

BESA RANGE RULES

Revised May 2021

I. Purpose

To ensure the health and safety of members and non-members who use or frequent the Bald Eagle Sportsmen's Association facility. (See the by-laws for additional rules and restrictions.)

II. Definitions

- A. BOD: Board of Directors
- B. BESA: Bald Eagle Sportsmen's Association
- C. GUEST: Family member, relative or friend of a member.

III. Administrative Rules:

A. Hours of Operation

1. Monday through Friday: 8:00 AM to 8:00 PM
2. Saturday: 10:00 AM to 5:00 PM
3. Sunday firearm shooting is prohibited. **Exception:** The firearm range is open the six Sundays preceding the firearm deer season. 12 PM to 5 PM (*Sight-in days*)
4. **HOLIDAYS.** Firearm ranges are closed: Memorial Day weekend, the **WEEK** of the Fourth-of-July, and Labor Day weekend.
5. Exception: Archery and Air guns are allowed anytime.

B. Speed limit on the road is posted at 10 MPH. Driving faster damages the road.

C. When range is open to the public, ALL rifle, pistol, and archery shooters must register at the range office. Shotgun shooters must register on the trap and skeet range. All shooters must pay applicable range fees. On the rifle range, if there isn't shooting space available, a member may wait, or pay the range fee and shoot as the paying public.

D. Safety and liability require:

1. Range safety officers must be present on any of the three-pistol/rifle ranges during public hours for shooting on that range to be allowed, either by the public or members.
2. The same rule applies to the shotgun range.
3. ALL ranges will be considered HOT unless indicated otherwise.

E. Members may bring up to three guests to use the range during operating hours. Members are responsible for the behavior and safety of their guests and act as RSO while guests are shooting. Members must stay with guests while on BESA property. Guests must pay any non-member fees when the range is open to the public.

F. Members are prohibited from lending their key/card to anyone. A violation will result in disciplinary action by the BOD

G. Members wishing to use BESA property for commercial use, a group activity, overnight camping, or other use of the property requires written request and prior BOD approval.

H. Club events will have preference over Law Enforcement rentals.

IV. General Rules

A. Consumption of alcoholic beverages or illegal drugs is absolutely prohibited during shooting hours (M-F 8AM-8PM, Sat 10AM-5PM, Sun 12PM-5PM). Anyone who consumes during these times or appears to be under the influence of alcohol or a controlled substance shall not be permitted to shoot and will be required to leave BESA property.

B. Firearms must be unloaded and cased on the rifle range until in designated shooting area. On the trap and skeet range see "C" of *Gun Handling Rules* for shotguns.

(Exception: BESA sponsored shooting event.)

A safe area must be provided for the handling of these firearms.

C. Hearing and Eye protection is required on all firearm ranges. Hearing protection is to be worn within twenty-five (25) feet of shooting areas.

D. Individuals under eighteen (18) years of age must be supervised by the adult or member who brought them to the range, whether they are shooting or not. Exception: Minors with a valid DNR firearm safety certificate may shoot when the range is open to the public. Minor sons and daughters of members shoot at member fees.

E. Shooting of anything other than paper targets or BOD approved targets is prohibited. Targets of any kind that depict recognizable humans or their likeness are prohibited. Law enforcement training is exempt from this section.

- F. Commercially manufactured reactive targets (paper, ballistic plastic or metallic only) may be used subject to the following conditions:(1) Spinners or tip targets must be up off of the ground, (2) Tip targets must be of the resetting type or be able to be reset from the firing line, (3) Targets are to be placed as close to the backstop as possible (4) Only rimfire cartridges are allowed (5) Gong type targets are not allowed.
- G. The BOD must approve all shooting events.
- H. The intentional destruction of BESA property will result in loss of membership.
- I. Hunting, trapping, or snowmobiling is prohibited on BESA property. Off road vehicles must have BOD approval.
- J. Wood cutting is prohibited unless approved by BOD n
- K. Pets must be leashed or confined on shooting fields when shooters are present and droppings must be picked up in groomed areas and where people generally walk.

V. Gun Handling Rules

- A. Always point the muzzle in a safe direction, down range at all times.
- B. Handguns must be raised from a lowered position to acquire the target.
- C. All uncased firearms must be unloaded with the action open at all times until ready to fire on the firing line. Break action shotguns may be placed in the gun rack with the action closed. The action must be open while the gun is being moved.
- D. During public shooting hours only one uncased firearm is to be on the shooter's bench.
- E. Be sure the firearm is compatible with the ammunition.
- F. Shoot only at the target that corresponds with the table number.
- G. Stand away from the shooting bench, behind the painted line and do not handle firearms, magazines or ammunition while line is closed and anyone is down range.
- H. Be aware that certain circumstances may require additional rules.

VI. Specific Range Rules:

- A. Shooting outside of designated areas is prohibited.
- B. Hand held muzzle-loading firearms only.
- C. Remove targets and pickup spent cases/hulls when done shooting.
- D. Place target in the center of the target frame. On the twenty-five (25) yard range, maintain proper target height so the projectile strikes the backstop, not the ground.
- E. The shooting of shotgun slugs must be done on the rifle range and the patterning of shotguns done on the pattern frame on 50yd rifle range.
- F. No arrow shall be nocked until at the shooting station.
- G. The carrying of concealed or holstered handguns is prohibited with limited exception for law enforcement officers, carry permit holders and individuals participating in a BESA sponsored shooting event. (A safe area must be provided for the handling of these firearms.)
- H. The shooting of automatic firearms is restricted to **MEMBERS** only who have *Class II, Class III, or Form Four* documents or those who are shooting under their direct supervision. They must have their *Form Four* with them to shoot these firearms. Where practical, shooting of these firearms will be restricted to the twenty-five (25) yard range. Target frames are to be removed and targets are to be placed on the backstop. Sustained fire is not allowed. Shooting must be of short bursts only.
- J. A shooter may occupy only one bench when other shooters are waiting.
- K. BESA Members are required to have their BESA membership card on their person and visible while on the property. Any member can ask to another member to show his/her card for identification. Non-compliant members will be asked to leave.
- L. The discharge of a firearm by any member or member's guest outside of the shooting hours designated in section IIIa will result in forfeiture of the member's gate card for a period of 90 days. During that 90 day period the suspended member must perform 24 hours of additional work time. The nature, time and date of the work will be designated by a board member for the optimum benefit of the Association. A second violation by that member during the membership will result in termination of that membership.

A member charged with violating any of the above rules will be summoned to appear before the club Board of Directors at the next scheduled board meeting.

BESA Board of Directors