

**Los Alamos Sportsmen's Club**  
**Safety Handbook**  
**2016 Edition**  
**Approved: September 15, 2016**

## **Introduction**

The Los Alamos Sportsmen's Club (LASC) membership is dedicated and committed to the safe and responsible use of firearms and archery equipment. This safety handbook has been prepared to provide all shooters, instructors, and spectators with the safety rules that enable us to enjoy shooting without harm or injury to our members, guests, the public, and the environment.

## **Responsibilities**

While at LASC, each of us is responsible for our actions and the actions of our guests. We must be careful whenever we handle our firearms or archery equipment. Any of us can make a mistake. So we help each other and watch out for each other at all times on the LASC ranges. Each of us is required to follow and enforce the safety rules in this handbook strictly, politely, and courteously.

Each individual on the LASC facility takes the full responsibility and assumes the risk of handling firearms and archery equipment and the use of LASC facilities. Violation of any of the safety rules and warnings, stated or implied, could result in severe personal injury or death to the user or bystanders or result in firearm, archery equipment, or property damage.

The rules in this Safety Handbook are intended to provide a safe shooting environment. These rules encourage safe and responsible use of firearms and archery equipment and they are to be interpreted specifically and broadly in their application to include all possible circumstances and events to ensure safe and responsible activities at LASC. These rule do not limit LASC to solely enforcing safe and responsible use of the shooting ranges. LASC can limit use of the ranges beyond these rules, as the LASC Officers and Board deem necessary for safety, maintenance, or administrative reasons.

Parents are responsible for the behavior and safety of their children while at LASC. Children must be able and willing to understand and follow the rules and adhere to the safety requirements of this Safety Handbook. Children must remain under the direct supervision of their parents while at LASC.

Pet owners are responsible for the behavior and safety of their pets at LASC. Dogs in training or accompanying their owner must be kept on a leash or in a vehicle at all times. Service dogs are allowed.

## **Basic Firearms Safety Rules**

The following four basic firearms safety rules apply to all ranges, all situations involving firearms, and everywhere firearms are present. Following these rules will prevent nearly all firearms accidents. These four firearms safety rules should be reviewed before each shooting session or match. Apply these four basic firearms safety rules at all times, at all shooting events.

1. Treat every firearm as if it were loaded.
2. Never point a firearm at anything you are not willing and justified to destroy.
3. Keep your finger out of the trigger guard and off the trigger until your sights are on target and you're ready to fire.

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4. Know your target and what is behind it before you shoot.

### **General LASC Safety Rules**

*These rules apply to all LASC ranges and facilities at all times!*

1. Eye and ear protection are mandatory during firing. This applies to shooters, instructors, safety officers, spectators and anyone present during shooting with firearms. ANSI Z87 rated eye protection with side shields or wrap-around sides is recommended. Earplugs or earmuffs, or both are acceptable for hearing protection.
2. Alcoholic beverage is prohibited on LASC property.
3. Illegal drugs are prohibited on LASC property.
4. No one is allowed on LASC property if impaired by drugs or alcohol.
5. No shooting is allowed before 8:00 AM or after sundown on the outdoor ranges.
6. LASC Members Only. Each member is allowed to escort two guests. Each family member under 18 counts as one guest.
7. Members are responsible for the guest's safety training and conduct on the range.
8. Firearms must be holstered or cased, or unloaded with the action or cylinder open and the muzzle pointed in a safe direction in all areas of the range except on the firing line or shooting points.
9. Firearms may be un-holstered, uncased, or loaded only on the firing line or shooting point.
10. Keep the muzzle pointed down range when on the firing line.
11. No firearms will be handled while anyone is down range.
12. All firearms will be unloaded and made safe before anyone goes forward of the firing line or shooting points.
13. Firearms will be loaded only on the firing line.
14. Anyone on the range, whether a shooter, spectator, or instructor has the authority to order a "cease fire" if they observe an unsafe act or condition.
15. All competitors and spectators must stay well back of the firing line when not shooting and avoid any activity that might distract the shooters on the firing line.
16. Coaches, instructors, safety officers, range masters, and match directors may be on the firing line or adjacent to shooting points to perform their assigned duties.
17. Glass, explosive, and pyrotechnic targets are prohibited.
18. Explosives, such as dynamite, C-4, or any other commercial or homemade explosives or explosive devices are prohibited on the LASC ranges.
19. Black powder and black powder substitutes are allowed when used in firearms designed for their use.
20. Tracer, explosive, and incendiary ammunition are prohibited on LASC ranges.
21. Armor piercing, metal piercing, and/or steel core ammunition are prohibited on all LASC ranges except the rifle range. This prohibition includes 5.56 SS109 and M855 NATO rounds (with green tip), 7.62 (.308 Winchester) armor piercing and .30-06 M2 AP, and sabot loaded armor piercing (SLAP) rounds. Do not shoot at the gongs on the rifle range with this armor piercing or steel core ammunition.
22. Do not climb, drive on, or cross over any of the earthen berms.
23. Do not place or shoot at objects on the earthen berms.
24. Do not shoot at target frames, frame holders, barriers, or match props.

