

## *FAQ for The Central Florida Defensive Pistol Association*

### Who can shoot at an IDPA event?

If you can shoot a handgun safely and can legally bear arms you will be welcome to participate in our IDPA matches.

The Central Florida Defensive Pistol Association makes it a practice to welcome shooters both new and experienced.

### How much does it cost to shoot an IDPA event?

Range fees are \$10 for Central Florida Rifle & Pistol Club members. \$15 for non-members.

### What type of matches are held by IDPA?

There are levels of competition within the IDPA.

Local club monthly matches are held here at CFRPC every first Sunday of the month except January.

Sign up is at 8:am and the shooters meeting is about 8:30am.

Classifier matches are held on the 5<sup>th</sup> Sunday when there is one.

Sign up is at 8:30 with the shooting starting about 9:am.

### What is a classifier?

In order for shooters to be able to compete fairly with their peers, IDPA competitors are divided into five classifications based on their skill level. A "Classification Match" is a standard formatted match scored by an accredited Safety Officer. We recommend you shoot a classifier if you are going to compete at any level. You do not have to shoot a classifier to shoot a monthly match.

### What are the Classifications and Divisions?

IDPA classifications are: Novice, Marksman, Sharpshooter, Expert & Master. These classifications are determined either by performance in a Classifier Match or meritorious advancement by winning a classification/division in a major match.

Divisions are the five different types of pistols used in competition.

**Stock Service Pistol**- Semiautomatics 9mm or larger; **Enhanced Service Pistol**- Semiautomatics 9mm or larger with certain modifications;(Don't worry about these modifications if you are new, the club will let you know your gun's division when you sign in.) **Custom Defense Pistol**- Semiautomatic .45ACP;

**Enhanced Service Revolver**- revolver making the same power factor as a .45ACP with a barrel length of less than 4.2"; moon clips are allowed; **Stock Service Revolver**- revolver of at least .38 special with a barrel length of less than 4.2". Reloading an SSR may be done with speed loaders, but not with moon clips.

### How old do you have to be to shoot IDPA?

You must be at least 12 years old. Children who want to participate must be accompanied by a parent or legal guardian during the entire match.

### What kind of gun do I need?

IDPA requires the pistols be "safe and serviceable". That means they have to operate safely and reliably. The IDPA also requires a certain minimum "power factor". These power factors are usually met by pistols shooting .38 special or 9mm or more powerful cartridges. The most common cartridges used are .38 special, 9mm, .40 S&W & .45 ACP. You may shoot either a revolver or a semiautomatic.

### What else should I bring to shoot?

Hearing protectors, eye protection, a holster; hip only, no shoulder, cross draws or pocket holsters. Inside the waistband holsters are okay. You will need three magazines or speed loaders and the needed carriers.

You will also need a garment that conceals your handgun in its holster.

You will need about 100 rounds of ammo for the days shooting.

### What are the requirements for concealment for a match?

One of the goals of IDPA is to more closely approximate real world situations in a safe environment. The handgun must not be visible when your arms are held straight out to the sides. A vest or open button up

shirt will work fine for this.

Can I just watch a match?

Yes. Spectators are welcomed. You are required to wear hearing and eye protection just like the shooters do. That said, we encourage participation above merely looking. We welcome the new shooter here at CFRPC.

I just want to improve my shooting skills; I am not interested in the competition. Can I just shoot for practice?

Lots of people come out and shoot just for practice. Because of safety requirements we will treat everyone who is shooting just the same. You will have a safety officer right behind you at all times and he will time your run. If you are not interested in your scores, just ignore them. Focus instead on shooting safely and accurately. Each run is made individually; the only real competitor you have is yourself.

Do I need a "Carry Permit" to shoot IDPA?

No.

Do I have to be a member of IDPA to shoot a match?

We encourage everyone who shoots IDPA matches on a regular bases to join IDPA.

You can get additional information on IDPA membership at [www.IDPA.com](http://www.IDPA.com).

All IDPA members will be scored and their scores posted on our clubs website [www.CFL-IDPA.info](http://www.CFL-IDPA.info).

If you shoot our match and are not an IDPA member we will ask that you keep your score sheets for your own use and consider joining IDPA for the next time you shoot a match.

IDPA membership in not a requirement to shoot with The Central Florida Defensive Pistol Association.

What do I do when I show up for a match?

If you are a first time shooter please arrive about 8:am. Go into the trailer and fill out the needed paperwork, waiver and pay your fee. Please identify your self to the registrar and they will make sure that you get on a squad with others of like skill. Then take a walk around the bays and see what the stages of fire are going to be. This will give you an idea of the days shooting and prepare you for the start.

Remember do not handle your gun except at your vehicle or at a designated safe table. Do not handle any ammo at the safe table. Once you have holstered your gun at your vehicle do not take it our of the holster unless it is your turn to shoot and the safety officer has instructed you to do so.

Is IDPA Safe?

Yes. IDPA has an admirable safety record; far better than other recreational activities such as softball or jogging. And we intend to keep it that way. Shooting a firearm can be a risky activity but as long as everyone observes the safety rules you are more likely to be hurt playing football or soccer. To minimize risk there are stringent safety requirements. We will not bend, alter, waive, or otherwise try to shortcut safety rules.

Where can I find out the rules for IDPA and more information?

Visit the IDPA website at [www.IDPA.com](http://www.IDPA.com).

***Please Join Us for An IDPA Match Soon.***