and 50 metres). Small-bore rifle and pistol only. Administered by the National Small-bore Rifle Association.
- xix **NSRA International Range** (Air Gun, 10m only). Air rifle and air pistol only. Administered by the National Small-bore Rifle Association.
- xx **Field Target** Air rifles only. Administered by the Bisley Field Target Organisation.

4 Range Use

- a No rifle or pistol ranges may be used without the prior permission of the NRA. For routine use, not requiring the prior permission of the CE, the allocation of range space by the range office constitutes permission.
- b The ranges are reserved for the use of NRA members and members of Associations and Clubs affiliated to the NRA. Other persons or bodies may only use the ranges with the prior permission of the CE. Persons prohibited from possession of firearms under S21 Firearms Act 1968 are prohibited from using Bisley Ranges.
- c All users of NRA ranges (other than those engaged in single shot .22” rimfire shooting in practices governed by the rules of the NSRA) must be in possession of a current Certificate of Safety and Competence, or be a novice being coached or certified on a one-to-one basis by the holder of such a certificate. Such a certificate is only valid if it bears the signature of the individual’s Club Chairman or the CE of the NRA. The certificate must be valid for all the firearms for which the user intends to fire on Bisley ranges. The certificate must be produced to the Range Office staff when signing-in as an individual shooter. RCOs must certify (see regulation 5) that all members of their group will comply with the above.
- d No shooting is permitted other than on approved ranges, except with the permission of the NRA.
 - i On the NRA ranges firers must use only the targets and the distances allocated to them by the Range Office. The use of extraordinary target arrays or firing points is forbidden except with the prior authority of the CE. Any concerns or queries in connection with the targets provided must be reported to the Range Office before firing commences.
 - ii On the NCSC Clay Target ranges the layouts to be used will be as allocated by the National Clay Shooting Centre. Only shooters, instructors or coaches authorised by the National Clay Shooting Centre, are permitted on to the firing point/line.
- e **Dates and times of shooting**

The rifle and pistol ranges are normally closed on Mondays (except Bank Holidays), Good Friday and between Christmas Eve and New Years Day inclusive. The Clay ranges may be open during the Christmas holiday period and at times other than those stated for the rifle and pistol ranges. Other closure periods will be notified at the gate or in the Range Office.

i **All ranges except NCSC Clay Ranges, Cheylesmore, Winans and Zero Range:**

Low Season

Weekdays: 08:30 to 12:30 and 13:30 to 16:00

Weekends: 08:30 to 12:30 and 13:30 to 16:00 (16:30 March)

High Season

Weekdays: 08:30 to 12:30 and 13:30 to 16:30

Weekends: 08:30 to 12:30 and 13:30 to 17:30

ii **Cheylesmore, Winans and Zero Range:**

As in (i) above but, in addition, shooting may recommence at 12:45 rather than 13:30 on all shooting days.

iii **NCSC Clay Target Ranges:**

The NCSC staff in consultation with the Range Office will arrange shooting times.

f **Signals Indicating Commencement and Cessation of Firing**

Unless prior permission has been requested and granted, the start and conclusion of shooting periods will be indicated by siren and must be strictly observed. One blast on the siren is the signal to RCOs that they may permit shooting to commence. A cease fire at the end of a shooting period will be notified by two long blasts on the siren. All shooters must cease fire and unload. Should an immediate cease fire be required at any other time this will be indicated by four (or more) blasts of the siren: all shooters must cease fire at once. All RCOs and radio users must select the emergency channel on their radios and await instructions. If permission to continue firing is granted, it will be indicated to RCOs by one long blast on the siren.

g **Restrictions on Targets**

Unless prior permission has been obtained from the CE only targets from the NRA approved set may be used. The more commonly used targets are detailed in the NRA Handbook Appendix IV, and the full target set may be consulted on application to the Shooting Division NRA. Targets are to be used in the frames or holders provided and are to be engaged only from the recognised firing points and appropriate shooting station or peg. Snap targets are to be exposed in or in front of target frames. No laterally-moving target may be used on gallery ranges without the permission of the CE. Skittles or falling plates may not be engaged at a distance of less than 25 yards (22 metres) without the permission of the CE.

h **Restrictions on Firing**

Indiscriminate firing is forbidden. In rapid fire practices no more than 15 shots may be fired in one minute unless otherwise permitted by the CE.

