

IPSC AUSTRALIA Inc.



Introductory Safety Proficiency Course 1998

TABLE OF CONTENTS

	Page/s
1. INTRODUCTION	3
2. HISTORY OF IPSC	4
3. STRUCTURE OF IPSC AUSTRALIA	5 - 6
4. WHAT YOU NEED TO START	7 - 8
5. COURSE OUTLINE	9 - 10
6. SAFETY IN THE CLASSROOM	11
7. SAFETY ON THE RANGE	12
8. THREE LAWS OF GUN CONTROL	13
9. TYPES OF HANDGUNS USED IN IPSC	14 - 15
10. BASIC BALLISTICS	16 – 18
11. BASIC RELOADING INFORMATION	19 - 20
12. SAFETY	21 - 22
13. PRACTICAL COMPONENT	23
Safe handling of handguns	24
Loading & unloading a handgun	25
Safe clearance of malfunctions	25
Safety checks on handguns	26
14. LIVE FIRE EXERCISES	27 - 28
15. HOLSTER PROFICIENCY TEST	29
The draw	30 - 34
16. PRACTICAL HOLSTER TEST	35 - 36
17. TRAPS AND ADVICE FOR NEW SHOOTERS	37 - 38
ANNEXE 1# Assessment criteria 'Live Fire Exercises'	39
ANNEXE 2# Assessment criteria 'The Draw'	40
ANNEXE 3# Assessment criteria 'Practical Test'	41 - 42
ANNEXE 4# Written Exam	43 - 44
ANNEXE 5# Registration Form	45

1. Introduction.

The sport of Practical Pistol Shooting is exciting and challenging as well as being one of the fastest growing shooting sports in the world. Courses of fire utilise many aspects not found in the other more traditional shooting disciplines such as movement by the shooter, drawing from the holster, moving targets, multiple targets and the freedom for the shooter to solve the shooting problems presented by the stage design.

The growing appeal of this sport lies in the diversity of its courses of fire, by offering different courses of fire, rather than set types, practical shooting continues to offer the competitors the opportunity to improve their skills in many different areas. There is always something new and different to challenge the practical shooting enthusiast.

IPSC shooting matches are based on the principle of accuracy, power and speed. The matches are varied with emphasis on the safe use of handguns. Participation in these matches will develop a high degree of safety and proficiency in the use of handguns as well as providing a great means of recreation.

As with many other popular sports you will find people from a wide range of social and cultural backgrounds at an IPSC shooting match. Our membership includes just about any occupation you can name from craftsmen to professionals. IPSC is also fortunate to have many women involved in its shooting programs. It is not unusual to find husbands and wives or families participating in practical shooting activities. All participants at IPSC competitions are well trained advocates of safe gun handling and believe in good sportsmanship.

All members of IPSC currently competing were once at the beginner stage. By becoming active in matches hosted by IPSC Clubs you will have the advantage of being advised by qualified range officials and range staff. You will also find that most competitors are more than willing to lend a hand getting you started. By using the IPSC Australia grading system members are assured that they will face competition of an equal skill level. Don't forget that a good way to get started is to ask for assistance, help is always there.

As in any other recreational activity there is virtually no limit to the amount you may spend on firearms and associated equipment. However, to ensure that you get a solid start in practical pistol shooting all that is required is a reliable handgun, a suitable holster and associated leather gear, ammunition, eye and ear protection and a large dose of enthusiasm. As your skill level increases, you may wish to advance to other equipment or to add additional items that will help you in competition.

2. History of IPSC

IPSC shooting had its origins in the USA in the early 50's. Over the years it has spread across the continents including Europe, Australia, Central and South America and Africa.

The International Practical Shooting Confederation (IPSC) was officially founded at the International Combat Pistol Conference held in Columbia, Missouri in May, 1976. Forty people from around the world were invited to attend this conference to determine the nature and the future of practical marksmanship. Colonel Jeff COOPER was acting Chairman and was acclaimed as the first IPSC World President.

The Confederation not only developed rules for the safe handling of firearms, they also compiled the 'eight principles' of practical shooting. The primary objective of these principles was, and continues to be, to promote accuracy, power and speed as three equal elements. As a result the motto "**Diligentia, Vis, Celeritas**" (Latin for accuracy, power and speed) was adopted for the confederation.

Today, the International Practical Shooting Confederation is promoted in more than sixty countries (called IPSC Regions) from Argentina to Zimbabwe. Every year, the elected representatives of these Regions meet at the IPSC General Assembly.

3. Structure of IPSC (Australia)

IPSC Australia is divided into a number of Sections (States & Territories) which are represented by a Regional Director. The Regional Director is responsible for a designated Region (country) and represents this Region at the IPSC World Assembly.

Each Section elects a Co-ordinator who represents collectively all of the IPSC Affiliated Clubs in their Section. In turn representatives from these affiliated Clubs direct the Section Co-ordinator in the day to day management of the Section. The Section Co-ordinators then direct the Regional Director.

In addition to the Regional Director and Section Co-ordinators there are a number of positions on the Executive of IPSC Australia. The holders of these positions do not have a vote on the Executive of IPSC Australia and consist of but are not limited to the following positions;

- Deputy Regional Director
- Secretary
- Treasurer/Membership Officer
- President (National Range Officers Institute)
- Newsletter Editor
- Special Projects Sub Committee
- Team Selection Sub Committee
- Rules Sub Committee

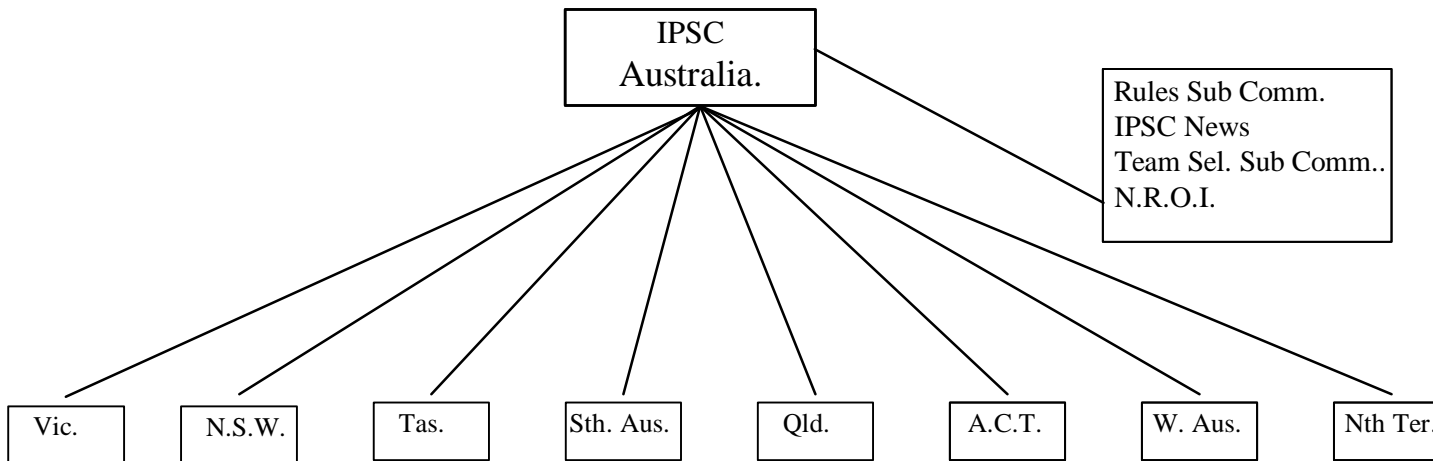
The Delegates from each respective IPSC Club within a section are elected officials whose task it is to inform the Section Co-ordinator of the wishes of that affiliated Club. Whilst management practices vary between States and Territories the most common practice is for each Section to hold a monthly meeting where all Clubs are able to send representatives or delegates and participate in the management and control of the day to day functions of the Section.

To be a member of IPSC Australia individuals must join through a Club that is affiliated to IPSC Australia through the Section in which it is located. Additionally all members of IPSC Australia are encouraged to affiliate to the Sporting Shooters Association of Australia (SSAA) due to an affiliation between the two organisations (IPSC & the SSAA) at a National level.

