

**HOLSTER  
QUALIFICATION  
COURSE  
CLUB TRAINING  
OFFICERS  
MANUAL**



**Manual One in the series**



## INTRODUCTION FOR CLUB TRAINING OFFICERS

Pistol New Zealand has adopted a new format for the training of shooters to draw from the holster – be it Action Style shooting or CAS style shooting.

Drawing from the holster has evolved significantly since it was first introduced in the early 1990's. With the two holster draw for CAS shooters it became increasingly obvious that there needed to be a more consistent approach to holster training across all PNZ clubs and for there to be a stronger emphasis on the safe use of the holster and the approach to shooting.

For this reason it also became clear that the one day training of the past by a qualified Holster Instructor was also going to need updating. So, we now have a process whereby the club undertakes the training of the shooter in all safety related matters and for this to be applied over a period of time which can be suited to the ability of the shooter and the structure in the club. Once a shooter is deemed by the Club Training Officer to have attained a safe standard then the shooter can be referred to a Holster and Safety Assessor to measure the standard and to certify the shooter as safe to shoot from the holster.

### Club Training Officer

All clubs were required to appoint AT LEAST ONE person to the role of Club Training Officer in 2006. A Handbook has been developed and all clubs should have one in their possession, if not you can download this from the PNZ website. This Safety Training Manual has been designed to be added to Section Four of that Handbook as a reference and guide in the training for a Holster qualification.

### Holster and Safety Assessor

All clubs should nominate AT LEAST one person to undertake the role of a Holster and Safety Assessor. This role is sanctioned by Pistol New Zealand who will from time to time conduct qualification courses and appointment to select individuals. Application to attend such training programs should be made to Pistol New Zealand or the Regional Instructor.

Ideally, the Assessor should not be the Club Training Officer as the roles need to be separated in order for there to be any objective measure of the shooter's ability.

There may be clubs who do not have the numbers or the infrastructure to support two such persons. The more important position, within the club, is that of the Club Training Officer and the services of a Holster Assessor from a nearby club may be called on when a shooter needs be assessed.

## STAGE ONE – INTRODUCTION AND TRAINING WITH AN UNLOADED PISTOL

### STEP ONE

#### INTRODUCTION

Welcome to the Pistol New Zealand Holster Qualification Training and Safety Training course. This course has been designed to provide guidance and instruction to enable shooters to participate safely in the following disciplines:

**1. Action style events with semi automatic pistols**

- a) Action (NRA) pistol shooting
- b) IPSC shooting
- c) Speed Shooting
- d) Three gun Style shooting – pistol section

**2. Events utilising revolvers**

- a) Cowboy action shooting/ NRA Action Shooting
- b) Service match shooting
- c) IPSC Shooting

In order to be eligible to sit this course they MUST have:

- a) Completed AT LEAST 4 months of the first 6 months of their probationary period, be at least 12 years of age AND a holder of the “Junior Proficiently” badge (12-16). Pistol NZ is aware that some clubs allow the trainee to take the course with equipment purchased by the trainee and held by a B Cat endorsed club member. This is not recommended. However, if this does happen the person whose name the firearm is registered to MUST be in attendance with the trainees at all times – as required by the MoU – Section 5.7 (1) and (2). Clarification: You can't take possession of a pistol without a permit to procure (Section 44 of the Arms Act, 1983). If a club gun is used then the person whose license it is on must be present.
- b) Completed the “PNZ CLUB RANGE OFFICER SAFETY TEST”. This is based on Section Two of the Members Handbook
- c) Be the holder of a current Firearms license or have completed the “Junior proficiency badge” course (12-16).
- d) Have received tuition from their club in the safe handling of firearms on the range, plus any initial safety training and deemed proficient by the Club Training Officer.
- e) Their own equipment. This includes the pistol they propose to use in their chosen discipline and, their own belt, holster and pouches.
- f) Dummy rounds for their pistol (*Certified safe by the Club Training Officer. These are rounds with No primer OR powder*)

What is not acceptable is:

- a) Equipment that has been borrowed for the occasion or the course (*Excluding club guns or those permitted under a) above*)
- b) Unsafe equipment that has been deemed by the club training officer to be unsuitable
- c) Equipment that does not meet divisional requirements

The objectives of this training programme are to:


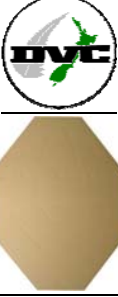
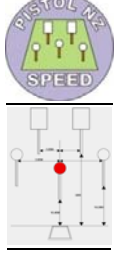



- a) Make the trainee fully aware of their responsibilities when shooting from the holster and, at the end of the programme, the trainee will be able to:
  - Understand the rules and regulations pertaining to shooting from the holster
  - Understand their obligations
  - Understand and respond to Range officer commands
  - Load, unload and reload a hand gun safely.
  - Demonstrate the basic drills competently
  - Shoot a basic match safely and should be able to score an acceptable result in order to demonstrate an ability to follow instruction and basic marksmanship.

Reassessment for a change of pistol:

Where a shooter changes their original pistol (eg: 1911 to a Glock or a revolver to a Semi/auto) they need to undergo a simple reassessment process to ensure that their safety, and that of other shooters, is ensured. See section at the end.

**It is mandatory for all shooters, range staff and spectators to wear eye and ear protection as a safety precaution during all Shooting events.**

## DISCIPLINES THAT INVOLVE HOLSTERS

	<p><u>NRA – Action Pistol Shooting</u></p> <p>A series of established matches shot at set distances involving a specified number of shots fired with a strict time limit. No ‘on range’ movement is required, although often shooters choose to shoot from the prone position and do develop special techniques to help improve their scoring abilities. The four major match events shot in competition include: Barricade event, Practical event, Moving target event, Falling Plates event. The total number of aggregated points possible for this type of competition is 1920X</p> <p>The official target is the AP-1 with separate scoring rings.</p>
	<p><u>IPSC – Practical Pistol Shooting</u></p> <p>A comprehensive range of stages, generally designed to be different at each event, make up a Practical Pistol Shooting competition. The idea is to test the shooter’s level of ability involving the ‘practical use of a handgun’. Such skills represent a ‘shoot’ or ‘no shoot’ situation. Targets can be partially obscured, moving or swinging out of sight. Steel knock down targets and pepper poppers are also used. Target scoring depends on the power factor of the ammunition used. Further details can be obtained from the IPSC Rule book.</p> <p>Targets used are the Classic IPSC target as well as the reactive pepper poppers and round steel targets.</p>
	<p><u>SPEED SHOOTING</u></p> <p>From a static position each shooter engages an array of steel targets in the fastest possible time. Each match is shot ‘comstock’ which means an unlimited number of rounds. Usually five ‘strings’ or ‘runs’ of fire are shot, the highest time deducted, leaving the aggregated time of four runs as the shooter’s score for a particular course of fire.</p> <p>Power factor is not enforced as the emphasis is on speed and accuracy. Plates must be hit in order to score. All plates are calibrated for 120 power factor. Misses or failure to engage a target, results in time penalties.</p>
	<p><u>SERVICE MATCH</u></p> <p>A popular event unique to Australia and New Zealand. Ninety shots in total are fired starting as far back as 50 yards and moving as close as 7 yards to the four targets used.</p> <p>Firing positions include prone, left and right barricade, strong and weak hand shooting. One string of fire requires the shooter to fire unsighted, pistol at a position that is not above the shoulder.</p> <p>Different classes in the match provide for both semi-auto pistols and the traditional ‘service’ revolvers.</p>
	<p><u>COWBOY ACTION SHOOTING</u></p> <p>A fun shooting sport for the whole family that has seen exceptional growth in New Zealand over the last few years. Shot to International rules (Single Action Shooting Society – SASS) using firearms from the late 1800’s to more modern 1900’s firing black powder and smokeless cartridges. Dressing the part of a cowboy is a mandatory requirement and whole families are involved in this fun sport.</p> <p>This event not only uses pistols but rifles and shotguns as well and, as such, is a three gun match. <i>(See separate section for CAS instructions)</i></p>
	<p><u>THREE GUN SHOOTING</u></p> <p>These events require a shooter to compete using a pistol, rifle and shotgun. Stages, or courses of fire, are designed to fully test each shooter’s ability with the three different firearms.</p> <p>This style of shooting is very similar to that of IPSC – Practical Pistol shooting and uses the same targets</p>

