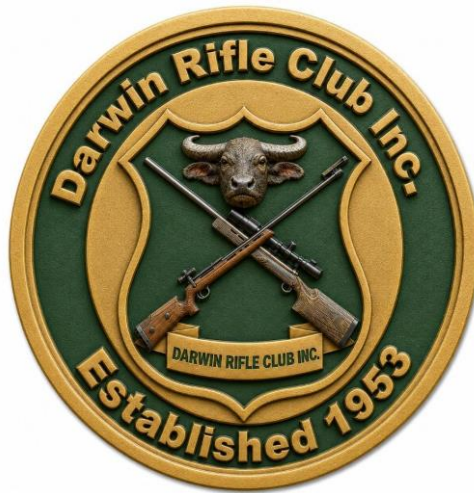




Darwin Rifle Club (Inc.)

Range Standing Orders

Version 1.9, 08 October 2026

Prepared for: the DRC Management Committee

Approval authority: Stephen Martin, Captain, Darwin Rifle Club Inc.

Date of Committee approval: 08 October 2026

Next review due: October 2028, or earlier on any change to the Certificates of Approval, the NRAA Standard Shooting Rules, or the Firearms Act 1997 (NT)

Approved for release and use by the DRC Committee.

Signed: *S. J. Martin*

Stephen Martin
Captain
Darwin Rifle Club Inc.

Amendment Record

This Range Standing Orders document is a live document. Amendments approved by the DRC Committee are to be recorded below, and the document is to be reviewed in accordance with the review date stated on the approval page.

No.	Date	Chapter/Para Amended	Details of Amendment	Approved By
Nil	Sept 2026	-	Initial release, Version 1.8	DRC Committee
1	Oct 2026	All	Review and update. Statutory citations corrected in Part 7. Part 5 aligned with the NT Police Certificates of Approval and the Firearms Act 1997 (NT). Safety procedures aligned with NRAA Standard Shooting Rules Version 2.0. Incident reporting rewritten. Electronic target calibre limit clarified. Abbreviations and definitions added.	DRC Committee

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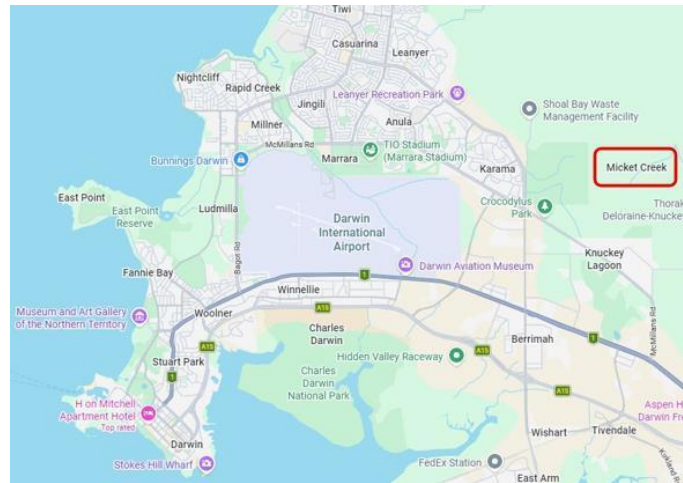
Abbreviations and Definitions

The following abbreviations and terms are used in these Standing Orders.

Term	Meaning
Butts Officer	The person appointed by the Range Officer to take charge of the marker's gallery while it is occupied.
Certificate of Approval	The instrument issued by the Commissioner of Police under section 49 of the Firearms Act 1997 (NT) approving a DRC range as approved premises. The two current Certificates are at Appendices C and D.
Check scorer	A second scorer who verifies the scorer's record and, where present, witnesses the clearance of a rifle.
Committee	The DRC Management Committee.
CRO	Chief Range Officer. The Range Officer in overall charge where more than one Range Officer is appointed, or where shooting is conducted on more than one range or bank concurrently.
DRC	Darwin Rifle Club Inc.
ECI	Empty Chamber Indicator. See clause 5.12 for the required specification.
FP	Firing point.
Guest	A person who is not a member and who is present at the invitation of a member, whether or not they shoot.
Mantlet	The protective wall in front of the marker's gallery.
MO	Match Official.
NRAA	National Rifle Association of Australia.
NTRA	Northern Territory Rifle Association.
RO	Range Officer. A person accredited as a Range Officer by the NRAA and appointed by the Committee, or the nominated person of a third-party user that has sole use of the range.
Scorer	A Range Officer's assistant, responsible for assisting the Range Officer and in particular for ensuring that unloading, clearing and insertion of an ECI occurs before a competitor leaves the firing point.
SSR	The NRAA Standard Shooting Rules, currently Version 2.0 effective 1 January 2026, as amended from time to time.
Standing Orders	This document.
Stop butt	The earth bank behind the targets that arrests projectiles.
Template	The approved range danger area template at Appendix B.
Third party	A user other than a DRC member or their guest, approved by the Committee under clause 4.4.

1. INTRODUCTION

The Darwin Rifle Club (DRC) is situated within the Mickett Creek Shooting Complex to the North East of Darwin CBD.



Mickett Creek Shooting Complex location map.

1. The DRC primarily operates long range competition rifle shooting under the Standard Shooting Rules (SSR), currently Version 2.0 effective 1 January 2026, as governed by the National Rifle Association of Australia (NRAA). These Standing Orders are to be read together with the SSR for all DRC shooting events.
2. These Range Standing Orders (RSO) outline the standing instructions applicable for all range use as endorsed by the DRC Management Committee.
3. These Standing Orders apply to all use of DRC ranges at all times. Where these Standing Orders and the SSR differ, the more stringent safety requirement applies. Nothing in the SSR or in these Standing Orders authorises any activity outside the NT Police Certificates of Approval at Appendices C and D, which prevail over both.
4. The DRC operate two ranges, one being a 1100-meter full bore range for centrefire cartridges and the other being a 25-meter small bore range for rimfire cartridges.

