



Black Powder Range

Standard Operating Procedures

May 1, 2014

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INTRODUCTION

The Tiverton Rod and Gun Club (TRGC) was founded in 1933 as a non-profit, club rich in history and tradition. The club offers members access to multiple facilities including three Black Powder Ranges and primitive camping area.

The purpose of this document is to familiarize members with the Black Powder Ranges. This document covers such topics as physical operations and various safety rules.

BLACK POWDER RANGE CHARTER

INTRODUCTION

The Tiverton Rod and Gun Club (TRGC) Black Powder ranges are designed to preserve the traditional skills of the American Mountain Man and the American Indian.

A primary goal of the TRGC is to provide a safe and comfortable setting for the members, guests, and observers of the TRGC. The General Rules / Safety Procedures provided in this document are established to ensure we meet this goal. These rules have been adopted from the general safety rules of the National Rifle Association (NRA) and the National Muzzle Loading Rifle Association (NMLRA). They have been established to provide operational guidance for formal black powder events and all other informal use of the Black Powder ranges. Additionally, the designated safety zones and range restrictions provide a safety buffer for our neighbors and the properties adjacent to the club.

ADMINISTRATION

The Chairman of the Black Powder Committee manages the general operation of the ranges. The Black Powder Committee shall maintain all equipment and assets necessary to operate the ranges. Non-scheduled or informal use of the ranges is restricted to the discretion

of the Black Powder Committee Chairman and the TRGC Board of Trustees (BOT). The TRGC BOT approves the fees and scheduling associated with the use of the ranges. The Chairman is responsible for using a TRGC committee accounting form to report the monthly financial status of the committee and a TRGC budget request form for requesting monthly committee expenses. The Chairman is responsible for requesting budget approved funds from the BOT the month prior to any event or expense. The Chairman must turn in the monthly gross income, monthly expense receipts, and the balance of the monthly budget requests to the club Treasurer at each regular club meeting. NOTE: Chairmen are not authorized to spend the committee's budget without prior authorization from the TRGC BOT.

SHOOTER'S RESPONSIBILITY

It is each shooter's responsibility to know the range rules, handle his/her firearm appropriately, and shoot in a safe manner. Any unsafe situations should be corrected immediately and be brought to the attention of the Black Powder Committee. Failure to follow the range rules may result in suspension of shooting privileges.

GENERAL RULES / SAFETY PROCEDURES

Safety is of paramount importance to everyone using the range and it is the top priority of the TRGC. Any person utilizing the range must adhere to the safe storage, handling, and use of firearms and ammunition. The following rules and safety procedures will be followed by all recreational shooters and enforced by all members.

- Members are allowed to bring one guest to the Black Powder ranges per visit. Please see the TRGC Guest Policy for more details.
- Members are fully responsible for the conduct and actions of their guests. Members will ensure that their guests comply with these and all other rules while on club property. Please review the TRGC Guest Policy.
- All non-members must sign a TRGC liability release form before using the Black Powder ranges.

- The TRGC Black Powder ranges have been designed in accordance with the pre 1840's culture at mind.
- Sacred Native American ceremonies are sometimes performed during Black Powder events. Please ask permission before taking photos of these events.
- Period firearms are required for participation in TRGC Black Powder events unless otherwise specified. Firearms with modern sights must have a drop of wax or nail polish on the sight screws to qualify for use in the TRGC Black Powder events. Smooth bore firearms with a rear sight may only be used during the rifle competitions.
- The consumption of alcohol is not permitted before or while participating in any shooting activity. The judgment, as to whether a shooter is impaired, and therefore unsafe, is strictly up to the Black Powder Committee staff present.
- All shooters must follow the directions from the Range Safety Officer (RSO) on duty.
- No powder horns or flasks may be worn during the fire starting competitions.
- Shooters under the age of 18 must have adult supervision while on the TRGC Black Powder Range and practice butts.
- Edged weapons may only be thrown at the designated Black Powder Range targets or practice butts in the camping area.
- All shooters must keep their firearms unprimed until they are in position at the appropriate shooting stations.
- Only round ball ammunition is permitted on the "woods walk" portion of the TRGC Black Powder Ranges unless otherwise specified.
- Shooters are prohibited from blowing down the barrel of their black powder firearm.
- Shooters may not pour powder directly from a horn or flask into the barrel or their firearm. A proper transfer device must be used for this task.
- All RSOs shall carry a two-way radio device in order to effectively operate the TRGC Black Powder Ranges. This insures cease fires and all instructions can be properly communicated while the ranges are active.
- All campers must follow the TRGC Camping Guidelines.

- All RSOs shall report any unsafe conditions to the Black Powder Chairman for resolution.
- All Black Powder “line shoots” are subject to the Standard Operating Procedures of the TRGC Outdoor Range.
- Any person that is a convicted felon or who is guilty of domestic violence or any other crime or misdemeanor, which prohibits the possession or use of a firearm, may NOT use the firing range until adjudication of the matter(s) is complete and the prohibition is lawfully lifted.
- Any person not complying with these general rules and safety procedures or who becomes disruptive will be removed from the range and shooting privileges will be suspended until the matter is brought before the TRGC Executive Committee for adjudication.
- The Black Powder Committee shall be responsible for maintaining the range and filing a monthly Range Inspection Report.
- Any injury shall be documented using an Injury Report Form.
- All shooters must follow the safe gun handling practices prescribed by the NRA.

