

**Shoot Safely With Steel:**

**What you don’t know can hurt you!**

Unpredictable bullet spatter can be dangerous for everyone on the range – learn how to be safe and shoot safely using steel targets.

One of the unique benefits of being a member of the Flagler Gun & Archery Club is that the club has an Action Range and Nine Action Bays. That also enables members who want to shoot in this discipline with steel targets, the satisfying ring sound of a successful hit. That coupled with the visual feedback of seeing the steel plate move and the round splashing into the soft ground, it’s instant feedback indicating a job well done.

Unfortunately, most of us have never been trained to deploy steel targets safely. If you are getting little pieces of shrapnel sent back up range, it’s a sign something is wrong with the equipment or the setup. Unpredictable bullet spatter can be dangerous for everyone on the range. Ricochet rounds are an even more hazardous and literally deadly serious risk. But with a little bit of knowledge & know-how, we all can set up steel targets safely, and then safely use them to make our training more effective.

The action range discipline is offering a free, voluntary program: **Shoot Safely With Steel.** To be held two (2) weekends in March and one (2) weekend in April - on two of the Action Bays. The Bays will be set aside and Club steel will be available where members can be briefed in, and then practice.

**Here is the program**:

* Quality eye protection for steel shooting
* Understanding the spatter zone
* How bullet spatter occurs and how to minimize risk by proper target placement
* Safety Factors like:
	+ Target Inspection & condition
	+ Accounting for angle of deflection
	+ Target hardness/thickness/ratings
	+ Minimum distancing with steel targets
* Target maintenance: Keeping steel targets clean & free of corrosion
* Ammunition types (e.g., ball vs. frangible)
* Factors to consider when buying steel targets, including Brinell Hardness Strength ratings, target sizes, rigging stands, manufacturer reviews, etc.
* FG&A's rules for steel targets and why these rules need always be followed to ensure member safety

After the briefing in an Action Bay, members are then encouraged, using the club provided steel targets, to practice with their own firearm/s & their own ammunition.

**Here are the dates & times**:

Saturday & Sunday, March 8 & 9 - 10:00AM to 2:00PM

Saturday & Sunday, March 22 & 23 – 10:00AM to 2:00PM

Saturday & Sunday, April 12 & 13 – 10:00AM to 2:00PM

**Other Information**:

There is no cost for the program. Come around to the Action Bays and look for the signs. The program takes about 45 minutes, and we’ll re-run sessions as needed as folks come by.

So, get to the range, be safe, have some fun while developing your skills, and make the steel targets sing!