

Los Altos Rod and Gun Club

A Safe Place to Shoot Since 1953



Welcome!

The *Los Altos Rod and Gun Club* exists to provide a safe, fun, family-oriented shooting range for you to enjoy and improve your shooting skills.

The Range is open to the public Thursday-Sunday (weather permitting) except Easter Sunday, Thanksgiving Day, and Christmas Day.

Summer operating hours are April 1-October 31 from 9AM to 5PM (enter by 4PM) and winter operating hours are November 1-March 31 from 9AM to 4PM (enter by 3PM).

General Safety Rules

- A. **All visitors are responsible for reading and following all rules, signs, and spoken instructions.** Range personnel are here for your safety and must be obeyed promptly. Refusal will result in ejection from the range. (Those ejected will not be given refunds.) The Range reserves the right to revise and interpret its rules, and to refuse admittance to or to eject anyone. **The Range Master has final authority to interpret and to enforce all rules.**
- B. **Before entering the shooting ranges** down the hill to the west of the office, each person (including spectators) **MUST**:
 - Understand and agree to follow the Range's rules (sign a waiver and pass a short quiz)
 - Pay an entrance fee
 - Wear eye and ear protection during shooting sessions, even when using scopes or binoculars
- C. **The Range does not provide or rent guns.** Bring a gun to shoot here, but leave all guns in your vehicle until after checking in at the office and driving to the shooting range area.
- D. **Minimum age restrictions:**
 - **Under 21:** May not coach shooters; may not shoot **handguns** without presence of or written permission from parent or legal guardian; may not purchase ammunition for **handguns**
 - **Under 18:** Must be accompanied by an adult at all times; may shoot only while coached by a responsible adult (age 21+) within arm's reach of gun used; may not purchase ammunition
 - **Under 7:** May not enter shooting range area (may enter only the picnic/office area)
- E. **Coaches and shooters who need them:** Those new to shooting, minors (7-17 years old), and those unable to hear or unable to follow commands spoken in English may shoot here, but only when coached by a responsible experienced adult shooter who is at least 21 years old and located within arm's reach of the gun being used. **A person coaching another shooter MAY NOT shoot at the same time.** Instructors may coach and/or train students at the Range, but may do so for compensation/pay only with NRA certification, prior approval of the Range Master, and proof of insurance on file.
- F. **Clean-up:** All shooters are responsible for removing their own targets (including "tin can" targets) and empty shot gun hulls and cartridge casings (brass, steel, etc.). Blue garbage cans are provided on the Range for your trash. White buckets are for empty casings. Tan buckets on the Shotgun Ranges are for shotgun hulls. No live rounds are to be left on the Range. You may remove only your own cartridge casings and shotgun hulls from the Range.

- G. **Speed limit: VEHICLES MUST NOT EXCEED WALKING SPEED (3 MPH)** due to space limitations and inability to hear oncoming vehicles, especially while wearing protective devices. Driving in low gear is recommended.
- H. **Prohibited items**—The following are not allowed on Range property:
- **Alcoholic beverages or mind-altering substances** (including cannabis), their consumption, or anyone under the influence of either
 - Ammunition that is **armor-piercing, incendiary, or tracer type**
 - Guns that are any of the following:
 - **.50 BMG**, similar, or larger
 - **BB guns** (guns that shoot ball bearings)—air guns shooting pellets OK
 - **Concealed carry**—OK to self-disarm before exiting your vehicle
 - **Fully automatic** or capable of **selective fire**
 - **Illegal guns**—violating state and/or federal laws
 - **Incomplete systems**—with broken or missing key parts such as sights, hand guards, etc.
 - Long guns without fixed or extended shoulder stock or cheek buffer tube
 - Pets—except qualified service animals
 - Targets that explode or include photographs of people
 - Trigger activators
 - Wearing vests with armor plates, holsters, or holstered guns
- I. **Inappropriate attire and profanity** are not allowed. Appropriate attire includes shirt (low-cut tops not recommended), pants, and closed-toe shoes.
- J. **Photography**: Never take pictures or record video of other people or their property without their prior permission.
- K. **Tobacco: NEVER SMOKE NEAR WHERE BLACK POWDER IS IN USE** or when down range. Place all butts in receptacles provided on each range. Contain used chewing tobacco. (Do not spit on ground.)
- L. **Injuries**: Report any injuries immediately. First aid supplies such as small bandages are provided in marked containers on all ranges.

