

Flying Squad Gen 2

What is The Flying Squad and What is their role?

The Flying Squad will be comprised of active Range Safety Officers (RSO). Currently, the function of an RSO is to spot-check members using the ranges and validate the range Standard Operating Procedures (SOP) are being followed.

Shooting ranges require participants to display a high level of responsibility and safety. The WIWL recreational ranges have a variety of shooters including hobbyists, hunters, bullseye competitors and youth organizations. The goal of the Winchester Chapter RSO program has always been to promote safe firearms usage, which includes providing member feedback so that shooters maintain safety both on our range and any other range they use.

Prior to being able to use the ranges, all members must pass the Range Qualification (RQ) course. The RQ course includes a range safety briefing and practical exercises during which the member demonstrates an understanding of their firearm and safe gun handling. Additionally, the RQ participants review and understand the range rules in accordance with the Standard Operating Procedure (SOP), including any administrative rules specific to the WIWL range. All members are also given a full copy of the range rules.

Individual RSOs address infractions but since there isn't a specific centralized log, the chapter has no way of determining if members are repeatedly breaking range rules, or if there is one particular rule that is broken on a repeated basis. The Flying Squad will spot check ranges on a regular basis, recording usage and any infractions. The summarized data will be reviewed by the Range Committee for follow up to the Board of Directors. This may include any recommendations for disciplinary action. The data will also be used for educational purposes to enhance safety on the ranges. The data is considered confidential and will not be shared except for overall analysis or specific disciplinary actions.

How will the Flying Squad be used?

Members of the Flying Squad will be assigned a 30-day period to make a minimum of 5 range checks. The on duty RSO will check in at the range at different times, including at least one weekend check and one check at range closing time, to spot check all shooters at the range. RSOs will be identified with a yellow WIWL RSO vest and/or hat which will be worn to identify their official role. Duties will be assigned from the available pool of RSOs so being "on duty" conducting checks may only be required from an individual once every 3-4 months. A range check completed by an RSO should take 15 minutes or less.

The RSO checks all shooters and records minor infractions, if observed, in a non-confrontational manner. Minor infractions should be noted, explained, and corrected. An RSO can ask a member to leave the range for serious infractions but cannot dictate any other future punishment or actions. An investigation must be conducted by the Discipline Committee for any additional actions. Member feedback will be used to validate the RSO flying squad process based on the range usage information.

An additional role of the flying squad will be to support range events. Range events would include NRA classes, competitions, special events and authorized third party organizations that use the range and require an RSO present.

Flying Squad Data Collection

- Administrative Violations
 - Validate all shooters credentials, RQ stickers, guests are registered
 - List all members on the sheet
 - Validate Range card is visible
 - Validate range sign in
 - Members can use their member number if they do not want to sign name
- Range Violations
 - Record attitude problems
 - “Leave me alone”, “Don’t need to show you my card”, “Who the hell are you”
 - Muzzle Safety
 - Muzzle downrange
 - Magazine change downrange, muzzle not elevated
 - Opening a cased weapon not pointed downrange
 - Range lights are being used to identify a hot range
 - Validate eye and ear protection is in place on a hot range
 - Hot Range and Cold Range Violations
 - Handling equipment or being forward of Ready line
 - Bringing uncased firearm onto a cold range
 - Actions open on a cold range
 - Crossing the firing line on a hot range
 - Frame damage
 - Incorrectly hung targets
 - Gong shooting violations
 - Incorrect caliber (.22 or PCC)
 - Incorrect bench used to shoot at gongs
 - Rapid fire
 - More than 5 rounds fired in rapid succession
 - Cleanup after completion
 - Remove old targets and cleanup brass
- **Flying Squad FAQ**
 - Can I complete my range check if I forgot my vest and hat?
 - No, please identify yourself “in uniform” so members know you are acting in an official capacity
 - Can I wear a blaze yellow hat instead of a vest?
 - Yes, a chapter issued blaze yellow hat can be worn
 - Can a member ask to see my card?
 - Yes and it should be visible. If required, explain your role
 - Do I need to be a NRA Certified RSO?
 - Yes, and the credentials must be up to date. Any member can check any other member’s credentials or note unsafe actions, but the Flying Squad is acting in an official capacity. Exceptions to NRA RSO standards can be

reviewed on a case-by-case basis with the Range Committee making the final decision.

Version Control

2.0	Creation	Brian Callahan	
2.1	Add range closure to checks	Brian Callahan	
2.2	Proofread with corrections	David Colf	
2.3	Proofread with corrections	Leo Carling	