

FALL CREEK VALLEY CONSERVATION CLUB

July 2023

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From the President . . .

The club has seen many changes and improvements to the physical facilities during the first half of 2023, rebuilding the 50 yard and Action Pistol berms, replacing the clubhouse water pressure tank and plumbing, installing infra-red heaters in the Enclosed Handgun Range, repairing the roof of the Education and Training building, and acquiring new rifle racks to name a few. Where possible, the Wednesday volunteer workday crew takes care of the facilities maintenance and projects. When we don't have the equipment or the time needed, we hire contractors. Along with contractor expenses in the roof, berm rebuild, and upcoming baffle work, the club has also seen our operating expenses rise through inflation just as our families have.

Considering all these factors, the combined Executive and Trustee Boards have approved and passed changes that will take effect on August 1st.

- The yearly dues will increase by \$20 for all paid memberships.
- The Member's range fees on the *open handgun* and *rifle* ranges are discontinued.
- Members will still be required to pay the posted range fee on the enclosed handgun range - which remains at only \$3.
- The guest fee on both the open and enclosed ranges is raised to \$5 per guest. Remember, each guest **MUST** sign in as well as all Members.
- Our insurance carrier now requires guests to sign the same waiver that members sign when they join FCVCC. Each guest **MUST** sign a waiver at each visit to the range. Realtor boxes are placed at the sign in tables for blank waiver and signed waivers. Non-members participating in open disciplines such as Trap and Action Pistol will also need to sign waivers for those disciplines.

The Safety Committee restarted this year, after a hiatus due to covid. We have reviewed the existing range rules for the open and enclosed ranges, and added clarification where it is needed. Attached are the updated range rules for the open handgun range, rifle range and the enclosed handgun range. Also attached is a written procedure for calling a "Cold Range". A copy of the cold range procedure, along with the revised range rules, will be posted at the sign in table for reference at the range. Please read, and have your guest read, these rules *prior* to coming to the range.

If you have any questions or concerns, catch me at the range or even better attend the members' business meeting - held on the third Thursday of each month. The board is always open to questions and suggestions from the membership.

Representing the combined FCVCC Boards, Respectfully, Ed Cates, President FCVCC

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Essential
 SENIOR HEALTH & LIVING

MONTHLY BUSINESS MEETINGS
3RD Thursdays 6:30 - 8:00 pm
At the Clubhouse

Procedure For Cold Range (Turn on the Flashing Red Lights)

If the range is not under club RSO control, then the members present are responsible for the cold range.

1. The member calling for the cold range and turning on the **Flashing Red Lights** is the acting RSO for that cold range and runs the cold range.
2. Before calling "Range is cold" and turning on the **Flashing Red Lights**, the acting RSO will make sure everyone on the handgun and rifle lines acknowledges going cold and all firearms are made safe. No magazines are in the firearm, all actions open, and chamber flags are inserted
3. No one may go downrange until all firearms are safe and **Flashing Red Lights** are on.
4. Only cased firearms may be brought to the line while **Flashing Red Lights** are on but must remain cased until the range is declared hot. Only cased firearms may be removed from the firing line under the **Flashing Red Lights**.
5. Uncased firearms can only be handled when the range is hot.
6. No handling of any FIREARMS OR FIREARM ACCESSORIES is permitted while **Flashing Red Lights** are on.
7. Shooters will remain behind the yellow line unless changing targets while the **Flashing Red Lights** are on.
8. The acting RSO will make sure everyone is back from downrange and all shooters are aware and agree before turning off the **Flashing Red Lights** and calling "*The range is hot*".

FCVCC SAFETY RULES AND REGULATIONS

GENERAL RANGE RULES

These rules apply to ALL ranges.

