Purbeck Gun Club

Membership Pack and Introduction Guide

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Frequently Asked Questions

Below are answers to the most commonly frequently asked questions.

When is shooting conducted?
The club is open for shooting on Tuesday and Friday evenings between 7.30pm and 9.30pm and on Sunday afternoons by prior arrangement.

What type of gun can I shoot?
Any Style of .22 calibre rimfire and centre fire underlever and carbine rifles and long barrel centre fire pistol up to the ranges power limits which are available on the club notice board are allowed and any type of air weapon.

Do I need my own gun to start shooting?
No, the club has various .22 rimfire rifles and air weapons for members and visitors to use. There is no charge for the use of club rifles and pistols.

Can I purchase ammunition at the club?
You can purchase .22 rimfire ammunition and also air gun pellets. You must leave your .22 rimfire ammunition at the club unless you are a firearms certificate holder and then any purchased ammunition must be entered on your certificate before you take it away from the range.

Do you have any other facilities at the club?
We have a separate club room with tea and coffee making facilities which are free to members and guests. We also have a club pool table and darts board. Various shooting related magazines and books are also available for members to read.

How can I join the club?
You must enter your details on the membership form provided and return this with the appropriate membership fee to the club. We will then contact your references and we also have to submit your details to the firearms department at Dorset Police.
Once all the checks are complete you will be provided with a membership card and your three month probation period will start.

Can I bring a friend or guest along to shoot?
You can only bring guests to shoot firearms on one of the clubs open days which are listed on our website. If the guest is only to be shooting air weapons they will be able to shoot on a normal club night but we would request that you contact the range officer for the shoot to tell them you are bringing extra people to shoot. All visitors are subject to a range fee of £2 per session.

General Range Safety

Below are a few basic do's and don'ts for when you are visiting the range.

Do

Observe the instructions of the range officer.

Wear protective equipment when shooting – your hearing and sight are important to us.

Remove the magazine and leave the breech open when pistol or rifle is not in use.

Point pistol in line with target at all times with finger clear of the trigger when shooting.

Always carry your pistol or rifle open.

Open the cylinder of revolvers when not in use.

Check to see the chamber is empty.

Clean away your empties after use and put in the brass container provided.

Ensure the benches are left clear for the next shooter.
Close the gate between the benches after changing your target.

Dispose of any unwanted targets in the clubs paper shredder.

Dont

Shoot without permission of the range officer.

Touch any weapon when people are downrange.

Enter the firing point during a detail.

Leave the firing point during a detail.

Go beyond the firing point without the permission of the range officer.

For ANY REASON point your rifle or pistol at anyone.

Handle any weapon without the permission of the owner.

Firearms

Club members can use any of the club firearms which include .22 rimfire target riles, single shot files and semi-auro rifles. Below are examples of firearms which are legal to use at the range:

Target Rifles - These are heavy single shot target rifles which use open sights.

Sporting Rifles - These are lightweight rifles which often use telescopic sights.

Semi-auto long barrel pistols - These are normally 10 shot pistols which use either open sights or electronic red-dot sights

Long barrel revolvers- These are normally 6 or 7 shot pistols which use either open sights or electronic red-dot sights. Available in calibres of .22, .357 and .44

Air Rifles and Pistols

Club members can use any of the club air rifles and pistols or bring their own air weapons. Below are examples of airguns which you can use at the range:

Underlever Air Rifles - These have a fixed barrel and a lower loading lever.

Break-barrel Air Rifles - These load by breaking the barrel and loading the pellet direct into the end of the barrel.

Pre-Charged Air Weapons - These use compressed air, normally filled via a diving bottle. Pre-charged weapons offer much less recoil than a spring gun.

CO2 Air Pistols - These pistols and some rifles use a small bottle of CO2 gas to provide their power. You can normally fire around 70-90 shots per bottle.

Club Rules

(1) Only Rifles and Pistols of approved type and having acceptable proofing together with appropriate ammunition will be allowed.

(2) The Range Officers have the authority to ban any weapon or ammunition on the Range if they consider either to be unsafe or inappropriate.

(3) Shooting may only take place when the Range is SAFE.

(4) In the interest of SAFETY, there must be a Committee Member, Qualified Coach, or other Author ized Member present together with at least two other persons before shooting may commence.

(5) The Range Officer will appoint Assistants as required to run the Firing Point and/or other Duties, including The Butts at Long Range.

(6) The Assistant Range Officers are in complete charge of the proceedings under the Chief Range Officer.

(7) Nobody will advance forward of the Firing Point unless authorized by the Range Officer on the Point, or the Chief Range Officer.

