



The Rattler

**FEBRUARY
2025**

Official Newsletter of the Rattlesnake Mountain Shooting Facility and the Tri-Cities Shooting Association, Inc.

GENERAL INFORMATION:

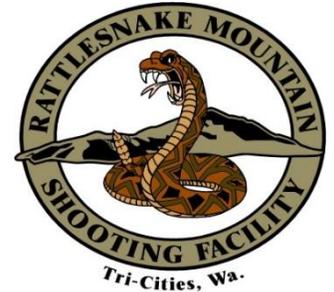
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Sue Verwest
Newsletter and Membership
membership@tcsa.info or 509.735.1662

Ron Jorgensen
Range Use Request / Range Events
Events@tcsa.info

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

By: Mark Verwest

Renewal notices have been emailed out and already we have received quite a few renewals. Early renewals really help the TCSA not only in postage, but they also help take some of the load off of our volunteers who process the mailed renewal notices. **This year when you renew early, you will be eligible for one of two prizes in our Annual Early Renewal Prize drawing!**

Thanks to all of you who have responded and a heartfelt thanks to those of you have also generously submitted a donation!



TCSA PUBLIC MEETING
THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 13
7:00 p.m.

RICHLAND LIBRARY
(Conference Room A & B)



ROSE-IRIS RANGE
Hours of Operation
9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.

Wednesday, Friday, Saturday, Sunday



**If you haven't Renewed your Membership
Renew NOW !!**
**YOU may be the winner of one of the TWO
Early Renewal Prizes**

VICE-PRESIDENT'S REPORT

By: George Hager

Howdy Shooters! It has been chilly the last few weekends and I have found myself lacking the courage to head to the Range for some much-needed trigger time. I shot a 5-stage NRL22 Match and it was so cold I was unable to load a 10-round magazine during the final stage. It was a memorable experience for the wrong reason.

I am putting together three new Matches for the upcoming year. Course descriptions should be posted on the TCSA HP website (www.tcsahighpower.org) within a week or two. Briefly there will be a 200/300-Yard Small-bore Prone Match, the second is listed as an ELR-22 Match but in an effort to be more inviting as it will be fired (.22 lr) at 300 yards (290-295) at 8", 6" and 4" Steel (following the Long Gong format). Lastly, I will host "It's Black Friday and I'm Shooting and Not Shopping" Match. The format will be that of a High-Power Sporting Rifle Match.



WEATHER CONDITIONS at the Range can be found on our homepage -



February can still be dicey. If we need to close the Range due to weather conditions we will try to get it posted on the Website and Facebook as soon as we can.

TCSA FACILITIES

ROSE-IRIS RANGE – A 100-yard range with 20 covered firing points. This day use Range Safety Officer supervised facility is operated for public use on a regularly scheduled basis Wednesdays, Fridays, Saturdays and Sundays.

RIMFIRE PLINKING RANGE – A 50-yard 22-caliber Range Safety Officer supervised Shooting Range with reactive targets.

CENTERFIRE PLINKING RANGE – A 50-yard handgun pistol/revolver RSO supervised range with reactive targets for firearms using black powder or standard pistol cartridges.

COWBOY / PRACTICAL PISTOL BAYS – Ranges consisting of 13 bays of varying lengths designed to support a variety of action shooting disciplines such as; Practical (IPSC/ USPSA) 3-Gun Sports and Cowboy (SASS) groups.

Cowboy Action Rep. – **Charles Kissler** – 509.783.8505

Nelson Thomas – 509.727.4678

Practical Pistol Rep. – **Curt Berger** – 541.720.7826

1000-YARD, HIGH-POWER RANGE – A Range consisting of 100, 200, 300, 600, 800, 900 & 1000-yard firing lines that can support 20 firing stations on each firing line (utilizes manned target operation). The 400-yard line has 5 firing stations and the 500-yard line has 10 firing stations. This Range supports High-Power Rifle, Long Range PALMA and Precision Shooting Events of various disciplines, including 50-Caliber.

High-Power Rep. – **Mike Sowa** – 541.571.1892

HUNTER EDUCATION RANGE: This Range has been designed to support Hunter Education Training Classes and also has a practical field exercise area containing obstacles hunters could expect to encounter in the field. The covered firing line can be used independently by current RSO's as an overflow from the Rose-Iris Range and may be available for RSO supervised public event use when not being used for the conduct of Hunter Education Classes.

Hunter Ed. Rep. – **Randy Absolon** – 509.845.3632

PRIMITIVE USE RANGE: - A Range Area for muzzle loading and primitive Sagebrush Free Trappers reenactment events with parking, staging and various range areas.

Primitive Range Rep. – **Clint Bouslaugh** – 509.585.6415

SHOTGUN RANGE: Includes a set of two ATA regulation Trap Fields, two Skeet Ranges and a Sporting Clay Range supporting five firing stations and a Pattern Board.