2. EXECUTIVE AUTHORITY

1. The DRC Management Committee, as the executive authority of the DRC ranges, require all users of the ranges to have read these Standing Orders and to fully comply with the rules and guidance provided within this document. The DRC Committee reserves the right as necessary, to enforce these rules or where appropriate, ban personnel from DRC where they have been found to breach these Standing Orders and / or the NRAA SSR. Any suspension or expulsion of a member is to follow the disciplinary procedure in the DRC constitution and the NRAA Complaints, Disputes and Discipline Policy. A direction to leave the range under clause 5.16 is a separate and immediate safety power and is not affected by this clause.
2. The DRC Committee is responsible for ensuring that these Standing Orders are reviewed at least every two years, and are reviewed and updated on each occasion there has been an amendment to the range approval certificate for any approved range on the complex, to the NRAA Standard Shooting Rules, or to the Firearms Act 1997 (NT) or its Regulations.
3. Third parties, being Commonwealth and Northern Territory law enforcement agencies, Northern Territory Government departments, accredited and authorised firearm training providers and the Australian Defence Force may book and use the full-bore range only. A commercial firearms training provider must hold a firearms instructor licence under section 30C of the Firearms Act 1997 (NT), and is to produce it before approval is given.
4. The range approval certificate excludes third-party use of the small-bore range. Third party use must comply with the requirements of the Northern Territory Police issued range approval certificate.
5. Australian Defence Force use is additionally subject to Defence's own requirements. Defence policy requires a civilian range to hold a current Certificate of Range Safety Compliance under the Defence Training Area Management Manual before ADF personnel or cadets may live fire on it. Approval by the DRC Committee under clause 4.4 does not satisfy that requirement.

3. THE DARWIN RIFLE CLUB

1. Facilities and Amenities.

- a. The DRC ranges are located within the Mickett Creek Shooting Complex, which is accessible from Brandt Road with a local access road 20m within the entry to the Complex. DRC consists of:
 - i. The DRC Clubhouse, adjacent Caretakers cottage and the primary DRC storage / machinery shed.
 - ii. A toilet and laundry block located to the west of the club house. All toilets in the complex use septic tanks; and
 - iii. A storage shed at the end of the full-bore range, to the east of the butts.

2. Ranges.

- a. The DRC has two ranges, being:
 - i. An 1100m large calibre (full-bore) range located to the west of the club house which consist of 30 target positions divided into 3 lanes (A, B and C). 6 of these targets (C1-6) are fitted with HEXTA electronic target systems; and
 - ii. A 25m small calibre (small-bore) range adjacent to the eastern side of the club house, facing north.

Note: Range templates overlap, please refer to appendices.

4. ALL USER REQUIREMENTS

1. Range Access.

- a. Access to the range is controlled through clear signs that only authorised activities are permitted. Only appointed club officials are to have access to keys to the range complex and supporting buildings and these keys are not to be copied or loaned unless written approval is obtained from the DRC Committee. No other locks are to be fitted without the express approval of the DRC Committee.

2. Timings.

- a. Live firing usually occurs during the hours of 7.30am and 7pm daily. In the event of a national, Territory, district or designated local championships, range operating hours may be extended with the prior approval of the DRC Committee.
- b. Night shooting (to be developed).

3. Range Usage Days/Times.

- a. The DRC use the range for competition and training throughout the year. An annual events calendar is produced and disseminated to all members and third-party users.

4. Range Bookings.

- a. Casual use of the range can occur without prior notice or booking. DRC members can book through the Club Secretary or on a casual range use basis.
- b. Third-Party range booking requests for use of the range must be directed to the DRC Committee for approval. The DRC Committee is the sole approving authority for Third-Party range users. In submitting an application for use, the Third Party will need to:
 - i. Provide a certificate of currency for public liability insurance, and sign a range use agreement containing an indemnity in favour of the club and an acknowledgment of these Standing Orders;
 - ii. Identify an appropriately qualified person to supervise the practice, normally a Range Officer or licensed Firearm Instructor, and produce that person's accreditation or instructor licence.
 - iii. Identify the dates and times of the proposed access/use.
 - iv. Detail any administrative support required, including use of club facilities, targets, Range Officer etc.
 - v. Acknowledge that the Third Party has been issued with a copy of these Range Standing Orders and is willing to sign the Range Register.
- c. All third-party range users will be required to pay either a corporate membership fee or a daily access fee to the DRC. Additional fees may be charged for any administrative support provided. The fee pricing schedule is available from DRC.

5. Range Closure Periods.

- a. Range closure periods will be notified on the DRC website and via social media.
- b. The DRC Committee may decide to close the range during periods of extreme and inclement weather, where use of vehicles on the range and shooting may cause excessive damage, and during aerial insect spraying or other maintenance activity within or in the immediate vicinity of the range templates.

6. Danger Flags.

a. **Red danger flags** (no smaller than 1.2m x 0.9m) are to be positioned at all times when firearms are being discharged on DRC ranges at the following locations:

- i. Full-bore, on the flag pole at the full-bore range entrance.
- ii. Small bore, on the flag pole parallel to the DRC access road.
- iii. Red flags are to be lowered or removed when shooting has been completed and the range is not being used to discharge firearms.

b. **A Blue flag** (no smaller than 1.2m x 0.9m) flying at either range indicates that maintenance is occurring on that range and shooting is prohibited.

- i. **Blue flags** are to be lowered or removed when maintenance has been completed.

c. Where a red flag is used at the firing point itself, it is to be placed to the side of the firing point or approximately 5 metres behind it (SSR rule 2.8.1.3).

7. Range Register, Attendance for the Purpose of Live Firing.

a. All personnel are to sign the Range Register (located inside the DRC club-house) before moving onto the firing point on any of the live fire ranges. Once live firing is completed, personnel are to sign out. This also applies to all third-party users.

b. The Range Register is to record, for each person: name; firearms licence number and the State or Territory that issued it, or an entry identifying them as a supervised guest and naming the supervising member; time in; and time out. For each session it is also to record the Range Officer or person in charge, and the times for which they were responsible.

c. The Range Register is a club record kept under section 30B of the Firearms Act 1997 (NT). It is to be produced on demand to a police officer, and is to be retained indefinitely. The Act requires records of past as well as present members and prescribes no disposal date.

d. Where the Club Secretary has notified the Range Officer or person in charge that a member's firearms licence has been suspended or revoked, that member is not to be permitted to use a firearm on DRC ranges (section 58B of the Firearms Act 1997, maximum penalty 500 penalty units).

e. A visiting competitor holding an interstate licence signs the Register with their home State or Territory licence number. Regulation 33 of the Firearms Regulations 1997 permits an interstate Category A or B licence holder residing temporarily in the Territory to possess and use their firearm without a Territory licence, and the Firearms Amendment Act 2026 extended interstate holders' ability to possess and use firearms and to purchase ammunition in the Territory.