5 Range Conducting Officer (RCO)

- a An Association, Club or group of persons intending to shoot on any range must appoint an RCO who will be present on the range while shooting is in progress and whose responsibility it is to ensure that firing is conducted in a safe manner and in accordance with these Regulations. An individual shooter will be regarded as his own RCO.
- b Before commencement of shooting the RCO must sign the register in the NRA Range Office, thereby accepting responsibility to ensure that firing under his supervision is conducted in accordance with these Regulations. He must also sign off when shooting is completed and report any infringement of these Regulations to an NRA official as soon as possible.

- c The RCO must ensure that firers under his control are insured. The minimum acceptable level of insurance is that provided under the NRA Club and Members Policy. (*Details on the level of indemnity required are available from the NRA membership department*). Individual NRA members are so insured. Members of affiliated clubs who are not individual members may only shoot when their club has booked the range space on an official club day.
- d If the RCO intends to conduct zeroing practices at 200 yards with an HME firearm (see regulation 2g i above) he must hold the RCO (HME) qualification. Once the HME firearm has been correctly zeroed, firing at any other distance or on any other range may be conducted by any RCO, who need not hold the RCO (HME) qualification.

6 Safety Regulations

- a Unless prior permission has been obtained from NRA, no firearm may be loaded or fired before the siren has indicated the commencement of a shooting period, nor shall a firearm be loaded or fired until the RCO has given the order to load and to fire. Equipment and firearms may not be placed on the firing point except under the direction of the RCO and where it is safe in all respects to fire.
- b Aiming or “snapping” an unloaded firearm is NOT allowed in any public place except as part of a properly organised course of instruction, or when in the firing position on a firing point with the permission of the RCO, and then only if it would, in all respects, be safe to fire a live round.
- c No firearm is to be loaded until the shooter is in the firing position on a recognised firing point. Except when otherwise prescribed in the conditions of a discipline or competition, a loaded firearm must at all times point towards the butts. When loading, unloading or checking a rifle, the barrel must at all times be pointed in a safe direction. At no time may any part of the body be placed in front of the muzzle of a loaded firearm.
- d Individual firers are responsible for ensuring that their firearm is safe at all times. On the conclusion of a shoot or stage, or on the order of the RCO, all firers must:
 - i unload their firearm and inspect the chamber, action and magazine (if one is fitted) to ensure that the firearm is clear,
 - ii if using a bolt-action firearm, remove the bolt,
 - iii present their firearm to the coach, register keeper or RCO on the firing point and have them inspect and confirm that the firearm is clear,
 - iv for a Service Weapon, complete the unload,
 - v either keep the bolt removed or insert a breech flag (or both) for any bolt-action rifle, or carry out the equivalent procedure for other firearms (which may include casing in accordance with GR&P procedure)

before leaving the firing point and before anyone goes forward of the firing point. Where applicable the firer must also ensure that the coach, register keeper or RCO signs their squadding card as having inspected and cleared the firearm.

- e At all times except during a shoot a bolt action rifle is either to have the bolt removed or a breech flag inserted. A self-loading firearm is to be in the “unloaded” condition, ie magazine removed, no round in the chamber, working parts forward and not cocked and safety catch applied. As an exception to the foregoing the L98A2 Cadet GP rifle is to be carried with a breech flag inserted. Pistols are to be carried in a box or closed pistol sleeve at all times; pistols are not to be holstered except on the range and as required by the conditions of a shoot. All other firearms are to be carried in as demonstrably safe a manner as is possible for the firearm concerned.

