

## PA Steel SOP

**Range(s):** P1 (cowboy pits), P2 (muzzleloader range), and P3 (original 50-yard pistol range)

**Purpose & Skill Focus:** Practice and proficiency with firearms (various distances, sequences, and time constraints)

**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:** \$10 per gun

**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.

**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:** No more than 2 of the following:

.22 rifle (magazine-fed only)

.22 pistol

Open & stock centerfire pistols & revolvers

Pistol caliber carbines

No magnums

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

**Auxiliary Equipment Requirements & Restrictions:**

5 magazines per gun

250 rounds per gun (125 count + 125 buffer)

Ammo: FMJ, lead, no hollow points

**Range Setup/Design:** 5 stages of static steel, 5 steel targets per stage – each stage has a unique arrangement of targets of different sizes and shapes, as well as hung at different heights and distances.

**Placement of Loading/Unloading Tables:** A table is placed at either end of the parking lot

**Course of Fire:** In groups of 3-5 persons, move from stage to stage, completing all 5 stages for an event round. Each stage is shot 5 times, for an event total of 125 shots. Stages test the shooter's ability to navigate accurately among targets, as well as his or her judgment for best path.

**Targets:** Steel plates are painted white for visual evidence of a hit, see PA Steel shed

**Scoring:** Each stage is shot 5 times (5 runs). The slowest time at each stage is thrown out; the 4 fastest times are combined for a stage score. Penalties for missed shots or early starts are added to run time. The 5 stage scores are combined for a match score. A group listing is emailed to participants after the event.

**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.

Pistols will not be cocked until pointed down range once the stage begins. Once cocked, the pistol will be shot dry. 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. No fast draw or fanning is permitted. 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.

**Duties of Range Safety Officers:** Ensure all shooters are following safety procedures/rules.

**Duties of Timers:** Explain the current stage. Ensure all shooters are ready. Blow whistle at start of timer. Blow whistle to signal end of shoot when timer goes off.

**Duties of Scorekeepers:** Maintain a record of scores and inform participants of their scores

**Duties of Coaches:** Support shooters needing instruction while supporting the Chair in maintaining range safety

**Duties of Spotters:** Responsible to count shots and misses and to verify that targets were engaged according to any sequence restrictions. Offer advice and watch each shooter for safety.

**Duties of Shooters:** Adhere to all range safety rules. Obey commands of the Range Officers.

**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.