

IPSC Ontario

Black Badge Training Program

Policies and Procedures



March 25, 2014

The IPSC Ontario **Black Badge Program** is a multi-level program that requires certain policies be maintained to ensure program integrity. The objective of this document is to provide information that can be used by all interested parties as well as current IPSC Ontario Black Badge Instructors to administer the program properly.

In order for a resident of Canada to participate in IPSC matches in Canada, the individual must be the holder of a Black Badge. To compete in any sanctioned IPSC match in Ontario, a person must also be a current member of IPSC in his home Section/Province.

The qualifications that the candidate is required to meet are set out on the IPSC Ontario qualification page, and are designed to teach the candidate to be safe in the use of a handgun and associated equipment. We believe the time restraints built into the Black Badge Program help to produce a very safe novice competitor.

The **Black Badge Program** is not designed to teach people "how to shoot", but to teach novice shooters how to be safe with a firearm under different circumstances such as under time restraints, the use of a holster, or while moving and carrying a gun in the hand. It is extremely useful if the individual taking the course has had some formal training in the use of a handgun by way of a club level handgun safety course. There is a prerequisite that the student be capable of hitting a 30 cm x 30 cm target 9 times out of 10 on their own time at 20m using both hands. It is also recommended that they have fired at least 1000 rounds through the firearm they are using for the course.

This document assumes that all IPSC Ontario Black Badge Instructors will use the most current Black Badge Instructors manual provided by the IPSC Ontario Training Office, as well as the most current edition of the IPSC Rules, and will always work towards upholding the integrity of the Black Badge Program.

1. GETTING STARTED IN IPSC ONTARIO

Before enrolling in a Black Badge Program a person must first become a member of IPSC Ontario. Candidates will fill out a membership application at the Black Badge Course. Once an application for membership has been completed, and the membership fee and course fee has been paid, the candidate may participate in the Black Badge Program.

2. MEMBERSHIP IN IPSC

To become a member of IPSC Canada, a person must become a member of the IPSC Section (*Province*) in which they normally reside. The current membership fee is decided upon by the General Membership and the fee for the Black Badge Program is decided upon by the current Board of Directors of IPSC Ontario. Current Instructors may obtain this information from the IPSC Ontario Black Badge Training Coordinator.

While an IPSC Black Badge Instructor may train a resident from another Section, (province) the person being trained will become a member of his or her home Section. For example, if a person from Manitoba wishes to participate in a Black Badge course in Ontario, that person would complete a membership application for Manitoba, pay whatever dues are required for that Section and carry on with his training in Ontario. After the course, the instructor would submit the Manitoba Membership Application and dues to the Section Coordinator of that Section. The training fees shall remain in Ontario.

3. MEMBERSHIP FEE AND COURSE FEE

It is the instructor's responsibility to ensure that each membership application, the membership fee, and the course fees are submitted to the IPSC Ontario Membership Secretary and the Black Badge Training Coordinator within seven (7) days of the completion of the course in the prepaid envelopes provided for that purpose. Once a candidate has paid the membership fee they are entitled to receive any benefits that membership in IPSC might offer. The membership fee is prorated from the month the course is taken till the end of that year, plus an additional year of membership. There is also a course material fee and an instructor fee, plus any range fees if applicable. The instructor will provide the final figure.

4. QUALIFICATION SHEET

It is the responsibility of the instructor to complete a qualification sheet for each student in the course. This qualification sheet is used to track the progress of the student throughout the course. A copy of the Qualification Page may be obtained through the IPSC Ontario Training Office. The Qualification sheet must also be sent to the administrator of the IPSC Ontario Black Badge Program.

