

WGC Violation Guidelines

Violation of the Watauga Gun Club (WGC) safety or general rules may result in the SUSPENSION or EXPULSION from WGC. When dealing with violations, it is the obligation of the WGC Executive Committee to promote uniformity in the enforcement of gun club rules.

Because all violations are not equal, WGC has classified violations into three levels, along with penalties based on the gravity of the violation.

Individuals who are prohibited by Federal or State law to possess firearms and ammunition are not allowed on club property at any time.

Violation Classifications:

MINOR: These violations do not constitute a threat of safety to people or property.

INTERMEDIATE: These violations have a potential to cause bodily harm or damage to property.

MAJOR: These are violations that place people and/or property in immediate or imminent risk to injury or damage

Penalties for Violations:

MINOR:

Handled on the spot as they occur by any WGC member or Club Officer. After a verbal warning, the violation is logged into the WGC Violation Log Book. If the violation is repeated several times, then the Club's Board President issues a written warning to the individual and the Club's Secretary files the written warning. Repeat violations can lead to a penalty up to a 3-month suspension of shooting privileges.

INTERMEDIATE:

Immediate corrective action should be taken by any WGC member or Club Officer. The violation is logged into the WGC Violation Log Book. The Club's President is notified, and the President issues a written warning to the individual which could include a request to meet with the Executive Board. The purpose of the meeting is to review the case and determine if it constitutes a major violation. The Club Secretary files all written correspondence. Based on the severity of the Violation, a 3-to-6-month suspension of shooting privileges at the WGC is in order. The Board President will follow the WGC Suspension or Expulsion By-Law Procedures.

MAJOR:

Immediate corrective action should be taken by any WGC member or Club Officer. Members or Officers may escort the person in question off of the club's property. The Club's President is notified immediately. The incident is placed on the agenda for discussion at the next Board

Meeting. The Board President follows the WGC Suspension or Expulsion By-Laws and requests the member in question to attend the Executive Committee Meeting. The Club's Secretary files all written correspondence. Based on the severity of the violation, a 6-month to multiple years' suspension of shooting privileges or permanent expulsion from the WGC is in order.

Note: A failure of the member in question to attend the disciplinary Executive Meeting without notifying the Board shall constitute a waiver of the member's rights and an understanding that they agree to the Board's decision without further review.

WGC Range Violations Delineated (It is understood that the following items are not meant to be all-inclusive):

MINOR

1. Range badge not visible
2. Member has more than 3 guests at any given time
3. Eyes and hearing protection not utilized
4. Driving onto or parking on the ranges when wet
5. Improperly placed targets
6. Failure to clean up around shooting position
7. Steel target rules not followed
8. Failure to remove magazine/cartridges or empty cases in cylinder/fixed magazine
9. Use of improper targets or frames
10. Firing firearms in an area other than the designated bay or range.
11. Shotgun shooters having closed action when the shooter moves from post to post, or anywhere else on the range
12. Leaving firearms unattended and unsecured
13. Horseplay within the bay/range

INTERMEDIATE

1. Discharging firearms with the muzzle behind adjacent shooters
2. When leaving the firing line, the firearm is NOT cleared and in a safe condition
3. Firing at objects placed on protective berms
4. Failure to keep firearms pointed downrange when clearing a misfire or addressing another malfunction
5. Charging a muzzle-loading firearm from a bulk powder container
6. Firing on any of the WGC bays/ranges when they are closed
7. Firing of incendiary or explosive ammunition
8. Unauthorized storage of ammunition or ammunition components on WGC property
9. Arguing with a WGC member, Board Officer, or RSO over a rule infraction
10. Failure to keep firearms pointed downrange while casing or uncasing
11. Aiming and/or dry firing in prohibited spaces
12. Stepping forward of firing line when the line is hot
13. Member not supervising guest, or guest not shooting within the same bay/range
14. Loaded firearms in the clubhouse other than a handgun that is holstered by a concealed handgun permit holder.

MAJOR

1. Pointing a firearm at others at any time
2. Leaving a loaded firearm (containing ammunition) unattended at any time.
3. Racking or storing a loaded (containing ammunition) firearm at any time
4. Refusing to follow the Range Officer or Executive Committee's directives
5. Repeated range rule violations
6. Intentionally firing at any permanent range structure or fixture
7. Vandalism, destruction, or theft of Club property or that of a member or guest
8. Drinking alcoholic beverages on the WGC property before, during, or after shooting
9. Handling of a firearm on WGC property while impaired by drugs or alcohol
10. Handling a firearm during a ceasefire
11. Handling a firearm when others in the bay or range are downrange
12. Uncontrolled rounds (rounds not striking the impact area for the shooter's position)
13. Firing at wildlife
14. Loaning your badge to, or permitting its possession or use by, another person
15. Violent, rude, disorderly, threatening, unsportsmanlike or intoxicated behavior directed to any WGC member and/or guest
16. Assault, threats, or any behavior that disrupts the harmony of the club
17. Any violation of the 4 Rules of Gun Safety as follows:
 - I. Treat every firearm as if it is loaded.
 - II. Never point a gun at anything you are not willing to destroy.
 - III. Keep your finger off the trigger until you are ready to fire.
 - IV. Be sure of your target and what is beyond it.
18. Any violation of North Carolina Statutes or Federal Laws

***Presented to the WGC membership March, 2022 and subsequently voted in the affirmative.*