



## Standard Practice for Paintball Field Operation<sup>1</sup>

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### INTRODUCTION

This practice sets forth procedures for operating a paintball playing field. The goal is to assist paintball field operators in running a safe business. Like any other physical activity, paintball presents a potential for injury. No procedural practice can prevent all injuries, especially when paintball players do not follow safety instructions. The ultimate responsibility for preventing injury lies with the paintball player. This practice, however, intends to promote safe paintball field operation through standardization of operating practice.

### 1. Scope

1.1 This practice establishes minimum safety requirements for the operation of paintball playing fields, and provides for certain materials and procedures required.

### 2. Referenced Documents

2.1 *ASTM Standards*:<sup>2</sup>

F1776 Specification for Eye Protective Devices for Paintball Sports

### 3. Terminology

3.1 *Definitions of Terms Specific to This Standard*:

3.1.1 *bulk cylinder, n*—a gas storage vessel used to fill gas propellant vessels on paintball markers.

3.1.2 *burst-mode marker, n*—a burst mode marker may discharge two or more times per trigger cycle or may discharge two or more times with the pull and release of the trigger.

3.1.3 *discharge mode, n*—a mode that controls the number of paintballs discharged per trigger cycle.

3.1.4 *ear protection, n*—devices that cover the ear cavities and prevent direct entry of paintballs into the ear canals.

3.1.5 *enhanced trigger marker, n*—a paintball marker that at some point discharges more than one paintball per trigger

cycle. This includes markers that “store” the number of trigger pulls and discharge more than one paintball at some point.

3.1.6 *filling apparatus, n*—equipment used to properly fill gas propellant vessels on paintball markers from bulk cylinders.

3.1.7 *fully automatic paintball marker, n*—a marker that discharges when the triggering device is actuated and continues to discharge until the trigger returns to its reset or recycle position.

3.1.8 *game area, n*—an area in which paintball games are conducted and in which paintball goggles are required to be worn.

3.1.9 *goggles, n*—consist of eye protection devices that comply with Specification F1776 and have ear and face protection integrated into the design.

3.1.10 *goggles on area, n*—areas in which all persons are required to wear paintball goggles, such as and not limited to playing fields, game areas, chronograph areas, and target ranges.

3.1.11 *paintball marker, n*—a device specifically designed to discharge paintballs. The device is sometimes referred to as a *paintball gun*.

3.1.12 *player, n*—a paintball game participant

3.1.13 *playing field, n*—an area delineated by a boundary marker, in which paintball games are conducted.

3.1.14 *pump marker, n*—a marker that requires the operator to manually cock or engage the sear of the marker before each shot by a means of a pump, bolt, lever, cocking handle or similar device.

3.1.15 *safety mechanism, n*—a device that, when activated, disables a part of the paintball marker, usually the trigger, to prevent unintentional firing in normal use and must be released to allow the marker to be discharged by the movement of the

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<sup>2</sup> For referenced ASTM standards, visit the ASTM website, [www.astm.org](http://www.astm.org), or contact ASTM Customer Service at [service@astm.org](mailto:service@astm.org). For *Annual Book of ASTM Standards* volume information, refer to the standard's Document Summary page on the ASTM website.