5. CERTIFICATION OF STUDENT

Once the instructor is completely satisfied that the student is safe, and has completed all of the requirements on the “Qualification Sheet”, the instructor may sign and date the “Qualification Sheet”, also listing any other assistant instructors for that particular course. By listing all other assistant instructors, we are able to determine hours worked in order that a new instructor may also become certified in the future. Even when the student has completed all of the requirements of the Black Badge Safety Training Program, *it is still the sole responsibility of the lead Instructor to ensure that the student has the appropriate attitude.*

RE-CERTIFICATION

From time to time Black Badge holders that have not been current members want to come back and compete in IPSC competitions. This is not difficult but it isn't automatic. Just because you have a Black Badge doesn't mean you may compete in IPSC matches.

For example, if a person has been absent for less than two years, all that's required is for the person to complete an IPSC Membership Application and send it to head office with a cheque for the appropriate dues which is currently \$70.00. If a Black Badge holder has not been a member for more than two years but less than three years, it will require an assessment by a currently certified IPSC Black Badge Instructor and a paid membership.

If a Black Badge holder has not been a member for more than three years, it requires the person to submit an IPSC Ontario Membership Application and pay a regular membership fee of \$70.00 and an Instructor fee of \$50.00 followed by completion of the recertification exercises and writing the open book exam to reacquaint themselves with the rules that may have changed since they last shot.

If the returning member has been absent for more than four years it will require an IPSC Ontario Membership Application, a regular membership fee of \$70.00, and an instructor fee of \$50.00, completion of the open book exam and recertification exercises if at this point their skills are deemed to be not up to standards they can take the full course at no additional cost to recertify.

In all cases where a member is returning after an absence, an IPSC Ontario membership application must first be paid to IPSC Ontario as IPSC Ontario does not train individuals unless they are first a member.

In all cases where a returning member successfully completes a new Black Badge course, he or she will be issued a blue Provisional Black Badge card and is required to successfully compete in at least one sanctioned IPSC Ontario pistol match.

7. QUALIFICATION MATCH

Once the student has successfully completed each of the requirements on the Qualification Sheet, they are issued a blue Provisional Black Badge Card by their instructor. This Provisional Card will enable the "Novice" to participate in his **"Qualifier"** Match which is any sanctioned IPSC Match where mission fees are paid and match results are submitted to IPSC Ontario. This is the final requirement of the Black Badge Safety Training Program. Once the student successfully completes this match, they are to have the Match Director of that match sign their Provisional Black Badge Card, the novice member must then send the card to the current Chairman of the IPSC Ontario Black Badge Program.

NOTE: It is the student's responsibility to send their *Provisional Black Badge Card* to IPSC Ontario.

REQUALIFICATION

From time to time, a current member may be disqualified at an IPSC match and is usually the result of a safety infraction. For example, a competitor may be running through a stage too fast to stop where he wanted to and may inadvertently point a firearm in an unsafe direction. When this happens, the Range Official will stop the competitor immediately, and disqualify him from the match. The individual may not compete any further that day. In the event a competitor is disqualified at two separate matches in a twelve month period starting with the first disqualification, the Range Officials of the stages where the competitor was disqualified are consulted, and if, after discussion, it is deemed necessary, the member is contacted by the IPSC Ontario Training Office and may be and required to complete the recertification exercises. If another course is required, the member may not participate in IPSC matches until successful completion of the new Black Badge course. Although there is no charge to the member for this additional training, the member is required to take the entire Black Badge course as well as re-qualify by competing safely in another sanctioned IPSC match. Once IPSC Ontario receives a favorable report regarding the individual in question, the member is re-instated as an active competitor once again. **In the event a person disqualifies at their provisional match they may be required to complete another Black Badge Course.**

8. RECORDING THE INFORMATION

When IPSC Ontario receives the course materials from the instructors, all of the data from the course and the Membership Applications are recorded in the IPSC Ontario Membership Database

9. THE BLACK BADGE

Once IPSC Ontario receives the members' Provisional Black Badge Card from the "Qualifier Match", a Black Badge is issued. The Badge is engraved with the members' first and last name (**no nicknames or aliases are permitted**), and a Black Badge number issued by IPSC Ontario and is forwarded to him or her. All IPSC Ontario Black Badge numbers begin with the prefix "ON" and a five digit number, ie: ON 91269 This shows a number of things clearly. The members' home section is "ON" (*Ontario*), he/she completed the Black Badge Program in 19"91" hence the (*ON 91*) and it was the two hundred and sixty-ninth badge to be issued in that year (*ON 91269*).

