

IIMARCH

Diggle Ranges

Pennine Shooting Sports Association

McQueen Shooting Competition

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Information

This document will plan and outline the activities surrounding the McQueen Target Shooting Competition, held at Diggle Ranges. The McQueen Competition is a well-established, well attended competition held on a monthly basis all year round.

This document is not exhaustive, it is intended as guideline for the successful completion of the McQueen Competition at Diggle Ranges. This is the Competition Organisers effort to briefly communicate what is expected and what competitors should be aware of whilst participating in the competition.

Background

Diggle Ranges is a large open space of approximately 660 acres, it consists of 4 full bore ranges, the largest being "C" Range which stretches to 1000 Yards. Other Ranges include "A" Range 100 Yards. "B" Range 300 yards. "D" Range 100 Yards.

The Range complex is situated near the village of Diggle 10 miles north east of Manchester. The Club has in excess of 500 members and competitions are the backbone of the club, taking place nearly every weekend of the year.

The McQueen competition is just one of the competitions. The McQueen Competition utilises B Range using both the 200 and 300 Yards Firing Points.

Note - Occasionally the McQueen Competition may utilise C Range to facilitate greater shooting distances. If this is the case then the Firing Points and Butts utilised will become Significant Locations.

Intention

The intention of this particular competition is for those engaged in this activity -

- To maximise safety and minimise risk to all those engaged in the competition, as well as other users and visitors of the various ranges.
- To maximise safety and minimise any risk to the wider public and protect the environment.
- To promote shooting sports and test the skills of competitors in a safe controlled environment.
- To encourage friendly competition.
- To promote the safe handling of Firearms.
- To ensure that the Range Orders of Diggle Ranges are adhered to.

- To respect the authority of Diggle Ranges Officials & Range Officers

Method

Authority Structure

- The Diggle Range Orders, Rules & Guidelines - Are the Primary Authority to facilitate shooting at Diggle Ranges.
- Competition Rules - Outline the structure / method of the competition, safety and its scoring

Roles & Responsibilities

- **The Competition McQueen Range Officer (R.O)** - Is in charge of the competition proceedings and is responsible for adhering to the Range Orders and the rules of the competition. The designated Range Officer is responsible for maximising safety and making decisions in respect of safe shooting. Communicating with the Butts Crew Supervisor and also when applicable communicating with other Range Officers to maximise the safe movement of individuals on the various ranges. Briefing competitors prior to competition.
- **The Butts Crew Supervisor** - Is in charge of operating the Butts. This includes organising individuals in Butts with specific roles. The timing of exposures, ensuring competitors names are included on targets. Importantly maintaining contact with the Range Officer for instructions.
- **Competitors** - Are responsible for adhering to the instructions of the Range Officer. Importantly they must comply with the Diggle Range Orders, Rules & Guidelines at all times. Competitors should were appropriate bring to the attention of the Range Officer any potential safety concerns.
- **Significant Locations - B Range**

200 Yard Firing Point
300 Yard Firing Point
B Range Butts

- **Other Significant Locations**

Diggle Club House
Range Entrance Gate
A Range
C Range
D Range

- **Competition Rules & Method**

See Appendix A - This documents the competition method and rules

- **Time Line of Events**

0900 Hrs - Range Set Up - Competitor Signing On - Club House.

0930 Hrs - Competition Commences - 200 Yard Firing Point.

1200 Hrs - Refreshments

1230 Hrs - Competitions Resumes - 300 Yard Firing Point

1530 Hrs - Range Take Down - Results

Administration

An Online Booking System has been developed, and is utilized to register competitors interest for each monthly competition. This system will inform competitors by email of any individual roles or responsibilities expected of them.

Refreshments will generally be taken in the natural break in the competition in-between the 200 and 300 yard details / practice.

Scoring will be done on the day and the results made known.

Any issues of note will be communicated to the Diggle Committee as appropriate.

Briefings - The McQueen Competition Range Officer or their Nominee will be responsible for Briefings prior to the competition commencing.

Risk

The points below are identified as elements of Risk. However, this list is not exhaustive, and is in no particular order of risk.

In the event of a situation or incident that cannot be reasonably planned for. Then if this occurs those involved should consider Dynamic Risk Assessments in order to resolve any issues in the safest way.

Diggle Ranges - Range Orders, Rules & Guide lines should always be adhered to. In addition to the rules and method of the competition.