**SUITABLE EQUIPMENT**



*The above example is a Speed style holster with magazine pouch. Suitable for IPSC and action style events*



*This type of Holster and pouch has been popular with action shooters.*



*For CAS holsters and rigs, style seems to be unlimited. As long as they meet the safety requirements for retention. (See CAS Section)*



*These holsters are examples of the type of holsters used for Service or military pistols. Given the style of event they could be suitable*



The first requirement is to own a suitable pistol that will function reliably and safely. **For most action shooting the minimum calibre is 9mm (.38). .22 cal pistols can be used for drawing from a holster and are a developing feature in Action, Service and CAS related shooting.** They may choose to shoot a revolver for Action events however, the semi-automatic is considered by many to be more appropriate for Action shooting. A revolver is mandatory for CAS style shooting.

Ammunition used must be deemed safe. i.e. – not over or under loaded. An excessive load places dangerous stress factors on the brass and pistol which could very well result in injury or, at the very least, damage to the firearm. Light loads may result in a projectile being lodged in the barrel.

The shooter is advised to seek the advice of experienced shooters regarding a suitable load for their pistol, the desired power factor and projectile. They should be advised to use only good quality brass and to dispose of split or bulged cases. Top shooters always barrel drop their loaded ammo before a match. It only takes one faulty round to ruin any chance of a winning score.

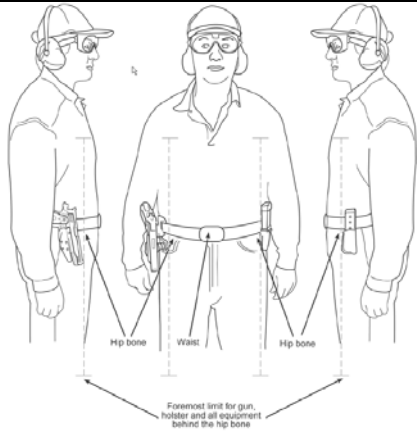
The shooter needs to be advised to purchase a good quality holster, one that will hold their pistol securely during all vigorous on range movement. The holster must cover the trigger of the pistol when correctly holstered, making it impossible for any accidental trigger contact to occur. The top of the pistol butt must not be below the top edge of the belt. (IPSC Rule 5.2.7.2) The use of Tactical or Tie Down holsters for Action events is not permitted.

**'Wild Bunch' shooters.** The holster must retain the pistol, be of traditional or military design in leather or canvas, covers the barrel from the muzzle to ejection port and isn't a cross draw or shoulder holster.

The belt should be strong enough to carry all equipment and wide enough to disallow holster swivel or any other movement. Magazine or speed loader pouches may be worn on the holster belt and should be capable of retention. The gun belt must be suitably secure, threaded through belt loops or held via a Velcro double belt system or belt keepers. Under SASS Rules there is no requirement to have the belt through loops.

Ear and eye protection **MUST** be worn. Appropriate clothing should be worn including footwear, jandals are **NOT** recommended, they are outlawed for CAS. A baseball cap or hat is also a good idea as most shooting is out under all weather conditions.

*Pistol New Zealand does not endorse any particular make or model of equipment. Trainees are advised to talk to their Club Training Officer about the most appropriate type of equipment for their purpose.*



**LOCATION OF AN ACTION HOLSTER AND POUCHES**

The diagram identifies where a holster and pouches need to be located on the shooter to conform with the requirements of the International Rules that govern IPSC and Action shooting.

Note: For Standard and Production classes of IPSC you need to have your holster and magazine pouches worn **BEHIND** the hip bone. Refer IPSC Rules. (As shown)

All other classes may have the Pistol and Magazine pouches placed anywhere on the belt, on or forward of the hip bone. Women have a dispensation to lower their belt and pouches. Details can be found in the IPSC Rule book if required.

For CAS requirements see CAS section.

1

**CTO Instruction**

*You need to talk through the above requirements and check the shooter's equipment and its suitability. The CTO should point out ALL the options for equipment and point out the BEST option to buy.*

## ACTION STYLE SHOOTING



## STEP TWO

### ACTION SHOOTING

Action shooting involves carrying and drawing a loaded pistol from the holster. Matches may involve 'on range' movement, including running, jumping, shooting from behind the cover of a barricade or similar obstacle. Engaging targets while standing, kneeling, sitting or prone and sometimes even on the run. In order to do all this safely, each shooter must patiently and thoroughly learn the necessary skills and be prepared to listen and obey the instructions of the Range Officer. ***Safety must always be the first consideration.*** Speed and match winning ability will come with practice and experience.

The Club Training Officer should not assume that the shooter already understands the fundamentals of pistol shooting and safe firearm handling skills. Be prepared to cover such basic training once more so everyone can feel confident in each other's company.

'*Gun control is self control*'. Any accident means that one or more safety rules were violated. That is why we demand that the shooter accept full responsibility for their actions. It's their gun they're shooting it and they must have full control of the 'disaster factor'. If they can't accept responsibility, this is not the sport for them. (From the USPSA Handbook.)

It should be noted that the term 'Action Shooting' does, in fact, encompass several separate quite different styles or disciplines of pistol shooting. The shooter must thoroughly learn the rules of their chosen sport. It's not difficult to do so and can only add to their shooting enjoyment. The Club can assist by making available copies of the NRA (Action), IPSC, Service, CAS or Speed Rulebooks. The Speed rules are available – free – from the PNZ website. Other rule books are available from the Pistol NZ Online Shop. One of these rule books will be provided to the shooter at the end of the course by way of the check box on the Assessor's sign off form. They will be able to select the rule book for their chosen discipline at that time.

