

# VICTORIA FISH AND GAME PROTECTIVE ASSOCIATION

## General Range Rules

1. The General and Range Specific Rules are for the purpose of general shooting at the Association Ranges when no sanctioned event is taking place. If an official competition or match is held on any range and that range is closed to general use, the official match rules apply and the Match Director assumes the responsibility of Range Safety Officer for the event.
2. When on the property, you must have your Membership Card or Day Pass displayed at all times. Anyone found using the property without a membership card or a day pass will be required to leave the property. The opportunity to purchase a day pass will not be given to a person who is stealing from our non-profit volunteer club.
3. Members are responsible for acceptable, considerate, courteous and non-abusive behavior from themselves, their family and guests at all times while on Association property. Abuse of the rules could result in the loss of privileges and/or membership.

## **Safety**

4. No person may use a VFGPA shooting range for the first time without first familiarizing themselves with the safety rules for that range.
5. New members will not be permitted to use the range without direct supervision of an experienced member until they have completed the "Range Orientation" program.
6. Members are responsible for ensuring their guests have been informed of the safety rules for the range to be used before they start shooting.
7. **Safety Is YOUR Responsibility!** If you see someone not following our safety/range rules, please introduce yourself and give them a gentle reminder of the correct procedure to be followed. You will find a laminated copy of our Range Rules hanging on the bulletin board of each range. Most people will be happy to be informed of the correct procedure to follow. If you encounter resistance, do not press the matter; report the incident to one of: Range Manager, Caretaker, Range Safety Officer or Association Director immediately.
8. Hearing and eye protection are mandatory for shooters and observers.
9. You must be holster trained to use a holster while firing on Association Ranges and you must have your certification card with you and be prepared to show it if asked.
10. The Range Manager, Caretakers, Range Safety Officers or Association Directors can require anyone who persists in engaging in unsafe practices, violation of range rules/policies, or inappropriate behaviors to leave the property immediately.
11. **Do not argue with the Range Safety Officers and Caretakers.** Argumentative or abusive behavior towards the Range Safety Officers and/or Caretakers will not be tolerated – we have a zero tolerance policy. The Range Safety Officer's ruling regarding conduct on the range is final. If you disagree, you can forward your concern(s) to the Chief Range Safety Officer/Range Manager. However, if you wish to continue to use the range, you must comply. If you are unwilling to comply, you must stop using the range.
12. All incidents resulting in a member or guest being asked to leave the property must be reported to the President (normally through the Range Manager/Chief Safety Officer).

13. Recommendations for changes/improvements to Range Safety/Range Rules should be forwarded to the Chief Range Safety Officer/Range Manager or a member of the Board of Directors.

**14. Range Rules:**

Rule # 1 – When using any range the red flag on the flag pole at the entrance of the range must be up when the range is in use. The first shooter must put the flag up when arriving at the range before shooting commences, and the last shooter must take the flag down when shooting is finished.

Rule # 2 – Firearms **MUST** be carried unloaded; actions open and muzzle pointing in a safe direction, (i.e. rifles pointing up, pistols pointing up unless holstered and shotguns pointing in a safe direction).

Rule # 3 – All uncased firearms when not in use **MUST** be unloaded with actions open. Long guns must be placed barrel pointing up in the racks or on the shooting table, muzzle pointing down range.

Rule # 4 – Loading and unloading is only permitted at the designated firing line.

Rule #5 - Shooting is only permitted from the designated firing line.

Rule # 6 – Keep the muzzle pointed in a safe direction at all times. Muzzle direction of a firearm (loaded or unloaded) **MUST NOT** break 45 degrees from downrange. Hand gunners who are holster trained/certified may use accepted safe procedures for loading, unloading, holstering and un-holstering.

Rule # 7 – No handling of firearms during a cease-fire. Shooters must be three metres from their firearms.

Rule # 8 – **ONLY** paper targets or approved steel gongs may be used on the Rifle/Pistol and Multipurpose Ranges.

Rule # 9 – You must not shoot at target frames or range equipment, or at targets on the ground.

Rule # 10 – Prohibited, tracer or armor-piercing ammunition is **NOT** permitted on any range.

Rule # 11 – No Cross firing on other targets. Shoot at targets directly in front of you and ensure that the bullet ends up in an approved backstop area.

Rule # 12 – Children under 18 must be under adult supervision at all times.

Rule # 13 – When finished, **all** shooters are required to clean their shooting stations including spent casings, ejected/unfired ammunition, and the targets and debris from your targets at the target distance at which you were shooting. Please leave the range cleaner than you found it.

Rule # 14 – The consumption of alcohol is **NOT** permitted on an active range.

Rule # 15 – The use of illegal drugs is **NOT** permitted on the property.

Rule # 16 – Any person who appears to be “under the influence” is prohibited from shooting.

Rule # 17 – While shooting or attending an active range it is mandatory to wear hearing and eye protection.

Rule # 18 – You must supply your own targets, target backers, staples & stapler, etc. The Caretaker has a supply of paper targets (small cost involved) which may be used on the various ranges.

**Rule #19 – No shooting of wildlife on the range.**

**Rule #20 – Rapid fire and uncontrolled fire is NOT permitted on the Ranges.** This means all shots must be directed at a target and all fire must be sighted).

15. **Acting Range Officer** – If a duty Range Safety Officer is not present, the first VFGPA member to arrive at the range will assume the responsibility of Acting Range Officer or if mutually agreed the most experienced shooter who is a member may assume that task. The position of Acting Range Officer is to monitor safety procedures and ceasefires. When this person leaves the range, he/she must hand-off the responsibility to another person.
16. **Weather.** Our ranges are at the top of the Malahat and are subject to changing weather conditions, which quite often include fog. The rules of safe shooting dictate that you **MUST** be able to see where your bullet will land (not just the target you are shooting at). This is to ensure that any wildlife (deer, bears, etc) or people that may wander onto the range do not get accidentally shot. If the fog rolls in, you must **STOP** shooting and wait until it rolls out, usually between 5 to 15 minutes.
17. **Accidents** – must be reported to the Range Manager/Caretaker.
18. If you are unsure of the policies, rules or protocols for using the Association's Ranges or Property, ask the Range Manager, Caretaker, Range Safety Officer or Director for clarification. Ignorance is no excuse for not complying with Association policies and rules while on Association property.