

---

President: Russ Louks Vice President: Dave Caspary Treasurer: Walt Turino Secretary: Paul Raymond (portagelakeclub@gmail.com)  
Directors: Dann Buche, Jim LaVallee, Ed Glowacki, Dallas Bates Past President: Jim Spence

---

## RULES OF THE PORTAGE LAKE SPORTSMEN

Revised 24 April 2014

**All members must read, understand, and agree to abide by the rules below. Each member must also complete a range walk through with a qualified club member once every three years. The club secretary may not issue membership credentials if the member has not completed a range walk through or the membership/renewal application.**

### ORIENTATION

The Portage Lake Sportsmen Club is a non-profit organization run by volunteers. As such, every member is encouraged not only to use the club facilities but also to help with work bees and club sponsored events, and to socialize with other members. Members are responsible for themselves, their families, and any guests they bring to the club property. Parents or guardians are responsible for the conduct of minors.

The club property is available to members all year round from sunrise to sunset. Exceptions to this are during scheduled weekly events and special events which utilize club property. It is each member's responsibility to clean up after themselves. The club is located on 80 acres, has three ponds, one walking archery course, one stationary archery range, a horseshoe-shaped 50 yard pistol range, a covered rifle and pistol range to 400 yards, a trap field, a 5-Stand shotgun course, a pavilion, and club house. Grills are provided for member use and can be found under the pavilion.

The membership year for regular, student, and senior members runs from May 1st through the following April 30th. Members will receive the combination to the front gate. This combination will also open the back door of the club house for access to the restroom when the clubhouse is not winterized. The gate will be disabled during portions of the year when the driveway is impassable. The gate is to be locked behind you upon entry to the club property and locked again when you leave, except during scheduled events. Do not under any circumstances leave the lock set to the current combination of the gate. Close and lock the clubhouse door before you leave the property.

The grounds require periodic work during the summer. This includes mowing the grass, repairing or replacing target boards, and other facilities maintenance. If you would like to volunteer to help, please contact a board member.

The following rules are provided to protect your safety and the safety of others, to protect PLSI's property and the property rights of our neighbors, and to preserve the club for future generations

### GENERAL RULES

- No person shall be under the influence of alcohol or illegal drugs when handling or firing a firearm. No person shall handle or fire a firearm while under the influence of prescription drugs which affect motor skills or judgment.
- Only members and their guests may use club facilities outside of official events open to the public. Guest privileges are extended to persons for their first visit and he/she must be accompanied by a current member. Club membership is required thereafter.
- Pets must be kept under control at all times.
- Pets are not allowed on active ranges.
- Pet owners are required to clean up after their animals if they deposit stools in areas of foot traffic.
- Groups using the club facilities are required to clean up and secure the property after their event.
- Shooters and spectators are encouraged to wear ear and eye protection.
- Rule infractions are to be reported to range or club officers or Board members.

### **PROPERTY RULES**

- The driveway speed limit is 15mph. Do not drive in damp or soft areas. Park only in the areas provided.
- No hunting, trapping, or fishing on club property.
- Do not litter. Take your non-burnable trash with you. Paper, wood, and cardboard may be placed in the burning barrels provided. Pick up your empty shells, including .22 casings, and deposit in the containers provided. Returnable cans and bottles may be deposited in the barrel provided.
- All shooting at the club property will be done only on the provided shooting ranges and in a manner defined by these rules.

