



# IDPA Intro Course

## Participant Preparation



Version 1.4

## Participant Prerequisites



### Formal

- Be lawfully allowed to possess a firearm in Switzerland
- Have a personal liability insurance (min CHF 3m coverage)
- Minors and foreigners take contact

### Solid Basic Firearms Education: Skills

- Understand and automatically apply the four universal firearms safety rules always and under all circumstances
- Know the main pistol parts and their function
- Execute pistol disassembly, maintenance and re-assembly
- Safely execute drawing and re-holstering
- Understand and apply the five fundamentals of shooting: stance, grip, aiming, breathing, triggering
- Execute the basic pistol manipulations: load, unload, PSC (Personal Safety Check), mag-change and reload
- Shoot and hit from standing, kneeling, crouching and prone positions at distances of 5-25m
- Produce accurate hits with fast double taps
- Shoot and hit after drawing from the holster
- Swiftly clear simple and extended malfunctions
- Shoot and hit one handed (left and right)



### Goals

- Understand & Apply the IDPA Rules
- Achieve an IDPA classification
- Be ready for IDPA matches

### Agenda

- Theory: The Rules of IDPA
- Training: Basic Techniques
- Match: Classifier
- Practice: Stage examples (if time permits)

### Organization

- Start: 09:00
- End: 17:00
- Lunch break 45min, please bring your lunch to the course

### Material

- IDPA legal equipment (see next pages)
- Eye and ear protection
- Personal pistol, minimum 3 magazines in total
- Belt holster and magazine pouches
- Concealment garment
- Approx. 250 rounds



## Firearm Safety Rules

- 1) Always treat as if **loaded**
- 2) Always point in a **safe direction**
- 3) Always keep **finger off** the trigger until ready to shoot
- 4) Always be **sure of your target** and what is beyond it

