

## **Portage Lake Sportsmen's Club Range Rules 2021-22 Year**

### **ABOUT THE PLSC RANGE RULES**

Our PLSC members use our archery, handgun, rifle, and shotgun ranges in a spirit of good sportsmanship and responsible stewardship.

Our range rules are provided:

- to protect your safety and the safety of others,
- to protect PLSC property,
- to protect the property rights of our neighbors,
- and, to preserve the club for future generations.

All members must read, understand, and agree to abide by PLSC rules. Completing the membership application and payment of dues implies your consent.

Please know and follow these rules at all times.

***Remember: You, personally, are legally responsible for any damage, on or off the range, caused by your projectile.***

### **Know and follow the NRA's Three Rules for Firearm Safety**

- 1. Always keep your firearm pointed in a safe direction.**
- 2. Always keep your finger off the trigger until ready to shoot.**
- 3. Always keep firearms unloaded until ready to use.**

The following sections of your membership packet list the General Range Rules followed by the rules specific to each range (6 pages total).

## **PLSC GENERAL RANGE RULES** (APPLIES TO ALL RANGES)

- Wear eye and hearing protection at all times while you are on or around active ("hot") ranges.
- It is specifically prohibited to remove an *uncased* firearm from a vehicle and move around the facilities. *All firearms shall remain cased until at the specific shooting range where they will be used.*
- Firearms shall be pointed down range while at a shooting station. When moving to a different shooting station, firearms shall be carried with the muzzle pointing up. Break action firearms may be moved with the action open and the muzzle pointing down.
- When two or more people are using a shooting range, all parties must work together to coordinate "Range Safe" and "Range Hot" status. If you are the only shooter present on a shooting range, it is your responsibility to conduct yourself in a safe manner. During scheduled events, this responsibility will be handled by a designated Range Safety Officer.
- When a Safe Range condition is desired, ask all shooters if the line can be made safe. When everyone agrees to go safe, all firearms must be unloaded in magazine and chamber, actions opened, and firearms placed on the bench with the muzzle pointing downrange.
- When a shooting range is declared "Range Safe", YOU MAY NOT TOUCH OR HANDLE ANY UNCASSED FIREARM. You may go ahead of the firing line to place or retrieve targets, pick up brass in front of the firing line, etc. You may load or unload detached magazines, but YOU MAY NOT TOUCH, LOAD OR UNLOAD ANY FIREARM.
- When a shooting range is declared "**Range Hot**", you may case or uncase a firearm, load or unload a firearm, and discharge a firearm at an approved target down range. *When a range is **hot** you may not cross the firing line for any reason.*
- Anyone noticing an unsafe condition must immediately and loudly declare "Cease Fire." All shooters must stop shooting immediately, keep the muzzle pointed downrange, remove your finger from the trigger and wait for further instructions. If required, completely unload, open the action, and place your firearm on the bench or rack. Wait for the unsafe condition to be resolved and the range to be declared "Range Hot" before handling or discharging firearms.
- No person shall be under the impairing influence of any drugs or alcohol when handling or using a firearm.
- If any incident occurs on a shooting range, including accidental discharge or damage to club facilities, it is required that an Officer or Board member be notified as soon as possible.

## **RIFLE/ PISTOL RANGE RULES**

- ✦ Shooters on the Rifle and Shotgun ranges must collaborate to declare “Range Safe” or “Range Hot” status. Both ranges will be “Hot” or “Safe” simultaneously.
- ✦ All shooting must be controlled fire and all projectiles must impact the lower 1/3 of the berms.
- ✦ DO NOT shoot at target stand supports, uprights, chains, bolts, anything painted orange (for example, the target board outer frame area), or the ground between the firing line and the berm.
- ✦ Permanent target boards are provided at the 50, 100, 200, 300, and 400 yard berms. Do not shoot at distances beyond your ability. Start at 50 or 100 yds and work out. Know/ learn your projectile’s trajectory.
- ✦ Portable wooden target stands are provided for use in front of the 50 yard berm. When placing portable stands, adjust target height so that all bullets impact the lower 1/3 of the 50 yard berm.
- ✦ Steel silhouettes and gongs are provided by the PLSC. Steel targets may only be shot with solid lead or copper jacketed lead bullets. Never use solid copper, solid brass, armor piercing, or steel core ammunition on steel targets. (Some examples – 5.56/.223 M855 or 62 grain “green tip”, most Eastern European manufactured military surplus ammo, Barnes solids, etc.) Steel targets are not designed for some of the “magnum” cartridges that are commonly used for big game hunting. If your ammo/cartridges are doing damage to the targets, stop immediately.
- ✦ Approved targets you may bring/use on the PLSC range:
  - Only paper or cardboard targets placed on provided target boards are permissible. Do not shoot beverage containers, appliances, books, club structures, range props, or any other items.
  - No privately owned steel targets or gongs may be used.
  - No targets may be placed on the ground.
- ✦ Rifle rest sand bags and paper targets are available on the shelves on the east end of the covered firing line (right side when looking downrange). Please return sandbags to shelves prior to leaving the range.
- ✦ All members are responsible for policing their own brass. Take it with you or place it the white plastic barrels provided.

