

## **Biathlon BC Firearms Safety Policy - Dry Firing and Range Sessions**

### **General**

Athletes are responsible for the safe operation and handling of their firearms and ammunition at all times. All firearms must be treated as if loaded at all times, and must be properly cleared before any dry firing session, and at the conclusion of any live round firing practice session. Clearing includes ensuring no ammunition is present in any magazine, spare round holder, breech or chamber of any firearm. Safety violations will be documented by the Range Safety Officer and submitted to the appropriate authority based upon the situation. Safety violations during Biathlon BC events must be immediately reported to the Technical Delegate and/or Head Coach, as appropriate, who in turn will notify the President of Biathlon BC within 24 hours.

### **A. Dry Firing Sessions**

While safety is everyone's responsibility, the primary responsibility for safety in dry fire sessions is with the individual athlete. In a group session, the instructor and coach have the general responsibility. Any safety violation(s) at organized sessions shall be reported to the person(s) responsible for the session and the facility as appropriate in the circumstances.

1. No live ammunition may be present in the room in which a dry fire session is being held, or in situations such as accommodation facilities, ammunition must be contained in a secure container.
2. If empty casings or drill cartridges are being used, the instructor, coach, and athlete must each personally inspect every casing or drill round present to verify that it is not live ammunition.
3. All firearms and magazines used or present in a dry fire practice must be confirmed as clear by the coach or instructor and by the athlete using that firearm prior to engaging in a dry fire activity. All other firearms present must be also inspected and ensured cleared by the coach or instructor.
4. Firearms must not under any circumstances be pointed at a person or other living thing with the sole exception of a bore inspection from the muzzle of a cleared rifle with an open or removed bolt.

### **B. Range Sessions**

While safety is everyone's responsibility, the primary responsibility for safety on the range is that of the designated Range Safety Officer. The Range Safety Officer will report any incidents to the operator of the range and to the responsible authorities as appropriate under the circumstances.

1. In addition to other requirements and procedures consistent with IBU Rules, all firearms and magazines must be cleared of ammunition at the conclusion of the range practice and so reported as cleared to the responsible coach who will confirm the same to the person acting as Range Safety Officer for the session.
2. Rifles must be cased and uncased in the safest possible manner such that:
  - a. Trigger or other action disabling locks are employed prior to leaving the range,
  - b. Rifles transported in soft cases must be cased and uncased with the muzzle pointing up at the rifle rack, at a designated safe area, or while pointed down range from a firing point on an ACTIVE (red flag up) range,
  - c. Rifles transported in hard cases must be cased and uncased either at a designated safe area, or while pointed down range from a firing point on an ACTIVE (red flag up) range, and
  - d. Designation of a suitable safe area is the responsibility of the Range Safety Officer.