### SAFETY ZONE

All pistol ranges that are approved for action shooting must have at least one safety zone designated. There will be at least one PRIMARY Safety Zone with possible SECONDARY Safety Zones on the ranges where an event requires them. These Safety zones are a clearly marked area where the shooter may:

- Clear an unloaded pistol from bag, then into holster
- Clear an unloaded pistol from the holster, then into a bag
- Clean and make adjustments to a pistol
- Show their pistol to another person (s)

**AMMUNITION MUST NOT BE HANDLED IN THE SAFETY ZONE UNDER ANY CIRCUMSTANCE**

*Magazines may be WORN in a Safety zone, PROVIDING they are NOT TOUCHED or REMOVED from the magazine belt.*

Drawing and dry fire practice must only be conducted in a Safety Zone designated for this purpose and in which a SAFE direction is marked.

2

***CTO Instruction:***

*As a preliminary to the course take the shooter through the safety requirements that the club will have already advised the shooter. Make sure they understand where the Safety Zone is located and the rules governing access and carrying / handling ammunition in the Safety Zone.*

## ON RANGE MOVEMENT AND TRAINING IN GENERAL



Practical (IPSC) shooting, includes on range movement. Unless engaging a target while moving with a loaded pistol:

- **The trigger finger MUST visibly be outside the trigger guard**
- **The muzzle MUST NOT be permitted to break the 180 degrees -90 degrees to the left or right of the shooter –and the pistol pointed up range whether loaded or not**

**Failure to comply with these two requirements invokes disqualification.**

**Definition:**

**Uprange:** Is that area BEHIND the shooting box and towards the 'safe' area of the range

**Downrange:** Is that area that points towards the targets.

During the course the trainee will need to learn how to shoot on the move – free style – and shoot while standing, kneeling, sitting and from the prone position. Training advice will need to be offered regarding the special techniques regarding barricade shooting, how to shoot through a window or move safely through a closed door. Planned reloads also need to be addressed - as well as the transfer of a pistol from hand to hand.

## MALFUNCTIONS AND THE NECESSARY REMEDIAL ACTIONS

We will take a look at malfunctions and how to quickly recognise these and take the appropriate remedial action. Common malfunctions include:



*This series of photos shows a stovepipe:*

- a) *Case stuck in the chamber*
- b) *Clearing the case by sweeping with the hand*
- c) *Pulling back the slide and emptying the case on the ground*

**Failure to fire (ammunition)**

Commonly referred to the 'pop 'n stop' which means if you hear a 'pop' instead of a definite bang, stop, keep your pistol pointed downrange, wait for 30 seconds then unload and show clear in the normal manner.

If a projectile is lodged in the barrel the gun may have to be dismantled – *on the line* – then taken away to check for damage to the pistol or to remove the projectile. The Range Officer then needs to check that the pistol is safe to continue in the match.

Please note: A pistol that cannot be completely cleared on the line should not be taken away from the line in a potentially unsafe state. The barrel needs to be removed from the frame if it is necessary to take it away to dislodge a projectile.

**Stove pipe – (empty case jammed in ejection port impeding the slide)**

See photos.

**Failure to go fully into battery**

This can happen if the round is too large for the chamber due to a bulge in the case and jams halfway. The same procedure as for a failure to fire must be adopted.

**Soft load / double charge**

A soft load can have the same effect as a 'pop 'n stop' and can leave the projectile in the barrel. Following the same process as above.

A double charge can cause serious damage to the pistol and even injury to the shooter. Reloading your own ammunition should be done advisedly and with the guidance of an experienced reloader.

**Primer load**

Another 'pop 'n stop'. Most soft loads are primer loads where there has been no powder added to the case.

**Slide or cylinder jammed**

This can be caused by a loose primer or brass filings that lodge in the slide rail.

## STEP THREE

### RANGE OFFICER COMMANDS AND RESPONSIBILITIES

The Range Officer's major function is to ensure all shooting and in range activity is conducted safely. Shooters, range staff and spectators must obey all lawful commands and requests made by a duly appointed Range Officer.

A Range Officer should always act and appear as the 'true professional'; calm, courteous, firm and in control at all times and completely unbiased.

Let us consider that the shooter has arrived on range in order to take part in an organised competition. The following procedures of events would be expected:

The competitor, by name or competitor number, would be called to the firing line:

**"Range is in use"**

**"Shooter to the line "**

(In Action Pistol Shooting the question is – 'Does the shooter accept his/her targets')  
It is the responsibility of the shooter to understand the COF they are about to attempt

**"Load and make ready"**

Shooter loads the magazine/loader into the pistol, holsters the pistol, and assumes the 'ready' position.

**"Ready" or Are you ready?"**

The shooter need not reply unless not ready.  
**(The command "Ready" is used for NRA Action events)**

**"Standby"**

Start signal sounds or the targets turn to face. Shooter commences the course of fire.

When you have finished firing, lower the pistol to the 45° position, finger out of the trigger guard and await the Range Officer's command to unload and show clear.

**"If you are finished, unload and show clear"**

Shooter unloads and presents the pistol for inspection.  
It is both the Range Officer's **AND** the shooter's responsibility to ensure the gun is clear.

**"If clear, hammer down, holster (or bag)"**

At this point make sure you still have a firm grip of the gun, aim downrange at the berm (clear of all props and targets) and pull the trigger allowing the hammer to fall. This must be an 'aimed shot'.

**"Range is clear"**

3

CTO Instruction

*Talk through the Range Officer's instructions with the shooter. Make sure they understand the process and ask if they have any questions about it. Then move onto the 5 stage draw and apply the commands.*

A thorough check should be made to insure no live ammunition is in the possession of the trainee – dummy rounds should also be classified as safe.

## STEP FOUR

### THE BASIC DRILLS – 5 STAGE DRAW

*THE CLUB TRAINING OFFICER WILL DEMONSTRATE – PLUS SUPERVISE – SQUAD PRACTICE.*

*(It is recommended that training is done on a one-to-one basis)*



After moving to the range, and with the CTO acting as Range Officer observe the shooter working through the 5 stage draw as follows:

Take a firm grip of the butt, trigger finger extended and outside of the trigger guard.

Draw the pistol, immediately pointing the muzzle down range.



As the muzzle of the pistol breaks the 45 degree angle, or higher, the shooter should disengage the safety catch. Then, if shooting free style take a firm, two handed grip.



Take a sight picture and bring the trigger finger into the trigger guard.



You have now safely drawn the pistol, have it pointing down range, sights aligned on target – commence gentle pressure on the trigger until the shot breaks.

**SHOOTING STANCE, GRIPS AND POSITIONS**



The 'Weaver' Stance  
 Designed to reduce muzzle recoil recovery time. This stance enhances the shooter's ability to draw and index targets at speed. One foot is placed behind and to the side of the other and the body turned at an angle. Note the shooter's right arm is straight and the left arm bent to adjust for the angle of the body. (Not often used in competition these days.)

