

RRC Fall 2023 Newsletter

Youth Programs now under 501-c(3)

Our former Junior programs for Precision shooting as well as Junior Sporterifle are now under the umbrella of the **Rochester Youth Marksmanship, Inc. (RYMP)**. The RYMP is a **501c(3) organization** recognized by New York State and the US Federal government. It took 3.5 years and revisions to lots of paperwork but the final piece was the approval by the Federal Government on July 12, 2023.

In addition to youth practices and shoulder to shoulder shooting, there are some events fired with the USA Shooting Junior Olympic Training Center, the National Rifle Association, New York State Rifle and Pistol Association, and the Civilian Marksmanship Program. As we continue our dedication to the youth, marksmanship education promotes safety, sportsmanship and finally competition. We know of no other

program like this in New York State or in the North East.

Contributions to the Rochester Youth Marksmanship Program, Inc (a charitable and educational organization) are now tax deductible. Please consult your tax advisor for deduction eligibility.

Donations may be sent directly to the **Rochester Youth Marksmanship Program, P.O. Box 53, Avon, NY 14414.**



Safety First and Always

The three basic general rules of safe gun handling are:

- 1) *Always point the muzzle in a safe direction, never point a firearm at anyone or anything you don't want to shoot.*
- 2) *Keep your finger off the trigger and outside the trigger guard until you are ready to shoot.*



- 3) *Keep the action open and the gun unloaded until you are ready to use it.*

There are many additional specific rules related to the shooter and his or her behavior, the target and more.

Please keep up-to-date on the Rochester Rifle Club's Range Rules. They may be found on our web-site Rochesterrifleclub.org. These have been re-designed over the last few years. We would like to highlight some revisions in recent years to our Range Rules in the following questions.

Question : I have trouble hitting the traditional competitive bullseye target at 50 feet with my handgun. Why can't I shoot at a closer target?

Answer: See Range Rules excerpts

Equipment Rule #4. Targets must be fully extended against a stop before shooting. Targets at stations 1-4 may be set at 10m (33 feet) instead of 50 feet.

Equipment Rule #4. Only paper targets a maximum of 24" wide by 36" high are permitted.

Range Safety Rule #13 Drawing and firing from a holster, pocket, belt, vest or otherwise is prohibited.

Range Safety Rule #14 Members are responsible for every shot they take.

While the above are only excerpts of each of those range rules, you will see that there is some flexibility in shooting at a BIG target. HOWEVER, every shot needs to proceed directly into the backstop after the paper target. That is part of the reason why there is no fast draw.

Shots need to be made safely, not off the walls, floor or ceiling. If you are missing a 24" by 36" target at 33 feet and hitting the target holder or ceiling instead, we have a problem! Know what is beyond the target and in the direction you are firing. There is NO EXCUSE for skimping on safety. Practice safety all the time.

Question: Am I allowed to bring a guest with me?

Answer: Our Range Rule under "guests" explains about waivers that the guest must sign and that "members must supervise their guest continuously. Only **one guest may shoot at a time** and be under the direct supervision of the inviting member. " This excerpt describes the **importance of supervision by the member.** It is the responsibility of the member to make sure all range rules are being followed and safety is a number 1 priority. When a member thinks, oh no one else is around but me and my guest, the range rules don't matter, that member is treading on thin ice. Safety Rules must be followed by everyone, all the time.