- f A competitor acting in a dangerous manner will forthwith be forbidden to fire again or take further part in any shoot at Bisley until a report has been made to the NRA and the circumstances have been fully investigated. Where considered appropriate the matter will be reported to the NRA for possible disciplinary action.
- g Care must be taken when changing distance or crossing a range. RCOs must immediately call an emergency cease fire (“Stop, Stop, Stop”) and order firearms to be ‘benched’ or unloaded if it appears that a person is likely to enter the danger area. Particular care must be taken on days when reverse echelon firing (500/600 yards on the left hand side and 200/300 yards on the right hand side of Century Range, or 1000 yards on the left hand side and 900 yards on the right hand side of Stickledown Range) is operating.

7 Safe Custody

Firearms and live ammunition, when not in the personal care of the person responsible, must be kept in an armoury, under lock and key in secure accommodation or otherwise in accordance with Home Office guidance. Responsibility for the safe custody of firearms or ammunition lies with the individual owner.

8 Butts

- a Markers are to enter and leave the butts by the covered and recognised safe approaches provided and within the markers gallery; on no account are markers to use the roads in the butts while firing is in progress. Markers and all others in the butts must remain within the protection of their gallery and under the mantlet while shooting is in progress. All who are working or marking in the butts must wear hearing protection.
- b On no account is any object to be thrown or placed upon the face of the butt or mantlet. Butts must be tidied before the marker leaves his position.

9 Minors

Minors under the age of 14 must remain under the supervision of a parent or guardian or other competent adult at all times during shooting periods. Their hearing must be fully protected. They are not allowed as markers in the butts. There is no minimum age limit for minors to shoot on Bisley ranges. However, for minors under the age of 14 an application for permission to shoot must be made to the NRA well in advance of the planned visit. This does not affect any cadet organisations whilst shooting at an official cadet organised event.

10 Dogs

Dogs must be kept on a lead at all times in the domestic area of Camp and also on the ranges when shooting is taking place.

11 Spectators

Spectators are to remain behind the firing point at all times and are to comply strictly with the instructions given by the RCO or any NRA official. Adequate precautions must be taken by spectators to protect their hearing.

12 Vehicles

- a Unless prior permission has been granted by the Range Office, private vehicles may never:
 - i go beyond the 1000 yards firing point on Stickledown Range; or
 - ii go behind the firing points on Century range except at 600 yards, or behind the firing points on Short Siberia.

Exceptions to sub-paras i and ii:

- Motor vehicles carrying a disabled person displaying a valid Disabled Range Access Pass, issued from the Range Office.

- Light motorised vehicles e.g. golf buggies. These vehicles may approach all firing points no closer than 20 metres but must not hinder or restrict any access by pedestrians.
- b These rules may be varied for disabled persons and those with special needs only with the permission of the Range Office. This must be requested on each and every occasion. Disabled passes are available, for those registered disabled, on application to the Range Office.

13 Breaches of Regulations

Breaches of these regulations are to be reported immediately to a member of staff in the Range Office.

14 Use of Radios and Emergency Procedures

Communications between users and RCOs on the ranges and the Range Control are normally by radio. The control channel on NRA radios is Ch16, the one on the furthest clockwise stud on the frequency knob. In the event of an emergency RCOs should switch to the control channel and pass the message *“Emergency, Emergency, Emergency, Hello Control this is (eg) Range 13 at 300 yards, firer injured and requires . . .”*. In this case, all other radio users are to remain off the air until the emergency has been dealt with. First Aid equipment is available in the Range Office and the NRA vehicles. Trained First Aiders are on duty in the Range Office. All injuries are to be reported immediately to a member of the Range Office staff who will, if necessary, call an ambulance (and post a guide at the entrance to Camp) and enter full details of the occurrence in both the Accident and Incident Books. The control channel is monitored continuously when the ranges are open, and is the simplest and fastest method of contacting the NRA staff and of obtaining help in an emergency.