A specific range rule takes precedent over a general range rule

1. **No shooting before 8:01 AM.** Ranges close to casual shooting daily *at 30 minutes before sundown*, unless otherwise specified by a sponsored shooting event.
2. **Action Pistol Range is NOT open to casual shooters** and is only to be used during organized and supervised events and approved training classes.
3. **ALWAYS** keep the muzzle of the gun pointed in a safe direction. Long guns: muzzle pointed up or down range. Handguns: pointed down or as conditions dictate.
4. **ALWAYS** keep your **finger off the trigger** until ready to fire.
5. **ALWAYS** keep the firearm **unloaded and the action open** until ready to shoot. **Load firearms only when on firing line** and ready to shoot. (*Loaded handguns are allowed off the firing line only if holstered*)
6. **NEVER** handle another person's firearm without permission.
7. Use of drugs and / or alcohol before and during use of any of the FCVCC ranges ***is prohibited***.
8. **SAFETY RULE VIOLATIONS CAN LEAD TO EXPULSION FROM THE CLUB.**
9. Load firearms **only** at the shooting tables. Firearms must be unloaded and made safe (or holstered) before leaving the shooting tables.
10. **One firearm at the shooting table at a time.** When finished, make safe, and case or place in a rifle rack before bringing the next firearm to the shooting table.
11. *Never hand a loaded firearm to another individual*, lay the firearm down on the shooting table and have the other shooter pick the firearm up.
12. **In the event of a firearm malfunction that you are unable to clear, keep the firearm pointed downrange and request assistance. If you need to leave the firing line for assistance, DO NOT take the firearm with you.**
13. No shooting of wildlife is allowed on FCVCC property.
14. **Club members & each guest MUST** sign the appropriate sign-in sheet for the range on which they intend to shoot & **PAY the posted range fee BEFORE shooting.**
15. Club members may bring more than one guest/visit. *Members are responsible for each guest, their conduct, and must actively supervise each guest individually when they are shooting from the member's table. Only 1 guest may shoot at a time! A guest may only shoot from member's bench, with member standing at shoulder to supervise impact zone of guest.* Guest may not shoot without active supervision.
16. **Guests:** a. must sign the range **sign-in sheet & pay the posted range fee.** b. Must **sign the FCVCC waiver at each visit to the range. NO EXCEPTIONS!** and c. must use the same bench as member & take turns shooting, with only 1 person shooting at a time.
17. **ALWAYS** wear your member ID card in plain view.
18. Appropriate eye and ear protection is required at all times.
19. If a designated RSO (Range Safety Officer) is present and in control of the range, you must follow all instructions from the RSO.

Use of alcoholic beverages and controlled drugs is prohibited on Club Property

FCVCC SAFETY RULES AND REGULATIONS for OPEN RIFLE & PISTOL RANGE

Safety is your responsibility, not someone else's!!!

In addition to the General Range Rules, the following rules also apply to the Open Rifle/Pistol Range.

1. Club member & each guest **MUST** sign the range sign-in sheet & pay the posted range fees **before shooting**. Guests must sign the FCVCC waiver on **EACH** visit to the range **BEFORE** shooting.
2. **RED LIGHTS FLASHING** indicates **RANGE IS COLD** (See cold range procedure.)
3. **When a cold range is called, all firearms must be unloaded, actions open and up, Chamber flags inserted, benched, and shooters standing behind the yellow line.**
4. Only cased firearms may be brought to the firing line during cold range. Cased firearms must stay in case until line is declared hot.
5. No one shall go forward of the firing line for any reason until a **cold range** has been acknowledged by all shooters present and **RED LIGHTS** have been turned on
6. Never handle uncased firearms **or** accessories (including magazines and ammo) while **RED LIGHTS** are on or when anyone is down range.
7. Use **PAPER OR CARDBOARD TARGETS ONLY**- to be fixed to the face of the wooden frames provided by the club. Do not pick up unbroken trap clays and use for targets. No outside target frames.
8. The 50-yard line on the 100-yard range is for sanctioned event use only. **NOT CASUAL SHOOTING**.
9. Use only one (1) bench for your equipment. One (1) member card equals one (1) bench. If needed, use gun racks behind the bench which holds your equipment and from which you are shooting.
10. All firearms should be properly sighted in for safe use on the range. If you are not sure of your sights, check them by shooting from a bench with a rest at 25 or 50 yds. **MAKE SURE YOU ARE ON TARGET**.
11. Make sure your bullet hits the proper target and **impacts the berm behind the target**. If you are not sure where your bullets impact, call for assistance or move to a shorter range to investigate and sight in.
12. **NEVER SHOOT ACROSS FIRING LANES OR AT AN ANGLE TO BERMS. NO EXCEPTIONS!!**
13. All shots must be fired from a stationary position. **NO RUN & GUN SHOOTING!**
14. No kneeling to shoot on the 7- and 10-yard ranges.
15. When shooting prone, place targets low on frame to ensure rounds are hitting berm.
 - a. **Prone position is banned on the 50 yard and shorter ranges.**
16. All shots must be aimed and controlled. **No rapid fire allowed**; double taps are permitted but allow at least 1 second between other individual shots. **NO FIRING FROM THE HIP!**
17. Do **NOT** shoot baffles. **THEY ARE NOT TARGETS or TARGET HOLDERS!** Their purpose is to stop random accidental shots from leaving the range. **Shooting At Baffles Can Cost You Your Membership.**
18. Each shooter is responsible for cleaning their area before leaving. Police your brass. Dispose of used targets.
19. **Drawing and firing from a holster is NOT allowed. NO EXCEPTIONS!** Start from a low ready position. *There is a Liability concern with so much concrete. Someone could shoot themselves in the leg or others on the line because of inexperienced people drawing from a holster or unsafe holster position.*

