

WISCONSIN CONCEALED CARRY HANDGUN COURSE (Draft: Final DOJ Rules Pending)

Presented by Gunfitters.com
(w/ [Hyperlinks](#))

SECTION 1

BASIC HANDGUN SAFETY TRAINING

I. HANDGUN SAFETY RULES

A. The primary causes of firearm related accidents:

1. Ignorance
2. Overconfidence
3. Carelessness

B. Elements of defensive pistol safety:

1. Positive Attitude, Higher Standard of Care
2. The defensive triangle
 - a. [Mindset \(white, yellow, orange, red\)](#)
 - b. Gun handling
 - c. Marksmanship

C. Four basic gun safety rules:

1. **All** guns are **always** loaded.
2. **Never** let the muzzle cover anything you are not prepared to destroy.
3. Keep your finger **OFF** the trigger until your sights are **on the target**.
4. **Always** be sure of your target and what's beyond

D. Other safety rules:

1. **Never** handle a handgun in an emotional state such as anger or depression
2. **Never** use alcohol or drugs when you have your firearm with you
3. Know how to use the firearm safely (Manual of arms)
4. Be **sure** the firearm is safe to operate (demonstrate safety check)
5. Keep the firearm unloaded until ready to use.
6. The firearm should not be displayed unless you intend to use it.
7. Use **only** the correct ammunition for your firearm
8. Wear eye and ear protection as appropriate
9. Store **all** firearms so they are not accessible to unauthorized persons, i.e. children, restricted persons, etc.

II. HANDGUN PARTS AND OPERATION (Revolver and Semi-Automatic)

A. FRAME – The frame of the revolver and semi-automatic is the backbone to which all other parts are attached:

1. Grip Panels – Grip portion of the frame
2. Backstrap – Rear vertical portion of frame
3. Trigger Guard – Trigger protection to reduce unintentional firing
4. Front and Rear Sights - Aiming

B. BARREL – The barrel is a metal tube through which a bullet passes on its way to a target.

1. Bore – Inside of the Barrel
2. Rifling – Combination of lands and groove which adds flight stability, accuracy, and distance to bullet
3. Caliber – The distance between the lands

C. ACTION - Group of moving parts used to load, fire and unload the pistol (Revolver and Semi-automatic)

1. Revolver actions

- a. **Trigger** – When the trigger is pulled, it activates the hammer, which in turn causes the firing pin to strike and fire the cartridge.
- b. **Cylinder** – Holds cartridges in individual chambers arranged in a circular pattern. Each time the hammer moves to the rear, the cylinder turns and brings a new chamber in line with the barrel and the firing pin.
- c. **Cylinder Release latch** - Releases the cylinder and allows it to swing out so that cartridges can be loaded and unloaded.
- d. **Two types of revolver actions**
 - i. **Single Action** – Trigger performs only one action, releases the hammer, firing the pistol.
 - ii. **Double Action** – Trigger performs two tasks. Cocks and releases the hammer, firing the pistol.
 - iii. **Double Action Only** – The trigger will cock and release the external hammer or internal hammer on the first shot and all successive shots

2. Semi-Automatic actions

- a. **Slide** – Upon initial loading of all semi-automatics, the first cartridge must always be manually cycled into the firing chamber by retracting the slide and then releasing it. As the slide returns to the closed position, it removes a cartridge from the top of the magazine and inserts it into the chamber.
- b. **Magazine** – The magazine is a storage device with a spring designed to hold cartridges ready for insertion into the chamber.
- c. **Magazine release** – A device that releases the magazine so that it can be removed from the pistol.
- d. **Trigger** – When the trigger is pulled, it activates the hammer (or the internal firing mechanism) which when released, causes the firing pin to strike and fire the cartridge. The slide moves to the rear ejecting the empty cartridge case and usually cocking the pistol in the process. The cartridges in the magazine are forced upward by the magazine spring into path of the slide. When the slide, (under pressure from a recoil spring or slide spring to return to a closed position) moves forward, it picks up and pushes the top cartridge into the chamber.

e. **Three types of semi-auto actions**

- i. **Single Action** – The trigger performs a single task, releasing the external hammer or the internal firing mechanism so that the firing pin hits the cartridge.
- ii. **Double/Single Action** – The trigger performs two tasks. It cocks the external hammer or the internal firing mechanism for the first shot, and also releases the external hammer or the internal firing mechanism. After the first shot is fired, the movement of the slide on ejection of the spent cartridge will cock the external hammer or internal firing mechanism. With these mechanisms cocked, all successive shots will be single action.
- iii. **Double Action Only** – The trigger will cock and release the external hammer or internal firing mechanism on the first shot and all successive shots