8. Week Day Use of the DRC.

a. Personnel who use the range during the week are to ensure that they comply with the following directions:

b. All Range Officers or duly appointed club members with access are responsible for ensuring that all personnel have left the range, the red flag at the front entrance is lowered and the gate is locked on departing the DRC.

c. Where other practices or approved activities are occurring and personnel are present on the range; all Range Officers are responsible for conducting a handover with the remaining Range Officer or person in charge. This handover is to include who is remaining on the range and the need for the gate to be secured upon exiting the DRC.

- d. The committee or secretary is to notify the caretaker of any agreed week day range use.

9. Concurrent use of ranges.

- a. Concurrent use of ranges is not permitted under any circumstances.
- b. The small-bore range may only be used after a DRC member has personally inspected, cleared and closed the full-bore range (including target shed) to ensure no persons are present and the range is clear, and has reported that inspection to the persons about to shoot on the small-bore range. The inspection and the report are to be recorded in the Range Register.

10. Restricted Areas.

- a. The Caretaker's residence adjacent to the DRC clubhouse, including the area bounded by the DRC access road and the access road leading to the DRC shed, is out-of-bounds to all personnel. This does not preclude access to the front door of the caretaker's residence for public inquiries during business hours (7.30 am to 4 pm).
- b. The target storage shed and DRC storage / machinery shed are off limits for non-members unless directly supervised by a member at all times.

5. DISCHARGE OF FIREARMS AT THE DRC

1. Supervision of Safety, Member use.

- a. Members using the range for personal use, including supervision of an unlicensed shooter, are responsible for their own safety and that of their guests.
- b. Where casual use occurs outside a club event and no accredited Range Officer is present, the member who signs the Range Register as "person in charge" assumes the responsibilities given to the Range Officer in this Part for all persons then on the range.
- c. A member shooting alone on the full-bore range is to notify the Caretaker or another member of their expected finishing time before commencing.

2. Supervision of Safety, DRC Events and Third-party use.

- a. The responsibility for supervision of safety remains with the certified Range Officer (NRAA certified) or the specifically nominated person of a third-party user which has sole use of the range. The DRC Committee will formally appoint and record 'approved' DRC Range Officers at the first committee meeting held each calendar year.

3. Range Officers.

- a. All firearm discharges on all ranges on the DRC complex, excluding casual use by a member under clause 5.1, must be controlled by a duly appointed and certified Range Officer or the specifically nominated person of a third-party user which has sole use of the range.
- b. The Range Officer / Nominated Person is responsible for the safe conduct of all shooting under their control and the actions of personnel whilst on the range. Firearms must not be discharged until the Range Officer / Nominated Person so authorises. The Range Officer / Nominated Person is to ensure that shooting is conducted in a safe manner and in accordance with the rules listed in these Range Standing Orders and the Northern Territory Firearms Act 1997 and Regulations; and in the case of DRC shoots, in accordance with the NRAA SSR.
- c. NRAA Range Officer accreditation lapses five years after it is granted and requires a refresher course to maintain. The annual record of approved Range Officers kept under clause 5.2 is to record each Range Officer's accreditation expiry date.
- d. Range Officers and other range officials must be individual members of the NRAA for insurance purposes (SSR rule 3.1.1.3).
- e. One Range Officer is required per ten competitors or, for Bisley style shooting, per ten targets. A Chief Range Officer is to be appointed where shooting is conducted on more than one bank or on more than one range concurrently (SSR rules 2.4.1.1 and 2.4.2.2).
- f. The DRC will maintain a list of qualified Range Officers which is to be updated annually.

4. Unlicensed shooters.

- a. DRC supports the promotion of safe, responsible shooting and the growth of rifle shooting as a sport. A person who does not hold a firearms licence may use a firearm on DRC ranges as a guest permitted by the club under section 30A(1)(c) of the Firearms Act 1997 (NT), and only while in the company of and under the direct supervision of a member who holds a licence for the category of firearm being used (section 58(3) of that Act).

- b. Members are responsible for the safety and actions of their guests at all times. The supervising member carries the duties imposed by section 58A of the Firearms Act 1997, and is not to supervise more than one unlicensed shooter at a time.
- c. It is DRC policy that an unlicensed shooter is under direct supervision at all times while in possession of a firearm, whether or not the Firearms Act would require it in the particular case.
- d. A member is not to hand a firearm to any other person, licensed or not, without first inspecting that person's licence or confirming that they are a supervised guest under this clause (section 88 of the Firearms Act 1997).
- e. A person who holds a firearms club junior licence may use a firearm only under the personal supervision of the holder of a licence of the same category, and only for instruction in the safe use of firearms or for competition (section 28 of the Firearms Act 1997).
- f. A person subject to a firearm prohibition order must not enter DRC ranges. A shooting range is prohibited premises for such a person under section 49D of the Firearms Act 1997.
- g. All children are to be closely supervised when in the vicinity of any firing point and particularly when shooting is in progress.

5. Type of Firearms Approved for Use on the Range, Full-bore range.

- a. Any rifle lawfully registered and possessed under the user's Northern Territory licence, or under an interstate licence recognised under the Firearms Act 1997, may be used on the full-bore range, subject to the Certificate of Approval at Appendix C.
- b. The Certificate of Approval excludes all firearms chambered for the .50 Calibre BMG cartridge and any round derived from it. The Commissioner of Police has declared such firearms to be Category D under section 8(1)(a) of the Firearms Act 1997. Category D firearms cannot be licensed for sports shooting in the Territory, because regulation 13 of the Firearms Regulations 1997 does not include sports shooting among the genuine reasons for a Category D licence. Firearms chambered for the .55 Boys cartridge or any larger round, and anti-materiel and anti-tank firearms, are declared Category D on the same basis.
- c. Ammunition used on this range for NRAA accredited competition shooting is not to exceed 8mm in calibre.

6. Type of Firearms Approved for Use on the Range, Small-bore range.

- a. Only firearms approved for use in the Certificate of Approval for the range in use can be used. The Certificate at Appendix D permits rimfire calibres only: Category A rimfire rifles of all action types, and rimfire pistols of single shot, revolver and semi-automatic action. Shotguns are not permitted. Impenetrable targets are not permitted.
- b. Archery may be conducted on the small-bore range only with the approval of the DRC Committee, under the control of a person nominated by the Committee, and never while any firearm is in use on either range. Crossbows are not permitted.

