



September 10th , 2018

The Union County Gun Club
Standard Operating
Procedures



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Chapter 1: Preamble

The “Union County Gun Club” was incorporated in 2017 and is located on approximately 14 acres in the community of Blairsville, Georgia in Union County. The Union County Gun Club is a non-profit organization operated for the practice and recreation of the members and their guests.

This document provides the “Membership Range Rules” for all club facilities including for each of the major discipline areas – shotgun, pistol and rifle ranges.

Members and guests should be proficient with the shooting discipline and firearm involved, including the frequently used commands and procedures used in that discipline.

There is no hunting or shooting of any wildlife.

If wildlife is observed on either the Pistol or Rifle Range an immediate **cease-fire** must be called. At which time, the Range automatically becomes a wildlife preserve. When the wildlife leaves the Range, the Range may resume safe operation.



Chapter 2: Organization

As stated in Article V of The Union County Gun Club Bylaws, the following are designated Officers and Directors.

The Union County Gun Club has nine officers that comprise the Executive Committee:

President..... Paul Clark
Vice President..... Lamar Franklyn
Secretary.....Caroline Pirie
Treasurer.....Wayne Roshaven
Membership..... Charlie Azzarello
Publicity Director..... Susanne Johnson
Director of Safety.....Gene Cooley
Range Safety Officer.....William Parker
Range Safety Officer.....Joan Moody

The Elections Committee is the only other committee designated by the By-laws.

The President may form other committees for specific purposes and specify a Chair during Scheduled Board of Director Meetings.



Credentialed Member Privileges

All Credentialed Members may use the Club when open. Open display of the laminated Membership Badge is required. Use of the Gate Access Card is necessary to open the gates.

Each Credentialed Member may bring up 2 shooting individuals from the Family Unit or other guests in any single trip to the Club.



Chapter 3: Range Operations

1. **General.** Live fire conducted at The Union County Gun Club is designed to provide members and guests a facility where they can enjoy and become proficient with privately owned or obtained firearms.
2. **Facilities for Use.** The Union County Gun Club is a COLD RANGE. No firearms shall be loaded until you are ready to shoot or the command "Load" has been given. Live fire shooting is normally limited to the following ranges and equipment.
 - a. **Pistol Range.** No center-fire Rifles are to be allowed on the Pistol Range. However, 22 Rimfire Rifles may be used on the Pistol Range provided that no mag-loads are used.
 - b. **Pistol Range.** All targets shall be placed immediately in front of the berms, but no closer than 7½ yards from the firing line, to facilitate that fired bullets will impact the berm.
 - c. **Rifle Range.** Nothing larger than a 300 Win Magnum rifle and nothing larger than 300 Magnum loads will be permitted on the range. No targets on the rifle range shall be placed closer than 40 and no more than 200 yards. No fully automatic firearms or devices that simulate fully automatic firearms are allowed.
3. **Hours of Operation** – "The Union County Gun Club can be utilized every day of the year except those days that will be closed at the discretion of the Board of Directors..."; members are encouraged to check the online calendar for updates. Live firing on the rifle and pistol ranges shall be during daylight hours only. Sanctioned shoots may operate at different times at the discretion of the Board of Directors.
4. **Gates** – A secure gate through which Members must pass to enter the club-Range.



Chapter 3: Range Operations **Cont.**

5. **Credentialed Member Responsibilities** - Credentialed Members may bring **two shooting** individuals from the Family Unit and, those individuals must sign the waiver found in each range area. (**See By-Laws for specifics**)

A Credentialed Member may bring a guest (non-Family Unit) to the range (**See By-Laws for specifics**)

- All not credentialed or uncredentialed attendees are the direct responsibility of the Credentialed Member.
- Credentialed Member is required to maintain “sight and sound” supervision for those individuals. This means that the Credentialed Member shall be within sight and sound of all Family Unit individuals who are not credentialed and all other guests while they are on the Club-Range Property.
- The Credentialed Member shall ensure that all Family Unit individuals and guests thoroughly understand the safe handling of firearms and thoroughly understand The Union County Gun Club Range Safety Rules.
- **UNDER NO CIRCUMSTANCES** is it acceptable to “drop off” or leave an uncredentialed family member, a child or a guest at one part of the club range, while the supervising member shoots at another part of the club or range.
- All non-Family Unit guests must sign the waiver found in each range area before shooting begins.

The Credentialed Member, is DIRECTLY responsible for the actions taken of any uncredentialed Family Unit individual or other guest. If there is a safety violation, or if there is any violation of any Club rules by any uncredentialed person, then the Credentialed Member responsible for their supervision shall be subject to appropriate disciplinary action as is determined by the Board of Directors.



Chapter 4: Range Rules – All Facilities

These rules have been adopted to ensure the health and safety of those individuals who use or frequent this facility.