10. REQUIREMENTS OF THE BLACK BADGE HOLDER

It is the policy of IPSC Ontario, that any member who has not competed in at least one match during the past (12) months, must re-qualify. This can be accomplished by: Successfully competing in one sanctioned IPSC Ontario match. The individual must be re-certified by the Range Master or Chief Range Officer in attendance at that match.

The returning member may also become re-certified by having a certified IPSC Black Badge Instructor assess the individual.

11. PROGRAM RECOMMENDATIONS

Anyone who has participated in "*Bullseye*", or other shooting disciplines for approximately one year, or has previously taken the Canadian Shooting Sports Association Club-Level Safety Program is considered to have had "*formal*" training in the use of a firearm, specifically a handgun. This is not to discourage others from participating in the Black Badge Program, but is meant to serve as a guide to the instructor. Those who have had no formal training may or may not be suitable as a candidate for this type of training course. Anyone with no experience is still entitled to take the course but we recommend strongly that you discuss it with an Instructor so the he may explain to you what is involved.

12. IPSC ONTARIO "FUTURE PROGRAM" REQUIREMENTS

In order to participate in the IPSC Ontario Future Program, a candidate must:

1. Be under the age of 21 years and have the written permission of their parent or legal guardian.
2. Be a member of the Canadian Shooting Sports Association.
3. Successfully complete a club-level CSSA safety course conducted by a currently certified CSSA instructor.
4. Must be able to safely control and shoot the firearm with the "weak" hand.
The instructor must establish this fact before the student participation in the program.

Once the above requirements are satisfied, an individual may participate in the IPSC Ontario "Futures" Training Program at no charge. No membership fee is required until the year in which the member becomes 18 years of age.

13. BLACK BADGE INSTRUCTOR REQUIREMENTS

Instructors and any assistants must be current IPSC members. The reason an instructor might require additional help on the range is because it's sometimes difficult to watch the entire line by himself. These extra helpers are there to watch for safety infractions only and shall not offer instruction to the student at any time during the Black Badge Course. **The wearing of firearms or live shooting demonstrations by anyone other than the primary Black Badge Instructor is permitted only if that person has been previously authorized in writing by the IPSC Ontario Training Office.** Violations of this policy may result in de-certification of the Instructor.

Black Badge Instructors shall ensure that each candidate has completed an IPSC Ontario membership application and have submitted the appropriate membership and course fees before beginning their course.

Instructors shall ensure that all candidates are issued a current edition IPSC Rule Book.

Instructors must initial each item on the qualification page for which the trainee has complied.

The names of **all** Instructors (*not helpers*) who have had anything to do with **instructing** Black Badge students **must** appear at the bottom of the qualification page. (*Please print names*).

Even after compliance with *all* items on the "Qualification Page" an instructor must still exercise his discretion in deciding whether or not to approve the candidate. If the instructor has doubts about safety or attitude of any candidate, the candidate must not be approved until the instructor *is* satisfied.

All Black Badge course materials used by an instructor in conducting the IPSC Ontario Black Badge Safety Program must be obtained from IPSC Ontario. There is no charge for these Black Badge "*kits*" and you may order as many as you need for your course. Courses conducted using inappropriate materials will not be accepted by the IPSC Ontario Training Office.

Instructors shall submit the student's IPSC Ontario Membership application, Membership fee and Course fee within (7) seven days after the completion of the course to the respective departments in the prepaid envelopes provided with the course packages.