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

- 🔫 Shooters on the Shotgun and Rifle ranges must collaborate to declare “Range Safe” or “Range Hot” status. Both ranges will be “Hot” or “Safe” simultaneously.
- 🔫 All clays must be launched with PLSC-owned throwers and shot at from the assigned station or platform.
- 🔫 Shot size is limited to 7-1/2 or smaller. (Do not use 6, 4, 2, BB, T, buckshot, etc.).
- 🔫 All firearms must be cased between your vehicle and the range.
- 🔫 All shotguns must be placed in the racks provided when not in use on the range.
- 🔫 Only the active shooter may mount their shotgun.
- 🔫 Load shotgun only when standing at the shooting station and immediately prior to shooting. Load two shells maximum at a time.
- 🔫 Shotguns must be unloaded before leaving the shooting station. Double barreled shotguns guns broken open and pumps/semi-autos with the action open, muzzle pointed straight up.
- 🔫 Anyone seeing an unsafe situation should shout “cease fire” immediately.
- 🔫 All range commands must be immediately obeyed.
- 🔫 Pick up shotshell hulls (save for reloading or dispose in barrels provided).

## **RULES FOR THE MEMBERSHIP CLAYS THROWER**

- 🔫 Shooters on the Shotgun and Rifle ranges must collaborate to declare “Range Safe” or “Range Hot” status. Both ranges will be “Hot” or “Safe” simultaneously.
- 🔫 Remove the padlock on the thrower using the gate combination.
- 🔫 No users under the age of 16 without close adult supervision.
- 🔫 Shoot from shooting stations 1 and 2 ONLY- No other location.
- 🔫 Caution! The thrower requires an operator. Be very careful cocking the thrower. Never place any part of your body within the area of travel of the thrower arm. Never cock or release the thrower arm when anyone is standing downrange or within the swing of the thrower arm.
- 🔫 Shooter will “call” for target release. Shooter must keep their finger off the trigger until ready to “call” for a target.
- 🔫 Bring your own clay pigeons! Do not pick up clay pigeons from the field.
- 🔫 Pick up shotshell hulls (and save for reloading or dispose in barrels provided by the shooting platforms).
- 🔫 Re-lock the thrower when you are finished shooting.

NOTE: Instructions for using the membership clays thrower are posted on the frame of the thrower platform.

## **HORSESHOE PISTOL PIT RULES**

- 🔫 This 50 yard range may be used for pistol or rifle shooting.
- 🔫 No shooting towards the side walls of the pit. Targets must be placed so that bullets impact the lower 1/3 of the rear berm.
- 🔫 Only paper or cardboard targets placed on uprights of the provided target stands are permissible to shoot.
- 🔫 Steel plates and the plate rack in the Pistol Pit will only be used under supervision of the PLSC board or their appointed range coordinator.
- 🔫 Do not shoot beverage containers, appliances, books, the ground between the firing line and the berm, or any other items.
- 🔫 Do not shoot range props, plastic drums, club structures, target stand supports, uprights, chains, or bolts.
- 🔫 A safety area has been established to the southwest of the “horseshoe”. Ammunition is not allowed in this safety area. Unloaded firearms may be cased and uncased and holstered in this safety area.
- 🔫 All members are responsible for policing their own brass. Take it with you or place it in the white plastic barrels provided.

## **ARCHERY RANGE RULE**

- 🎯 All arrows must impact the provided targets or the target backstops.

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