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25. Never handle another person's firearm, accessories, or equipment without their permission.
26. Before leaving the range:
  - a. Pick up your brass,
  - b. Clean up after yourself,
  - c. Throw your trash away, and
  - d. Put away your targets, target stands, and moveable targets.
27. Paintball guns and airsoft guns may be used on the range, but must follow the same firearms safety rules as live firearms. War games, paint-ball wars, or other games where firearms are pointed at a person are prohibited on all areas of the LASC.
28. Event-specific rules may be adopted for LASC sanctioned events. The rules of the governing organization, e.g., SASS, IPSC, ATA, IDPA, and others will be followed during these matches.
29. Do not discard dud or damaged ammunition in the trash, brass, or lead containers. Deposit dud or damaged ammunition in the orange canister on the left side of the Indoor Range or the orange canister by the trash cans on the rifle range.
30. Be sure your firearm is safe to operate.
31. Members and their guests are expected and required to follow all applicable Federal and State of New Mexico firearms laws while at LASC. Any violations will be reported to law enforcement.

**General Metallic Target Safety Rules (all ranges)**

1. Ensure all shooters and spectators in the proximity of the metallic targets or on the range with metallic targets are wearing eye and ear protection. ANSI Z87.1 compliant safety glasses are strongly recommended.
2. Never shoot a steel target with a centerfire or rim-fire handgun cartridge at closer than 12 yards.
3. Never shoot a steel target with a shotgun slug or lead bullet larger than 50 caliber from a muzzle-loader (handgun or rifle) at closer than 35 yards.
4. Never shoot a steel target with shotgun shot larger than #7 1/2 shot or buckshot at closer than 12 yards.
5. Never shoot a steel target with shotgun shot #7 1/2 or smaller at closer than 12 yards.
6. Never shoot a steel target with a centerfire rifle at closer than 75 yards.
7. Never shoot a steel target with a rimfire rifle cartridge at closer than 12 yards.
8. Ensure no one is in the spatter zone of the metallic target.

**Rifle Range-Specific Rules**

1. Do not shoot at objects on the berms.
2. Do not shoot at objects set on the silhouette stands (railroad ties and angle iron). These are target stands for silhouette matches only.
3. Do not shoot at target frames, stands, frame holders (in the ground) barriers, or match props.
4. Do not shoot pistols on the rifle range when shooting at distances less than 35 yards. Use the pistol ranges for shooting distances less than 35 yards.

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5. Do not shoot the steel targets, gongs, or stands with any armor-piercing, .50 BMG, or bi-metal rounds with steel or zinc cores. This prohibition includes 5.56 SS109 and M855 NATO rounds (with the green tip) and 7.62 armor piercing and sabot loaded armor piercing (SLAP) and 30-06 armor piercing rounds. **IN OTHER WORDS; PLEASE DON'T TRY TO DESTROY THE STEEL GONGS, TARGETS, AND STANDS!**
6. Shotguns are allowed only with slug ammunition. Use shot on the pattern screens or your own targets on the shotgun pattern range.
7. Be aware of over-flight of shotgun pellets on the left side of the rifle range. Wear a hat and safety glasses when down range.
8. All competitors and spectators must stay well back of the firing line when not shooting and avoid any activity that might distract the competitors or match officials.
9. Do not discard dud or damaged ammunition in the trash cans or brass drum. Deposit duds and damaged ammunition in the orange canister by the trash cans.
10. Choose your shooting location and position your targets to ensure you shoot downrange and that your bullets impact the earthen berms.

