

NRANZ Seddon Range Etiquette

To assist visitors and bring them up to speed to New Zealand's quirks, this article is intended to explain a few of the "unwritten rules" of shooting NRANZ events on Seddon Range. They are intended to offer advice so that each competitor understands what is expected towards, and from, his fellow competitors.

Know when and where you are shooting

Please make sure you are aware of your shooting squad well before shooting commences. Squads will be displayed on the Wailing Wall on the veranda of the NRANZ Hut and the notice board in the Marquees. On your first day of shooting in your squad please make sure you arrive on the mound well before start time and introduce yourself to your squad captain who will be the highlighted person in your squad list. The squads for the WRA Championship will be different to the Masefield/ Ballinger competitions.

Expectations and responsibilities of squad members

Bring your magnetic name tag to place on the score board. You will be expected to score and register keep for shooters on your squad. Please be prompt at the start of the range if you are either Scorer or Register Keeper. You will of course keep an eye on your squad for when it is your turn to shoot, once you have shot, you will place your gear in a safe place and promptly get back to take over register keeping on the blackboard. You will then need to score for the next person shooting. So the deal is: You will register keep for the next shooter down on the squad list and you will score for the second person down from your name on the squad list.

After you have scored you will then take a short period of blackboard duty while the shooter you scored for drops their gear off and gets back to take over. You are required to remain on the board until relieved. The No 1 shooter of the squad is scored and RK'd by the bottom two on the squad. You will notice real quick that you will

register keep and score for the same shooter while your squad is operational.

Please keep an eye out for your squad mates who fail to turn up for register keeping or scoring. This usually happens after lunch or a range break. We are all forgetful and you may be too at some stage. Help the squad out by volunteering for extra duties. It will speed things up as well.

Squad Rotation

At the first range of the WRA, Masefield, and first day of the Ballinger series, the first shooter down is number one on the squad list. For the second range the number two shooter is first on the line. This is one of the easiest things to forget about - remembering who IS first up! At each range change the CRO will inform you how many targets to move up.

Shooter Responsibilities

When you are first shooter down ensure you are on the mound early. Do not place your rifle on the mound until the CRO calls that it is safe to do so. (BIG Rule!). You will have 5 minutes of sighting time to arrange your gear and do whatever you want to do. In individual shooting you will begin your shooting when the 5 minutes is complete and the targets re-emerge. Listen to your scorer calling out your shot scores. Check the score to ensure you are happy. If there appears to be a mistake or error ensure the scorer has noticed. Inform the scorer clearly how many sighters you wish to convert.

At the end, clear your rifle. Take the bolt out, check the action yourself, get the scorer to visually check and insert the Empty Chamber Flag. BIG Rule!! When you come back to register keep, check your score card, sign it and deposit it in the appropriate receptacle. Psst....feel free to thank your marker when you finish. Especially when they mark efficiently.

Responsibilities of Register Keeper (RK)

In NZ two people are used to score and monitor the shooting of one competitor. A Scorer and a RK. The RK records the shot scores on the blackboard. Use the chalk with a little bit of pressure so that a nice clear number can be read from a distance. The RK listens carefully to the score called out by the scorer and, using a binocular or spotting scope that is capable of perceiving the scoring lines, shall confirm the shot value with the scorer. Keep an ear open to ensure there is no conflict between shooter and scorer when they are discussing the conversion of sighters. At the end of shooting add up the total score and confirm the result with the scorer. Technically the scorer is "the gospel" but it is your responsibility to assist the scorer to consult on any possible errors from the shoot or addition of points.

Responsibilities of the Scorer

The scorer is "The Law" when it comes to the "official" score. You will be assisted by the Register Keeper during the shoot who will confirm - or otherwise - the shot score that you see on the target, you will need binoculars or spotting scope capable of perceiving the scoring lines and place yourself close enough to the shooter to hear their calls as to what they want to do with the convertible sighters. It is polite to ask them what they want to do with the sighters. You may ask "Keep both Target 9?" or "Keep one, Bill?" You will confirm that fact by not crossing any out if they do not want to count any sighters, or, cross out one or two sighters if they wish to keep one or two sighters. You then transfer those scores into the shot box 1, or 1 and 2 on the score sheet. When the next shot is fired it is very wise to inform the shooter - and all within earshot - that this shot is either the "First Counting Shot Target 9" if they have rejected both sighters, "Second counting shot Target 9" if they converted one sighter or "Third counting shot Tom" if they have converted both. This will ensure there are no arguments over what the

shooter meant when they called their sighters choice. You will inform the

shooter in a clear voice the target number or their name along with the value of the shot: "Target 9, Bull 5", "Dick, Score 4" or "Inner 4" (Why it is called inner 4 beats me). "Target 9, Magpie 3" or "Mary, Score 3".

If you think the score value displayed may not match the spotter position then you are entitled to query the shooter to see if they wish to challenge the value displayed. If they do wish to then you will contact the Range Officer in a clear voice and ask "Please check the value displayed on target 9", or, "Challenge the value displayed on Target 9 please". ICFRA Messages are recommended for communications. The ICFRA Messages are on the reverse of the supplied Score Card Boards. (Note: New Zealand usually speak "English" not "Message".)

"Please" and "thank you" is appreciated.

If you are in the group (RK, Scorer and shooter) who is the last to shoot, it is your collective responsibility to ensure the score board is carried to the next range. It is good form for one of the squad to look after the board overnight. It saves removing all your names and finding another board! Alternatively use the RO trailers to move the boards to the next range.

Rules

Please read the NRANZ Shooting Rules along with the technical rules of ICFRA. These are available on the NRANZ website or the ICFRA website. Knowledge of the rules will save you points. You are assumed to have read the rules and understood it. Please ask if you do not understand any of them.

Ammunition Energy Levels

A LabRadar chronograph will be operational which the CRO, RO or assigned person will randomly use to check energy levels of ammunition.

PS: Use the bins on the trailers for your rubbish.