

# MAGNIFICENT SQUADRON



# MARKSMAN COURSE

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## SMALL ARMS SAFETY

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## Type of Firing Mechanisms

There are three types of firing mechanisms that a weapon could have. They are:

- Single Shot
- Semi-Automatic
- Automatic

**Single Shot** – the weapon must be loaded with each round of ammunition, and then fired. Some times does not have a magazine and the weapon may have to be pumped to fire. (This is the type of weapon we will be using.)

**Semi-automatic** – the weapon will automatically load itself and fire one round with each pull of the trigger. Then it will reload again. This will continue until the magazine is empty or until you stop pulling the trigger.

**Automatic** - The weapon will load itself and will continuously fire the rounds until the trigger is released or the magazine is emptied. So long as the trigger is pulled the weapon will fire.

## Types of Weapons

There are three common types of weapons. They are:

- Pistol
- Rifle
- Shotgun

**Pistol** – This is a small hand held weapon. This weapon fires a cartridge type shell. It can fire single shot or semi-automatic. It is usually carried as a backup weapon. Range is 15 Meters.

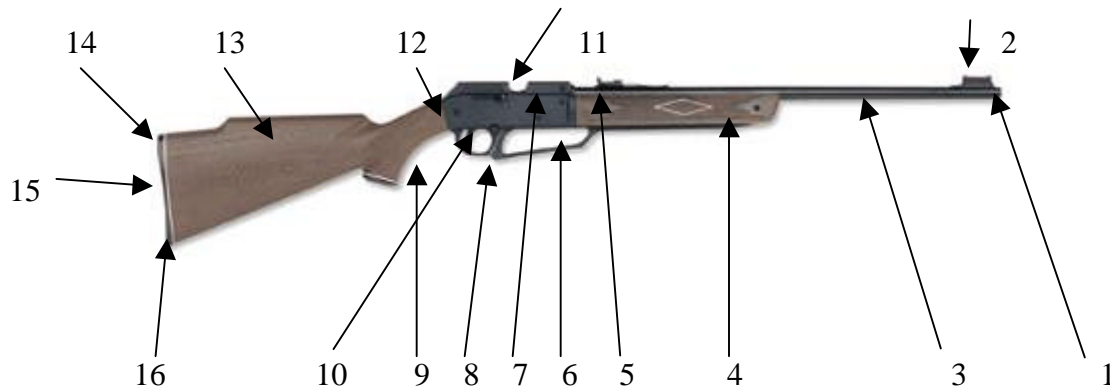
**Rifle** – This is a large hand held weapon that fires large cartridges. It can be fired single shot, semi-automatic, or automatic. It is mainly used for shooting over a very long distance. Range is usually about 900 meters.

**Shotgun** - This is a large hand held weapon that fires a shotgun shell. Can be fired single shot or automatic. This weapon is generally for medium range of about 100 meters. It fires numerous small projectiles instead of one solid bullet.

## Components of a Weapon

The basic components of a weapon are the following.

- Action – this contains the parts that load, fire and eject the cartridge.
- Butt-Stock – that with which the weapon is held.
- Barrel – the metal portion with a hole drilled in it to pass the bullet through when fired called the bore.



- |                  |                    |
|------------------|--------------------|
| 1. Muzzle        | 9. Pistol Grip     |
| 2. Front Sight   | 10. Trigger        |
| 3. Barrel        | 11. Feed Track     |
| 4. Forearm       | 12. Small of Stock |
| 5. Rear Sight    | 13. Butt-Stock     |
| 6. Pump Handle   | 14. Heel of Stock  |
| 7. Bolt Handle   | 15. Butt-Plate     |
| 8. Trigger Guard | 16. Toe of Stock   |

Not shown on this picture is the Safety it is near the rear of the trigger.

## **Small Arms Safety**

### **What is Small Arms Safety?**

#### **1. A weapon should always be considered loaded until it is proven safe, by you.**

A large number of people are wounded and killed each year by the accidental firing of a weapon. You must remember that a weapon is capable at any time of wounding or killing you or anyone near you. A weapon must be treated with the utmost respect at all times. A person must use extreme caution when handling all weapons.