NRA FIREARM SAFETY RULES

- Keep the gun pointed in a safe direction. This is the primary rule of gun safety. A safe direction means that the gun is pointed so that even if it were to go off it would not cause injury or damage. The key to this rule is to control where the muzzle or front end of the barrel is pointed at all times. Common sense dictates the safest direction, depending on different circumstances.
- Keep your finger off the trigger until ready to shoot. When holding a gun, rest your finger on the trigger guard or along the side the gun. Until you are actually ready to fire, do not touch the trigger.
- Keep the gun unloaded until ready to use. Whenever you pick up a gun, immediately engage the safety device if possible, and, if the gun has a magazine, remove it before opening the action and looking into the chamber(s) which should be clear of ammunition. If you do not know how to open the

action or inspect the chamber(s), leave the gun alone and get help from someone who does.

- Know your target and what is beyond.
- Know how to use the gun safely.
- Be sure the gun is safe to operate.
- Use only the correct ammunition for your gun.
- Wear eye and ear protection as appropriate.
- Never use alcohol or over-the-counter, prescription or other drugs before or while shooting.
- Store guns so they are not accessible to unauthorized persons.
- Be aware that certain types of guns and many shooting activities require additional safety precautions.

TRGC CAMPING GUIDELINES

- The TRGC camping program is defined as “tent” or “primitive” style camping only. The use of travel trailers, pickup campers or coaches, motorized recreational vehicles, or tent trailers is strictly prohibited.
- No boats or boat trailers may be stored on club grounds.
- The designated camping area is defined as the club grounds located at the Black Powder camping area.
- Camping is restricted to no more than 3 days of continuous use unless authorized by the TRGC Board of Trustees.
- No camping or fire pits shall be set up outside the designated camping area without the permission of the TRGC Board of Trustees.
- All campfires must be contained and under control at all times. At least one bucket of water shall be maintained near each fire / fire pit so that wayward sparks or embers may be quickly doused. Do NOT leave a fire unattended!
- The camping area may only be used by TRGC members unless there is a special event or activity in which non-members are invited.
- The camping season opens on Mar 1st and closes October 31st during any given year. No camping shall occur outside of these dates unless authorized by the TRGC Board of Trustees.
- It is the camper’s responsibility to maintain a clean and tidy campsite. Remember, your environment is a reflection of TRGC.

- Prior to departure, it is the camper’s responsibility to leave the club grounds in as good, or better, condition than when they arrived.
- TRGC is not responsible for any lost or stolen personal property. If theft is suspected, it should be reported to the TRGC Board of Trustees.
- Any unsafe condition should be corrected as soon as possible. If the condition cannot be corrected by the camper, then the Safety Chairman should be notified immediately.
- Pets must be leashed at all times; pet owners are fully responsible for their pets’ actions. Excessive barking is disruptive to the peaceful setting desired by TRGC members and their guests, and pet owners will be asked to remove animals whose barking cannot be controlled.
- Campers may NOT allow waste to accumulate at the camping area. It should be bagged and placed in the dumpster located between the main clubhouse and the Trap Field. Waste is restricted to commonly generated trash only – no “bulk” or “hazardous” waste may be discarded on TRGC property.
- Fallen branches / trees may be used for firewood; however no live trees may be taken down.
- All wood must be stored in the designated Black Powder wood storage area. Once wood is placed in a designated wood storage area it is available for use by any club member for onsite use only.
- Use of fireworks or other explosive devices are strictly prohibited.

PHYSICAL DESCRIPTION

CAMPING AREA

The TRGC Black Powder program includes a camping area and trading post for oversight of the various events. The Black Powder camping area shall be properly maintained for general usage.

RANGE LAYOUT

The TRGC Black Powder program includes three distinct ranges. The ranges include two “woods walk” courses and an “edged weapons” course. All shooting must occur from the designated firing lines

unless previously authorized by the TRGC Board of Trustees. **NO EXCEPTIONS!**

RANGE EQUIPMENT

The TRGC Black Powder Ranges contains several pieces of equipment including targets and other miscellaneous items. All range equipment is property of TRGC and may not be altered or removed from the range without prior permission of the TRGC BOT.

FIRING LINE / READY AREA

The Black Powder firing lines are defined within the various shooting stations throughout the “woods walk” courses. No shooting may occur beyond the firing lines without prior permission of the TRGC BOT. The ready area and the firing line are one in the same.

RANGE MAINTENANCE

GENERAL

Each Black Powder should be inspected prior to use to make sure they are fully operational including the targets and practice butts.