(8) Any person pointing a weapon at another person or persons in any circumstances whatsoever and whether loaded or otherwise, or being found guilty of any practice which in the opinion of the Committee on deliberation on the report from the Range Officer of the day, will be liable to expul sion from the CLUB. (See constitution rule 20 a,b,c)

(9) a; Members are reminded that it is an offence to carry any firearm exposed in any Public Place.
b. Beginners and those not having a firearm certificate are further reminded hat it is also a serious offence to remove ammunition from the Range.

(10) On Range Precincts, all Firearms will be kept unloaded with their actions open at all times except when on the firing point, (see 11 a and b) or they are properly stowed within their carrying cases or other receptacle for transport or holstered.

(11) a. At the Firing Point, no weapon will be touched or loaded during a Cease Fire.
b. Weapons may be handled and/or loaded only after the Range - Officer has so advised for resumption of shooting, or has otherwise given specific permission.
c. Members wishing to demonstrate, show, or coach with a weapon must first take the same to the FUMBLE ZONE designated on all ranges by Usage.

(12) On the Command Cease Fire, all weapons will be unloaded immediately and placed with actions open on the bench or other support at long range, and with their muzzles pointing towards the targets.

(13) Should there be any cause for shooting to be interrupted on any Range and for whatever reason, the call Cease Fire by anyone will be obeyed immediately and the weapon made safe as in rule

(14) Any Member or Spectator seeing that the Range is not SAFE must call Cease Fire and have the same authority in such an emergency as the Range Officer.

(15) During a Match and when Beginners are being instructed, should there be a ‘jam’ or other stop -page with either weapon or target, the Shooter will raise his/her disengaged arm to attract the attention of the Range Officer who will deal with the matter according to the appropriate Rules.

(16) When a Match is in progress or Members are shooting League Targets, all other Members will have the courtesy of observing reasonable silence to avoid any distraction, and will assist the Range Officer in ensuring that only the permitted number of shooters and others are on the Firing Point and the others are all standing well back from the point.

(17) The Committee impress on all Members that it is one of the Conditions of their membership that they should help maintain a TIDY Range, with particular care being taken to avoid leaving any live ammunition unaccounted for. All dangerous or potentially dangerous rubbish which may be found shall be the responsibility of the finder to remove. A TIDY RANGE IS A SAFE RANGE!

(18) Competitive shooting will always be carried out in accordance with the rules of the N.S.R.A. or N.R.A. or other properly constituted Body as relevant and as maybe modified by local Range conditions.

(19) During Practice Meetings only, the duration of details on the Firing Point will be decided by the Range Officer in charge of the point in conference with the Shooters on the detail and any waiting to shoot. Thus any Member wishing to shoot a Match Target may ask for a Cease Fire in order to put up or retrieve such a target or targets.

Club Rules - continued

(20) Other than special competitions as arranged from time to time, all shooting will be carried out from behind the benches or tables provided at 20 to 25 meters and from the regular positions at Long Range Meetings.

(21) Until a Beginner has satisfied the conditions laid down in Constitution Rule 11 He/She will be required to be supervised by a CLUB COACH or Authorized Senior Member at all times in the interests of Safety and will comply with all instructions given by the said Supervisor.

(22) Those wishing to shoot special targets and/or rifles on any practice detail must first consult the Range Officer as to the position they should occupy.

(23) At Long Range Meetings, the Butt Parties will not vacate their position until the BUTTS OFFICER for the time being has communicated with the FIRING POINT in order to ascertain that it is SAFE to leave and so informs his party, raising the Red Flag before doing so.

(24) The Range-is not-safe unless/until there is properly coordinated communication between Butt and Firing Points at Long Range.

(25) Both Butts and Firing Point Officers may separately call for Cease Fire without consultation should the need arise.

(26) All Range Officers will endeavor to give following details ample warning so that they may prepare for their own detail.

(27) Details vacating the Firing Point will do so as quickly as possible and-with the minimum distur bance to others.

(28) Coaches and other instructors may-not supervise more than two Beginners at a time and these must be on adjacent firing positions.

(29) The Rules applying to any discipline will be clearly explained to each and every detail before their Match begins.

(30) Except as provided by the Range Officer and unless a Cease Fire is in force, no Shooter may approach the Firing Point without permission of the Range Officer or leave it without weapon clearance by the Range Officer.

(31) Spectators at Purbeck Gun Club are expected to keep well to the rear of the Firing Point and must not approach the benches. Also keep well behind the elevated firing point banking at long range on M.O.D. Ranges.

(32) Coaching during Matches of all kinds will at the sole discretion of the Range Officer, only be allowed on a supervisory basis with Beginners only, to comply with Safety Standards.

(33) The names of the Members of the Range Committee during open or invitation Matches will be clearly published on the notice board as well as on the advance notices sent to applicant competitors which will also advertise the Match Rules. Competitors should be left in no doubt as to which rules govern the shoot.

(34) NO SMOKING is allowed in the indoor range.

