



8.2.3 SSAA Para General Pistol Section Training

PROBATIONER TRAINING COURSE - PISTOLS

1. AIM

Introduce the novice or experienced shooter to the unique style of pistol shooting and to train the person in the safety precautions and considerations associated with the use of this form of shooting.

As you are conducting the orientation, the one question you have to answer, is this shooter a safe shooter?

2. WHEN IS THIS FORMAL PRACTICAL TRAINING REQUIRED?

- A Person who has a current firearms licence, without POU1 H on it
- A person who has no firearms licences and wants to obtain POU1 H.
- The full training process is not required for a member who already has POU1 H on their licence. In these cases, the section trainer should monitor the shooter for the first couple of shoots to ensure they are a safe shooter.

3. PREREQUISITES PRIOR TO TRAINING – POU1 H

- Letter from SAPOL approving the Training;
- Current membership of SSAA Para Branch or is having their membership processed (interim membership);
- Current SSAA National Membership;
- Completion of SSAA Para Branch Safety course or the member has contacted safety trainer to complete the next theory course.

4. PRACTICAL TRAINING OVERVIEW

SESSION 1:	Theory and Supervised practice with a suitable firearm matching their category of licence training (Handgun).
SESSION 2:	Supervised practice with club pistol
SESSION 3:	Supervised practice under competition conditions
SESSION 4:	As per session 3
SESSION 5:	As per session 3
SESSION 6:	As per session 3

Followed by nomination for Purpose of Use 1 ,Class H pistol licence.

The section trainer fills out the internal chit stating the practical training has been completed successfully and leaves in the tray of the canteen. The Secretary will then sign off the PD314.

Within the next six months, four more training sessions are required.

SESSION 7:	As per session 3
SESSION 8:	As per session 3
SESSION 9:	As per session 3
SESSION 10:	As per session 3

Followed by endorsement to purchase a pistol (external chit).



TRAINING OBJECTIVES – THEORY SESSION SESSION 1

At the completion of this session the probationer will be familiar with and be able to describe the following;

- a. Pistol range safety and the use of ear and eye protection, fields of fire, range conditions and range rules;
- b. The new member has an idea of the various types of handguns used for this competition and the various competition categories.
- c. Handling the firearm safely, and understands the care required for muzzle control of the relatively short handgun (as compared to a rifle or shotgun. The particular 45 degree cone of safety.
- d. Storage of ammunition and pistols for safe use;
- e. Loading the different pistol in the following steps;
 - Pre-inspection
 - Loading magazines / chambers
 - Discharging the Pistol
 - Handling Misfires
 - Carrying and packing away the firearm
 - Unloading the pistol and getting it checked to ensure it is empty and safe
- e. Demonstrate the correct shooting positions for accurate shooting, correct feet and body posture in relation to the target. Correct hand position on the grips;
- f. Aim the pistol correctly using correct sight picture, breathing control and concentration.

TRAINING OBJECTIVES - PRACTICAL SESSION 1&2.

The shooter is then shown how to load a .22 pistol and is encouraged to fire at a target (Steel or paper) at 25m and or 50m for their first shoot. Depending on the skill of the shooter this might require some modifications to target distances, or being able to use a rest. This is done under strict, one to one supervision by qualified sections safety trainer.

In this session, the time requirements of the competition are not enforced to ensure that the new member is not put under any pressure, which may potentially create a safety problem.

At the end of the detail, the member is shown how to unload the pistol and how to show the Range Officer that the firearm is clear. The pistol is then placed into either a gun bag or box and the bag or box is closed if appropriate before the range is declared "clear " by the Range Officer.

After the range has been reset, the shooter is called back to the line by the RO to continue shooting' again under strict, one to one supervision.

During the match, the shooter is encouraged to ask questions or request help. At the end of the match, the member is further encouraged to express any concerns or request any other information which may be required.

The supervisor is to observe how they handle, use, clear and carry a firearm. They are also to observe what the new member does during a cease fire, and how they enter and leave the range.



At the completion of this session, the probationary shooter will be able to perform (under supervision) the following;

- a. Supply and wear appropriate ear and eye protection;
- b. Prepare and use effectively the appropriate materials for the safe loading and firing of the pistol;
- c. Prepare and inspect the pistol prior to loading;
- d. Correctly load a pistol;
- e. Demonstrate the correct stance or position for safe and accurate firing of the pistol;
- f. Identify the fields of fire allocated to the shooter;
- g. Discharge the pistol;
- h. Demonstrate that they can place 10 shots on or near the target at 25m;
- i. Demonstrate that they can place 10 shots on or near the target at 50m;
- j. On completion of firing, ensure the pistol is left in a safe condition and available for inspection by the range officer.

SESSION 3 TO SESSION 6.

At the completion of sessions 3 to 6, the probationer will be able to perform (under supervision) the objectives of session 2 under competition conditions.

During these shoots, the basic procedure is followed under strict, one to one supervision. Later shoots may also include the use of other types of handguns in .22 and other calibres. The use of handguns fitted with telescopic sights (if available) and information on safe reloading practices (if competent).

5. ASSESSMENT

At the end of these attendances, the section trainer will decide whether the member is a safe and reliable shooter.

If yes, an internal chit is filled out and left in the Canteen. The secretary will then complete the PD314 for H class.

If no, the trainer should inform the council to determine what possible problems might be restricting the person in achieving a satisfactory pass.

After satisfactory completion of shoots seven through ten over a minimum of 6 months, an external chit can be written for the purchase of a handgun.