

# Membership Range Safety Rules



Thorp Creek – Private Shooting Range  
5250 State Hwy JJ Hollister, MO

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## Chapter 1: Preamble

The Range at Thorp Creek (Thorp Creek) was incorporated in 2022 and is located on 30 acres in Taney County Missouri. Thorp Creek is a for-profit, private, members-only shooting range under the management of Brad Gore and Ken Bowman, managing partners.

This document includes the range rules and policies for all range facilities.

Members and guests should be proficient with the shooting discipline and firearm involved, including frequently used commands and procedures for that discipline.

Hunting or shooting of wildlife is prohibited.

These Rules of the Range are subject to revision at the sole discretion of the ownership.

### Thorp Creek – The Creed

**I pledge to uphold the second amendment, and I cherish the freedoms bestowed upon me as an American. I pray that no harm befalls my country or my family; but if faced with evil, I will have the courage to stand against it. I will allow no harm to come to myself or my loved ones.**

## Chapter 2: Organization

The owners and managers of The Range at Thorp Creek are as follows:

- Brad Gore, Managing Partner
- Ken Bowman, Managing Partner
- Darrin Carter and Dozer, Honorary Member and Safety Advisor
- JB Henderson, RSO Coordinator
- Robbie MacAnally, Construction and Landscaping

At any time, the managing partners may appoint any committee of standing members on any subject or matter pertinent to the members.

## Chapter 3: Range Operations

1. **General** – Live fire conducted at Thorp Creek is designed to provide members and guests a facility where they can enjoy and become proficient with privately owned firearms.
2. **Facilities for Use** – Thorp Creek is a COLD RANGE. No firearm shall be loaded until you are ready to shoot or the command “load” has been given. Live fire shooting is normally limited to the following ranges and equipment.
  - a. Shotguns – Shotguns may be patterned only on Pistol Range 1 at the seated stand and only on the patterning board. Only lead shot with a maximum shot size of 7 ½ and a maximum powder load of 3 ¼ drams equivalent may be used. No slugs, sabot, or buckshot. Turkey loads and magnum loads may be used.
  - b. Pistol range 1 – Steel targets only. Pistol range 1 is limited only to .22 caliber or smaller firearms.
  - c. Pistol range 2 – All targets shall be placed in front of the berms so that bullets will impact the berm but may be placed at any distance from 7 yards in front of the shooting stand. All pistols and rim fire rifles may be used. No center fired rifles, shotguns, fully automatic firearms, or devices that simulate fully automatic firearms are allowed. Rifles chambered in handgun calibers up to .45ACP are permitted on the pistol range.
  - d. Rifle range – All rifles except 50 BMG may be fired. Paper targets **are allowed** on the 50 yard target stand and on the 100 yard target stand accessed via the switch back trail. There is no access to the 300 yard stand and only steel targets will be permitted on the 300 yard stand.
3. **Hours of Operation** – Thorp Creek can be utilized every day of the year except Easter Sunday, the Fourth of July, and Christmas Day. **The range will also close on any day that a funeral is scheduled at Pine Top Cemetery and on Memorial Day. Members will be notified and signs will be posted.** Other days may be closed at the discretion of the managing partners; members are encouraged to check the online calendar for updates. Live firing on the rifle and pistol ranges shall not begin until 30 minutes after sun rise or 8:00 AM, whichever is later, and will cease 30 minutes before sundown or 7pm, whichever is earlier.

**4. Gates** –All members must use their own personal access code to enter. The gate is to remain closed after entering and must be closed upon leaving. Additionally, there is to be no piggy-backing or tailgating through the gate. If a member witnesses a person following them through the gate, the member should challenge the person to confirm he/she is a member before proceeding. The gate must be closed and opened by every member entering. **An Android or iOS SMART PHONE capable of utilizing the Masterlock Vault app is required in order to open the gate and utilize the range.**

**5. Membership Definitions** – There are several types of membership available as follows:

**Founder** – The first 250 members to join will be “Founder” members. Founders’ initiation fee is \$250, and yearly dues are \$250. The dues are locked for life at \$250. Yearly dues will be billed in December of the current year and due on the last day of January the following year.

**Member** – On December 31st of the first full year the range is open, the managing partners may begin to solicit for additional members. Members joining fees are \$500 which includes current year dues. A prorated amount of \$25 will be applied based on the month the member joins in the calendar year

**LEO** – Any current Law Enforcement Officer who volunteers as a Range Safety Officer for one Saturday per year is eligible for waived annual dues and a reduced initiation fee of \$250.

**Retired LEO/Honorably Discharged Veteran** – Retired and Honorably Discharged Veterans and Retired LEO are eligible for a reduced annual fee of \$200 per year.

