

Cranbourne-Dandenong Pistol Club Inc

New Members Guide

Revised January 2023

Name: _____

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CDPC Information

The Cranbourne Dandenong Pistol Club Inc. (C.D.P.C.I.), formerly Dandenong Pistol Club Inc. is an incorporated body which has been in existence since 1956. It is the oldest pistol club in Victoria and was formed so that a team could be fielded in the Melbourne Olympic Games.

The **purpose** of CDPC is:

- To promote knowledge and skill in the art of pistol shooting
- To promote competitive pistol shooting amongst its members
- To enter into any contracts, agreements or arrangements to further the above purposes

This **guide** intends to provide new/prospective members an introduction to handgun shooting as well as an overview of the club. This **guide** can be used as a reference for basic handgun knowledge.

Competitions

CDPC Inc. runs a variety of competitions for club members as well as visitors (who are fully-licensed shooters) to enjoy.

Air Pistol

This is a match where competitors aim at a 10 ring target at 10-12m in the standing position, using only one hand to fire the pistol. The wrist must not be supported.

ISSF 25 Metre

This match functions the same as Air Pistol although this is shot at 25m as well as different calibre of firearms. At CDPC, we offer 25m shooting in centrefire, rimfire and .22 rifle.

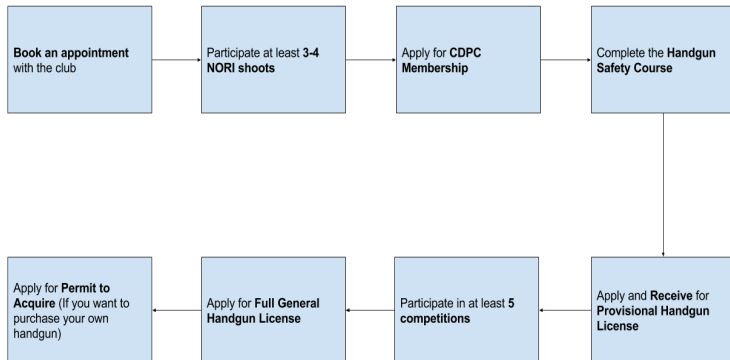
Single Action/Western Action (Cowboy Shooting)

Single Action Shooting is based on the old west style of shooting and uses guns from that period. (Pistols, lever action rifles and double-barrelled shotguns.) Steel targets are used. Speed with somewhat accuracy is the key to success.

IPSC (Practical Shooting)

IPSC consists of action-packed stages with shooter's goal to finish with the highest score in the shortest time possible. IPSC has a variety of target types (paper and steel, stationary and moving, scoring targets and penalty targets). It can be placed anywhere within the range and the number of targets/steel can vary.

Process of Joining the Club



This is the process of joining the club and obtaining your license through Cranbourne-Dandenong Pistol Club. You will get more information on this from our fellow club members as well as the committee if you decide to join the club.

Handgun Safety

There are many different aspects to handling of handguns safe. As you learn more about handguns your awareness and safety will increase.

Handgun Laws

There are ten basic rules to handgun safety. Although we'd like you to focus on these three rules as they are very important. It must be followed. No exceptions.

First rule:

Assume the gun is always loaded.

Every time you pick up a gun, treat it as if it was loaded.

Second rule:

Never point the gun at anything you do not want to shoot.

If you always assume that the gun is loaded, then you will always keep it pointing in a safe direction.

Third rule:

Always be sure of your target and what is behind it.

Bullets can penetrate a number of objects. Always ensure that there is a safe impact area behind your target before firing.

Common Safety Hazards

Finger On The Trigger

This is a common practice that can happen to any shooter regardless of their experience. Whenever you pick up or handle a firearm, you **MUST** keep your finger off the trigger! Keep your trigger finger extended in a straight line in the same direction as the gun and rest it on the side of the gun **ABOVE** the trigger guard. This allows Range Officers (people

who supervise the range) to check that your finger is out of the trigger.

Image is shown below:



The Muzzle Direction

During your NORI shoots, you will be told that the handgun **MUST ALWAYS** be pointed downrange. Downrange is the only safe direction of the muzzle. You must be careful when you are **unloading** or **loading** the pistol. You must be especially careful when you turn around and talk to someone. You can turn, but keep the gun **pointed downrange**.



You will be taught how to unload/reload your firearm during your NORI shoots.

The Range

Safety Equipment

There is some basic safety equipment that is required whenever you are on the shooting range:

Ear Protection

Handguns are loud, louder than a jet engine and they can cause permanently hearing damage. Ear protection is a **MUST** while shooting. The most popular ear protection would be earmuffs but ear plugs are an alternative. Earmuffs/earplugs with a noise reduction of 26dB or greater is preferred.