**NO**

- ✗ *Excuses*
- ✗ *Shortcuts*
- ✗ *“Yes... BUT...”*

## Firearm Safety Rules

1



**Always** treat as if **loaded**



2

**Always** point in a  
**safe direction**

3



**Always** keep **finger off** the  
trigger until ready to shoot



4

**Always** be **sure of your**  
**target** and what is beyond it



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## Finger Safety

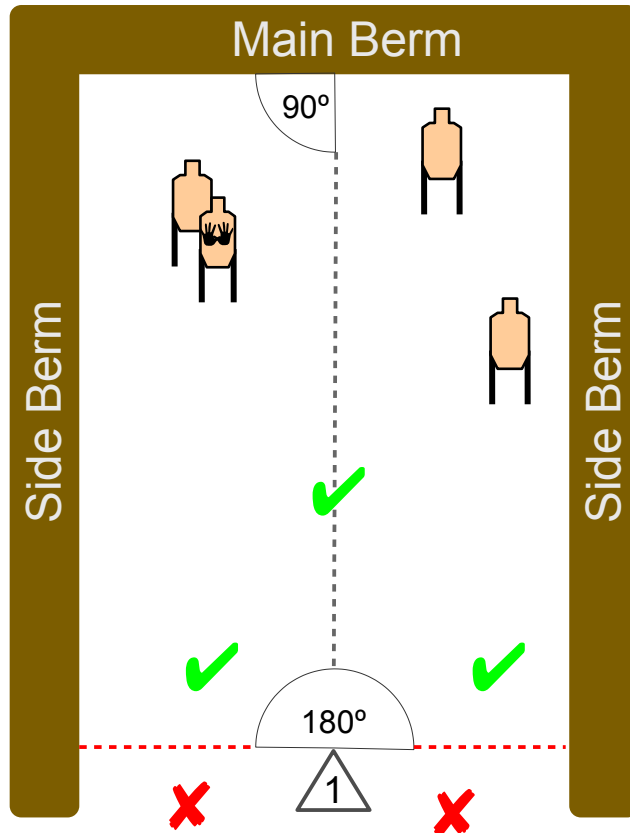


### Finger Discipline

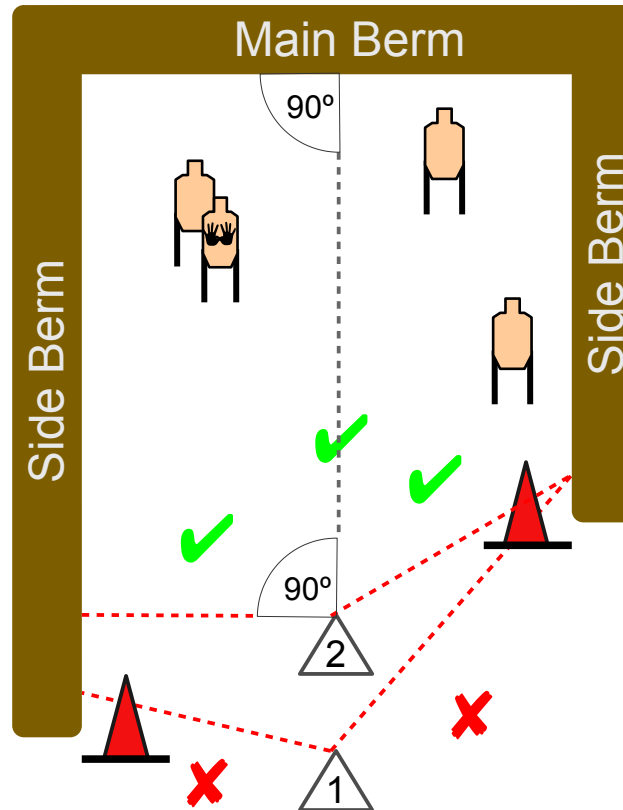
- Keep your finger clearly ***outside and above*** triggerguard
- ***Always***, except when ready to shoot
- Positively identifiable for SOs
- 1. offense = Finger PE
- 2. offense ► DQ



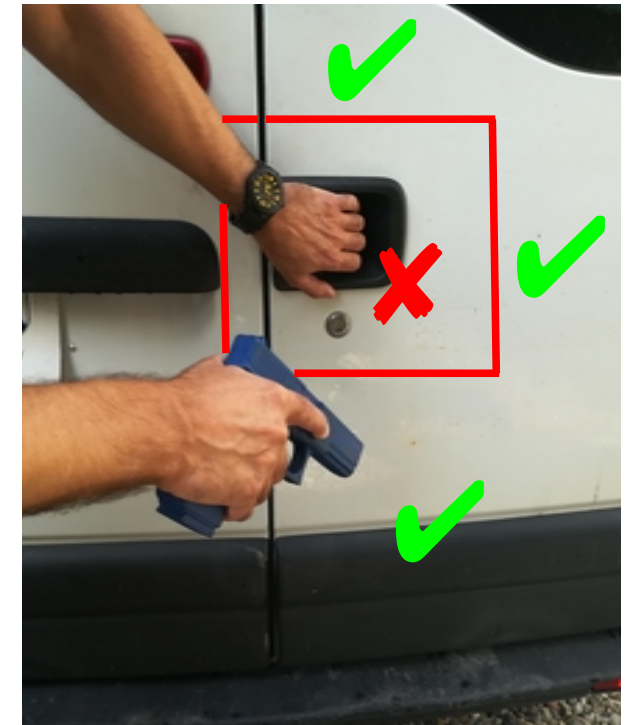
## 180°



## Muzzle Safe Points



## Exclusion Zone

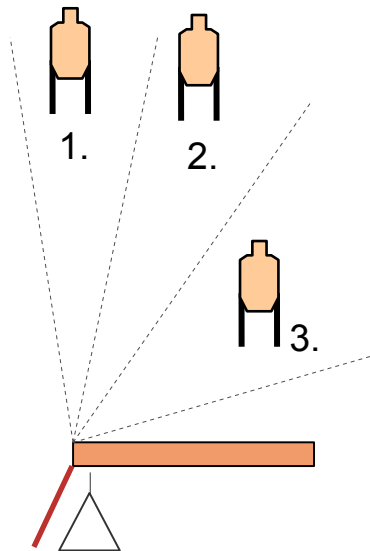


- Always default: 180° rule
- If specified: Muzzle Safe Point(s)
- Combination of 180° and muzzle safe point possible
- If specified: Exclusion Zone(s)

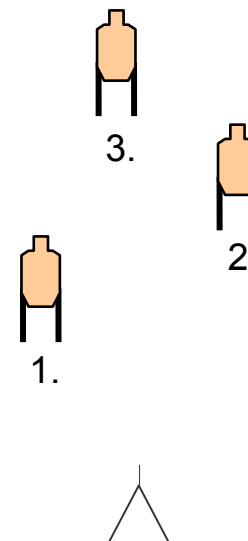
**Tactical  
Priority**

- From cover: 'slice the pie'
- In the open: order of threat (distance from shooter) near to far
- Always engage in tactical priority
- Always engage all visible targets before proceeding

**From Cover**



**In the Open**





## Equipment - Divisions


**Stock  
Service  
Pistol**

- **SSP**, mass production
- DA/SA, DAO, Striker Fire
- 9x19 or larger
- Few modifications

- Division Capacity: 10+1
- Barrel Length: max 5" (box)
- Weight: max 1220g
- e.g. HK VP9L, PPQ 5", Glock 17


