

# Durham Pistol and Rifle Club, Inc.

## Range Rules



Effective date: 19 March 2022

Durham Pistol and Rifle Club, Inc.  
3973 S. Jim Minor Road  
Haw River, NC 27258

*These Range Rules do not supersede or circumvent local or state laws.*

**Every club member is responsible for observing and enforcing all safety rules and regulations. Durham Pistol and Rifle Club (DPRC) takes safety seriously, and rules violations will not be tolerated. Disciplinary action—including expulsion from DPRC—will be taken against violators. These range rules apply not only to our shooting ranges, but also to our archery and axe-throwing ranges.**

## A. Personal Responsibilities

1. **No alcohol** is allowed on DPRC property except at a limited number of club-sponsored events that occur after dark (e.g., Friends of the NRA banquet). No member or guest shall be under the influence of alcohol on DPRC property.
2. **No** member or guest shall be under the influence of **drugs or medications** that diminish the ability to safely handle a firearm while using a firearm on DPRC property. This also applies to archery and axe throwing on DPRC property.
3. **Eye protection is mandatory** for everyone (members, guests, spectators) on any hot range.
4. **Ear protection is mandatory** for everyone (members, guests, spectators) on any hot firearms range.
5. It is the responsibility of the member to **return cardboard** to the sheds, **dispose of targets and other debris** in the provided trash cans, and to generally leave the range in at least as good condition as when the member arrived.
6. **DPRC membership badges** must be displayed on the member's person when on the DPRC property. Each member must use his or her own DPRC membership badge and gate access credentials and may not loan them to anyone else.
7. **Guests must wear guest badges** (available in the clubhouse) when on DPRC property.
8. **Anyone witnessing a violation** should attempt to resolve the violation. Be polite and do not instigate or escalate a confrontation to obtain names. If severity warrants, contact a club officer or e-mail [president@dprc.org](mailto:president@dprc.org) with a description of the violation, the names of the individuals involved, date and time of the violation, and range number.

## B. Who May Use the DPRC Ranges

1. Members in good standing
2. Guests of members, under the direct individual supervision of a member
3. Junior guests (17 years of age or younger) of members, under the direct individual supervision of a member
4. Participants at club-approved matches or events who have registered and signed the waiver, electronically or in writing

### C. Guests

Each member shall be permitted a **maximum of 3 guests per visit**. The member shall assume a supervisory role concerning those guests. The following provisions shall be adhered to:

1. All members bringing guests, and their guests, must sign in using the electronic system in the clubhouse on each visit. The member must ensure each guest has a guest badge, which must be displayed on the guest's person while on DPRC property. If the electronic system is inoperative, guests must be signed in using the paper forms in the cabinet near the main clubhouse door. Note: Only members bringing guests need to sign in.
2. The member shall assume the role of a **non-shooting range officer** whenever a guest is on the firing line.
3. It is **not permitted** to have guest(s) and the sponsoring member shooting or throwing an axe at the same time.
4. It is **not permitted** to have more than one guest shooting or throwing an axe at the same time.
5. **All guests must be made aware of and comply with ALL DPRC range rules!**

### D. Junior Guests

The rules above apply to all guests, regardless of age, but if the guest is 17 years old or younger, that person is considered a "junior" guest, and the following additional rules must be followed:

1. The member shall retain control of junior guests AT ALL TIMES.
2. The member shall assume the role of **non-shooting range officer** whenever a junior guest is on the firing line.
3. Only **one junior guest per member** is allowed on the firing line at a time.
4. If a member brings multiple **junior guests** to the range, the member shall remain in control of all junior guests whenever they are out of the vehicle.
5. **A parent or guardian** must sign and date a release form for each junior guest **each visit**. The member may assume the responsibility of guardian when signing and dating the release form for junior guests.
6. Host member shall ensure the junior guest is capable of safely handling and firing the firearm(s) to be used. This also applies to bows and arrows, and axes on those ranges.

## E. Range Operation Hours

1. The range is open 7 days a week. Normal shooting times are as follows:

**Monday – Saturday: 8 a.m. to dusk**

**Sunday: 10 a.m. to dusk**

**Archery and axe-throwing ranges are open dawn to dusk every day.**

2. Possible exceptions to the normal range-use times are as follows:
  - a. Annual meeting — All ranges will be closed during the time of the annual meeting.
  - b. Match days — Only the ranges specifically involved in the matches and reserved ahead of time shall be closed to the general membership.
  - c. Club workdays — Club workdays until 12 noon. **No use of ranges at all during club workdays.**
  - d. Sanctioned training courses\* — Only the ranges specifically involved in these courses and reserved ahead of time shall be closed to the general membership.