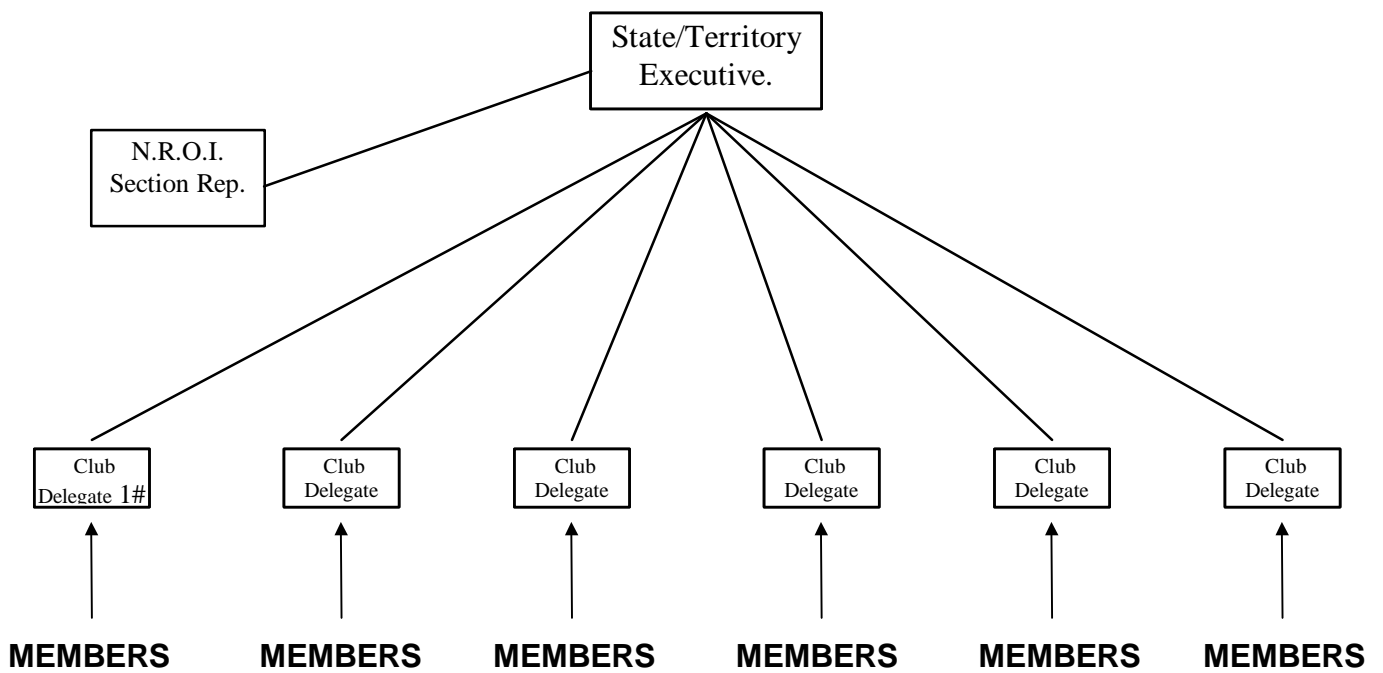
The National Range Officers Institute (N.R.O.I.) is a Sub Committee of IPSC Australia. The primary task of the N.R.O.I. is to supply and train a pool of Range Officers to assist in the implementation and conduct of IPSC events.

In addition to the President of N.R.O.I. each State has a N.R.O.I. Section Representative who is appointed by agreement between the Section Co-Ordinator and President of N.R.O.I. The Section Representative is responsible for maintaining a group of trained Range Officers and organising training seminars. The Section Representative also provides assistance and advice to the Section Co-ordinator on the interpretation of rules and procedures, the conduct of matches and ensures that all sanctioned events are conducted in accordance with the rules of IPSC.

National Organisational Chart



Sectional Organisational Chart



4. What you need to start.

Handguns

It should be emphasised that handguns that have undergone complex and expensive modifications are not necessary to successfully participate in practical shooting. Most pistols which are “out of the box” are quite adequate and most competitors strive to reach the limits of even an “out of the box” standard pistol. Any changes and modifications can always be made at a later date, as you need them.

Nothing is as important as reliability. A reliable government model 1911 handgun (or similar) with standard sights and a standard trigger pull, that functions 100% of the time, will win every time over a full house race gun which doesn't work. If the handgun functions correctly with your ammunition then all is well. If not, your first concern is to make the handgun reliable.

Modifications that improve accuracy are useful, and include good sights and a good trigger pull. Modifications that increase comfort, control, handling and speed are items such as beavertails, extended magazine releases, checkering, extended thumb safeties and oversized magazine wells. Remember, don't let yourself get caught up by the current fads and fashion, buy only what you need to get started safely and reliably.

Holsters

Your choice of holster will depend upon your choice of handgun. There is no restriction as to the type of holster you may select, however competitors must be aware of two important factors. The first is the muzzle angle of the pistol, which whilst it is holstered, must point downwards to within one metre of the competitor. The second factor to consider is that the holster must cover the trigger and should allow the second finger to be placed on the stock when the shooter grasps the pistol as part of the draw. The trigger being covered is required under the rules. (*SEE RULE 7.17*)

The holster should be designed such that the shooter is able to obtain a firm grip on the handgun with the strong hand without moving the handgun in the holster. It should not be necessary to change the grip after the handgun has been removed from the holster.

The holster should be placed on the gun belt in accordance with the rules governing the division in which you compete i.e, Open, Standard or Modified, (*SEE RULES 2.12 I(a); 7.16; 7.17; 7.18; 7.19 & 7.20.*). Ensure that the handgun fits snugly within the holster and that no movement within the holster occurs. It is very important that the holster holds and retains the pistol firmly for safety reasons. This is reflected in the penalty of match disqualification for dropping the pistol during a course of fire.

Magazines

If utilising a self loading pistol it will be necessary to have at least 4 magazines to cater for most courses of fire. You can never carry too many rounds, remember that in the event of clearing a malfunction you may be required to discard one or more magazines. Ensure that magazines are reliable and fall freely from the handgun when the magazine catch is depressed.

Magazine Pouches

Magazine pouches are available in a variety of styles and should be manufactured in such a manner that ensures the competitor is able to obtain a proper grip on the magazine when removing it from the pouch. The front of all magazines should face forwards to facilitate the reloading process. At least three pouches are generally required, however this number may be dictated by the capacity of the magazines. All pouches should have sufficient retention capability to retain the magazines throughout a course of fire, yet release easily on demand.

Gun Belt

The gun belt should be of a width of approximately 1.75 inches (45mm) and must be of sufficient strength and rigidity to form a solid platform for the holster and magazine pouches. The holster and pouches should not be loose on the belt so as to be able to slide in an uncontrolled manner. Generally speaking belt, holster and pouches should be obtained from the one manufacturer to ensure compatibility between all three products.

INSTRUCTORS NOTE: Instructors should have a variety of equipment to demonstrate this module.

5. Course Outline.

The aims of the course are:-

- To introduce new members to IPSC.
- To provide a basic knowledge of handgun types and their safe handling.
- To teach the student the basic knowledge, gun handling skills and safety consciousness required of the shooter.
- To measure individual skill levels to ensure that all students have the basic level of safety skills.
- To qualify new shooters as holster proficient.

The course consists of 3 parts:-

- (1) A theory component of four hours duration where instruction will be given in;
- Basic handgun types and actions.
 - Legislation pertaining to handguns.
 - Safe handling of handguns.
 - Basic ballistics including reloading.

A theory assessment will be carried out during this component of the course.

- (2) A practical component of four hours duration where instruction will be given in:-
- Safe handling of handguns.
 - Making safe a handgun.
 - Loading and unloading a handgun.
 - Safe clearance of malfunctions.
 - Live fire exercises.
 - How to safely draw from a holster.

- (3) A practical assessment in the safe handling of handguns will be conducted.

**Safety is the primary concern in the sport of handgun shooting.
As the instructor carries out this course the one question they
will continually be asking themselves of you is.....**

“Is this shooter a safe shooter?”

Getting organised

Training personnel.