#### **2. Always check your weapon!**

Every time you pick up a weapon consider it loaded. Before you do anything with a weapon you must take the following steps.

- Make sure the Safety is On
- Remove the magazine and check for any ammunition.
- Open the breach and check for a loaded round in the chamber Keep the Breach Open.

When someone hands you a weapon you must follow the same procedure. It is not a matter of trusting the other person to check the weapon, but to ensure that you are safe from any accidents.

#### **3. Never Point a Weapon At Another Person.**

A person who ignores this rule is a very dangerous person.

- Never point a weapon at another person even if the safety is on.
- Your weapon should only point in the direction of the targets.
- If moving the weapon always point the weapon at the ground.
- ALWAYS WATCH WHERE THE MUZZLE OF THE RIFLE IS POINTED.

#### **4. Keep Fingers Away From The Trigger.**

- Never touch or play with the trigger, this could cause the accidental firing of the weapon.
- A Good Rule To Remember is Never Put Anything Inside The Trigger Guard Until You Are Ready To Fire The Weapon.

## **5. Keep the Weapon On Safety.**

- The safety stops the weapon from firing accidentally.
- Always keep the safety on at all times.
- Only remove the safety when **you** are ready to fire.

## **6. Never Hand Over A Loaded Weapon.**

- When giving a weapon to another person always make sure the weapon is unloaded and the safety is on.

## **Security**

Because of the lethal nature of firearms, they are subject to rigid security requirements. They are as follows.

- All weapons should be made inoperative when stored.
- Remove the bolts and magazines and store them in separate areas.
- Ammunition should be stored in a separate lockup.
- The weapons themselves should have a chain placed through the trigger guards and locked to the gun cabinet and stored in a room with a dead bolt lock.

## **Ammunition**

Only ammunition designed for the weapon should be used for that weapon. Ammunition may differ in appearance, but they still have the same basic components. The main difference between the cartridges and the shotgun shell is the cartridge fires a solid projectile at 900 m/sec with a range of several KM. Where a shotgun shell fires a mass of pellets at approximately 330m/sec, with a maximum range of a few hundred meters.

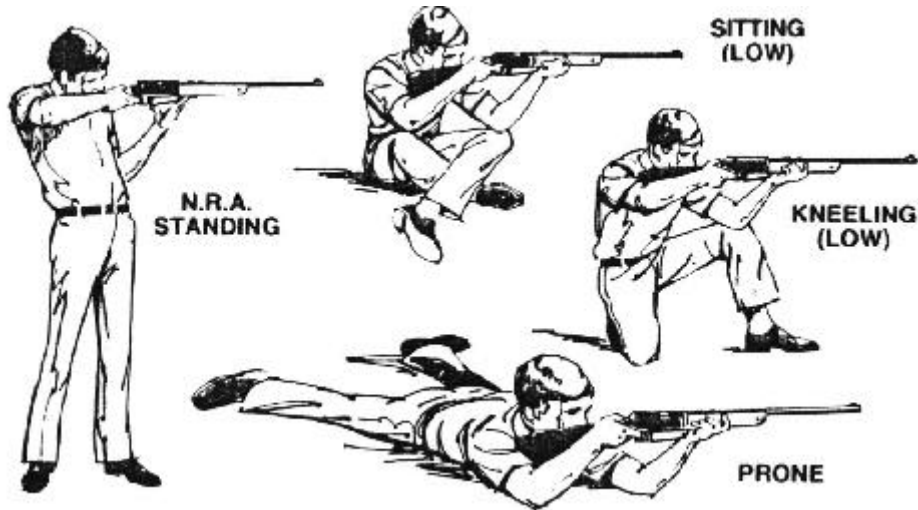
## Marksman Positions

Many people become proficient at weapon handling without learning the basics of proper marksmanship. Yet, these basics are intended for one purpose – to increase your skills. If you haven't learned them, now is the time to start. If you have, this may serve as a timely review.