*\* No paid matches, paid courses, or other paid events are permitted at DPRC without specific prior approval of the board.*

## F. Firearms at DPRC

Any legally possessed, safe firearm below .50 BMG may be used, with the explicit provision that **legally owned fully automatic firearms may ONLY be fired in the semi-automatic mode! Forced-reset triggers (FRTs), binary triggers, or other devices intended to increase the rate of fire are NOT allowed.** Note: Black powder rifles up to .58 caliber may be used.

1. Handguns shall be brought to the firing line holstered or cased. **Loaded handguns shall be holstered at all times unless firing.**
2. Long guns may be transported to the firing line one of two ways:
  - a. In a case
  - b. Muzzle up, magazine out, bolt open, with an empty chamber indicator
3. Cased vs. uncased firearms:
  - a. Firearms that are **cased** may be brought to the firing line at any time (i.e., line hot, line safe).
  - b. The firing line must be **hot** to bring an **uncased** firearm to the line. When doing this, be sure to use an empty chamber indicator, and exercise muzzle discipline while moving the firearm.

## G. Ammunition

“Pistol caliber” and “rifle caliber” as used in these rules refer to the common and intended use of the cartridges, not to whether a particular firearm is legally a pistol, rifle, or something else. For example, a Thompson Contender pistol firing a .223 is a rifle-caliber firearm, and an AR-15 firing 9mm Luger is a pistol-caliber firearm.

Any safe ammunition is acceptable, with specific exclusion of the following:

1. NO armor-piercing, steel-core, or steel-jacketed ammunition may be shot at any steel target! Check all ammunition with the magnets on each range before use. Do not use ammunition that attracts a magnet to shoot at steel targets.
2. NO .50 BMG or larger ammunition may be used.
3. NO tracer, exploding, or incendiary ammunition may be used.

## H. Targets

Suitably erected and safe targets are to be so situated that the angle of fire places the bullet's probable impact area in and no higher than 3 feet below the top of the impact berm. Follow these target rules:

1. NO glass targets.
2. NO household items or electronics (e.g., furniture, toasters, computers, printers, cell phones, etc.)
3. NO exploding or incendiary targets.
4. Steel or metal targets shall be constructed of a material that is specifically designed for a particular shooting discipline and must be designed so that the energy of the projectile is absorbed by the target medium.
  - a. All steel targets must meet target guidelines set by nationally recognized bodies (e.g., the National Rifle Association) for height, material, and construction.
  - b. Targets and target frames are to be used only for their manufactured purpose.
  - c. Adhere to the minimum published distances for steel targets (see range-specific rules).
5. Attach paper targets, ONLY, to cardboard suspended between the uprights of the wooden target stands. Do not intentionally shoot target stands. Do not attach targets of any type directly to the wooden stands. The bottom of the cardboard should be attached in line with the top of the orange paint on the target stands.

6. Metal target stands may be provided on some ranges where shotguns are allowed. Please use them for shotguns (except slugs), to extend the wooden target frame life. Use these metal target stands ONLY with cardboard and paper targets and ONLY for shotgun (except slugs). After use, return them uprange to the shelter or target shed.
7. ***Steel targets have been provided by DPRC on various ranges. These steel targets must not be moved to different ranges, and they must not be moved to different locations within the same range. They must remain in the same EXACT location where they have been placed. Each target has been placed to ensure safe minimum engagement distances and angles of fire. Do not move steel targets.***

## I. Impact Berms

Impact berms shall be defined as only the berm that is parallel to the firing line and the shooter's firing position.

1. Ground baffles and retention walls are not impact berms. Do not shoot them.
2. The shooter must recognize his firing position in relation to the impact berm.
3. Targets should be set so that **ALL** bullets impact the berm to avoid rounds skipping.
4. Bullet impact shall be no higher than 3 feet below the top of the berm.
5. Side berms are not impact berms, and targets may not be placed such that bullets intentionally impact side berms.

