



**Monday Night Shooting League**  
**Safety Rules, Procedures, and Range Commands**  
/ud 29 March 2011

MNSL provides people with an opportunity to shoot within a structured environment, enhance their shooting skills, and develop safe habits with the handling of firearms.

**REMEMBER THE 4 LAWS OF FIREARMS SAFETY:**

1. Treat all firearms as if they are ALWAYS loaded.
2. Never point your firearms at anything you are not willing to destroy.
3. Be sure of your target and what is behind it.
4. Keep your finger off the trigger and OUT OF THE TRIGGER GUARD until your sights are on the target.

**SAFETY RULES AND PROCEDURES**

1. If you have not registered with Reed's Indoor Range , you must check-in at the front counter. Your identification and release waiver must be on file before participating with MNSL.
2. You are expected to have a thorough understanding of the functions and features of the firearm you intent to use for the league. It is also your responsibility to ensure that the firearm and ammunition are functional, and that any key safety mechanisms are operational.
3. **Loaded firearms and magazines are strictly not allowed** in the store or in the classroom. MNSL operates a "cold range"
4. **In the classroom, handling firearms or loading magazines are prohibited** unless under the direct supervision of MNSL staff in a "safe area"
5. **On the range, WAIT until instructed by the Range Officer to uncase and handle your firearm.**
6. **You may uncase or handle your firearm ONLY AT THE BENCH.** If you are not in the booth, return to the bench and ensure the firearm is pointed down-range before handling it.
7. **Keep the muzzle of your firearm pointed down-range at all times,** while you are in the shooting booth, whether it is loaded or not, even when storing it.
8. You may load magazines or speed loaders anytime you are on the range.
9. **Do not load your firearm (or reload between strings of fire) until the Range Officer gives you the command to do so.**
10. **Keep the safeties activated, whenever your firearm is loaded and you are not actively engaging a target, and/or between strings of fire.**
11. **NEVER place a loaded firearm on the bench – if you want to put it down, keep the slide locked back (or the cylinder open).** This is especially true when dealing with malfunctions or reloading.
12. **Do not shoot into the ceiling, walls, or side barriers.** Bullets and fragments can ricochet back at anyone on the range, as well as destroy equipment.
13. **If you are in a situation where you are not sure of what to do, seek the assistance of a Range Officer.** Ask, or simply raise your weak hand and wait for assistance, keeping your firearm pointed down-range. **Don't assume anything and always act as safely as possible.**
14. **TAKE YOUR TIME. DO NOT RUSH.** The Range Officers and staff want to make sure you complete your tasks safely, but without unneeded delay. Don't be afraid to ask for more time if you need it.

**For the safety of ALL participants, if you fail to follow any rules and range commands, you may be asked to leave the range, face corrective action, and withdraw from the League entirely.**



# RANGE COMMANDS

29 March 2011

## **Listen! Wait for the command(s) to handle your firearm.**

The Range Officer will explain the shooting event procedures. At any time before, during, or after the relay you have a problem, question, or concern, contact a range officer- Raise your weak hand, call out, scream, shout etc. The range officers are there to maintain a safe environment. The range officers can answer most questions and give some guidance, but are not for **Instruction**.

1. **You may with an unloaded firearm take a sight picture or dry fire:** This command permits you to handle your firearm, work the actions, take a sight picture, and dry fire prior to shooting. This command does not give you permission to load the firearm!
2. **Make ready:** You may now load your firearm and prepare to shoot. Once you have loaded your firearm, come to the low ready position, with your finger off the trigger and out of the trigger guard.
3. **Are the shooters ready?:** This command is a question. If you are not ready, raise your weak hand and a Range Officer will assist you. Wait for the next command.
4. **Standby:** shortly after this command is given, an audible sound will signal you to commence firing, and another audible sound will signal you to stop. **If you are not finished with the course of fire, stop firing, and get the attention of the Range Officer by raising your weak hand.**
5. Between strings of fire, do not reload your firearm with a fresh magazine or ammunition until you hear the command **Make ready**. –This would be a good time to fill mags if needed
6. **Shooters, Unload your firearm, verify an Unloaded firearm and bring you targets in for scoring:**  
This command is given when the relay is over. Release (drop) your magazine or open your cylinder, clear the action or cylinder, visually and physically check for any live ammunition in the chamber(s). **Remember to keep the muzzle pointed down-range and keep your finger off the trigger and out of the trigger guard. It is your responsibility to ensure that your firearm is empty (safe).**  
You may now put away your firearm and accessories, remove your target, and leave the shooting area. Bring your target into the classroom to be scored.
7. **Stop:** this command can be given at any time, emergency or non- emergency. The command means exactly what it says – STOP! Stop all shooting, finger off the trigger and out of the trigger guard, muzzle pointed down-range, and await further instructions. Do not do anything else until instructed to do so.

