



## **BLACK CAT AIR RIFLE CLUB RULES AND REGULATIONS: 2024**

Below are listed the rules which ALL members and visitors must adhere to whilst in attendance and as a member/representative of Black Cat Air Rifle Club.

Along with these club rules it is expected that ALL members and visitors will conduct themselves in a manner of which they expect to be treated themselves. Black Cat Air Rifle Club has a Zero tolerance policy for any form of abusive behaviour toward other members or visitors. This includes the use of the club's social media presence including WhatsApp / Facebook and the Web Site. Any form of bullying or discrimination (of ANY form) WILL NOT BE TOLLERATED should be reported to the committee and will be dealt with on a case-by-case basis.

### **GENERAL RULES**

- ALL members are requested (where possible) to use the 'Black Cat Visitor Page' on Whatsapp to communicate that they will be attending the range. This should be done no more than 24 hours in advance of their intended visit along with a rough idea of visiting times to inform other members of when someone else will be at the club.
- ALL members and visitors must sign in before commencing shooting. Failure to do so could invalidate the club's insurance and is essential.
- Any rifle that is used at the club may NOT exceed 12ft lbs in muzzle energy. Any pistol or rifle used in the indoor range my NOT exceed 6ft lbs. in muzzle energy. The club reserves the right to periodically test members, and visitors' rifles using an approved chronograph. Anyone who's gun is found to be exceeding the legal limits will be asked to leave the range immediately.
- Shooting can only take place after 9am on any given day and up until dusk. The club is open to FULL members 7 days a week.
- ALL new members of the club are subject to a probation period of three months. During the probation period new members may only use the club on Wednesdays, Saturdays and Sundays (providing there is a full member in attendance). Bank Holidays are classed as part of the

weekend, therefore Visitors and Probationary members may attend providing there are other full members in attendance.

- Visitors may also only attend on Wednesdays, Saturdays and Sundays. Due to insurance restrictions, visitors to Black Cat Air Rifle Club may attend three times. After the third occasion they must apply to become a full member before visiting again.
- Visitors under the age of 18 must be accompanied by a parent or guardian. However, in the event of visitors under the age of 18 being at the club unsupervised by parent or guardian, ie. a visiting group, then prior arrangements must be made to ensure a full member of Black Cat Air Rifle Club, with a current DBS certificate, is in attendance.
- There must be at least two members in attendance to shoot. At no time can any member or visitor shoot unaccompanied without another full BCARC member in attendance.
- All Rifles and Pistols must be brought to and from the range in a secure case or rifle bag. Once a rifle or pistol has been removed from the firing bench it must be secured into a case or bag.
- Any lead pellet can be used in any calibre providing they fall within the legal boundaries of the sub 12ft lb. legal limit. Air Soft rifles and pistols are acceptable but at NO time can steel BB's be used at the club.
- Reactive targets are not to be used at the club. This means any target that has any form of charge which will create a reaction when struck. Tin cans, bottles and CO2 cartridges are not to be placed on the range at any time.
- ALL members and visitors are required to take their rubbish home with them. This includes empty pellet tins and Co2 cartridges. Also, all targets are to be removed from the ranges once finished with.
- Smoking is NOT allowed on the benches.
- Please keep all unnecessary items off the shooting benches. Bags, cases and other paraphernalia which is not required to shoot should be kept away from the benches at all times.

- There may be times when the benches are full, and people are waiting to shoot. Members are asked to be mindful of those waiting and be prepared to vacate the bench to allow others their turn.

## **OUTDOOR RANGE**

The following rules and safety guidelines are to be followed at all times with immediate effect:

The Whistle/Airhorn may only be blown at the following times:

- On the hour
- 20 Minutes past the hour
- 20 Minutes to the hour

This will be done using a Single blast from whistle or airhorn provided.

The Person responsible for the whistle / airhorn will be responsible for the range and the safe conduct of ALL shooters present. When a cease fire is requested on the range it is to be made safe (in the manner below) and the following MUST take place:

- All Shooters MUST remove any magazine and discharge their gun.
- Cocking Levers are to be left in the open position, and Springers are to be left either with a broken barrel or, the under lever not in place. All Rifles and Pistols must be left pointing down range.
- All shooters MUST shout 'CLEAR' and STEP AWAY from bench (if physically able)
- AT NO TIME must any gun be TOUCHED whilst the range has been declared safe. (This includes filling of air or any adjustment)
- The person responsible can then declare the Range Safe and place the red flag onto the range.

Then, and ONLY THEN can members proceed down range.

When all members have finished on the range, they MUST report to the person blowing ceasefire to confirm they are off the range.

Before returning behind the firing line, the person responsible for the range will then confirm the range is clear, they will ask for verbal confirmation that all members are off the range and safe. Once this has been done the red flag will be removed from the range. Then, and ONLY THEN can the person responsible for the range give two short blasts of a whistle / air horn and shout 'Range Live'.

Shooters can only return to the benches and touch their rifles/pistols after 'ALL' of the above has taken place.

## HFT Course

The course is open all year round provided the ground permits it. It can and does get waterlogged especially during the winter months.

The course is **closed on Saturday mornings until after 13:00**. This is a mandatory requirement to allow "The Companions of the Longbow" to shoot in the field adjacent to the HFT course.

## INDOOR RANGE

The following rules and safety guidelines are to be followed at all times with immediate effect:

The Person responsible for calling a ceasefire will be responsible for range and safe conduct of ALL shooters present. When a cease fire is requested on the indoor range it is to be made safe (in the manner below) and the following MUST take place:

- All Shooters MUST remove any magazine and discharge their gun. If a single shot Pistol or Rifle is being used it must be discharged safely.
- All Pistols and Rifles are to be placed on the benches pointing down range, and cocking Levers are to be left in the open where possible.
- All shooters MUST shout 'CLEAR' and STEP AWAY from bench (if physically able)
- AT NO TIME must any gun be TOUCHED whilst the range has been declared safe. (This includes filling of air or any adjustment)
- The person responsible can then declare the Range Safe.

Then, and ONLY THEN can members proceed down range.

When all members have finished on the range, they MUST report to person who called for the ceasefire to confirm they are off the range.

Before returning behind the firing line, the person responsible for the range will then confirm the range is clear, they will ask for verbal confirmation that all members are off the range and safe. Then, and ONLY THEN can the person responsible for the range declare the Range Live by shouting 'Range Live'.

Shooters can only return to the benches and touch their rifles/pistols after 'ALL' of the above has taken place.

At ALL times whilst the range is in use the protective tapes must be pulled across the rear of lanes in the indoor range.

ANY Air Rifle or Pistol exceeding 6ft lbs. in muzzle energy is not to be used in the indoor range.