7. Firing points and target lanes.

- a. All firing within DRC is to occur from the designated firing points towards the targets.
- b. Firing into target lanes where DRC electronic targets are in place, is only permitted while those targets are in use.

8. Procedure Before Firing Commences.

- a. The Range Officer is to ensure the following actions have occurred prior to commencing firing:
 - i. Danger flags are in place.
 - ii. A first aid kit is within close proximity.
 - iii. All ranges in the danger area forward of the firing point are not occupied and that the observable danger area is clear of personnel and livestock before firing is authorised.
 - iv. Shooters are not under the influence of drugs or alcohol.
 - v. Prior to commencing shooting for the first time each day, each competitor carries out the SSR vigorous cycle test in the presence of the scorer, who marks the score card passed or failed (SSR rules 2.6.7 and 2.6.8). A rifle that fails the test is declared unsafe and is not to be used.

9. Use of Benches.

- a. Benches are permitted on the firing point during competitions to support shooters with impaired mobility upon production of a medical certificate and committee approval.
- b. In NRAA competition two separate pathways apply. Under SSR rule 2.10.5 a competitor may apply to the Match Director at least seven days before the first match for modifications to rifle, clothing, equipment or procedure, supported by a doctor's certificate; the authority is issued by the NTRA or the competition controlling body for twelve months, or as an enduring authority for a permanent disability. Separately, under SSR rule 2.10.6 a competitor whose physical impairment precludes the designated position is allowed to fire from the position of the next higher degree of difficulty, which for Target Rifle and Sporter means prone to a bench, provided the position is permitted on the range and the impairment does not affect safe handling.
- c. At 700 yards and beyond, all shooting is to be conducted in the prone supported position or from a bench (SSR rule 2.10.4).
- d. Casual and third-party shooters are permitted to use benches at any time.

10. Shooting equipment not in use.

- a. All equipment not being used by a shooter on the firing point is to be located at least 5 metres behind the firing point.

11. Stuck Live Round.

- a. If a malfunction results in a stuck live round which cannot be simply removed from the chamber, the Range Officer must be notified immediately. The rifle is to be made safe and removed from the range to a person qualified to conduct the remedial action needed. Under no circumstances is an attempt to be made to remove the round by insertion of a cleaning rod or similar item from the muzzle.

12. Clearance of Firearms.

- a. Before retiring from a firing point each firer must go through the unloading motions with the muzzle pointing towards the target and then remove the bolt from the rifle. Before the firer retires from the firing point, they shall present the breech of the rifle to the scorer and check scorer (when one is present) so that they can verify that the chamber of the rifle is empty by looking through the chamber and down the barrel.
- b. Where the bolt cannot be removed, the action is to be opened and locked back. The magazine is to be removed and presented to the scorer, and is to remain out of the rifle when retiring from the firing

point. An internal magazine is to have its floor plate opened and presented. A single shot follower is to be removed during unloading and to remain out of the rifle (SSR rules 2.6.13 to 2.6.13.2).

c. An empty chamber indicator is to be inserted after the rifle has been confirmed clear by whoever does the checking at the firing point and before the firer leaves the firing point.

d. An Empty Chamber Indicator for a centrefire rifle is to have a rod not less than 200 mm long and 4.5 mm in diameter, and a flag protruding from the breech not less than 65 mm long and 40 mm wide. For a rimfire firearm the figures are 120 mm and 3.7 mm for the rod and 35 mm by 25 mm for the flag. The flag is to be of a colour-blind friendly colour and of a material that will not damage or contaminate the chamber (SSR rule 2.13.1).

e. A rifle is unattended once the competitor is more than one metre away from it for any period. An unattended rifle on the firing point is to be unloaded with the bolt removed and an ECI inserted, muzzle towards the target area, left in the rest or bipod, and for Target Rifle laid on its side with the ECI flag pointing upwards so that it is clearly visible. An unattended rifle is not to be removed from the firing point until it has been inspected (SSR rule 2.6.14).

13. Conclusion of Shooting.

a. The Range Officer is to ensure the following actions have occurred at the conclusion of shooting:

- i. Firearms are cleared and empty chamber indicators inserted before removal from the firing point in accordance with the designated rules under which the shoot is being conducted.
- ii. All targets and rubbish have been collected and put away or disposed of.
- iii. All equipment used is returned to its designated storage area.
- iv. Danger flags are removed or lowered.
- v. The Range Register is completed, with all persons signed out.

14. Non-Standard Targets and Ammunition.

a. Glass targets and rocks used as targets are banned from all ranges and any non-standard targets must be approved by the DRC Committee prior to use.

b. The use of falling (swinging) steel plate targets is permitted on the full-bore range on lanes A5 to C5 only, as required by the Certificate of Approval. These must be placed in purpose-built bullet traps or placed in front of the mantlet at the lowest point practical.

c. No unauthorised steel plate targets are to be used.

d. The use of impenetrable targets on the small-bore range is not permitted.

e. At no time are improvised targets to be placed on top of the mantlet.

f. Ammunition with a core of steel or other hardened material, depleted uranium, or an incendiary or tracer compound, and projectiles of monolithic construction or with a discarding jacket or sabot, are not to be used on any DRC range. Centrefire projectiles are to be of lead and copper construction (SSR rules 2.12.2 and 2.12.3).

g. Only lead and copper construction projectiles are to be fired at steel plate targets.

15. Shooter Safety Responsibilities.

a. Shooters have the responsibility to comply with the following rules:

- i. No one shall use the range while under the influence of alcohol or drugs.

