

Heart Of Texas Silhueta Association, Inc.
Range Rules – 2017 Edition

General Rules

1. Guests are welcome at the range but must be accompanied by the club member. Members are responsible for the behavior and conduct of their guests and must remain with them at all times while at the range. **After the second visit (assuming active use of the range), the guest will be required to join the club (this rule does not apply to wives and children under 18 of any member).** Please make sure your guests know the rules of the range before shooting.
2. Alcoholic beverages are permitted on the property, however, drinking alcoholic beverages and handling firearms is not permitted. Before consuming any alcohol, all firearms and ammunition must be put away. Drinking of a very moderate and social nature is acceptable; however heavy drinking is not acceptable. All beverage bottles/cans must be removed from the property (this does not mean throwing them across the fence).
3. Trash left on the property has been a problem in the past. Anything you bring with you to the range, you must take it back with you. Shot up targets, wrappers, bottles, ammo boxes, cleaning patches, and any household trash **MUST** be taken with you. This also includes empty shotgun shells. The range should not be a trash collection depot.
4. It is important that everyone using the range remembers that this is someone else's property. It isn't ours, as we are just leasing it. The landowner has cattle on the property so be very careful when they are approaching the backstops. **STOP** shooting until they are clear. This includes in front of, behind, and/or to the sides of the berms. This means do not shoot if the cattle are in the shooting lanes at all, firing must cease and cattle must be chased from the firing lane. Respect the landowner and his property and any member caught not respecting this rule will face immediate revocation of membership.
5. Do not shoot at signs on the property or down range. Signs are for reference, instruction, or information and are not targets or backboards for targets.
6. Everyone must respect the steel gongs (hanging targets) and steel silhouette animal targets. The gongs are for casual shooting...however the steel silhouette targets are for match shooting only, per each dedicated disciple, and are not meant to be shot by anyone, anytime. These targets are damaged if shot with the wrong ammo, and they are expensive to replace, so let's take care of them. This range is a silhouette range strictly for silhouette shooting. If you want to shoot metal targets, there are some round and square targets that you can set on the rails to shoot. **DO NOT shoot the animal targets! The Targets @ 600 & 750 yds. are also included in this definition & therefore all prohibited caliber restrictions are included. The Creedmoor target (8' square target) is for Black powder Rifles Only. It is unacceptable to shoot anything but these types of rifles @ this target.**
7. **There are a number of 'scrap steel' targets on the range that are for practice shooting. These are old pistol targets with a base welded on which can be set up on the rails and shot safely. Please use these steel or paper targets rather than the match steel for practice. Do not shoot at less than 200 meters, as a rifle round will damage the plates. Most of these are round 10 and 12-inch plates.**
8. Keep all firearms pointed in a safe direction meaning down range if you are on the firing line. Pointed up and muzzle above head level while handling firearms off the firing line. Firearms must be kept unloaded with the actions open until you are on the firing line and ready to fire. Keep your finger off the trigger until you are ready to fire. All firearms must be placed in a safe and unloaded condition with the action open prior to anyone proceeding down range. All firearms must be in the rack, not on the firing line prior to going down range. Safety is the first priority and must be remembered at all times.

9. Hearing and eye protection must be worn by anyone on the firing line.
10. This range took a lot of time and effort to build so please make it a safe one for all to enjoy. Your membership card must be visible at all times while on the range, or must be produced when requested. If you see anyone abusing it, ask him or her to stop or leave if they continue the abuse. If there is any fear of conflict, then get an I.D. or license plate and call a Range Director so appropriate action may be taken. In extreme cases, contact the Limestone County Sheriff's office at 254-729-3278 or the Mexia Police Department at 254-562-4140 or 4150.
11. All shooting must be into the berm backstops...no exceptions! You are responsible for each bullet you fire, so be aware of where your rounds are going.
12. No shooting at bottles (or computers, TV's, etc.) on the range. This is dangerous and leaves a serious mess that is hazardous to all. If you shoot at metal cans then clean up any mess and take it with you when you leave.
13. No children (under the age of 18) are allowed to handle firearms on the range unless supervised by an adult. This is in no way intended to discourage the participation of youth shooters but let's make sure they learn to shoot safely.
14. When leaving the range be sure and lock the gate and roll over the combination lock.
15. The range is a controlled fire range meaning slow semi-auto fire is acceptable. No fast semi-auto or full auto firing is acceptable. All firing is to be done into the berms but not at the steel silhouette targets.
16. No cowboy action style shooting or fast draw shooting is allowed on the range.
17. No "Tracer" or armor-piercing (including M855) ammunition is allowed on the range!!
18. Make every effort to coordinate range down time with fellow shooters to accommodate every shooter, if possible. Communication is essential to the safety of all on the range.
19. Organized competitive shooting and scheduled events shall take precedence over all other activities. During such times, the range shall be under management and control of the event director/range director. The range(s) that will be available will be the old Berms @ 200 & 300 meters. A member can shoot during the Match but must abide by the commands of the Match Director for firing sequences & Cease Fires.
20. During a match, competitors may gear up at their vehicle and safely handle their firearms to move them to the firing line. Afterwards, **ALL** gun handling must be done on the firing line or in a designated safe area.
21. **RANGE HOURS AND RESTRICTIONS** – The range is available for use from sunrise to sunset, seven days a week from January through October. Shooting after dark is prohibited...there are no exceptions!
22. Remember, a range is only as safe as the manner in which it is used. Safety is no accident, it must be planned.
23. **Open Carry – All pistols must be removed from the Holster, unloaded & left on the Firing Line or in your vehicle when going down range. Licensed Peace Officers are excluded from this Rule.**
24. **General Rules for the 600 & 750 yd. Berms. Repeating that the same restrictions are applicable as stated in General Rules #6 & Rules Specific # 2. No Magnums &/or .50 cal on any Target (hanging Silhouettes, square metal Gongs, or Creedmoor)! It is acceptable to shoot paper targets or place Clays or any non-metal Targets on the Berms. It is acceptable to shoot these targets with**

Approved Calibers listed in #2. The only exception is the Creedmoor Target (8' Square target @ 750 which is Black powder Only!) Please cleanup any debris/paper when finished so not to Trash up the Berms.

