



Cobham Sporting Gun Club

Membership Rules & Guidelines

1. Introduction

- 1.1. The Cobham Sporting Gun Rules & Guidelines are designed to ensure that your shooting is safe and enjoyable. Please take the time to read them. It is a condition of membership that members observe these rules.
- 1.2. All members are responsible for safety and it is important that you play your part by acting responsibly and safely. Where applicable, the rules apply equally to guests.

2. Club Committee

- 2.1. The Club Committee shall be elected from the membership at the Annual General Meeting and will serve for a period of one year. Any member may stand for election to the Committee having been proposed and seconded by two current members. Nominations shall be sent to the Secretary to be received not less than seven days before the date fixed for the Annual General Meeting.
- 2.2. The Annual General Meeting shall be held in April in each year.
- 2.3. The Committee acts on behalf of the wider membership in implementing club policy.

3. Membership

- 3.1. Application for membership shall be made on an application form obtainable from the Membership Secretary, and will be subject to approval by the Committee. Application for membership shall be proposed and seconded by two current members.
- 3.2. A member who does not renew their membership on or before 15th May each year, will be deemed to have resigned their membership.

4. Guests

- 4.1. Guests are welcome. Guests must be competent shots, experienced in handling shotguns safely and will be required to sign in confirming they are not prohibited from holding a shotgun certificate. When a member introduces guests, they shall shoot in a squad with that member.
- 4.2. Guests not being introduced by a member should make contact with the Membership Secretary or another member of the Committee prior to the day of the shoot. They will be allocated to a squad at the shoot and must shoot

with that squad. Groups of more than two guests may not necessarily be able to shoot together. Guests arriving at a shoot not known to a member and arriving without prior warning may not be admitted to the shoot. The decision of any two members of the Committee present at the shoot on such matters will be final.

4.3. The conduct and safety of guests is the responsibility of their hosting club member.

5. Safety

5.1. Prior to commencement of shooting the Duty Safety Officer will check all stands to ensure they meet club standards and that falling clays or shot do not present a danger to anybody or overshoot roads or buildings. The decision of the Duty Safety Officer on safety matters shall be final.

5.2. The Club complies with CPSA Safety Guidelines and a copy is posted on the club notice board.

5.3. Members and guests are expected to maintain all aspects of good behaviour with full consideration to the safety of other persons and property and the observance of sporting practice.

5.4. The signal for guns to stop shooting is one blast on a whistle. On hearing this all firing must stop immediately, guns to be broken and unloaded. The signal for re-commencing shooting is two blasts on a whistle.

5.5. At least one member of each squad should carry a whistle. On hearing the single "stop shooting" whistle from a distant stand, the signal should be repeated if necessary so that more distant stands hear the signal and stop shooting. When the two "start shooting" whistles are heard it should again be repeated for the benefit of distant stands. Only the person who gave the initial "stop shooting" signal should initiate the "start shooting" signal. If in any doubt do not start shooting.

5.6. All participants and spectators must wear hearing protection. Eye protection for all is strongly recommended.

5.7. Misuse of a shotgun, ammunition, or shooting equipment will lead to immediate removal from the shooting ground and disqualification from club membership.

5.8. All guns shall be broken or cased when not on the shooting stand. Semi-automatic guns must display a visible indicator that the breach is empty.

5.9. Cartridges shall only be inserted into the breach on the shooting stand when about to shoot. Automatic shotguns shall not be loaded with more than two cartridges.

5.10. All participants have a responsibility for safety. If something is seen which you think may be unsafe, immediately inform the Club Safety Officer or any Committee member.

5.11. When shooting from an elevated stand, a maximum of three persons should be on the stand.

5.12. Names of the Club Safety Officer and other safety-trained club members will be posted on the notice board on the day of the shoot.

6. Trapping

6.1. Under no circumstances should members interfere with the Club's automatic traps. If during the course of a shoot a trap malfunctions, obtain assistance from a Committee member or from an authorised member (*see below*)*.

6.2. Any member co-opted to assist on breakdown following a shoot should only handle automatic traps once they have been rendered safe by an authorised club member* (*see below*) and the member has been told the trap has been made safe.

6.3. Manual traps rarely need to be used. If a manual trap is being used the person trapping must be competent to do so and should:

- always load the clays with the left hand
- ensure when leaving the trap that it is unloaded and the spring released
- ask for assistance from a competent person if in any doubt.

6.4. Only authorised club members should climb towers and those doing so should have appropriate footwear.

6.5. Only David Brown and Peter Court (or those nominated by them) are authorised to drive the club dumper truck.

7. The Shooting Ground

7.1. The Club meets on the first and third Sunday of each month.

7.2. Shooting commences at 10.00am and finishes at 1.00pm.

7.3. Entry for shooters closes at 09:45am. Entry to a shoot may be refused after 9.50am.

7.4. Due to noise restrictions only low recoil, fibre wad cartridges may be used. Such cartridges will be available for sale at each shoot. Fibre wad cartridges not exceeding 28g load and 7½ gauge shall be used.

7.5. Ported guns are not allowed for noise reasons.

7.6. Cars should be parked on the hard standing area within the shooting ground.

7.7. Only shooting stands approved by the Committee shall be used.

7.8. Club Rules & Guidelines will be reviewed when considered necessary by the Committee.

* Members authorised to handle and disarm traps are: Daren Aris, David Brown, Jason Cooper, Peter Court, Colin Crome, Jim Grant, Ron Hyde, David Jones, Raynor Manuel, Andy Marshall, Clive Moorey, Barry Timms and Colin Wells.