

BEECH HILL

SPORTING CLAY RANGE

SAFETY RULES

- Be familiar with all the signage and information posted at the shooting range.
- You must be 18 years or older to book the range. Anyone 17 years or younger must be under the immediate supervision of a responsible adult. Anyone under the age of 12 years is not permitted to handle firearms at the range.
- You must follow the range Operating Instructions and range rules.
- The person booking the range is responsible for their guest and must supervise them. A Range Officer may assume this responsibility if present.
- You must follow the Range Officer's instructions if one is present.
- Shotgun shells #7.5 shot or smaller are permitted only. (i.e. #8 shot is OK as well)
- Rifles, carbines, restricted and prohibited firearms are not permitted at the range.
- You must always wear eye and hearing protection while firing is taking place at the range. You must NOT load or point your firearm behind the firing line.
- You must NOT dry fire your firearm.
- Use only clay targets designed to be thrown for sporting clay shooting. Commercially produced clay targets are to be used only.
- Only one thrower may be used at a time.
- Ensure the shooting stall and the muzzle control limitations are in good condition and **you are positioned properly within the shooting stall.**
- Confirm that others are safely behind the firing line before you raise firearm for shooting.
- Firing can only take place when it is safe for you and all others.
- Load firearm only when all has been made ready for firing to commence and you are stationed at the firing point.
- You must NOT talk to or distract a shooter on the firing line, unless you are a coach or Range Officer.
- You must NOT be under the influence of or in possession of alcohol or drugs while on range property.
- Smoking is restricted to the parking lot area only.
- Smoking, food, and drinks are not allowed at the firing point.
- Shooting cannot begin until one half hour following sunrise and must cease one half hour before sunset.
- Shooting Clubs and Public Service agencies must obtain a Shooting Range Group Permit from the Department of Natural Resources and Renewables to use department ranges.
- Groups who have agreements in place for range use must follow all of the range operating instructions and range rules. They are not exempt – the range rules apply to ALL USERS. Some of the group's desired shooting activities may be prohibited at this range.

- Report all accidents resulting in damage to property or persons to the Manager, Department of Natural Resources and Renewables – Antigonish.
- Injuries resulting from discharge of a firearm must be reported to the Manager, Department of Natural Resources and Renewables - Antigonish and to the RCMP. Where possible, await instructions from the RCMP prior to moving items or leaving the site.

In case of EMERGENCY call 911

Use this range at your own risk.



BEECH HILL SPORTING CLAY RANGE OPERATING INSTRUCTIONS

Booking the Range

- Must be 18 years or older to book the range.
- You can book online or through your local DNRR Office.
- Be familiar with and follow these Operating Instruction and the range rules. If unsure of requirements related to your planned activity, do not use the range.
- The range must have been reserved prior to being present at the range. When the range was booked using the online booking system the person booking acknowledged reading and understanding the range rules. If the person booking has a guest with them, they are responsible to ensure their guest has read and understands the range rules and operating requirements. [the Safety Rules and Operating Instructions are posted at the range].

- Your presence at the range must be solely related to a booked reserved time. Spectators not with the person who has the range booked are not allowed at the range.
- Unauthorized use of the range is not permitted.
- The Department of Natural Resources and Renewables reserves the right to cancel bookings.

Parking

- Vehicles must be parked in the designated parking area to the right of the barriers.
- No unauthorized vehicles are permitted in the range area or parking area, including off-road vehicles.
- The parking area is for people intending to use the range and their guests.
- While waiting for your reserved time stay in the parking area while the range is in use by others. Do not interrupt others during their booked times.

Entry Into the Range Area

- Open the “Range in Use” sign at entrance before using the range.
- Raise the red warning flag to indicate the range is active.
- Observe down range during set up and prior to shooting to ensure no one is in the area, and that no injury or damage could result to people, wildlife, or property.

