



Long Island
Women's
Firearm
Club, Inc.

LIWFC.org

RANGE

PACKET

Safety Policy

Every participant must follow the range rules and/or policies set forth by the range that we are utilizing. You may be asked to sign an additional waiver required by the range facility.

All participants of the LONG ISLAND WOMEN'S FIREARM CLUB, INC. must act responsibly by following strict safety rules at all club activities. Every shooter has the personal responsibility to make sure that each bullet fired impacts safely in a backstop or bullet trap.

Every participant has a duty to report rule violations and unsafe acts in consideration of the events taking place.

All facilitators, members, and guests who attend LIWFC events are required to comply with our Safety Rules. It is important that all participants understand the club's expectations so that everyone can have a fun and safe time.

4 Rules of Gun Safety

1. Treat all guns as if they are always loaded.
2. Never let the muzzle cover anything that you are not willing to destroy.
3. Keep your finger off the trigger until your sights are on target and you have made the decision to shoot.
4. Be sure of your target and what is behind it. AND - Secure your firearms so that unauthorized persons may not access them.

LONG ISLAND WOMEN'S FIREARM CLUB, INC. Safety Rules

1. WE OPERATE ALL EVENTS AS A "COLD RANGE". NO LOADED GUNS UNLESS YOU ARE ON THE FIRING LINE UNDER DIRECT SUPERVISION OF A SAFETY OFFICER OR AT DESIGNATED SHOOTING STATION.
2. Know who are the Range Safety Officers for all events.
3. Only un-bag guns at the designated shooting station or safe area.
4. Keep all guns UNLOADED until ready to shoot.
5. ALWAYS show a cleared gun. This may include leaving your gun at the shooting station in slide-lock ejection part side up and magazine out, calling out "CLEAR" when you are in slide-lock and/or have the Range Safety Officer confirm you are clear and magazine out before you holster the gun or insert a chamber flag.
6. Never leave the shooting station or proceed to Safe Table with a firearm that is not bagged or does not have a chamber flag inserted.
7. No ammunition at the safe table. Safe Tables are for holstering, dry-firing, or maintenance of your firearms.
8. EYE AND EAR PROTECTION ARE TO BE WORN AT ALL TIMES WHENEVER YOU ARE IN THE IMMEDIATE LIVE FIRE AREA regardless if you are on the line or not. Ricochets from other areas of the range are always possible.
9. There shall be no use of intoxicants of any kind (alcohol, drugs, or compromising prescription medication) before or during the event.

NRA Safety Rules

- Know your target and what is beyond.
- Know how to use the gun safely.
- Be sure the gun is safe to operate.
- Use only the correct ammunition for your gun.
- Wear eye and ear protection as appropriate.
- Never use alcohol, over-the-counter drugs or prescription drugs before or while shooting.
- Store guns so they are not accessible to unauthorized persons.

BASIC RANGE COMMANDS

COLD RANGE - No loaded guns; it is OK to have your eye and ear protection off.

HOT RANGE - Guns are loaded; eye and ear protection is required to be on.

LOAD - Put ammo in cylinder for revolvers, or chamber a round for semi-autos.

MAKE READY - Close your cylinder for revolvers, or chambers for semi-autos.

LOW READY - Your gun is loaded, ready to fire, but pointed down range at a lowered position.

FINGER OFF THE TRIGGER - in preparation to transition to a shooting position.

FIRE - Your gun is on target and you shoot when you are ready.

CEASE FIRE or STOP - Stop shooting and resume in a low ready position.

ANYONE CAN CALL A CEASE FIRE IF THEY SEE SOMETHING THAT IS NOT SAFE.

HOW TO HANDLE MALFUNCTIONS

Keep gun pointed down range. Call for help from range staff if necessary.

MISFIRES/HANG FIRES - Wait 30 seconds in case you have a hang fire. If nothing happens and you have a dud round, TAP, RACK, and BANG.

JAMS - Tap, rack, and bang.

SQUIB ROUND - If you shoot your gun and a round gets lodged in the barrel, DO NOT FIRE AGAIN. Often shooters do not realise they have a squib. As the gun fires it makes a slightly different sound and doesn't have as much recoil. Keep your gun pointed down range and raise your hand so a safety officer can assist you with a squib rod or appropriate tool.

ANY OTHER MALFUNCTION

Should your gun malfunction and you don't know what's wrong, raise your hand so a safety officer can assist you.

EVENT POLICIES

- Club events are Members only. Membership with the LIWFC is required to participate.
- Participants 17 years and younger are strictly prohibited.
- Anyone causing damage to club equipment or range facilities and equipment shall be personally and monetarily liable for such damage.
- The club, including volunteers, safety officers, administrative staff, and the range staff, shall not be responsible for personal property, or equipment left on the premises.
- The use of incendiary devices, armor piercing and/or tracer ammunition is strictly prohibited, unless approved by range facility.
- Participants are requested to help put away any range equipment used at the conclusion of the event.
- In the event that a participant is grossly unsafe and/or negligent, we reserve the right to stop the participant and as them to cease their participation it that day's event. The participant is not required to immediately leave the range, and may still observe the remainder of the event. Examples of unsafe and/or negligent actions:
 - Inappropriate use of finger on the trigger.
 - Dropping a loaded gun.
 - Breaking the 180 rule, which means to turn away from down range, or pointing muzzle in unsafe directions (up in the air, down at feet, left or right even if it doesn't break the 180 rule).
 - Negligent discharge under any circumstances.
 - Any unsafe/negligent activity the Safety Officer witnesses.
 - Depending on the event, the LIWFC BOD will have final decision on all situations where a participant is asked to cease participation.

