

Important - Please read RWVA Range Procedures

Safety: ALL firearms are to be unloaded at all times except when on the firing line, the shooter being ready to shoot AND having been given the "LOAD" command.

"Unloaded" means bolt locked back, safety on, mag out, and grounded on shooting mat or rifle rack.

MUZZLES are to be pointed in a SAFE DIRECTION at ALL TIMES. (The GOLDEN RULE of gun safety.)

You never touch the trigger until your sights are on the target, and you are ready to fire the shot.

And you make sure everyone around you complies with these rules.

On the Firing Line: Before every stage of a shooting event, you will generally be given a "Preparation Period" of one to 3 minutes. (Usually, no prep period against the popups.)

During the "prep period", you load your mags (note: cartridges into mags, NOT mags into rifles), get your gear ready, sling adjusted, etc, and get a good position with NPOA. If there is time, you dry-fire shots "by the numbers" to better prepare yourself for the course of fire. Do not handle your rifle before the 'prep period'.

Commands: "Your preparation period has ended" is always followed by a command to tell you what to do, such as "LOAD!" or "STAND!"

In order to make sure everyone on the line is prepared and ready to fire, the next three commands are questions:

"Is the line ready?"

"Ready on the right?"

"Ready on the left?"

followed by "ALL ready on the firing line!" followed by "FIRE!"

Cease Fire! Requires you IMMEDIATELY stop firing, and automatically "UNLOAD" as defined above. It is very bad etiquette to fire a shot after the "Cease Fire!" command has been given and could get you escorted off the range.

RWVA Range Etiquette

Safety - To speed up checking the line for safe rifles, please leave your rifle grounded with the ejection port UP.

AR-15s should have the charging handle half-way retracted; SKSs with standard 10-rd capacity should have the mag release pulled and the mag hanging open.

On the Firing Line - Pay attention; be alert to line commands. Loud talking over the match director is bad for everyone, in addition to being rude. Don't get so involved in a conversation you are oblivious to everything else. Keep your ear muffs on until there is a positive "Line is clear" command, then take them OFF so you can easily hear any further commands, instruction, etc.

Cleanliness - It is considered good etiquette to leave the range a cleaner place than when you came. Brass should be policed up and placed in brass buckets, steel cases dumped in the trash, mat placed back on rack, and trash generally cleaned up and disposed of. PLEASE CHECK TO MAKE SURE YOU RECOVER ALL YOUR EQUIPMENT BEFORE LEAVING.

Duds and Live Rounds - If you experience a dud round, please do not dispose of it on the range. Either give it to the match director for disposal, or take it home with you. Be careful about leaving live rounds behind you. Neighborhood kids visit the range, and if they were to pick a live or dud round up, and take it to school...

Ask Questions! - There are no stupid questions. But ask them in public, so everyone can hear the answer.

YOU are a Safety Officer - If you observe any unsafe practice while shooting is going on, notify the match director pronto. If necessary, and there is no time, yell "CEASE FIRE! CEASE FIRE! CEASE FIRE! at the top of your lungs, and the line will be shut down until the matter is resolved.

Everyone on the line is responsible for safety, every minute on the line.