### **FIREARM SAFETY RULES**

- Always keep firearms pointed in a safe direction.
- Always keep your finger off the trigger until ready to shoot.
- Always keep firearms unloaded and actions open until ready to shoot.
- Treat all firearms as if they are loaded. Do not leave a loaded firearm unattended.
- All firearms shall remain holstered or cased until at the specific shooting range where they will be used. It is specifically prohibited to remove an uncased firearm from a vehicle and move around the facilities. At the 5- Stand and Trap ranges, racks are provided for safe storage of shotguns.
- All firearms shall be pointed down range when in shooting position. Firearms shall be carried with the muzzle pointing up when transiting to a different shooting position. Break action firearms may be transited with the muzzle pointing down and the action open.
- **When a shooting range is declared "Range Safe":**
  - **YOU MAY NOT HANDLE ANY UNCASSED FIREARM.**
  - **You may load or unload magazines. YOU MAY NOT LOAD OR UNLOAD ANY FIREARM.**
  - **You may place or replace targets down range.**
- **When a shooting range is declared "Range Hot":**
  - **You may case or uncase a firearm.**
  - **You may load or unload a firearm.**
  - **You may discharge a firearm at an approved target down range.**
- **If an unsafe condition is observed, anyone may and should declare "Cease Fire" or "Stop":**
  - **Stop shooting immediately.**
  - **Safe and bench your firearm.**
  - **Wait for the unsafe condition to be resolved and the range to be declared "Range Hot" before handling or discharging firearms.**
- When there are two or more people utilizing a shooting range, it is the responsibility of all parties present to coordinate "Range Safe" and "Range Hot" status. During regular events, this responsibility will be handled by the Range Safety Officer. If you are the only shooter present on a shooting range, it is your responsibility to conduct yourself in a safe manner.
- You are legally responsible for any damage on or off the range caused by a bullet you discharged.
- If any incident occurs on a shooting range, including accidental discharge or accidental impact of club facilities, it is required that an Officer or Board member be notified.

### **RIFLE / PISTOL RANGE RULES**

- **If there are shooters on the 5-Stand or Trap ranges, "Range Safe" and "Range Hot" status must be coordinated between the active ranges.**
- **Only paper or cardboard targets placed on provided target boards are permissible to shoot. Do not shoot beverage containers, appliances, books, club structures, range props, or any other items.**
- Permanent target boards are provided at the 100, 200, 300, and 400 yard berms.
- Movable target boards are provided for use in stand locations at 25 and 50 yards on the rifle/pistol range. These target boards are hung under the covered firing line. Be sure that bullets aimed at these targets impact the target berm.
- Steel silhouette targets are provided on the rifle range and may be engaged from the covered shooting line. Do not fire .50 BMG or any caliber armor piercing or steel core rounds at these or any steel targets.
- All bullets fired must impact the target berms, not the ground between the shooter and the berm. Where steel targets are provided, it is permissible to shoot the impact area of those steel targets. It is not permissible to shoot at target stand supports, including uprights, chains, and bolts.

### **HORSESHOE PISTOL RANGE (PISTOL PIT) RULES**

- **Only paper or cardboard targets placed on provided target boards are permissible to shoot. Do not shoot beverage containers, appliances, books, club structures, range props, or any other items.**
- This 50 yard range may be used for pistol or rifle shooting.
- Steel plates in this range may be used only with access granted by the board or range coordinator.
- Do not break the 180 degree safety zone on this range, ie everyone should always be behind you and your muzzle in front of you.
- The safety area has been established southeast of the range. Ammunition is not allowed in this safety area. Unloaded firearms may be cased and uncased and holstered in this safety area.
- All bullets fired must impact the target berms, not the ground between the shooter and the berm. Where steel targets are provided, it is permissible to shoot the impact area of those steel targets. It is not permissible to shoot at target stand supports, including uprights, chains, and bolts.

### **TRAP RANGE RULES**

- **If there are shooters on the Rifle / Pistol range, “Range Safe” and “Range Hot” status must be coordinated between the two ranges.**
- The trap houses will be locked unless they are being operated by a qualified club member due to safety precautions necessary for operation. All range commands must be obeyed.
- Do not use shot larger than 7-1/2. (Do not use 6, 4, 2, BB, T, buckshot, etc).
- No hand throwing of clay birds is permitted.
- All shotguns must be stored in the racks provided when not in use on the range.

### **5-STAND RANGE RULES**

- **If there are shooters on the Rifle / Pistol range, “Range Safe” and “Range Hot” status must be coordinated between the two ranges.**
- All shot fall shall remain inside the designated area. Shooters shall only shoot from provided shooting positions. All range commands must be obeyed.
- Do not use shot larger than 7-1/2. (Do not use 6, 4, 2, BB, T, buckshot, etc).
- No hand throwing of clay birds is permitted.
- All shotguns must be stored in the racks provided when not in use on the range.

### **ARCHERY RANGE RULES**

- All arrows must impact the provided targets or the provided back stops.

### **RULES VIOLATIONS**

Any violation of the above rules is cause for dismissal from the Portage Lake Sportsmen. Legal action may also be pursued if deemed appropriate.