

# Range Rules



## **Gun Safety - The fundamental rules are:**

### **1. Keep the gun pointed in a safe direction.**

A safe direction means that the gun is pointed so that even if it were to go off it would not cause injury or damage.

### **2. Keep your finger off the trigger until ready to shoot.**

Rest your finger on the outside of the trigger guard or along the side of the gun. Do not touch the trigger, until you are ready to fire.

### **3. Keep the gun unloaded until ready to use.**

When you pick up a gun, check that the safety device is engaged if possible. If the gun has a magazine, remove it before opening the action and looking into the chamber(s). The action should be clear of ammunition. If you do not understand how to open the action or inspect the chamber(s), leave the gun alone and get help from someone who does.

### **4. Know your target and what is beyond.**

Be sure you have identified your target, and the area beyond your target. This means observing your prospective area of fire before you shoot.

**Think first. Shoot second. Have fun third.**

## **Club Policies – General Club Information**

The Griffin Gun Club (GGC) is dedicated to providing an aesthetically pleasing, safe and enjoyable experience for all our family members.

1. GGC is a private club. Club members may bring their spouses and dependent children 18 years old and younger, and guests to the Club.

- Members must accompany dependent children and guests at all times.
- Members may bring up to five (5) guests to GGC at a time. Only one guest can shoot at any given time and must be under direct supervision by the member at all times.
- Local area guest(s), living within a 20-mile radius are limited to two visits. After these initial two visits, GGC expects guests to apply for membership.

2. Everyone must sign a liability release before entering or using any range.

3. Range hours are from 9am to 9pm unless approved by the GGC BoD (Law Enforcement night training). Anything outside of these hours needs to inform the Safety Officer.

4. The speed limit on club property is 15 mph.

5. Drive only on established roads and park in the proper areas. Never drive over concrete firing lines. Golf carts, Mowers, and the Range Honda Truck are exceptions.

6. Hunting is not allowed on club properties at any time. It is FORBIDDEN to shoot at or SIGHT AT, live animals while on any range.

7. Members must wear their membership badges on their person and be visible at all times while on GGC property.

8. Match Directors and course instructors have control of their range(s) during matches and courses.

10. Accidents, incident, or any problem that needs to be elevated to the Board for action must be reported to the Safety Officer, or a club officer in writing immediately.

11. The first person on a given Range will be the Range Safety Officer (RSO), unless, by mutual agreement, that responsibility is turned over to a more experienced person. The RSO must say that he / she is responsible to be the RSO so that everyone on that range will know and acknowledge it.

12. Minor children 18 years of age and under, not involved in shooting activities must be under direct adult supervision.

13. Reserved for Junior Members.

14. Multiple Members using a specific Range. Seldom is this an issue, but on rare occasions (especially on heavy use days, Saturday and Sunday) there can be times where Members will have to share and work together to allow all to be able to accomplish their goals. In no case, may any member have exclusive use of a specific range, to the exclusion of others, without having reserved such use thru the BoD, and such use identified on the Online calendar.

## **General Range Operational Rules**

1. GGC ranges are normally treated as “cold ranges” – firearms must remain cased or if uncased, placed at the firing line (pointed down range) unloaded with actions open, actions up, and the chamber visible; *exception – concealed carry is allowed in areas such as the Club House, restrooms, parking areas, target sheds, and areas outside of ranges where set-up, tear-down or similar activities are taking place, in accordance with GEORGIA Open and Concealed Carry Law.*

No one may handle any firearm anywhere on the firing line or in the bay when people are downrange.

It is generally advisable to only have one caliber (gauge) of ammunition on your firing point at a time.

Match operation and Concealed or Loaded Firearms rules may be found in the Appendix under each discipline.

2. Tracers and incendiary rounds are prohibited. Armor piercing and steel core rounds are prohibited on all steel targets. Exploding targets or other materials such as Tannerite are generally prohibited, without specific, written authorization from the Safety Officer and BoD.

