

UNIS safety regulations regarding fire arms.



1. General safety regulations

General safety regulations for rifle handling.

- Never point the rifle at someone.
- Always check that the rifle is empty when you receive or give the rifle to someone. Look inside the magazine and chamber and feel inside the chamber.
- Never carry or transport the rifle completely loaded.
- Never leave a half loaded or loaded rifle.
- Always check for safe background before firing the rifle

Rifle handling inside Longyearbyen, Svea Gruva, Barentsburg and Ny Ålesund

- It is prohibited to carry a rifle with ammunition in the magazine.
- No firearms in public buildings.
- Always carry the rifle so everyone can see that the rifle is empty (bolt open).

UNIS general rifle safety regulations

- It is not allowed to sublease or loan the rifle to someone who is not an UNIS student, or to someone who has not accomplished and passed the UNIS rifle course.
- You are not permitted to handle rifles, ammunition or pyrotechnics while under influence of alcohol or any kind of drug.
- On camping trips during the students or staff spare time, where UNIS firearms are present and alcohol is consumed, one of the participants shall be appointed "Safety Supervisor" in charge of fire- arms and safety. This person cannot consume alcohol.
- Rifles must be locked up when not in use. Ammunition and the rifles bolt are to be locked up separate from the rifle.

2. Mandatory, operational safety procedures when operating UNIS rifles

Checking out rifles from the UNIS logistics department.

- Check that the rifle is empty when receiving the rifle.
- Check that you have the right ammunition; cal.30-06 and expanding rounds.
- Check that the rifle has no damages and that the sights are present and centered.
- You need to demonstrate to the responsible Technician that you can half load and empty the rifle in a correct and safe manner. This will be done with "dummy ammunition". If you fail this demonstration, you will not be allowed to borrow a rifle for private outings, or have the responsibility for a rifle during field work.

Storing of rifles and ammunition

- It is not allowed to bring rifles into the UNIS building apart from the fastest way to the Logistics department.
- The rifle is to be locked up in the rifle locker in the Logistics hall. The bolt is to be removed from the rifle and kept by you, along with the ammunition.
- Storing of rifles in the students quarters, or in private houses, is to be done by removing the bolt from the rifle and lock it up, together with the ammunition, in a separate safety cabinet. The rifle can then be stored in a closet. If you have an approved safety cabinet to fit the whole rifle, you can store it there, together with the ammunition.

Using the rifle as polar bear protection in the field.

- Rifles should, as a main rule, be carried and transported empty (without ammunition in the magazine). Ammunition should be stored easily accessible on the stock (in a separate holder / pocket) or in an outer pocket in your clothing.

- In rare situations, where close encounters with polar bears might be expected, rifles can be carried as half loaded. When doing fieldwork as part of an UNIS group the excursion leader will decide if and when to half load a rifle. On private outings the student or staff will have to make this decision on their own.
- Rifles should, as a main rule, always be transported and carried inside the cover, even if the rifle is half loaded. This will protect the rifle from sand, moisture and snow. If you for some reason do not use the cover, the muzzle and the moving parts must be protected from snow, moisture and dirt.
- Rifle maintenance consists cleaning, visual inspection and verifying the functionality of the rifle without ammunition. This should be performed daily.
- Care must be taken while transporting the rifles. Always carry the rifle, and avoid fastening it to your backpack or sled. When putting down the weapon, place it such that it will not fall or be damaged when you are not carrying it

Procedure for half loading and emptying the rifle.

Half loading and emptying the rifle must be done under supervision of a partner (buddy check principle) and must follow the following procedure;

Half loading the rifle

1. Walk well away from where people are gathered and let the rest of the group know that you are about to half load the rifle.
2. Sit down on your knee, while your partner is standing behind you, observing over your shoulder.
3. Make sure to point the rifle in a safe direction at all times during the procedure.
4. Pull the bolt back and check that the magazine and chamber is empty by looking inside and feeling inside the chamber.
5. Fill the magazine with four rounds. Make sure the ammunition is placed all the way back against the magazine wall.
6. Push the four rounds further down in the magazine and lead the bolt over the rounds until the space of about 4 cm. remains from the bolts head to the opening of the chamber.
7. Make sure that no rounds are led into the chamber by observing into the chamber during the whole procedure.
8. Close the bolt completely while observing that the chamber is empty.
9. Point the rifle to a safe direction and release the trigger.

Emptying the rifle

1. Walk well away from where people are gathered and let the rest of the group know that you are about to empty the rifle.
2. Sit down on your knee, while your partner is standing behind you, observing over your shoulder.
3. Make sure to point the rifle in a safe direction at all times during the procedure.
4. Pull the bolt back so you can observe the rounds inside the magazine.
5. Open the magazine and take the rounds out. Count the rounds and make sure you have the same number as you half loaded with.
6. Inspect visually, and by feeling inside with your fingers, that the chamber and the magazine is empty.
7. Close the bolt and release the trigger while pointing the rifle in a safe direction. NB; if you are entering a town / settlement, and you are carrying the rifle outside the cover, the bolt should be left in the back / rear position.