



# THE CODE OF CONDUCT & SAFETY REGULATIONS OF VALLEY CLAY TARGET CLUB

## MANDATORY AND ENFORCEABLE CODES OF CONDUCT FOR MEMBERS, VISITORS, EMPLOYEES AND OFFICIALS

The shooting and leisure facilities at Valley Gun Club (VGC) are there for all our members and bona fide visitors, guest and corporate clients to enjoy. With a large number of members and visitors, it is important to ensure that the use of these facilities is set within guidelines understood by all and for the benefit of all.

The purpose of this Code of Conduct and Safety Regulations is to provide members, visitors, guest and corporate clients of VGC with a guide for the sharing and use of these facilities in a safe and responsible manner.

Non-adherence to this Code of Conduct and Safety Regulations can lead to disciplinary action taken by the management committee of Valley Gun Club.

- 1 Members, visitors, guest and corporate clients to VGC are encouraged and expected to:
  - show positive acts of sportsmanship, discouraging all instances of foul or illegal play/competition, or acts of violence or unbecoming behavior, both on and off the shooting ranges;
  - demonstrate the greatest levels of respect, protecting the rights, dignity and worth of every person regardless of their gender, race, ability / disability, sexual orientation, cultural background or religion;
  - lead by positive example by accepting that the integrity of the sport of clay target shooting is of paramount importance; and
  - conduct himself or herself in a manner that is not unbecoming of a member/visitor or which is actually or potentially harmful to the interests of the club or brings or may bring the sport of clay target shooting into disrepute.
  
- 2 Members, visitors, guest and corporate clients of VGC shall therefore, at all times:
  - Be a good sport;
  - Participate within the rules of the particular shooting discipline he/she is participating in and always honour both the spirit and letter of the competition and safety rules to live up to the highest ideals of ethics, fair play and sportsmanship;
  - Always respect fellow shooters, competitors, trappers/scorers and the umpire's decision;
  - Never engage in disrespectful conduct of any sort including vulgarity, sledging, offensive remarks, hurtful or other actions that are demeaning to other members, fellow competitors, visitors, clients or club officials and staff members;
  - Care for and respect the facilities and equipment made available by the club to participate in the sport and leisure of clay target shooting.

- 3 Firearms are to be treated as loaded and at all times to be handled with the utmost respect.
- 4 ALL members shall sign the Member's Indemnity Form to be kept on record by the club and ALL visitors, ad hoc participants and/or guests are required to sign the attendance and indemnity register upon arrival at the club. No visitors or guest may shoot without obtaining approval from club management.
- 5 No shooter may shoot a round unless he or she has been squadded on a Club score sheet with a shooting ticket issued by the club for the specific discipline to be shot and attached to the score sheet. The score sheet must be on the range at the time of shooting and a designated trapper/scorer to be present before shooting commences. Any club official or committee member may at any time request a shooter to produce his or her score sheet with the number of issued shooting tickets attached thereto that must at all times correspond with the number of rounds shot by the shooter concerned.
- 6 Shooting with a shotgun shall only occur on the shooting ranges or at the designated pattern board range and no cartridge, with a shot size larger than 2.5mm (No.7), may be used at any time. No other firearms may be used on any of the shooting ranges or on the club's premises.
- 7 No persons may enter a trap house, tamper with or adjust trap machines unless specifically authorised to do so by a club official or committee member.
- 8 Shooters must always be aware that there are "trappers" working in trap houses and on sporting ranges. Every possible measure must be taken to ensure their safety. A RED FLAG indicates the range is closed and no shots may be fired. Shooters may not switch on or touch any range equipment or "Call" for targets until the range has been formally opened i.e. red flag down and the trapper/scorer gives the all clear.
- 9 Trappers and umpires must at all times be treated with respect and shooters are to adhere to their instructions.
- 10 No alcohol is to be consumed by shooters until they have completed shooting for the day. No liquor is allowed onto any range.
- 11 It is mandatory to wear proper ear and eye protection on all ranges. This includes shooters, umpires, scorers and trappers.
- 12 Straps on shotguns are not allowed.
- 13 It is forbidden to touch another person's gun without the owner's consent.
- 14 It is forbidden to aim at or wilfully shoot at animals or birds on the club grounds.