The use of alcohol before or during the handling of firearms is STRICTLY PROHIBITED. Any person who is under the influence of alcohol and/or drugs will not be permitted to use the firing range and will be asked to leave the range area immediately.

Eye and ear protection **MUST** be utilized at all times when firing or in the proximity of others firing; this includes under the pistol and rifle shelters.

COLD Range: All firing ranges on the property of The Union County Gun Club are “cold” ranges. All firearms will be unloaded at all times upon entering the grounds and until leaving other than while on the firing line and under the supervision of a Range Safety Officer if applicable. All firearms transported to and from vehicles to the range must be enclosed in a case. No loaded firearms are allowed in the clubhouse.

Concealed Weapon Permit (CWP) Rules: any CWP holder may continue to carry their concealed weapon while on the Club Range, but your weapon must stay concealed at all times while on the range and the firearm must be in a SAFE condition.

Law Enforcement Rules: All full time employed, academy certified, Law Enforcement Officers exhibiting a badge or wearing apparel indicating their status are permitted to carry loaded firearms on the property if they are at the club-range on official business. If the officer is going to participate in any of the disciplines, it is expected that the officer will heed Club safety rules and remove any loaded firearm from their person.

Prohibited Firearms: The use of pyrotechnics, tracer bullets, tracer shotshells, fully automatic firearms, devices that simulate automatic fire, nothing larger than 300 Magnum loads will be permitted on the range,



Chapter 4: Range Rules – All Facilities **Cont.**

grenade launching devices and cannons are all forbidden on any part of the range. Any firearm greater than 18 inches in length and shooting shot shells (including slugs) are not allowed on The Union County Gun Club property (e.g., the “Judge”, “Contender”, etc.). No shot shells of any gauge or pistol caliber (e.g., snake shot) are allowed on the pistol or rifle ranges; with exception to specific board approved tournaments. Specific rules for the various ranges are listed separately.

Firearm Handling Safety Rules

- a. **ALWAYS KEEP THE GUN POINTED IN A SAFE DIRECTION** (Up or Down Range)
- b. **ALWAYS KEEP YOUR FINGER OFF THE TRIGGER UNTIL READY TO SHOOT**, and outside the trigger guard, until ready to fire or until the command “Commence Firing” has been given.
- c. **ALWAYS KEEP THE ACTION OPEN AND THE FIREARM UNLOADED UNTIL READY TO USE.** On a firing range this means the shooters are in position on the firing line and the range has been cleared for live firing.
- d. **KNOW YOUR TARGET AND WHAT IS BEYOND.** When on shooting ranges, be mindful also of adjacent areas and act accordingly.
- e. Be sure the gun is safe to operate.
- f. Know how to use the firearm safely.
- g. Use only the correct ammunition for your firearm. When at a shooting range with more than one firearm---store that extra firearm and its ammunition before using the next one. **Only one fire arm is allowed on the bench at a time.** Match-tournaments exceptions may apply.



Chapter 5: PISTOL Range Safety Rules

Credentialed Members and guests will adhere to the Range Safety Rules and those of their specific discipline.

1. **The use of alcohol before or during the handling of firearms is STRICTLY PROHIBITED.** Any person who is under the influence of alcohol and/or drugs will not be permitted to use the firing range and will be asked to leave the range area immediately.
2. Targets are not to be placed near the edges of target frames. **DO NOT SHOOT TARGET FRAMES.** Targets are **NOT** allowed on or near the tops or sides of berms. When finished shooting, please place them out of the line of fire.
3. All targets must be placed immediately in front of the appropriate distance berm to insure bullets do not bounce or ricochet.
4. Eye and ear protection **MUST** be utilized at all times when firing or in the **PROXIMITY** of others firing; this includes under the pistol and rifle shelters.
5. A minimum distance of **7 ½ yards** must be maintained from the firing line to any targets.
6. No metal Targets **under 25 yards** are allowed on the Pistol Range.
7. All trash must be picked up and disposed of properly.
 - a. Shell casing (brass) may be placed in the proper containers on the pistol and rifle ranges.
 - b. Sweep up rimfire cases and police the range after use.
 - c. Targets should be removed from frames and placed in the trash barrels provided.
8. Observe any additional posted rules and warnings at the range.
9. No one is allowed downrange unless and until all firearms are in Safe Condition and are placed on benches or tables. **No handling of firearms is allowed when anyone is down range.**
10. **HOLSTERS:**
 - a. **Holsters are not allowed on the Pistol range with the following exception:** The exception being during certain matches and then only strong hand draws are allowed.



Chapter 5: PISTOL Range Safety Rules **Cont.**

- b. Holstered handguns are not allowed on the **Rifle range** or anywhere else on the property.

