

GENERAL RULES FOR MUZZLE LOADING SHOOTING EVENTS.

RANGE SAFETY RULES.

The New South Wales Muzzle Loading Association Inc, (NSWMLA), require all member clubs to put in place Range Safety Rules that ensure a safe shooting and spectator environment. Member clubs may develop their own set of Range Safety Rules providing that the following rules are included and that no additional rule is included that is in conflict with any of these rules. It is the opinion of the NSWMLA that a safe shooting and spectator environment cannot be assured if the substance of any of the following rules is omitted from a clubs Range Safety Rules.

1. A suitably experienced Range Officer (RO) shall be in attendance and directly control all shooting activities on the range.
2. Firearms, not in a bag or case are to be carried with the muzzle up at all times.
3. No intoxicated or disorderly person shall be permitted on or near the firing line.
4. A shooter shall not consume alcohol prior to, or during a shooting event.
5. Smoking is NOT permitted on or within 10 metres of the loading area or firing line.
6. Junior shooters must be supervised by a licensed adult when handling firearms.
7. All shooters shall wear eye and hearing protection, and covered footwear.
8. All visitors and spectators are to be advised to wear hearing protection.
9. No firearm is to be or handled until the order "RANGE OPEN" is given by the R O.
10. On the order "CEASE FIRE" or "STOP", all shooting will stop and firearms are to be made safe.
11. All misfires or malfunctions are to be brought to the immediate attention of the RO.
12. In the event of a misfire, the firearm will be kept pointing down range for a minimum of 30 seconds before any attempt is made to rectify the problem.
13. The RO or a nominated assistant shall supervise the clearing or rectifying of all misfires or malfunctions.
14. Open containers of black powder or percussion caps are not to be left on the firing line or loading benches.
15. Burning matchcord must remain in a safety container, on the firing line, when not in use.
16. There shall be no handling of firearms once the order "RANGE CLOSED" is given.
17. No person shall move forward of the firing line until given permission by the RO.
18. Firearms are not to be removed from the firing line until cleared by the RO.
19. All shooting shall be at prescribed targets within the permitted arcs of fire.
20. No spectator is permitted within 10 yards (metres) of the loading or firing lines.
21. Emergency accident instructions and telephone numbers are to be clearly displayed.
22. Each range shall have a First Aid Kit in plain view and easily accessed by any adult.
23. The RO shall be advised of any intention to decant black powder from a bulk supply into a flask or horn in the loading area.