3. Consumption of Alcoholic beverages or intoxicating drugs and then shooting are prohibited on all ranges at GGC.

4. Appropriate eye and ear protection (for the activity being conducted) is required at all times at the range when in proximity of firing lines. Normally this will be safety glasses and ear plugs or noise reducing ear muffs. Match Directors and course instructors shall determine the appropriate levels of eye and ear protection for their matches based on the firearms, ammunition and targets used on specific ranges or matches.

5. “Foraging” for lead or spent bullets on bay floors or anywhere on the backstops is not allowed.

6. Shooting at rocks, bricks, concrete blocks, glass bottles, plastic bottles, or like targets that fragment or are likely to increase the possibility of ricochets or at objects on the ground (bay floors), are strictly prohibited.

7. No one may shoot or use the props (or hang targets on them) that have been placed or may be in the bays examples: plastic or metal barrels, building facades, fences, walls, wagons, wells, etc.

8. Baffles and 6”x6” Uprights on the Rifle Range must not be used to hang targets. This is a serious safety violation and will be grounds for removal from the Club.

9. Ranges must be cleaned after firing including taking down and disposal of all targets, *picking up all brass, including .22 cases and placing them in the brass buckets. Shotgun shells, targets, paper, shotgun wads, Black powder patches, etc. go in the trash. All trash is to be placed in a can or the dumpster. Do not leave overflowing trashcans as you’re preparing to leave. It’s your club and your responsibility to empty the trashcans. Additionally, clean up around the Dumpster when there is trash that falls out.*

## **Pistol Ranges / Bays (1 – 5 and 8) Safety Rules**

**Bays 1, 2, and 3 are Closed.**

For casual shooting and practice. (Match Operating Rules can be found in the Appendix.)

1. Each Pistol bay is independently controlled by an RSO (first person there) in that bay.
2. The “safe line” in each bay is established as the line behind all shooters (towards the road), but in no case shall the “safe line” be further towards the road than 10 feet into the bay (inside the side berms).
3. Firearms must be “cold” behind the “safe line” in the bay, unless under the direction of a Match Director or an Instructor.
4. Magazines may be loaded at the safe line but cannot be placed in the magazine well until the shooter is at a hot firing line or point.
5. No one may handle any firearm anywhere in the bay or at the firing line when people are downrange.
6. Pistol Bay targets:
  - Paper targets, cardboard targets, and clay pigeons, must be placed on target stands so that bullets will pass through them and strike the backstop no more than 5’ above the bay floor. Do not place targets where bullets can skip off (ricochet) of the bay floor or go over the backstop. Do not hang targets on steel plate racks, trees, props or wood support posts.
  - Steel targets provided on the plate racks and steel targets set up for matches are permitted. Pistol Bay users may bring their own steel targets provided that the targets are commercially made for the intended purpose, the targets deflect bullets downward to the bay floor and the targets are placed where bullets will strike the backstop if the target is missed. Steel must be placed no closer than 15 yards from the entrance to the bay.
  - Pistol bay steel plate targets may only be shot with normal pistol caliber cartridges (no Pistols using center fire cartridges exceeding **1500fps**, no shotgun slugs, and no magnum calibers allowed on Steel Targets). No steel core, armor piercing, tracer or incendiary ammunition may be used.
  - Shooters must generally be no closer than 10 yards from steel plate targets. *exception - SASS type targets, shot with “Cowboy” loads may be shot at 5 yards (at the descension of the “Cowboy” Match Director). Further is better. Steel Challenge will follow their written / published rule book.*
7. Rifles (including Rifle style Pistols with a Brace, or Pistol Caliber Carbines) may NOT be fired in pistol bays. Initial sighting in of rifles is encouraged on Bay 6
8. Shotguns may be fired in bays 4 or 5, but all shot must impact the backstop. No “skeet shooting” with thrown targets is allowed. Shotguns must not be fired on Plywood target stands.
9. Rapid fire must be conducted as near the backstop as practical to assure that all bullets impact no higher than 5’ up the backstop, and do not damage baffles or other range equipment.
10. Any bay that has match equipment or props setup in it is not to be used without permission of the Match Director.