(35) NO ALCOHOL is allowed in the range and Shooters are advised not to drink before shooting.

(36) EAR PROTECTORS must be worn at all times when shooting.

(37) Make sure you know where the nearest phone is situated for any emergency.

(38) All Visitors will sign the Visitors Book on guest days only

(39) Visitors who are not known and who have not been introduced by a Member will be asked for identification. They will only be allowed to shoot under strict supervision Rule 11 will then apply should they wish to join the club on guest days only.

(40) The Club encourages Youth Groups to visit and receive instruction.

Constitution

1. The CLUB shall be known as the PURBECK GUN CLUB.
2. The CLUB will be affiliated to the N.S.R.A. and any other National Body that the Committee considers appropriate
3. The object of the CLUB is to provide facilities for and promote participation of the whole community in the sport of shooting and indoor archery.
4. Ranges will be opened for shooting at the times specified in the Bye-Laws or by arrangement with the Secretary.
5. The CLUB will be managed by a Committee comprised of a Chairman. Vice Chairman, Secretary, Treasurer and not less than 4 others who will all be elected each year at the Annual General Meeting.
6. At least one third of the total Committee strength for the time being must-be present to-form a quorum in order to conduct business.
7. Vacancies on the Committee may be filled from time to time the Committee in session, but not by a quorum.
8. The Committee may co-opt additional Members if the need arises.
9. The SECRETARY may convene a Committee Meeting at any time provided at least seven days notice is given to Members in writing.
10. Application for Membership of the CLUB may be made through any Member of the CLUB. The PROPOSER and SECONDER will sign the Application Form in the appropriate spaces, and both be CLUB Members in good standing
11. Membership of the CLUB shall be open to all persons irrespective of ethnicity, nationality, sexual orientation, religion or beliefs; or of age, sex or disability except as a necessary consequence of the requirements of shooting as a particular sport.
12. APPLICANTS for Membership of The CLUB shall have been seen to have satisfied their Sponsors and The Committee as to their attendance, integrity and ability to handle a firearm safely and responsibly over a period of not less than three calendar months, with the exception of Members of other CLUB's in Good Standing and/or already in possession of a Firearm certificate, when the three month rule will not be applied. After the appropriate conditions have been fulfilled, applications will be considered at the next Committee Meeting.
13. The CLUB may refuse membership or expel from membership only for good and sufficient cause, such as conduct or character likely to bring the CLUB or sport into disrepute. Appeal against such a decision may be made to the CLUB's members and decided by majority vote.
14. New members must serve three month probation and regular attendance.
15. ANNUAL SUBSCRIPTIONS become due immediately after the 1st December each year. Failure to comply invalidates the Insurance Cover for that individual.
16. Current membership fees can be viewed on the club notice board.
17. In the event of non attendance at CLUB Meetings and with Subscriptions not having been paid by 31st December and/or except in very special circumstances allowed by the Committee after specific discussion of all the facts of the case, the Individual may be liable to withdrawal of the privileges of CLUB Membership.
18. The Committee may discuss and decide economical change in the amount of the ANNUAL SUBSCRIPTIONS as expedient, but must refer any price changes to the Annual General Meeting except in emergency when a Special General Meeting must be convened.
19. The Secretary will convene the Annual General Meeting as soon as possible after all CLUB accounts have been audited for the previous year and the Venue booked. The Secretary will give 14 days notice of this intent to Members.
20. The Business of the A.G.M. will invariably include reading the notice convening the Meeting, listing Members present and receiving apologies for absence, followed by review of the financial status of the CLUB accounts and hearing of reports from the Retiring Committee. Following the Election of the New Committee Members will proceed to elect their Chairman and Vice Chairman.
21. The Auditors will examine the CLUB Accounts at least once annually and shall deliver to the CLUB before the A.G.M. their Certificate to the effect that the BALANCE SHEETS are a fair representation of the CLUB's Finances. Any defect in these affairs will be referred to the Committee in writing for immediate action.
22. Any Member of the CLUB receiving monies on behalf of the CLUB will deliver the same to the TREASURER together with any covering documents as soon as possible.
23. The Committee may pay accounts and incur normal running liabilities on behalf of THE CLUB. The Committee and it's Officers are hereby indemnified by the CLUB against any Claim in this respect, either personally or collectively
24. The Range Officer and his Assistant/s for the day have full authority on the Range for the conduct of shooting, and may confer on any matter on shooting conduct or breach of any rule or regulation and will automatically have the support of the Committee. All aberrations in conduct under this heading will be reported in full in the Range Register for discussion by the Committee at their next Meeting. If the matter be of more urgent nature, the Secretary will convene a special Committee meeting as already provided.
25. Any Member may bring a matter before the CLUB by collecting (6) signatures to a letter addressed to the Secretary asking Him to call a Special General Meeting.
26. The Committee may make Bye-Laws or revise existing ones governing-the use of any CLUB FACILITY and may draw up special competition rules. Such Bye Laws and rules must be made available to CLUB Members, and although having effect immediately, must be ratified at the next A.G.M.
27. A Range Officer will be nominated for each shooting squad at the time by the Committee Member who is in charge of the range at the time of the shoot on CLUB days.
28. Range Officers will arrange their own Assistant/s on the day if required.
29. Any Member of the Committee may be asked to resign from the Committee provided that two-thirds of the Membership thereof are in favour, or may be removed by application to a Special General Meeting when two-thirds of those present are in favour. Such Meetings must be properly convened and recorded.
30. The Chairman of the CLUB or Vice Chairman in his absence will have a casting vote on any matter at any meeting.
31. The committee shall have the authority to legislate on any matter not covered in these rules.
32. All shooting will be governed by the rules appropriate to the discipline.
33. The income and property of the CLUB shall be applied solely towards promoting the CLUB's objects as set forth in this construction and no portion thereof shall be paid or transferred, directly or indirectly to members of the CLUB.
34. In the event of the dissolution of the CLUB, any assets remaining after the satisfaction of all debts and liabilities shall not be paid or distributed among members of the CLUB but shall be given or transferred to one of the following approved sporting or charitable bodies. This is deemed to be: National Small-bore Rifle Association, Lord Roberts Centre, Bisley Camp, Brookwood, Woking, Surrey, GU24 0NP for the use by them in community related sports.