- 15 Shooting and sighting may only be practised on shooting stations in accordance with the rules of the various disciplines, or at the pattern board.
- 16 It is forbidden to aim or shoot at another shooter's target.
- 17 Empty cartridge cases and boxes must be placed in the bins provided and not thrown on the ground.
- 18 In Trap shooting, no shooter shall move or turn from the station until the entire squad has completed the round and the trapper or referee has given the command "break, unload and change" or announced the end of the line.
- 19 In Skeet shooting, squad members are to remain at station 8 until the last shooter has completed the round.
- 20 Any unnecessary noise or comment on a shooting station is generally regarded as unsportsmanlike. The use of abusive language is strongly discouraged and members/visitors shall not communicate with others in a threatening, harassing or abusive manner.
- 21 No person is permitted onto the range whilst shooting is in progress, unless they are part of the shooting squad, an umpire, scorer, trapper or an official club designated shooting coach.
- 22 Pets are to be confined to spectator areas. See the Club's dog policy in this regard.
- 23 The Trap, Skeet & Trench ranges, are defined as being 12m behind the rear most shooting point and are clearly demarcated by a rope border/fence. For Sporting, the road to the clubhouse will constitute the border of the Sporting ranges. Red flags on the north side of the road will indicate that shooting is in progress and no unauthorised entry is allowed.
- 24 Only the duty officer of the day or committee members are permitted in the office to organise squadding and handle tickets.
- 25 No coaching will be allowed on the shooting station during normal competition shooting rounds.
- 26 Shotgun Carrying And Storing:
  - 26.1 Safe carrying of shotgun – CLUB Premises
    - 26.1.1 Shotgun to be carried unloaded in a shotgun bag or case, OR
    - 26.1.2 Shotgun to be carried 'broken' and unloaded;
    - 26.1.3 Over and under and side-by-side shotguns to be carried 'broken' either over the arm or
    - 26.1.4 over the shoulder. If carried over the shoulder, barrels must be in front.
    - 26.1.5 Semi-Automatic or Pump action shotguns when carried out of a bag should be carried with the barrels pointing upwards, breech open and facing forward.
    - 26.1.6 Gun racks should be used if provided. Shotgun must be unloaded and closed in a vertical rack.
    - 26.1.7 Members must observe additional club rules regarding storing of shotguns.
    - 26.1.8 Shotguns must not be closed and placed on a table or seat in the Club House unless in a gun bag.

26.2 Safe Carrying Of Shotgun – RANGE Procedures



- 26.2.1 As per 26.1.1 to 26.1.6 above
- 26.2.2 Whilst on official practice or competition, shotguns must not be loaded until on a shooting stand when it is the shooter's turn to shoot.
- 26.2.3 Under no circumstances may a shotgun be fired out of turn or from a different stand from the shooter whose turn it is to shoot.
- 26.2.4 Shotguns may not be pointed, whether loaded or unloaded, at any animate or inanimate object except when it is the shooter's turn to shoot on the shooting stand and only the clay target may be fired upon.

## 27 Safe Loading And Firing:

- 27.1 Shooters to ensure the correct gauge cartridges are used.
- 27.2 Cartridges must only be loaded into the shotgun whilst on the shooting stand and when it is the shooter's turn to shoot.
- 27.3 Shotguns must always be pointing down range.
- 27.4 After firing, the shooter must not turn around with the shotgun until the shotgun is empty of cartridges and the shotgun is open.
- 27.5 At all times, the shooter must be aware of the background to the shooting range/target trajectory and be alert to any possible danger for anyone or anything in the background.
- 27.6 In the case of a failure to fire, the shotgun must be kept pointing down range. If a failure to fire occurs in a competition, the specific rules for that discipline should apply but generally the shotgun should be kept closed until the umpire has checked it for safety.
- 27.7 Help should be sought if the shotgun will not open with live cartridges still inside as the shotgun will have to be taken apart in a safe manner.
- 27.8 At all times with a failure to fire the shotgun must be kept pointing down range even whilst waiting for additional help.

## 28 Specific rules

- 28.1 Snap caps : may not be inserted into a shotgun unless the shooter is on a shooting stand with the shotgun pointing safely down range.
- 28.2 When taking a shotgun out of a shooting bag, the shotgun should be 'broken' immediately upon extraction.
- 28.3 In the case of a semi-automatic or pump action, the barrels must not point at anyone or pointed in an unsafe direction, chamber to be opened, free of any cartridges, and left open.

29 In keeping with the vision of the club to provide a family environment, children are welcome. Parents or custodians are requested to ensure that their children adhere to the Code of Conduct and Safety Regulations at all times.

