

Safety briefing for 6A Cowpark Range

(updated 15 Aug 26)

General

1. The RCO for today is
2. Competency certificates to be shown. If you wish to use a firearm of a type not listed on your competency certificate you may only do so under the direct supervision of someone who is so authorised. [Minors may only to shoot under adult supervision.]
3. Attendance Register – mandatory to complete and sign.
4. This is a standard 12-lane gallery range with Hythe pattern target frames.
5. We will shoot from the 300m firing point.
6. Shooting will be from 0900 to 1200.
7. We will be split into two Details with Detail 1 shooting first and Detail 2 manning the Butts.
8. The Butts Officers are as detailed. There are two VHF radios (in case one fails). Callsign 'Butts'.
9. On arrival at the Butts, the Butts flag is to be raised immediately.
10. In the event of loss of communication between the Butts Officer and the RCO, the Butts flag will be raised immediately. Anyone at the firing point observing the Butts flag in the raised position during firing is to call an emergency stop. Therefore when you are about to take a shot, always check the Butts flag first.
11. Telephone orderly. The telephone in the Console will be manned at all times once the range goes 'live'. More later.
12. Cars are to be parked at the 600m point. There will be no parking on the range road and no parking on the grass verges. [Any that are so parked are to be moved now, if necessary move them to 6B/6C car park.]

Ammunition and firearm restrictions

13. No 6.5mm rifles allowed.
14. Single-shot and repeating centre-fire firearms only. This means no rimfire.
15. Maximum calibre (service weapons) 8.59mm.
16. Ball ammunition only: no tracer, no marker / observation rounds, no AP or anything else. If you have military surplus ammo and don't know what it is, ask before you use it.
17. The maximum MV is 3280 f/s (1000 m/s).
18. The maximum KE is 3320 ft-lbs (4500 J).
19. No HME without prior authority.

20. Handloaded ammunition may only be used if the person who loaded it is qualified. Qualified means: has the Handloading endorsement on the SCC card or has completed that NRA Handloading course either with the NRA or TRPC and is waiting for a new card.
21. Handloaded ammunition may only be used in the firearm for which it was prepared. There will be no "try one of these".
22. Muzzle-loading rifles may be used providing the RCO is ML qualified.
23. Muzzle brakes – leave at least one clear lane from everyone else.

Target restrictions

24. All lanes have the Hythe frames using 4ft or 6ft screens. Targets are to be placed in the *centre* of the screen.

Security of arms & ammunition

25. Arms & ammunition will not be left unattended on the firing point. Cars should be kept locked.

Manning of console

26. The telephone in the Console will be manned at all times once the range goes 'live'. The Console will be manned by members of the *shooting Detail*. The period of duty will be 15-20 minutes. The telephone orderly will have a radio: callsign 'Console'. He will remain inside the building with one exception. In the event of Range Control ordering a check fire (by telephone or bell or siren) the telephone orderly will call an emergency stop **STOP! STOP! STOP!** by radio but if that fails, by shouting to the RCO.

Safety - general

27. You are to restrict movement to the firing point, the range road, and within the butts.
28. Hearing protection must be worn by everyone on or near the firing point when firing is in progress and eye protection is strongly recommended. Hearing protection must be worn in the Butts .
29. The land danger area is the land in front and to the sides of the firing points for as far as the eye can see. The Air Danger Area is 3000' AMSL above the land danger area.
30. Anyone observing a ground or air incursion into the Danger Area or any potentially dangerous situation during firing is to shout **STOP! STOP! STOP!** and then inform the RCO of the danger. If shooting is not in progress, simply inform the RCO of the hazard.
31. Emergency stop procedure
 - a. Shout **STOP! STOP! STOP!** or three blasts on the whistle.
 - b. On hearing the emergency stop, you are to stop shooting, take your finger off the trigger, and wait for further instructions from the RCO.
 - c. Reasons to call an emergency stop include but are not limited to:

- i incursions into the Danger Area by land or air or a serious firearm malfunction including any resulting in injury
- ii the Butts flag is raised when shooting is in progress.
- d. In the event of an injury resulting from a firearm, all shooters are to lay down their arms without altering their state – do not unload and do not apply safety catches. In such an event, the following numbers are to be used as appropriate.
- e. Everyone is to know the number for Range Control: 5503.

Range Control	Ext 5503; 01748 875503
ATO	Ext 3360 / 3361 / 3362
RMP Duty Room	Ext 2875 / 2876

32. First Aid. Kits will located at the firing point and in the butts.

33. The First Aiders are

Safety – on the firing point

- 34. Do not place your kit on the firing point until given permission.
- 35. Do not un-bag rifles until given permission.
- 36. Do not load until given permission.
- 37. Do not fire until given permission.
- 38. Immediately prior to giving permission to fire, the RCO will state that he has obtained clearance from Range Control.

If you ever hear an RCO give permission to fire without having first declared that he has obtained clearance from Range Control you are to shout STOP! STOP! STOP! and challenge the RCO.

If at any time you think something is amiss, do not be shy, speak up.

- 39. Rifles not in use are to be bagged; the bolt removed; or chamber flags inserted.
- 40. Do not have ammunition on the firing point of any type other than that which is suitable for the rifle in use. If you have more than one type of ammunition with you, place the ammunition not in use in a bag/case or off the firing point (i.e. out of reach).
- 41. All rifles are to be kept pointing at the target at all times whilst loading, unloading, firing or dealing with misfires. Anyone seen closing the bolt on a rifle which is not pointing at the target will be warned on the first instance and removed from the firing point if it occurs again.
- 42. Misfire procedure. Keep the rifle pointing at the target for 30 seconds. If the cartridge does not fire, bring the misfire to the RCO's attention and unload it when instructed. Do not attempt to re-fire a cartridge that has misfired.

43. At the end of a detail you are to unload and present the rifle for inspection. Inspection may be undertaken by the RCO or a person delegated by him. Bolts are to be removed from the rifle prior to rebagging.
44. Dry firing may be undertaken on the firing point with the RCO's express permission. Dry firing is to follow the same safety procedures as for live firing. Ditto bore-sighting.
45. Any medical conditions? If so, you may advise the RCO after this briefing.
46. Is there anything I have not covered? Are there any questions?
47. If at any time you are unsure about anything, ask someone.