## OTHER DETAILS

- A. **Registration, fees, and assignment to your shooting relay** are all handled at the MNSL desk, located in the classroom.
- B. After registration, get the appropriate targets and be sure to mark them with your name, date, division, and caliber.
- C. **Please be prepared to enter the range with your relay, and keep track of when your relay is called to shoot.**
- D. When you enter your shooting booth on the range, place your shooting bag and other accessories on the bench or on the floor. **Uncasing of your firearm must only be done on the bench, with the firearm pointed down-range at all times.** If you want to leave your equipment on the range for storage purposes, when you are not in the current relay, place it against the far wall, out of the way of the shooters and range staff.
- E. While on the range and not in a relay, Please **do not** walk in front of the Range Officers
- F. **Steel cased, aluminum cased, or any steel corded ammunition is specifically not allowed on the range.**

# Monday Night Shooting League

## League Disqualification (DQ) rules

1. A competitor who commits a “League Disqualification” or any other prohibited activity during a night’s competition will be disqualified from the remainder of the night and will be prohibited from shooting any remaining relays that night.
2. Fees paid will **not** be refunded.
3. Scores for completed relays will be posted. Scores for the incomplete relays will **not** be posted or count toward your season end average.
4. A **loaded firearm** shall be defined as: a firearm with a round in the chamber, a round in an inserted magazine, **or** a round in the cylinder of a revolver (including when the cylinder is open).
5. League disqualification **may be issued for any unsafe gun handling, including but not limited to:**
  - a. **Accidental Discharge** -- Shooting before the start signal or after the stop signal (Exception: when completing the string of fire during extra time given by the range officer.)
  - b. **Finger within the trigger guard** before the start signal or after the stop signal (Exception: when completing the string of fire during extra time given by the range officer.)
  - c. **Finger within the trigger guard** during the loading, unloading, or reloading of a firearm. (This is especially important during the Tyro event.)
  - d. Setting down a **loaded** firearm. This applies **with or without** the firearm’s safety’s being activated.
  - e. Pointing a **loaded** firearm at the bench, the stall dividers, **or** 90 degrees vertical. (Please note this is **more restrictive** than “breaking the 180” commonly seen in action pistol events.)
  - f. Pointing a firearm (**loaded or unloaded**) rearwards, that is further than 90 degrees from the median intercept of the backstop. (This is commonly referred to as “breaking the 180”.)
  - g. Pointing a firearm (**loaded or unloaded**) at any part of one’s body or another person. (Exception: with an **unloaded** firearm cleaning the firearm at the end of a relay using a rod or bore snake or clearing a squib with the use of a squib rod **after having ensured the firearm is clear**. Note however that rule **5f applies at all times**.)
  - h. Handling a firearm while not **at** the bench.
  - i. **Not engaging the safety’s** of your firearm while at low ready or at the start buzzer. Examples include, cocking a “double action” firearm without safety prior to the start signal or not engaging the safety of a single action firearm. Shooters may request exemptions for firearms whose disengagement after the start signal may present more of a hazard than when starting a string of fire than with the safety on. Exemptions should be requested of the league coordinator and it may be helpful to alert each range officer of your exception.
6. Appeals for “unsafe gun handling” **not listed above may be appealed** to the league coordinator for a final decision.

**Please Note:** It is very easy to break rule 5f while unbagging your firearm. It is always best to orient your firearm container such that the firearm points down range before removing your firearm.