

"IMPORTANT!!!!"

After reviewing the new law passed by the Iowa legislature regarding minors and handguns we at the Goddard Territorial Justice Committee have decided to implement it in the following way at our matches for under 21 individuals using handguns.

Minors aged 0-13; Due to the increased legal liability placed on the parent or guardian with the new law, they shall accompany the shooter, and be within arm's reach if possible at all times while the minor is loading, shooting the stage, and unloading their firearm.

Young adults aged 14-20; Parent, guardian, or spouse shall be on the firing line in at least a "spotter" position (meaning they can monitor the actions of the shooter and be within hearing and sight range) at all times that the shooter is loading, shooting the stage, and unloading. The Parent, guardian, or spouse may also accompany the shooter through the stage of fire if necessary.

As has always been the rule in the past, if a shooter is not ready mentally to shoot (regardless of age) we will ask them to stop shooting (Examples are, not listening to directions of the range officers or parents/guardians, or handling firearms in an unsafe manner.) To my knowledge we have never stopped a minor from competing in our events and would very much like to keep that streak going. I have put a copy of the relevant law changes below for study.

POSSESSION OF PISTOL OR REVOLVER BY PERSONS UNDER 14 YEARS OF AGE

Sec. 23. Section 724.22, subsection 5, Code 2017, is amended to read as follows:

5. a. A parent or guardian or spouse who is twenty-one years of age or older, of a person under the age of twenty-one may allow the person, while under direct supervision, to possess a pistol or revolver or the ammunition therefor for any lawful purpose, or while the person receives instruction in the proper use thereof from an instructor twenty-one years of age or older, with the consent of such parent, guardian or spouse.

b. As used in this section, "direct supervision" means supervision provided by the parent, guardian, or spouse who is twenty-one years of age or older and who maintains a physical presence near the supervised person conducive to hands-on instruction, and who maintains visual and verbal contact at all times with the supervised person. Sec. 24. Section 724.22, Code 2017, is amended by adding the following new subsection:

NEW SUBSECTION. 8. A parent or guardian or spouse who is twenty-one years of age or older, of a minor under the age of fourteen years who allows that minor to possess a pistol or revolver or the ammunition pursuant hereto, shall be strictly liable to an injured party for all damages resulting from the possession of the pistol or revolver or ammunition therefor by that minor.