

Standing Operating Procedures
United States Army Alaska
Sports Fire Ranges

1. References:
 - a. AR 210-21, Army Ranges and Training Land Program.
 - b. AR 385-63, Range Safety.
 - c. DA Pam 385-63, Range Safety.
 - d. USARAK Regulation 350-2, Range Safety.
2. Purpose: This SOP outlines procedures for the proper and safe operation of activities on the Sports Fire Ranges for privately owned weapons at Fort Richardson (FRA), Fort Wainwright (FWA) and the Donnelly Training Area (DTA), Alaska.
3. Scope:
 - a. Capability: The Sports Fire Range at Fort Richardson has 15, 300 meter firing lanes. The Sports Fire Range at Fort Wainwright is also the Known Distance (KD) range and has 20 known distance firing points and 50, 25 meter firing points. The Sports Fire Range at the Donnelly Training Area is Alabama Range, and has 4 firing lanes each of which has targets out to 300 meters.
 - b. Weapons Authorized: Privately owned standard weapons up to .50 caliber and black powder weapons up to .75 caliber. The exception to this is .50 caliber rifles are not authorized at the Alabama Range in DTA due to proximity of the range to the post boundary. Automatic capable weapons are not authorized on any of the Sports Fire Ranges.
 - c. Ammunition authorized: Standard ammunition up to .50 caliber (See exception above), and black powder ammunition up to .75 caliber.
4. Applicability: This SOP constitutes authority IAW DA PAM 385-63 (para 2-3 c & e), for authorized personnel to use the Sports Fire Ranges. Authorized personnel include all military personnel (active duty, retired, National Guard and Reserve), DoD civilian employees, and dependent family members (over the age of 18) of authorized personnel. Guests are allowed to use the range when escorted by an authorized individual. Guests can not sign for the range nor perform other duties as prescribed in this SOP. Guests are defined as individuals other than those specifically authorized above and minor dependents of authorized individuals. Each authorized individual can have no more than two guests on the range at a time. Authority is granted to the local Range Facility Manager to enforce the standards contained in this SOP.

5. Responsibilities:

- a. Medical Support: Medical support is not required for this range when used in a recreational sports fire capacity only.
- b. Equipment Requirements: Range control issues all equipment required to use the Sports Fire Ranges.
- c. Personnel Requirements: This range requires 2 or more authorized individuals for operation. Authorized individuals assume the duties and responsibilities of the OIC and RSO, RTO and air guard. It is required that as more personnel arrive, the duties and responsibilities of the OIC, RSO, RTO and air guard be shared among the users.
- d. General Instructions: Use of Sports Fire Ranges is a privilege. Personnel utilizing the range must conduct themselves in accordance with this SOP and the standards of the Range Safety Certification Class. Failure to follow the instructions contained in this SOP will result in the withdrawal of privileges.

1) Preparation Phase.

- (a) All authorized personnel must attend a Sports Fire Ranges safety briefing and receive a range safety certification card from Range Control prior to using the range. The Sports Fire Ranges Safety Certification Card is valid for three years from the date of issue.

(b) Range Certification Classes.

(1) Fort Richardson

Monday - Friday 1630 hours at Range Control

Saturday - 1030 hours at Range Control

(2) Fort Wainwright

Monday - Friday 1330 hours at Range Control

(3) Donnelly Training Area

Monday - Friday (Contact Range Control for class hours, 873-4714.)

- (c) Individuals must show proof of authorization to use the range prior to certification.

- (d) Minors will not be issued Off-Duty Range Certification Cards.

- (e) Sports Fire Ranges hours of operation.

(1) Summer Months (May - September)

- (a) Monday - Saturday 0900-1800 (DTA Closed Saturday)

(b) Sunday and federal holidays - Closed

(2) Winter Months (October - April)

(a) Monday - Saturday 0900 - 1700 as daylight permits. (DTA Closed Saturday)

(b) Sunday and federal holidays - Closed

2) Safety.

(a) All personnel using the Sports Fire Ranges do so at their own risk and relinquish all rights of claim against the United States Government. Each individual, including guests, must have a signed copy of the liability release waiver form filled out and on file with Range Control.

(b) All individuals using the range must conduct range operations in accordance with the standards of the Range Safety Certification Class.

(c) Anyone witnessing an unsafe act must call a cease fire and bring the incident to the attention of the Range OIC.

(d) The OIC reports all unsafe acts and violations of range constraints directly to Range Control.

3) Execution Phase.

(a) Individuals must have an Off-Duty Range Certification Card in their possession when using the Sports Fire Ranges.

(b) The Sports Fire Ranges have specific procedures for proper operation and safety. It is the responsibility of each qualified person to review these procedures prior to opening the range.

(c) Signing for the Ranges. Prior to opening the Sports Fire Ranges, individuals must report to Range Control to sign for the range and range packet. The range packet contains the following items:

ITEM	QUANTITY
Range Flag	1
Staple Gun	2 with staples
First Aid Kit	1
Ear Plugs	1 Package
Range SOP (with DA form 3161)	1
Radio	1
Key to target shed	1

(d) Opening the Range. Upon arrival, the individual who signed for the range will execute the following procedures:

- (1) Inventory all equipment.
- (2) Put up the Range Flag.
- (3) Request permission to open the range using the radio provided. Cell phones will not be used as the primary means of communications.
- (4) Transmit the following information to Range Control:
 - (a) Name and SSN of the individual opening the range.
 - (b) Number of personnel on the range. This information will be updated as personnel arrive to and depart from the range.
 - (c) Any damaged or missing equipment.
- (e) The individual who signed for the range is the OIC and has the overall responsibility for safe operation of the range.

4) Recovery Phase.