- ii. Firearms must be handled with the utmost care, carried with actions open, bolt removed, or where the bolt cannot be removed with the action open and locked back, and empty chamber indicator inserted.
 - iii. When picking up or receiving a firearm, the receiver must verify that it is unloaded and pointed in a safe direction.
 - iv. The firearm action can only be closed and/or cocked when the firearm is on the firing point and is pointed in the direction of the target or for trigger testing under the supervision of a Range Officer.
 - v. No firearm is to be removed from the firing mound/point unless it has been inspected and cleared by the Scorer or Range Officer and the empty chamber indicator inserted.
 - vi. On the command "CEASE FIRE", which may be called by any person on the range who sees an unsafe act or the potential for one, all firers must stop firing, unload, open, and remove their firearm bolts (or open and lock the action where the bolt cannot be removed), insert the empty chamber indicator and await further commands from the Range Officer. The command "STOP STOP STOP" or three blasts from a whistle may be used in addition and has the same effect.
 - vii. All personnel will follow the directions of the Range Officer.
- b. No person will step or extend any part of their body beyond the firing line unless authorised to do so by the Range Officer, either directly or under the general command that the range is clear.
 - c. All firearms on the range must be in good mechanical condition and function safely.
 - d. Any person who is aware of any misbehaviour, firearm or cartridge condition likely to cause danger or damage, must notify the Range Officer immediately.
 - e. No unsupervised spectator is permitted closer than 10 meters from the firing mound/point at any time.
 - f. When not in use, firearms are to be secured to prevent interference or theft. Other people's firearms or equipment are not to be touched without the owner's permission.
 - g. In the event of an accident or malfunction, call the range officer immediately. Do not open the bolt or attempt to remedy the problem. Leave the firearm pointing down range at the target.

16. Behaviour.

- a. The DRC require that all competitors and range users will apply appropriate behaviour during the conduct of shooting and all DRC related events. The DRC is bound through the NRAA and NTRA to uphold the requirements and principles of the Sport Integrity Australia (SIA) policies under the National Integrity Framework, which stipulates the required behaviour of all participants. Those policies apply to DRC as a member organisation of the NRAA and to its committee members, officials and Range Officers. They are adopted as current from time to time and are published by the NRAA.
- b. All competitors and range users are to behave in a lawful, ethical, fair and respectful manner at all times whilst on DRC grounds and ranges.
- c. Shooting Etiquette. All range users should adhere to the basic rules of sportsmanship and etiquette while competing. The etiquette rules are:
 - i. Safety first, ensure you always act in a safe and controlled manner in accordance with these Standing Orders.
 - ii. Treat everyone with respect and be polite.
 - iii. Know and comply with the competition rules and these Standing Orders.

- iv. Keep your firing positions and equipment within your firing point (FP) area.
 - v. Talking on the FP must be confined to shooting business, i.e. between RO, competitor and scorer.
 - vi. Avoid actions that might disturb other competitors.
 - vii. Never act out or display anger.
 - viii. Vow to remain calm, cool and controlled no matter what happens.
 - ix. Follow directions and cooperate with RO and Match Officials (MO), they are there to help.
 - x. Do your part to make sports shooting a great experience for all.
- d. No range user or guest shall act in a manner that is unsafe, or that is contrary to applicable Federal or Territory legislation, regulations or procedures, or that detracts from the sport's public image.
- e. Range users, spectators, officials and / or guests who do not comply with the range safety protocols and the required standards of behaviour and etiquette will be directed to leave the range and / or the club precinct by the Range Officer or a committee member.
- f. Where an incident on the range gives the club concern that a member is not a fit and proper person to possess a firearm, the Committee is to consider its duty under section 101(3) of the Firearms Act 1997, which requires the club to report such a concern to the Commissioner of Police without delay. Where the club expels a member, it must report the expulsion and the reasons for it to the Commissioner within two days (section 101(4)). The maximum penalty for each is 500 penalty units. A report made in good faith attracts statutory immunity under section 101(5).

17. Reportable Incidents.

- a. The following are reportable incidents:
- i. any injury to a person on DRC grounds, however caused;
 - ii. any damage to property caused by a firearm, at or in the vicinity of the range;
 - iii. any accidental or negligent discharge of a firearm, whether or not injury or damage results;
 - iv. any shot suspected of having left the approved range danger area template, including any shot over the stop butt;
 - v. any failure of range safety communication or procedure that placed a person at risk; and
 - vi. any incident involving a marker in the gallery.
- b. Where a reportable incident involves injury:
- i. immediate first aid is to be given and, where required, an ambulance called on 000 in accordance with clause 5.18;
 - ii. for any injury caused by a firearm, NT Police are to be notified immediately;
 - iii. where the injury requires admission to hospital as an in-patient, or immediate treatment for an amputation, a serious head or eye injury, a serious burn, a degloving, a spinal injury, loss of a bodily function or serious lacerations, it is a notifiable incident under the Work Health and Safety (National Uniform Legislation) Act 2011. The Club Captain or Secretary is to notify NT WorkSafe immediately on 1800 019 115, by the fastest available means;
 - iv. the incident site is to be preserved until released by NT WorkSafe or NT Police, except so far as is necessary to help an injured person, to make the site safe, or to assist a police investigation;
 - v. photographs of the scene and of any damaged property are to be taken; and

- vi. the Range Officer or person in charge is to record the names of all persons then present from the Range Register.
- c. Every reportable incident is to be reported to the Club Captain on the day it occurs, with all details of the circumstances, the persons involved and the firearm details.
- d. The Club Captain is to advise the DRC Committee within 72 hours of a reportable incident, notify the NTRA and the club's insurer where injury or property damage is involved, and enter the incident in the club incident register. The incident register is to be retained for at least five years.

18. Medical Evacuation Plan.

- a. In the case of an accident or injury that requires evacuation for medical treatment, a person nominated by the Range Officer is to call '000' using a mobile phone.
- b. The Range Officer is to supervise immediate first aid at the scene of the incident and is to ensure the preservation of the incident site so a thorough and conclusive investigation can be conducted by the appropriate authorities.
- c. The information to give the emergency call taker is: Darwin Rifle Club, Mickett Creek Shooting Complex, Brandt Road, Knuckey Lagoon NT 0828, via the DRC access road 20 metres inside the complex entry.
- d. The Medical Evacuation Plan is as follows:
 - i. In the event an ambulance is required, guides will be sent to the main entrance road at the turnoff to the DRC and will direct the ambulance to the range where a second guide will meet them on the road in the vicinity of the range flagpole and direct them to the location of the injured person.
 - ii. In the event of a non-serious injury, the injured person may be conveyed to a doctor or a hospital by private motor vehicle.
- e. The trauma receiving hospital for the Darwin region is the Royal Darwin Hospital, 105 Rocklands Drive, Tiwi NT 0810. Palmerston Regional Hospital, Linco Road, Holtze NT 0829, also operates a 24 hour emergency department but is not a trauma centre and transfers major trauma to Royal Darwin Hospital. Where an ambulance is called, the destination is determined by the ambulance service. A private vehicle is to be used only for minor injuries.

