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SAFETY NOTICE

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Incidents involving catastrophic failure on firing

The NRAA is committed to fostering a culture of improved safety and behaviour in all clubs throughout Australia. All members are reminded of the importance of following the incident procedure in the SSR correctly.

When a catastrophic cartridge failure occurs on an NRAA-sanctioned range, the rifle involved and all associated ammunition must be seized and retained for investigation.

Following any such incident, no firearm is to be returned to use until it has been thoroughly inspected and approved for use in accordance with the incident procedure.

Examples

Where a cartridge fails on firing, this can release gas back through the action. This can cause the action to explode or crack which has the potential to cause harm to individuals

One primary cause of cartridge failure is incorrect handloading procedures leading to an overcharged round. All members are reminded that they have a responsibility to handload safely in accordance with SSR and manufacturers recommendations, eg ADI [Reloading safety – ADI World Class Powders and Ammunition](#)

Another primary cause of cartridge failure is incorrect barrel fitting (excess head space) leading to an excess amount of brass cartridge being exposed at the base. When pressure signs are showing on cartridges members are reminded to investigate the issue further by having the firearm inspected by a licensed armourer.

All members are reminded that they must comply with SSR clause 1.2 [SSRs-Current.pdf](#) and have their firearms armoured by appropriately licensed persons and follow any Range Officer orders relating to catastrophic incidents.