Target Throwers

- Position mechanical target thrower before you approach the firing point with a firearm.
- Targets are to be launched down range ahead of the shooter.
- Mechanical target throwers must be functional and throw targets reliably on the intended flight path or within the intended arc.
- Target throwers requiring attending by a person at the thrower location must be behind or adjacent the firing point. No persons are allowed forward of the firing point while shooter is in the shooters stall.
- Any target throwers forward of the firing point must be activated from behind the firing point (i.e. foot release or pull cord) so that nobody is in danger.
- Target throwers must be in good condition and capable of throwing targets reliably.
- Persons hand throwing must be adjacent or behind the firing point.
- Only one thrower may be used at a time.
- Commercially produced clay targets are to be used only.

Permitted Firearms and Ammunition

- Non-restricted shotgun use permitted only. Rifles, carbines, restricted and prohibited firearms are not permitted at this range.
- Shotgun shells #7.5 shot or smaller permitted only. (i.e. #8 shot is OK as well)

Preparing to Shoot

- Always control your muzzle direction and have muzzle pointed downrange when at the firing point.

- Assume every firearm is loaded. Confirm the firearm is unloaded - PROVE it safe. Trigger finger must be kept off the trigger and out of the trigger guard until intending to fire from within the shooting stall. Firearms shall not have any ammunition in them unless at the firing point.
- The maximum number of rounds permitted to be loaded in a shotgun is 2.
- Only one shot may be fired at a time.
- If gun racks are used the firearms stored must be unloaded with action opened.
- You must follow the Range Officer's instructions if one is present.
- Anyone age 17 years or younger must be under the immediate supervision of a responsible adult. Anyone under the age of 12 years is not permitted to handle firearms at the range.
- Only one shooting stall is present at the range, so only one person may be shooting at a time. Only one person is to be in the stall.
- Firearms are to be loaded only when at the shooting stall. They must be unloaded at all other times.
- Keep the action (breech/break) of your shotgun open, except when in use at the designated range firing point engaging the targets.
- Keep all ammunition under control.
- Everyone must stay behind the firing point when firing is taking place.
- You must wear eye and hearing protection at all times while firing is taking place.
- Ensure the shooting stall and the muzzle control limitations are in good condition and you are positioned properly within the stall.
- Load firearm only when all has been made ready for firing to commence and you are stationed at the firing point.
- Confirm that others are safely behind the firing line before you raise firearms for shooting.
- Firing can only take place when it is safe for you and all others.
- The shooter can call for the target in a loud voice, using clear direction. (i.e. The word "PULL!")

Leaving the Firing Line

- Before you leave the firing line:
 - Unload and render firearm safe.
 - BE SURE it is safe to proceed and there is no one else preparing to fire.
 - Leave the action open and walk to rear of the firing line.
- Clean range of all debris resulting from your activity before leaving. Ensure all expended shells are collected for storage or disposal. Do not go forward of the firing point until shooting has ceased and you are preparing to leave the range.
- If you are the last to leave, lower the red warning flag and close the "Range in Use" sign.

Other Conditions

- The Department of Natural Resources and Renewables may record activity to support compliance monitoring. No other party or individual is permitted to take pictures, video or audio recording of others without their permission.
- Smoking is restricted to the parking lot area only.

- Shooting Clubs and Public Service agencies must obtain a Shooting Range Group Permit from the Department of Natural Resources to use department ranges.
- Police, public service agencies, security organizations, shooting clubs, and Range Officers are NOT exempt from the range Operating Instructions and Safety Rules..
- Natural Resources and Renewables Conservation Officers may interrupt shooting to perform compliance inspections. Your cooperation is required. Upon direction from a Conservation Officer shooting must cease and firearms emptied and breeches open.
- Report all accidents resulting in damage to property or persons to the Manager, Department of Natural Resources and Renewables – Antigonish.
- Injuries resulting from discharge of a firearm must be reported to the Manager, Department of Natural Resources and Renewables - Antigonish and to the RCMP. Where possible, await instructions from RCMP prior to moving items or leaving the site.
- If a Range Officer has experienced compliance issues with a person present at the range, the identity of the person is to be reported to the Manager, Department of Natural Resources and Renewables - Antigonish.

In case of EMERGENCY call 911

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