Membership Options & Costs

The following membership types and options are available:

Airgun Only Membership

Airgun and Archery Only Membership, over 14 years old

Per Year £40

Full Shooting Membership

Adult Full Membership (over 18 years of age)

Per Year £80

Family Membership

Per Year £120

First member pays full membership and then a 50% discount for second family member.

Children and students under 18 are free when accompanied by a full member.

All membership applications are subject to approval by the club committee and are subject to a police check.

If you join part way through the clubs membership year (December to November) you will only pay for the remaining period until the next renewal date.

Airgun pellets, CO2 gas and .22 rimfire ammunition is available to purchase from the club. The latest price list is available at the range.

PURBECK GUN CLUB

APPLICATION FOR CLUB MEMBERSHIP

National Smallbore Rifle Association, Lord Roberts House, Bisley Camp, Brookwood, Woking, Surrey GU24 ONP

Name: …….. Address: ……..

…….....

……..... Postcode: ……..

Telephone: …….…… Email: …….....

Date of Birth: ……..... Place of Birth: .....

How long at the above address? …… Years If less than one year, enter your previous address on rear of form

Occupation: ……Name & Address of Employer: ……

……... Telephone: ……

Have you received any fire arms training? Yes No (Delete as appropriate) If yes give details ……

…….....

Are you now or have you ever been, a member of a rifle/pistol club? …… If yes, give name & address: ……

.....……Dates of membership ……

Reason for leaving: …….....

Do you hold a firearm certificate? Yes No Number & Issuing Authority: ……...

Have you ever been refused a firearm or shotgun certificate, or held one and had it revoked? ……..If yes, give reasons:

……...

Do you know any members of the Purbeck Gun Club …… If yes, whom? ..……..

Membership Type Required: Adult Full - Family - Airgun Only (Delete as appropriate)

Membership Fee to pay: ……..... Give names & addresses of two references who may be contacted by the Club:

1. ……..

2. ……..

I certify that the above information is correct to the best of my knowledge and, if my application is accepted, agree to abide by the rules and regulations of the club at all times.

I declare that I am not prohibited from possessing a firearm or ammunition by virtue of section 21 of the Firearms Act 1968. **

Date: …… Applicants Signature: ……...

If under 18, signature of parent or guardian: ……

Proposer: …… Seconder: ……

Note: Any member can have his/her membership terminated at any time as per Rule 20 of the Club Constitution. The Club Committee reserves the right to refuse membership and is under no obligation to give reasons, nor do applicants have the right of appeal.

OFFICIAL CLUB USE ONLY:

Provisional Membership Approved/Refused: …….. Date: ……..

Full Membership Approved/Refused: …….. Date: ……..

** It is an offence for someone who is prohibited by section 21 to have a firearm or ammunition in his possession at any time. Section 21 applies to anybody who has been sentenced to imprisonment or to youth custody or detention in a young offender's institution for three months or more. The period for which they are prohibited depends on their length of sentence—if the sentence was longer than three years, the prohibition is for life. If the sentence was three months or more, but less than three years the prohibition lasts for five years from the date of their release. It is an offence for a person to transfer, let or hire, give of lend a firearm or ammunition to someone whom he knows of has reasonable grounds in believing to be prohibited by section 21.