

Frequently Asked Questions **(FAQs)**

1. When do I need to renew my membership?

Answer 1: All memberships expire 12 months from the date of purchase.

2. I want to learn to shoot, do you offer lessons?

Answer 2: Just let a Range Officer, Club Executive Section Head or a member know that you seek assistance and they will assist you.

3. Do I need to buy a rifle or handgun to join the RAGC?

Answer 3: You do not need to own a firearm to join the RA Gun Club. The club owns a variety of firearms that are available for member use under club supervision, at no extra charge. Our inventory includes several .22 LR single shot target rifles, as well as air rifles, and a variety of .22 LR and center fire pistols and revolvers. Eye and ear protection are available and is mandatory. Club members are required to purchase targets and ammunition, with both being available for purchase at the range.

4. Do I need a PAL/RPAL to be able to participate in Club activities?

Answer 4: Members currently without a Firearms License (PAL/RPAL) can join the Club and may shoot under the direct supervision of a licensed member, during their FIRST few months of membership. Shooting limitations may occur depending on the availability of licensed members. To increase shooting opportunities, members are encouraged to get their Firearms License (PAL/RPAL) as soon as possible. All returning members are required to have their Firearms License (PAL/RPAL).

Members who only participate in air rifle and/or air pistol shooting disciplines and have no need to use club firearms, are exempt from PAL requirement, but must still register for and complete the respective internal club safety course(s).

5. What shooting disciplines does the RAGC offer?

Answer 5:

- *International Practical Shooting Confederation of Canada (IPSC)...This advanced shooting discipline involves drawing and firing from a holster to engage multiple targets in a dynamic course of fire. Safe gun handling is essential while emphasizing accuracy, power and speed. Participation in competition requires completion of the "Black Badge" certification program. The RA Gun Club offers the Black Badge certification course, along with IPSC handgun training twice per week. Our IPSC team competes in a number of matches each year. We*

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have an extremely skilled group of athletes that compete with police and military teams at tournaments. See our Club Calendar on the left for more information!

- *Junior Section...This section is an extension of the Rifle Section. It caters to all members between the ages of 12 to 17. This group meets every Sunday at 5:00 - 7:00 PM from September to May. Junior members are encouraged to help organize club matches. We also encourage the involvement of the parents and guardians, especially when there is an interclub shooting event. Make rifle shooting your new family hobby! The cradle for the National Junior Team is the Provincial Winter & Summer Games hosted for the juniors in a variety of cities. We also provide monthly mini-training groups. Additionally, Rifle Section members are available to coach and supervise juniors as they learn the fun and exciting sport of competitive and recreational shooting. See the Club Calendar on the left for more information.*
- *Rifle Section...The Rifle section offers groups for both recreational and competitive athletes. We shoot all manner of 22LR rifles: hunting, sporting, match, and plinking. The Rifle Section shoots three times a week during the regular season and two times in summer months. For those proceeding to the competitive program, there is a "High Performance Shooting" slot reserved before the general section times. See our Club Calendar on the left for more information.*
- *Competitive Rifle Group...There are many RA Gun Club members who are active in competitions. We support all of our competitive members from the beginning towards national and international levels including the Pan Am Games and the Olympic Games. We practice for all small-bore rifle events which are hosted through the Shooting Federation of Canada (SFC). These events include (1) Sporting Rifles Prone, (2) Sporting Rifles 3 Positions, (3) ISSF Free Rifle Prone, (4) ISSF Free Rifle 3 positions, (5) ISSF Air Rifles (6) Hunting Rifles.*
- *Recreational Rifle Group...We provide a Recreational Target Shooting program. This is a progressive badge system which includes elementary, intermediate, expert and master levels.*
- *Air Gun...We shoot target air pistols and rifles (caliber .177), with emphasis on accuracy and competitive shooting...but not at the expense of fun! This special interest group spans both the Rifle and Handgun sections and meets irregularly on Sunday mornings. Note that you need to be a member of either the rifle or handgun sections to participate in the air activities. See the Club Calendar on the left for more information.*
- *International Sport Shooting Federation (ISSF)...is the governing body for Olympic style target shooting) events and have a membership in either a provincial sports organization (example, CSSA, or FTQ) or national sports organization, the Shooting Federation of Canada (SFC); OR, represent the RAGC in local competitions, specifically the Ottawa Valley Pistol League.*
- *General Handgun...Open sessions where members can shoot any approved caliber handguns.*

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6. I want to become a Range Officer. What do I need to do?