Rules for Handling Guns Safely

1. **ALWAYS KEEP GUNS POINTED IN A SAFE DIRECTION.** Never handle a gun pointed toward anyone. Always keep guns pointed down range toward targets and backstops, except when transporting an unloaded gun with its action open and muzzle up to, from, or between shooting stations or storage racks, while following typical loading procedures for air rifles, or while following the black powder rules.
2. **ALWAYS KEEP FINGERS OUTSIDE THE TRIGGER GUARD** and off the trigger until ready to shoot.
3. **ALWAYS KEEP GUNS UNLOADED UNTIL READY TO USE.** Actions must be open and detachable magazines must be removed, except when guns are in cases or being fired.
4. **NEVER HAND A LOADED GUN TO ANYONE.** Before changing shooters, unload and place the gun on the shooting station—with its muzzle pointed down range at your target—then allow the next shooter to pick it up.
5. **BRING ALL GUNS TO THE RANGE UNLOADED AND IN A CASE.** Transport guns from your vehicle to the bench in its case and not during a cease fire. Open cases only at shooting stations. Turn cases to point each gun's muzzle down range before handling the gun; repeat as needed for multiple guns in a case, and when placing guns in cases. Do not display or handle guns in the office parking lots or picnic area.

Rules for Shooting Guns Safely

6. **Cease fire:** On the Main Ranges, **shooting sessions** usually end at the beginning of each hour and every 20 minutes thereafter, following a 3-minute warning announcement. **Shooting must stop immediately when the buzzer sounds or when “cease fire” is called.** During a shooting session, anyone may call “cease fire” for an immediate safety concern, such as seeing a person or wildlife down range. **NEVER HANDLE OR MOVE GUNS DURING A CEASE FIRE**, not at a shooting station, in a vehicle, nor anywhere else. During a cease fire, do not pick up or drop off anything at shooting stations without assistance from a Range Safety Officer.
7. **Firing line:** Extend muzzles to firing line before firing. Muzzles of long guns should extend to or beyond the shooting station’s forward edge. Muzzles of handguns should extend forward at least half way across shooting stations.
8. **In case of a misfire** (failure to fire or **hang fire**): Keep your firearm under control and its muzzle pointed down range for **at least 1 full minute** before attempting to eject the cartridge.
9. **Targets: NEVER SHOOT AT ANYTHING OTHER THAN YOUR TARGET**, including someone else’s target. (Shooting stations and target frames are numbered for your convenience.) Paper targets may be **stapled** (recommended), **tacked**, or **taped** to the target frames below the white line and centered horizontally, away from the frame’s side supports.
10. **Aim** using appropriate sights or scope. **Hip shooting** is not allowed.
11. **Avoid crossfire:** Do not shoot across anyone else’s line of fire.
12. **Rapid-fire: At least 2 seconds between each shot** is required, except for rim-fire firearms and air guns on the Pistol Range or 40-Yard Tin Can Range, and shotguns on the Trap Ranges.
13. **Shooting positions:** Shooting from **seated** positions is allowed on all ranges except Trap Ranges (wheelchairs OK). Shooting from **standing** positions is allowed on all ranges, except when using the 25-yard sight-in stations, which may be used from seated positions only. Shooting from **squatting** or **prone** positions is allowed while firing at 50-Yard, 100-Yard Tin Can, and 100-Yard Long Gun ranges.

