



Whitefish Rifle & Pistol Club

Membership Information and Standard Operating Procedures

Range Hours:
8:00 AM to 9:00PM or dark whichever comes first.

Whitefish Rifle & Pistol Club
323 Rifle Range Road
Whitefish MT 59937
www.whitefishriflepistol.org

Contact Information 406-314-8149

Business Mailing Address:
Whitefish Rifle & Pistol Club
P.O. Box 3542
Kalispell, MT 59901

POLICY

The Whitefish Rifle Pistol Club (WR&PC) is committed to the safety and well-being of its members, their guests and the public at large. We there for establish and implement this Health, Safety and Operations Plan for the range at 323 Rifle Range Road whitefish Montana. This plan will insure an environment that provides for the safety of all present, and the integrity of the property. Access to the property is limited to members of the WR&PC and their guests only. The public is limited to access the range only on approve events sponsored by the WR&PC. Two memberships are available, single member, or Family membership. Family is defined as Husband and Wife with children under age 18. Children under age 18 must be accompanied and supervised by an adult member while on the range.



PURPOSE

This policy sets forth guidelines and procedures regulating the use of the Whitefish Rifle & Pistol Club range(s) by members, their guests, and the general public. This policy is not intended to create a contract of employment, or to be construed to constitute contractual obligations of any kind between WR&PC and any of its members, guests. WR&PC retains the absolute right to modify or alter this policy based upon professional or business issues to include county laws and environmental regulatory changes.

This policy should not be construed as creating a legal duty or a standard of safety or care. This policy is for internal use only and is not intended for use in any criminal or civil proceeding. Violations of this policy may form the basis for internal decisions within the Club by the WR&PC Board of Directors. Only violations of the law may form the basis for civil or criminal sanctions in a recognized court.

SCOPE

This policy applies to all Club members, and guests, seeking to utilize the Club's Facilities. Members, must familiarize themselves with the contents of this policy and sign the Agreement of Release and Liability verifying that they have read and understand it, and approve of its contents.

This policy and the accompanying general and specific range rules apply in general to all activities on the WR&PC property. The ONLY exceptions to this protocol and rules may occur where the conditions of an ORGANIZED event, competition or training program, conducted under the supervision of competent range staff, require variations from the protocol, and specific rules are NOT PERMITTED when the shooting is not organized and conducted under competent supervision, e. g., and individual practice.



Facilities for Use

The ranges are available for member use on Monday through Sunday, 8:00 AM until 9:00 PM or dark whichever comes first. With the exceptions of scheduled/reserved dates for organized events, which are to be published on the WR&PC website, newsletters, and posted at the range.

Ranges include;

- Rifle range with targets at 25, 50, 100, 200, and 300 yards (No conventional handguns, .50 Cal BMG, or fully automatic firing allowed on the rifle range. (Muzzle loading rifles, like In-line with sabots are allowed on the rifle range) (Pistols that shoot rifle type cartridges may be fired on the rifle range, such as Thompson Contender and Remington XP100's).
- Pistol range with targets at 5, 10, 15, 25, and 50 yards. (Pistol range is for STANDARD pistol cartridges and rimfire rifles only. (Traditional type muzzle loading rifles may also be fired on the Pistol range, as defined by Montana Fish Wildlife and Parks hunting regulations. (Must not be capable of being loaded from the breech of the barrel • may not be loaded with any pre-prepared paper or metallic cartridges; • must be charged with black powder, pyrodex, or an equivalent; • must be ignited by a percussion, flintlock, matchlock, or wheellock mechanism; • must only use plain lead projectiles. • Sabots or other similar power and range-enhancing manufactured loads that enclose the projectile from the rifling or bore of the firearm are prohibited, on the pistol range))
- North end of the Pistol range maybe used for shotguns with shot only no slugs. Members are required to use their own targets if shooting a shotgun.



SECURITY

Steps will be taken to provide a secure environment for the range. Access to venues will be controlled to insure no unauthorized wandering about the property. At a minimum, the following security measures will be implemented:

- The perimeter of the property shall be clearly marked with posted signs to delineate property boundaries.
- On an annual basis, keys will be changed to prevent unauthorized access. New keys will be available at the scheduled club meetings that occur as required by the established by-laws. At this time a new key to the gate(s) will be issued. On March 1 of each year, the lock will be changed.
- Guests to the facility will be in accordance with WRPC by-laws. In no circumstance shall a guest be in possession of a key. All guests must be accompanied by an authorized representative of WRPC, with exception extended to schedule public events. If a club member should bring a guest, he will be responsible for the conduct of the guest. Club members have first right to the shooting benches, your guest will share your bench.
- All guests, of members using the range will be required to sign a Liability Waiver at the range. If your guest signs the waiver once they do not have to sign again each time they come to the range. This waiver includes children under 18 who must have their parent or guardian sign the waiver for them. These forms are available at the range. Please sign them and leave them in the box provided
- During specified times when the facility will be open for public access, a suitable number of authorized users and/or authorized range officers will be present to insure security of the venue is maintained.
- Gates shall remain locked at all times. When accessing the property, it is required that the gate(s) is locked behind you to prevent unauthorized access by others unless there is an event where others are scheduled to attend.
- If you should see someone damaging or defacing the property or abusing the safety rules, attempt to identify the person or vehicle license number and notify a club officer.
- Alcohol is not permitted on the range.



