

BUCKS COUNTY FISH AND GAME ASSOCIATION, INC.

1745 Turk Road, Doylestown, PA 18901

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FOUNDED 1894

GENERAL AND SPECIAL RULES

1.0 SAFETY

Safety is of the utmost importance in the use of the facilities and ranges of the Bucks County Fish and Game Association, Inc. These rules have been developed to ensure safety of those individuals who use or frequent this facility and the community at large. Violation of these rules shall be sufficient cause for disciplinary action as determined by the Board of Governors, including suspension, loss of membership and/or arrest and prosecution. Remember all members are responsible for safety. Violations of safety and range rules must be reported to the Board of Governors.

- 1.1 Destruction or mutilation of club property shall be cause for appearance before the Board of Governors for disciplinary action, which may also be cause for arrest and prosecution. Violators shall be responsible to pay for all damages.
- 1.2 Alcoholic beverages are prohibited on the club grounds.
- 1.3 Worn side arms must comply with State Laws with the exception that open carry of side arms is prohibited.
- 1.4 Smoking is prohibited in the Clubhouse and Trap Houses. Smoking is also prohibited at ranges [sheds] where black powder is being used.

2.0 FIREARM HANDLING

- 2.1 ALWAYS POINT THE MUZZLE IN A SAFE DIRECTION. Never point firearms at anyone, Including when placing on or removing firearms from the firing line. Never allow the muzzle to point in any direction whereby an inadvertent discharge would allow the escape of a projectile into an outer area.
- 2.2 KEEP YOUR FINGER STRAIGHT AND OFF THE TRIGGER, and outside the trigger guard, until ready to fire or until the command "Commence Firing" has been given.

- 2.3 KEEP THE ACTION OPEN AND FIREARM UNLOADED UNTIL READY TO USE. On a firing range this means the shooters are in a position on the firing line and the range has been cleared for live firing.
- 2.4 KNOW HOW THE FIREARM OPERATES.
- 2.5 BE SURE THE FIREARM AND AMMUNITION ARE COMPATIBLE.
- 2.6 CARRY ONLY ONE GAUGE/CALIBER OF AMMUNITION WHEN SHOOTING. When at a shooting range with more than one firearm, use one at a time and when complete, store that firearm and its ammunition before using the next one.
- 2.7 BE SURE OF THE TARGET AND WHAT IS BEYOND. When on shooting ranges, be mindful also of adjacent areas and act accordingly.
- 2.8 DO NOT MIX ALCOHOL OR DRUGS WITH SHOOTING ACTIVITIES.
- 2.9 During a cease-fire, unload, open the action, remove the magazine and ground and/or bench all firearms.
- 2.10 Do NOT handle any firearm or stand at the firing line where firearms are present while others are down range.

- 3.0 MEMBERSHIP REQUIREMENTS
- 3.1 Annual membership period runs from January 1 through December 31 of the year indicated on membership card. Five year membership runs consecutive to December 31st of the year indicated on membership card.
- 3.2 Membership cards must be worn with member number visible at all times while using the premises.
- 3.3 Only members may use range facilities, except those permitted by guest pass or special events, for which a fee is charged. The maximum number of guests permitted per member is restricted to not more than two (2).
- 3.4 Guests are prohibited from ranges during the month of November.
- 3.5 Only adult members may host guests.
- 3.6 Guest passes are available for a fee established by the Board of Governors. Issuance of guests passes may be suspended at the direction of the Board of Governors.
- 3.7 Guest Passes are available from the box at the west side entrance of the Clubhouse and/or range officers.
- 3.8 Guests Passes, issued with the current date, must be visible at all times while guests are on Club grounds.
- 3.9 Host member is responsible for and must supervise all guests to ensure all rules are complied with.
- 3.10 Host member and guest must use the same shooting position. [Same bench or lane]
- 3.11 All members and guests must complete and sign the register sheet at the ranges to be used.
- 3.12 All junior members must be under direct supervision of a parent or an adult.

3.13 Members are required to surrender their membership card to a Range Officer, Club Officer or member of the Board of Governors when requested to do so.

