

# **Kamloops Target Sports Association**

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## **Range Officer Training Course 2007**





# KTSA Range Safety Officer Course

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- LESSON I: Welcome
- OBJECTIVES
  - Understand the purpose of the RSO Course
  - Explain procedures for becoming an RSO





# About Your Instructor

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- Ice Breaker ... Full Name
- Experience & Training
  - RSO Military Training Counselor
  - KTSA Chief Range Officer
  - DND Certified Instructor
- Occupation





# Student Introductions

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- Full Name
- Relevant experience
  - Shooting, training, certifications, competition, other
- Shooting involvement
- Occupation
- How will you use RSO training?





# General Introduction

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- No Live Ammo in Classroom
- Schedule of Events
- Facilities
- Security





## Course Goal

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- To develop KTSA Certified RSOs who possess the **KNOWLEDGE, SKILLS, & ATTITUDES** to organize, conduct, & supervise safe shooting activities & range operations





# Course Lessons

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- Defining the role of the RSO
- Purpose of range Safety Policy
- Procedures to check range prior to live fire
- Range safety briefing
- Emergency procedures
- How to safely unload firearms
- How to correct firearm malfunctions





# Certification Requirements

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- Attend the entire course.
- Participate in discussions and exercises
- Demonstrate Knowledge, Skills and Attitudes appropriate for RSO
- Pass the practical... run a range under CRO supervision! Then be a card Carrier







# LESSON II

## Role of the RSO

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- OBJECTIVES

- Understand the role of the RSO
- Understand the purpose for Range Safety Policy and SOPs





# The Role of the RSO

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- The Range Safety Officer (RSO) supervises shooting activities as detailed in the Schedule iaw the range Safety Policy





# The Role of the CRO

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- The Chief Range Officer (CRO)
  - Train RSOs
  - Responsible for entire range premises
  - Develops range SOPs for different disciplines
  - Inspects range for safety issues & advises club Executive of unsafe practices or issues
  - Closes range when necessary





# How to Become a CRO

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- Become an certified instructor & examiner
- Teach for at least 2 years
- Become a KTSA RSO
- Be appointed by the Club
- Be willing to put up with politics
- There is no stand-alone CRO course
- Club can promote RSO to CRO by special application





# Range SOPs

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- Contents determined by range owner
  - Organizational information
  - Range capabilities
  - Range operations
  - Range rules & regulations
  - Emergency response plans



# LESSON III

## Range Inspection & Rules

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- OBJECTIVES

1. Basic inspection procedures for indoor range
2. Basic inspection procedures for outdoor range
3. Four types of shooting range rules & how each type applies to the handling and use of firearms





# RSO Range Check-in Procedures

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- Check in at the range office
- Pick up equipment & materials
  - Range handbook (SOPs)
  - First aid kit
  - Communications equipment
  - Keys, etc.
  - Range flags





# Range Inspection

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- Facility SOPs provide inspection procedures
- Ensure that each item is checked
- Each range is unique
- Check SOPs for the specific range
- Use your own GOOD judgment.







# Indoor Range Inspection

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- Condition of range on arrival: clean or dirty?
- Lighting set correctly?
- Air-flow system working properly?
- Impact area functional and free of personnel?
- Target carriers working properly?
- Targets ready?
- Communication & backup system(s) working?
- Safety briefing prepared?
- Emergency procedures reviewed and checked?





# Outdoor Range Inspection

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- Condition of range on arrival: clean or dirty?
- Impact area functional?
- Downrange area free of personnel or Cattle?
- Target holders working properly?
- Targets ready?
- Communication & backup system(s) working?
- Safety briefing prepared?
- Emergency procedures reviewed & checked?
- Baffles, berms, & flags checked?





# Firearm Safety

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- Shooting incidents are very rare on ranges!
  - Suicides at commercial ranges that rent guns
  - Negligent gun handling
  - Unsafe range facilities
- How can RSOs help prevent problems on the range?
  - Educate users
  - Provide direct range supervision (Not Firing)
  - Enforce shooting range safety rules





# Categories of Range Rules

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- Gun Safety Rules
  - Vital 4 ACTS safe handling
  - PROVE for using or storing guns
- General range rules
- Site-specific range rules
- Administrative rules





# Canadian Gun Safety Rules

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## Vital 4 **ACTS** for Safe Gun Handling