**Indoor Range-Specific rules**

1. Shooting is allowed on the indoor range from 8:00 AM until 10:00 PM.
2. Eye and ear protection are required. ANSI Z87.1 eye protection is strongly recommended.
3. Rimfire and handgun caliber firearms only.
4. The velocity of any cartridge used must not exceed 2200 feet per second (FPS).
5. No centerfire rifle caliber rifles or centerfire rifle caliber handguns allowed.
6. No shotguns allowed.
7. No black powder firearms allowed.
8. No armor piercing or bi-metal ammunition allowed, e.g., steel core bullets.
9. Food should not be prepared or consumed in the indoor range portion of the Clubhouse due to lead residue from shooting on the indoor range.
10. Turn the ventilation fan on before firing, and turn it off before you leave. *Use of the ventilation system is required whenever shooting on the indoor range.*
11. Verify that the store room door to the right, downrange is closed and locked.
12. Never shoot from closer than 7 yards to the bullet trap/backstop. If you need to shoot at shorter distances, move the target closer to the 7-yard line.
13. The indoor range may not be used when a scheduled class or meeting is in session in the classroom.
14. Lights – are on the right side of the clubhouse door (as you enter) and on the indoor range outside wall. Additional target illumination lights are on the right side of the range, near the door to the store room. Give these lights time to warm up, and do not turn them off and on quickly or repeatedly.
15. Check the bottom plates of the backstop to ensure that they are in position and continually check to verify they remain in place while shooting.
16. No Celotex, Tannerite, or other exploding targets are allowed.
17. Clean up the range after shooting:
  - a. Sweep up the brass and trash and place it in the trash cans – not the lead drum in the corner.
  - b. Do not discard “dud” or damaged ammunition in trash cans or the lead drum.

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- c. Deposit dud rounds in the orange container on the left side of the range.
- 18. Keep the bathroom doors closed in cold weather to prevent the water from freezing.
- 19. Do not shoot archery targets with firearms.
- 20. No shooting at anything but a target in front of and in line with the bullet trap/backstop.
- 21. Shoot only at paper targets attached to stands with the target between 3 and 5 feet above the floor.

**Range "Alpha" Bull's-eye Handgun Range-Specific Rules**

- 1. Only handgun caliber handguns and rifles, and rimfire handguns and rifles may be used on the Alpha range.
- 2. No shotguns, rifle caliber handguns, centerfire rifle caliber rifles, or full-automatic firearms may be used on this range.
- 3. Mount only one bulls-eye target per target frame.
- 4. Do not operate the target controls until you are trained to do so.
- 5. No glass containers or cans may be used as targets on this range.
- 6. Do not use portable target stands, e.g. the stands on wheels or other portable bases. Use the target frames in the target holders.
- 7. Never leave the range without picking up your brass and trash, cleaning up after yourself, and putting away the targets, target stands/frames, and any other items you have used.
- 8. Targets and target frames are in the small shed adjacent to the covered range, or use your own.
- 9. Deposit payment for the targets and centers in the can.
  - a. Full targets are twenty-five cents, and
  - b. repair centers are a dime.
- 10. Live ammunition shall not be discarded on the range or in the trash.
- 11. Place duds or damaged ammunition in the orange dud canister on the left side of the indoor range or the orange dud canister by the trash cans on the Rifle Range.

**Range "Bravo" IPSC/IDPA/Tactical Handgun Range-Specific Rules**

- 1. Only handgun caliber handguns and rifles, and shotguns using #71/2 or smaller shot are allowed to be used on this range.
- 2. Do not shoot centerfire rifle caliber rifles on this range.
- 3. Paper, steel, bowling pin or other reactive targets may be used on this range.
- 4. Targets used on this range must be provided and retrieved by the member.
- 5. Special steel shotgun targets for shot appropriate for cowboy action shooting and 3-gun action matches may be used on this range.
- 6. No glass containers may be used as targets.
- 7. Never leave the range without cleaning up your brass and trash, and putting away your targets, and other accessories and equipment.
- 8. All trash (cans, milk jugs, etc.) must be removed and placed in the trash cans after shooting.
- 9. Deposit duds or otherwise damaged ammunition in the orange canister on the left side of the indoor range or the orange canister by the trash cans on the rifle range.