25. HOTSA is an “Open Bolt Range” which means that all weapons are rendered “Safe” while anyone is down Range & there is no handling of any weapon by anybody @ that time. Bolt Guns must remove Bolts & if that is not possible a “Safe” Chamber Flag or Indicator is required!

26. Violation of any of the above rules will be dealt with by the Board with reprimand or expulsion from the club, determined @ the discretion of the HOTSA Board.

RULES SPECIFIC TO HIGH POWER RIFLE RANGE

1. It is permissible to set up and shoot down silhouette targets provided you shoot at them at the standard ranges appropriate for the given target and with approved calibers. This includes shooting at targets from the bench. This is only to be done by silhouette competitors.

2. Approved Calibers:

- a. 243 (6mm) caliber with energy of 243 Winchester cartridges or less. This caliber will do some damage to the targets though it is a legal caliber.
- b. 25 caliber with energy of 257 Roberts or less
- c. 264 (6.5mm) with energy of 260 Rem or 6.5x55 or less
- d. 284 (7mm) with energy of 280 Rem or less
- e. 308 (7.62mm) with energy of 30-06 or less
- f. No caliber or ammo greater than 30-06 should be fired at silhouette targets to avoid excessive target damage. This includes the definition of “magnum” caliber

3. Unapproved Calibers:

- a. No 22 center fire caliber or smaller to be shot at gongs or silhouette targets.
 - b. 22 center fire calibers include: 222, 223, 22 PPC, 22-250, 220 Swift, 5.56mm, and any and all other 22 center fire calibers.
 - c. No magnum or belted magnum cases
 - d. No smaller than 22 center fire calibers including: 204 Ruger, 17 Rem, etc.
 - e. No Tracer Ammo on the Range anytime!
 - f. No Armor Piercing Ammo on any ~~Silhouette Animals, 600, 750, Square or Creedmoor~~ targets!
4. Do not shoot high power rifles at pistol gongs (round targets) or pistol silhouette targets. This includes the ram at 200 meters and the turkey at 150 meters as well as all gongs on the 40-100 meter range. Doing so will severely damage the targets. Bring your own targets if you want to shoot steel but please pick up any mess afterwards. Scrap steel, as noted above in item 7, is approved for practice at 200 meters and beyond. Do not bring this steel to the 100-meter berm, as most rifle rounds will penetrate.

RULES SPECIFIC TO PISTOL RANGE AND SHOTGUNNING

1. The hunter pistol silhouette targets may be used but heavy magnum or armor-piercing loads are prohibited except on paper targets placed in front of the berms.
2. Take extra precautions when shooting metal targets at the 25-meter range or closer. Blow back could be hazardous to your health and others. Do not shoot steel closer than 10 yards to avoid back-splatter.
3. Do not use target posts as backstops for your own targets. This will accelerate the demise of the posts.
4. If you shoot a shotgun on the range, pick up the broken clay targets, hulls and your shot wads. Please do not leave these items for the cows to eat.
5. Do not leave the pistol silhouette targets downrange. Put them up if you pull them out.

ADDITIONAL SECURITY & MEMBERSHIP RULES

1. Security and Safety

- a. All safety rules **MUST** be obeyed.
 - i. Orientation is required for new members (orientation must be completed and documented before getting the gate combination).
NOTE No member is to give out the combination to the gate lock to any non-member!
 - ii. Rules should be reviewed at the general meeting and stressed to current members.
- b. Sign in sheet will be **mandatory** except on match days.
 - i. Failure to sign in on the sign in sheets upon arrival to the range is grounds for dismissal.
 - ii. A maximum of two guests must also be written in on the sign in sheet.
 - iii. Cameras have been installed at the gate and the sign in sheet area to document entering the range.
 - iv. There will be no family memberships. The member must be present when their guests are on the range.
 - v. Liability release forms will be available in the signup sheet box. All non-members must read, understand and sign this form when on the range, shooting or observing.

2. Membership

All members must complete both an application form and sign a Release form each year.

a. New Members

- i. Orientation is required for all new members.
- ii. Orientation of new members can be given by one of the directors or club officer.
- iii. During orientation, the rules will be read to the new member and discussed. After the discussion, a signature will be required verifying acceptance of the rules.
- iv. The original will go on file and a copy will be given to the member.
- v. If rules are not adhered to, membership will be revoked.

b. General Membership

- i. Annual dues are \$150.00 for all members and not pro-rated.
- ii. Membership in the NRA is voluntary, and the TSRA is suggested.
- iii. The annual meeting and workday **will be scheduled appropriately** each year and is when the yearly orientation is discussed. Any member not able to attend the meeting must go through a revised orientation of the new rules with one of the range directors.

SCHEDULED COMPETITIONS

1st Saturday of each month

Black Powder Cartridge Rifle Silhouette - Director David Barnes 254-765-3607

2nd Sunday of each month

High Power Rifle Silhouette	Director Jack Garrett	254-729-5215
22 Silhouette	Director Jack Garrett	254-729-5215

3rd Saturday of each month

22 BPCRA Silhouette	Director Kenny Tebbe	254-644-0484
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4th Saturday of each month

Varmint Bench Rest Silhouette chempura@flash.net	Director – David Brady	972-880-6404
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4th Sunday of each month

Lever Action Silhouette	Director Rich Mariott	817-517-5323
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