

Sills Air Rifle/Air Pistol Range Rules

Section I

Access to the Air Range

1. **Conduct.** Each person entering the Air Range is obligated to act in a safe and responsible manner. Parents are responsible for the conduct of their minor children. The Air Range is defined as the Air Range building and the surrounding walkways and patios. The firing area is defined as the 25 lane room inside the internal double doors where active firing takes place.
2. **Range Usage.** The Air Range is open to Arlington-Fairfax Chapter–Izaak Walton League of America (AFC-IWLA) members and junior members as outlined in the Bylaws. All members using the Air Range will sign-in on the Log Book and comply with any instructions on lane assignment or lane time limits.
3. **Guests and General Public.** AFC-IWLA members may bring guests to the range during any open session. In order to provide outreach and promote the shooting sports, members of the general public may also use the range during announced open sessions (typically Monday and Friday evenings). The first five visits are complimentary. All individuals using the Air Range will sign-in on the Log Book and comply with any instructions on lane assignment or lane time limits. First-time visitors must complete the Air Range Safety and Introduction Briefing and sign a Waiver Form (once a year).
4. **Range Safe Persons.** Members, guests and visitors must complete the Air Range Safety and Introduction Briefing and sign a Waiver Form (once a year) before entering the firing area. At that point, individuals are considered to be range safe subject to restrictions in the range safety rules.
5. **Supplies and Equipment.** Supplies include compressed air, pellets, and targets. Equipment includes rifles, prone mats, stands, jackets and other shooting gear. As an outreach program, AFC-IWLA will provide complimentary supplies and equipment (as available) to AFC-IWLA members and shooters from the general public during the Monday/Friday open sessions for up to five visits. After five visits, AFC-IWLA members are expected to either personally provide all their own equipment and supplies (including compressed air) or to pay range fees. After five visits, members of the general public must pay range fees. The AFC-IWLA Board of Directors will set and publish range fees.
6. **Youth Shooting.** A primary aim of the Sills Air Range is to promote local youth shooting and youth shooting sports. This includes acting as one of the main ranges for the Potomac High School Rifle League (PHSRL) both in-season and out-of-season. PHSRL athletes must pay the yearly range fee, which includes AFC-IWLA junior chapter membership as well as access to supplies and equipment as needed.

7. **Range Badges or Fees Payment Proof.** AFC-IWLA members must display their membership badges. Non-members and PHSRL members must show proof of fees payment (after the five complimentary visits).
8. **Range Schedule.** All Air Range use must be scheduled with the Range Manager. The range schedule will be posted on the AFC-IWLA website, a dynamic internet calendar site (currently <https://goo.gl/BqsrTY>), and published in the AFC-IWLA newsletter. The range may be reserved and/or rented for approved AFC-IWLA matches, junior shooting activities, or externally sponsored matches. PHSRL and AFC-IWLA matches are scheduled through the Range Manager. Standard PHSRL practice times are subject to modification for range special events. External matches are first tentatively scheduled with the Range Manager, then the sponsoring agency must accomplish the Facilities Use Request process outlined on the AFC-IWLA website (<http://www.arlingtonfairfax-iwla.org/>).
9. **Range Access.** Approved range officers and coaches will receive time-coded access to the air range using an electronic lock system. Codes will be reset periodically. Approved range officers and coaches will also be given combo access to the gun safe.

Section II

Range Safety

1. **Range Officers.** The Range Manager will develop procedures to appoint and orient Range Officers (ROs) to operate the range and enforce range rules. ROs must be over the age of 21. ROs are responsible for safe and efficient operation of the Air Range, and have wide discretion to ensure such operation. **Decisions of the RO must be complied with immediately.**
2. **Range Assistants.** To assist the RO in ensuring safe and efficient range operations, non-shooting adults over 18 years of age may be approved as a Range Assistant (RA) following a short training session given by an RO. The RA is a non-coaching individual who assists the RO in ensuring safe and efficient range operations.
3. **Coaches.** Individuals over 18 years of age who are certified NRA Coaches may coach on the range. NRA-certified junior coaches less than 18 years of age may also coach with the permission of the RO. Individuals will provide the RO with proof of NRA training if requested. Coaches must be familiar with the all Air Range rules and procedures.
4. **General Safety.** All individuals must have completed the Safety and Range Introduction Briefing prior to entering the shooting area. This includes shooters and non-shooters. **Use of eye protection and Empty Chamber Indicators (ECIs) is mandatory.** All individuals must obey instructions from the RO, coaches and RAs. Depending on the number and skill level of the shooters, the RO will determine the proper ratio of coaches or RAs to shooters. If the RO determines there is an unsafe ratio, they have complete discretion to limit the number of shooters on the line until more coaches or RAs arrive.

Interim Board Approval Granted – Pending Chapter Approval

5. **Young and/or Inexperienced Shooters.** Prospective shooters under the age of 8 must have NRA-certified coach direct supervision while shooting, along with a sponsoring adult present on the range. Direct supervision may also be required for inexperienced or immature shooters over the age of 8 based on RO or coach discretion. If no coach is available to provide sufficient direct supervision, prospective shooters must wait until a coach is available. Coaches may refuse to coach any prospective shooter who they feel is not capable of safe shooting. The RO may deny entry to the firing area for any prospective shooter who they feel is not capable of safe shooting.
6. **Youth Protection and Safety.** Two-deep adult coverage is required at all times. This means that two adults, one of whom must be 21 years of age or older, are required any time junior shooters are in the range. One-on-one contact between adults and non-family junior shooters is prohibited. Junior shooters are not permitted in the range if an RO is not on duty.
7. **Allowable Air Rifles/Pistols.** The range is designed to support target shooting for standard .177 caliber air guns. As such, higher caliber air guns and BB guns are not permitted. Only diabolo (wasp-waisted) lead pellets with a wadcutter (flat) front are to be used. Pellets must be less than 10 grains in weight. In addition, air rifles/air pistols must shoot at a velocity less than 650 ft/sec. Standard competition air guns complying with International Shooting Sports Federation (ISSF) rules meet this velocity requirement (see <http://www.issf-sports.org/theissf/rules.ashx>). If questioned by the RO, the responsibility lies with the shooter to demonstrate that the air gun in question complies with the requirements.
8. **Lane Usage.** Shooters arriving on the line will ask the RO for a lane assignment. The RO may group types of shooters as required, such as putting experienced shooters in one area and new shooters in another area. The red part of each firing position is reserved for the shooter, their actively used equipment and a folding chair (optional). The yellow walkway is for use of the RO, transiting shooters, coaches, and RAs, so it must be kept clear of equipment. Shooting bags and cases may be placed behind the yellow walkway in the gray area. Spectators must stay in the gray area.
9. **Target Placement.** Based on the design of the target frames, targets will NOT be hung in middle of the target frame area. Instead, targets should be hung just to the left and/or right of the centerline to avoid damaging the wooden bracing strip in the middle of the target frame. No field targets are allowed.
10. **Food and Drink.** Only covered drinks are allowed in the firing area. Other food and drink should be consumed in the lounge area.
11. **Special Events.** During special events or when the use of the Air Range is approved for outside groups, these rules may be modified as necessary to permit the conduct of such events provided that basic operating and safety rules are not compromised.
12. **Standard Operating Procedures.** The Air Range Manager may supplement these range rules with additional Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs). In general, the range will follow the NRA Air Gun Shooting Sports Safety Guide, available online at http://training.nra.org/documents/pdf/education/airgun_safetyguide.pdf.