

Sarasota County Knight Trail Park

Standard Operating Procedures: Rules & Regulations

With oversight by the Florida Fish & Wildlife Commission

Public Pistol & Rifle Range

PREAMBLE:

The Knight Trail Park Pistol & Rifle Range is a public shooting facility owned and operated by Sarasota County with oversight given by the Florida Fish & Wildlife Commission. This facility was created to offer shooting enthusiasts a safe place to gain skill, knowledge and a positive attitude in promoting safe and responsible shooting.

Knight Trail Park Pistol & Rifle Range offers a fifteen position 100- yard rifle range, a nine position 50- yard rifle/handgun range, a twenty-four position 25- yard rifle/handgun range and a sixteen position 12- yard pistol range.

Knight Trail Park Pistol & Rifle Range is manned by National Rifle Association (NRA) certified Range Safety Officers.

The facility is located at 3445 Rustic Rd, Florida 34275. Information on the facility can be obtained by calling the Facility Manager at 941-486-2351 or the Sarasota County Call Center at 941-861-5000.

The public range is open for use Wednesday thru Sunday from 9:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.

USER RESPONSIBILITIES:

1. ALWAYS keep your firearm pointed in a safe direction. If uncased, firearms should be pointed muzzle up. After uncasing firearms at a shooting table, firearms should be pointed down range
2. ALWAYS keep your finger off the trigger until you are ready to shoot.
3. ALWAYS keep your firearm unloaded until you are at the firing line and the range is declared "HOT."
4. When entering or leaving the firing line all firearms which are encased must be unloaded with magazines removed; firearms that are not encased must be carried unloaded, muzzles pointing up, actions open and magazines removed.
5. Always case and uncase firearms on the shooting tables with the muzzle pointing downrange
6. All shooters are responsible for their firearms and ammunition. It is the shooters responsibility to ensure they are using the correct ammunition.
7. All shooters shall conduct themselves in an orderly manner; obey the range rules and orders of the Range Safety Officers governed by the Standard Operating Procedures.
8. If you have a health condition that would preclude you from participating in any shooting activity then please refrain from utilizing the range until a time that you can do so safely. (This has been added due to some of our patrons not having the strength to operate
9. Do not leave any firearms unattended.

10. Shooters must wear ear and eye protection upon entering the range.
11. Firearms that are out of the case and not being fired SHALL be placed on a shooter table as follows.
 - Actions open and facing up.
 - Chambers empty.
 - Muzzle pointing down range
 - Safeties on.
12. ONLY LOAD firearms on the firing line when the line is called "hot".
13. Prior to leaving the range all shooters are required to clean up their shooting area by placing used cardboard in the designated receptacles and by throwing away unwanted targets and garbage in trash receptacles.
14. Give the command "CEASE FIRING" if an unsafe condition exists.
15. CEASE FIRING IMMEDIATELY when anyone calls "CEASE FIRING."
16. ALL shooters are responsible for their rounds staying within the confines of this range. Shooters may shoot only from the firing line at the target in line with their position. Shooting at items placed on the ground or at targets not properly posted at the appropriate height on the target frame enables rounds to escape the range (Ref: R68A-31.001(d)(e)).
17. It is everyone's responsibility to report any unsafe shooting conditions or unsafe shooters to a Range Safety Officer. Notify a Range Safety Officer immediately if you have a misfire or jam with a firearm. Do not attempt to clear a gun if you do not know how.
18. Do not pass a loaded firearm to another person.
19. Do not move from a shooting position to another shooting position with a loaded firearm.
20. Targets shall be placed in the center of the cardboard to allow projectile to impact the berm and prevent damage to target frame. Larger targets are subject to quantity restrictions. ONLY shoot at the target in line with your shooting position. **Cross firing is not permitted.**



- 21. Targets are not permitted to have human features (i.e. face, hands, etc.). EXCEPTION: Zombie target
- 22. Target frames are static. Do not attempt to move them.

RANGE RULES & REGULATIONS:

1. Pistols and rifles must have useable sighting devices. Firearms with missing or obstructed sights are prohibited on the pistol and rifle ranges.
2. Shotguns shooting slugs are only allowed on ranges of 25 yards and greater.
3. No uncased firearms shall be left on the seating bench. All uncased firearms shall be placed on the shooting table at the rifle and pistol range.
4. No smoking on the range; smoking is allowed only in designated area (Florida Law Ch. 85-257).
5. Patrons are not permitted to set up at more than one target frame per shooting distance. For example, one shooter cannot have two target frames within the 25-yard shooting area however he/she may have one target at the 25-yard line and another at the 50- yard line as long as he/she adheres to all of the other rules & regulations listed in this document.
6. Only one target frame, regardless of area, per shooter is permitted when there are patrons waiting for use at a specific range area.
7. Firearms, loaded or unloaded, cannot be left unattended.
8. Do not handle any firearms behind the firing line or in the parking lot.
9. Case and uncase all firearms on the shooting tables with muzzles pointed down range.
10. This range has only one entry and exit point located at the Range House near the flag pole. Patrons are not permitted to enter or exit the Public Pistol & Rifle Range through any other areas other than the one indicated above.
11. Do not pass anything over, under, or through the fences.
12. Shooters must stay within 6 inches of the shooting table while shooting or handling firearms.
13. Anyone under the age of 18 must be accompanied by an adult. "Junior Shooters" must shoot under the DIRECT supervision of a parent or guardian. For example, if the Youth is shooting, the parent is not. If the parent or guardian is shooting, the youth is not. Adults other than a parent must bring a signed FWC permission form. This document must be signed by the parent/guardian granting permission to the named adult to bring the junior shooter to the range. This form must be completed and signed for each visit to the facility. Adults not shooting who are accompanying a "Junior Shooter" will not be required to pay the entry fee.
14. Only shotguns firing slugs are allowed on the range. No snake shot, birdshot, buckshot, or multiple projectile ammunition allowed. No shooting from the hip. The shooter must utilize the sights on the firearm.
15. The following firearms are not permitted at the range:
 - Toy guns
 - Fully-automatic firearms firing in full auto mode.
16. The following ammunition is not permitted at the range:
 - Incendiary ammunition (tracer)
 - Buckshot

- Birdshot
 - Armor piercing
 - Rounds with multiple projectiles
17. Shooters are not permitted to enter the firing line without authorization from a Range Safety Officer.
 18. All patrons entering the range are required to pay the posted fees.
 19. Rapid fire and double taps are not permitted at this range. Every shooter needs to allow at least two seconds between shots.
 20. Any person or persons displaying signs of being under the influence of alcohol or an illegal substance will be asked to leave the premises by a Range Safety Officer. The Sheriff's Office may be contacted to ensure patron leaves premises and arrives home in a safe manner. Some signs may include but are not limited to:
 - Slurred speech
 - Inability to stand or walk properly
 - Excessive disregard for proper safe firearm handling procedures
 21. Eating and smoking on the line is not permitted.
 22. Concealed firearms must be carried in accordance with Florida Statute 790.
 23. Open carry of firearms is not permitted.
 24. When entering or leaving the range premises all firearms which are encased must be unloaded with magazines removed; firearms that are not encased must be carried unloaded, muzzles pointing up, actions open and magazines removed.
 25. Shooters shall only go down range to work on their targets when the range has been called COLD by a Range Safety Officer. There shall be NO HANDLING of firearms, ammunition or shooting at any time while the firing line has been called COLD by a Range Safety Officer.
 26. Firearms may be loaded only on the firing line when the line is called HOT by a Range Safety Officer. When handling a firearm muzzles must always be pointed straight down range.
 27. Patrons are permitted to collect their own brass prior to leaving, during a cold range otherwise brass must be placed in designated buckets for collection. Brass left in the area will be collected by the Friends of the Parks to fund specific projects for Sarasota County Parks, Recreation and Natural Resources.
 28. The line will be HOT (active range) for approximately 20 minutes then COLD for as long as it takes to ensure a safe range.
 29. Shooters are not permitted to cross the RED LINE until directed to by a Range Safety Officer.
 30. Patrons are not permitted in the range office. Only approved & current Sarasota County staff, volunteers and FWC personnel may have access to this area.
 31. Only Sarasota County approved instructors are permitted to take payment for instruction at this facility. All approved instructors are posted. If an instructor has not been posted he/she does

not meet the necessary criteria for proper instruction. In order to become an approved instructor he/she must submit the following to range staff for approval by the Sarasota County Risk Department.

- a. CURRENT NRA certification for instruction of pistol, rifle and or shotgun.
 - b. Provide current insurance listing Sarasota County as additionally insured.
 - c. Once approved by Sarasota County, purchase an Instructor Pass
 - d. Instructors are required to pay daily range fees if he/she is shooting on their own.
32. Range Safety Officers have full AUTHORITY to ask a patron to leave and/or contact Law Enforcement if he/she disrupts the normal operating business of the range or violates rules as outlined in this document. Law enforcement involvement may include arrest, a Trespassing citation and/or removal from the range.
33. The following types of inclement weather may result in the suspension of shooting or the range closing:
- a. Lightning
 - b. Heavy Rain
 - c. During any declared severe weather warnings or watches
 - d. If winds exceed 40 MPH

RANGE SPECIFIC RULES FOR EACH YARD LINE

All previously listed range rules and operational procedures apply in addition to these range specific safety rules.

PISTOL RANGE – 12 YARD

Only handguns, BB guns and muzzle loading handguns are allowed on the 12-yard Pistol range.

Rifles shooting “handgun” ammunition are permitted. No center fire “rifle” ammunition is allowed at this distance.

All shooting, regardless of firearms, must be aimed fire.

Rapid fire and double taps are prohibited. Shooter shall allow (2) two seconds between each shot.

Drawing from a holster is strictly prohibited.