One Chief Instructor will be present assisted by a minimum of one Range Officer for every student *on the line* for individual coaching. It is accepted that new shooters tend to have poor or non-existent gun handling skills and as a consequence require close supervision. When students are undergoing individual coaching the Chief Instructor will perform duty as a Safety Officer. The role of the Safety Officer is to maintain an overview of the whole range area and ensure that no unsafe practices occur.

Student Loan Equipment.

It is expected that students will not have access to handguns or ancillary equipment. As a consequence Clubs generally will be prepared with guns, ammunition and if necessary holsters, speedloaders/magazines.

Training time.

The training program in this manual is established as a total of 8 hours, being four hours theory and 4 hours practice. This program can be completed in one 8 hour session or two four hour sessions. In the event the program is to be conducted over two sessions it is strongly recommended that both sessions be completed within a 28 day period.

Teaching techniques.

On the range correct instructional techniques require that instructors introduce, explain and demonstrate a skill. Having been exposed to the techniques you will then practice with clear (empty & proved) handguns while the Range Officers coach. This is the time to correct mistakes. When the Chief Instructor is satisfied that the students have learnt the skill, students will proceed to live fire exercises with individual Range Officer supervision and coaching.

6. Safety in the classroom.

All students must understand that the classroom is a cold range (**NO LIVE AMMUNITION ALLOWED INTO THE ROOM**) and as such students are not to introduce either firearms or ammunition into this environment.

The Chief Instructor will prove and make safe all handguns to the class and cause all action proving dummy ammunition to be inspected by at least two separate Range Officers.

All students and their bags and equipment must be checked for live ammunition prior to commencement of the class.

7. Safety on the range.

All instructors and students will ensure that appropriate eye and ear protection is worn prior to moving to the Range area. **Always remember that once holstered a handgun may not be handled outside a designated safety area unless under the direct control of a Range Officer.** (SEE RULE 12.01)

In the event that you are using a firearm with which you are unfamiliar, be it a Club gun or the property of a fellow shooter, the following checks should be carried out prior to use.

Revolver Safety Check:-

Check and clear revolver. When clear close cylinder and check for function of hammer block. Do this by; cocking the revolver, press the trigger whilst holding the hammer, release the trigger and slowly lower the hammer. The safety bar should rise to prevent the hammer nose from striking where a round would normally be chambered.

Semi-auto Safety Check:-

Check and clear pistol. When clear check;

Safety catch	Action the slide, engage the safety catch, press the trigger firmly then release the trigger, disengage the safety catch, the hammer should <i>not</i> drop.
Half cock notch	Cock the hammer, hold the hammer and press the trigger, release the trigger and slowly lower the hammer, the hammer should stop at the half cock notch.
Disconnecter	Cock the hammer, move the slide back approximately 1/8 inch, press the trigger, the hammer should <i>not</i> drop.

No student will handle a handgun unless they are on the firing line and under the direct control of a Range Officer.

When you began the class you were *unconsciously unskilled*. You were unaware that you didn't know. By the end of the class you will have advanced to being *consciously unskilled*. At this point your gun handling skills will probably be low with awkward movements, but you know this and now you can change it. *Practice* will bring steady improvement as you move towards becoming *consciously skilled*.

8. Three Laws of gun control.

Prior to handling handguns or firearms of any type you must be aware of the three laws of gun control. In the event that you have an unintentional discharge, which may be at the range or at another location, be assured that it will be frightening. **If you have not obeyed the three laws of gun control it could be tragic.**

First law:- The gun is always loaded.
Every time you pick up or handle a gun, inspect it in a safe manner (remember to be conscious of the muzzle direction) and always treat it as a loaded gun.

Second law:- Never point the gun at anything you are not prepared to shoot.
The only safe way to handle guns is to assume the worst case scenario. The empty gun is going to fire. Since you are prepared for that you only point the gun in a safe direction. This way if an unintentional discharge does result it will be into a safe impact area and there will not be a tragedy.

Third law:- Always be sure of your target and what is behind it.
Bullets can penetrate a number of items before coming to a halt. Always identify your target and what is behind it before firing. If you are unsure do not fire. Always ensure that there is a safe impact area behind your target before firing.

Remember that each State, Club or Range may have individual safety requirements or local rules. Ensure that you are familiar with any such requirements prior to handling firearms or shooting. The easiest way to avoid any such problems is to ask an experienced local member.

9. Types of handguns used in IPSC.

There are two main types of handguns commonly utilised by members competing in IPSC handgun matches, these are;-

- Revolvers
- Semi-automatic pistols

Revolvers

The majority of revolver are six shot breech loading handguns. A number of centre fire revolvers are currently being manufactured with a seven and eight shot capacity and some rimfire revolvers may hold up to nine rounds.

The majority of revolvers are produced with a solid frame and a swing out type of cylinder having six chambers located around a central axis and can be fired either double or single action. Nearly all revolvers may be fired either single action or double action.

Single action refers to a firing sequence when the hammer must be manually cocked and the manipulation of the trigger performs only one function, this being the release of the trigger.

Double action refers to a firing sequence when the manipulation of the trigger performs two functions, these being the movement of the hammer from the decocked position back through the cocked position and then the release of the hammer as per single action.

Some single action type revolvers do not have a swing out cylinder and are loaded/unloaded and checked through a loading gate' located on the right hand side of the frame.

The following sequence forms the safety precautions for a revolver (swing out cylinder)

- Hold the revolver with the strong hand, ensuring that your finger is outside the trigger guard.
- Release the cylinder catch and swing out the cylinder.
- Inspect the cylinder chambers to ensure they are clear of rounds. If rounds are present continue.
- Whilst maintaining a safe muzzle direction strike the ejector rod with the palm of the hand.
- Inspect the cylinder chambers to ensure they are clear of all rounds.
- Hold the revolver in such a manner that the Range Officer is able to inspect the cylinder and confirm that it is clear of ammunition.
- On the command "Gun clear, hammer down, holster" (if under the command of a Range Officer), the cylinder is then closed and the revolver is holstered.

NOTE:- It is not necessary to cycle the revolver by depressing the trigger to 'lower' the hammer.

Semi-automatic pistols

A semi-automatic pistol is a mechanically locked, recoil operated handgun featuring either a single or double action trigger (or combination) and fitted with some form of safety mechanism.

The term 'semi-automatic' pistol by accepted usage signifies a handgun in which manipulation of the trigger when the chamber and magazine are loaded will;

1. Fire the cartridge in the chamber
2. Eject the fired cartridge case
3. Cocks the firing mechanism ready for the next shot and
4. Loads a cartridge from the magazine into the chamber in position for firing

Some gas operated semi-automatic and blowback pistols are available however the majority of semi-automatic pistols are recoil operated.

Most double action pistols perform as single actions once they have been fired as the slide movement recocks the hammer.

Magazines for semi-automatic pistols are generally inserted in the grip area through the base of the grip. Some variations may be inserted down through the breech or in front of the trigger guard. Magazine capacity may vary between five and twenty rounds.

The following sequence forms the safety precautions for a semi-automatic pistol;

- Hold the pistol in your strong hand, ensuring that your trigger finger is outside the trigger guard.
- Ensure that the safety catch is in 'safe' position.
- Depress the magazine release and remove the magazine.
- With the muzzle pointed in a safe direction rack the slide, and allow the cartridge (if present) to eject
- Visually inspect the chamber to ensure that there is no round present.
- On the command "Gun clear, hammer down, holster the slide is allowed to travel forward.
- With the muzzle pointed in a safe direction the trigger is depressed to fire the action. This is the definitive safety check.
- The pistol is then holstered.

10. Basic ballistics.

The purpose of this section is to impart some knowledge to shooters as to what occurs when a bullet is actually fired. A knowledge of how far a bullet will travel is imperative in understanding the dangers associated with all firearms if due care is not utilised in selecting appropriate range areas with suitable backstops.

The IPSC shooter will only utilise centre fire cartridges in competition however rim fire cartridges are often of value as a cheap training medium and in introducing younger participants to the sport.