It is generally advisable to only have one caliber of ammunition on your firing point at a time.

11. Automatic (Select) Fire: See Automatic (Select) Fire Appendix

### **Rifle Range Safety Rules**

For casual shooting and practice. (Match Operating Rules can be found in the Appendix.)

There are 7, 14 or 21 lanes on the rifle range, depending on the activity being conducted. Make sure to shoot down your lane. Do not fire across lanes.

Shotguns are not allowed on rifle range except when firing slugs, or close to the Backstop, (beyond the Baffles).

1. The rifle range has ONE firing line. The Muzzle of your gun must extend over the firing line. If the firing line is displaced forward for a special application, everyone must use the displaced line.

- Shooters must all follow the operational commands for HOT and COLD range.
- Shooters on the line – please be courteous and coordinate range hot and cold with others in 20 min or less intervals.
- The RSO will “Call out” the time when the range will go COLD for Target Changes.

2. When the range is COLD

- Firearms must be unloaded, magazines out, bolts open / locked to the rear and Actions up or open so that the breach is visible.
- No one may handle (touch, for any reason) a firearm when the range is COLD.
- Firearms may be taken to or brought from a vehicle when the range is HOT. Guns that are not cased must be brought to the firing line with the action open, muzzle pointed up.

3. Before calling the range HOT, you must ALWAYS visually confirm that no one is downrange.

4. Pistols with pistol caliber cartridges are prohibited from firing from the covered firing points on the Rifle Range. Rifles shooting pistol caliber cartridges are allowed to be fired from the covered firing points on the rifle range. Pistols shooting center-fire rifle cartridges are also allowed to be fired from the covered firing points on the rifle range.

5. Targets must be placed at the proper height, so that the bullet passes through the target and impacts the backstop and **no closer than 50-yards** from the firing line, or no higher than 7' up the backstop. Initial sighting in of rifles is encouraged preferably on Bay 6 before shooting at the rifle range.

100-yard target line – staple targets directly to the horizontal target boards or stands. **Not to the 6”x6” Baffle Support posts!**

6. Rifle steel targets are for use only with expanding bullets. Steel core “penetrator” and armor piercing ammo is prohibited. If your bullet sticks to a magnet, it is steel core and cannot be shot at these steel targets.

7. Rapid Fire must be conducted as near the Backstop as practical to assure that all bullets impact no higher than 7' up the backstop, and do not damage Baffles or other range equipment.

8. Attaching Targets to the Rifle Range Baffles or 6"x6" support posts is a serious safety violation and grounds for expulsion from Griffin Gun Club.

9. Automatic (Select) Fire: See Automatic (Select) Fire Appendix

Note - It is generally advisable to only have one caliber of ammunition on your firing point at a time.

10. Firing Line Etiquette:

- Check in with other shooters already on the Range, establish who will be the RSO. Let them know what you'll be doing.
- Be prepared to hang targets as soon as the line is called safe / COLD.
- Set up your equipment while the line is HOT.
- Make sure everyone has time to put on hearing protection before you start shooting.
- Make the line safe as needed so others can hang targets.

### **Shotgun Ranges**

The person pulling targets (the "puller/trapper") is in charge of the field, and all shooters must follow their commands. When the command "Cease Fire" is given by anyone, immediately cease all firing, open your action and remove all shells from your gun.