4.0 USE OF FACILITIES

4.1 The Board of Governors must approve all organized or special events.

4.2 Park vehicles only in parking lots and designated areas. [No parking on grass unless previously authorized by the Board of Governors].

4.3 Handicap parking areas are available and restricted for authorized vehicles.

4.4 The maximum speed limit on Club grounds is 5 mph.

4.5 Please keep grounds clean. Remove all spent shell casings, refuse and targets. Dispose of properly in refuse containers.

4.6 Hunting and/or trapping on club grounds is prohibited.

4.7 Misfired ammunition: Treat with caution. It is the responsibility of members to remove cartridges that fail to fire. They must not be disposed of anywhere on club grounds, including trash containers and rubbish bins.

4.8 The use of the "Open 22 Only" range is prohibited except for authorized and supervised events.

5.0 RANGE REGULATIONS

5.1 Shooting times for all rifle, black powder, pistol and trap ranges, and shotgun pattern board are as follows:

5.2 Weekdays and Saturdays: 10 a.m. until time posted on range board.

5.3 Sundays: 11 a.m. until times posted on range board.

5.4 Ranges are closed on New Years Day, Easter Sunday and Christmas.

5.5 Ranges close early and all shooting will end at 3:00 p.m. on Memorial Day, Independence Day, Labor Day, and Thanksgiving.

5.6 Hearing and eye protection are required at all active ranges.

5.7 The permitted rate of fire is no faster than one round every two seconds. Faster is "rapid fire" which is prohibited.

5.8 "Fast" or "Quick Draw" firing is prohibited

5.9 Armor Piercing, Incendiary or Tracer Type ammunition is prohibited on all ranges.

5.10 Bird and Buck shot use is prohibited in the 100/75 yard Rifle, 50 yard Black Powder and 25/9 yard Pistol Ranges.

5.11 Only handguns are permitted on the 25/9 yard Pistol Range.

5.12 Handguns that fire high powered rifle bullets are prohibited on the 25/9 yard Pistol Range. High powered ammunition is defined as any center fire rifle cartridge.

5.13 Chronograph sky screens may be erected during Cease-Fire [black/yellow] flag, after everyone has returned to the sheds.

5.14 Bore-sighting may only be done during a Commence Fire [red flag].

6.0 FLAG AND BUZZER SYSTEM

6.1 RANGE FLAGS AND INDICATIONS:

6.2 BLACK AND YELLOW STRIPED RECTANGULAR FLAG: Indicates CEASE-FIRE. Open actions, unload firearms, ground and/or bench all firearms [no handling of firearms] and stand clear of firing line. No one is permitted to proceed downrange until all active ranges display the "safe" [black/yellow] flag indicating a cease-fire. Handling of firearms, ammunition or magazines are prohibited under the cease-fire flag. Stand clear and do not stand or sit at bench during cease-fire. Do NOT handle any firearm while others are down range.

6.3 RED TRIANGULAR FLAG: Indicates all clear to COMMENCE FIRING. Before displaying red flag declaring commence firing, everyone must insure down range is safe and look carefully between baffle poles. Ensure that flags at all active ranges have been changed. All persons are prohibited from crossing the firing line while the Red Flag, Commence Fire is displayed.

6.4 The 100/75/ yard [rifle], 50 yard rifle [black powder] and 25/9 yard [Pistol] ranges are controlled by the Flag and Buzzer Systems as follows:

6.5 When active, the 100 yard range controls the range. In the event the 100 yard range is vacant, the 50 yard range controls, if the 50 yard range is vacant as well, the control defaults to the 25 yard range.

Recommended relay time is 20 min. A Relay is defined as the time firing is taking place [red flag].

6.6 The Buzzer is used to gain the attention of the firing line.

6.7 Everyone is responsible for safety. Anyone may call for a cease-fire by sounding the buzzer.

6.8 The warning buzzer must be sounded before and in conjunction with any flag changes. Flags must not be displayed in any shed that is not in use. The flag system remains in effect before and after shooting hours to provide for shooters to set up and take down equipment.

