

# **Ten commandments of shooting safety**

- 1. Control the direction of the firearms muzzle. Carry your firearm safely, and *keep the safety on* until ready to shoot.**
- 2. Identify your target *and what is beyond*. Know the identifying features of the game you hunt.**
- 3. Treat every firearm as if it were loaded.**
- 4. Be sure the barrel and action are clear of any obstructions, and that you have only the correct size and type of ammunition for the firearm.**
- 5. Unload all firearms when not in use. Leave the actions open. Carry all firearms in cases to and from the shooting area.**
- 6. Never point a firearm at anything you do not want to shoot. Avoid horseplay with firearms.**
- 7. Never climb a fence or a tree, or jump a ditch with a loaded firearm. Never pull a firearm toward you by the muzzle.**
- 8. Never shoot at a flat, hard surface, or at water. During practice ensure your backstop is adequate.**
- 9. Store firearms and ammunition separately, and beyond the reach of children or careless adults. Preferably in a cabinet and with trigger locks.**
- 10. Avoid alcoholic beverages or other mood altering drugs before or while shooting.**