## J. Firing-Line Protocol

1. Firearms, bows, and axes **SHALL NOT** be manipulated, touched, or otherwise handled if any person is forward of the firing line.
2. Do not remove firearms from boxes or other containers **until the line has been declared HOT.**
3. **LINE HOT:** Everyone must have eye and ear protection on, be behind the firing line, and all must agree that the line is in a condition safe to fire.
4. **LINE SAFE:** All firearms, bows, and axes shall be benched, cased, grounded, or holstered. Benched or grounded firearms shall have action open, magazines removed, chambers empty, cylinders open, safeties ON (if appropriate), and empty chamber indicator inserted and visible. Bows shall have arrows unnocked. Shooters shall remain clear of benches where uncased firearms are present when the line is safe. If a painted line is present on the concrete pad then shooters must remain behind this line.
5. **CEASE FIRE:** A cease fire may be called by anyone at any time when an unsafe condition is observed.

6. When a CEASE FIRE is called, **simply bench your firearm and back away. In archery, unnock the arrow and bench the bow. In axe throwing, bench the axe.**
7. **Always** check downrange for any condition that is unsafe.

#### **K. NO Pets**

Pets should NOT come to the range!

#### **L. NO Hunting**

1. Hunting **is not permitted** on DPRC property!
2. **DO NOT SHOOT** any wildlife at any time on DPRC property.

#### **M. Archery**

Archery is allowed on Ranges 0, 1, 4, and 9 under the following conditions:

1. Bring your own targets.
2. The normal range safety, firing line, and target placement rules apply: all arrows must be fired toward and impact a rear berm if they miss your target. Arrows may only be nocked when at the firing line.
3. While both firearms and bows may be used on a range at the same time, if shooters and archers cannot work out how to coexist, firearms take precedence. In particular, archery cannot require the range to go safe to retrieve arrows at much shorter intervals than the shooters need to reset or check their targets.
4. Firearm users may not shoot archery targets in use on the range.

## **FIREARM SAFE-HANDLING RULES**

**DPRC requires that you follow these firearm safe-handling rules. We may very well be asking you to change habits or change the way you have been handling your firearms, but these rules must be followed at DPRC:**

1. **Treat every firearm as if it were loaded.**
2. **Never point a firearm at anything you do not intend to destroy.**
3. **Keep your finger off the trigger until your firearm is lined up on the target.**
4. **Be sure of your target and what is around and beyond it.**

## GENERAL RANGE RULES (\*\* All Ranges \*\*)

1. **DPRC may be used by members and guests only. Trespassers will be prosecuted.**
2. **Hours:** 8 a.m. to dusk Monday through Saturday, 10 a.m. to dusk on Sunday. Archery and axe-throwing ranges are open dawn to dusk every day.
3. Targets must be placed so that all bullets and arrows impact the rear berm from your shooting position. Arrows and axes must impact in the designated areas on the archery and axe ranges.
4. **No AP, steel-core, or steel-jacketed rounds may be fired at steel targets. Check your ammo with the provided magnets before firing at steel!**
5. **Do not move steel targets** from where they are placed.
6. Minimum steel target distances and allowed ammunition for all ranges are as follows:
  - Rimfire up through .22 Magnum: 15 yards
  - Pistol calibers (any): 15 yards
  - Shotgun:
    - Lead birdshot and buckshot: 15 yards
    - Lead slug: 40 yards
  - Rifle calibers up through .308 Winchester: 40 yards

These distances are minimums for steel on all ranges. They do NOT override the range-specific rules for target placement, and they do NOT allow movement of DPRC steel targets.
7. Airborne clays may only be shot on Range 3.
8. Clean up when you are done. Put cardboard back in the target shed. Sweep all .22 brass off concrete. All other brass and shotgun hulls should be placed in the provided buckets. Used targets, steel and aluminum cases, and other debris should be placed in the provided trash cans. Leave the range in better/cleaner condition than you found it. Do not expect others to do this for you.

## RANGE-SPECIFIC RULES

### Range Zero (Rimfire Range)

1. Rimfire ammunition up to and including .22 Magnum is permitted.
2. Minimum distance for targets is **50 feet**. Ensure that all bullets will impact the rear berm.
3. All shooting should be done from the covered firing line, in line with, but not necessarily from, the benches.
4. While anyone is downrange, a safety flag should be posted in front of the firing line.

5. Archery is allowed within the archery policy guidelines:
  - a. Bring your own targets.
  - b. The normal range safety, firing line, and target placement rules apply: all arrows must be fired toward and impact a rear berm if they miss your target.
  - c. If shooters and archers cannot work out how to coexist, firearms take precedence.

