

STANDARD OPERATION PROCEDURES

BB & Pellet Gun RANGE

J. Edward Mack Scout Reservation & Bashore Scout Reservation

For requirements refer to the Boy Scouts of America National Shooting Sports Manual and Guide to Safe Scouting for the rules on operating a BB or Pellet Gun range. Below are additions or clarifications.

Range Opening Inspections:

- All equipment must be inspected daily before use. Any equipment deemed unsafe should be immediately taken out of service and reported to the Camp Ranger.
- Physical range must be inspected daily before use. Any situation deemed unsafe requires the range to be immediately shut down and the range is not to be reopened until the situation is corrected. Any unsafe condition should be immediately documented using a BSA Incident Report Form and be reported to the Camp Ranger and Council Shooting Sports Chair immediately so they can be involved in assessing and correcting the situation.

Minimum Participant Age:

- No person under age 6 is allowed to participate in BB gun shooting
- No person under age 9 is allowed to participate in Pellet Gun Shooting.

Ammunition:

Ammunition must be appropriate for the type of firearm being used. Refer to the user manual for the specific firearm to determine the correct ammunition.

No ammunition larger than .177 caliber may be used.

Firearms:

BB or Pellet Guns must be of a style that requires they be individually cocked between each shot. Automatic and Semi-automatic BB or Pellet Guns are not allowed.

BB gun is defined as a smoothbore spring-piston or air rifle used to propel shot known as "BBs" or "pellets"

Air rifles may not exceed a muzzle velocity of 540 feet per second with an energy level not to exceed 7.5 joules. BB guns may not exceed a muzzle velocity of 350 feet per second.

Range Rules:

Scouts do not have to load one BB/pellet at a time and shoot before loading another bb/pellet. Scouts can load at one time all the BBs/pellets they are given.

Cub Scouts of all ages may use BB guns. Pellet rifles are reserved for use of Webelos Scouts (4th & 5th Grade Cub Scouts) and above.

All Cub Scout shooting of BB guns/pellet rifles must use the "coach-pupil" method in which an adult works 1-on-1 with each Cub. In most circumstances this should be a parent or adult leader. These individuals do not have to be certified as BSA Range Masters or NRA Instructors as long as required RSO & Range Master/Instructor ratios are met.

Shooting at targets that are thrown into the air is prohibited.

Actions are to be open with safety on at all times except when on the line and ready to shoot. BB guns and Pellet Rifles not in use must have an open chamber indicator inserted which is visible from chamber to muzzle.

Eye and ear protection is mandatory and required by all persons on the range during live fire. This also includes all spectators in the ready area.

Acceptable targets are paper, bull's-eye, competition paper targets, or aluminum cans and soft plastic bottles suspended from a string so not to cause a ricochet; also steel spinners targets that are commercially available are permitted, as long as they are placed at a safe distance. Targets that shatter, explode, or could cause a ricochet are not permitted (i.e.-glass, CD/DVD disc, etc.). No human silhouette/shaped targets may be used including zombie targets.

Police your brass, targets, and other trash when finished shooting. Then place trash in proper trash containers.

All RSO and Instructor range commands must be followed by all shooters, and spectators.

RSOs and Instructors will be identified by wearing bright colored vests.

Horse play of any kind is not permitted on range and can lead to being immediately expelled from the range. (Remember the buddy rule)

Spectators are not permitted to talk to or to heckle shooters on the line at any time, and are not to carry on conversations when the range is in use for safety reasons.

Shooters are not to talk to each other as this can lead to distractions and waste of their allotted shooting time.

Shooters are to fire at their own targets only (example shooter 3 doesn't shoot at shooter 4's target).

Cub Scout-Webelos Scouts are not permitted to participate in any firearm shooting of 22 rifles.

BB/Pellet Range Commands

1. Enter To The Waiting Line

- a. Shooters step up to waiting line behind assigned shooting position

2. On the Line

- a. Shooters and any assistants move to the firing line, take a seat, and put on ear and eye protection.

3. Ready on the Line

- a. Shooters pick up their BB/Pellet Gun and place it into the shooting rest keeping their finger off the trigger and safety on. Shooter sights their target

4. Push Safety Off and Commence Firing

- a. Shooters fire allotted round one at a time

5. Cease Fire

- a. Shooters immediately stop shooting, put down BB/Pellet gun, put the safety on, and open the action.

6. Clear all Guns

- a. Shooters remove ear and eye protection and step back to the waiting line. Shooters remain there until dismissed.

7. Range Officer Check That All Chambers Are Open and Safeties Are On

- a. Instructor/Rangemaster checks all firearms and reports to RSO

8. Retrieve Targets and Replace With A New Target

- a. Ensure firing line is clear. At Mack ensure that the archery range is also clear before allowing anyone out to retrieve their target.