AUTHORIZED AND PROHIBITED GUNS/AMMO:

1. Full auto or bump fire for any firearm is **NOT** allowed. **NO EXCEPTIONS!**
2. 50 cal. BMG ammo / firearms are prohibited
3. Tracer, armor piercing & incendiary ammo are prohibited.
4. No shot shells allowed. A patterning range will be set up in the fall and spring or on request.
5. Shotgun slugs are acceptable.

FCVCC SAFETY RULES AND REGULATIONS for ENCLOSED PISTOL RANGE

Safety is your responsibility - NOT someone else's!!!

In addition to *General Range Rules*, the following rules apply ONLY to the ENCLOSED PISTOL RANGE.

1. Members & guests **MUST** sign the **Enclosed Pistol Range sign-in sheet** & pay the posted enclosed - range fee before shooting.
2. Guests **MUST** sign the FCVCC waiver on EACH visit to the range.
3. **NO SHOOTING ACROSS FIRING LANES. NO EXCEPTIONS!!**
4. **NO SHOOTING AT MOVING TARGETS!**
5. All targets must be at **SHOOTER'S** eye level. This is critical when shooting at targets which are less than full range length away from firing line. **TARGETS MUST BE RE-ALIGNED FOR EACH SHOOTER!**
6. **No chairs and no kneeling** to shoot, except handicapped members. Those positions increase the angle of shot, which may bypass safety barriers and baffles.
7. **DRAWING AND FIRING FROM A HOLSTER IS NOT ALLOWED.** PERIOD. Start from a low ready position. *There is a Liability concern with so much concrete. Someone could shoot themselves in the leg or others on the line because of inexperienced people drawing from a holster or unsafe holster position.*
8. All shots must be aimed and controlled. **No rapid fire allowed**; double taps are permitted but shooter must **allow at least 1 second between other individual shots.**
9. **Do NOT** shoot at targets any closer than 3 yds.
10. **IF the Open Rifle/Pistol Range goes cold, the Enclosed Pistol Range is NOT required to go cold when the wooden door between the two ranges is CLOSED.**
11. All pistols must be holstered or unloaded and bagged before leaving the shooting tables.

AUTHORIZED AND PROHIBITED GUNS/AMMO

1. **PISTOLS ONLY.** NO rifles. PERIOD.
2. Maximum Pistol caliber allowed is .50 cal. **Straight wall pistol cartridges only.**
3. **No high-power center fire rifle cartridges**
4. No rifle cartridges in any firearms, except “.22 rim fire”.
5. **No shotshells or shotgun slugs.**

PLEASE USE CARDBOARD TO MOUNT YOUR TARGETS

We've all seen the signs “Don't Walk Under the Baffles” and still take the shortcut. These pictures show a wheelbarrow of gravel coming out due to a rotten bottom section. This baffle has never been shot or damaged! Just remember that most of the baffles have damage from being shot.



Workday crew repairing replacement baffle.



Without the efforts of the volunteers on the Wed. work crew there would be no FCVCC for us all to enjoy. These guys do a fantastic job!



15 Ladies walked away all smiles from our Ladies' Day in June. 4 hours of class covered basic safety, lunch was provided, and then about 3 hours firing on the range. Each participant worked on the firing line with one of our club's RSO volunteers. Thanks guys! You did a great job! Also, a big thanks to 9-Guns for their donations of prizes for the event. 9-Guns is a big supporter of our club's programs.