**Range "Charlie" Practical/Tactical Pistol Range Rules**

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1. Only handgun caliber handguns and rifles, and shotguns using #71/2 or smaller shot are allowed to be used on this range.
2. Do not shoot centerfire rifle caliber rifles on this range.
3. Paper, steel, bowling pin or other reactive targets may be used on this range.
4. Targets used on this range must be provided and retrieved by the member.
5. Special steel shotgun targets for shot appropriate for cowboy action shooting and 3-gun action matches may be used on this range.
6. No glass containers may be used as targets.
7. Never leave the range without cleaning up your brass and trash, and putting away your targets, and other accessories and equipment.
8. Deposit duds or otherwise damaged ammunition in the orange canister on the left side of the indoor range or the orange canister by the trash cans on the rifle range.

**Range "Delta" Steel Handgun Range-specific Rules**

1. Only handgun caliber handguns and rifles are allowed to be used on this range.
2. The .22 plate rack may only be shot with .22 caliber rimfire rifles and handguns.
3. Do not shoot the .22 plate rack with hyper-velocity .22, .22 magnums, 17 HM2, .17 HMR, or 17 Winchester Magnum ammunition.
4. Don't shoot the plates from closer than 12 yards.
5. Special steel targets for shot appropriate for cowboy action shooting and 3-gun matches may be used on this range with #71/2 or smaller shot.
6. Spinner, reactive, steel or plastic targets, other than the Bianchi plates on the range may be used but must be provided and retrieved by the member.

**Shotgun Range-specific Rules – Skeet, Trap, 5-stand, Pattern Board, International or Bunker Trap**

1. No guns shall be loaded until the shooter is on the shooting station. "Loading" is putting any part of a loaded shell in any part of the gun.
2. The gun shall be unloaded before leaving the station or changing shooting stations.
3. When not on station, carry your gun with the breech or action open. Pumps and automatics will have their bolt open. Fixed breech guns will have their action broken open.
4. Store all guns not in use in the racks or in your vehicle.
5. Only active shooters, designated pullers, shooting instructors, and referees are allowed "on the field".
6. Be alert for range personnel entering or leaving the trap houses.
7. Shooters will pick up their hulls after all members of the squad are finished shooting.
8. Stay clear of the low-house trap when picking up empty hulls.
9. Rules of the shooting sports for skeet, trap, and sporting clays establish a maximum shot size of 1-1/8 oz., #71/2 shot.
10. No shotgun slugs, buckshot, or shot larger than #71/2, or any handgun or rifle shooting on the shotgun ranges.
11. The bunkers and trap houses are not targets or target stands! No shooting targets on the houses.
12. Do not attempt to operate the target throwers until you are trained and authorized to do so.

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13. Do not rest the muzzle of your shotgun on your foot.
14. Do not drive on the trap and skeet ranges. Not even on the gravel or asphalt surfaces.
15. Use the patterning boards not the target frames to pattern your gun and loads.
16. Members may set up their own portable stands and shoot their own targets adjacent to the patterning board.
17. The cost per round is \$3 for members and \$4 for non-members.
18. On the Skeet Range, there can be bullet spatter from the Delta steel handgun range.
19. Safety glasses are required and a brimmed hat are strongly recommended.

### **Archery Range-Specific Rules**

These rules apply to the archery target ranges, including the:

- Fixed-distance targets
  - Broadhead pit
  - 3D targets behind the pavilion and 3D league and backcountry stalking courses in the trees
- 
1. Handgun, rifle, and shotgun shooting is prohibited on any part of the archery ranges.
  2. Do not shoot the sight-in bales or 3D targets with broad-heads.
  3. No bow handling when people are retrieving arrows or downrange.
  4. When searching for arrows beyond the targets, lean your bow upright against the target to inform people you are down range behind the targets.
  5. Do not shoot at targets when a bow is leaning against the target or target stand.
  6. Due to the competitive nature of 3D league and in order to preserve the life of the targets, the 3D league course is CLOSED except on Wednesday league night or for special events organized or scheduled by the archery chair.
  7. Remove all personal targets used for broad head tuning from the range and broad head pit.
  8. Never leave the range without picking up trash, cleaning up after yourself, and putting away the targets, stands, and any other accessories or equipment you have used.

