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U.S.P.S.A.

Practical Shooting Safety Check

Safety is the first concern in practical shooting. The Practical Shooting Safety Check lets the range officer see that the shooter has the equipment and gun handling skills needed for safe competition. The range officer conducting this orientation has to answer one basic question: "Is this shooter a safe shooter?"

CHALLENGE OPTION:

The shooter can short-cut the safety check process by demonstrating a DRY FIRE Vice Presidente. If the range officer believes the shooter dry-fired the course safely, the shooter may fire the exercise live. If the range officer believes the shooter performed the exercise safely, and would be a safe competitor, the range officer can sign the shooter's safety check card.

PASS EACH ITEM IN ORDER:

GEAR AND SAFETY EQUIPMENT INSPECTION: Does the shooter have:

- ___ 1. EYE PROTECTION: Shooting glasses, tempered eyeglasses.
- ___ 2. EAR PROTECTION: Suitable muffs or plugs.
- ___ 3. GUN BELT: Must be secured at waist level. (Hip level for ladies.)
- ___ 4. HOLSTER: Must cover trigger and meet IPSC rules.
- ___ 5. AMMO CARRIERS: Worn on the belt, positioned according to division requirements.
- ___ 6. HOLSTER TESTS: Holster must pass jump test (16" (40cm) jump and twist).

REVOLVER SAFETY CHECK: Does the pistol meet these checks:

- ___ 1. HAMMER BAR OR BLOCK FUNCTIONS: Check by cocking pistol, press trigger while holding hammer, release trigger and slowly lower hammer.
- ___ 2. TIMING ACCEPTABLE: Chambers line up with barrel as you rotate cylinder by pressing trigger double action.
- ___ 3. Cylinder does not have excessive fore and aft movement.

SEMI-AUTO SAFETY CHECK: Does the pistol meet these checks:

- ___ 1. **FUNCTIONING THUMB SAFETY:** Put safety on, firmly press trigger, remove trigger finger and take safety off. Hammer should not fall.
- ___ 2. **FUNCTIONING HALF-COCK NOTCH:** Hold hammer, press trigger, release trigger, slowly lower hammer: should stop at notch.
- ___ 3. **FUNCTIONING DISCONNECTOR:** Cock hammer. Move slide back about 1/8", press trigger. Hammer doesn't drop. (Distance can vary slightly.)

DEMONSTRATIONS AND PRACTICE WITH UNLOADED GUN:

- ___ 1. **BASIC RANGE SAFETY BRIEFING:** Four Laws of Gun Control, local range rules, Safety Areas, when to load and handle gun, muzzle control, 180 degree rule, unsafe gun handling defined.
- ___ 2. **RANGE COMMANDS DEMONSTRATION:** RO demonstrates the sequence of commands: Load & make ready...Are you ready...Stand by...Unload and show clear...Gun clear! Hammer down and holster.
- ___ 3. **RANGE COMMANDS EXERCISE:** Gun unloaded! Students perform appropriate actions for each of the commands. Practice Load & Unload.
- ___ 4. **SAFE DRAW AND FIRE DEMONSTRATION:** RO demonstrates how to draw, fire and reholster by the actions (1. GRIP, 2. CLEAR, 3. POINT 4. SMACK & CLICK, 5. SIGHT, 6. COMPRESSED SURPRISE BREAK, 7. RANGE READY POSITION, 8. REHOLSTER.)
- ___ 5. **DRAW AND FIRE DRY FIRE EXERCISE:** Gun unloaded! Students practice draw and fire by the numbers until the RO is satisfied they can do it safely.
- ___ 6. **SAFE MOVEMENT DEMONSTRATION:** RO demonstrates safe movement with gun in hand... opening a door, using a barricade, moving downrange. Stress constant muzzle control, safety on, finger extended.
- ___ 7. **SAFE MOVEMENT EXERCISE:** Gun unloaded! Students perform movements demonstrated by RO.
- ___ 8. **SAFE RELOADING DEMONSTRATION:** RO demonstrates safe reloading techniques. Stress muzzle control and extended trigger finger.
- ___ 9. **SAFE RELOADING EXERCISE:** Gun unloaded! Students perform safe reloads.

LIVE FIRE STUDENT SKILL DEMONSTRATIONS:

- ___ 1. LOAD AND UNLOAD: Commands: load and make ready; check your pistol; unload and show clear; gun clear; hammer down and holster.
- ___ 2. DRAW AND FIRE: By the numbers. Slow motion. At five yards, draw and fire. Slowly draw and fire one shot and reholster. Repeat 6 times.
- ___ 3. VICE PRESIDENTE: Face three targets at 10 yards. Draw and fire two shots per target. Reload. Repeat for total of 12 rounds.

BASIC RULES AND SCORING:

- ___ 1. COMSTOCK: Understand points-per-second scoring, minimum shots per target.
- ___ 2. VIRGINIA COUNT, TIMED FIRE: Understand shot limitations, time limitations, appropriate penalties.
- ___ 3. MISS PENALTY, NO-SHOOTS, FOOT FAULTS: Understand appropriate penalties.
- ___ 4. MAJOR/MINOR: Understand scoring of a target, power floors.
- ___ 5. DIVISION RULES: Explain requirements for the shooter's intended division (Open, Limited, Limited 10, Production, Revolver).
- ___ 6. CLASSIFICATION: Understand the basic classification structure (GM, M, A, B, C, D), existence of national system.

RANGE OFFICER'S EVALUATION OF SHOOTER:

SHOOTER'S NAME _____ DATE _____

The shooter is rated as:

- ___ OBSERVER: Your gun handling skills need more work before you can safely compete. You're invited to observe practical shooting matches to study techniques and procedures; sign up for the next sports clinic.
- ___ NEW SHOOTER - COACH THRU: You may shoot in the next club match as a "Coach-Thru." This means that the range officers will coach you through each stage, explaining what to do and how. You will be shooting for experience. Your scores will be recorded but will not count for prize or place as you have been coached.
- ___ UNCLASSIFIED SHOOTER: You may compete in the next match as an Unclassified shooter. You will be eligible for overall placement awards only.

BY: RANGE OFFICER _____ CERT _____

Shooter: Show this form at match registration.