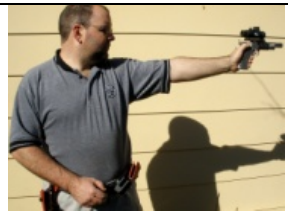


The 'Isosceles' Stance  
 Possibly used for more accurate, long distance shooting. The body is 'square' on to the targets and the shooter standing with feet placed apart. Both arms are extended but not locked.



Free Style  
 Using any safe grip method you like.  
Strong hand only: For a right handed person, using the right hand only. Left hand can be rested on the belt. Make sure that the thumb can release the safety easily. It is not acceptable for the shooter to disengage the safety after the draw and before transferring the pistol to the strong hand. Care must be taken in the placement of the trigger finger while transferring the pistol.

*Shooting strong handed only. Left hand resting on belt*



Weak hand only: For a right handed person, using the left hand only. This shooter is resting the right hand on his belt. Some shooters place the strong hand on their chest. Moving the pistol to the weak hand takes care and practice. Once firing has ceased the pistol will need to be moved back into the strong hand for the clearing of the pistol. Care must be taken in ensuring that the trigger finger of the strong hand does not rest on the trigger while doing this.

*Shooting weak handed only. Right hand resting on belt*



Sitting: Each shooter has their own preferred way of lowering their body to the ground and the position in which they sit. The pistol needs to be drawn before commencing the move and the muzzle direction and placement of the trigger finger needs to be watched throughout the process. The shooter would be best advised to practice this move without a pistol first and then with an unloaded pistol.

*Make sure your body or foot is not forward of the "Shooting Line"*



Kneeling In IPSC the course of fire can require either one or two knees be on the ground. As with sitting, the preferred method will be up to the shooter. However, the pistol still needs to be drawn before the position change and the finger and muzzle both need to be watched carefully.

*You can kneel with both or one knee on the ground*



Prone While there are many versions of prone, the shooter drops to one knee first, extending the weak hand before moving to the prone position. The trigger finger and the muzzle direction are critical as it is very easy to sweep the hand on the ground. Again, something that may need some practice with an unloaded pistol. Many shooters squat, place their non shooting hand on the ground and kick back both legs to land in a prone position.

4

CTO Instructions

*Have the shooter practice drawing an unloaded pistol, using the 5 stage draw - and adopting each of the stances and positions. Watch for trigger finger and muzzle direction at each stage*

## DRY DRILLS

- Gear check
- Fitting of gear, position of holster- retention of pistol while holstered.
- Placing gun and mags in holster/pouches from bag
- Weak hand on belt buckle or center of chest, never sweep weak hand or body during draw
- The draw – safety catch release after 45 degrees
- Use either hand to operate safety catch
- Taking a sight picture, returning pistol to holster – single handed
- Loading and unloading (using dummy rounds)
- Unloading and showing clear, returning pistol to holster
- Safe handling practices – positioning of hand - dealing with malfunctions
- Reloading techniques – elbow in for semi autos – always watching muzzle direction
- Reloading on the move
- Start positions, changing positions, movement on range, props and obstacles
- Muzzle direction during movement - 180 degrees – moving around/through props
- Changing pistol between hands, use of strong hand/weak hand

### Club trainer's use only

#### COMPLETION OF STAGE ONE

The following procedures have been explained, practiced and demonstrated to the satisfaction of the Club Training Officer.

- Introduction, covering the various disciplines, equipment checks
- Safety requirements
- Range Officer's commands and responsibilities
- The basic drills and the 5 stage draw
- Dry drills

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Signed: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

## STAGE TWO – LOADING AND ‘LOADED’ DRILLS

### STEP ONE

#### TO LOAD AND ‘MAKE READY’



Have the shooter load a magazine with dummy rounds

Take a firm grip of the pistol butt, trigger finger fully extended and outside of the trigger guard.



Draw the pistol, keeping the muzzle pointing directly down range. Keeping the finger outside the trigger guard.



Load the pistol by inserting a full magazine. Rack the slide, loading a round into the breach of the semi-auto. Engage the safety catch (*where fitted*).

Under ‘Wild Bunch’ SASS Rules, using a semi auto pistol for shooting CAS, the pistol starts with the magazine inserted but no round is to be loaded into the chamber.



With a revolver load round into cylinder, close the cylinder, while keeping the finger outside the trigger guard.



Holster the pistol, trigger finger fully extended and outside of the trigger guard.

Note: For some pistols the ‘ready position’ is – hammer down, safety off. (IPSC Rule 8.1.2)

## STEP 2

### UNLOAD AND SHOW CLEAR



Keeping the muzzle pointing down range, remove the magazine from the pistol and place into a magazine pouch or bag.

With a revolver swing open the cylinder, transfer the revolver to the non shooting hand and with the 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> fingers inserted through the frame, hold the pistol firmly. Use the thumb to work the ejection rod thus clearing the cylinder of all ammunition. Keeping the finger outside the trigger guard at all times



With the non- shooting hand, rack open the slide (gently but firmly). This action will eject any live ammunition from the breach – allow the round to fall to the ground. Hold the slide open for the Range Officer – and yourself – to check that the chamber is empty.

Both you and the Range Officer thoroughly check that the pistol is clear. Once the Range Officer – and yourself - is satisfied that the pistol is clear, you will be asked: "If clear, hammer down and holster". **It is the shooter's AND the Range Officer's responsibility to ensure that the gun IS clear.**



Manually (with care) close the action, then pointing the muzzle down range, dry fire the pistol in order to lower the hammer. This is the final test to ensure your pistol is clear of any live ammunition Hold the pistol firmly during this final stage. If an accidental discharge were to occur, you must be able to maintain full control.



Holster the gun, trigger finger fully extended and outside of the trigger guard.



NOTE: Some shooters choose to carry their pistols bagged to and from the firing line. When asked by the Range Officer to "LOAD AND MAKE READY" they will remove their pistol from the bag, load and make ready – and then holster. They can replace the gun into the bag after shooting is desired.

Some NRA Action shooters carry pistols to and from the line bagged – the R/O usually states after showing clear 'gun clear, holster or bag'.

Club trainer's use only

COMPLETION OF STAGE TWO

The following procedures have been explained, practiced and demonstrated to the satisfaction of the Club Trainer.

Load and make ready

Unload and show clear

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

**STAGE THREE – LIVE EXERCISES**

**STEP ONE**

**WARNING AND D.Q. INFRINGEMENTS**

**“Finger” in a loud firm voice.** (IPSC and Action events)  
Shooter Possibly has finger in the trigger guard – remove it now!!

**“Muzzle” in a loud firm voice.**  
Muzzle of pistol is ABOUT to break the 180 degree safe angle – correct!!  
(NB It should be noted that there is no requirement to warn a shooter that an infraction is about to occur. Safe gun handling is the shooter's responsibility.)

**“Stop – Cease fire – Unload, show clear”**  
A dangerous situation has occurred. Stop immediately. Follow the Ranger Officer's instructions to the letter.

