

FCSA RANGE SAFETY NOTICE

Version 2.3

April 2019

The following applies to all UK ranges booked by the FCSA, INCLUDING MOD Field Firing Areas.

These guidelines are in addition to the standard club rules.

All FCSA members and affiliated clubs attending FCSA range bookings must be fully aware of the FCSA club policy on Range Safety and the latest version of the club rules as published on the FCSA website. Anyone who fails to abide by these rules and guidelines will be ordered to leave the range immediately, and membership will be suspended or terminated.

Any person deliberately disobeying these rules will not be given a warning, instead their membership will be terminated. One serious breach of range safety could mean the loss of the range(s) to the entire club.

The FCSA UK has an impeccable safety record, to ensure the continued future of this large calibre sport we need to keep it that way. It is essential that we maintain good relations with the MOD and range staff so that we can make future range bookings, and continue to develop mutual respect and trust.

1. All participants (including non-shooters) are to attend a Range brief before firing can commence. Late arrivals are to seek the RCO for the full brief before starting.
2. All participants are to sign the club attendance register and pay the appropriate fee.
3. In the event of a large turn-out, the RCO may decide that participants are not to accommodate firing pits or positions until shooters have been split into squads, this is to ensure that overcrowding does not occur and that the RCO is able to manage the number of shooters in a safe manner.
4. Shooters must not clutter the firing point, all kit other than the firearm to be used and its ammunition to be located behind the firing point, this gives the RCO clear sight of firearms that need clearing, and those that don't. This will also leave more space for other shooters.
5. Anyone unsure of the 'arc of fire' must ask for confirmation before engaging any targetry.
6. All calibres over but not including .338 must be fired from the prone supported position.
7. Ear protection is mandatory within 50 metres of the firing point when the range is live.
8. Eye protection is mandatory within 25 metres of the firing point when the range is live and 50cal or larger calibres are in use.

9. .50 or larger rifles fitted with optical sights are to be boresighted using a Small Arms Collimator or SAC prior to grouping practice. Once zeroed, the readings from the collimator are noted in the firers' shooting data record, which is checked before any future live fire session.
10. If hard targets are out of bounds then no person should engage such a target, or other targets directly in front of a known hard target, be aware of what lies beyond your target. Anyone engaging hard targets that have been deemed out of bounds will be asked to leave the firing point.
11. Only official targets or targets approved by the RCO may be engaged, these will generally be paper/card/aluminium or suspended gongs. The RCO will indicate the type of target during the range brief.
12. On some ranges ETR targets may not be used by large calibres such as 50cal, .55 and 14.5mm, the RCO will advise on the day.
13. The RCO will advise on the use of Tracer ammunition.
14. It is strictly forbidden to fire at livestock (such as sheep) on any range area, if animals can be seen loitering near targets then alternative targets are to be engaged, or a cease fire called in order that the animals can be moved to a safer area.
15. All weapons are to be cleared by the RCO or a nominated RO before removal from the firing point.
16. On hearing the command 'Stop stop stop' or another signal (defined in the Range brief) such as a whistle or air horn, all shooters must immediately cease fire and remove finger from trigger - even if this means leaving a live round in the chamber. They must not touch the firearm until given further instruction by the RCO to make the weapon safe. (Retract bolt, extract any ammunition from chamber, remove magazine, apply safety if present etc)
17. 50cal type rifles will usually be grouped together at one end of the firing point, so that other shooters will not be directly exposed to the dust and blast of the muzzle break - appropriate distance between shooters will be verified by the RCO as soon as the firing point is occupied.