



SAGA SNIPPETS

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Further Firearm Amnesty Update

The previous Firearm Amnesty as already reported on, ended on the 31st May 2020.

As a result of calls from many firearm organisations, including SAGA, the Minister of Police has introduced a further and/or New Firearm Amnesty to Parliament, requesting that the New Amnesty be in place from the 1st August 2020 until the 31st January 2021.

After a couple of false starts, the draft Notice was submitted to the Portfolio Committee on Police (PCoP) on the 11th June 2020 and was approved.

The Amnesty was also approved by the National Council of Provinces (NCOP) but the reports from the two committees must still be approved before being submitted to the National Assembly, for final approval.

Once approved by the National Assembly, the New Firearm Amnesty must then be gazetted and there is a good possibility that this will in fact happen during the course of July 2020.

We will keep all our members updated and advised about this important issue.

GOSA Court Case

The Minister's Appeal against the GOSA Interim Order was heard on the 29th May 2020.

Judgment has been reserved and GOSA is still waiting on the judgment to be handed down.



SAGA OFFICE

Thank you so much to those members who have been sending in their membership renewals.

The SAGA office is open for business again and is processing memberships and posting out insignia.

Delays with the postal service remain a concern as they are still working with limited staff capacity. As restrictions ease the pace of business should improve.



New Zealand Gun Buyback Program Plagued By Failures



by Guy J. Sagi
Thursday, June 25, 2020

Despite a New Zealand Police estimate on April 2, 2019, that there were as many as 240,000 firearms in the country that fall under the terms of the country's mandatory gun buyback, only 61,332 were collected or modified as of Feb. 13, 2020—nearly three months after the deadline for compliance. A report from the nation's Auditor-General also found cost of administering the controversial program was nearly double the original estimate and budget allocated for the effort.

The report, issued in May, explains, "The Police now estimate that, once fully completed, administering the scheme will have cost up to \$35 million. This includes costs of tracked staff time, contractors, and goods and services...This is nearly double the \$18 million the 2019 Budget provided and includes about \$5.5 million the Police spent on the scheme in 2018/19." [Figures are in New Zealand dollars.]

Among the firearms now prohibited in New Zealand are all semi-automatics, with the exception of .22 rimfires with a magazine that holds 10 rounds or less and shotguns with a tubular magazine capable of holding 5 or fewer shotshells.

Any pump-action shotgun with a detachable magazine is no longer allowed, as well as those with a capacity that exceeds five shells. The official list of items that must be surrendered includes all magazines, detachable or not, capable of holding 10 rounds, regardless of cartridge—wording that sweeps a variety of family heirlooms and antiques into the law.

"The Police provided extensive information about the scheme on their website, including videos," according to the Auditor-General report. "Some of that information was hard to navigate and some detailed, specific technical information was difficult to locate."

Adding to the confusion was, "The limited knowledge of the types of firearms and parts in the community [that] resulted in the Police adding more types of firearms and parts to the price list over time," according to the report. "The first price list was published on 20 June 2019 and listed 314 firearms. The final price list was published on 25 October 2019 and listed 454 firearms."

There was also an identity theft concern. Only a few weeks into the buyback some participants had their personal information compromised.

[https://
www.americanrifleman.org/
articles/2020/6/25/new-zealand-
gun-buyback-program-plagued-by-
failures/](https://www.americanrifleman.org/articles/2020/6/25/new-zealand-gun-buyback-program-plagued-by-failures/)

What Your Pistol Target is Trying to Tell You

<https://www.nrafamily.org/articles/2020/5/11/what-your-pistol-target-is-trying-to-tell-you/>

by NRA Staff

Monday, May 11, 2020

Handgun targets can tell you a lot more about how you shoot than just whether you missed or not. They can also tell you how you hold the gun, how you pull the trigger, if you flinch ... All you have to do is know how to listen to your targets "talk."

Provided your gun is properly sighted, and there are no environmental considerations such as wind to affect the shot, there are eight common shooting errors that can be detected easily from your target: dipping, heeling, thumbing, riding the recoil, too much trigger finger, lobstering, trigger jerking and the basic inability to shoot well.

The following interpretations of "target talk" are specific to right-handed shooters. Lefties simply reverse the areas of the target to hear their targets talk.

The most common is "**dipping**," which is breaking the wrist at the instant the trigger is pulled in anticipation of the recoil. The downward movement of the gun is an unconscious effort to counteract and control the kick. It can be instilled by pretending to shoot an imaginary handgun, and jabbing your finger forward and down much like Bill Clinton used to do when trying to emphasize a point. Bullet holes tend to string vertically below the bullseye.