Answer 6: Contact either the Section Officer, Senior Range Officer or Training Officer.

7. I lost my membership card. What do I do?

Answer 7: If you misplaced your RA Membership Card, go to the RA East Desk and they will reprint one for you. If you have an RA swipe access card, there is a \$10 charge to replace it.

8. What does the Junior Program offer? What is the age restriction?

Answer 8: The club welcomes both recreational and competitive juniors (13 to 17 years old) in its rifle section. Juniors must complete the internal club rifle safety course on a designated Tuesday night before their first Sunday visit. The course fee is waived for Junior members, however to ensure there is space available, pre-registration is required. In addition, the Canadian Firearms Safety Course and test for non-restricted firearms is available to club juniors so they can apply for a minors permit. Junior members can shoot .22 rifle, air rifle or air pistol and may try International Practical Shooting Confederation (IPSC) when shooting with a parent or guardian. If you have any specific questions or if you're interested in joining, please visit the range during our Rifle Hours.

9. What caliber of Handgun (Pistol and Revolver) and Rifle is permitted at the RAGC?

PISTOL & REVOLVER			RIFLE		
Calibre	Bullet Type		Calibre	Bullet Type	
	Non-Jacketed	Jacketed		Non-Jacketed	Jacketed
.177 Pellet	YES	YES	.177 Pellet	YES	YES
.22LR	YES	YES	.22 Short, Long or LR	YES	YES
.22 Magnum	NO	NO	.22 Magnum	NO	NO
.32 calibre	YES	YES	* Black Powder is NOT permitted. * For questions related to calibre, firearm and bullet type not stated above, contact any RAGC Section Officer (Rifle, IPSC or Handgun) or the Senior Range Officer (SRO)		
7.62x25 Tokarev	NO	NO			
9 x 19 mm	YES	YES			
.357 Magnum	YES	YES			
.38 calibre	YES	YES			
.40 S&W	YES	YES			
.44 Magnum	YES	NO			
.45 ACP	YES	YES			
.45 Colt	YES	NO			

NO center fire rifles or pistol calibre carbines are allowed on the range.

For questions related to permitted calibre, firearm and bullet types not stated above, please speak to any RAGC Section Officer (Rifle, IPSC, Handgun, Juniors) or the Senior Range Officer.

10. How do I register for a Club Safety Course? Is there a fee?

Answer 10: *The club runs discipline-specific Club Safety Courses on a periodic basis. Members who wish to shoot handguns must complete the Handgun Safety Course. Members who wish to shoot rifles must complete the Rifle Safety Course. IPSC shooters must complete a Black Badge Course which is offered periodically throughout the year.*

Members who shoot multiple disciplines must complete the separate safety course for each discipline.

11. How do I get my PAL/RPAL?

Answer 11: *The Canadian Firearms Safety Course (CFSC) and the Canadian Restricted Firearms Safety Course (CRFSC) are offered by the RA.*

The Canadian Firearms Safety Course (CFSC) prepares the participant for the Possession and Acquisition License (PAL) exam. The Canadian Restricted Firearms Safety Course (CRFSC) prepares the participant for the Restricted Possession and Acquisition License (RPAL) exam.

Quality firearms safety training is provided by certified Firearms Instructors and Examiners who are designated by the Chief Firearms Office (CFO). The CFSC and CRFSC courses are designed to familiarize you with the safe, effective and responsible handling of firearms and ammunition. As preparation for the legally required tests, the courses will cover the various types of firearms and ammunition, the laws concerning firearms ownership, storage, and transportation, as well as basic firearm operation and safe handling.

Successful completion of the associated exams is compulsory for the application for a Possession and Acquisition License. The entire course and test are required for youth wishing to apply for a Minors License and for those persons seeking employment in the security field.

For members wishing to shoot handguns, successful completion of the associated exams is compulsory for the application for a Restricted Possession and Acquisition License.

There is a fee for both courses. You can register for either course through the RAGC Web Site...Firearms Licence Programs Sub-Menu...or in person at the RA Member Services Desk.