11. “Safe CONDITION” is defined as follows:
 - a. Revolvers – Cylinders open and no ammunition in cylinder chambers.
 - b. Pistols – Slide locked to the rear and open, chamber empty, magazine removed, safety engaged if applicable.
NOTE: If you have chamber flags, exercise their use by inserting them into your firearms action or muzzle when the range is “COLD”
12. Shooting on all pistol ranges is limited to .22 rimfire rifles only and no mag loads.
13. If more than one shooter is on range, safety and courtesy among the shooters must be maintained. If a shooter needs to go down range to change targets or for other needs, request that the “range be made safe”. All firearms must be made empty and in **SAFE CONDITION** and placed on the benches or tables. No handling of firearms while anyone is down range.

When you are sure no one is down range and the command “**Line Is Hot**” has been given you may handle the firearm. The command “**Going Hot**” will be given when you are ready to fire. This will give another shooter time to put on eye and ear protection.

14. Paper, non-metallic and non-glass targets are allowed. No target shall be placed at the edges of the target stands or near the top, bottom or sides of the berms. All bullets shall be fired so as to impact the berm. Remove paper targets from the target stands and deposit them in the trash barrels provided when finished.



Chapter 6: RIFLE Range Safety Rules

Credentialed Members and guests will adhere to the Range Safety Rules and those of their specific discipline. If there is any conflict between The Union County Gun Club Range Safety Rules and the sanctioned event association rules, the more conservative rule shall apply.

1. **The use of alcohol before or during the handling of firearms is STRICTLY PROHIBITED.** Any person who is under the influence of alcohol and/or drugs will not be permitted to use the firing range and will be asked to leave the range area immediately.
2. Targets are not to be placed near the edges of target frames. **DO NOT SHOOT TARGET FRAMES.** Targets are **NOT** allowed on or near the tops or sides of berms. When finished shooting, please place the Target Frames out of the line of fire.
3. All targets must be placed immediately in front of the appropriate distance berm to insure bullets do not bounce or ricochet.
4. Eye and ear protection **MUST** be utilized at all times when firing or in the **PROXIMITY** of others firing; this includes under the pistol and rifle shelters.
5. Only metal Targets approved by the Board or Chief Range Safety Officer may be used.
6. All trash must be picked up and disposed of properly.
 - a. Shell casings (brass) may be placed in the proper containers on the rifle range.
 - b. Sweep up rimfire cases and police the range after use.
 - c. Targets should be removed from frames and placed in the trash barrels provided.



Chapter 6: RIFLE Range Safety Rules **Cont.**

7. Observe any additional posted rules and warnings at the range.
8. No one is allowed downrange unless and until all firearms are in **Safe Condition** and are placed on benches or tables. **No handling of firearms is allowed when anyone is down range.**
9. **“SAFE CONDITION”** is defined as follows:
 - a. Bolt Action – Bolt open or out, chamber empty, magazine removed, tube magazine empty, safety engaged.
 - b. Pump and Semi-Auto – Action open, chamber empty, magazine removed, tube magazine empty, safety engaged.
 - c. Lever Action – Action open, chamber empty, magazine removed; magazine tube empty, safety engaged.
10. **NO SHOTGUNS ALLOWED ON THE RIFLE RANGE EXCEPT FOR SANCTIONED EVENTS** or if member is using a shotgun to fire sabot/slugs. **The use of this type of shotgun ammunition is only permitted on the rifle range and only out to 100 yards.**
11. No targets on the rifle range shall be placed closer than 40 and no more than 200 yards. (In other words--- Targets will be down-range between 40 and 200 yards.)
12. If more than one shooter is on the range---safety and courtesy among the shooters must be maintained. If a shooter needs to go down range to change targets or for other needs, request that the **“range be made safe”**. All firearms must be made empty and in **SAFE CONDITION**



Chapter 6: RIFLE Range Safety Rules **Cont.**

and placed on the benches or tables. No handling of firearms while anyone is down range.

When you are sure no one is down range and the command **“Line Is Hot”** has been given you may handle the firearm. The command **“Going Hot”** will be given when you are ready to fire. This will give other shooters time to put on eye and Ear Protection.

13. Paper, non-metallic and non-glass targets are allowed.
 - a. No target shall be placed at the edges of the target stands or near the top, bottom or sides of the berms.
 - b. All bullets shall be fired so as to impact the berm.
 - c. Remove paper targets from the target stands and deposit them in the trash barrels provided when finished.
 - d. Remove Target Stand Frames from line of fire.

14. Muzzle loading rifles may be used on the rifle range.
 - a. No rifle is to be capped or primed until the firearm is safely pointed downrange and the range is **HOT**.
 - b. The muzzleloader may be loaded on the shooting bench.

15. Shooting position may include; shooting from the bench, off-hand (Standing), and prone position.