How a cartridge works

Conventional cartridges as we know them have been in common use in their current form for over 130 years. The cartridge comprises the following components:-

- The cartridge case is generally made from brass, however examples may be found of copper, aluminium or steel. Brass cases are suitable for reloading due to the inherent properties of brass which allows the case to expand and contract during the discharge of the round. The brass case is able to be resized during the reloading process.
- Primers come in two types in cartridges, centre fire and rimfire. Rimfire cartridges are not able to be reloaded. The priming compound is located in the rim of the cartridge cases and is ignited when the firing pin strikes the rim of the case detonating the primer compound. This priming compound is placed in the rim during the manufacturing process and is unable to be replaced.
Centre fire cartridges as their name denotes have a primer located in the centre of the cartridge case base. The primers in centre fire cases are replaceable which enables the cartridge to be reloaded. Centre fire primers are self contained units and consist of a cup, priming compound and anvil. When the firing pin strikes the primer the priming compound is ignited when the compound is compressed between the cup and the anvil.
- Propellant Powder is designed to progressively burn and create vast volumes of gas which drive the projectile out of the barrel. Smokeless powder was developed in the latter part of the 1800's and is based on a nitrocellulose material. Propellant powders are manufactured to burn at various controlled speeds. Calibre, bullet weight and desired velocity are all taken into consideration in the process of selecting a powder for a particular use. Propellant powders should never be blended and recommended loads should never be exceeded.
- Projectiles come in a multitude of designs, weights and sizes. The designs of many projectiles lend themselves to particular applications. Round nose, wadcutter, semi wadcutter, hollow point and truncated cone are just a few of the many designs available. Projectiles may be manufactured from lead of varying degrees of hardness. These lead projectiles may be gas-checked, teflon coated, tin or copper washed. Jacketed, semi jacketed or solid copper projectiles are also available.

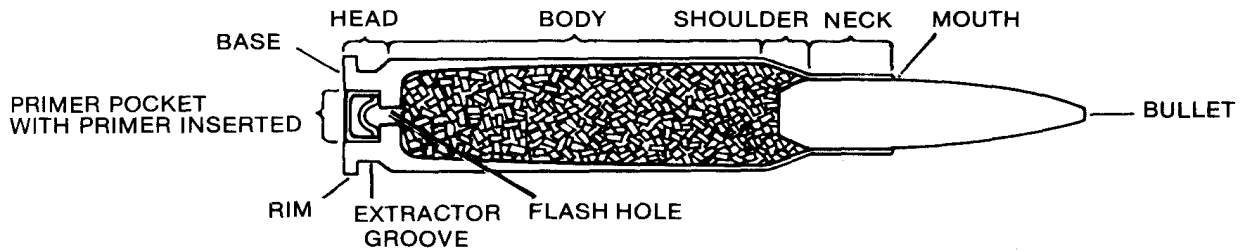


DIAGRAM OF CENTRE FIRE CARTRIDGE (sectioned)

A cartridge is fired when the firing pin firmly dents the primer, the priming compound is crushed between the anvil and the primer cup and the primer compound detonates. The ignition of the primer sends a flame (in the case of a centre fire cartridge) through the primer hole in the base of the cartridge case into the propellant charge.

The propellant inside the cartridge case ignites and burns at an even rate albeit incredibly fast. There is a common misconception that the propellant powder explodes and the force of this explosion is what discharges the projectile. This is a fallacy. What actually occurs is that the powder commences to burn and produces hot expanding gases. It is the pressure from these expanding gases which exerts pressure in all directions and eventually drives the projectile down the barrel.

As the gases expand they seek an avenue of least resistance. As the breeching mechanism of the firearm does not allow the gases to escape through the chamber area this leaves the projectile as the area which offers the least amount of resistance. The expanding gases start the projectile down the barrel. The propellant powder continues to burn and accelerates the projectile up until the point where the projectile exits the barrel.

As the projectile travels down the barrel the expanding gases force the projectile into the rifling in the barrel which in turns causes the projectile to spin at the same rate as the twist in the barrel. This spinning enhances the stability of the projectile and aids in the accuracy of the firearm.

As each action must have an equal and opposite reaction we discover that the reaction to the discharge of the projectile is what is known as recoil. The force generated and imparted to the projectile is equalled by a similar force which forces the firearm rearwards. The amount of recoil felt when firing a gun is the maximum amount of force which can be delivered by the projectile when it strikes a target.

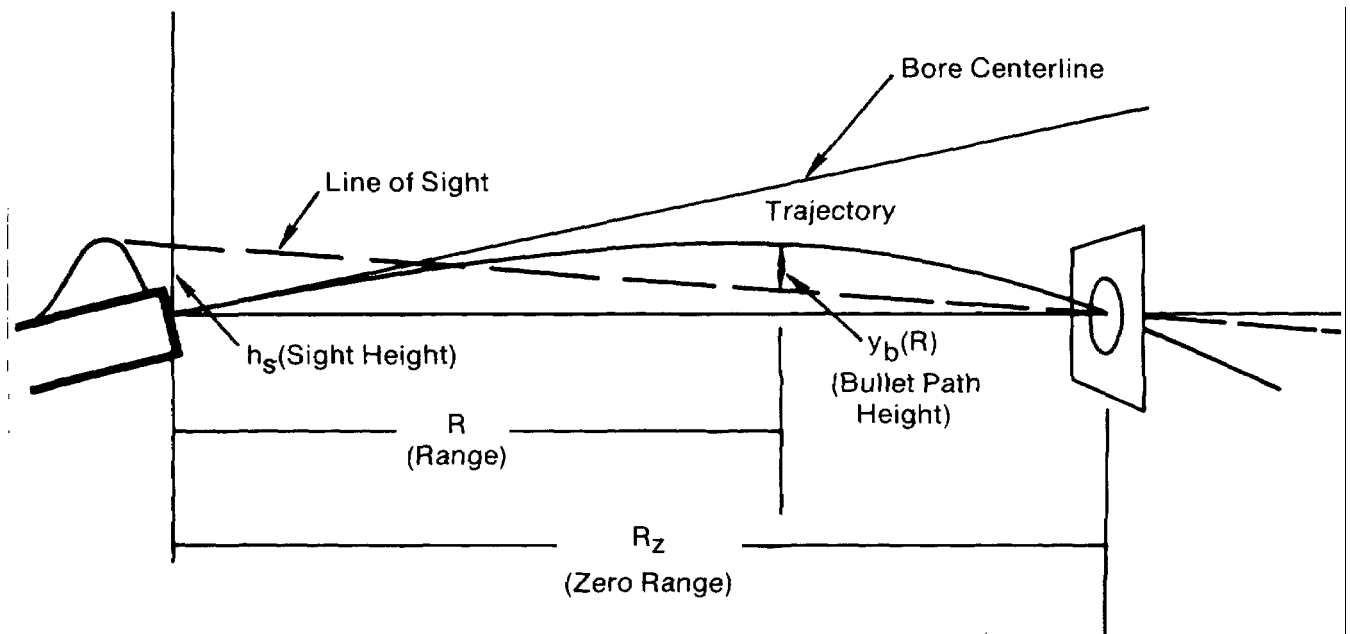
The average maximum range of a handgun round is in the vicinity of 2 kilometres, however some magnum handgun rounds can travel out to 3 kilometres. Therefore a shooter must always remain acutely aware of what is behind the target at which they are shooting and the effectiveness of any backstops.

As Power, (Vis), is recognised as an inherent part of IPSC shooting it is necessary that the power of cartridges are able to be measured and subsequently rewarded through the power factors of 'major' and 'minor'. (SEE RULES 7.24 & 7.25)

The power factor of a round is calculated by multiplying the bullet weight in grains by the velocity (Feet per second). The resultant figure is then divided by 1000. The minimum power factor for major is 175 and minor is 125. If a competitor nominates major power factor but fails to meet this level he will be downgraded to minor power factor. If a competitor nominates minor power factor and fails to meet the required level they are unable to be scored for that match as their ammunition has not met the minimum required power factor (they may continue shooting for fun but no scores may be entered).

Bullet path.

From the time the projectile leaves the barrel it immediately comes under the effect of gravity and air resistance. These two forces progressively slow the projectile down and cause the projectile to fall to the ground. As a result as the target range increases the shooter has to aim higher to strike the target. At the ranges in which a handgun is generally used (up to 50 metres) this effect is generally negligible and is greatly effected by such factors as bullet weight and velocity.



