

Line Officer Instructions

SAFETY – First, Last and Always: All firearms will be un-cased only at the firing point by the participants, when directed by the Range Officer. If a firearm needs to be repaired, this may be accomplished on the firing line under direction of the Range Officer, or made safe, Empty Chamber indicator (ECI) installed and removed to the safe handling area in the Club Room. **No other firearms/weapons shall be allowed in the club house or range during the match. All persons present on the range must have eye and hearing protection.**

Purpose: Most of the shooters at our matches have a lot of experience participating in regional or national matches. The line officer ensures the safety of the firing line, provides scoring aids, ensures proper target repair and helps ensure that the match is conducted in a professional manner, so that our guests have a shooting experience consistent with the standards they expect.

Before their assigned relay starts: The Line Officer will ensure that all positions have new backers hung with the correct target face posted, extra backers with target face posted placed at side of the target line and hospital targets ready to be hung at any open positions. The Line Officer will ensure that adequate supplies of target centers are stored at the target line and masking tape or other pasters are available to repair holes. The Line Officer will inspect the firing line to ensure that adequate empty chamber indicators (ECI) are available, each firing point is clean with no brass lying around and the floor swept.

During the course of fire: At the direction of the Range Officer the Line Officer checks that each firearm has an empty chamber indicator (ECI) inserted into the chamber and the magazine removed/cylinder open. After all positions are checked they will advise the range officer "the line is safe". The range officer then directs the shooters to advance and score and repair with a slow fire/ rapid fire center. The Line Officer removes the access chain and is the last one down range and the last one to return, replacing the access chain.

Alibis: An alibi is a mechanical malfunction of the firearm, including sighting system. Malfunctions due to operator error are not allowable alibis. In the event of an alibi, the shooter immediately lowers the gun and raises his free hand as a signal to the range/ line officer. The shooter may not attempt to clear the malfunction or operate the firearm in any way before the firearm is inspected. After all competitors finish the string, the LO inspects the alibi 1) instruct the shooter to point the gun down range and squeeze the trigger, 2) remove the magazine, 3) clear the gun, 4) check the barrel for an obstruction, 5) determine the exact number of shots fired. Allowed alibi will be shot after the normal course of fire. The range officer and the shooter note the total number of shots fired.

Important note: each shooter may declare only one alibi during a match. For example, if a shooter declares an alibi on the first timed fire target, he can't declare an alibi on the second target. He can declare another alibi in the rapid fire match if he needs to. Also, no alibis are allowed on the alibi string.

Scoring: The Line Officer will have the proper plug and overlay with them provided by the Club. If a shooter requests a plug, the Line Officer will carefully insert the plug into a single hole by holding the tab on the end of the spring, and immediately step back several feet. Note: we cannot plug holes that consist of multiple hits. The Line Officer will not inspect the shot, nor under any circumstance offer opinions of any kind. Scoring is between the shooter and scorer. If the shooter accepts the score, retrieve the plug. If the shooter contests the scorer's mark, the shooter places \$1.00 on the target, the Line Officer does not touch the plug in any way, they carefully remove the complete backer with care taken to not disturb the plug and take the target backer without comment to the referee or committee. Note: do not lay the target down as this may disturb the plug. The shooter then hangs a new backer.

Return to the firing line: After all shooters have scored and repaired their target, the Line Officer will inspect all targets to ensure the correct center has been posted and all holes repaired. In the interest of conducting an efficient match, the Line Officer may repair holes or post the correct repair center.

On the Range: The shooting area is limited to: the Range Officer (RO), the Line Officer (LO), Match Director and the participants. In some cases the referee may enter. No other visitors.

Commands: Standard range commands are used. In the event of a safety problem the command is to "cease fire" given 3 times. All participants stand back and let the range officer handle the problem.