

Rules of Conduct for Members of Shrivenham Smallbore Club (SSbC) as a UK National Smallbore Rifle (NSRA) Club Affiliated Member

1. Purpose

These Rules of Conduct are intended to promote a safe, respectful, lawful, and enjoyable environment for all members, visitors, officials, and guests of the SSbC Club. All members affiliated to the National Small-bore Rifle Association (NSRA) through the Club are expected to comply with these rules at all times.

You, as a member, must be “of good character”, promoting SSbC and the NSRA

Failure to comply may result in disciplinary action, suspension, or termination of Club membership.

Section A – General Member Conduct

2. Member Behaviour

Members shall:

- Conduct themselves in a safe, responsible, and sportsmanlike manner.
- Treat fellow members, guests, visitors, range staff, and the public with courtesy and respect.
- Follow all lawful instructions given by Club officials, Range Officers, and committee members.
- Refrain from abusive, threatening, intimidating, discriminatory, or disruptive behaviour.
- Avoid conduct that may bring SSbC, the NSRA, or the sport into disrepute.
- Respect the rights, privacy, and property of others.
- Maintain local respect for the Shrivenham Football Club (SFC)

3. Equality and Inclusion

The Club is committed to providing an environment free from:

- Bullying
- Harassment
- Victimisation
- Discrimination

No SSbC member shall discriminate against another person on the basis of age, disability, gender reassignment, marriage or civil partnership, pregnancy or maternity, race, religion or belief, sex, or sexual orientation.

4. Alcohol, Drugs, and Fitness to Shoot

Members must not:

- Handle firearms or ammunition while under the influence of alcohol or drugs.
- Attend the range while impaired by medication, fatigue, illness, or any condition affecting safe judgment.
- Consume alcohol before or during shooting activities.

Any member believed to be unfit to shoot may be instructed to cease shooting immediately.

5. Visitors and Guests

Members introducing guests or visitors are responsible for:

- Ensuring guests comply with SSbC rules.
- Supervising guests appropriately.
- Ensuring visitors receive a safety briefing before shooting.

Guests may only shoot under the supervision of an authorised member or qualified Range Officer.

**Guest days are to be approved by the governing Police authority -
GLOUCESTERSHIRE**

Section B – Firearms and Range Safety

6. Compliance with Law

All members shall comply with:

- The Firearms Act 1968 and subsequent amendments.
- Home Office guidance.
- NSRA regulations and guidance.
- All applicable local SSbC range regulations and safety procedures.

Members are personally responsible for ensuring they possess the necessary certificates, authorities, and permissions required by law.

7. Fundamental Firearms Safety Rules

All firearms shall always be treated as loaded.

Members must:

1. Keep the muzzle pointed in a safe direction at all times.
2. Keep fingers off the trigger until ready to fire.
3. Only load firearms on the firing point and when authorised.
4. Ensure the target and backstop are safe before firing.
5. Open actions and apply safety devices when not firing.
6. Remove magazines and unload firearms when instructed.
7. Immediately obey all cease-fire commands.

8. Range Commands and Control

Members must:

- Obey all instructions from the Range Officer immediately.
- Stop shooting immediately when a cease-fire, STOP, is called.
- Not commence firing until authorised.
- Not handle firearms during a cease-fire unless specifically instructed.
- Notify the Range Officer immediately of any unsafe condition or incident.

9. Firearms Handling

Members shall:

- Use only firearms and ammunition permitted on the range.
- Ensure that firearms used are maintained in a safe condition.
- Transport firearms securely and lawfully.
- Store firearms and ammunition in accordance with legal requirements.
- Keep firearms cased or bagged when not on the firing point unless otherwise directed.

Members must not:

- Engage in horseplay or careless handling.
- Point firearms at any person.
- Modify firearms in an unsafe or unlawful manner.
- Use prohibited ammunition or equipment.
- Act with undue accord

10. Misfires and Malfunctions

In the event of a misfire or malfunction:

- Keep the firearm pointed downrange.
- Raise a hand to attract the attention of the Range Officer.
- Follow the Range Officer's instructions.
- Do not attempt unsafe remedial action.

11. Young Persons and Supervision

Junior or inexperienced shooters must:

- Be supervised as required by Club policy and law.
 - Follow all instructions from supervising adults and Range Officers.
 - Use only equipment approved for their competence level.
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Section C – Club Property and Facilities

12. Care of Club Facilities

Members shall:

- Respect Club property and facilities.
- Report damage, faults, or safety concerns promptly.
- Leave firing points and common areas clean and tidy.
- Dispose of spent cases, targets, and waste appropriately.

Deliberate damage may result in disciplinary action and recovery of costs.

13. Security

Members must:

- Ensure doors, gates, and secure storage areas remain secure.
 - Not permit unauthorised persons access to restricted areas.
 - Report suspicious activity immediately.
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Section D – Conduct Online and in Public

14. Social Media and Public Conduct

Members shall not:

- Publish content likely to damage the reputation of SSbC or the shooting sports.
- Share unsafe firearms practices online.
- Post abusive, threatening, or discriminatory content connected with SSbC activities.

Members are encouraged to present shooting sports responsibly and lawfully in public and online.

Section E – Disciplinary Procedures

15. Breaches of Conduct

Breaches of these Rules may result in:

- Verbal warning
- Written warning
- Temporary suspension
- Removal from the range
- Termination or non-renewal of membership
- Referral to police or relevant authorities where appropriate

Serious safety breaches may result in immediate suspension pending investigation.

16. Reporting Concerns

ALL Members should report:

- Unsafe conduct
- Accidents or near misses
- Criminal activity
- Harassment or misconduct
- Safeguarding concerns

Reports should be made to a Club official, Range Officer, or committee member.

Section F – Acknowledgement

All members must confirm that they:

- Have read and understood these Rules of Conduct.
 - Agree to comply with all Club safety rules and legal obligations.
 - Understand that breaches may result in disciplinary action.
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SSbC Membership Declaration

By paying and continuing to pay the annual subscription for Shrivenham Smallbore Club (SSbC), members confirm that they have read, understood, and agree to comply with the SSbC Rules of Conduct at all times.

Membership subscription payment shall constitute acceptance of these Rules of Conduct and this declaration shall remain in force for the duration of membership. The declaration shall only cease upon cancellation or non-renewal of the annual subscription.

Name: _____

Signature: _____

Date: _____

Authorised person:

Position: _____

Name: _____

Signature: _____

Date: _____