

# Leominster Sportsmen's Association

## Rifle Range Safety Briefing

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## Current NRA Certified – LSA Rifle Range Safety Officers

Name	NRA Certification	Email Address
Dave Kistler	Chief Range Safety Officer	DEKistler@comcast.net
Chris Atkin	Range Safety Officer	chrisatkin@mac.com
Carol Benoit	Range Safety Officer	cbenoit65@gmail.com
Don Benoit	Range Safety Officer	dwbenoit49@gmail.com
Gary Bergeron	Range Safety Officer	GaryTwoWolves@gmail.com
James Breault	Range Safety Officer	wheellinjj@verizon.net
Sharon Breault	Range Safety Officer	dynagirl63@verizon.net
Lenny Butlier	Range Safety Officer	C_LButilier@hotmail.com
Tom Clark	Range Safety Officer	bruins1970@verizon.net
Paul Dibenedetto	Range Safety Officer	Lawman91@verizon.net
Roger LaFleur	Range Safety Officer	Lafleur.Roger@gmail.com
Matt Lichenstein	Range Safety Officer	manosdelfuego1@verizon.net
Art O'Leary	Range Safety Officer	oleary5150@comcast.net
Jacques Perrault	Range Safety Officer	jp@mythicconsulting.com

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## Current NRA Certified – LSA Rifle Range Safety Officers

Name	NRA Certification	Email Address
Ralph Romano	Range Safety Officer	ralph@rromano.com
Stephan Reis	Chief Range Safety Officer	Stephanhome@verizon.net
Mike Wyrzykowski	Range Safety Officer	Mw3020@aol.com
Eric Zaharee	Range Safety Officer	ericzaharee@comcast.net

# Leominster Sportsmen's Association

Who may use the Rifle Range and what are the hours?

## **Members - Range Certified:**

Any day except when the range is closed, 8AM to Sunset. White Flags will be displayed in the flag holders when the range is closed. You may not change the status of a closed range.

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## **Members - Non-Range Certified:**

May use the range only when an LSA RSO is on duty. You must attend a briefing before you may purchase a key and range badge.

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## **Non-Members**

Sunday, 9AM to 12PM (Noon), unless a guest of a Range Certified Member.

# Leominster Sportsmen's Association

Who may use the Rifle Range and what are the hours?

## Guests:

- 1 shooting guest per LSA Member that has been Range Certified. I.e. while a member may bring multiple guests, only one can be shooting while the member is also shooting (see below). If your guest has little experience handling a firearm, we suggest that you closely supervise them while handling and shooting all firearms
- No more than two benches may be used at any given time, by LSA Members with shooting guests. (No more than one shooter per bench at a time.)

# Leominster Sportsmen's Association

How do I get certified?

## **Range Certified Members:**

Must be paid up for their current annual dues or they must be LSA Life Members and they must have attended a mandatory LSA Rifle Range safety briefing.

Upon attending the range briefing, you must present your current membership card or a receipt (if you haven't received your card yet) to purchase your new key and range badge.

Once you have completed the briefing you will receive your LSA Rifle Range Badge for a fee of \$8.00 and may also purchase a new range key for an additional \$2.00.

Your badge must be visible at all times for easy identification by the RSOs on duty. The badge will come with a special LSA lanyard so that you can easily display it while at the range.

# Leominster Sportsmen's Association

Do I have to attend a briefing every year?

**NO:**

You will not have to attend another LSA Rifle Range Safety briefing after your initial certification.

However, if you want to continue to use the range, you will need to purchase a new badge annually for a fee of \$5.00. **NOTE: Range badges for Life Members are good forever and will not need to be repurchased annually.**

You will need to show your current membership card and turn in your old range badge to purchase a new range badge.

This fee will be used for range improvements and maintenance throughout the year.

# Leominster Sportsmen's Association

Do I need this badge at other LSA ranges?

## **NOT at this time:**

### **Trap and Skeet Range**

Is open to the public, but is only open on posted hours (see Trap and Skeet on our website) and there will always be a Range Officer on duty. Check with the Trap & Skeet Committee chairman for more details.

