

IBS Range Safety Commands - Effective March 1, 2010 for all 100-200-300 matches

The instructions were rewritten from the viewpoint of the Range Officer-whether read live or recording.

3) General Instructions

a. At each tournament the following will be read to each relay prior to the first match of each day of the tournament. All competitors for that relay must be at the bench before the range officer can begin to read the safety instructions. Playing a recording of the instructions is allowed. The safety instructions are:

"Bolts and cartridges must always be out of the rifle except between the commands 'Commence Fire' and 'Cease Fire'. In the loading area only, you may insert a stripped and flagged bolt. Otherwise, you will be disqualified from the tournament.

Referees may spot check rifles and rests, which must be within the rules to avoid a **disqualification**.

If I must stop a match prematurely, you will first hear an air horn or loud buzzer, then the command 'Cease Fire'. You must leave your rifle alone, and wait for follow-up commands. A shot after the 'Cease Fire' will result in a DQ. Once I have assessed the situation I will give further instructions. If it is a safety incident, all rifles are to be left untouched until I give other instructions. Otherwise I will tell you to 'Clear your rifle by firing or by opening the bolt'. Before the target crew moves forward, all bolts must be out and you must step back from the bench. Any time lost won't be charged against your allotted time, **and an extra one minute will be added to the remaining time.**"

b. At every relay of every match the Range Officer shall announce in exactly these words:

"This is match number __ relay number __ - It is a __-shot match at __-yards/meters. You will be allowed __ minutes to complete your firing. Beginning at two minutes before the time limit shall expire, there will be a countdown as follows: 2 minutes, 1 minute, 30 seconds, 15 seconds, 10 seconds, 5 seconds, cease fire."

The Range Officer will then give the following commands in the following sequence with an approximate five-second interval between each command:

"Ready on the right, ready on the left, ready on the firing line, commence firing."

c. In order for the Range Officer and/or Safety Officers to maintain safe control of the firing line, all competitors are to remain seated and quiet at their assigned bench until the range officer gives the "Clear the benches" command.

d. When the match time has expired or when the last shooter has finished his/her string of fire, whichever shall be earlier, the Range Officer will give the following commands:

"Cease fire. Remove your bolts and remain seated. Show your bolts over your head"

This applies to anytime that a "cease fire" is called and the benches have to be cleared to allow target crew or others down range.

e. At this point the Range Officer will visually inspect the firing line, with help from appointed Safety Officers, as appropriate, who will signal the Range Officer that all bolts are out with a thumb up sign. Once the Range Officer confirms that the line is safe, he/she shall command: "Clear the benches."

f. The Range officer is in charge of the target detail and the target detail is not to enter the range until the range officer has cleared the firing line and has given the target crew the command to go down range.