Shotgun Rep. – **Mark Monopoli** – 509.531.6929

“WELCOME” NEW MEMBERS

Welcome! In this Newsletter you can find the contact information for the Board Members and above you can find contact information for the different Ranges. The Ranges were built and are maintained by volunteers. We encourage you to get involved and be a part of TCSA.

New members from this past month should have already received their membership card(s). If you have not received your card, contact **Sue Verwest** at membership@tcsa.info or 509.735.1662.

Check out our TCSA web site www.tcsa.info for a variety of information. The Newsletter is posted on the web site the beginning of each month.

HUNTER EDUCATION AND SAFETY ASSOCIATION

By: **Randy Absolon**

We are in the middle of our January Traditional Class, which is scheduled to end on February 6. We anticipate offering another **Traditional Class in June.**



Our spring schedule of **Online Evaluations** is all set up. We will offer the one-day evaluations for students who have completed the online portion of the hybrid course on **March 15, April 5, April 26 and May 10.** Registration will be done on the WDFW website and are listed as “Richland Recreation.” Registration will open about three weeks before the class date. I expect the Classes to fill up very quickly, probably within 24 hours. We also anticipate offering these evaluations in August and September.

RSOs using the HESA Range are expected to sign in at the Rose-Iris Range before going over to the HESA Range to shoot. You are also expected to clean up when you are done shooting, including returning target stands to the Rose-Iris Range House and picking up brass.

Always remember to treat every firearm as if it was loaded, control the direction of your muzzle, be sure of your target and what lies beyond it, keep your finger off the trigger until you are ready to shoot and never place a loaded firearm in or on a motor vehicle.

If you have questions about our Hunter Education Classes contact me at: randyabsolon@gmail.com.



Rattlesnake Mountain Shooting Facility/TCSA

<https://www.facebook.com/RMSFTCSA/>.

Contact **Robbie or Mike Ensminger** with questions or comments at ChiefRSO@tcsa.info



Hearing and Eye protection required when shooting!



Check out the “For Sale” items on our web-site
www.tcsa.info

Send your “For Sale” or “Wanted” items to
membership@tcsa.info



CHIEF RSO REPORT

By: Mike Ensminger



Please keep an eye on what is beyond your target. When placing targets at short ranges in the Rose-Iris and HESA Ranges, the stands at 25 and 50 yards are right in the line of fire. At the Pistol Bays items in the bays are likely to be steel, but are not necessarily built to withstand direct impacts, even aside from concerns about where the ricochet might go.

RSOs: When signing up for 2025 Rose Iris duty dates, **the selected dates will only be viewable on your "RSO Dashboard" until April 1, 2025.** If you accidentally select an incorrect date, contact me and I can remove it for you.

RSO Questions / Concerns
Chief RSO - Mike Ensminger
chiefrso@tcsa.info or 509.521.9628

NEXT RANGE SAFETY OFFICER CLASS

By: Dan Martini

Our next **Range Safety Officer Class** scheduled for February 7 is currently full. If you would like to attend the next RSO Class, send an email message to dantini@charter.net and I will add your name to that Class list.

ADVANTAGES OF BEING A RSO

The advantages of being a RSO and obligating yourself as a volunteer at TCSA means that on days when the Range is not open to the general public - YOU - as a RSO can use the Range. Having gone through the RSO Training Class and volunteering your time you are able to go to the Range any time you like!

To become a TCSA RSO, you need to have and maintain your TCSA Membership, complete an 8-hour Class and volunteer to stand 3 days per year at the Rose-Iris General Purpose Range on a Wednesday, Friday, Saturday or Sunday. You choose which of those three days you will be able to meet.

For more information and to get your name on the list for the next RSO Class contact **Dan Martini** at dantini@charter.net.

RATTLESNAKE MOUNTAIN STEEL SHOOTERS

By: Mike Ensminger



47 guns were represented at the January Match. By the time you read this the **February 2 Match** will already be in the books. We will be shooting again on **March 2**. Shooter's meeting is at 9:15 and you must be signed in by then to shoot.

Results are posted on Practiscore.com, search for rattlesnake to find them.

Sign-ups are at the Range on Match Day, cash or check only. If you are coming with a group, send us an email ahead of time (mikeberta4@gmail.com) with names and 1 or 2 guns each and we will start a squad so we can make sure you get to shoot together.

PRIMITIVE RANGE



By: Clint Bouslaught

The Primitive Range will be having their **Monthly Shoot** on **February 15** from 9 a.m. until noon.

At the **January Shoot** we installed our new shooting bench that allows for more shooters on the line. Thanks to **Rick Robert's** for building the bench.

Come on out and enjoy the morning with us burning some powder.