### **Black Powder**

Shooters must be accompanied by a black powder range officer or a member of the Black Powder Committee (see our website). Check with the Black Powder Committee chairman for more details.

### **Indoor Pistol**

You may only use the Indoor Pistol range when there is a range officer on duty. Usually there is a range officer on duty on Monday evenings, Thursday evenings and Sunday mornings. Check with the Indoor Pistol Committee chairman for more details.



# Leominster Sportsmen's Association

## Rifle Range Operating Rules

- The Range Safety Officer on duty has full authority over the range while he/she is on duty. What they ask you to do is in the best interest of safety for all shooters on the range. Please follow their instructions!
- No illegal firearms are allowed on the property and those in possession of such will be reported to proper authorities. I.e. firearms with silencers installed.
- Shooters will conduct themselves in an orderly manner at all times and are also responsible for the conduct of their guests.

# Leominster Sportsmen's Association

## Rifle Range Operating Rules

- Any person(s) without a Firearms Identification card (FID) or a License to Carry (LTC) must be accompanied by a member who is licensed for the type of firearm they will be using. An FID or LTC is required for long guns, an LTC is required for handguns.
- Children under 18 **MUST** be accompanied by an adult and **THAT ADULT IS SOLELY RESPONSIBLE** for that child's safety. You will be asked to leave the range if your child is not under your close supervision, as determined by a Range Safety Officer.
- Children under 18 with an **FID** card may not use the range without adult supervision.

# Leominster Sportsmen's Association

## Range Operating Procedures

### **Signing In:**

Each time you visit the range you must sign in to an LSA Range Log and provide us with information about your visit. Your name, badge number, time, and number of guests. The Range log is in the Range House.

Guests including the non-member general public to whom the range is open to on Sunday mornings from 9AM to noon, must also sign in to a LSA Rifle Range guest book which is also in the Range House.

# Leominster Sportsmen's Association

## Range Operating Procedures

### **Voluntary Donations:**

There is a voluntary donation box in the Range House for anyone who would like to contribute to the development and maintenance of the range. Most of the range work is done by individuals who volunteer their time. However, materials still cost money and every little bit helps.

RSOs may pass the hat to ask for "Change for the Range" donations as well.

Anything you can offer will be greatly appreciated and put to good use.

# Leominster Sportsmen's Association

## Range Operating Procedures - **Facilities for Use**

### **Range House:**

The range house is primarily designed for competitions (especially winter rifle matches) and range overflow as determined by an RSO. Currently the range house shooting positions are only to be used for the 100 yard backstop. **THE RANGE HOUSE IS NOT FOR STORING MEMBER TARGET FRAMES or DISPOSAL OF RUBBISH !!!! KEEP IT CLEAN AT ALL TIMES!!!**

### **Storage Shed:**

The storage shed is divided into two sections. One side for the storage of range equipment and the other side for the general membership to use to store their target frames or other equipment (at your own risk) if you wish.

It is not the responsibility of the Range Committee to keep this section for the general membership, clean. The LSA is not responsible for stolen, lost, or destroyed items that are left in the shed. Your range key opens the gate, the range house and this side of the shed only.

# Leominster Sportsmen's Association

## Range Operating Procedures - **Facilities for Use**

### **Storage Shed (continued):**

1. Storage in the member-side shed is limited to LSA-authorized wooden target frames (as published on the LSA website rifle page).
2. All frames must be stored upright, with both legs touching the floor. The owner's name must be clearly visible as viewed from the door of the shed.
3. Any frame not meeting the above criteria, and any other items and materials will be removed from the shed by LSA RSO's on a regular basis and discarded.

# Leominster Sportsmen's Association

## Range Operating Procedures

### Facilities for use:

- Upper and Lower Ranges operate as one range (currently).
- Upper range is on your left as you drive in;  
Lower range is on your right as you drive in.
- Upper range is for any handgun, rimfire rifles, centerfire rifles (**designed for handgun ammunition**), muzzleloading firearms, and shotguns only. Handtrapping is allowed. **NO HIGH POWER RIFLES** ie. no centerfire cartridges with velocities exceeding 1600 fps!!!
- Lower range is for any LSA authorized firearm, (handguns, rifles, shotguns, and muzzleloaders) rimfire or centerfire up to .50 BMG caliber.