Eye Protection

Bullets travel very fast and sometimes when the bullet strikes a hard target, a bullet fragment can come back towards you. This can result in serious injury, at the worst-case scenario, death. Eye Protection is just as important as ear protection. You **MUST** wear it **at all times** when on the shooting range, even if you are just watching others shoot.



NOTE: If you are already wearing **prescription glasses**, you can use that as safety glasses. Although we **recommend** wearing bigger safety glasses over your prescription glasses for more protection.

The club supplies eye and ear protection for use at the range. Although it is recommended that you buy **your own** eye and ear protection **as soon as possible** if you continue to take part in pistol shooting. Club members can advise where you can purchase these essentials.

Clothing

The following clothing and footwear is not permitted to wear at the range

- No low cut tops
- No thongs or open-toed shoes
- No camouflage clothing

You must wear **CLOSED** comfortable shoes. You can wear any clothing provided that it's comfortable and not from the list above.

Health and Safety

Handgun ammunition contains very hazardous materials. Bullets are usually made from lead and the primers can contain mercury or lead styphnate. So make sure that you **wash your hands** thoroughly using **soapy water** after you finish shooting.



Range Commands

At CDPC, you will hear the following commands from your instructor and the Range Officer. It must be obeyed immediately. You must identify who is the range officer of the range, generally they will tell you.

Range Command	Meaning
"Eyes and Ears"	A reminder to wear your eye and ear protection.
"Move Forward" or "Shooter to the line"	You may cross the yellow line and move into your allocated shooting bay.
"Load" or "Load and make ready"	You can load your gun but you cannot FIRE at this moment. Once your gun is loaded it must remain in your hand. Do not put a loaded gun down. If you need to put the gun down for any reason then unload and open it first.
"Fire" or "Commence Firing"	You are allowed to shoot at the appropriate target.
"Cease Fire" or "Stop!"	Immediately stop shooting. You cannot fire another shot! This will be called at the completion of shooting so shooters can walk down to the targets.

	<p>This is also used when there is an emergency or the range officer notices an unsafe situation on the range.</p>
<p>“Unload” or “Unload and show clear”</p>	<p>Remove all ammunition from the gun whilst the gun pointed downrange.</p> <p>For revolvers, swing out the cylinder and remove all rounds from the chambers now place the gun on the bench with the cylinder out.</p> <p>For a semi-automatic, remove the magazine then pull and lock open the slide. Place the gun on the bench with the slide open. Now empty the magazine and place the empty magazine on the bench or resting on the grip of the gun.</p>
<p>“Stand clear of Firearms”</p>	<p>Keep behind the yellow safety line at the back of your shooting bay.</p>
<p>“Cease Fire, Open all actions, remove all</p>	<p>This is your instruction to stop shooting, ensure that your gun is safe and empty</p>

magazines and stand clear of firearms”	and move back behind the line.
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Shooting Fundamentals

There are three very important components which you need to master in order to shoot consistently. Those are grip, sight picture and trigger pull. Regardless of what gun you’re using (e.g. Revolver or Semi-Automatic), these fundamentals are still important to produce a good shot. The only difference is the way you master it.

Grip – Two Handed

Always hold the handgun in your strong hand (right hand if you’re right handed, left hand if you are left handed). Remember to keep your thumbs on the same side of the gun!

Whenever picking up a handgun, remember to be aware of the barrel direction and keep your finger off the trigger!

70% of your grip strength should be coming from your weak hand (for right-hand shooters, it would be left hand and for left-hand shooters, it would be right hand) whilst **30%** should be coming from your other hand. This allows you to have a smooth trigger pull.

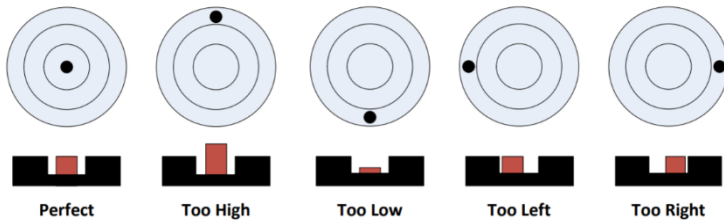


Sight Picture

Lining up the sights will in theory ensure that the bullet impacts exactly where the gun is pointing. To begin with it may be easier to close one eye and align the sights with one eye only.

You will need to work out which eye to use. Most right-handed people are right eye dominant, while left handed people are left eye dominant.

Keep your dominant eye open, close the other one and hold the handgun with your arms outstretched and line up the sights so that the front sight sits evenly in the middle of the rear sight.



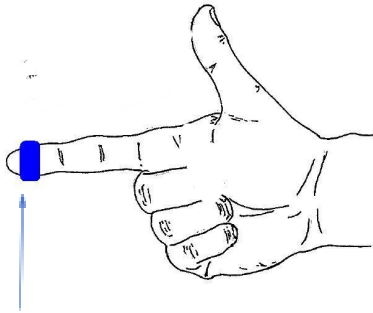
Trigger Pull

The trigger must be operated smoothly and should never be jerked or yanked back. Firing the gun involves pulling the trigger straight back using the action of a single finger slowly until the shot breaks while maintaining a constant grip on the gun.