Although there are four basic positions for shooting – prone, sitting, kneeling, and standing, the one we will use here at camp is the PRONE position.

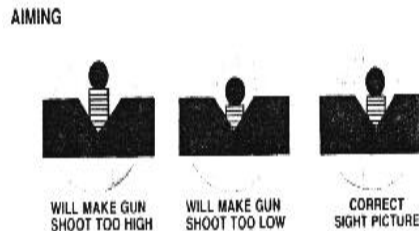
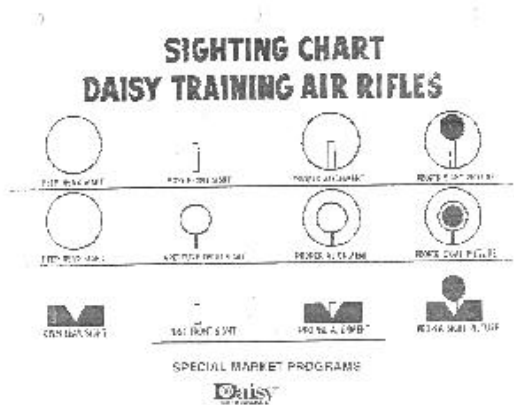
### Prone Position

Half face to the right, then lie at an angle of about 45 degrees to the line of fire. The left leg should be completely relaxed. The right leg should angle away from the spine, and may be bent or straight. The feet should be as flat on the ground as possible. See diagram below.



## Range Procedures

- 1) **Safety On** - Push the trigger safety from left to right (no red showing). It is a good practice to get into the habit of always keeping the trigger safety “ON” until actually ready to fire the weapon.
- 2) **Open Bolt** – Pull the bolt handle fully to the rear. Then, release your hold on the bolt handle, leaving the bolt open. The weapon cannot fire with the bolt open.
- 3) **Pump Once** – IMPORTANT: DO NOT PUMP OVER ONCE, ADDITIONAL PUMP STROKES MAY RESULT IN SERIOUS DAMAGE TO THE WEAPON. Grasp the pump handle. Pull out and forward as far as possible. You should hear a fresh charge of air being drawn into the pump cylinder. When the pump handle is fully extended, pause for about two seconds. This will assure maximum consistency of velocity and accuracy. Then return the pump level to the original closed position.
- 4) **Load Clip** – With the solid end forward insert pellet into clip. Be certain that the rear edge of pellet shirt is seated deeply enough to be beyond the ramp of the lower edge of the pellet opening. Repeat until clip is completely filled. From the right-hand side of the weapon, insert a previously loaded clip into the clip track and the left end of the clip is flush with the left side of the receiver.  
**NOTE: THE CLIP MAY BE REMOVED FROM EITHER SIDE OF THE WEAPON.**
- 5) **Close Bolt** – Push the bolt handle fully forward. This will chamber a pellet and lock the bolt. The weapon will not fire if the bolt is open.
- 6) **Aim At Target** – Aim the weapon at a safe target. To be a consistent marksman, line up the sights each time you fire. See below for how it should look.



- 7) **Safety Off** - When you are certain the target, backstop and surrounding area are safe, push the trigger safety from the right, fully to the left (red showing on left). **YOUR WEAPON SHOULD BE HANDLED WITH EXTREME CARE.**
- 8) **Fire** – After making sure the weapon is pointed at your target, gently but firmly squeeze the trigger.
- 9) **Safety On** – See step 1
- 10) **Pump Once** – See step 3
- 11) **Reload** – See steps 2 & 5
- 12) **Safety Off** – See Step 7
- 13) **Aim at Target** – See step 6
- 14) **Fire** – See Step 8
- 15) **Repeat steps 9 through 14 until clip is empty.**

## **Range Commands**

**Ready** – The candidates will all make sure the safety is on, and pull back the bolt handle.

**With a 5 Round Magazine Load** - The candidates will all inspect their magazines and insert the magazine into the weapon. They will then push the bolt handle forward loading the weapon

**AT your Target in Front Prepare to Fire** - The Candidates will then kneel and pump the weapon.

**Aim** – The candidates will then take the prone position again and aim their weapon at their target

**At your own Time and at your own Target Fire** - The candidates will take the safety off and fire their weapons until the magazine is empty.