### Range 1 (General-Purpose Range)

1. Rimfire, pistol calibers, and rifle calibers are permitted.
2. **ONLY** the fixed target positions at 50 yards and 100 yards may be used.
3. Paper targets should be placed on cardboard suspended between the uprights of the wooden target frames at 50 yards and 100 yards **ONLY**.
4. Non-paper targets are allowed **ONLY** on the rear berm (at 100 yards).
  - a. DO NOT TAPE OR TIE TARGETS TO TARGET FRAMES.
  - b. DO NOT SHOOT AT TARGET FRAMES.
5. All shooting should be done from the covered firing line, in line with, but not necessarily from, the benches.
6. While anyone is downrange, a safety flag should be posted in front of the firing line.
7. Archery is allowed within the archery policy guidelines:
  - a. Bring your own targets.
  - b. The normal range safety, firing line, and target placement rules apply: all arrows must be fired toward and impact a rear berm if they miss your target.
  - c. If shooters and archers cannot work out how to coexist, firearms take precedence.

### Range 2 (Bullseye Pistol Range)

1. Rimfire and pistol calibers are permitted.
2. The **ONLY** permitted targets are paper targets in the provided 25- and 50-yard frames. No other targets or placements are permitted. Ensure that you do not shoot the wooden frames or the wooden walls.
3. All shooting should be done from the covered firing line benches.

### Range 3 (Action-Shooting Range)

1. Rimfire, pistol calibers, shotguns, and rifle calibers are permitted.
2. This is the **ONLY** range where airborne clay shooting is permitted.
  - a. Use lead shot size 7½, 8, or 9 **ONLY**.
  - b. All shots at clays must go into or over the **REAR BERM ONLY**. There are club members on ranges behind both side berms!
  - c. Procedures for using the clay throwers are posted in the shed where they are stored, and the clays orientation class is required to use the clay throwers.
  - d. If the clay throwers are in use, other firearms cannot be used on Range 3.
  - e. If someone wants to use the clay throwers and Range 3 is already in use, please try to accommodate use of the throwers if another suitable action range is available.
3. Do not shoot the clay thrower stations or use them as target stands.

**Ranges 4, 5, 9 (Action-Shooting Ranges)**

1. Rimfire, pistol calibers, shotguns, and rifle calibers are permitted.
2. Archery is allowed on Ranges 4 and 9 within the archery policy guidelines:
  - a. Bring your own targets.
  - b. The normal range safety, firing line, and target placement rules apply: all arrows must be fired toward and impact a rear berm if they miss your target.
  - c. If shooters and archers cannot work out how to coexist, firearms take precedence.

**Ranges 6, 8 (Pistol and Shotgun Pits)**

Rimfire, pistol calibers, and shotguns are permitted.

**Range 7 (Long-Range Rifle Range)**

1. Rimfire, pistol calibers, and rifle calibers are permitted.
2. All shooting should be done from the covered firing line, in line with, but not necessarily from, the benches.
3. Firing at 300 yards is to be done from the first 6 shooting positions only. This takes priority on these positions. Please be considerate.
4. All firearms **MUST** be zeroed for 100 yards before using this range.
5. Minimum target distance = 100 yards (excludes sight-in area on right side of firing line).
6. Rifle calibers through .300 Win Mag are permitted on steel on Range 7 **ONLY**, and **ONLY** at 100+ yards.
7. Paper targets should be stapled to target frames with proper-sized cardboard backer.
8. Non-paper targets are **ONLY** allowed on the lower portion of the impact berms. **DO NOT** put targets on top of the berms.
9. While anyone is downrange, a safety flag should be posted in front of the firing line.

**Range 7 (Right-Side Sight-in Area)**

1. Rimfire, pistol calibers, and rifle calibers are permitted.
2. This area may be made safe, and shooters move forward of firing line while Range 7 100- to 300-yard portion remains hot.
3. This area **MUST BE MADE SAFE** when Range 7 100- to 300-yard portion is made safe.

**Archery Range**

1. Range Boundaries
  - a. The side and downrange boundaries of the range are identified by yellow rope or chain.
  - b. A 15-yard-wide safety zone is marked on each side of the Archery Range, bounded by yellow rope or chain. A similar safety zone is marked downrange.
    - No shooting is permitted into the safety zones.
    - No shooting is permitted from within the safety zones.
    - No shooting is permitted at all while individuals are anywhere inside any of the safety zones.
  - c. The standard firing line is marked with a white plastic pipe.

