2013

Top 5 CFO Inspection Concerns

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The top 5 concerns in 2013 are the same as they were in 2007.

- Proper Signage
- Backstop Heights / Safety area for Skeet and Trap
- Side Berms
- Range Floor
- Warning Flags or Beacons

- 1) Proper Signage
- Each range facility must have a large clearly visible main sign with contact information located at a main gate area. (section 1.6 pg, 21)
- Each range facility must have a range facility status sign. (section 1.6, pg 21)
- The property boundaries shall be identified as clearly as possible. (section 1.7, pg 24)

 Each range will have its own range safety rules posted. (section 1.6, pg 24)

- 2) Backstop Heights for Outdoor Rifle Ranges:
- # 25m or less 3.0m
- # 50m 4.0m
- # 75m 5.0m
- # 100m 6.0m
- 200m or more must be baffled (table 2, pg 31)
- All shooting ranges in Ontario must have an appropriate backstop in order to be Section 29 approved.

Backstop Heights for Outdoor Handgun Ranges:

- # 15m or less 3m
- # 25m 4m
- # 50m 6m
- 50m or more must be baffled (table 6, page 49)

Note: If a planned firing distance falls between the distances in table 2 or table 6 then the requirement for the next longest distance will apply.

Skeet Range Safety Area

Shot Size Maximum Range

#7.5 241m

#9 212m

Trap Range Safety Area

Shot Size Maximum Range

#7.5 208m

#9 183m

- 3) Side Berms
- Side berms are not to be used as backstops. (unless they are the same height as the backstop and side berm shooting has been approved by the CFO)(section 2.6, pg 45)
- Side berms are used to separate or protect adjacent ranges. They must be a minimum of 2.5 m high, 1.5 m crest thickness and have a 30 degree minimum slope angle.(section 2.6, pg 45)
- # If the berm is composed of a hard material such as concrete, rock or rubble then the face of the berm must be covered by a 1m thick layer of soil. (section 2.6, pg 45)

4) Range Floor

The range floor shall be as level as practical. It should not have any large obstructions, exposed rocks or material that may cause a ricochet. Any standing bodies of water shall be sheltered. (section 2.4, pg 43)

5) Warning Flags and Beacons

- In order to inform range users and others in the immediate vicinity of the range, all separate ranges must have their own flag or beacon system.
- A red flag shall be flown from a 6m pole for ranges in use and optional green for when the range is not in use. (section 1.8, pg 25)

First Aid Kits are not a mandatory requirement of the Canadian Firearms Centre – Range Design and Construction Guidelines, it is a practice of proper diligence by the Club Executive and a recommendation needed to be fulfilled for a "Shooting Range Approval" by the CFO.

There were 5 shooting related injuries reported on Ontario ranges. All 5 were the fault of the shooter and not the range design or construction.

- The CFO is available to attend ranges:
- As a courtesy inspection prior to a scheduled range inspection.
- To provide guidance and ideas for shooting range expansion.
- To give PowerPoint presentations to club Executives and members on shooting range design and construction.

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