**Lifetime Membership** – All members may petition for Lifetime Membership at any time under the terms below:

- Founder – \$1000 initiation fee and \$2500 one-time dues or \$500 annual dues for 5 years
- Member – \$1000 initiation fee and \$3000 one-time dues or \$600 annual dues for 5 years
- Retired LEO/Honorably Discharged Veteran – \$1000 initiation fee and \$2000 one-time dues or \$500 annual dues for 4 years
- Lifetime Membership is solely at the discretion of the managing partners.

**6. Guests and Family** – Members may bring no more than 2 guests per year, per member, and guests may only visit once per calendar year. Each guest must sign a waiver, which can be signed and emailed to management or signed on location at Thorp Creek. A mailbox with blank forms is available. Guests are to sign the blank forms and return signed forms to the mailbox.

Guests are the responsibility of the member. Guests must be with a member, and the member must have a Range ID and Government Issued ID while at The Range. Any Member or guest who cannot be confirmed will be escorted from the property.

The spouse or minor child of a member may be added for an additional yearly fee. Each member must pay a full initiation fee and must meet the same membership requirements. Contact the owners for additional details. Children aged 8-18 are required to be on a family membership. Children under 8 may attend the range with their parent or guardian but may only shoot .22 on the rifle range or pistol range 1.

**7. Range Identification Requirements** – All forms of membership will be issued a Range ID Card which all members must carry and display upon request along with a valid state or federal form of identification like a Driver’s License or Passport/Passport Card. Failure to provide either will result in immediate expulsion from Thorp Creek property and termination of membership without refund.

## **Chapter 4: Range Rules – All Facilities**

These rules have been adopted to ensure the health and safety of those individuals who use or frequent this facility.

**The use of alcohol before or during the handling of firearms is STRICTLY PROHIBITED. All members and guests shall ensure their firearms are secured in their vehicles prior to consumption of alcohol.**

Eye and ear protection **MUST** be utilized at all times when firing or in the **PROXIMITY** of others firing; this includes under the pistol and rifle shelters.

**COLD Range** – All firing ranges on the property of The Range are “cold” ranges. All firearms will be unloaded at all times upon entering the grounds and until leaving other than while on the firing line and under the supervision of a Safety Officer if applicable. All firearms transported to and from vehicles to the range must be in **SAFE (OPEN) Condition** or encased if applicable.

**Concealed Weapon Permit Rules** – Any CCW Permit holder must unload and put their firearm in a **SAFE** condition prior to leaving their vehicle when on the facility property.

The managing partners are exempt from this rule when acting in their capacity as owners and operators of Thorp Creek.

**Law Enforcement Rules** – All full-time, employed, academy certified Law Enforcement Officers exhibiting a badge or wearing apparel indicating their status are permitted to carry loaded firearms on the property if they are at the range on official business. If the officer is going to participate in any of the disciplines, it is expected that the officer will heed Club safety rules and remove any loaded firearm from their person. An exception is given to LEOs whose agency requires they carry a backup weapon at all times or are the RSO for the day.

**Prohibited Firearms** – The use of pyrotechnics, tracer bullets, tracer shotshells, fully automatic firearms, devices that simulate automatic fire, 50 Caliber BMG center fire, grenade launching devices and cannons are forbidden on any part of the range. Any firearm <18 inches shooting with shot shells (including slugs) are not allowed on Thorp Creek property (e.g., the “Judge,” “Contender,” etc.). No shot shells of any gauge or pistol caliber (e.g., snake shot) are allowed on the pistol or rifle ranges.

**Firearm Handling Safety Rules** –

- a. **ALWAYS KEEP THE GUN POINTED IN A SAFE DIRECTION.**

- b. **ALWAYS KEEP YOUR FINGER OFF THE TRIGGER UNTIL READY TO SHOOT**, and outside the trigger guard, until ready to fire or until the command “Commence Firing” has been given.
- c. **ALWAYS KEEP THE ACTION OPEN AND THE FIREARM UNLOADED UNTIL READY TO USE.** On a firing range, this means the shooters are in position on the firing line and the range has been cleared for live firing.
- d. **KNOW YOUR TARGET AND WHAT IS BEYOND.** When on shooting ranges, be mindful also of adjacent areas and act accordingly.
- e. Be sure the gun is safe to operate.
- f. Know how to use the firearm safely.
- g. Use only the correct ammunition for your firearm. When at a shooting range with more than one firearm, use one at a time and when finished, store that firearm and its ammunition before using the next one.
- h. Store firearms so they are not accessible to unauthorized persons. There may be federal, state, or local statutes, ordinances, and/or regulations regulating the manner of firearms storage, including some that may make failure to properly store firearms a criminal offence. Besides these regulatory requirements and/or penal prohibitions, such activities may, pursuant to state or local law, give a party a cause of action to sue you for injuries or damages caused by a third party who obtained access to one of your firearms.
- i. Be aware that certain types of guns and many shooting activities require additional safety precautions.
- j. **Alcohol and guns do not mix. The consumption of alcohol on Thorp Creek property is forbidden. Members are forbidden to handle firearms while under the influence of alcohol. Any violation of this rule will result in immediate termination of membership.**

**Respect** – Respect all members at all times. Derogatory, racist, sexist, hate speech, bullying, and harassment will not be tolerated and will result in immediate and permanence trespass from the property and termination of membership.