2. Enter the archery range only from the path from the parking lot; do not approach the archery range through the woods downrange from the firing line.
3. Firing Line
  - a. Arrows may only be nocked when at the firing line and the line is hot.
  - b. Normally archers will shoot while straddling the standard firing line.
  - c. Shooters may choose a firing position other than the standard marked firing line. All shooters sharing the Archery Range must use the same firing line. No one may be forward of the designated firing line while the range is hot. No one may nock an arrow or load a crossbow while behind the designated firing line.
  - d. All arrows and bolts must travel downrange, aimed to land within the bounds of the archery range. No intentional shooting out of the bounds of the range is permitted.
4. Range conditions are the same as other ranges at DPRC: hot or safe.
  - a. When anyone is downrange from the firing line in use or anyone is in the safety zones, the range must be **safe**. No handling bows or crossbows at this time.
  - b. If anyone steps forward from the firing line, even to pick up a dropped arrow, all shooters must cease firing, and the range must be declared **safe**.
  - c. Arrows may be nocked, and crossbow bolts may be loaded, only when the range is declared **hot** and the shooter is on the firing line.
  - d. While anyone is downrange or in the safety zones, a safety flag should be posted in front of the firing line.
5. Equipment
  - a. No firearms of any kind may be used on the archery range.
  - b. Only arrows fired from bows and bolts from crossbows are permitted.
  - c. When shooting DPRC targets, all arrows and crossbow bolts must have target points, commonly known as field points or bullet points; no shooting with broadheads, bowfishing points, blunt points, or grabbing points is permitted when using DPRC targets.
  - d. Eye protection is recommended for all personnel on or near the firing line.
6. Targets
  - a. Paper, cardboard, or cloth target faces may be affixed to the provided target butts if desired, but no targets may be affixed directly to or set on top of the wooden target stands. No shooting at the wooden stands.
  - b. No glass targets may be used.
  - c. No targets that leave a residue that would attract bees (e.g., watermelons, soda cans, etc.) are allowed.
  - d. Absolutely no apples are allowed.
7. Lost and Found
  - a. Please place arrows found on the range in the receptacle provided on the Archery Range.
  - b. Please place bows or other equipment found on the range in the lost and found bins in the clubhouse.

## Axe-Throwing Range

1. All axes will be sheathed or bagged when not in use.
2. There are currently two targets. When two people are throwing together, retrieve axes at the same time. Do NOT retrieve your axe while the other person is throwing.
3. Walk slowly when retrieving axes because a fall could result in serious injury. These axes are finely sharpened for good sticking ability.
4. Axes may be thrown in two ways:
  - One-handed
  - Two-handed (best for beginners); however, seasoned throwers are known to use this method
5. No trick-shot throwing allowed, these axes are known to do wild things — including coming back at you — if they hit the target wrong.
6. Common sense is expected at all times.
7. Specific information about axe throwing can be found on the World Axe Throwing League (WATL) website (<https://worldaxethrowingleague.com>), and Facebook. Also, anything you need to know can be found via Google.

### **If in doubt on specific range rules, do the following:**

- ***Err on the side of caution and safety.***
- ***Consult that range's specific signage.***
- ***If it is still unclear, contact club leadership.***

## EMERGENCY PROTOCOL

- ➔ Anyone can and should immediately **call 911 for a serious medical emergency. If in doubt, make the call.** For heart attacks, strokes, and major trauma, time elapsed largely determines outcome.
- ➔ If you call 911 because someone has been accidentally shot, tell the 911 operator **“There has been an accidental shooting at the Durham Pistol and Rifle Club.”** The 911 dispatchers have a list of computerized questions they will ask. They will confirm the shooting is accidental and that the scene is secure. If you know the type of firearm and the injury site on the body, then provide that information. Based on the injury, a medical helicopter may also be dispatched. When dispatched as an accidental shooting, emergency fire and EMS will respond straight to scene. If the incident occurs on a range, then shooting activities should be discontinued on all ranges until the incident has been addressed.
- ➔ You will need to provide the club address to the 911 operator:  
**Durham Pistol and Rifle Club**  
**3973 S. Jim Minor Road**  
**Haw River, NC**
- ➔ Dispatch someone to the front gate to open the gate and standby to guide the ambulance to the scene.
- ➔ Anyone helping as a first responder is protected by the N.C. Good Samaritan Law...you do not need to be a medical expert...stay calm and do the best you can.
- ➔ Report the event to the club president [president@dprc.org](mailto:president@dprc.org) and vice-president [vice-president@dprc.org](mailto:vice-president@dprc.org).

### FINAL WORDS

All firearms are deadly. All firearms are unthinking and unforgiving. Once a bullet exits the barrel, it stands a good chance of destroying whatever is in its path, and all the sorrow in the world will not put the bullet back in the barrel.