NOTE: If a Range Officer **SEES** a shooter take more than one step with a finger inside the trigger guard, unless engaging a target, whether it is touching the trigger or not, he/ she will impose a D.Q. ruling.

If the Range Officer **SEES** a shooter allow their pistol muzzle to break the 180 degree line, he/she will impose a D.Q. ruling

**If a shooter drops a pistol:**

- If the pistol is loaded – it is an **automatic** Disqualification offence
- If the pistol is unloaded – it is a DQ Offence **ONLY** if it is picked up by **ANYONE** else but the Stage R/O. The process is to call the Stage or Match R/O at which time they will clear the range, then pick up the pistol and make sure it is unloaded, then it will be handed back to you to holster. This is not a DQ.

## SHOOTERS' OBLIGATIONS

The shooter should arrive on the firing line 'fully prepared', have all magazines loaded, ear and eye protection on. Know what is expected of them and arrive ready to start. If they receive a warning or request from the Range Officer – take it in the spirit it is offered. We are talking about their safety and the safety of every other person on range.

They need to appreciate the Range Officer's job, it's a tough one so it is nice to be thanked after a course of fire or match. They also offer to help with range duties such as patching, painting or resetting targets. Help pick up brass. This sort of help keeps the days shooting moving along and helps share the workload, plus promotes a lot of goodwill.

Action shooting has, to date, a remarkable safety track record. Each and every shooter supervised by a range officer. Very strict rules and regulations are in force to protect us all. Unsafe gun handling, if and when observed, will without exception be addressed. In fact, we have an agreement amongst action shooters. If an unsafe procedure is pointed out by another action shooter or range officer, it will be accepted in good grace and a 'Thank You' offered. After all, who wants to be the one who could possibly destroy our unblemished safe pistol shooting record?

LIVE DRILLS		
✓	DRILL TO BE UNDERTAKEN	SUGGESTED PROCESS
	Loading pistol and placing in holster	<i>Take shooter through the steps to complete this task.</i>
	Sight pictures and returning to holster	<i>Take shooter through the steps to complete this task.</i>
	Single shot drills	<i>Set up a single target, load, draw and one shot on a target and re-holster. Repeat 3 times for a total of three shots</i>
	2 shot drills	<i>Using the same target above, load, draw and two shots on a target and re-holster. Repeat 3 times for a total of six shots</i>
	Multiple target drills	<i>Set up three targets. Load, draw and two shots on each target and re-holster. Total Six shots</i>
	Drills with props and movement. Movement should be no more than 5m until fully qualified and no more than 2 positions. No running	<i>Set up a small course of fire with 2 targets. This should require shooting around a barrier at one target and moving to a second position, shooting one shot on each target. Repeat 3 times, Total 6 shots.</i>
	Drills moving up-range (Keep an eye on the muzzle direction- no running)	<i>Set up a small course of fire with 2 targets. This should require loading a pistol and engaging one target then moving up-range to a second position, shooting one shot on a second target. Repeat 3 times, Total 6 shots.</i>
	Watching 180 degrees	<i>Demonstrate clearly the meaning of 180°. This should be done with the placing of a target close to 180 degrees and demonstrating how a shooter if taking another step would be breaking this safety rule. This is a visual show and tell.</i>
	Always be safe – speed comes – go slow in your first event – special care first time away from your own club (Verbal Instruction)	
	Transferring pistols from hand to hand, shooting strong hand / weak hand	<i>The CTO should show the correct, safe way of transferring a pistol from the strong hand to the weak hand after the draw, then have the students try this on unloaded pistols. Then set up a simple drill with a loaded pistol with one target starting with the draw, transfer to the Weak hand and shoot one shot on the target- Repeat this 3 times- total 3 shots.</i>
	<u>Course awareness</u> Course trainees should be aware of the rules surrounding their chosen discipline. Eg. They need to be aware of, and recognize, the safe shooting distance from steel targets in whichever form they take. (CTO Verbal Instruction)	<i>CTO to set up a basic course of fire which will include elements from the above live drills. Shooting multiple targets, shooting around a prop or barrier, shooting at a target close to 180 degrees. Distances to be no more than 5 metres between all targets.</i>

## LIVE FIRE EXERCISES – COURSE ASSESSMENT SHOOTING

### CTO Instruction:

#### For your information

- All courses are 'Virginia Count' or – no extra shots permitted over those that are specified
- All Targets should be either; IPSC, SERVICE or NRA Targets and a minimum of 7 meters. You will need 4 targets for the course
- The final score results are to be included on the Holster Assessor's return form.
- The time is not as important as the placement of the shots on the targets but a reasonable time to complete each section is to be expected.

#### Assessing the person's confidence, safety and competence under a pseudo match condition

- Take each trainee through one at a time, one Section at a time, using the standard Range commands.
- Each trainee is to shoot a string of shots, as follows, that incorporates the various shooting positions.
- Start position shall be the 'surrender' position.

### **Free style – two handed**

Draw and fire a single shot at **target one**, reload, fire a second shot at **target two**. Lower pistol to 45 degrees position – apply safety catch – re holster.

Repeat three times – number of rounds required 6

### **Strong Hand / Weak Hand Shooting**

Draw with the strong hand only and fire one shot at **target one**. Lower pistol to 45 degree position – apply safety catch – re holster -Draw and transfer pistol to the weak hand, fire one shot at **target one**. Transfer pistol back to the strong hand. Lower pistol to 45 degrees position – apply safety catch – re holster

Repeat three times – number of rounds required 6

### **Kneeling and Prone Shooter – Free Style**

Draw, kneel, and fire two shots at **target one**. Lower pistol to 45 degrees position – apply safety catch – re holster - Draw, drop to prone position, fire two shots at **target one**. Apply safety catch – stand - re holster.

Repeat exercise three times – number of rounds required – 12.

### **Barricade and shooting on the move**

Standing in front of a barricade, **Box 1**, draw and fire two shots from right side of barricade on **target one**. Move pistol to left side of barricade and fire two shots at **target two**. Finger out of trigger guard, **RELOAD WHILE MOVING TO Box 2**, then fire two shots at **target three**. Finger out of trigger guard, **RELOAD** and engage **target four** with two shots. Lower pistol to 45 degrees and await Range Officer's instructions

Repeat exercise twice – number of rounds required – 16

### **Staged pistol – IPSC or CAS events (See CAS for CAS details)**

Retrieve the pistol from a table, load and engage **target one** with two shots.

Number of rounds Required- 2

### **Note: Total of 42 rounds required**

***A minimum result of 85% (36 hits out of 42) of the possible is required to pass the course. As none of the course is set against the timer this should be achievable. The objective of this pass mark is to test the shooter's ability to keep their shots within the range's safety cone of fire.***

***The number of hits needs to be included on the final Assessment form.***

It is recommended that once this stage has been reached the Club Training Officer observes the shooter over at least three club events to ensure that the shooter reaches a level of competency and confidence before completing the approval form and sending it to Pistol NZ.

