

NZDA NORTH AUCKLAND BRANCH WRITTEN SAFETY BRIEF

Property Safety Brief

There are three main hazards on this property. They are the waterways, vehicle movement, and shooting activities.

The waterways. All waterways are out of bounds unless you are on a supervised maintenance activity. Children must be supervised at all times while they are on the property.

Vehicle movement. Be aware of people of walking around the area wearing earmuffs - they might not hear your vehicle. Watch out when backing your vehicle – people can be careless and leave property on the ground.

Shooting. All shooting on this property must be on an approved range, and under the supervision of a range officer.

Shooting Safety Brief

You must register yourself and any guests before going to any of the ranges on the property.

Each range has some limitations on their use:

The Main Range:

At 200m: You may shoot from the benches, and from the ground. When shooting from the ground lanes, only the prone supported and unsupported positions are allowed (until further notice – pending earthworks).

At 100m: You may shoot from the benches and from the ground. The permitted ground shooting positions are, prone supported or unsupported, sitting and kneeling. **Shooting standing is NOT permitted at 100m.** (until further notice – pending earthworks)

At 50m and 25m: You may shoot from all normal shooting positions, including standing.

The 25m Sighting-in Range

The 25m sighting-in range may only be used in the sitting supported position. You must only shoot at the target that corresponds to your lane number. You must place your targets in the centre of the target board, over the yellow line.

Permitted Firearms. Firearms permitted on ranges are Category A rifles in a permitted calibre.

Permitted Calibres.

You may fire:

- Standard centre fire smokeless cartridges up to and including 8mm (7.92mm/.323").
- Black powder cartridges and muzzle loading rifles up to 58cal.
- Pistol/revolver cartridges **fired from a rifle** up to 45 cal.
- Magnum cartridges up to and including 8mm calibre may be used in the prone supported position or from a bench. When firing a magnum cartridge, the rifle must be supported front and rear.

Prohibited Ammunition. The use of tracer, armour piercing, penetrating or incendiary ammunition is prohibited. This includes any military surplus ammunition with a core designed to enhance penetration.

Permitted Targets. For general practice you are to use paper only. Clay targets and balloons may be used for novelty events but must be cleaned up afterwards. Metallic silhouette targets may be used for approved .22 rim fire competitions. When a metallic gong is made available, it must only be fired at from the (range officer) designated firing lane.

Number of People on the Firing Point. Only one person is allowed on a lane or bench at a time, unless a firer is being supervised, coached or spotted for. In such cases two people are allowed on a lane or bench.

Supervising a Non-Licensed Firer. If you are supervising a non-licensed firer, you must not permit that person to carry a firearm around the range area. On the firing point, you must position yourself so as to be able to control the direction of the firearm at all times. If you need to leave the firing point, the person you are supervising must also leave the firing point with you. If you are a supervisor, you must not also have a firearm on the firing point. Supervised shooters are to wear the provided fluorescent vest while on the range (issued at the registration point). Please return this vest before leaving the property.

Position on the Mound. Your shooting position is to the left of your lane number. The muzzle of your rifle is to be over the front of the retaining wall to reduce blast and noise.

Semi-automatic firearms (.22 only). Firers are to control ejected brass so that the brass does not interfere with another firer. Case catchers are available on loan from the registration shed.. Rapid fire is prohibited on this range – that is more than one shot every 3 seconds.

Safety. Safety is the responsibility of every firearms user. Breaches of safety are to be reported immediately to the Range Officer.

Carriage of Firearms Around the Property.

Leave your firearms in your vehicle until after the range officer safety brief. When called to the firing line, you are to remove firearms from bags and cases and carry them to and from firing point with actions opened and magazines removed, chamber flag inserted, muzzle pointing **vertically** down.

You may only take firearms onto the firing point, or remove them from the firing point, when the range is open for firing.

You must use a chamber flag on all our ranges – available from the registration point for a small fee.

Enter and leave the firing point through the marked access point. Present all firearms for inspection by the RO before moving onto, or from, the firing point.

Before picking rifles up from the firing point, have them cleared by the RO where they are.

Commands.

The words of command you will hear on the firing point are as follows.

RANGE OPEN – means you can load and fire your rifle.

A whistle blast means stop firing immediately.

STOP.

UNLOAD – take your magazine off and complete the unloading process – you do not have to unload a detachable magazine – just put it aside, but you must empty a fitted magazine.

ACTIONS OPEN – leave the bolt to the rear, and pin, retain or block a semi action open.

CHAMBER FLAGS IN – put your chamber flag into the chamber.

STAND BACK – leave a clear lane for the RO to walk along the firing point to inspect all firearms.

ALL CLEAR – is the RO declaration that all firearms are safe.

RANGE CLOSED – the range is closed to firing.

YOU MAY MOVE FORWARD – you can go forward to inspect your targets.

Everyone inside the rope area must wear ear protection when the range is declared “Open” for firing.

You are to report malfunctions and misfires to the Range Officer. Misfire = keep the bolt closed for 10 seconds.

If you are having trouble, ask for help – don’t struggle on your own. Keep the muzzle pointing towards the targets at all times.

Where a shooting technique requires that the muzzle of the rifle be elevated above the backstop, the bolt handle is not to be fully closed until the rifle is in the aim.

Do not move forward of the firing point unless instructed by the Range officer.

Do not touch any firearm or equipment while the range is “Closed”. When people are forward of the firing point, you are to keep clear of your firing position and all firearms and equipment.

Spectators must remain behind the rope while the range is open. Spectators may go forward to the targets with you when the range is closed.

Muzzle Brakes. Muzzle brakes can cause irritation to nearby firers. Be conscious of the blast and noise you are creating if you choose to use a muzzle brake.

Noise. If, in the opinion of the range officer, your firearm is particularly noisy and constitutes an unacceptable disruption to neighbours or fellow firers, you may be asked to remove the firearm from the firing point and not use it again.

Efficient Use of Time. Please examine, patch or change targets quickly and return to the firing point, to allow the range to open again as soon as possible.

Dud or Damaged Ammunition. This is your responsibility – it is not acceptable to dump it in a bin. The NZ Police have a disposal facility – take it to them.

Rubbish. The property does not have rubbish bins – take your rubbish home with you. Please also strip your targets off the backing board when you are finished for the day.

Range Standing Orders

Range standing orders are written and approved by an NZ Police range certifying officer. Range standing orders are displayed in the schoolhouse and at each approved range. You are required to adhere to all instructions, orders and best practice detailed in range standing orders.

Your Guests

You must supervise your guests at all times. If your guest does not have a firearms licence, you are to supervise all shooting in accordance with the law. (See also the section on supervising a non-licensed firer, page 1 above).

If you bring a guest to the range, you must make this written safety brief available to your guest and ensure they understand and abide by its contents.