



GUYANA POLICE FORCE ACADEMY

RANGE INSPECTION POLICY

1. BACKGROUND

1.1 The firearm ranges at Timehri Rifle Range are critical training facilities that allow military personnel and private citizens to develop and maintain proficiency with their weapons. Live-fire rifles, pistols, and tactical ranges are used regularly. The proper maintenance and operation of these ranges are paramount to safety and mission readiness.

1.2 Firearm ranges contain many components that enable live-fire capabilities including firing lines, target areas, berms, ammo supply points, control towers, lighting systems, and more. These components can deteriorate over time due to weather and repeated use which can compromise range safety if failures occur. Regular inspections allow for the identification and repair of damaged range components before they result in a serious malfunction during live-fire exercises.

1.3 Inspections also ensure ranges remain compliant with all the Guyana Defence Force regulations and safety standards. Issues like improper target placement, obstructed lines of fire, inadequate berms, and poor housekeeping can be identified and corrected through routine oversight.

2. OBJECTIVES

2.1 Ensure all range components and infrastructure meet current Army safety standards and are in good working order. This includes firing lines, target systems, warning signals/lights, berms, ballistic protection, etc.

2.2 Identify any defective, malfunctioning, or deteriorating range components that need maintenance, repair, or replacement to avoid safety issues.

2.3 Confirm target placement adheres to proper distance and alignment with firing lines for each range type (pistol, rifle, etc.)

2.4 Verify adequate backstop berms are in place to contain projectiles and minimize risks outside range perimeters.

2.5 Confirm visual obstructions are cleared to maintain proper sight lines and situational awareness during live fire.

2.6 Ensure ammunition supply points meet explosive safety standards and have proper barricades.

2.7 Confirm range access points, gates, fences, and perimeters are secured to prevent unauthorized entry.

2.8 Verify warning signals, lights and signs are functioning properly to notify non-shooters downrange is live.

2.9 Check for proper drainage to reduce flooding, prevent erosion, and minimize risks.

Confirm vegetation control to reduce fires and maintain clear lines of sight.

2.10 Verify range sanitation standards and procedures meet Army regulations.

2.11 Check for proper maintenance of soil composition and turning on rifle ranges.

2.12 Ensure documentation like range safety manuals are current and available.

3. POLICY STATEMENT

3.1 This policy will establish standards and procedures for the regular inspection of the Rifle ranges. Consistent inspections reinforce the Army's priority of range safety and readiness while preventing accidents that can result in damage, injury, or loss of life.

4. SCOPE

4.1 This policy applies to Timehri Rifle Range. This includes all active firing ranges for pistols, rifles, automatic weapons, sniper rifles, shotguns, grenade launchers, and any other ranged military weapons.

4.2 The policy covers the following range of components and areas:

- Firing lines, ready areas, support areas
- Targetry systems (fixed, movable, electronic)
- Warning signals and range lights
- Impact berms and backstops
- Ballistic protection and overhead baffles
- Ammunition supply points
- Range control towers, shooting sheds
- Communications systems
- Range access points and perimeters
- Roads, fences, gates
- Storage facilities, restrooms
- Drainage systems, vegetation controls
- Bulletin boards, signage

4.3 Inspections will evaluate the overall conditions and functionality of infrastructure, facilities, and components directly related to range operations and live-fire activities.

4.4 Inspections will assess compliance with Army range safety regulations, local standard operating procedures, and manufacturer specifications for equipment.

4.5 This policy is applicable during all phases of range operations including live-fire events, setup/teardown, maintenance, and inactive or abandoned statuses.

4.6 The firing ranges will be inspected every week by the Range Safety Officer (RSO) or qualified delegate.

4.7 Annual inspections will be conducted by the Director of Range Operations and a multidisciplinary team including Explosive Safety, Engineering, and Medical representatives.

4.8 Range Control will maintain a master calendar of inspections and ensure all ranges are inspected as required.

4.9 Inspections will examine firing lines, targets, berms, ballistic protection, ammunition supply points, communications systems, vegetation control, and other range infrastructure.

4.10 Any defective, noncompliant, or unsafe conditions will be documented, reported to Range Control, and rectified immediately.

4.11 RSOs are authorized to cease range operations if an inspection reveals an imminent safety risk until the issue is resolved.

4.12 The Director of Range Operations will review inspection reports monthly to identify trends and implement corrective actions.

5. COMPLIANCE AND ENFORCEMENT

5.1 The Force Training Officer and middle management will ensure strict compliance of this policy in accordance with the Police Standing Orders, Laws of Guyana, accreditation standards, and best practices. Further, enforcement and implementation of this policy shall be the responsibility of the Quality Management Committee

6. REPORTING AND COMMUNICATION

6.1 The Force Training Officer will report on all Range Inspection matters to the Quality Management Committee, Executive Leadership Team, and the Training Board.

7. EFFECTIVE DATE

7.1 This policy comes into effect as of January 17, 2024.

8. REVIEW PERIOD

8.1 A review of this policy will be conducted annually. The review will be conducted by the Training Board. The results of the review will be shared with the relevant stakeholders and necessary changes to the policy will be implemented based on the review.

9 REVISION DATE

9.1 Revised in February 2024.

10. APPROVAL OF POLICY

This Policy was approved by the Guyana Police Force Executive Leadership Team and the Guyana Police Force Academy Training Board.