6.9 Canoeist may call for a cease-fire by sounding the warning bell. All ranges must go to an immediate cease-fire per rule 6.2. Resume fire can only occur after someone has gone down range and confirmed that the canoeists have passed and the range is clear.

6.10 All firearms must be unloaded and actions shall remain open except when in use on the firing lines during a red flag.

6.11 All ranges commence firing and cease firing simultaneously.

7.0 Targets:

7.1 Targets are defined as commercially printed or handmade lightweight cardboard or paper.

7.2 Targets representing humans, except silhouette, are prohibited.

7.3 All targets must be placed on and fastened to the racks provided.

7.4 All targets shall be placed inside the red border lines on the target board.

- 7.5 Firing at objects other than described, is prohibited except targets authorized for use at supervised events.
- 7.6 All firing must be done from established firing lines only. "Cross firing" is prohibited.
- 7.7 All targets must be removed when through shooting.
- 7.8 Retrieving of brass in front of shooting benches is prohibited except during a cease-fire flag [black & yellow].
- 7.9 Scavenging for used bullets behind target frames is prohibited.

8.0 MUZZLE LOADERS

- 8.1 Never prime or cap muzzle loaders until reaching the firing line.
- 8.2 A muzzle loader is considered unloaded only when the powder has been spent from the barrel. If a muzzle loader is in the "load and fire" process when a cease-fire is requested, the muzzle loader must loudly declare that an arm is "HOT" and no [black/yellow] cease-fire flags may be posted until the arm has been safely discharged and the range has sounded a "clear".
- 8.3 "Woofing of a muzzle loader's barrel is prohibited.

9.0 PRACTICE BUTTS & ARCHERY COURSE

- 9.1 Shooting times are daily sunrise to sunset.
- 9.2 Broad Head arrow points are prohibited on the Club grounds.
- 9.3 No firearms are allowed on the archery ranges.

PRACTICE BUTTS [FIELD COURSE]

- 9.4 Shooting from parking lot is prohibited.
- 9.5 Releasing of arrows is prohibited when anyone is anywhere down range.
- 9.6 Insure down range area is safe.
- 9.7 Shoot from lanes only.
- 9.8 Shoot in a maximum group of four.
- 9.9 Wait until all archers on practice field have finished shooting before going down range to pull arrows. All archers must retrieve their arrows from the backstops and beyond at the same time.
- 9.10 Place bow in front of the target when looking for lost arrows.

ARCHERY COURSE [3D COURSE]

- 9.11 Crossbows are prohibited on the 3D Course [permitted on the field range only].
- 9.12 Do not back track through 3D Course.
- 9.13 No more than two people are permitted in the tree stand at one time.

10.0 TRAPS

- 10.1 The use of hand traps or throwers is prohibited. The Club has a mounted thrower for club use. Trap shooters must stay in fenced in area to shoot. Shooters must shoot between upright posts. Shooting outside fenced in area is prohibited.
- 10.2 The following types of shotgun ammunition are prohibited on the Trap Ranges:
 - 10.2.1 Shells that are longer than 2 $\frac{3}{4}$ ”;
 - 10.2.2 Shells that contain other than lead shot;
 - 10.2.3 Shells that contain shot larger than number 7 $\frac{1}{2}$; and
 - 10.2.4 Shells that contain more than 3 drams of powder.Lead shot up to number 2 may be used at the Shotgun Pattern Board.
- 10.3 Shotguns shall be single loaded except when shooting doubles, at which time two shells may be loaded.
- 10.4 Ground mounted trap throwers may be used at the top of the hill between trap houses #7 and #8 when these trap houses are not in use.

11.0 SHOTGUN PATTERN BOARD

- 11.1 Slugs and/or buckshot are prohibited, only shot may be used.
- 11.2 Shot larger than number 2 is prohibited.
- 11.3 Shoot only from yardage stakes: Minimum 20 yards, maximum 50 yards.

These Safety Rules have been adopted by the Officers and Board of Governors of the Bucks County Fish & Game Association, Inc. on October 17, 2009, and become effective January 1, 2010. These Safety Rules supersede and replace any previously adopted Safety Rules which must be destroyed.