11. Basic reloading information.

In order to become proficient in IPSC competitors will have to discharge a large amount of ammunition in practice. Due to the high cost of factory ammunition it soon becomes evident that reloading ammunition is a cheaper alternative.

Reloading is an integral part of competitive shooting as very few competitors have the resources to either use factory ammunition or to continually pay for ammunition to be reloaded for them (albeit cheaper than using factory ammunition).

Rather than being considered a chore, the reloading of your own ammunition can give you a high level of satisfaction. The process may appear to be daunting at first, but it is actually quite simple and the results will often exceed the quality of mass produced factory ammunition. Generally speaking reloaded ammunition can cost approximately 10% to 20% of factory ammunition. As can be seen from these figures, reloading allows all competitors to get more “bang for their buck”.

Reloading reverses the process of firing a cartridge. When a cartridge is reloaded the components utilised when firing are replaced and the cartridge case is returned to dimensions which allow it to be rechambered. The steps involved in reloading a cartridge are:-

- The case is resized.
- The spent primer is removed and replaced with a new primer.
- A fresh powder charge is loaded.
- A new projectile is seated.

Reloading is a simple process which can be carried out by any person. However there are a number of pitfalls into which the unwary may fall. The choice of propellant powder and amount is critical and must be carried out in conjunction with research from appropriate reloading manuals or manufacturers handbooks.

At **no time** must propellant powders be blended or used in excess of the manufacturers recommended data.

When shooters commence reloading cartridges it is appropriate to seek advice from other persons who have experience in this field. In the absence of such sources of information gunshop proprietors and shooting organisations often hold classes in basic reloading skills.

When reloading, the following basic rules should be followed:-

- Have a full understanding of the reloading process before you commence.
- Always wear eye protection whilst reloading.
- Do not smoke whilst reloading.
- Store powder and primers out of the reach of children and in accordance with your State or Territory regulations.

- Develop a set routine and do not rush.

- Do not use propellant powder unless its identity is known.
- Do not exceed recommended loads.
- Keep the reloading area neat and tidy.
- Promptly clean up any spilled powder or primers.

Pay attention to detail when setting scales, powder throwers and seating depths.

12. Safety.

When dealing with handguns in ANY situation the importance of safety is paramount. Handguns should generally only be handled either:

1. At home
2. Travelling to and from the range
3. At the range

In an earlier module you were taught the three laws of gun control. If these three laws are obeyed **at all times** whilst handling handguns, the safety of yourself and others will be guaranteed.

Safety at home.

- All firearms stored at your home should be stored in accord with current legislative requirements pertinent to your State or Territory.
- Handguns must be stored in an approved steel safe .
- Ammunition must be stored in a separate locked container
- Children must not have access to the handguns or access to the safe at any time.
- Handguns should **never** be loaded with live ammunition at home.
- On every occasion that a handgun is removed from the safe for any reason whatsoever the handgun should be proved to be unloaded and made safe as previously discussed.
- At no time should firearms be handled whilst under the influence of alcohol or any other drug.

Travelling to and from the range

- When transporting a handgun it should be stored in either a box or a pistol case in accordance with State or Territory legislation if applicable. This serves the purposes of both protecting the handgun and ensures the contents are not readily visible.
- When transporting the handgun you should travel directly to and from the range. Do not stop off to do some shopping on the way. Should your car be stolen so also will your handguns be stolen.
- Whilst travelling it is suggested you store your handguns in the boot of your vehicle as it is the most secure area and they will not be readily visible.
- If you must stop en-route for fuel or refreshments, ensure that the vehicle is always locked and remains within your sight at all time.

At the range

- Both eye and ear protection is mandatory whilst on the firing range.
- Ensure that suitable footwear is worn at all times.

- Ensure that all State, Territory or Club rules pertaining to safety are adhered to.
- The firearm should remain in its box or cover until it can be removed in either a designated safety area or on the line under the direct control of a Range Officer.
- All commands from a Range Officer must be obeyed immediately.
- During and after the loading process the handgun must remain pointed downrange at all times unless holstered.
- At all times when not engaging a target the finger must remain off the trigger.
- Never let the muzzle of the handgun point in any direction which would let a round exit the range area or clear the backstop.
- Be aware of the of the muzzle direction in relation to your feet and ground surface (e.g. concrete can cause splatter).
- Whilst not on the firing line handguns should only be handled in designated safety areas.
- Load the handgun only whilst under the control of a Range Officer.
- Do not leave any handguns unattended at any time.
- If you have any doubts at any time as to what to do, either holster the handgun or point it in a safe direction and seek assistance from a Range Officer or in the absence of one, an experienced Club member .
- When laying firearms down the cylinder must be open in the case of a revolver or the magazine removed and the slide locked back in the case of a semi-automatic pistol.
- Whilst clearing malfunctions ensure that the muzzle remains pointed down range in a safe direction.
- Never look down the barrel if checking for a stuck projectile.

The importance of many of these safety guidelines is reflected in the penalties associated with any breach of the rules relating to safe gun handling. Specifically you should refer to Section 12. of the rules which relate directly to safety.

13. Practical Component.

During this component of the training you will be required to handle firearms.

NO LIVE AMMUNITION is to be introduced to the training environment until the last component involving live fire commences.

Your knowledge of safety and your gun handling skills will be continually assessed throughout this session. A breach of safety during this component of the course will result in your immediate ejection from the course and you will be classified as being not yet competent and subsequently required to re-take the course.

Prior to commencement of the live fire sequence all students must obtain and wear suitable eye and ear protection.

At this point it is incumbent on all students to have an understanding of the basic Range Commands which will dictate their action when shooting either in a match or when practicing under the control of a Range Officer. These commands are explained below:

- **LOAD AND MAKE READY:** On this command the shooter may draw the handgun, load and carry out any preparation (Turn on electronic sights etc), apply the safety if fitted and reholster the handgun.
- **ARE YOU READY:** On this command the shooter is given an opportunity to inform the Range Officer that they are not ready to commence the course of fire. If a shooter is not ready they must notify the Range Officer in a loud voice "NOT READY".
- **STANDBY:** This will be followed by the cue to commence firing. The cue may be verbal, audible, visual or self starting.
- **IF YOU ARE FINISHED UNLOAD AND SHOW CLEAR:** On this command the shooter unloads the handgun and holds the handgun, muzzle down range, in such a manner that the Range Officer is able to visually and/or physically inspect that the chamber is empty and the gun has had the ammunition source removed.
- **GUN CLEAR, HAMMER DOWN, HOLSTER:** On this command the shooter lowers the slide and in a safe direction actions the trigger to drop the hammer on the empty chamber (not carried out with revolvers where the cylinder is shut.). This is the definitive safety check that the handgun is safe. The handgun may then be holstered.
- **RANGE IS CLEAR:** No person may move forward, off or from the firing line until this command is given.

In the event the Range Command '**STOP**' is shouted by the Range Officer the shooter must immediately cease all activity, point the handgun in a safe direction (generally downrange) and await further commands from the Range Officer.

Safe handling of handguns.

The instructor will demonstrate safety precautions for each of the two types of handguns, these being;

Revolver

- Hold the revolver with your strong hand, ensuring that the finger is outside the trigger guard.
- Release the cylinder catch and swing out the cylinder.
- Inspect the cylinder chambers to ensure they are clear of rounds. If any rounds are present continue.
- Transfer the revolver to the weak hand, point the muzzle in a safe direction and strike the ejector rod to remove the cartridges/spent cases.
- Inspect the cylinder chambers to ensure they are clear of all rounds.

Semi-automatic pistol

- Hold the pistol in your strong hand, ensuring that the trigger finger is outside the trigger guard
- Ensure the safety catch is in the 'safe' position
- Depress the magazine release and remove the magazine.
- With the muzzle pointed in a safe direction rack the slide, and allow the cartridge to eject (if present)
- Visually inspect the chamber to ensure that no round is present
- Allow the slide to travel forward
- With the muzzle pointed in a safe direction fire the action (the definitive safety check).