The whole training process should take no longer than 3 months overall - maximum.

Club trainer's use only

COMPLETION OF STAGE THREE

The following procedures have been explained , practiced and demonstrated to the satisfaction of the Club Trainer.

- Warnings and DQ infringements
- Shooters' responsibilities
- Live fire exercises - Instruction
- Live fire - club competition - Event One
- Live fire - club competition - Event Two
- Live fire - club competition - Event Three
- Live fire - club competition - Event Four
- Live fire - club competition - Event Five

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Signed: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

**ACTION COURSE COMPLETION PROCEDURE**

**REFERRAL TO A HOLSTER ASSESSOR FOR FINAL ASSESSMENT**

**CONTACT DETAILS**

NAME OF ASSESSOR:	
TELEPHONE:	
EMAIL:	
DATE CONTACTED:	



# COWBOY ACTION STYLE SHOOTING



## STAGE ONE – INTRODUCTION AND TRAINING WITH AN UNLOADED PISTOL

### UNDERSTANDING THE REQUIREMENTS FOR SAFETY

Before shooting can begin it is important to observe the shooter’s attitude and approach to safety requirements. They need to demonstrate, through their actions, their understanding and procedures when they start their shooting for the day and this applies to their set up for the Holster assessment as well. They should begin the day as if they were attending an event.

This course should be done with the applicant having read the ‘SASS Shooters Manual’ and the ‘SASS Range Operations Manual’ both downloadable from the PNZ Website.

As part of their training they will have been advised of the following:

#### **SAFETY ZONE**

*All pistol ranges that are approved for action shooting must have at least one safety zone designated. There will be at least one PRIMARY Safety Zone with SECONDARY Safety Zones on the ranges. These Safety zones are a clearly marked area where the shooter may:*

- Clear an unloaded pistol from bag, then into holster
- Clear an unloaded pistol from the holster, then into a bag
- Clean and make adjustments to a pistol
- Show their pistol to another person (s)

#### **AMMUNITION MUST NOT BE HANDLED IN THE SAFETY ZONE UNDER ANY CIRCUMSTANCE**

*Ammo belts and loading strips may be worn in a Secondary Safety AS LONG AS ammo is not handled in any way whatsoever.*

*Drawing and dry fire practice must only be conducted in a safety zone designated for this purpose and in which a SAFE direction is marked.*

#### **LOCATION OF CAS HOLSTERS AND POUCHES**

These pictures identify where holsters and pouches need to be located on the shooter to conform to the requirements of the International Rules that govern SASS shooting. The belts, holster and buckles must be robust and strong enough to hold the weight of a loaded pistol and/or the included weight of loaded ammunition. Professionally made gear, whilst it can be expensive, is an investment and a ‘one off’ purchase that should see the shooter through their shooting ‘career’.



7

#### **CTO Instruction:**

Instruct the shooters to put on their holsters and to place their pistol in the holster. They should follow the requirements, as above.

## ON RANGE MOVEMENT AND GUN HANDLING IN GENERAL

During the 6 months probation period the club should have trained the shooter to be well used to moving with a gun with the hammer down on an empty chamber or on a spent case and removing their trigger finger while dealing with malfunctions. Club training processes should instruct the shooter to:

- a) Understand fully the requirements for loading their pistols by using a loading table
- b) Be fully conversant with the requirements of loading 5 rounds only and lowering the hammer on an empty chamber
- c) Be mindful of the muzzle of their pistol at all times and ensure that it does not break the 170 degrees
- d) Ensure that their trigger finger is easily seen outside the trigger guard while dealing with ammunition or jamming issues.
- e) Although the international rules under which Cowboy Action Shooting is run have no directive regarding movement with finger out of the trigger guard, in the interests of good gun handling practice shooters should endeavour to remember this safe practice.

The Club Training Officer should cover these again to make sure that they are clear in the shooter's mind and they understand the consequences of any breach.



CAS shooting includes on range movement. Unless engaging a target while moving with a loaded pistol.

- **Hammer must be down on an empty chamber or a spent case**
- **The muzzle MUST NOT be permitted to break the 170 degrees (point up range whether loaded or not)**

**Failure to comply with these two requirements invokes disqualification.**

### Definition:

**Uprange:** Is that area BEHIND the shooting box and towards the 'safe' area of the range  
**Downrange:** Is that area that points towards the targets.

## SHOOTING STANCE, GRIPS AND POSITIONS

### The 'Weaver' Stance

Designed to reduce muzzle recoil recovery time. This stance enhances the shooter's ability to draw and index targets at speed. One foot is placed behind and to the side of the other and the body turned at an angle.

### The 'Isosceles' Stance

Possibly used for more accurate, long distance shooting. The body is 'square' on to the targets and the shooter standing with feet placed apart. A caution for those using a cross-draw. The shooter may have to twist the body so as not to break the 170 while drawing the pistol from the cross-draw holster

Free Style: Using any safe grip method you like, usually two handed.

Strong hand only: Duellist or Classic Cowboy, Frontiersman, or Gunfighter. For a right handed person, using this hand only. Left hand can be rested on the belt.

Weak hand only: Duellist or Classic Cowboy, Frontiersman or Gunfighter. For a right handed person, using the left hand only. This shooter is resting the right hand on his belt. Some shooters place the strong hand on their chest.

### Sitting

Acquiring this position may take a bit of practice to ensure that the shooter finds a comfortable position to shoot from and one that enables them to stand again with ease, controlling the muzzle of the pistol at all times. Pistols would be staged on the table

### Kneeling

Either on one knee or two this is also a position that the shooter has to adopt that suits their style and ease of movement to the standing position with relative ease.

## STAGE DRAW

1. Take a firm grip of the butt.
2. Draw the pistol, immediately pointing the muzzle down range.
3. As the muzzle of the pistol breaks the 45 degree angle take a firm, two handed grip. Hammer may now be cocked.
4. Take a sight picture and bring the trigger finger into the trigger guard.
5. You have now safely drawn the pistol, have it pointing down range, sights aligned on target – commence gentle pressure on the trigger until the shot breaks.

Note: If you are using a percussion pistol you must realise that dry firing will cause damage; it is not recommended that such a pistol be used on a holster course. If you must use one then it is your responsibility to protect your pistol from damage. In some models you may be able to remove the nipples for the dry firing practice.



8

### CTO Instruction:

Ask each trainee, one at a time, to draw each pistol – following the 5 stage draw process and take a sight picture. Whilst pistol is drawn, offer a comment that will draw their attention and observe their response. Their pistol must not move in any direction away from down range and always be within the 170 degrees.

## MALFUNCTIONS AND THE NECESSARY REMEDIAL ACTIONS

9

### CTO Instruction:

Talk through the types of malfunction problems that can occur in CAS and how they should deal with the issues.

## RANGE OFFICER COMMANDS AND RESPONSIBILITIES

The Range Officer's major function is to ensure all shooting and in range activity is conducted safely. It's the job of the RO to safely assist the shooter through the course of fire.

