

ODESSA AREA OUTDOOR GUN RANGE RULES

Safety will be of primary concern throughout all aspects and activities of this shooting range. It is each person's responsibility to conduct him or herself in a safe manner at all times, and not endanger anyone else. This includes shooters, workers, and spectators; and covers gun handling, driving, equipment use, and maintenance, and any other dangerous activity. Safe operation of our shooting ranges requires strict adherence to the following rules and signs as posted at range.

These are rules, not just suggestions. Violations of these rules WILL lead to your membership being revoked.

1. We will prosecute to the fullest extent of the law: Trespassers, deliberate acts of vandalism, destruction of range property, threats, or any other violation of Texas State Statutes.

a) All members must download and fill out a Membership ID Card after completing the online purchase of a membership. Membership ID card should be kept on or with the personal property of any member of the range at all times while on range property. **Any member has the right to see any other member's ID card at any time and for any reason. If any person on range property refuses to show their membership ID card then they should be reported immediately with details like name (if known), vehicle description, date, time, description of person, etc. Refusal to show membership ID is an automatic ban from the range.** Members themselves are the range officers and therefore all are responsible for their own safety and the safe use of the facility by all members. Members are directly responsible for the maintaining of a safe and respectful atmosphere. Any member not being safe or respectful to others should be reported to range management immediately with descriptions of the actions or attitudes, vehicle, persons, etc.

2. Safety

- (a) Always keep firearms pointed in a safe direction.
- (b) Always keep your finger off the trigger until ready to shoot.
- (c) Always keep firearms unloaded until ready to use.
- (d) Know your target and beyond.
- (e) Know how to operate the firearm.
- (f) Ensure firearm is safe to operate.
- (g) Ensure use of correct ammunition in the firearm.
- (h) Eye and ear protection is STRONGLY recommended.

(i) Be aware that certain types of firearms and many shooting activities required additional safety precautions.

(j) If you see an unsafe condition take it upon yourself to correct it immediately.

3. Ranges are for use by members and escorted guests ONLY, except in events open to the general public. An individual may be a guest only twice per year. **Members are responsible for the actions and close control of family and guests.**

4. Proof of membership must be shown to any member or agent of the ODESSA AREA OUTDOOR GUN RANGE upon demand.

5. Except during sanctioned events open to the Public, **the entrance gate must be closed and locked after entry to or exit from the range (AT ALL TIMES).**

6. All guns are to be unloaded, completely clear of ammo at all times except when on the firing line ready to be fired.

(a) There is no "Concealed Carry", either loaded or unloaded, allowed on range property. You must openly carry all firearms on range property.

(b) At all times, except when on the firing line ready to be fired, all firearms shall comply with one of the following:

(1) Action open with magazine empty. If the firearm is equipped with detachable magazine the action shall be open and the magazine shall be removed.

(2) Be holstered with magazine removed.

(3) Be unloaded and cased.

(4) Firearms with break-open type actions may have their actions closed if in a gun rack or cased.

(c) Exemptions to rule #6 above:

1) On duty authorized security personnel or on duty law enforcement officers.

2) Firearms safely stored that remain in a vehicle.

3) Shooting activities on the firing line under the direct control of a trained range officer.

7. No cross shooting, your bench must be in line with your target. Shoot only proper targets set directly in front of berm. Bullets should not hit the steel target supports. Bullets must impact the BERM. Do not shoot glass or items set on ground.

8. Be aware of the fact that bullets striking the ground in front of a berm may ricochet over the top of the berm creating an unsafe condition for anyone behind a berm. Always set your targets directly in front of the berms and ensure that your bullets impact the berm and not the ground.