### **Match-Specific Safety Rules**

1. Always conduct a safety briefing before the beginning of a match.
2. Review the four basic firearms safety rules first.
3. Cover the LASC range rules relevant to the match.
4. Event-specific rules of the sponsoring organization may be adopted for LASC sanctioned events.
5. Cover any additional safety and match rules applicable to the specific match and its course(s) of fire as directed by your organizational affiliation, such as SASS, IPSC, IDPA, ATA, NSSA, NRA, etc.

### **Concealed Carry Rules While at LASC**

1. Loaded carry firearms may not be drawn or handled except at a firing point or on the firing line in a manner consistent with normal range or match rules, or in the event the use of

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deadly force is necessary and justified to protect yourself or another person from deadly force or great bodily harm.

2. Only persons licensed to carry a concealed firearm by the State of New Mexico or issued a concealed carry permit recognized by the State of New Mexico are allowed to carry concealed firearms on the range.
3. IDPA or other sanctioned matches designed for the use of concealed firearms are allowed.
4. Match-specific rules will be followed as dictated by the courses of fire and the rules of the match's organizational affiliation, such as SASS, IPSC, IDPA, NSSA, ATA, NRA, etc. If the organization we are affiliated with for a match prohibits bringing concealed firearms to the match or to the firing line, then CCW license holders are required to follow those rules for the duration of the match.

### **Fire Safety**

1. Fire safety rules during high or extreme fire danger conditions:
  - No smoking at the Range except in vehicles.
  - Don't throw your cigarette or cigar butts out.
  - No fires in the pavilion area by the archery range.
  - Muzzle loading rifles with patched balls are restricted to the firing positions with bare ground in front of them.
  - If you see or start a fire, call 911 and report the fire, then put it out if you are qualified to do so, or if you feel it is safe to do so.
2. Fire safety rules during low or moderate fire danger conditions:
  - Be careful when smoking and disposing of butts.
  - Do not leave fires in the pavilion area unattended.
  - If you see or start a fire, call 911 and report the fire, then put it out if you are qualified to do so, or if you feel it is safe to do so.

### **Emergency Response**

In the event someone is injured:

1. Assess the injury.
2. If the injury is serious:
  - Call 911 or have someone call 911
  - Apply first aid or CPR as appropriate. (First Aid kits are located in the range house and in the target/storage sheds on or adjacent to each range.)
  - Have someone open the gate nearest the injured person, and stand at the entrance to direct emergency responders to the injured person.
3. Work with the emergency responders as they direct.

### **In the event of a crime**

1. In the event that you become aware that a crime has been committed at the LASC facilities,
  - Call 911 and report the incident
  - Notify one of the club officers.



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**Notification of LASC Officers after a serious injury, crime, or safety violation**

Please notify one of the following club officers after a serious injury, crime, or safety violation has occurred at any of the LASC ranges:

Stan Hayes, LASC President, Phone 505-412-9751, email: [president@la-sc.org](mailto:president@la-sc.org)

Steve McKelvey, LASC Vice-President, Phone 505-570-0665, email: [vicepresident@la-sc.org](mailto:vicepresident@la-sc.org)

Jay R (Skip) Andersen, Chief Range Safety Officer, Phone: 505-412-5976, e-mail: [skip.andersen@comcast.net](mailto:skip.andersen@comcast.net)

**LASC Range Evacuation Plan**

1. In the event of fire, bad weather, or other disaster that makes remaining at the range unsafe:
  - Call 911 when appropriate.
  - Notify others present.
  - Take your firearms and equipment, lock up, and leave the range.
2. In the event of fire, bad weather, or other disaster that blocks the road to Los Alamos, and makes remaining at the range unsafe:
  - Verify the road to Los Alamos is impassable.
  - Call 911 and report the situation, requesting San Ildefonso Pueblo assistance to open the gate to Highway 502.
  - Make sure all personnel at the range are notified and accounted for.
  - Evacuate down Rendija canyon, turning right down Guaje canyon.
  - Once you've reached safety, notify the police department and the pueblo.
  - In the event of heavy rains or snow that cause flooding above or below the range, do not attempt to cross flooding arroyos. It is safer to take shelter in your vehicle