To Kincaid Biathlon Range Users:

IBU requires a safety marker to be installed on all biathlon rifles. They are also called a Clear Barrel Indicator (or CBI), Empty Chamber Indicator (ECI) or chamber safety flag.

October 1, 2025: Full implementation of this rule for USBA events, including penalties. USBA encourages all clubs to work towards implementation of this rule by this date.

New IBU Safety Rule:
8.5.1.1 Safety marker The safety marker (colored flag or lock) has to be used in all rifles when entering the stadium. It has to remain in place until the athlete reaches the shooting range, where it might be removed for training or competing.

Training: when leaving the range after training, the safety marker needs to be inserted again

Rifle controls: all rifles must be presented at the rifle control with the safety marker inserted, regardless of when such inspection occurs. Control personnel might remove the marker for control purposes, but the rifle has to leave the control again with inserted safety marker.
Zeroing: same as for training applies; once the rifle arrives in the assigned team´s rifle rack in the start zone, the safety marker might be removed (as one of the final preparation steps for the competition); when moving to the start line, the safety marker must be out

Competition end: after arriving in the finish/passing the mixed zone, the safety flag has to be inserted again as soon as possible, but in any case when leaving the finish exit area/returning to warm-up area (rifle racks). The marker must then remain in the rifle at all times until the process begins again.

Only exception: for dry shooting the safety flag might be removed, but must be inserted right after again. For dry shooting safety the use of a so called „rubber bullet“ is recommended.

Citation:
INTERNATIONAL BIATHLON UNION. (JULY 2025). IBU EVENT AND COMPETITION RULES. In INTERNATIONAL BIATHLON UNION. https://assets.ctfassets.net/cz0vl36hcq0x/7mkQn1kQTB7VzlUZHAcuec/c5612858222431bc703c8d52529e73d9/Rules_2025_EN_cap3.pdf

USBA Safety Rule Update
IBU Safety Rule Information
USBA Safety Q&A Webinar Recorded link (15min)- **HERE** (password: 6AzZhtP#).

Examples of a CBI/EBI.

These inexpensive CBI's may be purchased on Amazon. Search for gun safe chamber flags.

Also, a section of bright colored weed-whacker trimmer that protrudes out of the muzzle and ejection port at least 3 inches may be used.

The IBU rules also permits a lock, which is assumed to be a cable-style gun lock that inserts into the magazine well, out the ejection port, and padlocked with a key. See the below photograph.

At an IBU-sanctioned event, a specific type of safety flag may be required, but that has not been issued yet. At the Kincaid range, any EBI/CBI (commercially purchased, cable lock, or

homemade weed-trimmer string) may be used. The next update of the Kincaid Biathlon SOP will reflect this new safety requirement.

Please implement this safety requirement at your training and race sessions. The expectation is that in the next 30 days, all users of the Kincaid biathlon range will be in compliance.

Any questions, please let me know.
RSO Steve Wilson