The instructor will stress that safety precautions must be carried out whenever you remove the handgun from;

- The safe
- The gun bag/case at the range
- When being handed to another person
- When being received from another person
- Prior to being loaded
- At the conclusion of shooting
- Prior to cleaning
- When being lodged in the safe at home
- If there is any doubt whatsoever as to the condition of the handgun

At the conclusion of this module you will be able to display the correct application of safety precautions on both types of handguns.

Loading and unloading a handgun

Utilising action proving dummy ammunition the instructor will then demonstrate the correct loading and unloading techniques for both types of handguns using appropriate safety precautions and displaying a high level of gun handling skills. Semi automatic pistols will

be loaded to the condition where there is a round in the chamber and the action uncocked by means of a decocking lever or the safety catch applied. At the conclusion of the demonstration students are to demonstrate their knowledge in loading and unloading handguns.

NOTE: This session is to be carried out in a live fire environment (if this is not practicable a safe 'down range' area is to be designated). All action proving dummy ammunition is to be inspected by the instructor and students prior to the commencement of the session. No live ammunition is to be present in the environment.

Safe clearance of malfunctions

Malfunctions in handguns may be classified in one of the following areas;

- Failure to feed.
- Failure to fire.
- Failure to extract.
- Failure to eject.

In a revolver the failure to fire and failure to eject are the only potential malfunctions, these may be treated as follows;

Failure to fire: Initial action is to again action the trigger. This rotates the cylinder and brings a new round into position for firing. **NOTE:** Most failures to fire in revolvers can be traced to weak/worn hammer springs or hammer springs which have been backed off to ease the trigger pull.

Failure to eject: Failure to eject occurs in a revolver when the ejection rod is not depressed in a forceful enough manner to remove the cases from the cylinder. It is common for the cartridge case to slip underneath the ejector when this occurs. To remedy this malfunction the ejector start must be fully depressed and the stuck cartridge case removed using a finger nail or small screwdriver..

In a semi-automatic pistol there are a variety of malfunctions which include:

- 'Stove' pipe
- Double feed
- Failure to extract due to torn cartridge rim, stuck case or broken extractor
- Failure to feed due to inappropriate projectile design
- Failure to eject due to low powered ammunition, broken ejector

- Failure to fire due to mechanical malfunction or round not properly chambered (disconnecter will not allow pistol to discharge)

A common malfunction amongst novice shooters and reloaders is the phenomenon known as a 'Squib Load'. This occurs where a powder charge has been left out of the cartridge.

Sometimes the projectiles from such a round will clear the barrel under the force generated by the primer alone, however it is not uncommon for such a round to leave a projectile lodged within the barrel.

In the circumstances where another round may be chambered and fired, the resulting extreme pressure generated has the potential to damage the firearm and injure the shooter. In the event of a squib load the shooter should cease firing and immediately inspect the handgun for a projectile stuck in the barrel.

There are many varied techniques for clearing the above malfunctions and your instructors will display such techniques as are appropriate whilst ensuring that appropriate safety procedures are followed. Of paramount importance whilst clearing malfunctions is that the finger must remain outside the trigger guard and the muzzle must be in a safe direction whilst clearing the handgun. You must ensure that your hands remain clear of the muzzle and ejection port in order to prevent injury in the advent of an unintentional discharge. Remember that you may be disqualified from a match for clearing a malfunction while your finger is on the trigger. (RULE 8.06)

Safety checks on handguns

The instructor will explain and demonstrate the following safety checks to you, you will then be able to carry out the checks yourself

Revolver Safety Check:- Check and clear the revolver, when clear close the cylinder and check for function of the hammer block. Do this by; cocking the revolver, press the trigger whilst holding the hammer, release the trigger and slowly lower the hammer. The safety bar should rise to prevent the hammer nose from striking where a round would be chambered.

Semi-auto Safety Check:- Check and clear the pistol, when clear check the:

safety catch	Action the slide, engage the safety catch, press the trigger firmly then release the trigger, disengage the safety catch, the hammer should <i>not</i> drop.
Half cock notch	Cock the hammer, hold the hammer and press the trigger, release the trigger and slowly lower the hammer, the hammer should stop at half cock notch.
Disconnecter	Cock the hammer, move the slide back approximately 1/8 inch, press the trigger, the hammer should not drop.

14. Live Fire Exercises.

Prior to the commencement of live fire exercise all action proving dummy ammunition must be retrieved from students and removed from the training area prior to the

introduction of live ammunition. At this stage of the training the emphasis is on safe gun handling and not accuracy.

It is recommended that during this phase of training you are to be restricted to calibres such as .22 rimfire, .38 special and 9mm. It is also advisable not to use heavy calibre handguns unless you have had previous experience with handguns.

The live fire exercises will be carried out with both handgun and ammunition/magazines on a table and all shooting will be carried out from the 'ready' position. (The ready position is defined as having the gun gripped in both hands, pointing downrange at a 45 degree angle to the ground, with the finger off of the trigger.)

Phase 1#

Using a revolver or semi automatic pistol the student is to carry out the relevant safety precautions and once they have received the appropriate commands, they will load and fire a single round at a target situated 5 metres away. The student will then reload and fire 5 individual rounds at the same target. At the conclusion of the exercise the student is to carry out relevant safety precautions again and render the handgun safe.

This exercise will be repeated until the instructor is satisfied that the student has displayed necessary gun handling skills.

Phase 2#

Using a revolver or semi automatic pistol the student is to carry out the relevant safety precautions and once they have received the appropriate commands they will load and fire six rounds in their own time at a target 5 metres away. The student will then reload with a further six rounds and repeat the exercises. At the conclusion of this exercise the student is to carry out relevant safety precautions again and render the handgun safe.

This exercise will be repeated until the instructor is satisfied the student has displayed the necessary gun handling skills.

Phase 3#

Using a semi-automatic pistol the student is to carry out the relevant safety precautions and once they have received the appropriate commands they will load a magazine supplied by the instructor and fire six individual rounds in their own time at a target 5 metres away. The student will then to reload with a further six rounds using another magazine supplied by the

instructor and will repeat the exercise. At the conclusion of the exercise the student is to carry out relevant safety precautions and render the handgun safe.

This exercise is to be repeated until the instructor is satisfied the student has displayed the necessary gun handling skills.

NOTE: The instructor will load a minimum of 4 action proving dummy rounds into the two magazines to simulate a failure to fire. The student is required to clear the malfunction using the necessary and safe gun handling skills.

Phase 4#

Using a revolver or semi automatic pistol the student is to carry out the relevant safety precautions and once they have received the appropriate commands load and fire six rounds in their own time using their strong hand only at a target 5 metres away. The student will then reload with a further six rounds and repeat the exercise. At the conclusion of the exercise the student is carry out the necessary safety precautions and render the handgun safe.

This exercise is to be repeated until the instructor is satisfied the student has displayed the necessary gun handling skills

Phase 5#

Using a revolver or semi automatic pistol the student is to carry out the relevant safety precautions and once they have received the appropriate commands load and fire a single round at a target 5 metres away, the student will then reload with a further single round and repeat the exercise, this exercise is to be repeated a further four times for a total of six shots. At the conclusion of the exercise the student will carry out the necessary safety precautions and render the handgun safe.

This exercise is to be repeated until the instructor is satisfied the student has displayed the necessary gun handling skills.

NOTE: The pistol is to lock back after each shot is fired prior to being reloaded.

The student must be proficient in all of the above exercises before attempting the holster proficiency test.

15. Holster Proficiency Test.

After learning how to handle a handgun safely the novice IPSC shooter needs to learn how to safely draw the handgun from the holster. IPSC shooting is the only style of pistol shooting which requires competitors to commence shooting from a variety of start positions, such as:

- Facing down range , handgun holstered.
- Facing **UP RANGE**, handgun holstered.
- Facing 90 degrees to the start line.
- Facing down range with the loaded handgun on a table pointing down range.
- Lying face down on the ground with the loaded handgun pointing down range in front of your head.
- Seated

These are a few of the start positions which may confront an IPSC shooter during just one match. There is one consistent theme that must be adhered to during all of these scenarios. From the moment when the shooter makes the transition from the time that the handgun is put to rest in preparation for the start, to the time that the last round is fired during the course of fire **SAFETY MUST BE OBSERVED AT ALL TIMES.**

The novice shooter must be aware that during the learning process **speed is absolutely and totally irrelevant. Safety is the paramount factor.** Speed will only come at a later time with practice. There are no great tricks to performing a fast draw and the time between a fast draw and a slow draw are of no consequence to novice shooters. A recognised training maxim is that **PERFECT PRACTICE MAKES PERFECT.** This is particularly true in the art of learning how to draw a handgun. Slow, perfect practice will invoke muscle memory (after numerous repetitions) which will allow for fast, perfect and safe draws of the handgun in due course.

