

## **Hand reloading Protocol**

### **Nitro Cartridge**

- 1) Always use a reputable re-loading manual such as the Modern Reloading Manual by Richard Lee or Lyman's Reloading Handbook to name just two. You should read the manual before attempting to reload for the first time.
- 2) Ensure powder used is the correct type for that cartridge.
- 3) Ensure powder and bullet type/weight is correct for powder charge being used.
- 4) Check case length is correct, if not use an appropriate method to rectify this.
- 5) Check overall cartridge length is within parameters supplied in loading manual and the cartridge loads easily into the breech, and the bolt etc closes easily.
- 6) Re 4 + 5 use a good quality vernier gauge to verify measurements.
- 7) Use only the correct primer type as designated in loading manual.
- 8) It is legal to give small quantities of reloads to friends but whilst their firearm may be the same calibre, the reloaded cartridge may not be suitable and in some cases won't fit your firearm. So, proceed with caution.
- 9) Again, whilst it is legal to accept small quantities of reloads given to you, they may be totally unsuitable for your firearm. So again, proceed with caution.
- 10) NB hand reloaded cartridges cannot be sold

### **Black Powder Cartridge**

- 1) It is absolutely essential to have the case filled completely, either with powder or a powder and filler combination, failure to do this can cause catastrophic problems within the rifle.
- 2) Reloading manuals are not easy to find, 2 that are useful are "Shooting Buffalo Rifles of the Old West" by Mike Venturino, this gives a lot of information on various calibre BP rifles, including powder types and choreographed results., the second is "Reloading Primer" by Mike Venturino and Steve Garbe, however it is important to remember that they refer to specific rifles they are using, so remember to research your own rifle.
- 3) With some makes of cases, there may be a need to anneal the cases before use, and after a number of firings.
- 4) Either paper patched or cannellure bullets can be used, it is the shooters choice.
- 5) As above, it is essential to check the overall case length and the overall cartridge length.
- 6) On initial loading the first 5 cartridges, the shooter should try these in the rifle to ensure they are the correct fit, and the action will close smoothly.
- 7) After firing, always check there is a hole in the target, if there is not, check the bore to ensure the bullet has exited the barrel.
- 8) Always carry a suitable ramrod to ensure a stuck case can be removed or a "lodged" bullet.