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## Range Operating Procedures

### Range Layout and Limits:

- **Red painted area** is the firing line. You may handle your firearm, load it and fire it down range at a target only when you're in the RED area and the RED flag is displayed. There should only be one shooter per firing point on the firing line. Coaches or parents are allowed on the line, but not shooting at the same time.
- **Yellow painted area** is the staging area. Do not handle your firearm in this area other than to store them in the range gun racks. Your firearm must be visibly unloaded with chamber open (if possible; hinge action firearms are the only exception) in this area. Please use an Empty Chamber Indicator (ECI) if you have one. An RSO may offer you one if we have them available.
- **Green painted area** (upper range – to be completed) is the observation area. No firearms should be uncased in the green area.
- You **MAY** have a holstered firearm that is on your person and in your immediate control anywhere on the range.



# Leominster Sportsmen's Association

## Range Operating Procedures

### **Authorized Targets:**

#### **Paper**

All targets must be placed in such a way as to ensure that a projectile(s) passing through the target goes into the backstop immediately behind it.

#### **Steel**

Steel must be angled in such a way as to deflect projectiles towards the ground directly below the target. All steel targets must be at a minimum distance of 50 ft. for handgun cartridges (centerfire /rimfire) and rimfire rifles and 100 yds for centerfire rifles. **Lead bullets only**, no copper plated or jacketed bullets.

# Leominster Sportsmen's Association

## Range Operating Procedures

### **Authorized Targets:**

#### **Polymer**

Polymer (rubbery plastic) targets that are designed to be used on a rifle range are OK to use as long as they are secured (can't bounce around the range) and directly in front of a backstop.

**ALL OTHER TARGETS MUST BE APPROVED BY AN LSA RANGE SAFETY OFFICER AND IT IS SOLEY AT THEIR DISCRETION!**

# Leominster Sportsmen's Association

## Site Specific Safety Rules - **Flags and Range Commands**

**White Flag** means the range is **CLOSED**. Only an RSO or a club official is permitted to remove a **White Flag!!!**

### **Range Commands:**

#### **“Cease Fire”**

- 1. Stop shooting immediately!**
- 2. Await further instructions from an RSO or the person who has called a Cease Fire.**

# Leominster Sportsmen's Association

## Site Specific Safety Rules - Flags and Range Commands

- **RED** flag means the range is **HOT, do not cross the firing line.**

**Command : "Range is HOT"**

You must ensure that no one is down range or that no condition exists that would endanger someone's safety or create an unsafe condition before declaring that the **"Range is HOT"**.

- **GREEN** flag means the range is **CLEAR**, it is safe to cross the firing line.

**Command : "Range is Clear"**

**ALL** firearms must be "benched" with the action open, magazines removed, safeties on and facing up for all to see that the chamber is empty, before issuing a **"Range is Clear"** command. Please use an Empty Chamber Indicator (ECI) if you have one.

# Leominster Sportsmen's Association

## General Safety Rules

- **Treat every firearm as if it were loaded!**
- **Always** keep the muzzle pointed in a safe direction!
- **Always** keep your finger off the trigger until ready to shoot!
- **Always** keep the firearm unloaded until you are ready to use it!
- **Never** handle a firearm or anything else on the firing line during a green flag!

# Leominster Sportsmen's Association

## General Safety Rules

- Use of drugs or alcohol, before or during shooting is strictly prohibited. Alcoholic beverages or drugs are not allowed on the range at anytime.
- **NO SMOKING** on the firing line or in the staging area!

# Leominster Sportsmen's Association

## Site Specific Safety Rules

- Eye and Ear protection is required for any and all personnel on the LSA rifle range.
- Absolutely no pets are allowed on the LSA rifle range unless the range is closed.
- All shooters are responsible for their own firearms, equipment and ammunition while on the rifle range. Firearms on the firing line, that are out of their case and not being fired must be **benched**.  
ie. Actions open and facing up, chambers empty, magazines removed, muzzles pointing downrange and safeties on (if applicable).
- You are responsible to issue a cease-fire command if you believe an unsafe condition exists or a safety infraction has occurred. You are then also responsible to issue a “commence firing” command when the condition is resolved.