**Time on the Range** – If you have been at a shooting stand or utilizing a range for 60 minutes or more, heed use of the range to members that are waiting to use the range.

**Trash** – If you brought it with you, it leaves with you. Do not leave spent casings of any kind, anywhere. **ALL BRASS goes in the designated BRASS buckets at the rifle and pistol stands.**

## Chapter 5: Pistol Range Safety Rules

Members and guests will adhere to the Range Safety Rules and those of their specific discipline. If there is any conflict between Thorp Creek Range Safety Rules and the sanctioned event association rules, the more conservative rule shall apply. Associations may include NRA, ATA, NSSA, IDPA, CPSL, etc.

1. **Alcohol and guns do not mix. The consumption of alcohol on Thorp Creek property is forbidden. Members are forbidden to handle firearms while under the influence of alcohol. Any violation of this rule will result in immediate termination of membership.**
2. Targets are not to be placed near the edges of target frames. **DO NOT SHOOT TARGET FRAMES OR SUPPORTS.** Targets are **NOT** allowed on or near the tops or sides of berms.
3. All targets must be placed immediately in front of the appropriate distance berm to ensure bullets do not bounce or ricochet.
4. Eye and ear protection **MUST** be utilized at all times when firing or in the **PROXIMITY** of others firing; this includes under the pistol and rifle shelters and forward of the chain on the shotgun fields.
5. A minimum distance of 10 yards must be maintained from metallic targets (pepper poppers and plates). There will be no “hammering,” or multiple hits, of the metallic targets.
6. Only the placed metal targets are allowed on Pistol Range 1. Metal targets on Pistol Range 2 are not to be moved. The paper targets may be moved.
7. All trash must be picked up and must leave with you.
8. Observe any additional posted rules and warnings at the range.
9. No one is allowed downrange unless and until all firearms are in safe condition and are placed on benches or tables. No handling of firearms is allowed when anyone is downrange.
10. Firearm in strong side holster is permitted only when pistol range is hot and when on the yellow firing line. Only strong side holsters will be allowed. No cross draws, shoulder, or small of the back holsters. Holstered handguns are not allowed on the rifle range or anywhere else on the property. IF you are alone or have agreement from any shooters at the firing line, you may go out on Pistol Range 2 and practice pistol disciplines. **ALWAYS FLY THE RED FLAG IF ACCESSING THE RANGE BEYOND THE FIRING LINE.**



11. "SAFE CONDITION" is defined as follows:
  - a. Revolvers – Cylinders open and no ammunition in cylinder chambers.
  - b. Pistols – Slide locked to the rear and open, chamber empty, magazine removed, safety engaged if applicable.
12. Shout "CEASE FIRE" IF YOU WITNESS A SAFETY VIOLATION. All members are responsible for safety at all times.
13. Shooting on the pistol range is limited to handguns. No shot shells of any gauge or pistol caliber (e.g., snake shot) are allowed on the pistol or rifle ranges except on the seated stand at Pistol Range 1 when using the patterning board.
14. Pistol Draw and Fire – On the pistol range, there are openings between the tables specifically to permit the shooter to draw from an allowed holster (see #10) and fire at a target placed in front of the berm. Additionally, a shooter may be forward of the front tables ONLY if no one else is using the range or if everyone at the range shoots from the same distance (no one can be shooting further back).
15. Any pistol not properly sighted-in must be sighted-in at the paper targets.
16. If more than one shooter is on range, safety and courtesy among the shooters must be maintained.
  - a. If a shooter needs to go downrange to change targets or for other needs, request that the "range be made safe." All firearms must be made empty and in SAFE CONDITION and placed on the benches or tables. No handling of firearms while anyone is downrange.
  - b. When you are sure no one is downrange and the command "Line Is Hot" has been given, you may handle the firearm. The command "Going Hot" will be given when you are ready to fire. This will give other shooters time to put on eye and ear protection.
17. All firearms transported to and from vehicles to the range must be in **SAFE (OPEN) Condition** or encased if applicable. All firearms not encased shall be transported only while the range is **HOT**. **Firearms shall be cased or uncased on the FRONT BENCH only, muzzles pointed downrange, and ONLY when the range is HOT.**
18. Paper, non-metallic, and non-glass targets are allowed. If wood or plastic fragmented targets are used, the fragments must be picked up and removed from the area by the conclusion of the range session. No target shall be placed at the edges of the target stands or near the top, bottom, or sides of the berms. All bullets shall be fired so as to impact the center of the berm. Remove paper targets from the target stands and take your trash with you when you leave.

