

**Hunter Ed Lesson Plan 2A & 2B (Combine into 1 lesson session)**

rev. 3/2015

Location of Safety and Safe Firearm Handling Exercise

**Instructor Training Aids and References**

- Firearms of all actions and varied safety locations.
- Firearm with a "half cock" for safety
- Student manual, this lesson plan,

**TIME PERIOD (APPROXIMATELY): 60-75 minutes both 2A & 2B**

**TYPE OF LESSON**

- E.D.O.C.**
- LECTURE**
- DISCUSSION**
- PRACTICAL**

**OBJECTIVE(S)**

- Students will learn an easy method to locate the location of the safety on any firearm.
- Students will learn the additional safety precautions needed when using a "half cock" safety.
- Students will learn the safe procedure for handing a firearm to another person.

**LESSON OUTLINE**

**ITEMS NEEDED**

**EDUCATE:**

- The purpose of this demonstration is to show how to use a safety, and an easy method to find the safety.
- The location of the safety, on all firearms, can be done with the trigger finger or thumb of the shooting hand.
- The location of the safety can actually be done without looking at the firearm.
- The "Half Cock" safety will be discussed and demonstrated.
- Stress that any mechanical safety on a firearm can, and sometimes does, fail; and **should not be** completely trusted to keep the firearm from discharging.
- The **most reliable** safety **IS THE FIREARM HANDLER**.
- The proper method to use when handing firearms to another person will be discussed and demonstrated.

Refer to manual and this Lesson Plan.

Muzzle control a must

**DEMONSTRATE:** Location of Safety on Firearms

- After opening the action and checking the chamber and magazine, the instructor will hold a firearm in the 2 hand ready position.
- The instructor will show the location of the safety on the firearm by pointing to it with either the thumb or trigger finger of the shooting hand.
- The instructor will then demonstrate (using either the thumb or trigger finger of the shooting hand) that the location of the safety on any firearm can be found in one of the following places on the firearm:
  - Either inside of, in front of, or behind the trigger guard.
  - On top of the tang.
  - Along the top of the stock beside the bolt, or on the bolt shroud.
  - The instructor will demonstrate how the instructor knows the firearm is in the "safe" or "fire" position by using the following information:
    - 1) The safety position will show an "F" for Fire or "S" for Safe on most lever type safeties.
    - 2) On cross bolt or button type safeties there **SHOULD** be a red mark showing on the safety when in the "fire" position. Sometimes there is no marking.
    - 3) On cross bolt or button type safeties the "safe" position **may** be indicated, but typically there is no indication the firearm is in the "safe" position, other than there are no "fire" position indicators showing.
- The instructor should conduct the same demonstration on other action types and safety locations if the firearms are available.

Firearms with different safety locations

**DEMONSTRATE: Firearms with "HALF COCK SAFETY"**

- After opening the action and checking the chamber and magazine, the instructor will hold a firearm in the 2 hand ready position.
  - Firearm must have the "half cock" for a safety
- The instructor will demonstrate the location of the "safety" on the firearm by putting the hammer in the half-cocked position.
- The instructor will ask the students to name the safety.
  - **Answer** = Half Cocked Safety or Half Cocked Position.
- The instructor will then stress that the Half Cocked Safety/Position is not a safety, but simply an extra notch on the hammer.
  - **The other half of Half Cocked is Fully Cocked!**
- The only safety on a firearm with a Half Cock "Safety" **is the firearm handler!**

Firearms with half cock safety

**DEMONSTRATE: Safe Procedure Used When Handing a Firearm to Another**

- Two instructors are needed for this demonstration.
- Tell the students that the following procedure is used when handing a firearm to another person.
  1. After opening the action and checking the chamber and magazine, the instructor will hold a firearm in the 2 hand ready position with the action open.
  2. The instructor will hand the firearm to the other instructor, but wait until the receiving instructor says, "I HAVE IT", before releasing the firearm.
  3. Tell the students that during the course if the action is not open the receiving student will ask for the action to be opened before taking the firearm.
  4. Ask the students why communication must occur between firearm handlers.
    - A common response will be so the firearm is not dropped
  5. **PURPOSE** of this procedure is the students will **VERIFY CONTROL OF THE FIREARM**; and that the person receiving the firearm is **WILLING TO TAKE RESPONSIBILITY FOR THE FIREARM.**
- Again, stress that any mechanical safety on a firearm should not be trusted. The **most reliable safety IS ALWAYS THE FIREARM HANDLER.**
- **Stress the importance of using these safety lessons at all times when handling firearms, and not simply during "class time".**

Firearm

**INFORM THE STUDENTS THAT THEY NEED TO FOLLOW THE TAB-K RULES AND THE ABOVE SAFE GUN HANDLING PRACTICE DURING THE ENTIRE COURSE.**

**TRANSITION TO LESSON PLAN 2B:**