

# SHOOTING RANGES

Gordon County **Current** ULDC Provision:

4.03.19 Outdoor Shooting Ranges, Gun Clubs, Hunting Camps and Lodges

A.

Outdoor shooting ranges, gun clubs, hunting camps and lodges are permissible in the A-1 and RC-1 zoning districts, subject to the standards of the district and the supplemental standards of this section.

B.

Shooting ranges, gun clubs, hunting camps and lodges shall comply with the standards set forth in the following table:

**Table 4.03.19(B)**

**Standards for Shooting Range, Gun Clubs, Hunting Camps and Lodges**

Minimum land area	10 acres
Minimum buffer	500 feet on all sides consisting of existing natural forested area
Minimum building setback	100 feet on all sides
Shooting range design	In accordance with National Rifle Association Range Sourcebook
Development Feature	
Standard	

## PROPOSED REVISION

### COMMENT: MODELED FROM COWETA COUNTY

In addition to the existing ordinance, the following would apply:

1. Any Indoor Shooting Range in the unincorporated area of Gordon County, must meet at a minimum, all the following requirements:

- a. Shall be required to meet all applicable standards established by The NRA Range Source Book published by the NRA.
- b. Shall be required to meet all applicable standards established by Lead Management and OSHA Compliance for Indoor Shooting Ranges published by the National Association of Shooting Ranges (NASR) and the Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA).
- c. Shall be required to have a NRA Range Technical Team Evaluation and provide a copy of the final report from the range technical team advisor prior to the certificate of occupancy and business license being issued.
- d. Liability insurance required. Each application for a license issued under this permit shall be accompanied by evidence that the applicant has obtained a general liability insurance policy in an amount not less than \$1,000,000.00 per occurrence. Such insurance policy shall remain in force and effect during the term of the license. Such insurance policy shall contain a clause requiring the insurer to immediately notify the county if for any reason, coverage under the policy terminates. The proof of insurance required by this section shall be furnished to the county upon each renewal of the license. Additionally, the licensee shall furnish to the county proof of insurance when requested to do so.
- e. Certified instructors required. The owner or operator of an indoor Shooting Range shall have on the premises at all times during range operation an individual certified as a firearm or range instructor by the National Rifle Association or the Georgia Peace Officers Standards and Training (P.O.S.T.) Council.
- f. Shall provide an operating telephone available to range participants and spectators for the purpose of contacting emergency medical services.

- g. A first-aid kit containing the items recommended by a certified expert in emergency medical treatment shall be readily available at each shooting sports facility for emergency treatment or care of minor injuries.
- h. A management guidebook shall be maintained that includes procedures for operations, maintenance, and lead management and recovery. The management guidebook shall be kept on-site and shall be accessible at all times to those using the shooting sports facility.
- i. No alcoholic beverages are allowed on any firing range and shooting after consumption of any alcohol or drugs is expressly prohibited.
- j. The range must not constitute a nuisance or hazard to its contiguous areas. There shall be no more than 40db of noise audible at any area outside of the shooting range or at any contiguous area.

2. Any Outdoor Shooting range in the unincorporated area of Gordon County must meet at a minimum, all the following requirements:

- a. Shall be required to meet all applicable standards established by The NRA Range Source Book published by the NRA.
- b. Shall be required to meet all applicable standards established by Lead Management and OSHA Compliance for Indoor Shooting Ranges published by the National Association of Shooting Ranges (NASR) and the Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) and the EPA's Best Management Practices for Outdoor Shooting Ranges.
- c. Shall be required to have a NRA Range Technical Team Evaluation and provide a copy of the final report from the range technical team advisor prior to the certificate of occupancy and business license being issued.
- d. Liability insurance required. Each application for a license issued under this permit shall be accompanied by evidence that the applicant has obtained a general liability insurance policy in an amount not less than \$1,000,000.00 per occurrence. Such insurance policy shall remain in force and effect during the term of the license. Such insurance policy shall contain a clause requiring the insurer to immediately

notify the county if for any reason, coverage under the policy terminates. The proof of insurance required by this section shall be furnished to the county upon each renewal of the license. Additionally, the licensee shall furnish to the county proof of insurance when requested to do so.

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g. A first-aid kit containing the items recommended by a certified expert in emergency medical treatment shall be readily available at each shooting sports facility for emergency treatment or care of minor injuries.

h. A management guidebook shall be maintained that includes procedures for operations, maintenance, and lead management and recovery. The management guidebook shall be kept on-site and shall be accessible at all times to those using the shooting sports facility.

i. Prior to submitting for the conditional use permit, applicant shall have the NRA Range Development Technical Team advise as to the standard of noise reduction possible and to what decibel level the proposed operation will create. Applicant shall provide NRA documentation of the evaluation including any potential noise levels.

j. Applicant shall not exceed noise level granted in the conditional use permit. If complaints are received, the planning director shall use the best tools reasonably available to determine the merit of the complaint. If determined by the planning director that a valid noise concern exists, approval from board of commissioners to employ services of a noise consultant shall be requested. All related expenses shall be incurred by the applicant. The planning department shall obtain an estimate of the expenses and the applicant shall pay the estimate in advance. Should the actual costs be less than the estimate, the applicant shall be returned the balance. In addition,

applicant will be given 30 days to modify Shooting Range to reduce noise to approved level or all outdoor Shooting Range activities shall cease.