Imagine you are pressing your finger against a thin piece of glass. It may bend slightly as you apply pressure, but eventually with more and more pressure it will break. This is how the trigger should feel when used correctly.

If you jerk the trigger then all your hard work in lining up the target and maintaining your sight picture will be wasted as the gun will go off target with the trigger pull.

Where the finger is placed on the trigger is also important. Place the pad of your finger on the trigger. Letting the finger slip too far into the trigger will cause your shots to go off target as grip will change as you pull the trigger back.



Where the trigger should be

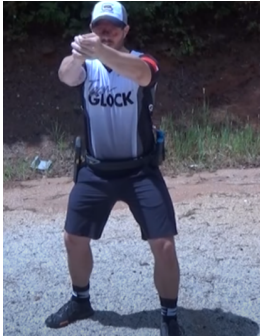
Stance

Stance is very important as it provides a strong and stable platform, allowing you to shoot more accurately and maintaining the recoil of the gun.

Two-Hand shooting

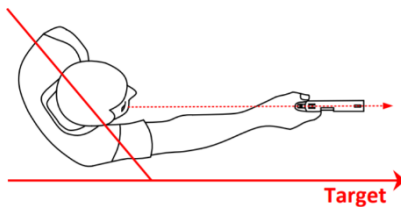
During your NORI shoots, you will be shooting two handed. For RH shooter, Stand with your feet shoulder width apart, left foot should be in front and your right foot at the back, Your arms should be fully extended straight out in front holding the gun. You don't need to lock your arms, but make sure they are straight out in front of you pointing at the target.

You should be leaning forward slightly. Do not lean back, or you will have less control of the recoil.



Single Hand shooting

Single handed shooting is more difficult as the gun and recoil needs to be supported with only one hand. Stand with your feet and shoulders at a 45 degree angle to the target.



Your feet should be shoulder width apart. Extend your arm straight out pointing at the target. Your other hand is loose by your side.

Glossary

MEMBER – is a financial member of the C.D.P.C.I.

FULL MEMBER – is a financial member who is qualified to own and use firearms under these rules and other applicable rules and regulations.

PROSPECTIVE MEMBER – is a visitor to the C.D.P.C.I on any given day, with the intention to join the club.

COMMITTEE MEMBER – is a financial member of C.D.P.C.I who has been duly elected to the Committee of Management. The C.D.P.C.I. must be your principal club. The Committee has the right to co-opt a person if required between elections.

ASSOCIATE MEMBER – has no voting rights and will only be able to compete in limited competitions as determined by the Club

NORI – Notice of Receiving Instruction. You must fill in this form if you plan to shoot but are not in hold of a handgun license.

VISITOR – is a person who is not a financial member of the C.D.P.C.I. but who is, for the time being, visiting within the boundaries of the area known as the C.D.P.C.I. range.

RANGE OFFICER – is a member who has been considered by the Committee to be competent for the duties required and who has previously undertaken such duties to the satisfaction of the Committee.

SECURED FIREARM – is a firearm that is kept in a safe condition either on the person or in a closed carrying receptacle. The Range Officer's ruling with regard to "an approved receptacle" will prevail. Firearms must be kept secure at all times when the gate is unlocked, before and after all competitions. Gate to be locked at all times when firearms are unsecured.

A CLEAR FIREARM – is a firearm which has the cylinder released and exposed from the body, or, in the case of an automatic, the magazine is removed and the breech open for inspection, and is free of ammunition.

A SPECIFIED AREA – is any area within the confines of the property known as C.D.P.C.I. which, with the approval of the Committee, is set aside either temporarily or permanently for the specific course of fire, and in relation to which restrictions may be imposed.

SAFETY AREA – is an area set aside by the Committee where inspection and work on firearms can be undertaken.

Firearms to be “Cleared” before entering the Safe Area. No ammunition or loaded firearms allowed.

Acknowledgement

We wish to acknowledge **Sporting Shooters Pistol Club (SSPC Victoria)** for their assistance with and contribution to the content of this booklet.

NORI Participation Record

After every NORI shoot at CDPC, you must record your participation. After three shoots, you **MUST** apply for CDPC Membership if you intend to continue to shoot.

NORI	Date	Supervisor Name	Supervisor Signature	Notes
1				
2				
3				
<p>YOU MUST APPLY FOR CDPC MEMBERSHIP, ASK THE INSTRUCTOR FOR THE FORM OR CHECK OUR WEBSITE ON cdpc.org.au</p> <p>You can continue to shoot as a NORI until your provisional license has been issued.</p>				
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