- (a) The closing OIC is responsible for ensuring that:
 - (1) Firing operations cease at the stated closing time.
 - (2) All garbage and residue is removed from the firing points and taken from the range for disposal.
 - (3) Range equipment is accounted for and turned in to Range Control.
 - (4) All participants depart the range area with personal weapons and equipment.
- (b) The closing OIC is responsible for the following actions:
 - (1) Submitting a range closing report via radio in accordance with the Range opening/closing sheet.
 - (2) Reporting to the Range Control issue facility to turn in equipment and to conduct range close out activities.

e. Personnel Responsibilities:

(a) Officer-in-Charge (OIC) duties.

(1) The Range OIC is the primary authority on the Sports Fire Ranges. It is the OIC's responsibility to report unsafe acts, remove damaged or misfiring weapons from the firing line, shut down lanes being operated improperly and remove any individual from the range operating in violation of range rules and procedures and ensure each firing lane is policed of trash and residue prior to allowing shooters to depart the range.

(2) The individual who signs for the Sports Fire Ranges is the Officer in Charge and is in charge of and has overall responsibility for the safe operation of the range.

(3) The OIC will ensure that:

(a) The proper targets are set on the range.

(b) No personnel or wildlife are in the down range area of the range.

(c) Periodic check fires are announced to permit personnel the opportunity to check targets. In the event of a check fire only the OIC will give the command to resume firing.

(d) All weapons are cleared and placed on the firing line tables prior to permitting personnel down range.

(e) Smoking is not permitted on the firing line.

(f) Running and horseplay are not permitted on the range.

(g) All personnel must wear hearing and eye protection while on the firing line.

(h) All individuals firing on the range are properly qualified and have received an Off-Duty Range Certification Card or are properly escorted by a qualified individual.

(i) In the event of a check fire only the range OIC will give the command to resume firing.

(j) The OIC will ensure that all personnel have returned to the firing line prior to allowing weapons to be handled at the firing line.

(k) When the firing line is ready, the OIC will give the command to commence firing.

(b) Range Safety Officer (RSO) duties.

(1) The RSO is responsible to the OIC and Range Control for the safe operation of the range.

(2) The RSO must be actively alert to:

(a) Vehicle and personnel movement on and around the range or firing line.

(b) Alignment and handling of weapons on and around the firing line.

(c) Handling of ammunition.

(d) Clearing of weapons.

(e) Smoking areas.

(f) Guards, barriers and signs.

(g) Unauthorized personnel, vehicles and wildlife on the range.

(h) Cross-lane firing or firing at other than authorized targets.

(i) Aircraft entering the range airspace.

(c) Radio Telephone Operator (RTO) duties.

(1) The RTO is responsible for maintaining communications with Range Control

(2) The RTO conducts radio checks with Range Control every hour, monitors the range control net, receives and disseminates necessary information to all range firers and calls in check fires as required by the OIC.

(d) Air Guard Spotter duties. The Air Guard is responsible for reporting approaching aircraft that can affect operations of the range to the OIC, RSO and firing line IAW the horizontal distance and vertical ceiling chart below. Low flying aircraft in vicinity of the downrange area require an immediate check fire until the aircraft clears the area.

(e) Procedures for OIC, RSO, RTO and Air Guard changeover.

(1) OIC changeover procedures.

(a) The incoming OIC inventories the range equipment and signs for the Sports Fire Range from the outgoing OIC using a DA Form 3161.

(b) The incoming OIC informs Range Control of the change via radio.

(c) The outgoing OIC reports to Range Control and turns in the DA Form 3161, signed by the new OIC.

(d) RSO, RTO and Air Guard changeover must be done through the Range OIC. The Range OIC will notify Range Control immediately of the change, via radio transmission.

f. Restrictions:

- 1) No alcoholic beverages or other controlled substances are allowed within the boundaries of the Sports Fire Ranges at any time.
- 2) Automatic capable weapons are not authorized on the Sports Fire Ranges.
- 3) Trap and skeet is not authorized on the Sports Fire Ranges.
- 4) Archery is not allowed on the Sports Fire Ranges.
- 5) Wildlife will not be harassed or shot at. If animals wander onto the range, go into an immediate check fire and notify Range Control of the type and number of animals on the range.
- 7) The following are the minimum visibility distance requirements to open the Sports Fire Ranges:

WEAPON	HORIZONTAL DISTANCE	VERTICAL CEILING
Rifle .22 cal.	6 Miles	1900 Feet AGL
Pistol .22 cal.	6 Miles	1900 Feet AGL
Pistol 9mm	7 Miles	1900 Feet AGL
Pistol .38/.357 cal.	7 Miles	1900 Feet AGL
Pistol .45 cal.	7 Miles	1700 Feet AGL
Rifle (Others)	9 Miles	4000 Feet AGL

- 8) Fireworks or pyrotechnics are not authorized on the Sports Fire Ranges.
- 9) Non-participating guests may observe from behind the firing line.
- 10) Only authorized targets will be used. These targets are available from Range Control. Cans, bottles and other objects will not be used as targets.

g. Emergency Procedures.

- (1) In the event of an injury or accident, notify Range Control immediately. No one will leave the range until released by the MPs or Range Control.

(2) Emergency Numbers.

(a) Military Police Desk

(1) Ft Richardson 384-0823/0824

(2) Ft Wainwright 353-7535/7536

(3) Donnelly Training Area 873-2677/9126

(b) Range Control:

(1) Ft Richardson 384-6230/384-6233

(2) Ft Wainwright 353-1266/1242

(3) Donnelly Training Area 873-4714/1447

(c) Emergency Number for Injury: 911

6. Point of contact for this memorandum is the undersigned at 384-1723.



GEORGE D. ALEXION

GS-13

Installation Range Officer