# Leominster Sportsmen's Association

## Site Specific Safety Rules

- Muzzles should be **all the way forward on the firing line**, not behind other shooters on the line.
- Do not shoot diagonally across shooting lanes.
- Tracer and incendiary ammunition is not permitted at any time.
- Don't shoot at low targets where bullets will glance off of the ground and fly out of the range area.
- **Don't place clay targets or other targets on the railroad ties**, you will eventually destroy the railroad ties and we'll have to replace it.
- Don't shoot into the woods. I.e. Don't shoot over the 50 yard backstop on the upper range or 100 yard backstop on the lower range.
- Don't shoot animals that happen on to the range!



# Leominster Sportsmen's Association

## Range Operating Procedures

### Hangfires

- In the event of a “hangfire” (firing mechanism worked but cartridge or load doesn't fire) keep the muzzle pointed down range for 30 seconds for modern cartridges and 2 minutes for black powder firearms.

### Malfunctions/Stoppages

- In the event of a malfunction or stoppage where your firearm is loaded but not operating properly, keep the muzzle pointed down range, raise your hand and ask for assistance from an RSO. You should never leave the range with a loaded firearm, so you must do everything possible to get the firearm safely unloaded.

# Leominster Sportsmen's Association

## Range Operating Procedures

### **Range/Safety Infractions or Violations:**

In the event that a safety infraction or violation occurs, an RSO will call for a "Cease Fire" and let the person or party involved know about the problem and explain the rules that apply, in an effort to ensure that it's not repeated. If the same violation is repeated by the same individual or party, the RSO will politely ask that individual or party to leave the range. In the event that the offender is uncooperative, the RSO will close the range until the issue is resolved and report the issue to the Chief Range Safety Officer who will in turn notify the Board of Directors for further action.

The RSO may involve the Leominster Police if in his/her judgment the situation requires their assistance.

# Leominster Sportsmen's Association

## CLEAN UP!

- Pick up your empty brass and take it with you or deposit them in the “Empty Brass” container. Please **pick up your empty shotshell hulls and dispose of them at HOME**.
- Pick up any unfired rounds and take them home or put them in the “Dud” bucket.
- Take home any used targets, ammo boxes, coffee cups, or other trash etc. that you may have brought with you. **DO NOT ROLL UP YOUR RUBBISH AND STICK IT IN THE BRASS BUCKETS! PLEASE!**
- Do not leave your target stands or used targets on the range.
- Storage space is tight and we cannot guarantee the condition of your target frame or equipment upon your return to the range.

# Leominster Sportsmen's Association

## Emergency Procedure!

Someone gets hurt!

- The RSO will take charge of the situation by calling a “Cease Fire”, “Unload” and request everyone to “Bench” their firearms immediately.
- In the event that an RSO is not on duty, work together to put someone in charge.
- Assess/determine the seriousness of the injury.
- If the injury is of a serious nature, requiring professional medical and supervisory assistance, CLOSE the range until the situation is resolved and under control.
- If an RSO is on duty, he/she shall make the decision to call 911, not the injured party.
- If supervisory help is required, follow 911 procedure, call and stay on the phone; wait for the EMS to hang up first. Post someone on the road to assist the emergency vehicles with where to go.
- Keep the area clear for emergency people to resolve the situation.
- RSO or identified person in charge should follow up with an Emergency Report sheet. (Available in the Storage Shed)

# Leominster Sportsmen's Association

## Wrap Up!

**If you accidentally damage any of the buildings or other LSA assets, please let us know immediately so we can repair them before other damage occurs.** With your help the LSA Rifle Range can be the pride of Massachusetts' shooting ranges; if you think something should be cleaned up, take a minute to help us out and keep the range clean. If you have ideas that will make the range safer, more fun, and a great place to share with your fellow members, your family and your friends, let us know and let's work together!

**Safety and Safe Shooting are no Accidents!**

**Carelessness and Ignorance are the top two reasons for accidents with firearms!**

**BE SMART, BE SAFE, BE CLEAN, and HAVE FUN!**