SAFETY

Providing safe venues for all participants is of paramount importance. WRPC will work to insure the safety of all participants and spectators on any venue within the shooting facility. Safety guidelines will be established and will be reviewed during the orientation process and posted as appropriate at each venue. At a minimum, the following safety measures will be implemented:

- Rules for the safe handling of guns will be posted at each venue where firearms are expected to be in use.
- Safety equipment will be required for all who enter the shooting fields, whether or not they will be shooting (range officers, scoring judges, coaches etc.). At a minimum, hearing protection and eye protection are recommended.
- Firearms shall be cased, holstered, or otherwise made visibly safe anytime they are not in close proximity of the selected range of fire.
- Firearms shall be unloaded at all times except when preparing to fire at a target.
- Firearms shall only be discharged at the designated firearms venues and shall only be fired from designated shooting stations. No targets will be placed outside of the designated impact areas. (Beyond the 300yd targets on the rifle range, and beyond the 50yd target on the pistol range. Shooting at wildlife is strictly prohibited.
- Shooting forward of the firing line (concrete pad) is strictly forbidden.
- Bring your own targets. Hang them properly on the target boards. Do not place targets on the ground, or above the target boards. Do not place targets on the target board upright posts or cross boards, only on the boards. Cans or bottles must not be used as targets. Remove all targets from the target board when you are finished and place in the trash receptacles.
- Shoot only at target boards with backstops.
- No exploding targets are allowed on the range.
- No steel cored bullets are allowed on the range.
- No tracer type ammunition is allowed on the range.
- Anytime anyone is down range on the rifle range all firearms are to be placed in the racks at the back of the firing line, unloaded and with actions open, until everyone is behind the firing line.
- Fully automatic firearms may only be fired in semi-automatic mode. "Bump firing" of a semi- automatic firearm is not allowed. Absolutely no automatic fire on any venue.



General Gun Safety Rules:

- Practice muzzle control at all times. Always point firearms in a safe direction. A “safe direction” is any direction that will produce no damage or injury should the firearm discharge.
- Firearms should remain cased or stored until ready for use, or placed in the racks at the back of the firing line, unloaded and with actions open. When removing from case, the action should be opened and the chamber and magazine checked for live rounds to insure firearm is unload. It is an expected practice, to have a companion verify that a firearm is unloaded and that empty chamber indicators are used as appropriate.
- Firearms shall remain unloaded until the shooter is on a designated shooting station and the shooter is preparing to fire on a target.
- Use only the correct ammunition for your firearm.
- Know what to do in the event of a misfire.
- Wear all required safety equipment for each venue. Minimum protective gear includes ear and eye protection on all venues.
- Use only the appropriate guns for the range you are on.
- In the event of an emergency, members should call 911 from a cell phone. The range address is 323 Rifle Range Road, Whitefish Montana, 59937. The Whitefish emergency personnel have a key box for the gate key. Report any incidents to a club officer ASAP. (406-314-8149).



General Facility Rules and Procedures:

- WRPC is responsible for developing additional, venue specific safety procedures and guidelines as appropriate.
- General shooting hours shall be from 8:00 a.m. to 9:00 p.m. or dark whichever comes first on Monday through Sunday.
- Each individual handling firearms is responsible for performing safety checks to visually and physically insure that every firearm is unloaded, and that said firearms are safe to be discharged.
- Keep gun unloaded until ready to shoot.
- Safety equipment is recommended as posted at each venue.
- No alcoholic beverages, illegal drugs or illegal substances are permitted on this property.
- Vehicles must be parked in designated spaces. Access is limited for both vehicle and pedestrian traffic to designated areas.
- Shooters who willfully damage or destroy property are liable for the cost of repair or replacement of damaged or destroyed equipment or property. Willful damage shall include, but not be limited to, placing targets on target boards such that supports are destroyed, using benches for hanging targets, shooting at structures or using inappropriate firearms for the venue.
- Access is limited to vehicular traffic along the roadway only. Do not drive off of designated road ways.
- We require you to have your Membership card when at the range and show it upon request by any member.
- Club activities and scheduled events will be given preference over individual use. A listing of events will be sent with the spring newsletter or may be obtained from the website, www.whitefishriflepistol.org.
- A paid membership is a sign of your willingness to comply with these rules and to assist in club activities.
- If a club member is acting as a Range Officer (RO), his commands must be obeyed promptly. (Range officers are utilized at events such as Hunters Sighting.)
- Prior to organized events where Range Officers are utilized, RO's will attend a brief refresher session on range safety rules, led by the event organizer.
- Range Officers (RO) must be experienced members of the club or discipline. New or inexperienced members interested in becoming range officers will be mentored by an experienced RO.
- Hunting/shooting of game animals on the range is not allowed.
- If a fire occurs on the range members are expected to attempt to control it using the fire beaters available at each range. If a fire cannot be controlled call 911 immediately and notify a club officer ASAP. (406-314-8149).



Revision 1.1 (8/18/2016)

Added; liability waiver requirement, for guests using the range to the Security section page 4.

Revision 1.2 (2/4/2017)

Added, no steel cored bullets and tracer ammunition to the Safety section on page 5. Added, no hunting or shooting of game animals, and instructions in case of fire event to the General Facility Rules and Procedures section on page 7.