Operational Procedures  Air rifle shooting  7/4/13

Description
Air rifle shooting takes place in an indoor range (approx 10 metres) using .177 air rifles. Sessions normally at introductory level last from 45 minutes to 2 hours. Paper targets and novelty

The range is approved by a Government appointed range inspector.

Instructors
Where practical instructors should hold NSRA Tutors Diploma or alternatively they must have undergone in house training and be approved by the centre management. Minimum age 21 to supervise a person under 18 years of age with an air rifle.

Ratio
Maximum of 1 instructor to 12 students

Sample session structure
Before start of session check range and equipment
Is the range tidy? Are there targets, pellets, pens protective goggles etc available?

Assemble group brief them on what will be involved i.e. You won’t be allowed out once the session has started Go to loo, get glasses etc.

Take group in to rifle range
Lock door on inside explain how to slide bolt to open door in case of emergency
Run through range rules as displayed on notice board.
Hand out targets
Whilst group puts names on targets get out rifles
Demonstrate how to load, aim and shoot rifles Keeping fingers away from trigger
Select first group
Set up targets and give out enough pellets for practice shots
Allow first group to fire practice shots as required
Swap groups over then progress on to novelty shoots as appropriate
At end of session ensure all rifles, pellets are locked away
Remind persons to wash hands after shooting
Leave range clean and tidy

Safety Considerations
Lock door on inside when shooting is in progress
Ensure rifles are fit for use. Check them as you get them out of the locker. Pay particular attention to condition of stock, stock screws and sights. Any rifles unsuitable for use should be clearly marked and taped so as not to be used by accident. Any problems, broken, unserviceable equipment must be notified in the day book in the dining room.
If there is any doubt about the standard of behaviour of the group may be inappropriate then the session must be abandoned.

Issue Eye protection
Wear protective glasses / own glasses are suitable if worn
During first shots each shooter to fire a shot in turn under close supervision.
Only if this is completed satisfactory should persons continue to fire.
Instruction and correction should be given throughout the session.
At end of session collect targets and swap over groups.

Safety
Door must be locked when shooting is in progress
Range must be checked before use
Group must never be left unsupervised when weapons are out or rifle store is unlocked.
All rifles , ammo and other equipment must be locked away when not in use.
Only persons approved by the management to alter or adjust weapons.
All rifles to be left in broken position on rests when not in use.
Rifles must never be left in cocked or loaded condition
Do not proceed down the range to set up targets etc if clients have access to ammunition
Fill in day book and notify Simon Read or Michael Read of any problems
## Venture Centre Air Rifle Shooting Risk Assessment

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Hazard</th>
<th>Who might be harmed</th>
<th>Severity</th>
<th>Control measures in place</th>
<th>Likelihood with current controls in place</th>
<th>Risk Factor</th>
<th>Further action required and time span</th>
<th>Likelihood after further action</th>
<th>Risk Factor</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Medical conditions asthma etc</td>
<td>Student</td>
<td>M</td>
<td>Medical forms are available on all students. See medical forms in first aid point in kitchen or see group leaders.</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>M4</td>
<td>None</td>
<td></td>
<td>M4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Unauthorised use of weapons</td>
<td>All persons</td>
<td>H</td>
<td>When not in use All weapons to be locked in appropriate secure storage as approved by IOM constabulary</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>H4</td>
<td>None</td>
<td></td>
<td>H4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Students shooting spectators by accident or on purpose</td>
<td>All persons present in range</td>
<td>H</td>
<td>Wooden barriers on shooting positions to minimise possibility of turning around. Clear instruction.</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>H4</td>
<td>None</td>
<td></td>
<td>H4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lead poisoning from lead pellets</td>
<td>All persons taking part in shooting</td>
<td>L</td>
<td>Instruct the students to wash hands after sessions. Do not put pellets in their mouths.</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>L4</td>
<td>None</td>
<td></td>
<td>L4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ricochet of pellets</td>
<td>Shooters and spectators</td>
<td>H</td>
<td>Impact absorbing material at the end of the range. Eye protection to be worn at all times by all persons in range when shooting is in progress</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>H4</td>
<td>None</td>
<td></td>
<td>H4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Trapping hand in gun when loading</td>
<td>Shooters</td>
<td>L</td>
<td>Ensure good supervision, point out this risk and way of avoiding it i.e keep hands clear of trap points when loading</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>L4</td>
<td>None</td>
<td></td>
<td>L4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rebound eye injury</td>
<td>All</td>
<td>M</td>
<td>Use absorbent material behind targets to absorb Pellets(carpet). Wear eye protection. Coach Well</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>L4</td>
<td>None</td>
<td></td>
<td>L4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Misbehaviour of students</td>
<td>All</td>
<td>H</td>
<td>Abandon session if bad behaviour could affect the safety of the group</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>L4</td>
<td>None</td>
<td></td>
<td>L4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cutting hands on cans</td>
<td>Participant</td>
<td>M</td>
<td>Heavily damaged cans should be disposed of</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>M4</td>
<td>None</td>
<td></td>
<td>M4</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

During the assessment the **severity** of the hazard was given a rating as follows:

- **H** = Could cause Death or major significant injury
- **M** = Could cause and injury likely to last 3 days or more
- **L** = Could result in minor injury

The **likelihood** was also given a rating based on the following:

- **1** = Very likely
- **2** = Frequent event
- **3** = Unlikely
- **4** = Extremely unlikely