**Enhanced  
Service  
Pistol**

- **ESP**, custom guns
- All trigger system incl SA
- 9x19 or larger
- More modifications

- Division Capacity: 10+1
- Barrel Length: max 5" (box)
- Weight: max 1220g
- e.g. Shadow 01 (SA), 1911 (9mm)


**Compact  
Carry  
Pistol**

- **CCP**, compacts
- Same trigger system and modifications as ESP
- 9x19 or larger

- Division Capacity: 8+1
- Barrel Length: max 4.3"
- Weight: max 1080g
- e.g. Glock 19, PPQ 4", APX Centurion


**Carry  
Optics**

- **CO**, incl red dot
- Same trigger system and modifications as ESP
- 9x19 or larger

- Division Capacity: 10+1
- Barrel Length: max 5" (box)
- Weight: max 1270g
- Optics pistol variants


**Other  
Divisions**

- **CDP** Custom Defense Pistol: 45 ACP only, division capacity 8+1, e.g. 1911 (45)
- **BUG** Backup Gun: sub-compacts, division capacity 6, e.g. Glock 26
- **REV** Revolver: max barrel length 4.25", division capacity 6, e.g. S&W 686
- **PCC** Pistol Caliber Carbine (provisional), e.g. CZ Scorpion, B&T GHM9



### Belt

- Maximum width 1.75"
- Pass through all but 2 pant loops
- Only one belt is allowed!



### Holster

- Suitable for concealed carry
- Only strong side belt holster
- OWB (recommended) or IWB
- Minimum equivalent to level 1 retention
- Covered trigger and closed front
- Front of grip positioned above belt
- Gun positioned max 19mm from body
- Center of trigger pad must be behind centerline of body



### Ammo Carriers

- Cover 2" or more of magazines
- Magazines positioned max 19mm from body
- Front edge of first magazine must be behind hipbone
- 2 spare mags (except BUG: 3, REV: 3 speed/jet-loaders)



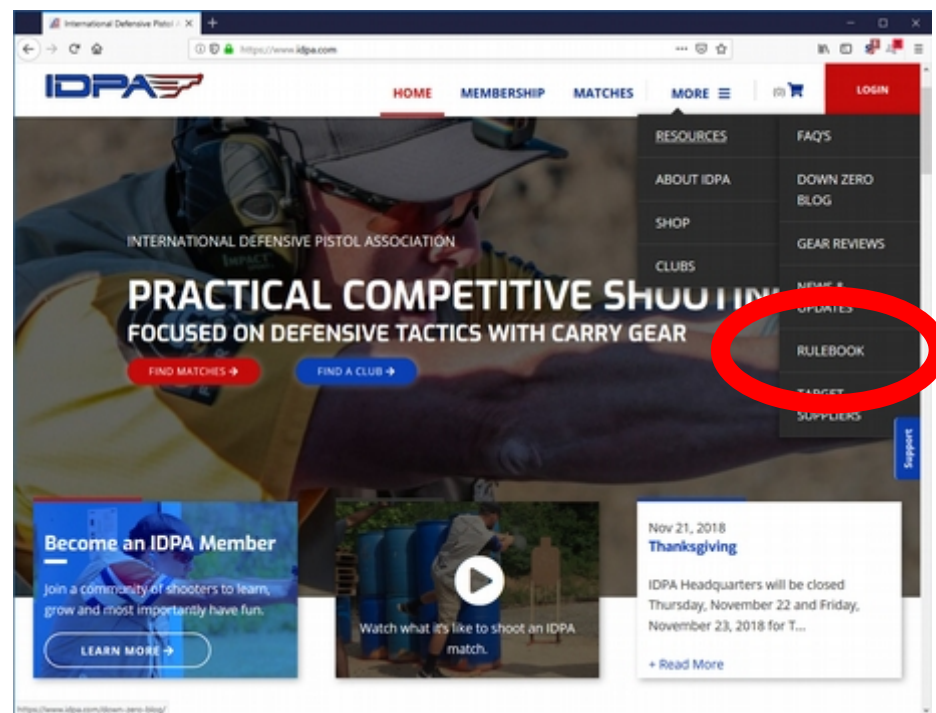
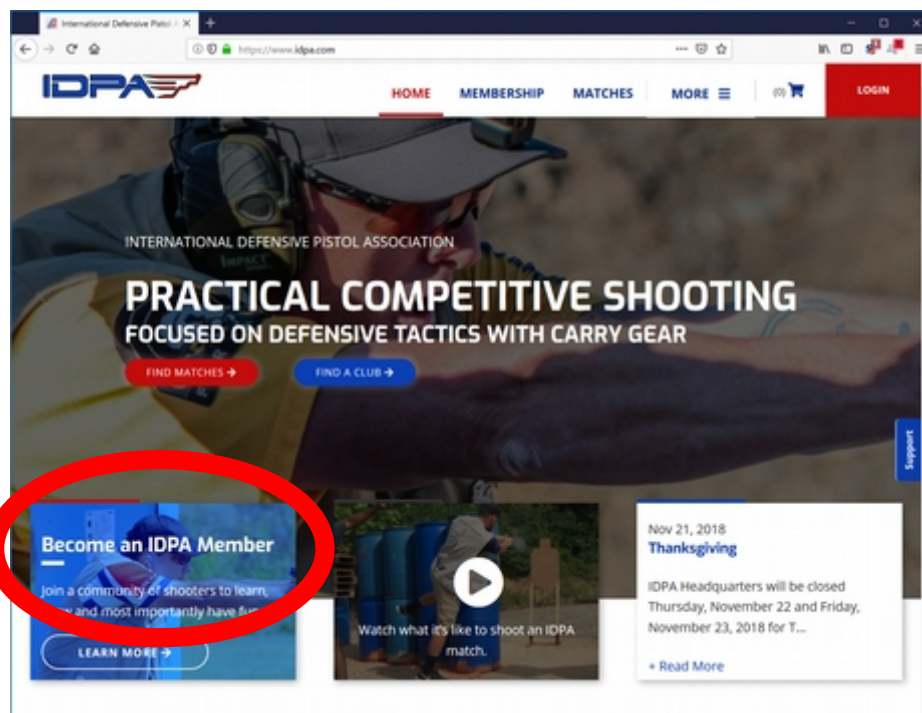
### Concealment

