

**COSSA Lady Hawks**  
**Range Procedures and Commands**

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**Range Commands and Procedures**

1. **“Bring your gun and gear to your assigned firing point. Leave it in the case or holster.”**

*Cased or holstered gun, ammo, magazines and related equipment are brought to the firing line. Shooter waits for instructions.*

2. **“Uncase and bench your handgun.”**

*Take the handgun from the case or holster keeping the fingers outside the trigger guard and keeping the muzzle pointed down-range. Open the cylinder or lock the slide back. Look/feel chamber and mag-well three times to ensure unloaded condition. Place on the bench with the action open and muzzle pointing down-range.*

3. **“Prepare for dry practice.” or “Prepare for live fire practice.”**

*These commands are useful for shooters with more established gun handling skills, not for initial Fundamentals training.*

*Dry Practice and Live Fire: Load dummy (dry fire) or live (live fire) ammunition and stow magazines. Completely unload the handgun and look/feel the chamber/mag-well three times. The shooter closes the action and assumes the rest position.*

4. **“Load and make ready.”**

*Shooter inserts the magazine, racks the slide to chamber a round, engages safety devices and assumes the start position.*

5. **“Are you ready?”**

*The instructor asks the shooter if she is ready to begin the exercise. If the shooter answers “no”, the instructor takes corrective action.*

6. **“Stand-by.”**

*The firing command will come in one to three seconds.*

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**7. Firing Command (“UP” “FIRE”)**

*The shooter may commence firing. The firing signal may vary (spoken command, whistle, visual signal, student initiated).*

**8. “Unload and show clear.”**

*When the shooter has completed the exercise or at any time it is necessary, the shooter will remove the magazine, rack the slide several times to remove the chambered round and then locks the slide back. Looks and feels chamber/mag-well three times. Revolver shooter looks and counts empty chambers, looks and counts extracted rounds. Instructor looks and confirms unloaded condition.*

**9. “Action open and bench your handgun”, OR “Slide forward and holster,” OR “Close cylinder and holster.”**

*After the instructor confirms unloaded condition, the handgun is returned to the bench or holster. “Slide forward” includes de-cocking or safety engagement if practicable with the action type.*

**10. “Case your unloaded gun.”**

*Shooter returns the unloaded handgun to the case or holster.*

**11. “Stack hands. Check your neighbors right and left.”**

*Shooter remains on the firing line facing down-range. The open hands are stacked to expose the empty palms to the right and left. The shooter looks at her neighboring shooter’s open hands and cased/holstered handgun to ensure that no gun is out or handled.*

**12. “The line is clear. Stand-by for instructions.”**

*All firearms on the firing line are accounted for and secured. The instructor may direct, “Move forward and score, repair, remove, etc. your target.” Shooters may pick up brass, magazines and other equipment on the ground.*