9. Cease-fires, Before going down Range:

CEASE FIRE PROCEDURES

ALWAYS HANDLE RIFLES IN A SAFE MANNER; ALWAYS POINT RIFLES IN A SAFE DIRECTION; ALWAYS ASSUME RIFLES ARE LOADED

1. **ALWAYS MAINTAIN AWARENESS OF OTHER SHOOTERS ON THE RIFLE RANGE**
 - a. CHECK TO SEE ANY OTHER SHOOTERS ON THE FIRING LINE
 - b. CHECK TO SEE IF SHOOTERS ARE SETTING UP TARGETS DOWN RANGE
 - c. CHECK TO SEE IF SHOOTERS ARE PREPARING TO WALK OR DRIVE DOWN RANGE TO SET UP TARGETS
 - d. CHECK TO SEE IF THERE ARE ANY UNATTENDED GUNS OR GEAR ON THE FIRING LINE THAT BELONG TO MEMBERS DOWN RANGE THAT YOU MAY NOT SEE
2. **SET UP** ANY NECESSARY **GEAR** LIKE AMMO, SPOTTING SCOPES, RESTS, SANDBAGS OR BENCHES ON THE TABLE **BEFORE SETTING UP RIFLES**
3. DO NOT PUT RIFLES ON THE SHOOTING TABLES UNTIL READY TO SHOOT
4. **BEFORE SHOOTING** YOU MUST **VERIFY THAT NO OTHER MEMBERS ARE DOWN RANGE**
5. **WHEN NOT SHOOTING** RIFLES **REMOVE THE BOLT** FROM THE RIFLE OR **REMOVE THE MAGAZINE** FROM THE RIFLE SO OTHER SHOOTERS CAN TELL YOU ARE NOT “HOT”
6. **BEFORE GOING DOWN RANGE** TO SET UP OR OBSERVE TARGETS, **ALWAYS LEAVE THE RIFLE UNLOADED AND INOPERABLE.**
7. **BEFORE GOING DOWN RANGE** TO OBSERVE OR SET UP TARGETS **YOU MUST WAIT FOR THE CEASE FIRE BELL TO RING** (BECAUSE YOU DO NOT WANT TO GET SHOT)
 - a. **CLEARLY GET ATTENTION OF AND SPEAK TO OTHER SHOOTERS ON THE FIRING LINE**
 - i. EFFECTIVELY COMMUNICATE THAT IT IS TIME TO STOP
 - ii. YELL/WHISTLE IF NECESSARY
 - iii. BE NICE & RESPECTFUL
 - iv. ETC
 - b. **DO NOT GO DOWN RANGE UNTIL ALL OTHER SHOOTERS HAVE ACKNOWLEDGED THE CEASE FIRE**
 - i. VERIFY THAT THE CEASE FIRE BELL WAS HEARD BY ALL
 1. VERBAL CONFIRMATION
 2. HAND SIGNALS
 3. ETC.
8. **YOU MUST STOP SHOOTING AND RENDER YOUR GUN INOPERABLE WHILE BELL IS RINGING AND WHILE OTHER MEMBERS ARE DOWN RANGE**
9. **DO NOT TOUCH YOUR GUN WHILE OTHERS ARE DOWN RANGE**
10. **YOU MUST COMMUNICATE WITH** OTHER MEMBERS ON THE FIRING LINE, **NO MATTER WHAT**
11. **ALWAYS BE COURTEOUS AND RESPECTFUL WHEN INTERACTING WITH OTHER MEMBERS ON THE FIRING LINE**
12. **YOU MUST BE PATIENT** – DO NOT GO DOWN RANGE JUST BECAUSE THE CEASE FIRE BELL STARTS RINGING. DO NOT START SHOOTING JUST BECAUSE THE CEASE FIRE BELL STOPS RINGING. YOU MUST BE PATIENT AROUND THE CEASE FIRE INTERVALS. SOMETIMES PEOPLE ARE STILL SHOOTING WHEN THE BELL RINGS BECAUSE THEY CANT HEAR IT. SOMETIMES PEOPLE ARE STILL DOWN RANGE DOING TARGETS WHEN THE BELL STOPS RINGING. NO ONE SHOULD EVER BE DOWN RANGE IN ANY AREA WHILE OTHERS AR SHOOTING. ANYONE WHO SHOOTS WHILE OTHER MEMBERS ARE DOWN RANGE WILL BE BANNED IMMEDIATELY. **YOU DO NOT WANT TO INFRINGE ON THE EXPERIENCE AND TIME OF OTHER MEMBERS.**