D. Show how to check both a revolver and a semi-automatic to ensure proper function of the firing mechanism and safety:

1. Demonstrate correct functioning of revolver (Movie Myth: don't snap the cylinder shut)
2. Demonstrate correct functioning of semi-automatic
3. Dry firing and the use of Snap Caps

E. Familiarize yourself with the manufacturers operating manual (Free on request)

III. AMMUNITION

A. Types of metallic cartridge ammunition:

1. Center-fire
2. Rim-fire
3. Proper ammunition for the firearm, i.e. the difference between 9mm parabellum and 9mm Kurtz (.380 cal)

B. Components of metallic cartridge ammunition:

1. Case - Metal cylinder (usually made of brass) that is closed on one end and contains other components such as primer, powder and bullet.
2. Primer - An impact sensitive chemical compound used for ignition.
 - a. Rimfire – The primer is contained in the inside rim of the case's base.
 - b. Centerfire – The primer is contained in a small metal cup, and is located in the center of the case's base.
3. Propellant - A fast burning chemical compound used as a propellant, and is contained inside the body of the case.
4. Bullet - A projectile, usually made of lead and sometimes covered with a layer of copper or other metal, and is located at the mouth of the case.
5. Sabot or Wad (shotgun only) - Plastic cup inside a shotgun cartridge used to contain the shot or projectiles for use in a shotgun.

C. Firing sequence of a firearm:

1. Firing pin strikes primer
2. Primer ignites propellant
3. Gasses expand and force bullet from case
4. Gasses force bullet down the barrel
5. Bullet exits barrel

D. Ammunition safety and guidelines:

1. Inspect ammunition for safety flaws and imperfections.
2. Understand range capabilities of ammunition
 - a. Review safety rule # 4, be sure of your target, your target's environment, the background and beyond. Discuss the dangerous capabilities of handgun ammunition
3. Proper ammunition for the firearm, i.e. the difference between 9mm parabellum and 9mm Kurtz (.380 cal)
4. Explain considerations between **defensive** and **practice** ammunition.
 - a. **Defensive (Protection) Ammunition**
 1. **Reliability** – The ability of a firearm to consistently chamber, fire, extract, and eject a particular load without malfunctions.
 2. **Controllability** – The ability to fire multiple rounds and still manage recoil and maintain accuracy.
 3. **Stopping Power** – The ability of a cartridge to quickly incapacitate an assailant or otherwise cause an assailant to stop his attack. (Marshall & Sanow)
 4. **Accuracy** – Ability of the gun and ammunition combination to shoot to the point of aim indicated by the sights.
 5. **Muzzle Flash** – When in excess will impair night vision and illuminate your position.
 6. **Hollow-points** - They open up and expand in diameter upon impact. This more efficiently transfers energy and also prevents over penetration or complete penetration that could endanger the lives of others.
 - b. **Practice Ammunition**
 1. **Non-expanding type** – Typically full metal jacket, Involves greater penetration of target
 2. **Reduced powder charge** – More manageable recoil
 3. **Reduced costs**

E. Discuss the potential problems that can occur with the use of reloaded ammunition

F. AMMUNITION MALFUNCTIONS:

1. **Misfire** – Failure of the cartridge to fire after the primer has been struck by the firing pin.
2. **Hangfire** – A perceptible delay in the ignition of a cartridge after the primer has been struck by the firing pin.
3. **Squib load** – Development of less than normal pressure or velocity after ignition of the cartridge. Unusual difference in recoil or noise
4. **Malfunction resolutions:**
 - a. **Misfire and Hang fire** – Keep the pistol pointed in a safe direction—a hang fire might exist and the cartridge could still fire. Don't attempt to open the action of the pistol to remove the cartridge for at least 30 seconds.
 - b. **Squib Load** – Keep the muzzle pointed in a safe direction, wait 30 seconds and then unload the gun. Make sure the chamber is empty and the barrel is free from obstructions.

G. CARE AND STORAGE OF AMMUNITION:

1. Always keep ammunition in factory box or container that can be properly labeled.
2. Store ammunition in a cool dry place free from extreme temperature variation.
3. Store ammunition separately from guns and not accessible from unauthorized persons, especially children.
4. Keep ammunition from acids, salts, and other chemicals that can cause corrosion.
5. Never submerge in water or expose to any solvents, petroleum products, bore cleaner, ammonia or other chemicals. These chemicals can penetrate the cartridge and cause the primer or the powder to deteriorate. (A good way to render Misfires safe)
6. Explain the importance of rotating defensive (protection) ammunition stored for long periods of time in your handgun.