## Chapter 6: Rifle Range Safety Rules

Members and guests will adhere to the Range Safety Rules and those of their specific discipline. If there is any conflict between Thorp Creek Range Safety Rules and the sanctioned event association rules, the more conservative rule shall apply. Associations may include NRA, ATA, NSSA, IDPA, CPSL, etc.

1. **Alcohol and guns do not mix. The consumption of alcohol on Thorp Creek property is forbidden. Members are forbidden to handle firearms while under the influence of alcohol. Any violation of this rule will result in immediate termination of membership.**
2. Only the specific, placed, steel targets may be used on the rifle range. No metal targets or metal target frames are allowed on the Thorp Creek Rifle Range, except for the supplied steel hanging targets.
3. Access to the rifle range is restricted to the 50 yard and 100 yard target stands. There is no access to the 300 yard stand. Members may place their own paper targets on the 50 yard and 100 yard stands. **ALWAYS FLY THE RED FLAG IF ACCESSING THE RANGE BEYOND THE FIRING LINE.**
4. Eye and ear protection **MUST** be utilized at all times when firing or in the **PROXIMITY** of others firing; this includes under the pistol and rifle shelters and forward of the chain on the shotgun fields.
5. All trash must be picked up and must leave with you. This includes used paper targets on the 50 yard and 100 yard stands.
6. Observe any additional posted rules and warnings at the range.
7. No one is allowed downrange at any time for any reason.
8. If the red flag is flying, you must exit the shooting stand and wait until the red flag is removed. A red flag means someone is down range and indicates **NO SHOOTING!**
9. "SAFE CONDITION" is defined as follows:
  - a. Bolt Actions – Bolt open or out, chamber empty, magazine removed, tube magazines empty, safety engaged.
  - b. Pump and Semi-Auto – Action open, chamber empty, magazine removed, tube magazine empty, safety engaged.
  - c. Lever Action – Action open, chamber empty, magazine removed; magazine tube empty, safety engaged.
10. Shout "CEASE FIRE" IF YOU WITNESS A SAFETY VIOLATION. All members are responsible for safety at all times.

11. NO SHOTGUNS ALLOWED ON RIFLE RANGES.

12. Any rifle not properly sighted-in must be sighted-in at the 50-yard target first.

13. If more than one shooter is on the range, safety and courtesy among the shooters must be maintained. If a shooter needs to go downrange to change targets or for other needs, request that the “range be made safe.” All firearms must be made empty and in SAFE CONDITION and placed on the benches or tables. No handling of firearms while anyone is downrange.

When you are sure no one is downrange and the command “Line Is Hot” has been given, you may handle the firearm. The command “Going Hot” will be given when you are ready to fire. This will give other shooters time to put on eye and ear protection.

14. All firearms transported to and from vehicles to the range must be in **SAFE (OPEN) Condition** or encased if applicable. All firearms not encased shall be transported only while the range is **HOT**. **Firearms shall be cased or uncased on the FRONT BENCH only, muzzle pointed downrange, and ONLY when the range is HOT.**

15. Muzzle loading rifles may be used on the 100 yard and 300 yard rifle range. No rifle is to be capped or primed until the firearm is safely pointed downrange and the range is **HOT**. The muzzleloader may be loaded on the shooting bench.

16. The only shooting position to be used is from the benches unless a Range Safety Officer is present or the shooter is a Range Safety Officer. The shooter can then shoot standing, kneeling, or prone with the permission of the RSO.

#### **Shotgun Pattern Board:**

1. Use of a shotgun pattern board is allowed only on Pistol Range 1 stand and only for patterning.
2. Use of any firearm other than a shotgun is strictly prohibited.
3. The use of buckshot, slugs, turkey loads, or any shot larger than 7 ½ is strictly prohibited.
4. Once the pattern board is used, the member shall dispose of the pattern board.

## **Chapter 7: Range Safety Officers**

Range Safety Officers (RSOs) will be identified by a bright yellow shirt emblazoned with “Range Safety Officer.” RSOs are there to see that range rules are followed. They are also there to answer your questions and help with any range procedures and safety. Should any problems arise, the Range Safety Officer’s word is FINAL.

The Safety Notices and Standard Operating Procedures Addendums are hereby incorporated into this document.

# **Acknowledgement of Membership Range Safety Rules**

X

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Sign and Date Here

# **Acknowledgement of Release and Hold Harmless**

X

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Sign and Date Here