- a. The candidates will then put the safety on and kneel to pump the weapon again. (**The safety must be on every time before the weapon is cocked.**)
- b. When the first five round magazine is empty the candidates will put their weapon on safe and remove the empty magazine.
- c. They will then inspect their second magazine and put it in their weapon.

The candidates will then proceed to fire their weapons until they have expelled the second magazine.

At any time the RSO may give the command **Cease-Fire** when the cease-fire command is give all candidates will stop firing their weapon, put the safety on and lay their weapon down on the mat.

## **Misfires**

If a pellet does not fire after completing the operating steps, the weapon is jammed. This is a dangerous condition. Keep the weapon pointed down range, **INFORM THE RSO OF THE MISFIRE by calling problem on \_\_\_ Target**, and perform the following steps:

- Put the trigger safety “ON” (no red showing)
- Open the bolt
- Remove the clip
- Pump the weapon, close bolt, and with weapon pointed down range take the trigger safety “OFF” and fire

**IF THE PELLET STILL DOES NOT FIRE ADVISE THE RSO THAT THE WEAPON IS JAMMED!**

## **Breathing**

When firing a weapon breathing is a very important factor in hitting the target in the desired location. The candidate must learn to control their breathing by relaxing and not being scared of the weapon. To hit the target in the desired location the candidates will do the following.

- Breath normally
- Just before taking their shot they should take a deep breath and hold it
- Squeeze the trigger in a slow smooth movement. (Do Not Be Scared of the Action)
- Exhale after the shot has been taken.

## **Cleaning the Weapon**

A weapon will be cleaned at the end of every day. This is ensure the weapon works properly and stays in working order. When cleaning a weapon you must take the following steps.

- Check to make sure the weapon is safe.
- Open the breech.
- Put the cleaning rod together and have some 1x2's ready.
- Put a small amount of oil on the 1x2 and insert the 1x2 in the eye of the cleaning rod
- Put the cleaning rod with the 1x2 attached into the muzzle and push it all the way to the open breech.
- Pull the cleaning rod back out through the muzzle and replace the 1x2.
- Do this about 3 times and then put a 1x2 on the cleaning rod with no oil on it to see how clean the weapon is.
- Put oil on another 1x2 and push through the muzzle

Have the Range Safety Officer check the weapon before putting it away in its case for the night.

# Sample Target

**AIR RIFLE TARGET / CIBLE POUR FUSIL À AIR COMPRIMÉ**  
**10 METRES/METRES (32.8 FEET/32.8 PIEDS)**  
REPRINT / REIMPRESSION 1998

1

2

3

4

5

6

7

8

9

10

**x 10 =**

**x 9 =**

**x 8 =**

**x 7 =**

**x 6 =**

**x 5 =**

**x 4 =**

**x 3 =**

**x 2 =**

**x 1 =**

**TOTAL** \_\_\_\_\_

NAME/NOM \_\_\_\_\_  
(BLOCK LETTERS/LETTRES MOULÉES)