H. Wound Management

1. Mindset over Myth
2. Surviving a gunshot
 - a. Don't Move.
 - b. Breathe
 - c. Control Bleeding

IV. FUNDAMENTALS OF MARKSMANSHIP

A. BASIC TWO HANDED SHOOTING POSITIONS: (EXPLAIN AND DEMONSTRATE)

1. Isosceles stance

- This position is so named because in this position your extended arms when seen from above resemble an isosceles triangle.
- Feet are placed shoulder width apart.
- Feet and shoulders are square to the target.
- Knees are slightly bent with weight slightly forwards on the balls of the feet.
- Two-handed grip of the gun with the arms extended forward and the elbows slightly bent.
- The head is erect, not hunched and shoulders are at normal height.
- The firearm is lifted to the level of the eyes for aiming.
- This is a more instinctive and natural position for most shooters.

2. Weaver stance

- Named for former San Diego County Sheriff Jack Weaver.
- Feet are positioned in a boxer stance with the strong foot rearward.
- The weak shoulder is angled toward the target.
- The knees are flexed and the body weight is carried slightly forward, on the balls of the feet.
- The elbows are bent downward to bring the gun closer to the body than the isosceles.
- The head is tipped slightly to view the sights.
- An isometric action is employed between the strong and weak arm for stability.
- The recoil is absorbed through the bent elbows and isometric pushing and pulling between strong and support hand.

3. Modified Isosceles stance

- This position incorporates the natural, fully-extended arm position of the isosceles position with the stability of the asymmetrical boxer's stance foot placement of the Weaver position.
- Allows better recoil absorption.
- The head is level and the body leans forward.

B. Hand grip - Operate the weapon repeatedly without changing grip.

C. Breath control - Control breathing to minimize body and firearm movement.

D. Sight Alignment/Sight Picture - The relationship of the eye in alignment with the rear and front sight/ and the sighting of this relationship with the target

E. Trigger control (Surprise Break) - The ability to apply increasing pressure on the trigger and allow the hammer to fall without anticipation or disturbing sight alignment.

F. Follow Through – Stabilizing recoil, maintaining grip and stance, regaining front sight focus, resetting the trigger and preparing for follow up shot if a threat persists.

V. SAFE GUN-HANDLING

A. Discuss rules of the Range:

1. Follow the 4 safety rules at all times (Reinforce)
2. Eye and ear protection
3. Handling and presenting a firearm to another person (Unloaded/Action Open)
4. Places for a firearm:
 - a. Holster or case
 - b. Unloaded/action open/ejection port up/pointed downrange on the table
 - c. At the ready
 - d. On target
5. Steps to follow if you have a malfunction on the range
 - a. If a cartridge fails to fire when the trigger is pulled, keep the muzzle pointed in safe direction; don't attempt to open the action to remove the cartridge for at least 30 seconds.
 - b. If anything unusual is noticed when a shot is fired, such as a difference in recoil or in noise, immediately do the following:
 - i. Stop firing immediately and keep the muzzle pointed in a safe direction;
 - iii. Keep your finger off the trigger;
 - iv. Unload the gun and check to be sure the chamber is empty; and
 - v. Visually inspect the barrel for obstructions.
6. Types of malfunctions
 - a. Failure to fire (Faulty ammo, Magazine not fully seated)
 - b. Failure to feed (Double feed, poor cleaning)
 - c. Failure to eject (Stove Pipe, Broken extractor)
 - d. Failure to go into battery (Chamber head space , Debris)
7. Immediate action drill: tap, roll, and rack

B. Discuss/Demonstrate maintenance and cleaning of a handgun:

1. The importance of regular cleaning and maintenance (Olofson case: Berlin, Wis.)
 - a. Cleaning a gun also provides an opportunity to check the proper function of the gun.
2. Safety considerations when cleaning
 - a. Before starting to clean a gun, be certain it is not loaded.
3. Demonstrate how to clean a revolver/semi-automatic