1. **A**LWAYS assume the gun is loaded
2. **C**ONTROL the muzzle
3. **T**RIGGER finger "off" until ready to fire
4. **S**EE that gun is empty by **P**ROVEing it





# PROVE

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**P**oint the firearm in a safe direction

**R**emove the source of ammunition

**O**bserve the chamber

**V**erify the feed path

**E**xamine the bore





# General Gun Safety Rules

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## Eight rules for using or storing a gun

1. Know your target & what is beyond
2. Be sure the gun is safe to operate
3. Know how to use the gun safely
4. Use only correct ammunition
5. Wear eye & ear protection





# Gun Safety Rules

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6. NEVER use alcohol or drugs before or while shooting
7. Store guns so they are NOT accessible to unauthorized persons
8. Be aware that certain types of guns & many shooting activities require additional precaution







# General Range Safety Rules

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- Know and obey all range rules
- Know where others are at all times
- Shoot only at authorized targets





# General Range Safety Rules

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- Designate an RSO when none is present or assigned (consensus during informal practice)
- Do not handle firearms or stand at firing line where firearms are present while others are downrange
- Stop shooting immediately upon the command **“CEASE FIRING”**





# General Range Safety Rules

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- Hygiene guidelines (shooting & cleaning)
  - Refrain from eating, drinking, smoking, applying makeup, or placing your hands in proximity to your mouth or nose while on the range or cleaning a gun
  - Dispose of cleaning patches
- Change & wash clothing after a shoot or gun cleaning session
  - minimize exposure to airborne particulate lead, solvent, & cleaning residues





# General Range Safety Rules

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- Special Concerns

- Pregnant women, children under seven, & others with concerns should consult a physician before visiting shooting ranges
- Lead exposure is the primary risk factor for young children & pregnant women
- Amniotic fluid protects the child in the womb, and manufacturers produce child-size hearing protectors and safety glasses





# SITE-SPECIFIC Range Safety Rules

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- Tailored for a specific shooting range
- License is posted for all to read
- Specifies authorized firearms, calibers and limitations
- Provides rules for special types of shooting events, e.g., muzzleloading





# ADMINISTRATIVE Range Safety Rules

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- Provide policy rules of the range
  - Govern how the range facility operates
  - Hours of operation
  - Parking policies
  - Schedule of activities



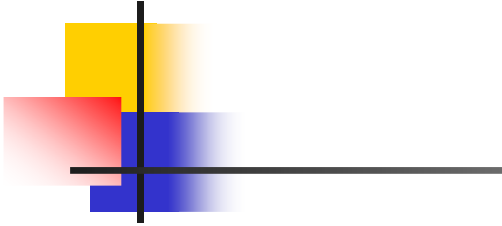


# Enforcement of Range Rules

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- The range Safety Policy guides the RSO and users
  - Educate to reduce incidents
  - Warning
  - Penalties
  - Removal from range
  - Loss of range access













## LESSON IV

# Range Safety Briefing

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- OBJECTIVES:
  - Explain the purpose of a range safety briefing
  - Conduct a range safety briefing







# Range Safety Briefing

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- **WHAT:**
  - Prepares shooters to safely participate in shooting events
- **WHEN:**
  - Conducted immediately prior to event.
- **WHERE:**
  - Conducted within view of the range.





# Range Safety Briefing Topics

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- Purpose of the Shooting Event
- Range Layout and Limits
- Range Safety Rules
- Firing Line Commands
- Emergency Procedures





# Purpose of the Shooting Event

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- Introduce yourself and staff
- Inform all shooters of what occurs during live fire
- Examples
  - Open shooting (recreation)
  - Zeroing firearms
  - Match
  - Training session





# Range Layout

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- **EXAMPLES**





# Range Safety Rules

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- Range Safety Policies guide RSOs
  - Gun Safety Rules
  - General Range Rules
  - Site-Specific Range Rules
  - Administrative Rules







# Firing Line Commands

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- What command can be issued by anyone?
- What are the advantages of using standard range commands?
- What are the characteristics of effective range commands?





# Firing Line Commands

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- LOAD
- MAKE READY
- IS THE LINE READY?
- FIRE!
- CEASE FIRE!
- UNLOAD
- SHOW CLEAR
- RANGE IS SAFE





# Emergency Procedures

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- Establish procedures for everyone to follow
  - RSO takes charge of the situation
  - Render aid
  - Call for help (911)
  - Direct help to location.
  - Take notes (write report).