The draw can be broken down into a number of stages to assist the novice shooter. These stages if practiced in correct order will assist the novice in establishing a pattern which can be adapted to all start procedures.

During the course of learning how to draw and fire the handgun, it is intended and assumed that all students will adopt a two handed grip on the handgun. There are numerous methods of gripping the handgun and the instructor will show an appropriate grip for the novice to commence with. Suffice to say that a basic two handed grip must provide the safe and secure purchase of the handgun which allows ready access to all controls such as safety catches, slidestops, magazine and cylinder releases.

The draw

Step 1# On the signal to commence the shooter must, from the start position, move his or her hands to establish a firm, correct grip on the handgun. The finger must not be on the trigger (if the trigger is uncovered) and the safety catch must remain in the safe position. If a thumb snap is fitted to the holster,

then the thumb should be placed in a position so as to 'break the snap'. If the grip is not correct at this point now is the time to make any necessary adjustments and ensure that a correct grip is established prior to proceeding.

The shooter must not proceed past this point unless they are now facing down range and the muzzle of the handgun is pointing in a safe down range direction when drawn from the holster.



Step 2# The shooter at this point may break the snap (if fitted).

Step 3# The handgun is now drawn from the holster, the finger is still off the trigger and the safety catch remains in the safe position.



Step 4# As soon as the muzzle of the handgun is clear of the holster it is rotated towards the target to be engaged. **This is always in a safe, down range direction.** The trigger finger remains off the trigger.

Step 5# The handgun is then pushed toward the target and as the muzzle of the handgun clears the body the support hand moves in from the side towards the handgun to establish the two handed grip. **ENSURE THAT THE SUPPORT HAND DOES NOT COME IN FRONT OF THE MUZZLE AT ANY TIME.** The trigger finger continues to remain off the trigger.



Step 6# The handgun now held securely in a correct grip is lifting to the target area. As the handgun approaches the target the safety (if fitted) may be deactivated. The trigger finger continues to remain off the trigger.



Step 7# At this point the shooter is searching for the sights of the handgun and as the sights move into the target the trigger finger comes onto the trigger. At this stage the draw is complete and the shooter should then be focusing on the front sight of the handgun and concentrating on trigger control.



During this whole process the aim of the shooter is to safely remove the handgun from the holster to a point where a shot may be fired at a target and commence the course of fire.

It must be remembered that IPSC shooting is a dynamic sport and it is not unusual for a competitor to draw and engage targets whilst moving, often at varying angles which may call upon the shooter to exercise a degree of caution to avoid pointing the muzzle up range. This would be a serious safety breach (RULE 12.01 i) and AT LEAST will lead to the shooter being disqualified from a match. **It is imperative that all shooters are conscious that during all movement (even from standing to kneeling or prone) the trigger finger must remain off the trigger and that the safety catch should be applied.**

It cannot be stressed too heavily that during the learning process, novice shooters must impose self discipline upon themselves and perform within their capabilities. From the analysis of countless safety breaches and subsequent disqualifications over many years, it is obvious that safety breaches occur as a direct result of shooters exceeding their capabilities during the excitement of the match.

Due to the fact that most courses of fire in IPSC matches involve movement either during or shortly after the draw it is imperative that shooters have a sound understanding of the safety requirements of such actions.

Some of these movements may involve a shooter turning to face down range, going prone or kneeling immediately upon the cue to commence. **It is important that whilst adopting these positions the shooter is continually aware of the muzzle direction of the handgun.** When facing in any direction other than directly down range, the shooter must not proceed past step 1# (establishing the grip) until they are facing downrange. Alternatively when going prone the shooter must ensure that the handgun has been removed from the holster and is pointed down range, clear of the body, prior to lowering themselves to the ground.

As courses of fire sometimes commence with the shooter seated, it is essential that the shooter considers the position of the holster and is aware of the muzzle direction when drawing the handgun to avoid 'sweeping' their body. This can also occur inadvertently when the shooter is required to open a door with the weak hand when the handgun is already in the strong hand. When carrying out tasks such as these with a handgun drawn and in the hand, the shooter must be aware at all times of the direction in which the muzzle is pointed, in relation to the range and to various parts of their own body.

Equipment View Front
(Standard Division)



Equipment view Rear
(Standard Division)



16. Practical Holster Test.

Having had the above steps explained and demonstrated by the instructor the student must now practice and demonstrate the 7 steps of the draw with an unloaded handgun.

When the instructor is satisfied that the student has achieved a satisfactory level of competency in the basics of drawing the handgun and dry firing a single shot, the student may then demonstrate drawing the handgun from the following positions. The student must display the appropriate gun handling skills whilst moving to and from a number of different shoot positions. These shooting positions include

- Standing upright to the kneeling position.
- Standing upright to the prone position.
- Standing upright behind a barricade to the right side of the barricade.
- Standing upright behind a barricade to the left side of the barricade.
- Standing upright behind a barricade to both sides of the barricade .
- Standing upright facing down range (180 degrees).
- Standing upright facing cross range (90 degrees).
- Standing upright, drawing and moving forward 5 paces to engage a target.

When the instructor is satisfied that the student has displayed a satisfactory level of competency in the above drills, the student may move onto the following live fire drills.

Drill 1#

Standing with hands loose by the sides the student will draw and fire 1 shot at a target 5 metres away.
(repeated five times for a total of six rounds)

Drill 2#

Standing with hands loose by the sides the student will draw, go to the kneeling position and fire 1 shot at a target 5 metres away.
(repeated five times for a total of six rounds)

Drill 3#

Standing with hands loose by the sides the student will draw, go to the prone position and fire 1 shot at a target 5 metres away. (The Instructor is to ensure that the target has been set up close to ground level)
(repeated five times for a total of six rounds)

Drill 4#

Standing with hands loose by the sides, behind a barricade the student will draw and fire 1 shot from the **right** side of the barricade at a target 5 metres away.
(repeated 1 for a total of two rounds)

Drill 5#

Standing with hands loose by the sides, behind a barricade the student will draw and fire 1 shot from the **left** side of the barricade at a target 5 metres away.
(repeated 1 for a total of two rounds)

Drill 6#

Standing with hands loose by the sides, behind a barricade the student will draw and engage a target at 5 metres with 1 shot from the right hand side of the barricade and 1 shot from the left hand side of the barricade.

(for a total of 2 rounds)

Drill 7#

Standing facing uprange with hands loose by the sides the student will turn, draw and fire 1 shot at a target at 5 metres away.

(repeated five times for a total of 6 rounds)

Drill 8#

Standing facing 90 degrees to the firing line with hands loose by the sides the student will turn, draw and fire 1 shot at a target 5 metres away.

(repeated five times for a total of six rounds)

Drill 9#

Standing with hands loose by the sides the student will draw and move forward approximately 5 paces and fire 1 shot at a target 5 metres away.

(repeated five times for a total of six rounds)

Assessment criteria

All shots fired are to hit the target. (Total of 42 rounds)

Instructors are to watch for;

- The finger moving into the trigger guard prematurely.
- The safety catch being activated prematurely
- Muzzle direction.
- Sweeping of the body or hand with the muzzle.
- Muzzle direction whilst moving around the barricade.
- Muzzle direction whilst moving to engage targets.
- Finger to be removed from trigger whilst moving between shoot positions.

17. Traps And Advice For New Shooters.

The following are the rules which are most often breached by competitors when they first start competing in IPSC events. These rules are all based on **SAFETY** and breaking any one of them will invariably result in a match disqualification.

By having a working understanding of these rules and having the ability to apply this knowledge individuals will improve their gun handling skills. The end result will be that they are a safer shooter and will not be placed in a position where they experience the heartache of being disqualified from a match.

