

SOP Appendix C

Cowboy Action

2/1/2024

1. Purpose

- a. To establish standard operating procedures for operating a Cowboy Action range.

2. Additional information

- a. Appendix 1 – **Range Ownership and Contact Information**
- b. Appendix 2 – **Emergency Range Procedures**
- c. Appendix 3 – **Code of Conduct and Discipline Policy**
- d. Appendix 4 -- **Range Operations**
- e. Appendix 5 – **Range Opening, Operating and Closing Procedures**

3. References

- a. BSA Guide To Safe Scouting
- b. BSA Shooting Sports Manual
- c. BSA Cowboy Action Shooting Program Guide
- d. BSA National Camp School Training Manual
- e. NRA Range Safety Manual

4. Authorization to operate program.

- a. Before beginning this program, a program hazard analysis should be conducted for this range and this program as outlined in NCAP standard PD-111. The Council Risk Management committee should review the analysis as per Standard PD-112 and submit to National for approval.

5. Operation of Range

- a. The Range is opened only when all the qualified Range Supervision is present.
- b. Follow the guidelines in SOP Appendix 5 – Range Opening, Operating and Closing Procedures.
- c. Shooting Procedure.
 - i. Each participant must be given a short orientation before they are allowed to shoot. The orientation will cover:
 - ii. How to handle the Rifle, Shotgun and pistol.
 - iii. Range procedures.
 - iv. Safety procedures.

5. Personnel

- a. Operation of a Cowboy Action Range requires qualified supervision. Range Safety Officers (RSOs) must have current certification from the NRA. The Range must be supervised by an RSO.
 - i. Instructors must have a current rating of pistol, rifle or shotgun instructor from the NRA. (must have all three if using all three types of firearms)

- ii. Each Cowboy Action Shooting participant will be accompanied by a certified Pistol, Rifle or Shotgun Instructor (depending on firearm being used) who is actively involved in every shot and all of the gun handling.

6. Persons Authorized to Shoot

- a. All participants must have the physical strength and manual dexterity required to shoot safely.
- b. If range personnel are uncertain of a participant's ability, the range personnel may test the participant and make appropriate physical arrangements (if possible) to assure a safe shooting experience.
- c. All participants are required to follow the Rules for Safe Gun handling and follow the instructions of the Range personnel. The rules for Safe Gun Handling are:
 - i. **ALWAYS** keep the gun pointed in a safe direction.
 - ii. **ALWAYS** keep your finger off the trigger until ready to shoot.
 - iii. **ALWAYS** keep the gun unloaded until ready to use.
- d. Any participant behaving in an unsafe or disruptive manner may be removed from the range by any one of the range personnel.
- e. Only Scouts BSA, Venturers and Sea Scouts who are over the age of 14, or are 13 and have completed the 8th grade, may participate in this activity.
- f. See appendix 3 Code of Conduct and Discipline Policy for additional requirements.
- g. See Range SOP for additional requirements.

7. Authorized Firearms and Calibers

- a. Lever Action Rifles may be used for this program with Instructor loading. Only .22 caliber allowed.
- b. Shotgun: Pump, Semi Auto and Hinge action allowed. Hinge action may be double barrel, either side by side or over under. 12 or 20 gauge allowed.
- c. Single Action Revolvers may be used for this program with Instructor loading. Only .22 caliber allowed.

8. Allowed ammunition

- a. .22 caliber Standard Velocity soft nose lead bullet allowed. No jacketed bullets or "Hyper Velocity" (over 1250 fps) allowed.
- b. 12 or 20 gauge lead shotgun ammunition, 7-1/2 or smaller allowed. No steel, buckshot, slugs or shot larger than 7-1/2 allowed.

9. Course of fire

- a. Course of fire should follow BSA Cowboy Shooting Program Guide recommendations if possible.
- b. Course of fire modifications may be made to fit range limitations with approval of the Council Shooting Sports Director.