19. Camping.

- a. Camping is permitted at DRC grounds with the approval of the DRC Committee.

6. HEALTH AND SAFETY REQUIREMENTS

1. Protection of Hearing and Eyesight.

a. All shooters and people in the vicinity of the firing point are to wear an appropriate level of hearing protection and are to wear eye protection where: they are in the marker's gallery; they are forward of the firing point while steel plate practices are in progress; or they are on the small-bore range while rimfire firearms are in use. Eye protection is encouraged at all other times.

2. Shooting in Extreme weather.

a. All DRC users and visitors are encouraged to adopt the Cancer Council recommendations on sun safety including the application of sunscreen, wearing head coverings and long-sleeved clothing.

b. DRC users and visitors should be conscious of the persistent high heat and humidity in Darwin and familiarise themselves with the SecureNT guidance on heatwave, particularly the consumption of water.

c. During lightning activity, by the time the flash-to-bang count approaches 30 seconds or less, all firing is to cease and all individuals are to be inside a safe structure or a hard-topped vehicle. Firing is not to resume until 30 minutes have passed since thunder was last heard, and each further clap of thunder restarts the 30 minutes.

d. No firing activities are permitted at DRC during a declared Bureau of Meteorology Tropical Cyclone Warning affecting the Mickett Creek Complex.

3. First Aid Kits.

a. A first aid kit and defibrillator are located in the DRC range vehicle and are to be present at the firing point when in use. There is also a first aid kit in the clubhouse. All other range users are to provide their own first aid kit at the firing point when live firing is being conducted outside of DRC activities. When not in use of the range, the defibrillator is located in the DRC clubhouse.

4. Alcohol and Drugs.

a. Personnel are not authorised to shoot on DRC ranges if under the influence of alcohol or drugs. The Range Officer or DRC Committee Member have the authority to refuse an individual access to the firing point if they believe that they are under the influence of drugs or alcohol. "Under the influence" means any blood alcohol content above zero (SSR rule 2.15.4). The decision of the Range Officer is final.

b. Range Officers and Match Officials are not to exercise their duties while under the influence of alcohol or drugs (SSR rule 2.15.3).

c. A person who has consumed alcohol is not to return to any firing point on the same day.

d. Possession of a firearm while under the influence of alcohol or a drug is an offence under section 86 of the Firearms Act 1997 (maximum 50 penalty units or 12 months imprisonment). Giving possession of a firearm to a person known or reasonably believed to be under the influence is an offence under section 87.

e. Alcohol may only be consumed by persons once they have finished shooting for the day. Under no circumstances may people consume alcohol on the range whilst firing or before firing. Alcohol is only to be consumed in the DRC clubhouse and camping grounds.

f. For avoidance of doubt, this does not apply to the private consumption of alcohol within the Caretakers residence.

g. DRC will provide the sale of alcohol in accordance with the relevant licence issued by the Northern Territory Government and in accordance with our responsible service of alcohol requirements. The areas in which alcohol may be sold and consumed are those set out in the club's liquor licence and its conditions. Any person serving alcohol must hold a current Responsible Service of Alcohol certificate (section 137 of the Liquor Act 2019).

5. Smoking and Vaping.

- a. Smoking and vaping are not permitted in the clubhouse, sheds, enclosed buildings, enclosed vehicles, in covered firing areas, at the firing point/mound or within 10 metres of the firing point/mound. Cigarette butts are to be disposed of in rubbish bins/smoking trays.
- b. Any area in which food or drink is being served are smoke-free and vape-free while that service is operating (section 5B of the Tobacco Control Act 2002). Smoking and vaping are also not permitted within 3 metres of an entrance doorway or air-conditioning inlet.
- c. The Committee is responsible for displaying the prescribed no-smoking signs in the clubhouse and other smoke-free areas. This is a statutory duty of the occupier under section 8 of the Tobacco Control Act 2002, and the club may commit an offence under section 10 if a person smokes in a smoke-free area of its premises.
- d. The Caretaker's residence is exempt from this section.

6. Mobile Phones and Electronic Devices.

- a. Personal electronic devices are not to be used on the firing point or mound while live firing is in progress, except:
 - i. devices used solely to display electronic target information, which are to be in flight mode and are open to inspection by the Range Officer on demand and at any time;
 - ii. timers, and electronic hearing protection that cannot receive wireless transmissions;
 - iii. range communication radios operated by the Range Officer, scorer or Butts Officer; and
 - iv. implanted medical devices and hearing aids in everyday use.
- b. Any other mobile phone carried onto the firing point is to be switched off or placed in flight mode (SSR rules 3.10.2, 5.2 and 7.8.13).
- c. Scorers are not to use personal electronic devices while performing scoring duties (SSR rule 5.3.11.1).

7. General Health and Safety Principles.

- a. The following Principles are to be adhered to by all DRC users:
 - i. All machinery must be checked by operators prior to use to ensure that it is in safe working order.
 - ii. Any machinery faults will be reported immediately to the responsible Club Official. All machinery must be maintained in safe working order.
 - iii. Machinery is not to be used in proximity to firing mounds when the range is in use.
 - iv. Machinery is not to be used in proximity to the clubhouse when personnel are present, to reduce the risk of injury from flying rocks and sticks.
 - v. Machinery operators are not to consume alcohol prior to and during the course of machinery operation.

- vi. Only machinery operators with the requisite training/qualifications/licenses will operate machinery.
 - vii. Children are strictly prohibited from riding on mechanical equipment.
 - viii. Machinery operators will demonstrate a duty of care towards themselves and the public at all times.
 - viv. Lead contamination may occur as a result of inhalation, ingestion or absorption of lead particulates in contaminated areas. Extended exposure can cause long term ill-effects to health. When working in the stop-butts or mantlet areas, personnel are to ensure they wear respiratory protection and gloves when handling lead contaminated soil or targets. Hands, exposed skin and footwear are to be washed as soon as possible thereafter and eating drinking and / or smoking is not to occur until decontamination has been conducted. Contaminated clothing should be washed separately.
- b. All accidents and incidents, including dangers that may present risk to life and limb are to be reported to a Club Official immediately, and are reportable incidents under clause 5.17.
 - c. Because the club engages a caretaker, it is a person conducting a business or undertaking under the Work Health and Safety (National Uniform Legislation) Act 2011 and owes a duty under section 19(2) to ensure, so far as is reasonably practicable, that the health and safety of other persons is not put at risk from work carried out as part of its activities. This clause and clause 5.17 give effect to that duty.