C. Safe storage of firearms and ammunition:

1. Firearms should be stored unloaded. (Storage is when the firearm is not available for immediate use, don't store handguns in holsters)
2. Recommend that firearms and ammunition are stored separately
3. Storage options:
 - a. Safes
 - b. Locked cases
 - c. Safe proofing devices (Free gun locks from manufacturers, and Police)
 - d. The need for safety does not end just because you do not have the firearm with you
4. Methods of gun-proofing children: ("Handgun Primer", Massad Ayoob)
 - a. Do not store firearm where it is visible (Large glass gun cabinets visible from street)
 - b. Storage area is not accessible to children

SECTION 2

I. WISCONSIN FIREARMS LAWS: OPEN AND CONCEALED CARRY

Wisconsin State Constitution, Article I, Right to keep and bear arms. Section 25. [*As created Nov. 1998*] **The people have the right to keep and bear arms for security, defense, hunting, recreation or any other lawful purpose.** [*1995 J.R. 27, 1997 J.R. 21, vote November 1998*]

A. Wisconsin Firearms Laws:

1. Wisconsin Preemption Law (Wis. Stat. Sec. 66.0409 (2))
2. Prohibition against restricting firearms or ammunition during emergency (Wis. Stat. Sec. 323.24) (Katrina Law)
3. **"Handgun"** means any weapon designed or redesigned, or made or remade, and intended to be fired while held in one hand and to use the energy of an explosive to expel a projectile through a smooth or rifled bore (Wis. Stat. Sec. 175.35(1)(b))
4. Endangering safety by use of dangerous weapon (Wis. Stat. Sec. 941.20)
 - a. Negligent operation or handling of a dangerous weapon (Wis. Stat. Sec. 941.20(1)(a))
 - b. Operates or goes armed with a firearm while he or she is under the influence of an intoxicant; or restricted controlled substance (Wis. Stat. Sec. 941.20 (1)(b)(bm))
 - c. Intentionally points a firearm at or toward another. (Wis. Stat. Sec. 941.20 (1)(c))
 - d. Intentionally points a firearm at a known public safety officer acting in an official capacity (Wis. Stat. Sec. 941.20 (1m)(b))
 - e. Discharges a firearm within 100 yards of any building devoted to human occupancy. (Wis. Stat. Sec. 941.20 (1)(d))
5. Discharge of firearms, parks, etc. (Wis. Stat. Sec.167.30)`
6. Possession of a dangerous weapon by a person under 18 (Wis Stat. Sec. 948.60(2)a,b,c,d)
7. Assault and aggravated assault (Wis. Stat. Sec. 322.128 (1), (2), (3))

B. Wisconsin firearms laws and Open Carry

1. Except as provided in [sub. \(4\)](#)(line of duty exemption), no person may place, possess or transport a firearm **that is not a handgun** in or on a vehicle, motorboat (Wis. Stat. Sec. 67.31(2)(a)), commercial aircraft (Wis. Stat. Sec.167.31(3)(a)) or ATV, (Wis Stat. Sec. 23.33(3)(e)), unless the firearm is **unloaded** and encased. (Wis Stat. Sec.167.31(2)(b))
2. "**Unloaded**" regarding metallic cartridge firearms means: (Wis. Stat. Sec. 167.31)(1)(g))
 - a. Having no shell or cartridge in the **chamber** of a firearm or in the **magazine** attached to a firearm (Wis. Stat. Sec. 167.31)(1)(g)1)
3. **Carrying concealed weapon (Without a CCW license)**
 - a. Any person except a peace officer who goes armed with a concealed and dangerous weapon is guilty of a Class A misdemeanor. Notwithstanding [s. 939.22 \(22\)](#), for purposes of this section, peace officer does not include a commission warden who is not a state-certified commission warden. (Wis. Stat. Sec. 941.23)
4. **Possession of a firearm (Prohibited Persons)** (Wis. Stat. Sec. 941.29)
 - a. Convicted of a felony in this state. (Wis. Stat. Sec. 941.29)91)(a)
 - b. Convicted of a crime elsewhere that would be a felony if committed in this state. (Wis. Stat. Sec. 941.29)91)(b)
 - c. Adjudicated delinquent for an act committed on or after April 21, 1994, that if committed by an adult in this state would be a felony. 941.29(1)(bm)
 - d. Found not guilty of a felony in this state by reason of mental disease or defect. 941.29(1)(c)
 - e. Found not guilty of or not responsible for a crime elsewhere that would be a felony in this state by reason of insanity or mental disease, defect or illness. 941.29(1)(d)
 - f. Committed for treatment under [s. 51.20 \(13\) \(a\)](#) and ordered not to possess a firearm under s.51.20 (13) (cv) 1., 2007 stats. 941.29(1)(e)
 - g. Ordered not to possess a firearm under [s. 51.20 \(13\) \(cv\) 1.](#), [51.45 \(13\) \(i\) 1.](#), [54.10\(3\) \(f\) 1.](#) or [55.12 \(10\) \(a\)](#). 941.29(1)(em)
 - h. Enjoined under an injunction issued under [s. 813.12](#) or [813.122](#) or under a tribal injunction, as defined in [s. 813.12 \(1\) \(e\)](#), issued by a court established by any federally recognized Wisconsin Indian tribe or band.
 - i. Ordered not to possess a firearm under [s. 813.125 \(4m\)](#). 941.29(1)(g)