- Vest, jacket or shirt
- No equipment is visible with arms outstretched parallel to ground
- No safety hazards when holstering



- **I understand that it is a privilege, not a right, to be an IDPA shooter**
- **I will follow all of the safety rules** of IDPA and the host range. The safety of the shooters, match officials and bystanders shall always be my primary objective.
- Prior to and during a match, **I will refrain from the use of alcohol, substances, or medications** that may negatively impact my ability to shoot safely.
- **I will maintain a current IDPA membership** after my third match
- **I will maintain an accurate Classification** by shooting a Classifier at least every 12 month unless a Master or Distinguished Master Classification is attained, or a Match Performance Promotion has occurred in the last 12 months or or a Sanctioned Match has been completed in the last 12 months without DNF or DQ. See rule 9.2 for more details.
- I recognize that it is my responsibility to maintain a working knowledge of the current IDPA rulebook.
- **I will adhere to the IDPA purpose and principles and will not willfully break any IDPA rule.**
- I will listen carefully and refrain from talking during shooter's briefings and stage briefings.
- I will refrain from any action that distracts shooters, safety officers, and other competitors during the match.
- I understand that it is my responsibility as a squad member to be ready to shoot when called to the line.
- I understand that it is my procedural duty as a squad member to help reset the stages between shooters unless I am the current shooter, the on-deck shooter or have just finished shooting, unless instructed otherwise by a match official.
- I will not communicate with others in a threatening, harassing, or abusive manner.
- It is my responsibility to check my match scores within the verification period to see that they are correct.
- It is my responsibility to check my Classifications in the on-line database to verify that they are correct and to initiate action if they are not correct.
- If I have a question or an issue, my first contact is with the CSO at the match, then the MD, then the AC, then IDPA HQ.
- I understand that violations of these responsibilities and Code of Conduct will result in my being penalized by the MD within the full range of penalties up to and including disqualification from a match, and may result in the revocation of my IDPA membership.

[www.idpa.com](http://www.idpa.com)



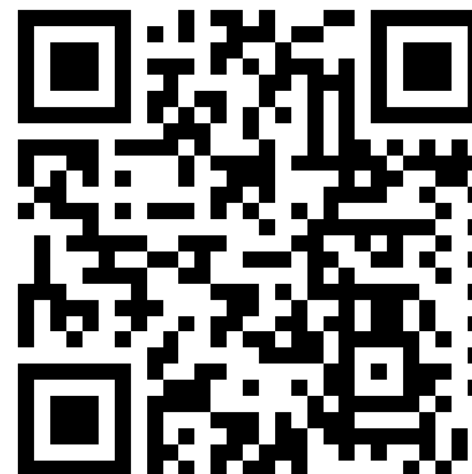
- Join IDPA: register and get your IDPA member number
- Download and check out the rulebook



**Aspire.Persist.Prevail.**  
**[www.swissaaa.org](http://www.swissaaa.org)**



**IDPA Shooters Switzerland**  
**Facebook Group**



**Register on practiscore**  
**[www.practiscore.com](http://www.practiscore.com)**