15 Health

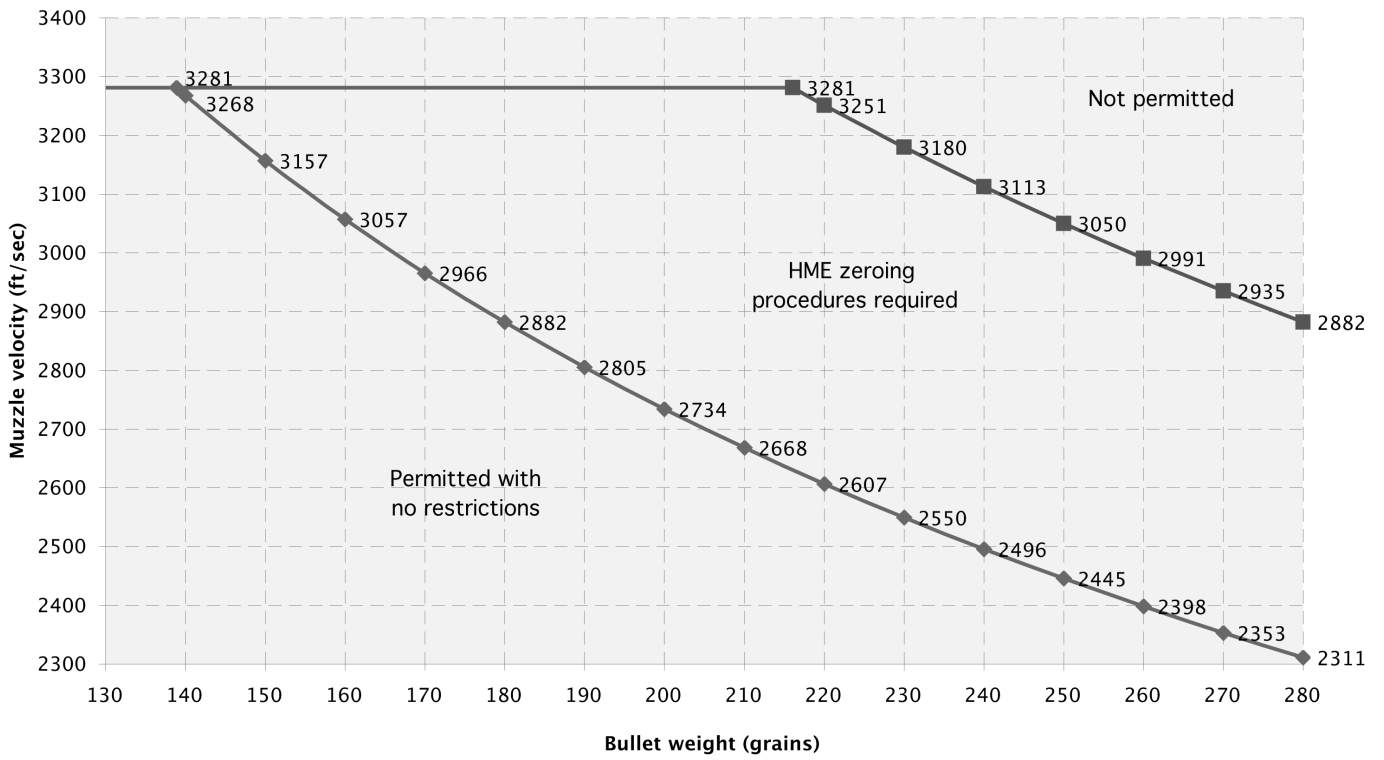
In view of the potential permanent damage which can be caused to hearing, all persons involved in a shoot, or in close proximity when shooting is taking place, must wear hearing protection. The wearing of hearing protection is mandatory when in the butts. The wearing of eye protection by all pistol and gallery rifle shooters and by spectators on the range, is highly recommended at all times and will be obligatory in all matches where hard targets are being used or where the competition rules require it.

16 Clothing and Equipment

In accordance with Rule 201, a firer whose equipment (including firearms) or dress are thought inappropriate or likely to bring the Association into disrepute may be challenged by the RCO or other member of NRA staff and may be required to withdraw.

17 ME Graph

Allowable limits for muzzle velocity and bullet weight



D Mabbott
Acting Chief Executive
National Rifle Association