

## Fast Draw SOP

**Range(s):** P2 (muzzleloader range)

**Purpose & Skill Focus:** To practice speed and accuracy and learn to compensate for natural weaknesses

**Who May Participate:** Everyone may participate. Minors must be capable of safely handling a firearm and must be accompanied by a parent/guardian. Disabilities will be accommodated as long as safety of all members is ensured.

**Fee 2019:** \$5

**Chairperson Qualifications:** The Chairperson must be competent to oversee range safety and must have passed the PA State Police criminal background check and the Child Abuse Clearance. Also, must be willing and able to supply guns, ammo, and safety glasses to new shooters for the first few times.

**Chairperson Duties** (may be delegated to assistants, but the Chair is ultimately responsible):

Set up targets and backstops prior to start of shoot

Collect fees and file income reports with the Treasurer

Ensure participants sign the event waivers (file in small documents safe)

Clearly explain course of fire and rules

Observe that all safety rules are obeyed

Start and stop all timed fire stages

Change targets between courses of fire

Explain scorekeeping procedure

Collect and check all scorecards; maintain records of each shooter's score for entire season

Remove all targets; collect all trash from range, store targets and backstops after event

### General Management & Promotion

Ensure assistants have submitted PSP and PA Child Abuse Clearances as needed and are fully trained

Immediately notify the Director with oversight of any issues or potential issues

Immediately file an Incident Report with the Recording Secretary for any safety incident and notify the Safety Director

Maintain inventory of equipment and ensure proper working order

Submit orders for targets

Seek ways to promote wider involvement, especially of youth

Make available the activity brochure listing all SLCFSA activities

Encourage participants to make available photos/videos for publicity (photo waivers required, on back of event waiver)

**Firearm Requirements & Restrictions:** Only: Single action revolver, double barrel shotgun, and lever action rifle.

Firearms must be in safe working condition and may be inspected by Chairperson.

**Auxiliary Equipment Requirements & Restrictions:** Shotgun primers and wax bullets only – no live ammo

**Range Setup/Design:** Targets set 5 to 25 feet down-range, as decided the day of the event. Targets are steel plates or balloons.

**Placement of Loading/Unloading Tables:** 10 feet behind the shooting area

**Procedures:** The shooter stands at the distance line appointed. Distances are set to increase progressively from 5 to 25 feet, as designated the day of the event. The timer calls the commands and then presses the timer button. When the shooter sees the light flash, he/she shoots the target as fast as possible; however, there is technically no time limit.

**Targets:** Steel plates in Cowboy shed

**Scoring:** A hit is a hit, a miss is 1-second penalty. A round is 5 shooting opportunities at a given distance (5 timer sets). The shooter's score for that round is the average of the top 4 shots.

**Safety Rules:** Each shooter's first responsibility is for their own safe conduct while participating in any phase of the shooting match. All shooters on the range should consider themselves Safety Officers and are expected to remain alert for any unsafe actions. All participants should immediately report unsafe conditions to the Chairperson(s), and if necessary, call a ceasefire.

Eye and hearing protection must be worn by all shooters while shooting. Such protection is recommended for everyone in the range area.

### **Firearms Safety**

Treat every firearm as if it were loaded at all times.

Keep track of muzzle direction. Do not "sweep" other participants or spectators between stages or when moving firearms to and from gun carts or tables.

All firearms will remain unloaded except at the loading table and under the direction of the Range Officer.

When changing location during a stage, all firearms must be made safe. Actions must be open and chambers and magazines empty.

The Range Officer MUST inspect all firearms before they leave the shooting stage. All firearms must have actions open, chamber flags in place, magazines removed (if applicable) and on safe (if applicable).

There will be no handling of any firearms when people are down-range.

### **Additional Safety Procedures**

Pistols are always loaded with only **six** rounds. Percussion revolvers will have only five chambers capped.

Pistols will not be cocked until pointed down range once the stage begins. Once cocked, the pistol will be shot dry (unless directed otherwise by the range officer). Once a stage begins, a pistol should never be holstered while still containing live rounds.

Extreme care must be exercised when drawing a loaded pistol from a holster. When using a cross draw holster, or when returning a pistol to a cross draw holster, the shooter must "twist" their body, if necessary, to ensure the muzzle never breaks the 170 degree safety rule during the process. When facing down range, the muzzle in a cross draw holster is normally pointing to the rear towards posse members. By twisting your body, the muzzle is pointed towards the side of the range, or in a safe direction and does not sweep anyone standing behind you.

Only "Gunfighters" may have two loaded pistols in their hands at the same time.

**Duties of Range Safety Officers:** To ensure safety procedures are always followed; to call a ceasefire when needed.

**Duties of Timers:** To yell these commands: "Shooter on the line – shooter set", and to press the electronic timer button.

**Duties of Scorekeepers:** To keep score and help RSOs by watching for safety violations.

**Duties of Coaches:** To explain equipment and operations. To suggest changes in technique to overcome weaknesses.

**Duties of Spotters:** To watch each shooter for safety.

**Duties of Shooters:** To obey all rules and shoot safely. No horseplay.

**Duties of Observers:** Remain behind firing line at all times. Wear ear and eye protection. Do not distract shooters. Follow all directions of the Chairperson and Range Officers and alert them if any unsafe situation is observed.