8. Use of Vehicles, and Firearm carriage in Vehicles.

- a. Private vehicles are permitted for use in the DRC, providing that:
 - i. Personnel only use the mandated roads/tracks in the complex area.
 - ii. Personnel adhere to the 20kmh speed limit. Speeding will not be tolerated.
 - iii. Dangerous or 'hoon' type activities are not permitted and will not be tolerated.
- b. Personnel who fail to adhere to the DRC vehicle rules can be banned from using a vehicle in the DRC complex. This rule can be enforced by any DRC Committee Member.
- c. A firearm left in an unattended vehicle at DRC is to be placed in the boot, cargo area or another lockable compartment, or secured by a firearm securing device; is to be completely hidden from view; and is to have its ammunition in a separate lockable compartment or in a locked container secured in or on the vehicle (regulation 32 of the Firearms Regulations 1997).
- d. Firearms are to be cased, or carried with the action open and an ECI inserted, whenever they are anywhere other than the firing point. Firearms are not to be handled in the clubhouse or in the car park except for the purpose of loading or unloading a vehicle.

7. ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AND RANGE PROTECTION

1. Environmental Protection.

- a. The DRC supports nature conservation and the protection of the environment. Consequently, the following rules are to be observed:
- i. Dumping is not permitted on the DRC unless approved by the DRC Committee. Any person(s) found dumping will be required to remove the dumped items and will be banned from the DRC.
 - ii. No fauna is to be shot at on the DRC facility. Where possible, any development activity is to take into account the protection of native fauna habitat and breeding grounds.
 - iii. Only native flora is to be planted on the DRC.
 - iv. Weed and gamba grass reduction and eradication remain a DRC priority. Gamba grass is a declared weed under the Weeds Management Act 2001 (NT), Class B in the Darwin zone, meaning its growth and spread must be controlled, and Class C throughout the Territory, meaning it must not be introduced. The current instrument is the Weed Management Plan for Gamba Grass 2020 to 2030. Gamba grass is also the principal fire fuel on the range and its control is directly connected to the firebreak and separation distances in paragraph c.
 - v. Firebreaks and regular mowing of the ranges are to be maintained.
- b. To contain lead contamination, all shots are to be fired at identified targets in the direction of the stop butt(s), or in the case of the swinging steel plate targets, the bullet traps set into the base of the mantlet.
- c. The swinging steel plate bullet traps, and any tyres stored on DRC grounds, are to comply with:
- i. regulations 3, 4, 7 and 7A of the Fire and Emergency Regulations 1996 (NT). In particular, a tyre stack is not to exceed 3 metres in height, its base is not to exceed 45 metres by 5 metres, no side is to be steeper than 1:1, and stacks are to be kept at least 10 metres from each other, from the boundary of the land, and from any other flammable or combustible material including grass or weeds;
 - ii. a firebreak along the entire boundary of the land at least 4 metres wide, consisting of bare earth, grass not exceeding 50 millimetres, or lawn or cultivated garden (regulation 3); and
 - iii. the NT EPA publication "Waste Tyre Guidance: A guide for private landholders", which is guidance rather than a legal requirement.
- d. Lead hygiene. Eating, drinking, smoking and vaping are not permitted in the marker's gallery, or while handling target frames, mantlet material or fired projectiles. Hands are to be washed after such work. Reclamation of lead from the stop butt or mantlet is to be carried out only under a procedure approved by the Committee.

2. Cyclone Preparedness

- a. There is an ongoing requirement to ensure that all rubbish and portable items are removed or secured during the cyclone season. Consequently, DRC will have a program in place for the removal of cyclone hazard items or the correct storage of such items.

3. Range Communications

- a. When target marking is being conducted manually, radio communication is to be maintained between the firing point and the marker's gallery (at the stop butt) at all times when firing is in progress on the full-bore range.
- b. When only electronic targets are being used, there is no requirement for the use of electronic communications unless a person is located in the marker's gallery for minor maintenance purposes.

4. Safety Rules for Marker's Gallery

- a. The following safety requirements must be followed when the marker's gallery is occupied while the range is open for live firing:
 - i. Markers are to remain under cover in the butts when firing is in progress.
 - ii. If communication is lost between the firing point and the marker's gallery either the red flag is raised by the Butts Officer in the gallery and targets lowered to order a cease fire or the Range Officer orders 'cease fire', 'unload', 'remove bolts' and 'insert empty chamber indicators' at the firing point until corrective action is taken. Firing will only resume when the Range Officer is satisfied communication has been restored and it is once again safe to recommence firing.
 - iii. The red flag in the target gallery is to be raised only on the order of the Range Officer on completion of firing or by the Butts Officer in case of an emergency. If the flag is raised while firing is in progress, firing is to be stopped immediately.
 - iv. No person is to leave the marker's gallery without the permission of the Butts Officer and only after the butts flag has been raised and all firing has ceased on all ranges in use.
 - v. When the red flag is raised in the marker's gallery, all targets must be lowered.
 - vi. Eye protection is to be worn in the marker's gallery (clause 6.1).

5. Safety Rules for Concurrent Use of Electronic and Conventional Targets

- a. Electronic targets and conventional paper targets with markers can be used concurrently. If concurrent use of both target types occurs, then safety measures for the protection of markers apply. The exception is that electronic targets will not be lowered by the markers when shooting has ceased.

b. Safety Rules for Use of Electronic Targets when the Marker's Gallery is NOT Occupied while firing occurs

- c. When the range is open for firing, the Range Officer is to ensure that:
 - i. Before authorisation is given for anyone to move into the danger area forward of the firing point to attend to targets, flags or other issues, no rifles remain on the firing point, or that rifles that are on the firing point have their bolts removed and have been checked to ensure the chamber is empty and empty chamber indicators have been inserted. If rifles, with bolts removed, remain on the firing point all competitors and scorers are to move back from the firing point until the Range Officer allows firing to recommence.
 - ii. All personnel have returned from the danger area and are rear of the firing point prior to giving the order to commence or recommence firing. If any doubt exists, the Range Officer must arrange for a physical check to be conducted to confirm the forward area, particularly the marker's gallery, is clear of personnel.

iii. A red flag is not required at the marker's gallery when shooting is conducted under these arrangements. The range red danger flags required by clause 4.6 remain flying regardless (SSR rule 2.8.2.4).