UNIT/UNITÉ \_\_\_\_\_  
 SIGNATURE \_\_\_\_\_

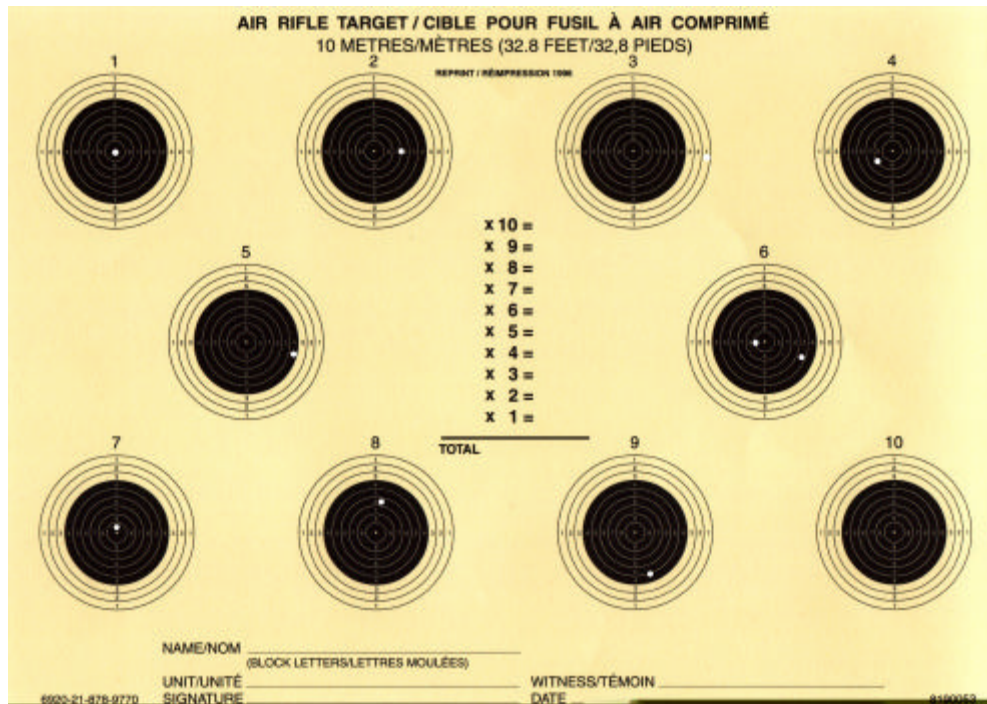
WITNESS/TÉMOIN \_\_\_\_\_  
 DATE \_\_\_\_\_

6820-21-878-9770 8190053

(Not Actual size)

## How to Mark A Target

Only one shot per target will be counted. If there is more than one shot per target the whole target is voided and will not be counted so it is important to fire only one round per target. When shooting at the target you should always aim for the bull's eye (center). The center of the target is worth 10 points. There are 9 rings going around the bull's eye each ring is numbered if a shot in a ring than that is the score if a shot is on the line than the lesser of the two scores is counted. If a candidate missed the target altogether they get zero points. The maximum points a candidate can receive on one sheet is 100.



(Not Actual size)

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Corps: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_



## Navy League Of Canada Magnificent Squadron Course Evaluation



### MARKING SCHEME

0% - 9%	= 0.0 - 0.9	50% - 59%	5.0 – 5.9		
10% - 19%	= 1.0 – 1.9	60% - 69%	6.0 – 6.9		
20% - 29%	= 2.0 – 2.9	70% - 79%	7.0 – 7.9		
30% - 39%	= 3.0 – 3.9	80% - 89%	8.0 – 8.9		
40% - 49%	= 4.0 – 4.9	90% - 99%	9.0 – 9.9		
				100	= 10.0

The average score for the targets **MUST** be 70% or better. The average score for all other components **MUST** be 70% or better. **If either grade is below 70%, the candidate will not be successful.**

Item	Grade	Comments
Target Number 1		
Target Number 2		
Target Number 3		
Target Number 4		
Target Number 5		
Target Number 6		
Target Number 7		
Target Number 8		
Target Number 9		
Target Number 10		
Target Number 11		
Target Number 12		
Target Number 13		
Target Number 14		
Target Number 15		
<b>Average score of targets</b>		
Knowledge of the weapon cleaning practices		
Knowledge of the rang safety procedures		
Small Arms Safety Evaluation		
Knowledge of target scoring practices		
Weapon Handling		
Proper Weapon Handling Quiz		
Weapon Loading		
Is the candidate “Range Safe”		
Marksman Exam		
Attitude		
<b>Average of other components</b>		
Total		

## **Acknowledgements**

This manual was created by A/Slt (NL) Steven Drury with the valuable input from LCdr (NL) Larry Allen and Lt. (NL) Elizabeth Twomey. The following reference materials were used.

- Daisy Power Line 853/853C Operation Manual
- NLCC Trentonian training manual.