Tri-Cities Metallic Silhouette Association Range Rules

November 4th, 2026

UNIVERSAL SAFETY RULES

- Treat all guns as loaded
- Never point a gun at anything you are not willing to shoot or destroy.
- Never place your finger on the trigger until your sights are on the target.
- Always be sure of your target and what is behind it.

TCMSA KEY RULES

- Cold Range: Firearm handling forbidden, cased or uncased, anywhere on the range including the parking lot directly behind that range.
- Hot Range: Stay behind firing line; wear EYE/EAR PROTECTION forward of the parking pipe.
- No alcohol consumption and/or medication that inhibits judgment or physical control prior to or during range use.
- Fly the range flag when range is in use and stow when range is unoccupied.
- Use the strobe and horn safety system.
- Members must obey posted signage. Members are responsible for range safety; cooperation is mandatory.

DEFINITIONS

- CEASE FIRE: Command to IMMEDIATELY stop the discharge and handling of all firearms. COLD RANGE: Firearms are MADE SAFE and GROUNDED/HOLSTER SECURED.
- HOT RANGE: Firearm handling and discharge allowed. No one is allowed down range.
- FIRING LINE: Front edge of the concrete benches, extending left and right, includes all positions from the uncovered firing line to the handgun range. The firing line for the shotgun area is the front edge of the target throwers.
- GROUNDING: Place firearm on ground, bench, cradle, etc.; removing any physical contact. HOLSTERED SECURED: Handgun in a holster on a person and MADE SAFE (excluding open action).
- MADE SAFE: Firearms have the action open, unloaded and removable magazines are out of the firearm. Concealed handguns must be treated as any other firearm if they become visible.

RANGE CONTROL RULES

1. No hunting is allowed.
2. No automatic or simulated automatic fire allowed.
3. Members control range activities normally. During TCMSA sanctioned events and competitions, event director controls all users and activities of the range.
4. Members must coordinate with director prior to shooting during an event/competition. Follow event director directions; event director may expel people from the range.
5. Unless on the firing line, all firearms must be MADE SAFE.
6. All firearms must be cased, holstered secured, or MADE SAFE and pointed in a safe direction (up or down) when transferring a firearm to or away from the firing line.
7. After walking the line, making eye contact, obtaining agreement from all impacted persons, and confirming firearms have been made safe, any member may change a range's status to COLD. Before taking a range HOT, it must be confirmed everyone downrange has returned to the firing line and is ready to go HOT. Use the range audible devices to signal others of the range change; one blast for COLD and two for HOT. Then turn lights ON for COLD Range or OFF for HOT Range. The Restricted Area Light system must be used to enter any portion of the Restricted Area. Before accessing the Restricted Area (including the 200-yd line), agreement is required from all Sporter and Main Range users. Restricted Area Light system overrides ALL lights and all audible alarms. Main and Sporter Range lights are controlled by switches along the firing lines. The restricted area light system is controlled from a single station at the Sporter Range. Lights must be turned off at the same location that was used to turn the lights on.
8. Special Condition: Firearm may be handled during a COLD RANGE to facilitate setting up wind flags, chronographs, etc. Person requesting firearm handling must inform all other users on the range of the condition.

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9. Discharge all firearms with the muzzle at/on the firing line
10. All projectiles must impact in a berm, except for shotshell pellets.
11. Range is open from Sunrise to Sunset unless approved by a club officer.
12. Firing at an angle across the range is forbidden.
13. TCMSA restricts or closes the range for some events, competitions, or maintenance. Event director controls member access and use.
14. Events or competition rules may supersede TCMSA rules.

AMMO RULES

1. No tracer or incendiary ammunition.
2. No steel-core, armor-piercing, or bullets that are attracted to a magnet shall be fired at any steel target.
3. No .50 BMG.
4. Do not place unfired ammunition in the trash barrels.
5. No firearm ammunition other than shotshell, rimfire and typical pistol caliber cartridges (typical velocity less than 2000 fps) may be used on the Sporter Range.

TARGET RULES

1. No shotguns on club provided target frames. No exploding targets allowed.
2. Members must provide their own targets. Remove all target materials when finished.
3. Place targets so projectiles impact berm. Locate personal target frames to ensure projectiles impact middle 2/3 of berm.
4. Place targets where projectiles do not hit the frames.
5. Members purposefully destroying club-provided wooden frames, holders or steel targets may be disciplined.
6. Competition target frames/holders must not be used by members for general shooting.
7. Clay pigeons for rifle/pistol targets will be placed in the middle 2/3's of the berm. Ground level targets must be placed at the base of a berm.

MEMBER RULES

1. No smoking forward of the firing line.
2. Must be a member in good standing for unescorted access. Members and guests/visitors must wear badges. Guests/visitors are asked to donate $2 per day; member's spouse and anyone under 18 are exempt.
3. Keep gate combination secure. Non-members must not be given the combination.
4. Except for club scheduled events, members in good standing may control a maximum of 5 guests/visitors. Only 2 of a member's guests/visitors may handle firearms at the same time and only when the member is present and within a reasonable distance to stop unsafe acts. Keep children under direct supervision. Unsafe guests/visitors will be directed to leave.
5. Members and guests/visitors must sign in and out. Event participants signing in/out is determined by event director.
6. Close and lock the gate after passing. Gate may remain unlocked during public events. Event coordinator must lock gate at end of event.
7. Drive slowly on roads; stay on roads; do not park/block roads.
8. Shooters will not use more than one bench or firing position if other members are waiting to shoot.

COURTESY RULES

1. Members should remove all trash and targets when leaving the range including, as practical, empty brass and hulls