Shooters, range staff and spectators must obey all lawful commands and requests made by a duly appointed Range Officer.

A Range Officer should always act and appear as the 'true professional': calm, courteous, firm and in control at all times and completely unbiased.

Let us consider that a shooter has arrived on range in order to take part in an organised competition. The following series of events would be expected:

The competitor would be called to the loading table where he loads both pistols and his rifle under the supervision of the person assigned to the task at the table.

The Competitor would then be called to the line where he would 'stage' his rifle and shotgun – according to the course of fire, and his pistols – if the course of fire requires it. For the purposes of the test the shooter will only be required to load his pistols and place them in the holsters – hammer down on an empty chamber. **5 rounds only.**

**“Range is in use”**

**“Shooter to the line – do you understand the course of fire?”**

**“Ready” or Are you ready?”**

The shooter need not reply unless not ready.

**“Standby”**

Start signal sounds. Shooter commences the course of fire. When the shooter has finished firing, the pistols are replaced back in the holster.

**“Please move to the unloading table”**

The shooter proceeds to the unloading table.

**“Range is clear”**

The shooter unloads the empty cases under the supervision of the person assigned to the task at the unloading table. The pistols are then presented to the supervisor at the table and it is the responsibility of BOTH the supervisor and the shooter to make sure the gun is clear.

**“[If clear] Gun Clear. Hammer down and Holster”**

10

CTO Instruction:

It is essential that the trainee understands and follows Range Officer instruction. Have the trainees load 5 dummy rounds into each pistol at the loading table. Have them follow the instructions above and finish with the pistol in the holster and the gun checked to be clear.

## DRY DRILLS

- Gear check
- Fitting of gear, position of holster- retention of pistol while holstered.
- Placing gun in holster
- Weak hand on belt buckle or center of chest, never sweep weak hand or body during draw
- The draw – cocking hammer after 45 degrees
- Taking a sight picture, returning pistol to holster – single handed
- Loading and unloading (using dummy rounds)
- Unloading and showing clear, returning pistol to holster
- Safe handling practices – positioning of hand - dealing with malfunctions
- Reloading techniques – always watching muzzle direction
- Reloading on the move
- Start positions, changing positions, movement on range, props and obstacles
- Muzzle direction during movement - 170 degrees – moving around/through props
- Changing pistol between hands, use of strong hand/weak hand

### Club trainer's use only

#### COMPLETION OF STAGE ONE

The following procedures have been explained, practiced and demonstrated to the satisfaction of the Club Training Officer.

- Introduction, covering the various disciplines, equipment checks
- Safety requirements
- Range Officer's commands and responsibilities
- The basic drills and the 5 stage draw
- Dry drills

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Signed: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

**CAS STYLE SHOOTING CATEGORY OPTIONS**



**Single Action shooting**

Cowboy Action Shooting is a sport in which shooters compete with pre 1899 style firearms typical of those used in the “Wild West” such as single action revolvers, lever action and pump action rifles, as well as side by side, lever action and pump action shotguns. Photo shows cowboy shooting freestyle



**Duellist**

Duellist is defined as shooting a pistol cocked and fired one handed, unsupported. The revolver hand, or shooting arm, may not be touched by the off-hand except when resolving a malfunctioning pistol problem or when transferring from one hand to another.



**Double Duellist**

**Double Duellist** is defined as shooting a pistol cocked and fired one handed, unsupported, with each hand. That is left pistol with left hand and right pistol with right hand- one pistol at a time. Two standard holsters are required, one on either side of the shooters body. No cross draw configurations are allowed.



**Gunfighter:**

is defined as shooting with a pistol with each hand, both at the same time and usually alternating shots. Pistols must be cocked and fired one handed, unsupported, one right handed and one left handed. Two standard holsters are required, one on either side of the shooters body. No cross draw or “Butt forward” configurations are allowed. Gunfighter and B-western categories are the only categories that allow two loaded pistols out of the leather at the SAME time. Gunfighter is a category for EXPERIENCED shooters only. Shooters wishing to shoot Gunfighter must show their proficiency by first shooting 2 major competitions. (CAS Island or CAS Nationals) using the “double duelist” style, that is using left hand for the left pistol and right hand for the right pistol. The shooters ability will be assessed by the Section Director, Chief R/O and /or Match RO’s.



**Staging your guns**

**Horizontal staging.** All guns staged shall have their barrels pointed safely downrange. All long guns initially staged on a horizontal flat surface shall be staged lying flat where at least the rear of the trigger guard is on the staging area. All handguns initially staged on a horizontal surface (where the course of fire directs) must be staged with the entire gun on the staging surface. All long guns shall be displayed open and empty with their barrels pointed safely down range.

**Vertical staging.** All shooters have the ability to stage, and return, their long guns in vertical racks without fear of breaking the 170 degree rule (as long as the long gun stays vertical). Care must be taken when restaging open and empty long guns to the rack, making sure the long gun is secure and in no danger of falling to the ground or sliding off.

## STAGE TWO – LOADING DRILLS

### TO LOAD AND 'MAKE READY'



1. Have the shooter load a cylinder with dummy rounds. It is good practise for the shooter to always use a loading block (as pictured) or a loading strip so revolvers are always loaded with 5 rounds.

#### a. LOADING AN OLD MODEL RUGER



2. Loading an old model Ruger – open loading gate, load 5 rounds and close loading gate. Make sure the cylinder latch is engaged in the cylinder.



3. Show the loading table supervisor your revolver to check that the hammer is down on an empty chamber. If you look closely at the photo you will see a clear gap at the top of the cylinder and in front of the loading gate. You should be able to see 'daylight' through there to indicate that there is no round loaded.

4. Holster the revolver.

#### b. LOADING A COLT / COLT CLONE



5. Open the loading gate



6. Draw the hammer back to half



7. Load the first round
8. Rotate the cylinder leaving the next chamber empty
9. Load the next four rounds
10. Close the loading gate
11. Draw the hammer back to full cock and lower hammer on the empty chamber.
12. Show the loading table supervisor the revolver to check that the hammer is down on an empty chamber
13. Holster the revolver.

## UNLOAD AND SHOW CLEAR



1. At the unloading table draw your revolvers one at a time.
2. With Ruger revolvers open the loading gate and working the ejector rod eject all cases from the cylinder. Show the unloading table supervisor the cylinder is clear by spinning the cylinder.
3. With Colt style revolvers open the loading gate and draw the hammer back to the half cock position. Then work the ejector rod to empty the cylinder of all cases. Show the unloading table supervisor the cylinder is clear by spinning the cylinder



4. When the unloading table supervisor is satisfied all chambers are clear the shooter will be told "Gun is safe. Holster" at which stage the shooter closes the loading gate and holsters the revolver.
5. In the case of Colt style revolvers "Gun is safe. Hammer down and holster" the shooter closes the loading gate, draws the hammer back to the full cock position and lowers it onto an empty chamber

## RELOADING DURING THE COURSE OF FIRE



6. Sometimes the shooter is required to undertake a reload as part of a course of fire (a cowboy action stage). This may be a reload of anywhere between one and six rounds. Ammo will be loaded either from the body or from a prop on the range. The revolver is then shot until it is empty before it is holstered.