- Skeet, Trap, and Five-Stand fields are for shotguns firing at clay targets only.
- No slugs, buckshot, or any loads of lead shot larger than #7½, are permitted on these ranges. Please remember that the smaller the number, the larger the shot so number 7 ½ -12 is the only shot generally allowed. Exception may be given by the Shotgun Committee Chair on a case-by-case basis. Powder loads of 3 dram or less equivalent are only allowed.
- Shooters must pay for all rounds shot (25 targets) before leaving the ranges.
- Generally Authorized shotgun ammunition:
- 12ga or smaller shoot only 2 ¾ inch or shorter shells 7 ½ shot or smaller.
- All shooters and spectators are REQUIRED to wear both eye and ear protection while on the shotgun ranges.
- All shotguns, even empty, must be handled with care:
- Keep your muzzle pointed in a safe direction – either down towards the ground (preferably) or upwards. Do not carry in a manner where your barrel sweeps across other people.
- Place your shotgun in a stand or case when not in use.
- Keep your shotgun open and unloaded at all times except when you are on a firing station preparing to shoot.
- Do not load more shells than the number of targets that will be presented from each station.

- Do not place shells into any part of the gun until you are standing on the shooting station with your gun pointed safely toward the flight area.
- Shoot only from designated shooting stations.
- Do not set an unsafe example for other less experienced shooters. No “Trick Shot” shooting.
- Only one shooter, from a single firing station, may fire at a time. No more than one person may occupy a firing station at the same time, except when a coach and pupil are together (and in that case, there may be only one shotgun on the station).
- Never “poach” or shoot at another shooter’s target.
- When the trap machines are to be filled, a red cone will be displayed on the field near the trap house. While this cone is visible, immediately cease all firing, open the action, remove all shells from your gun, and place your gun in a rack or in the bag.
- No one except authorized personnel may adjust the trap or skeet machines. When entering the skeet or Trap house, make sure the machine is in a safe condition. (This means that the arm does not have a clay target on the arm).
- Sighting or gun fitting/checking gun fit is only permitted on the shooting station or in a designated SAFE area. You may retrieve only your empty hull’s, provided this does not unnecessarily delay the shooting squad, or create an unsafe situation.
- Continuous use of the range when others are waiting is discourteous. Do not go directly from the last station back to the first to begin a new round until you have ascertained that there are no others waiting to shoot.
- The patterning wall is available for use with lead shot, 12 gauge or smaller, and 7 1/2 – 12 shot only.

**Pistol Appendix:** Matches, Competitions and other activities that have a governing body or rule books will follow those rules once they are adopted and approved by the GGC Safety Officer and the Board of Directors (BoD) in turn.

GSSF

USPSA

IDPA

Bullseye

SASS / Cowboy Action

Steel Challenge

**Rifle Appendix:** Matches, Competitions and other activities that have a governing body or rule books will follow those rules once they are adopted and approved by the GGC Safety Officer and the Board of Directors (BoD) in turn.

Rifle Sight-in Day

Appleseed Events

High Power “Cross the Course” Reduced

Muzzleloader

**Rimfire Range:** Matches, Competitions and other activities that have a governing body or rule books will follow those rules once they are adopted and approved by the GGC Safety Officer and the Board of Directors (BoD) in turn.

Rimfire Sporter (.22)

3 Position Smallbore (.22)

Prone Smallbore (.22)

Metallic Silhouette (.22)

NRL .22

.22 Bullseye

.22 Steel Matches

.22 Benchrest

.22 Gallery

**Shotgun Appendix:** Matches, Competitions and other activities that have a governing body or rule books will follow those rules once they are adopted and approved by the GGC Safety Officer and the Board of Directors (BoD) in turn.

Skeet

Trap

Five Stand

**Automatic (Select) Fire Appendix:** (With approval of the GGC Safety Officer and GGC Board of Directors BoD in turn).

Approval to use select fire guns is granted by the Safety Officer (BoD).

Automatic (Select Fire) guns or firing using devices or methods that simulate automatic (select) fire (such as “Slide Fire”, external trigger springs, etc.) are permitted with advance approval of the GGC Safety Officer, Rifle Chairman and BoD. Full automatic guns may be fired provided applicable laws are followed.