Eye and ear protection is mandatory and shall be worn at all times.

Targets shall be placed in the center of the cardboard to allow projectile to impact the berm and prevent damage to target frame. Larger targets are subject to quantity restrictions.

PISTOL/RIFLE 25– 50 YARD RANGE

Pistols, Rifles and Muzzle Loaders are allowed.

All shooting, regardless of firearms, must be aimed fire.

Rapid fire and double taps are prohibited. Shooter shall allow (2) two seconds between each shot.

Drawing from a holster is strictly prohibited.

Eye and ear protection is mandatory and shall be worn at all times.

Targets shall be placed in the center of the cardboard to allow projectile to impact the berm and prevent damage to target frame. Larger targets are subject to quantity restrictions.

RIFLE – 100 YARD RANGE

Rifles and Muzzle Loaders are allowed

All shooting, regardless of firearms, must be aimed fire.

Handguns manufactured in rifle calibers and magnum pistols with a minimum barrel length of six (6) inches and scoped are allowed.

Rapid fire and double taps are prohibited. Shooter shall allow (2) two seconds between each shot.

Eye and ear protection is mandatory and shall be worn at all times.

Drawing from a holster is strictly prohibited.

Targets shall be placed in the center of the cardboard to allow projectile to impact the berm and prevent damage to target frame. Larger targets are subject to quantity restrictions.

STEEL PLATES

Pistols and Rifles chambered in hand gun calibers only.

All shooting, regardless of firearms, must be aimed fire.

The steel plates are a specialty area designed for speed and accuracy. As long as controlled fire is maintained the shooter may engage the plates as quickly as desired. The one shot for every two seconds rule does not apply at this station.

Eye and ear protection is mandatory and shall be worn at all times.

Drawing from a holster is strictly prohibited.

The shooter will stand in the white box and fire at the six plates directly in front of them in a safe manner.

INCLEMENT WEATHER AND EMERGENCY SITUATIONS

In the event of unexpected inclement weather such as a tornado the RSOs shall:

- Call a “CEASE FIRING” and make all ranges “COLD”.
- The RSOs will advise all patrons to leave the range or seek safe shelter.
- If the patrons want to stay then they will seek shelter in the outdoor restroom facility located on property.

The range will remain closed until the weather passes and is declared safe by on-site staff.

If an emergency is declared based on a severe weather warning or at the advice of county emergency services the range will be closed until further notice. All patrons and staff must leave the facility unless otherwise directed.

The line will be called COLD if wind gusts exceed 40 MPH, lightning in the area or heavy rain. The range will remain COLD until the weather passes and the Range Safety Officer’s determine the range is safe to reopen.

PUBLIC HEALTH

Any patron who needs first aid should seek out a Range Safety Officer either on the line or in the range house. The Range Safety Officer will assist the customer by taking the appropriate action based on the need of the patron.

It is highly recommended that expectant mothers consult their physician before visiting and using a shooting range.

RANGE FEES

The daily range fees listed below will be in effect until such time as the Sarasota County Commission determines a change is required. The fees charged for miscellaneous items for sale will remain in effect unless it is determined by the Parks & Recreation Management Team that these costs need to be adjusted based on increases in cost from the supplier. All patrons using the range must check in at the Range House, pay the required fees and sign-in as directed. For anyone under 18 years of age, a Minor Child Waiver Release form shall be filled out by the minor child's parent or legal guardian. Volunteer Range Safety Officers are required to pay the entry fee if shooting.

Entry Fee- Tax Included:

Adults- per shooter per day*	\$11.95
Youth (under 18*)	\$9.00
25-Visit Range Pass	\$197.95
25- Visit ANNUAL Instructor's Pass	\$411.95

Miscellaneous Items for sale- Tax Included:

Cardboard w/Target:	\$1.40
Cardboard Only:	\$1.00
1 Shoot-N-C Target (8 inch)	\$1.25
Ear Plugs- per pair	\$.50
Shooting Glasses- per pair	\$4.75
4 small replacement center targets	\$.50
1 Large Target or Sight-In Target	\$.50

***Law Enforcement Exemption**

Sarasota County Law Enforcement officers will not be charged an entry fee, if and only if,

1. He/she is a CURRENT Sarasota County Law Enforcement officer.
2. Proper I.D. is provided at time of check-in.
3. He/she adheres to all rules & regulations listed within this document.
4. He/she provides own ammunition, firearms and targets.
5. He/she must pay for any targets or cardboard if he/she fails to bring own.
6. He/she signs the necessary sign-in sheet for law enforcement.

***Active Military Exemption**

Active military personnel will not be charged an entry fee, if and only if,

1. He/she is ACTIVE military.
2. Proper I.D. is provided at time of check-in.
3. He/she adheres to all rules & regulations listed within this document.
4. He/she provides own ammunition, firearms and targets.
5. He/she must pay for any targets or cardboard if he/she fails to bring own.
6. He/she must sign in prior to entering the range.