## STAGE THREE – LIVE EXERCISES

### WARNING AND D.Q. INFRINGEMENTS

#### “Muzzle”.

Muzzle of pistol is ABOUT to break the 170 degree safe angle – correct !!

#### “Action open”

Relates to long guns. Action must be open when finished with and before using next gun

#### “Stop – Cease fire”

A dangerous situation has occurred. Stop immediately. Follow the Ranger Officer’s instructions to the letter.

NOTE: If the Range Officer **SEES** a shooter allow their pistol muzzle to break the 170 degree line, he/she will impose a D.Q. ruling

#### If a shooter drops a pistol:

- Loaded – is an automatic Disqualification offence  
The process is to follow R/O instruction. The R/O will pick it up themselves or you may pick the revolver up with their permission. This is so that an independent person has determined the condition of the gun is safe.
- Unloaded – This process is the same as for a loaded revolver.

### SHOOTERS’ OBLIGATIONS

The shooter should arrive on the firing line ‘fully prepared’, have all necessary ammo belts loaded and ear and eye protection on, know what is expected of them and arrive ready to start. If they receive a warning or request from the Range Officer – take it in the spirit it is offered. We are talking about their safety and the safety of every other person on range.

They need to appreciate the Range Officer’s job; it’s a tough one so it is nice to be thanked after a course of fire or match. They also offer to help with range duties such as patching, painting or resetting targets. Help pick up brass. This sort of help keeps the days shooting moving along and helps share the workload, plus promotes a lot of goodwill.

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## LIVE FIRE EXERCISES- COURSE ASSESSMENT SHOOTING

11

### CTO Instruction:

#### For your information

- All courses are 'Virginia Count' or – no extra shots permitted over those that are specified
- All Targets should be standard SASS size steel targets
- The final score results are to be included on the Holster Assessor's return form.
- The time is not as important as the placement of the shots on the targets but a reasonable time to complete each section is to be expected.

#### Assessing the person's confidence, safety and competence under a pseudo match condition

- Have a course of fire consisting of **three targets**, one target width apart and 7m down range.
- Take each trainee through one at a time, one Section at a time, using the standard Range commands.
- Each trainee is to shoot a string of shots, as follows, that incorporates the various shooting positions.
- Start position shall be the 'surrender' position.

### Section One – 20 shots rounds in total

#### Drill 1

- 2 shots standing –Target One. Holster with hammer down on an empty case
- 3 shots standing –Target Two and holster
- With second pistol
- 2 shots standing –Target Three. Holster with hammer down on an empty case
- 3 shots standing – Target One and holster

*(Note: By changing the nominated target you will be able to identify whether or not the shooter is listening carefully to your instruction. This also gives the assessor an opportunity to check that the shooter is drawing safely)*

#### Drill 2

- 10 shots standing – two shots on each of the first two targets then one on the third target, Pistol one. Repeat with the second pistol. Holster

Unload the pistols.

*(Note: Run the next shooter through, if there is one, before taking the previous shooter on to Section Two)*

### Section Two – 10 shots in total

*(Note: This is to assess the person's ability to transition between positions smoothly and safely)*

Move your target set out to 10m or your start position back to accommodate the new distance.

#### Drill 3

- 5 shots kneeling.

#### Drill 4

- 5 shots sitting.

The pistols are to be re-holstered after completion of the string and while the shooter is standing

### Section Three – 16 shots in total

#### Drill 5

A basic course of fire is to be set up using two targets that are set so as to require:

- a) Sufficient movement (2 or 3 Meters) between two shooting boxes so as to demonstrate muzzle control.
- b) Drawing second pistol while moving from shooting box to shooting box.

*(Note: boxes should be set up diagonally to assess muzzle direction)*

- c) Each shooter is to be 'one on one' supervised with the Assessor acting as the Range Officer
- d) Starting with the pistols loaded and holstered.

#### Drill 6

- a) String one. Standing in Box A. On signal, draw 1<sup>st</sup> pistol and fire two shots at targets one, move to Box B and fire three shots on target two.
- b) String two. Position a table in front of the shooter. Standing in Box A. Place the loaded pistol, hammer down on empty chamber, on the table and extra rounds carried on the body of the shooter. On signal, retrieve pistol, load one extra round and fire three shots at target one and three shots at target 2. Holster the gun. Then move to position B and with second pistol, fire five rounds at target two. Second pistol may be drawn at or anywhere between position A and position B

#### Note: Total of 46 rounds required

*A minimum result of 85% (39 hits out of 46) of the possible is required to pass the course. As none of the course is set against the timer, this should be achievable. The objective of this pass mark is to test the shooter's ability to keep their shots within the range's safety cone of fire.*

*The number of hits needs to be included on the final Assessment form.*

Club trainer's use only

**COMPLETION OF STAGE THREE**

The following procedures have been explained, practised and demonstrated to the satisfaction of the Club Trainer.

- Warnings and DQ infringements
- Shooters' responsibilities
- Live fire exercises - Instruction
- Live fire - club competition - Event One
- Live fire - club competition - Event Two
- Live fire - club competition - Event Three
- Live fire - club competition - Event Four
- Live fire - club competition - Event Five

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Signed: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

**CAS COURSE COMPLETION PROCEDURE**

**REFERRAL TO A HOLSTER ASSESSOR FOR FINAL ASSESSMENT**

**CONTACT DETAILS**

NAME OF ASSESSOR:	
TELEPHONE:	
EMAIL:	
DATE CONTACTED:	

## Holster re-qualification:

**Reason for re-qualification:** If a holster qualified shooter has not shot from the holster in at least 5 Years a re-testing of the shooters holster safety will be carried out by the shooters club Assessor, using the final course live fire test, in either Action or CAS. A Pass mark must be achieved.

Name of Shooter:	
Address:	
E-mail	
Holster Number:	
FM1 Number:	
Date of re-qualification:	
Club:	
CTO Signature on behalf of the Club:	
Members Signature	
Assessor's Signature	

**Has passed the re-qualification test and is fully qualified to compete from a holster.**

**Has not passed the re-qualification test and will undergo further training.**

**Has not passed the Holster re-qualification test and it is the clubs recommendation that the shooter re-sits the complete holster course.**

**Has not passed the Holster re-qualification and it is the clubs recommendation that the holster licence be withdrawn on the grounds of safety.**

Please send this form to Pistol New Zealand within 7 days of re-qualification

DATE SENT TO PNZ:





These manuals are  
Produced by Pistol New Zealand to train clubs and  
shooters in the skills for confident and competent  
practises when drawing a pistol from the holster and a  
guide for trained Assessors

1. Club Training Manual–Holster Qualification
2. Holster Course for Shooters
3. Holster Qualification course and Safety assessment  
Manual for Assessors.