Match disqualifications do occur and can be very disheartening to both new and experienced competitors. Match disqualifications generally occur as a result of a breach of safety and as such are treated very seriously. An analysis of a number of incidents which resulted in disqualifications over the past years have shown that generally, the main cause is directly related to the competitor pushing themselves beyond their capabilities. Whilst IPSC shooting lends itself towards an individual 'pushing the envelope' it is incumbent upon each individual to know their limits and to operate within their capabilities.

A knowledge of the following rules will assist the new members avoiding this pitfall.

- 8.06 Malfunctions; Match DQ, when clearing a malfunction that requires the lowering of the handgun from aiming at a target the trigger finger must be outside the trigger guard.
- 8.10 Movement; Match DQ in the event of a competitor moving (more than 1 step or changing positions) without the trigger finger being removed from the trigger guard, safety catch should be applied.
- 12.01 Unsafe Gun handling; Match DQ, covers such occurrences as breaking 90 degrees, dropping the handgun, being found with a loaded firearm not under the control of a Range Officer, unauthorised handling of a firearm, having a loaded firearm holstered and safety not activated.
- 12.02 Accidental Discharge; Match DQ, where round strikes within 3 metres of shooter or in an unsafe direction, during loading, reloading unloading or during remedial action, whilst moving (except whilst engaging targets).
- 12.3 Unsportsmanlike behaviour; Match DQ in the event of gross unsportsmanlike behaviour.
- 12.4 Safety regulations & procedures; Match DQ in the event that a competitor attends to compete and is under the influence of alcohol or drugs.

When you attend the range as a novice shooter do not be embarrassed about your lack of knowledge or expertise when in the presence of experienced shooters. Remember that everyone was a novice at some point in time. Make yourself known to these people and

inform them that you are new to the sport and that you may require assistance, they will be only too glad to help.

It is also advisable to let the Range Officers know that you are new to the sport and they too will give you extra assistance in order to make your shooting experience a positive one.

The greatest source from which a new shooter can gain information is to watch and learn from experienced shooters. Watch them, don't be afraid to ask questions and you will soon be on your way to enjoying the most exciting form of pistol shooting available.

ANNEXE 1#

ASSESSMENT CRITERIA (live fire exercises)

PHASE NO.	GUN HANDLING SKILLS	All rounds to impact target Yes/No	COMMENTS	PASS/FAIL
1# Load & fire a single round at a target 5 metres away. (repeat 5 times) Total 6 rounds				
2# Load & fire 6 rounds at a target 5 metres away. (repeat) Total 12 rounds				
3# (semi -auto only) Load & fire 6 rounds at a target 5 metres away. (repeat) Total 12 rounds (Note instructor will simulate 4 malfunctions.)				
4# Load & fire 6 rounds reload and fire a further 6 rounds at a target 5 metres away. Strong hand only. Total 12 rounds				
5# Load & fire 1 round, reload and fire a further round (repeat further 4 times) at a target 5 metres away. Total 6 rounds				

OVERALL ASSESSMENT: PASS/FAIL

Instr. Signature: _____

Instr.

Name _____ Date: _____

STUDENT NAME: _____

SECTION: _____ **CLUB:** _____

ANNEXE 2#

ASSESSMENT CRITERIA (the draw)

STEP NO.	DESCRIPTION.	GUN HANDLING SKILLS.	COMMENTS.	PASS/FAIL
1#	Establish grip, if necessary turn and face downrange.			
2#	Establish down range direction and break snap (if fitted)			
3#	Handgun may be drawn, finger remains off trigger and safety catch remains on.			
4#	Muzzle is rotated towards target. The finger remains off the target.			
5#	Handgun is pushed towards target and two handed grip is established. The finger remains off the trigger.			
6#	Handgun secure in two handed grip, as the muzzle approaches the target the safety is de-activated. The finger remains off the trigger.			
7#	As the sights move onto the target the finger moves onto the trigger			

OVERALL ASSESSMENT: PASS/FAIL

Instr. Signature: _____

Instr.

Name _____ Date: _____

STUDENT NAME: _____

SECTION: _____ **CLUB:** _____

ANNEXE 3#

ASSESSMENT CRITERIA (practical test)

DRILL NO.	GUN HANDLING SKILLS	All rounds to impact target Yes/No	COMMENTS	PASS/FAIL
1# Draw & fire a single round at a target 5 metres away. (repeat 5 times) Total 6 rounds				
2# Draw, go to kneeling pos. & fire 1 round at a target 5 metres away. (repeat 5 times) Total 6 rounds				
3# Draw, go to prone & fire 1 round at a target 5 metres away. (repeat 5 times) Total 6 rounds				
4# From behind a barricade draw & fire 1 round from the right side of the barricade at a target 5 metres away. (repeat once) Total 2 rounds				
5# From behind a barricade draw & fire 1 round from the right side of the barricade at a target 5 metres away. (repeat once) Total 2 rounds				
6# From behind a barricade draw and engages a				

target 5 metres away with 1 round from the right side of the barricade and 1 round from the left side of the barricade. Total 2 rounds				
7# Facing uprange, turn, draw and fire 1 round at a target 5 metres away. (repeat 5 times) Total 6 rounds				
8# Facing 90 degrees to the firing line turn draw and fire 1 round at a target 5 metres away. (repeat 5 times) Total 6 rounds				
9# Draw, move forward five paces and fire 1 round at a target 5 metres away. (repeat 5 times) Total 6 rounds				

OVERALL ASSESSMENT: PASS/FAIL

Instr. Signature: _____
Name _____ Date: _____

Instr.

STUDENT SECTION: _____ **CLUB:** _____

NAME: _____

ANNEXE 4#

WRITTEN EXAM

Pass Mark 80%

1. When holstered, must the trigger of the handgun be covered?
 - A. Yes.
 - B. No.

2. Dropping a handgun, whether loaded or not, during a course of fire will result in:
 - A. Disqualification from that stage.
 - B. A warning if the gun is unloaded and disqualification from the match if it is loaded.
 - C. Forfeiture of all score for that stage.
 - D. Disqualification from the match.

3. A bullet striking the ground less than _____ meters downrange from the competitor will be considered an accidental discharge and will result in _____ from the match.

4. The trigger finger must be outside the trigger guard at all times during movement and reloading.
 - A. True
 - B. False

5. Gross unsportsmanlike conduct may result in disqualification from the match.
 - A. True
 - B. False

6. Any discharge during loading, unloading or remedial action shall result in;
 - A. Disqualification from the stage
 - B. A procedural penalty
 - C. Disqualification from the match

7. While running through a stage, a competitors handgun falls to the ground. Which process should now be adopted with this shooter.
 - A. Award a zero score for that stage.
 - B. Permit the competitor to reshoot the stage.
 - C. Have the competitor submit to a holster test, if his holster passes he re shoots the stage, if it fails he gets a zero score for that stage.
 - D. Disqualification from the match.

8. May a competitor going through a low tunnel (3 foot high) draw a handgun while in the tunnel.

- A. Yes.
- B. No.

9. A Range Officer, for reasons of safety, may provide assistance to a competitor once the start signal has been given.

- A. True
- B. False

10. While clearing a malfunction the finger must be outside the trigger guard.

- A. Yes, if clearly lowered down from aiming at the target.
- B. No, as long as the handgun is safely pointing downrange.

ANNEXE 5#

SAFETY PROFICIENCY COURSE
Registration form

Seminar location: _____
Date: _____

Surname: _____ Christian Name: _____

Date of Birth: _____

Address: _____
City: _____

State: _____ Post Code: _____

Telephone No#: (H) _____
(Bus) _____

Region: Australasia Section: _____

Club: _____ IPSC Membership No#: _____

Members Signature: _____

For Official Use Only: Do Not Write Below This Line

Instructor(s): _____

Practical Component: PASS/FAIL Live Fire Exercise: PASS/FAIL

Holster Proficiency Test: PASS/FAIL Practical Holster Test: PASS/FAIL

Written Exam: (80%) PASS/FAIL

Grading Match: Yes/No M A B C D (circle appropriate grade)

Instructor signature: _____
Date: _____

*This form to be forwarded to National Membership Secretary.
It is recommended that copies be retained at Section & Club level.*