Rules for Shooting with Black Powder

To aid and maintain safety at this range, black powder shooters must also follow these rules:

14. **NEVER CHARGE BLACK POWDER GUNS DIRECTLY FROM THE FLASK OR CONTAINER.** The powder must first be poured from the container into a separate measure before pouring into the firearm. Keep bulk powder containers in your vehicle.
15. **ALWAYS CLOSE OR COVER CAP BOXES AND POWDER CONTAINERS WHEN NOT IN USE.**
16. When the projectile has been seated, do not pack or ram it with the rod unnecessarily.
17. In case of a **misfire** (refusal to discharge or **hang fire**): Keep the muzzle pointed down range for **at least 1 full minute** before attempting to recharge. If, after several attempts, the firearm still refuses to discharge, notify a Range Safety Officer.
18. In case of a **stuck projectile**, seek assistance from a Range Safety Officer.
19. Do not charge black powder after the 3-minute warning before the cease fire. The firearm must not be charged during the cease fire.
20. Black powder pistol shooting is not allowed at 7-Yard target stands due to risk of fire.

Additional Rules for Each Range

Ranges are located in the following order from the office.

Main Ranges

Pistol Range (7-, 15-, 25-Yard) – for Handguns, Air Guns, and Rim-fire Rifles
Center-fire rifles, black powder rifles, or shotguns are not allowed on the Pistol Ranges.

40-Yard Tin Can Range – for Handguns, Air Guns, Rifles, and Shotguns

Targets may be only metal containers up to 1 gallon in size, and may contain only water. Targets may not include metal plates, beverages, food, rocks, dirt, appliances, pressure vessels, or aerosol cans. Remove any loose band-style labels. Place targets on the flat part of the berm between the white stakes. The Range Master has final authority to approve targets.

Buckshot may be fired only on the 40-Yard Tin Can Range.

25-Yard Sight-In Stations – for Rifles and Shotgun Slugs (Seated Positions Only)

Stations 1 & 2 may be used only from seated positions to sight-in rifles, or shotguns firing slugs.

50-Yard Range – for Handguns, Rifles, and Shotgun Slugs (No Air Pistols)

Stations 3-22 have no additional restrictions.

100-Yard Pistol/Tin Can Range – for Handguns, Rifles, Shotgun Slugs (No Air Pistols)

Stations 7 & 8 are for “tin can” targets, following the same target requirements as for the 40-Yard Tin Can Range. Shooters at stations 1-6 may use their numbered target frames.

100-Yard Long Gun Range – for Rifles and Shotgun Slugs (No Handguns)

Handguns (including revolvers, semiautomatic pistols, and air pistols) ARE NOT ALLOWED on this range, but may be used on the 100-Yard Pistol/Tin Can Range.

Trap Ranges – for Shotguns with Shot Size 7.5 to 9 Only
(No Slugs, Buckshot, High-Velocity, or Magnum Loads)

Handguns and rifles (including air guns) ARE NOT ALLOWED on Trap Ranges.

Shotguns may be loaded with **NO MORE THAN 2 ROUNDS AT A TIME**. Loads must not be high-velocity or 12-gauge Magnum. Shot size must be only 7.5, 8, or 9.

Electric Trap Range

Rounds on the Electric Trap Range may be purchased separately.

The **Patterning Board** on this range is for use with target loads and is available by request.

Manual Trap Range

Targets: Only standard-size **BIODEGRADABLE CLAY TARGETS** may be used.
SPORTING CLAYS ARE NOT ALLOWED.

Shooting stations: If shooting alone, shoot from behind the launcher. Otherwise, shoot only while on the cement platform to the left of the launcher.

Launchers: Launch targets using only the mechanical launchers provided. **KEEP HANDS AND ARMS CLEAR OF THROWING ARM AND OUTSIDE OF THE SAFETY RING.** When at the shooting position, cock the launcher by pulling the throwing arm down counterclockwise until locked, then load targets flat, between the black line and the rubber bumper on the throwing arm. Do not cock the launcher until ready to shoot; release the throwing arm before leaving the launcher unattended.

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