The commencement of the competition will only ever be, once the Range Officer is satisfied that all individuals are in safe locations on all Ranges. Anyone wishing to leave safe locations should only ever do so with the full knowledge of the Range Officer and under there instruction.

Firearms -

The safe handling of Firearms is paramount to maximizing safety. Firearms should remain covered or bagged until instructed otherwise by the Range Officer.

Firearms should only be ever pointed in a safe direction.

Firearms will only be loaded when instructed to do so by the Range Officer and only when on the Firing Point just prior to the Competitor commencing their individual competition.

Any issues or malfunctions that cannot be cleared or made safe by the Competitor, should be immediately brought to the attention of the Range Officer.

Firearms must be cleared and shown safe to the Range Officer or their Nominee. It is the responsibility of the Competitor to show the Firearm as Safe. Once deemed safe Firearms should be covered or bagged and removed from the Firing Point.

Competitors should be familiar with the Firearm they are using and have knowledge on how to safely use it in competition.

Range Safety -

In the event of any incident that requires the immediate stop to the competition then the Range Officer will shout "STOP STOP STOP." Competitors on the Firing point will leave the Firearm in place and move away from it, and await further instruction.

Everyone on the range to some degree has responsibility for safety. If anyone becomes aware of anything that could be deemed a risk, then they should urgently bring this to the attention of the Range Officer.

General Safety & Well Being

Diggle Ranges - Are situated in a relatively remote location. The Ranges are on moorland with limited access. The individual Ranges have some access for motor vehicles for most Firing Points. Consideration should be given to facilitate access for Emergency Vehicles.

Weather - Diggle Ranges can experience, hot summer days to the extreme cold, wet and windy winters. Individuals can be open to these elements. This can make the Ranges hazardous particularly in winter. Individuals should be mindful of trips, slips and falls. Movement between various locations can be uneven and slippery, appropriate footwear and clothing should be used.

In the event of poor weather. The Range Officer may make the decision to conduct the competition under cover. Utilising the covered Firing Points on the 300 Yards Point. It should be noted that if the weather conditions are extremely poor or visibility is limited the competition could be cancelled or delayed.

Well Being - The competition requires movement to and from various locations, often carrying heavy and bulky equipment, sometimes on uneven and slippery ground and inclines. Individuals should be mindful of their own ability.

The Competition can be prolonged, individuals should bring with them food and drinks as they deem appropriate.

Personal Safety – All competitors must wear Ear Protection. Ear Protection must be in good working order and appropriate for the competition. It is the responsibility of the individual to make sure the ear protection is adequate for the conditions.

Noise – Some competitors choose to use Moderated Firearms. These are somewhat quieter than None Moderated Firearms. Some competitors use devices known as Muzzle Brakes, that are often louder than none moderated firearms. Competitors should be aware of this when attending the competition.

Medical Incident / Emergency – Incidents can be very minor or very serious. Those present should assess the severity of any incident as best they can. Consider the use of any medically trained individuals or First Aiders. If deemed appropriate Emergency Services should be informed. Those present should facilitate the arrival of the Emergency Services.

Communication

Radio System - Diggle Ranges has its own 2 Way (Press To Talk) Radio System. This is the primary method of communication on the Ranges. This system is utilised by individual Range Officers, Butts Crew Supervisors and The Range Club House to co-ordinate activities.

Range Officers should test the equipment by a simple test call to another user / radio to confirm good working order. Consideration should be given to the use of a spare radio to cover the event of any failure.

Mobile Phone - If possible, the Range Officer and Butts Crew Supervisors should be in possession of each other's Mobile Phone Numbers, as a backup facility.

Red Board - In the event of loss of communications with the Butts Crew Supervisor then the Red Board should be raised above the mantle in sight of the Range Officer, who can then take the appropriate action to stop shooting, if necessary, on all range ranges until the problem is resolved.

Human Rights

As mentioned previously. Diggle Ranges are in a remote rural location situated on the moors. Realistically the range complex is only accessible by vehicle.

The Firing Points used to facilitate the competition are on a hillside and open to all the elements in both good and bad weather. Access to the range by foot is by some narrow and uneven paths and steps.

Shooting equipment is required to be moved from the various points, throughout the competition so some level of mobility and fitness is required. Reasonable adjustments would be hard to facilitate, especially for those with mobility aids.

Signed Competition Organiser

Date

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