1. Firing must be conducted as near as practical to the Rifle Range Backstop or Bay 6 backstop, to assure that all bullets impact not higher than 7’ up the backstop.
2. Tripod and bipod mounted guns can be fired on the Rifle Range, or on Bay 6, from their mounts, from the ground, or from sandbags, or from beyond the baffles.

**Instructor Appendix:** All course materials, lesson plans, courses of fire, shot plans, Cost to Students, Fees to be paid to GGC, as well as a Certificate of Liability Insurance (from a legitimate Insurance carrier, in the amount of 2 million dollars for each occurrence, and 10 million dollars in the aggregate, and Naming Griffin Gun Club as an Additional Insured), etc.... will be reviewed by the GGC Safety Officer, and then presented to the GGC BoD for approval in turn, prior to any class / instruction taking place.

1. Any deviation from the approved course materials must be approved prior to a class being conducted.



2. Law Enforcement style training poses unique, rigorous and often more dangerous situations than normal range use and must also be reviewed prior being conducted at GGC.
3. Any Instructor conducting training is responsible to have signed Liability Waivers for everyone on the range, prior to the first shot being fired.
4. Clean-up: Instructors wishing to use ranges at GGC will assure the range (normally Bay 6) is cleaned upon completion of training for the day and prior to departing GGC. All trash cans, targets, etc. will be emptied into the dumpster and no trash will be left at the bay or individual range used.
5. Damage: Any damage found or caused by the Instructor must be brought to the GGC's Safety Officer (in writing) within 3 calendar days, preferably Immediately.
6. Scheduling: Requests for scheduling dates will be submitted to the GG Safety Officer as early as possible and when approved by the GGC BoD, the dates will be entered to the GGC Calendar maintained by the GGC Secretary and on club website. <http://www.thegriffingunclub.org/calendar-2/>.
7. Failure to fully follow these procedures can be grounds for expulsion from GGC.

**Law Enforcement Appendix:** Griffin Gun Club is a private operation that is available for use by Law Enforcement organizations on a "Per Fee" basis. Fees can be established for Annual Use, or on a case-by-case basis, and must be paid in full prior to schedule requests being approved by the GGC BoD.

All course materials, lesson plans, courses of fire, shot plans, Cost to Students, Fees to be payed to GGC, as well as a Certificate of Liability Insurance (from a legitimate Insurance carrier, in the amount of 2 million dollars for each occurrence, and 10 million dollars in the aggregate, and Naming Griffin Gun Club as an Additional Insured), etc.... will be reviewed by the GGC Safety Officer, and then presented to the GGC BoD for approval in turn, prior to any class / instruction taking place. No deviation can be made by the agency without the deviation being submitted to the GGC BoD in advance.

1. Reporting: The Precise number of agency personnel using GGC facilities must be reported not later than 31 Dec of each year.
2. Scheduling: Requests for scheduling dates will be submitted to the GG Safety Officer as early as possible and when approved by the GGC BoD, the dates will be entered to the GGC Calendar maintained by the GGC Secretary and on club website. <http://www.thegriffingunclub.org/calendar-2/>. Agencies wishing to schedule GGC Ranges (normally Bay 6) for use may submit up to 4 days per month for consideration and review by the GGC Safety Officer, and final approval by the GGC BoD in turn.
3. Clean-up: Agencies wishing to use ranges at GGC will assure the range (normally Bay 6) is cleaned upon completion of training for the day and prior to departing GGC. All trash cans, targets, etc. will be emptied into the dumpster and no trash will be left at the bay or individual range used.

4. Damage: Any damage found or caused by the Agency must be brought to the GGC's Safety Officer (in writing) within 3 calendar days, preferably Immediately.
5. Failure to follow this or any of GGC policies may result in suspension or termination of future use of the ranges by the agency, at the discretion of the Griffin Gun Club BoD.

These rules may be updated or modified at any time without notice.