30 Only duly authorized and appropriately qualified adults and children are permitted to shoot. Visitors to the club must be introduced to the Club Captain or club manager to ensure that if they want to shoot that they read this Code of Conduct and Safety Rules and sign the attendance register. The Club Manager will ask one of the committee appointed members to assist the visitor on the range and introduce him or her to the discipline if they have no previous experience.

31 All spectators and non-shooters to remain outside of Range perimeter ropes (see paragraph 23 above for perimeter boundaries of ranges).



- 32 Respectable clothing to be worn at all times. No sleeveless shirts or shorts, which are very short. Preferably a proper shooting jacket/vest to be worn - particularly in the case of Olympic Skeet and FITASC Sporting shooters where the demarcation line must be visible. No military wear or military bags of any type are permitted, including military camouflage trousers, shirts, jackets, hats/caps or shoes. Furthermore, no civilian clothing made with a camouflage print of any description is permitted.
- 33 Members or visitors may not remove any property of the club from the club's premises, except with the express permission of the club manager.
- 34 The primary responsibility of the club employees is to provide excellent service to the members and their guests and it is imperative that they be treated with courtesy and respect at all times.
- 35 Any damage to the club's property is the liability of the member, visitor or shooter concerned.
- 36 It is not permitted to remove food or beverages (except bottled water or soft drinks) from the club's premises, nor will members or visitors bring their own beverages to the club premises.
- 37 All members and guests are obliged to acquaint themselves with these rules and be aware of the penalties, which may result from the violation of the said rules.
- 38 No smoking is allowed in the club house or on any Sporting ranges where it may create a fire hazard.
- 39 In order to retain the integrity and good name of the Club, any case of abusive behaviour to fellow shooters or members or visitors and any case of dishonesty will be thoroughly investigated if necessary, disciplinary action will be taken by the management committee of VGC.
- 40 Minor violations of these rules normally incur a warning in the first instance. If a serious violation or a disregard of these rules has been committed with intent or repeatedly, the shooter will either be excluded from the shoot and/or club premises and subjected to other appropriate disciplinary action as may be determined by the management committee in accordance with the Constitution and
- 41 Disciplinary Regulations of VGC.

NOTE: In addition to the above, ALL Firearm Regulations, CTSASA Rules and Regulations and any other Valley Gun Club Safety Regulations as determined from time to time, are to be strictly adhered to at all times.





FITASC The Sporting Grand Prix of South Africa - 2019  
FITASC Africa Sporting Championship and Africa Baretta Cup Final – 2019  
FITASC Compak Sporting and Africa Baretta Cup Final – 2019

## **PROGRAM OF EVENTS**

The program for the Events is as follows:

### **FITASC Grand Prix of South Africa 16<sup>th</sup> and 17<sup>th</sup> March 2019**

14<sup>th</sup> March 2019 – Practice day 1  
15<sup>th</sup> March 2019 – Practice day 2  
15<sup>th</sup> March 2019 - FITASC Grand Prix - Competition Sign in  
  
16<sup>th</sup> March 2019 – FITASC Grand Prix - Competition Day 1  
17<sup>th</sup> March 2019 – FITASC Grand Prix - Competition – Day 2  
  
17<sup>th</sup> March 2019 – FITASC Grand Prix – Prize Giving

### **FITASC Africa Sporting Championship and Africa Baretta Cup Final 21<sup>st</sup> and 22<sup>nd</sup> March 2019**

18<sup>th</sup> March 2019 – Practice day 1  
19<sup>th</sup> March 2019 – Practice day 2  
20<sup>th</sup> March 2019 – FITASC Africa Sporting Championships, Africa Cup and Compak – Sign in  
20<sup>th</sup> March 2019 – FITASC Africa Sporting Championships, Africa Cup and Compak – Opening Ceremony  
  
21<sup>st</sup> March 2019 – FITASC Africa Sporting Championships Competition – Day 1  
22<sup>nd</sup> March 2019 – FITASC Africa Sporting Championships Competition – Day 2  
  
22<sup>nd</sup> March 2019 – FITASC Africa Sporting Championships and Africa Cup – Prize Giving

### **FITASC Compak Sporting and Africa Baretta Cup Final 22<sup>nd</sup> and 23<sup>rd</sup> March 2019**

23<sup>rd</sup> March 2019 – FITASC Compak Competition – Day 1  
23<sup>rd</sup> March 2019 – FITASC Compak Competition – Day 2  
  
23<sup>rd</sup> March 2019 – FITASC Compak – Prize Giving  
23<sup>rd</sup> March 2019 – FITASC Africa Sporting Championships and Compak – Closing Ceremony.