

# SADPA FAQ's

(Please see our website at [www.sadpa.co.za](http://www.sadpa.co.za) for more info)

## **Can I participate before I join?**

Due to liability issues, unfortunately not. However, you are welcome to come to any of the clubs on shooting days to observe and ask questions.

## **How do I join?**

Membership of both SADPA and a Club of your choice is compulsory.

The following forms need to be completed:

- [SADPA membership application form](#)
- [SADPA indemnity form](#)
- Club application form

Contact your club for their application forms and club information, and the SADPA office (contact details on website) for SADPA application and indemnity forms if you can't find same on the SADPA website.

Please do not expect SADPA and club officials to process last minute applications at short notice in order to attend NSO's etc. Allow at least a week for new membership to be processed.

## **How much does it cost?**

SADPA Fees are R350 per year (as at Jan 2012).

Club fees vary by quite a margin as there are different arrangements in place. Some clubs are privately owned, while others are being rented from third parties. Benefits to members also vary somewhat (at some clubs, members don't pay for monthly shoots). Fees typically range from R300 to R1,300.

Shoot fees vary from R40 to about R80 for normal monthly shoots, while some clubs let their members shoot for free at the home club. Leagues cost R80 (as at Jan 2012), and Nationals and Africa Champs range from R300-R500.

Safety (Range) Officers usually shoot for free.

### **How will SADPA notify me of important news and events?**

The SADPA Website at [www.sadpa.co.za](http://www.sadpa.co.za) is used extensively to disseminate information. Shoot and results notifications are distributed via SADPA\_Group at YahooGroups.com. Please see your membership letter for instructions to join or visit [http://sports.groups.yahoo.com/group/sadpa\\_group/](http://sports.groups.yahoo.com/group/sadpa_group/)

### **Can I start shooting immediately once I've joined?**

Due to the inherent dangers associated with firearms, all members have to undergo an NSO before they can participate in SADPA events. This is not negotiable.

### **What is the NSO about and how often are these held?**

The NSO (New Shooter Orientation) is an induction through which we ensure all members are aware of safety aspects, range rules and commands and the most basic SADPA rules. This is **not** a substitute for familiarising yourself with the rules governing the sport. NSO's are presented periodically with roughly one every six weeks by one of the Gauteng clubs. Outlying clubs will do these as the need arise.

### **How do I know when shoots are presented and by whom?**

Please see the calendar page on the SADPA website. Notifications are also circulated via SADPA\_group on YahooGroups, usually 5-15 days preceding the shoot.

### **Can I shoot at a club other than the one I belong to?**

Yes. Once you're a paid up member and have completed the New Shooter Orientation, all SADPA shoots are open to all members of SADPA. Please note that some clubs require pre-registration for certain shoots and costs vary from club to club and for members and non-members of the particular club. This will be communicated via SADPA Group on YahooGroups.

### **What type of firearm(s) do I need?**

You'll need a pistol of minimum 9mmP calibre or .38 or larger Revolver. There are limitations with regards to the size and weight of firearms allowed – see the rulebook for more details.

Firearms smaller than 9mmP/.38 e.g. 9mm Short, and 5-Shot Revolvers are not really suitable for competition in IDPA. These are classified as Back-up Guns, and while some clubs might allow you to shoot those from time to time, it's advisable to obtain the right firearm.

### **What other equipment do I need?**

The new shooter page on the website has a comprehensive checklist, but before you spend a fortune on paraphernalia you may or may not use, make sure to visit a club to see what members typically use. The non-negotiable items are: Firearm, magazines/speed loaders (at least two, but three is better), strong-side holster, magazine pouches, eye protection, ear protection and a concealment garment (typically a reporters jacket or similar, but a loose shirt is acceptable on day one).

### **How much ammunition do I need?**

It depends from shoot to shoot. The NSO will require about 120-150 rounds, monthly club shoots anywhere between 50 and 100 rounds, leagues from 80-160 rounds and the Champs can run up to 300 rounds.

### **Do SADPA clubs sell firearms and ammunition?**

No. But SADPA's friendly sponsors do. Please have a look at our sponsors page on the website, or ask the club's contact person if he can recommend someone.

### **Can I use club facilities on my own for practice?**

It varies from club to club. Contact your club administrator for more detail.

**Will SADPA do my motivation for firearms license applications for me?**

No, SADPA is not a legal firm. SADPA will however provide you with a membership letter stating that you're a member of the organisation and the club you've joined. SADPA can also issue an endorsement confirming the suitability of the firearm you intend to apply for a license for (obviously provided the firearm complies with all the specifications as set out in the rule book)