

The Bethesda-Chevy Chase Chapter operates its ranges for the safe enjoyment of target shooting by its members and escorted guests. The ranges may be used for outside events at the discretion of the Range Chair and Board of Governors. The three Range Committees, under the direction of the Chapter President and the Board of Governors have the responsibility for the administration and safe operation of these ranges. The Ranges are only to be used for Chapter or BOG approved events

General Rules

1. It is the responsibility of anyone using the range facilities to have read the SOP's prior to attending the range.
2. SOP's will be posted at each range house / pavilion and on the chapter website
3. A range officer when on duty has the full authority of the Board of Governors to supervise and control the range in a safe manner, and to enforce all safety and range regulations.
4. All guests, which includes non-member relatives, must be accompanied by their member host when shooting on the ranges at all times
5. All non-member guests must sign a hold harmless agreement each time they use the range.
6. No firearm will be carried, worn, or brought to the range uncased or in a holster except for on duty Law Enforcement Officers (LEOs).
7. A member of the Board of Governors or a member of the Range Committee may close the ranges at any time as may be necessary AND WILL GIVE AS MUCH NOTICE AS IS PRACTICAL IN THE CIRCUMSTANCES.
8. Such notices as mentioned above may be limited to the posting of a written notice on the range house, newsletter, email blasts or verbal directions from a range officer on duty. Compliance with any such notice is mandatory and non-compliance may result in temporary or permanent loss of range privileges.
9. Do not clutter up the range with trash, however small it may be. Pick up the trash you find and dispose of it in the provided trash cans.
10. Be extremely careful with cigarettes and matches in the woods. Carelessness can cause a major disaster to your sport and to chapter property.
11. THESE RULES AND REGULATIONS ARE DESIGNED AND WRITTEN TO ENSURE THE SAFETY AND ENJOYMENT OF ALL CHAPTER MEMBERS AND THEIR ESCORTED GUESTS WHILE USING THE RANGES.

SHOTGUN RANGE

1. The trap and skeet ranges are normally open to all members and guests from 9:00 am to 5:00 pm every Sunday, weather permitting. On Tuesdays (April through September) the range is open to sporting clays from 3:30 until dark. Pre-qualified shotgun range officers may open the shotgun range at any time.
2. All range equipment (hand traps, electric traps, targets, etc.) are restricted to be used only by prequalified range officers.
3. The use of hand traps is restricted to the left trap range only and then only under the supervision of a member over 21 years of age. This should be coordinated with the range officer on duty.
4. No hand traps will be used when a trap or skeet field is in operation.
5. There are special shoots throughout the year such as the Winter Sporting Clay League, Fun Shoots, and the Annual Father's Day Shoot. These events will be posted in the newsletter and website calendar well in advance of the event.
6. Charges will be as posted on the fee sheet in the shotgun range house.
7. During any shoot, all persons, other than the participants (shooters, trap operators, score keepers, pull stand operators, etc.) are to remain well behind the shooting lines or stations.
8. Parents are responsible for their children whenever the range fields are in operation. Children shall not handle guns without adult supervision. Children shall not help pick up shell cases or clay targets until the range is closed and then only under adult supervision.
9. Always wash thoroughly after a handling live or spent ammunition. Wash your hands, fingers, arms and face with cold water and soap. Never eat, drink or smoke after shooting without washing up.
10. When not in use, all guns are to be placed in the provided gun racks with actions open
11. Members and spectators shall not handle guns during a shoot, unless they are on a shooting station or in route to a shooting station. Remember that even "empty" guns may be loaded.
12. All guns are to be handled with the action open at all times, unless you are at a shooting station.
13. After any shoot, the participants will pick up all empty shells and place in the trashcans provided.
14. Care should be taken to return all live or defective shells to the range house. Discard trash in proper containers. The range officer in charge will see that all equipment is secured, uncocked, and turned off before the electricity is turned off.
15. When a squad of shooters or a shooter is on the shooting station the following will be observed:

- Do not place a shell in a gun until it is your turn to shoot and you are in position at the shooting station.
- Never place more than one shell in a gun during trap shooting.
- Never place more than two shells in a gun when shooting skeet, doubles trap, or sporting clays.

16. Maintain muzzle discipline at all times. Always keep your muzzle pointed away from other shooters when on the shooting station. When leaving the shooting station the action must be open and the muzzle pointed in a safe direction.

17. Hearing and sight protection are mandatory for shooters, trap operators, scorekeepers, and spectators.

18. Alcoholic beverages are prohibited on the shotgun range. Alcoholic beverages are allowed only after shooting is completed and must be confined to the pavilion area. Once you have consumed any alcohol, you are done shooting for the day.

19. Only shotguns, 12 gauge and smaller, with shot loads of 7 1/2, 8, 9 shot in 2 3/4 shells, are allowed on the shotgun range. The patterning board may be used for larger shot sizes for the purpose of checking choke patterns and hunting loads. No buck shot is allowed at any time (hunting, turkey or waterfowl loads only). Make sure the range is clear and that the duty range officer is informed before you use the patterning board.

20. The range is under the complete control of the range officer.

21. The shotgun range boundaries and shot fall areas are well posted with range warning signs. All members and guests must obey these warning signs.

22. The shotgun range is operated by members that are pre-qualified shotgun range officers. There is a Shotgun Range Officer Training Class twice a year. The dates for the Shotgun Range Officer Training class will be posted in the newsletter. This is a required class to be able to operate and open the range on your own.