13. FOLLOW ALL RANGE RULES AND FOR FURTHER PROCEDURES REFER TO RANGE RULE #9

14. **ALWAYS STOP AND LOOK BOTH WAYS BEFORE FIRING AND MAKE SURE THE DOWN RANGE AREA IS CLEAR!!**

(a) **Verify the calling of a cease-fire with every shooter on the firing line, be cognizant of all people and their locations on the range at all times.**

(b) **Make all firearms safe with actions open, magazines removed, and completely clear of ammunition.**

(c) **Do not handle firearms on the firing line while anyone is down range.**

(d) **When more than one person is on the range, those present may appoint a Range Officer to give "Cease-fire" and "Commence-fire" commands.**

(e) **Shooters on the range must ensure that everyone is back from down range before the "Commence-fire" command is given.**

(f) **Please be courteous when you ask other shooters for a cease-fire.**

(g) **Ask for cease-fires according to the bell schedule.**

(h) **Always give the other shooter the opportunity to complete his string of fire before commencing the cease-fire.**

(i) **All people using the range are always responsible for safe facility use and must take action to stop an unsafe situation.**

REMEMBER: GETTING INTO A SET-UP/SHOOTING RHYTHM WITH OTHER MEMBERS IS KEY TO MAINTAINING FLOW AND CONSISTENCY ON THE RIFLE RANGE.

10. NO, INCENDIARY, TRACER, OR HIGH VELOCITY ammunition may be used.

11. Gongs and Metal Targets:

NEVER MOVE THE GONGS OR METAL TARGETS!

(a) Use of gongs may be suspended during high fire danger.

(b) If you shoot a gong down, re-hang it as soon as possible.

(c) Armor-piercing, high velocity, or 50 BMG ammunition is not permitted for use on the gongs.

(d) Very high-velocity ammunition use at the gongs that could cause damage to the gongs is PROHIBITED.

(e) Use common sense.

12. Alcohol and Gunpowder don't mix. No alcohol is permitted on the firing lines. No one visibly impaired by alcohol or drugs will be allowed to shoot. Let's help each other keep shooting sports safe by correcting any unsafe condition that may arise due to alcohol or drug use. Do it now. Later may be too late!

13. Always control your muzzle. Point your gun down range and into a berm during loading, unloading, or when making adjustments or repairs. Dryfiring is to be in a down range direction and only from the firing line.

14. Damage to club property or unsafe use of guns is never permitted. **Members must correct any unsafe situation.**

15. Clean up after yourself. Pull your targets after use and police your brass. Put all dud ammunitions in specially marked containers

16. Use of eye and ear protection is REQUIRED for all persons on the firing line beyond the signed point.

17. In all instances not covered by established rules, the decision and direction of the Range Master or Shoot Management will be final.

18. Anyone making threats of violence, verbal or physical towards another person or persons on the range will be told to leave and escorted to the entrance gate. That person's name will be given to an officer for disciplinary action. That person may be banned from participating in any activity at the Odessa Area Outdoor Gun Range for a minimum of one year or as the management deems appropriate.

19. This range is run by members for members. It is the responsibility of all members to maintain a safe and friendly range. All members must be teachers, care takers, assistants, helpers, friends, and more, to all other members.

20. SHOTGUNS ARE NEVER TO BE SHOT AT THE TARGET BOARDS. ANYONE SHOOTING SHOTGUNS AT THE TARGET BOARDS WILL BE ESCORTED OUT IMMEDIATELY.

Report anyone breaking these rules by calling or texting (432) 352-3496. You will remain anonymous and you will help maintain the kind of range we all want to shoot on: safe, respectful, and fun.