6. Electronic Target Use

a. Electronic targets contain sensitive and expensive acoustic sensors. Personnel who have an un-zeroed rifle or who doubt the zero of their rifles, must zero their rifle prior to shooting on the electronic target.

b. The following amplification to these rules applies when using electronic targets:

i. Personnel must only fire at electronic targets with zeroed rifles. Personnel with un-zeroed rifles will not be permitted to fire. A competitor who records two consecutive misses, including sighters, must stop firing and may only resume after re-zeroing, under the direction of the Range Officer (SSR rule 2.6.15.1).

ii. Care must be taken when moving the monitors at the firing point. A monitor must not be passed over a shooter or rifle on the mound before ensuring that the rifle is unloaded and the bolt is open. All competitors, scorers and check scorers are to ensure that the rifle of a competitor waiting to shoot is unloaded before a monitor is relocated. At no time is a person relocating a monitor to step over a competitor's body or rifle. Where a cable-connected monitor must cross a competitor, relocation is a two-person operation with personnel on opposite sides (SSR rule 2.20).

iii. Any projectile type and weight may be used (up to 8mm (.315inch) in calibre) which is suitable for the cartridge in use may be used on electronic targets unless otherwise explicitly permitted by the DRC Committee. Permission is issued on an individual basis. For the avoidance of doubt, .223 Remington and .308 Winchester are within this limit.

iv. A cross-fire is identified by the absence of a shot on the competitor's monitor together with an unsolicited shot on another target. The Range Officer is to be called to establish the origin of the unsolicited shot (SSR rule 5.5).

v. Where a shot is not registered on the monitor within 30 seconds of being fired, the scorer is to call the Range Officer. Competitors are not to bring fired cases to the firing point (SSR rule 5.5).

8. DETAILED INSTRUCTIONS FOR SPECIFIC FIRING POINTS

1100m firing point use

- a. The entry gate to the full-bore range must be closed while 1100m firing point is in use.

Appendix A. Aerial View and Map of DRC Identifying Ranges



Figure 1: Aerial view of DRC ranges



Figure 2: Aerial view of DRC 25m range

Appendix C. NT Police Certificate of Approval, Full-bore Range



I, Shayne Warden, Acting Senior Sergeant, Officer in Charge of the Firearms Policy and Recording Unit and a Delegate of the Commissioner of Police for the NT Firearms Act 1997 (the Act), approve the Firearm Ranges of the **Darwin Rifle Club (DRC)** located at Mickett Creek Shooting Complex (MCSC), Knuckey Lagoon, as Approved Premises for shooting activities under Section 49 of the Act subject to the following limitations.

As per the approved range danger area template, firing is only permitted through the established arcs of fire for the Range from the designated firing points to the targets on DRC Range numbered Lanes A1 to CX being numbered left to right looking from the firing points toward the targets. There is a small calibre range located at the rear of the DRC building which will be issued a separate instrument.

Conduct of sport shooting range practices are subject to the rules of this range and the rules of competition under the rules and regulations of the National Rifle Association. Firearm training activities by Government, Police and other authorised parties is permitted.

The use of the Range is limited to the following firearm / calibre types;

Rifle	Lanes A1 to CX - all registerable calibres and energy ratings (See Note 1) - all action types ,
Pistol	Lanes A1 to CX - all registerable calibres - all action types,
Shotgun	Lanes A1 to CX - shotguns of 10 Gauge or smaller - single and double barrel, under and over, lever action, pump and semi-automatic are permitted, and
Steel Plate	Falling (Swinging) Plate Practices - Must be placed in purpose built Bullet Traps or in front of mantlet - at lowest point practical - Lanes A5 to C5 only.

Note 1 - All firearms chambered for the .50 Calibre BMG cartridge and any round derived from it, is declared to be a category D firearm and is prohibited in the NT.

This approval shall remain in force unless otherwise suspended, revoked or amended under the provisions of Section 49(6) of the Act.

Approved the 30th day of November 2023


 Shayne Warden
 Acting Senior Sergeant



Approved 30 November 2023.

Appendix D. NT Police Certificate of Approval, Small-bore Range



Certificate of Approval

I, Shayne Warden, Acting Senior Sergeant, Officer in Charge of the Firearms Policy and Recording Unit and a Delegate of the Commissioner of Police for the NT Firearms Act 1997 (the Act), approve the Rimfire Firearm Range of the **Darwin Rifle Club (DRC)** located at Mickett Creek Shooting Complex (MCSC), Knuckey Lagoon, as Approved Premises for shooting activities under Section 49 of the Act subject to the following limitations.

As per the approved range danger area template, firing is only permitted through the established arcs of fire for the Range from the designated firing points to the targets on DRC Rimfire Range looking from the firing points toward the targets. This is a small calibre range located at the rear of the DRC building which is issued this separate instrument. The intended use is for DRC members, families and guests when firing on the Fullbore/Classification Range has ceased and all persons have left that range.

Conduct of sport shooting range practices are subject to the rules of this range and the rules of competition under the rules and regulations of the National Rifle Association. Firearm training activities by Government, Police and other authorised parties are not permitted.

The use of the Range is limited to the following firearm / calibre types (see Note 1);

Rifle	Rimfire Calibres Only – Category A firearms – all action types ,
Pistol	Rimfire Calibres Only – single shot, revolver and semi-automatic actions only,
Shotgun	No Shotgun Permitted, and
Steel Plate	No Impenetrable Targets Permitted.

Note 1 – DRC Classification rifle range cannot be accessed while the rimfire range is in use. A responsible club member must inspect the Classification range including target area and shed and report this to the club members conducting the shooting on the Rimfire Range before firing commences on that range.

This approval shall remain in force unless otherwise suspended, revoked or amended under the provisions of Section 49(6) of the Act.

Approved the 30th day of November 2023



Shayne Warden
Acting Senior Sergeant



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Approved 30 November 2023.