# LESSON V

## EMERGENCY PROCEDURES

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- OBJECTIVES
  - Explain the purpose of having emergency procedures
  - Identify the steps to take during an emergency
  - Conduct an emergency exercise





# Purpose of Emergency Procedures

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- Minimize confusion during an emergency
- Save time responding to an emergency
- May reduce insurance costs





# Emergency Procedures

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- Standardize steps & order performed
  - Take charge of the situation
  - Render aid
  - Call for help
  - Direct medical help to location
  - Take notes (report, photos).





# Take Charge

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- Cease firing, unload, & stay in place
- Evaluate the situation (minor or major?)
- Designate helpers if necessary
  - Render first aid
  - Call for help
  - Direct medical help to location
  - Take notes (reports, photos)





# Render Aid

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- Training and Equipment
  - First aid training & CPR recommended
  - Contact doctor's office for first-aid kit requirements
- Good Samaritan Law







# Render Aid

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- Aid
  - Determine level of care (treat? Call for help?)
- Gather information for emergency phone call
  - Medical information questions on event sign up form?





# Call for Help

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- Checklist on how to make the call
  - Have phone numbers or radio emergency channel
  - Give dispatcher necessary information:
    - Location (911 address)
    - Phone number
    - Your name
    - What happened
    - How many people injured and their condition
    - Location of person who will direct help to the scene
    - Secure path to the scene (gates, doors, etc)





## Direct Medical Help to Location

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- Position one or more persons to direct the emergency vehicle
  - On main road to entrance of the facility
  - On road to range
  - Outside the building





# Take Notes

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- Take notes on the times actions were taken
- Get statements from witnesses
- Take photos (disposable camera in first aid kit?)
- Complete required SOP form
- Notify authorities if necessary



# LESSON VI

# STOPPAGES & MALFUNCTIONS

## ■ OBJECTIVES

- Know the difference between a stoppage and a malfunction
- Demonstrate how to safely take a firearm from a shooter.
- Demonstrate how to clear common stoppages.





# What is a Stoppage

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- A stoppage is an unintentional interruption in the operational cycle of a firearm.
- Examples
  - Bolt fails to lock the cartridge in position
  - Double Feed
  - Failure of the cylinder to rotate in a revolver





# Cycle of Operation

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- Cycle of Operation has 8 Steps
  - Feeding
  - Chambering
  - Locking
  - Firing
  - Unlocking
  - Extracting
  - Ejecting
  - Cocking





# What is a Malfunction

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- The failure of a firearm to function as designed or fire satisfactorily
- Two categories
  - Firearm malfunction (broken sear)
  - Ammo malfunction (misfire, double charge)







# Ammunition Malfunctions

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- Misfire
- Hangfire
- Squib load
- What should the shooter do?
  - Keep the gun pointed in a safe direction and wait 30+ seconds
  - Raise the non-shooting hand for assistance or clear it, if the shooter knows how





# Clear a Stoppage

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- What do we need to know?
  - Parts of the firearm
  - How to SAFELY operate the firearm
    - Load
    - Fire
    - Unload





# Take Control of a Loaded Firearm

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- Approach from non-dominant side (left, for a right handed shooter).
- Grasp the barrel with **your** non-dominant hand. Control the muzzle.
- Have the shooter step back.
- Use your strong hand to control the firearm.
- Determine the stoppage, clear it and unload the firearm.
- Tell the shooter what went wrong and how to prevent it from happening again.





# Action Types

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- Long guns (rifles and shotguns)
  - Single shot
  - Break open
  - Pump
  - Lever
  - Bolt
  - Semi-Auto





# Action Types

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- Handguns
  - Double action revolver
  - Single action revolver
  - Semi-automatic pistols
- Muzzleloading firearms
- Air guns and BB guns





## General Rule for Unloading Long Guns

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- ALWAYS keep the gun pointed in a safe direction.
- ALWAYS keep your finger off the trigger.
- Remove the ammunition source.
- Open the action.
- Physically and visually inspect the chamber and magazine areas.
- Leave the action open and engage the mechanical safety.





# Range Safety Evaluation

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- What is needed to make your ranges safer?
  - Equipment?
  - Personnel?
  - Facilities?
  - Procedures?



# LESSON VII

## THE TEST

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- Open Book
- 90% to pass
- Review questions missed
- Chief RSO signs off on test







# Submitting the Application

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- RSO Application form signed by CRO
- processing fee (not included in tuition)