EMERGENCY PROCEDURES

In the event of an emergency the following guidelines should be followed:

- Call 911 for physical emergencies. Members shall guide the proper authorities in order to assist the situation.
- TRGC Officials shall be contacted regarding the situation.
- The situation shall be properly documented using a TRGC Injury Report Form.

RANGE INSPECTION REPORT

Inspected by _____ Date _____

	Yes	No
Camping Area Inspected	_____	_____
Targets in Working Order	_____	_____
Storage Cabinets Locked	_____	_____
First Aid Kit Filled/Accessible	_____	_____
Trash Receptacles Emptied	_____	_____
Wireless Voice Release Systems Inspected	_____	_____
Range Maintenance Tools Stored/Accessible	_____	_____
Range Guest Book Stored/Accessible	_____	_____
Range Supplies Stored/Accessible	_____	_____

Comments: _____

INJURY REPORT FORM

Name: _____ Date of Injury: _____

Address: _____ Time of Injury: _____

_____ Phone #: _____

1. Describe nature and extent of injury: _____

2. Describe how the injury occurred: _____

3. Describe first aid given: _____

4. First aid was provided by (include names and phone numbers): _____

5. Disposition (specify name of hospital and time of transport): _____

6. Notification of next of kin (specify time, person contacted and method): _____

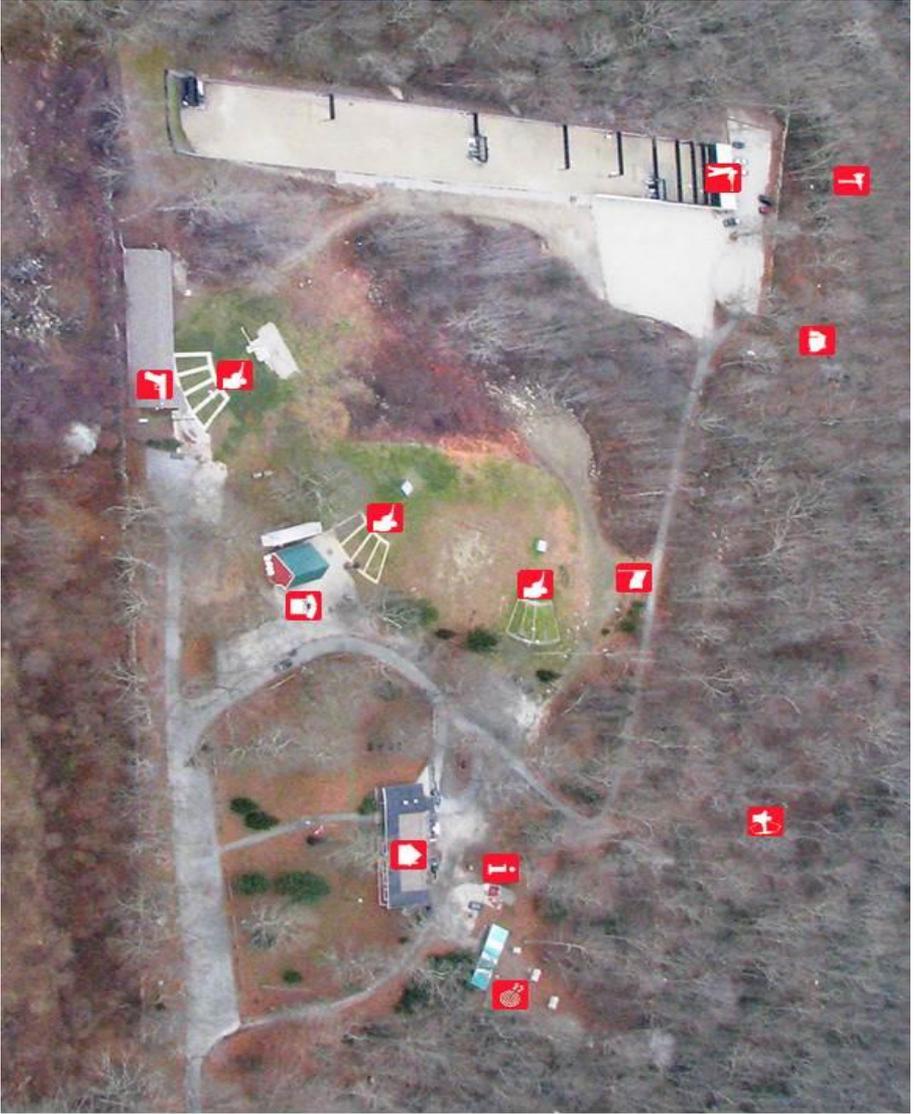
7. Location of incident and conditions of area: _____

8. Was protective equipment worn (if applicable): _____

9. Describe steps taken to preserve the scene (equipment, photographs, etc.): _____

10. Witness (Name): _____ Phone #: _____

Statement: _____



-  Archery Practice Bulls
-  Archery Ranges
-  Black Powder
Camping Area
-  Black Powder Range
-  Club House
-  Indoor Range
-  Office
-  Outdoor Range
-  Outdoor Range
Safety Flag
-  Trap Fields
-  Trap House