



South Uist Estates

— A'dol air adhart comhla —
— Going forward together —

Stòras Uibhist

Oifis Stòras, Daliburgh, South Uist, HS8 5SS

Shooting Health and Safety Procedures

Stòras Uibhist aims to ensure, so far as is reasonably practicable, the health, safety & welfare of our visitors and all others on the Estate while they are shooting on South Uist Estate Land. This policy statement provides a commitment and intent to comply with the Health & Safety Law at Work Act 1974

To ensure the principles of Health & Safety are clearly understood, guests must ensure the following points are adhered to:

- The Game-keeper accompanying the party will control all sporting activities, his instructions must be followed at all times and no shooting can take place on the Estate without a Game-keeper being present.
- Any unsafe conduct with a shotgun or firearm will result in instant dismissal from the days/weeks shooting activity. No refund will be given in this instance.
- Guests must declare any medical conditions that may affect their ability to undertake a sporting activity before the activity commences.
- Appropriate clothing must be worn for sporting activities.
- Each member of the party must attend the shoot briefing given by the Head Game-keeper before sporting activities commence and sign to declare that they have understood the briefing.
- Guns must be broken and unloaded at each fence, drain or burn.
- Automatic shotguns are not permitted to be used when shooting snipe or woodcock.
- There will be a signal for the start and end of each drive. No shooting prior or after the signal.
- When walking up game, guns must maintain a straight line. Anyone not staying in line is compromising safety.
- When walking up game, shotgun safety catches must be ON, with barrels pointing towards the ground.
- When walking up game on uneven ground, guests must be aware of positions of neighbouring guns, keepers and working dogs.
- When wildfowling in darkness or poor light conditions, guests must be aware of positions of neighbouring guns.
- Each guest will be briefed on protected species, in the field the golden rule being – IF IN DOUBT DON'T SHOOT.



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- Shooting of ground game is strictly prohibited.
- Treat all Crofter's property and livestock with respect.
- When shooting woodcock on hill ground, one member of the party will be issued with a SPOT, Satellite GPS Messenger Device, to carry in-case of an emergency. An instruction card will be given to the guest to ensure they are aware how to operate it.
- All guns must unloaded and sleeved when travelling in vehicles.
- All guns to be locked in **individual security cabinets** when not in use and only the gamekeeper and head member of the party will know the combination of main safe.
- Members of the party must not be under the influence of alcohol or drugs. This will result in instant dismissal from the party.
- In the unlikely event of a guest being approached by a member of the public, guns must be unloaded immediately. If the meeting has the potential to become confrontational, please do not engage. Advise that you are a guest and you will request the Head Keeper to contact them.
- Before you use a gun:
 - Check there is no obstruction in the barrels, e.g. snow or mud
 - Always check the gun is unloaded.
 - Check the barrels regularly for rusting, pitting and dents.
 - Make sure the gun has been serviced regularly by a competent person.
 - If the gun is new to you, familiarise yourself with all its features, especially the safety catch, check how sensitive the trigger is.