RANGE ETIQUETTE REMINDERS

EVERY EVENT has its own challenges and unique situations for maintaining safety at LIWFC events. Lisa Ludwig has taken into consideration the differences between indoor vs. outdoor ranges, the way the facility is managed, and the amount of control she has in the live fire area. It is extremely important that all participants of LIWFC understand what range etiquette is and practice it diligently.

How To Avoid a Serious Violation at the Range

The most important habit you must have in place is how to get the guns from your range bag to the designated shooting station. Every range is different in their policy on this issue, some being very strict and others not having an opinion on it at all. LIWFC aligns with the very strict policy, and ultimately you will avoid a major safety violation by following this very simple procedure:

NO HANDLING OF GUNS BEHIND THE FIRING LINE

Participants may only handle guns on the firing line AND in a safe direction. This means take the range bag to the shooting station, unload the gun muzzle down range putting it in slide-lock or opening the cylinder. Then put the range bag in a storage area provided at the shooting station.

At no time should a participant be standing behind the line pulling out a gun (even if it is slide-lock).

No matter how many safety talks you have about loaded guns or having guns in slide-lock in the bag, it is only a matter of time before someone attends an event and brings a loaded gun in their range bag due to ignorance. This conversation should be the first one you have at every event to avoid a negligent discharge of the gun into a crowd of people or unintended direction.

Rental Guns

Some facilities that offer gun rentals just hand over the rental gun in slide-lock, mag out of the box, and a box of ammo, and let the participants walk through the range with gun in hand to shooting station. Most of the time, it is a short walk to the shooting station and the participant can step right up and get that gun in a safe direction. Other times that participants may be sharing a station and find herself waiting her turn... with a gun in her hand... maybe not in a safe direction.

There are two options:

1. Either get that gun on the station set to the side, or
2. Consider getting a little bin to place the gun in for transition from the rental area to the shooting station.

We have suggested a small plastic shoe box with a lid (Sterlite) would be perfect. If your range doesn't have anything like that in place, and you know you are going to be renting a gun, think ahead of how you will handle that situation safely.

Sharing Guns on Different Stations

Most ranges have the policy that the guns stay in the station and the shooters move, if you are sharing different guns within your group. This also means you may be sharing targets, or choose to put up and take down your own target each time it is your turn to shoot.

This is the safest way to avoid having guns behind them and unintentionally pointing at your fellow shooters in your own feet, etc.

If you are in a range that allows you to move guns from station to station, or say using a long table to establish your line, as long as the gun is in slide-lock and has been properly cleared, there is no issue with moving that gun along the table as long as the muzzle is pointing into the down-range area (aka berm) and all other safety precautions are followed. The move needs to be immediate, again no standing behind the line waiting for a station. In that case, the bin area comes back into play, or the gun must be bagged up.

Personal Safety

There are two primary causes of firearm accidents: Ignorance and Carelessness.

Ignorance

- Doesn't know safe handling rules.
- Doesn't know how to operate safely.
- Have not read owner's manual.

Carelessness

- Does know the rules, but didn't operate safely.
- Didn't unload properly.
- Not practicing proper range etiquette.



All participants at LIWFC events are expected to demonstrate safe handling of all firearms at all times, and follow the rules of the host range, as well as the LIWFC Safety Policy. If a participant does not know the safe handling rules, we as a shooting community have a responsibility to share our knowledge and help new shooters. It then becomes that person's responsibility to continue their training and adopt these practices.

Thank you for modeling safe behavior and having fun in a responsible environment. It's one of the many reasons that the LIWFC ladies are respected at ranges throughout Long Island.

Emergency Action Plan Worksheet

In case of a serious injury, or illness (gunshot, heart attack, severe heat stroke, etc) during an LONG ISLAND WOMEN'S FIREARM CLUB, INC. event, the following Safety Plan will be activated:

Make the scene safe. Call a cease-fire in the injured is near the firing line, or downrange.

LISA LUDWIG, CASANDRA K. SABELLICO, & SHARON JALETTE will ensure that all guns are unloaded and clear.

LYNN LUDWIG and/or CASANDRA K. SABELLICO will provide First Aid until relieved by a more qualified person, e.g., EMS, and will also retrieve the first aid/trauma kit(s), and assist as needed.

LISA BARTOW will notify range staff of incident.

NIKEETA GREEN will call 911 for assistance and provide them with the following information:

➤ Specific Location

➤ Address

➤ Directions

➤ Telephone number calling from

➤ Possible hazards for rescuers (road conditions, etc.)

➤ Condition of the injured/ill

➤ First Aid provided

➤ Wait for 911 operator to hang up first

If the accident involves a gunshot injury, CASANDRA K. SABELLICO or SHARON JALETTE will secure the injured's gun and preserve the scene as it appeared at the time of the incident (range staff may take on this role).

LORIANN STARR will go to the entrance of the Range and direct EMS personnel to the scene.



LISA LUDWIG will supervise the situation, and ensure fulfillment of emergency procedures by:

- Getting names of witnesses and taking statements.
- Providing EMS with medical history and emergency contact, if available (see Emergency Contact sheet).
- Notify emergency contact once EMS has examined the injured and prepared for transportation to a medical facility.
- Completing injury report forms.
- Documenting if the injury was due to unsafe range conditions or target placement; coordinating edging or pulling of targets, if necessary.
- Notifying officials of Range, and LIWFC BOD, that the safety plan has been activated.
- Evaluating emergency plan for possible revisions.
- Filing copies of the injury report form, and other records, as appropriate.