

TNC-pol-55

Biathlon Rifle Safety Policy

Purpose

To outline the conditions for rifle use in Telemark Biathlon programs.

Conditions for Rifle Use in Telemark Biathlon Programs

To ensure a safe environment for coaches and athletes, all rifles used at Telemark Nordic Club must be regularly maintained and kept in safe working condition.

The only firearm permitted for use on the Telemark Biathlon Range are **bolt action, .22 L.R. caliber** rifles. Automatic or semi-automatic rifles are not permitted for use at the Telemark Biathlon Range. Rifles are not permitted inside the main lodge unless part of a scheduled practice.

Every athlete using a rifle must:

- Be a member in good standing of Telemark Nordic Club and registered in a Telemark Biathlon program; or be participating in a Telemark Biathlon sanctioned event, AND
- Be a member in good standing of Biathlon BC, or Biathlon Canada.

Privately Owned Rifles

Athletes are fully responsible for the safety of privately owned rifles.

The athlete, and parent/guardian if athlete is under 18 years of age:

- must have a valid **Possession and Acquisition License (PAL)** or Minor's Licence.
- must obey all provincial, federal, regional, and municipal laws with regards to firearm safety, including use, storage, and transportation.

- will ensure the rifle is properly maintained and cleaned on a regular basis throughout use at Telemark Biathlon Range (cleaning instructions can be found on the [Team Telemark Biathlon website](#) and training will be provided annually).

During the season, the athlete's Telemark Biathlon coach or Telemark Armorer may periodically inspect the rifle to ensure that proper maintenance and cleaning has been performed.

Telemark Club Rifles

Type A Club Rifle: For use at the Telemark Biathlon Range Only

The athlete only uses the rifle at the range under the supervision of their Telemark Biathlon coach; the athlete is not allowed to take the rifle home or transport the rifle to or from biathlon events. This is normally the case for athletes in the Biathlon Bears or Biathlon Recreation programs, or for an athlete who does not possess a valid PAL and thus is not legally allowed to take the rifle home. Type A rifles may be shared with other athletes across various programs.

The athlete:

- is responsible for the proper and safe care of the rifle when in use.
- is responsible for any damage that may occur to the rifle while he/she is using it.
- must sign (or parent guardian must sign if the athlete is under 18 years of age) a Telemark Biathlon Type A Club Rifle Agreement before using the rifle.

The rifle will be maintained in good working order by the Telemark Biathlon Armorer.

Type B Club Rifle: Telemark Biathlon Club Rifle Assigned to Exclusive Use

The athlete (or parent/guardian) takes possession of the rifle for the duration of the program period and takes the rifle with him/her after each practice or competition. Type B rifles will normally not be shared with other athletes and will be adjusted to properly fit the athlete. On occasion, the rifle may be required for use at special events (e.g., Biathlon Demo Days)

The athlete, and parent/guardian if the athlete is under 18 years of age:

- must have a valid PAL.
- is responsible for any damages or loss that may occur to the rifle and accessories during the program period.
- must sign a Telemark Biathlon Type B Club Rifle Agreement for each season before taking possession and using the rifle.
- must obey all provincial, federal, regional, and municipal laws with regards to firearm safety, including use, storage and transportation;
- will ensure the rifle is properly maintained and cleaned on a regular basis throughout the program period (cleaning instructions can be found on the [Team Telemark Biathlon website](#) and training will be provided annually).
- must have the rifle professionally serviced by a certified gunsmith prior to returning to Telemark Biathlon at the end of the program period.

During the season, the athlete's Telemark Biathlon coach or Telemark Armorer may periodically inspect the rifle to ensure proper maintenance and cleaning has been performed.

General

Every Telemark range user must comply with the Telemark Biathlon Range Safety Policy, and Telemark Rifle Safety Policy, and sign the Biathlon Range User Safety Agreement.

All other sanctioned users of the Telemark Biathlon Range must comply with the Telemark Biathlon Range Safety Policy and the provisions contained in the Biathlon Range User Safety Agreement.