"**Heeling**," as the name suggests, is pushing on the butt of the gun with the heel of the shooting hand. With that motion, the tendency is to direct shots high and to the right of the bullseye.

"**Thumbing**" is also fairly intuitive sounding, and is when the shooter presses against the side of the gun with the thumb of his or her shooting hand. The pushing causes the muzzle to move off in the same direction along with the shots so that bullet holes string horizontally out to the right of the bullseye.

"**Riding the recoil**" is the opposite of dipping, in that the shooter is actually flipping the muzzle up before the recoil starts. It's a recoil-anticipating action and is also instilled by pretending there is recoil when shooting a "finger pistol." Bullet holes tend to string high and to the left when riding recoil.

Bullet holes that tend to string out directly to the left of the bullseye typically indicate that the shooter has too much of his or her finger across the trigger. He or she is thus squeezing at an angle that

pushes the gun off in that direction during the final rearward movement of the trigger.

"**Lobstering**" is another way of saying that the shooter is gripping the gun continuously tighter as the trigger is pulled. This squeezing has the opposite effect of heeling, as when the trigger breaks, the tendency is to snatch the gun low and to the right so that bullet holes string out from the bullseye between 3 and 5 o'clock.

"**Jerking**" the trigger usually combines the worst of dipping with the leftward movement of pulling the trigger at an angle. If you're jerking the trigger, your shots will usually string out low and left. Finally, right- or left-handed, if your shots are simply all over the place with no distinct pattern to where they're hitting, it's time to get a knowledgeable coach and work on the fundamentals.

I hope I've helped you "hear" your target. With few exceptions, most of the shooting errors noted above are induced by anticipation of recoil. If your target is telling you that recoil is ruining your shooting, reduce your loads, and change any bad habits accordingly.

Range Commands

by NRA Staff -
Sunday, June 28, 2020

When you arrive at the range, you'll probably hear a lot of sounds. The most important ones will be the commands given by the range officer—the person in charge of the range.

The range officer's primary duties are to control all shooting activities on the range and to ensure that the shooters are obeying all safety rules. It's important that you follow these commands at all times because they are for the safety of everyone on the range.

Here are some of the most common range commands and what you should do when they are given (they may differ slightly from range to range).

"Load.": When shooters are on the firing line and the range officer gives this command, the firearm may be loaded.

"Commence firing.": Firing may begin as soon as the shooter is ready. When shooting in a match, there will be a time limit on how long the firing period lasts.

"Cease firing.": This command means to stop shooting immediately. Even a shooter who is in the process of pulling the trigger for a shot must immediately stop, remove his or her finger from the trigger, and, while keeping the muzzle pointed in a safe direction, unload the gun and wait for further instructions from the range officer.

The "cease firing" command can be used during normal range procedures or in an emergency situation. In an emergency situation, the "cease firing" command is not restricted to use by the range officer, but should be used by anyone who detects an unsafe situation. If an unsafe situation occurs, don't wait for the range officer's intervention—call out "cease firing" immediately!

Additional commands may be used by the range officer depending upon the shooting facility, the number of persons shooting and other variables. These additional commands are generally used to direct the flow of shooters to and from the firing line and to provide necessary instructions or information. There are also special commands used for competitive shooting purposes.

Remember, it's your responsibility to know, understand and obey all commands spoken by the range officer. Being knowledgeable about the rules of the range will make your shooting session a lot more productive—and fun too.

Firearm Malfunctions: If your firearm malfunctions while you are at the range be sure to keep the gun pointed downrange or in a safe direction and raise your non-shooting hand to notify any range personnel of a problem and to ask for their assistance.

Dos & Don'ts

Don't handle any firearm under any circumstance while other shooters are downrange checking or changing targets.

Don't touch any other shooter's equipment without his or her permission. This includes other shooters' brass because they may intend to reload it.

Don't distract other shooters by starting up any unnecessary conversations while they are shooting, or by engaging in loud, boisterous behavior that might be considered annoying.

Do straighten up your area before leaving and pick up all of your trash, including used targets, empty ammunition boxes and empty brass.

Do wash your hands and face thoroughly with cold water after shooting to remove any residue.

<https://www.nrafamily.org/articles/2020/6/27/range-commands/>

Watch this space ...for more interesting firearm snippets