C. Wisconsin license to Carry a Concealed Weapon (CCW): (Final DOJ Rules Pending)

D. Describe the escalation of force and disparity of force

1. Confrontation/Threatening presence
2. Verbal threats
3. Physical
4. Less than deadly force
5. Deadly force

E. Justification of Force:

1. Deadly force in defense of a person (Wis Stat. Sec. 940.01 (2)(b))
2. Deadly force in defense of habitation (Back to the Wall vs. Castle Doctrine : MPC)
3. Deadly force in defense of property (Wis. Stat. Sec. 939.49)
4. Deadly force in defense of 3rd persons on their property (Wis. Stat. Sec. 939.49 (2))
5. Deadly force to stop fleeing felon (Wis. Stat. Sec. 939.49)

F. Discuss civil liability:

1. Wrongful Death suits
2. Personal Injury suits

G. Discuss holsters: (Handout: [“Elements of Quality Holster Design”](#))

1. Purpose of a holster
2. Discuss advantages/disadvantages of the several holster types
 - a. Safety
 - b. Accessibility
 - c. Security
 - d. Concealment
3. Advantages/disadvantages of the various methods of carry i.e., on person, in case etc.

H. Safe concealment techniques:

1. The firearm should be in a holster or gun case
2. The firearm should be hidden from view and be placed so that it is only accessible to the individual carrying it
3. A handgun should not just be thrown into a glove box, under the car seat or into a drawer
4. The licensee is responsible for their firearm at all times

I. Licensees need to be aware of carrying a weapon at certain locations. Restricted areas include, but are not limited to the following: (Wis. Stat. Sec. 941.232)

1. Police station, sheriff ’s office, state patrol station, or the office of a DCI special agent of DOJ
2. A prison, jail, house of correction, or secured correctional facility
3. Any secured unit or secured portion of a mental health institution
4. A county, state, or federal courthouse
5. Any portion of a building that is a municipal courtroom if court is in session
6. A place beyond a security checkpoint in an airport
7. Entering or remaining on certain types of property while carrying a weapon after being notified by the owner, or occupant not to do so verbally or by posted signs
6. In or on the grounds of a school (Wis. Stat. Sec. 948.605 (2) (a))
7. Any area designated secure or otherwise prohibited by State or Federal Law

J. Licensees should know what to do during a police encounter:

1. If you are armed, advise the officer of your firearm and your concealed firearm license
2. Advise the officer of the location of the firearm
3. Comply fully with all instructions given by the officer
4. Keep your hands visible at all times. Turn your dome light on at night.
5. Do not reach for your weapon or permit unless instructed to do so

K. Licensees are responsible for teaching their children and other occupants in their home about firearm safety:

1. The licensee should be a positive role model for their children
2. Children should be taught the difference between television, toys and real life
3. Children should be taught what to do if they come across a firearm without an adult present:
 - a. Stop and don’t touch
 - b. Leave the area
 - c. Tell an adult

L. Reciprocity and Recognition - Licensees responsibility to abide by each state's laws

**II. U.S. FEDERAL FIREARMS REGULATIONS REFERENCE GUIDE, TITLE 18,
CHAPTER 44 – FIREARMS: Title 18 Chapter 44**

- A. 921 Definitions**
- B. 922 Unlawful acts**
- C. 923 Licensing**
- D. 924 Penalties**
- E. 925 Exceptions: Relief from disabilities**
- F. 925A Remedy for erroneous denial of firearms**
- G. 926 Rules and regulations**
- H. 926A Interstate transportation of firearms**
- I. 926B Carrying of concealed firearms by qualified retired law enforcement officers**
- J. 927 Effect on state law**
- K. 928 Separability**
- L. 929 Use of restricted ammunition**
- M. 930 Possession of firearms and dangerous weapons in federal facilities**
- N. 931 Prohibition on**