COWBOY ACTION

By: Mike Ensminger



We had 12 shooters from all over the area at our January Match. Results are on practiscore.com, search for Rattlesnake Gulch.

There will be **no Cowboy Shoot in February** as many of our shooters and staff will be shooting in Arizona at the time. We will be back on our normal schedule in March. Shooter's meeting is at 9:00 a.m. on the 4th Saturday.

PRACTICAL PISTOL



By: Pam Harper



USPSA National Range Officers

Institute, **NROI**, has a website that has valuable information about the Rules and interpretations of the Rules. Check it out at <https://nroi.org>

TIDBITS: EWPSA is looking for interested people to help with the monthly Matches. We need 6-8 new people to help with setup on Saturdays before the Match (~2 hours and free match) and Sunday tear down of some props after the Match; person to learn Stats (Practiscore, timers and the tablets); to be Bucket filler (before match) and emptier (after match); person to be Check-in person before the Match. None of these jobs are difficult, but we need some new participation for the upcoming year as our Matches are growing.

NATIONAL NEWS: www.uspsa.org

Mark your Calendars. The dates for **USPSA Nationals 2025:**

May 30 - June 1 - World Speed Shooting Championship at CMP Talladega Marksmanship Park, Talladega, AL.

June 27 - 29 - Factory Gun Nationals (CO, Prod, SS, Rev) at Cardinal Shooting Center, Marengo, OH.

July 18 - 20 - MultiGun Nationals at Forest Lake Sportsmen's Club, Forest Lake, MN.

August 22 - 24 - IPSC Nationals at Cardinal Shooting Center, Marengo, OH.

October 24 - 26 - Racegun Nationals (Open, Lim, Lim10, LO, PCC) at Southern Utah Practical Shooting, Hurricane, Utah.

The **USPSA Rules** have been **UPDATED:**

<https://uspsa.org/viewer/2024-USPSA-Competition-Rules.pdf> can be downloaded to your phone for easy access.

The USPSA Rules Change Log is located here

<https://uspsa.org/viewer/Competition-Rules-Change-Log.pdf>

LOCAL NEWS:

EWPSA **will NOT be hosting** the **Inland Empire Sectional** this year, instead EWPSA **will be hosting** the **USPSA WA State Championship May 15 - 18, 2025.**

Registration opened on **January 1** on Practiscore at <https://practiscore.com/2025-washington-state-championship/register>. The Match has over 310 registered competitors. We have a few more spots available.

All **EWPSA Match** results can be found on Practiscore.com: <https://bit.ly/EWPSAscores>

The **Monthly 2-Gun Match** on **January 4** had 28 competitors with 6 Divisions represented. The Division winners were: Open: **Jamie Bowkett** (overall winner); Armored: **Shane Austin**; Heavy metal: **Kevin Bensema**; Limited: **Steven Hutchinson**; Retro: **Brian Humann**; and Tactical: **Rob Lee**.

The **USPSA Monthly Match** on **January 19** had 67 competitors with 5/9 USPSA Divisions represented. The Division winners were: Open: **Brian Humann** (overall winner); Carry Optics: **Justin Scotch**; Limited: **Gen Quale**; Limited Optics: **Adam Grimm**; and PCC: **Philip Barlow**.

COMING UP:

All upcoming EWPSA Matches and Registrations can be found here: <https://bit.ly/EWPSAMatches>

EWPSA will be hosting:

Team 2-Gun Match February 1. Sign-in begins at 9:00 a.m. Shooting begins at 9:30 a.m. The Match cost is \$20 per TCSA member and \$25 per non-member. More details on Practiscore.

USPSA Monthly Match February 16. Gates will open at 9:00 a.m., shooters meeting at 9:30 a.m., shooters meeting before 10:00 a.m., shooting begins after the meeting. The Match cost is \$20 TCSA members / \$25 non-members. More details on Practiscore.

Monthly 2-Gun Match March 1. Sign-in begins at 9:00 a.m. Shooting begins at 9:30 a.m. The Match cost is \$20 per TCSA member and \$25 per non-member. More details on Practiscore.

SCSA Steel Challenge Match March 9. Gates will open at 9:00 a.m., shooters meeting at 9:30 a.m. We start shooting after the meeting. The Match cost is \$15 per TCSA member and \$20 per non-member. More details on Practiscore.

Check out our Inland Empire Section News at:

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/267093763957174/?ref=bookmarks>

Check out local news on Facebook –

[Eastern Washington Practical Shooters Association](#)

Any questions or comments can be directed to:

Curt Berger at bergercj@icloud.com

KEEP THE RANGE CLEAN

Keep **YOUR** Range clean of trash and spent cartridges. Garbage cans are available. Please be sure the enclosure tops are closed so the garbage can't blow out. Buckets are provided for spent cartridges.



Take a moment to clean up after yourself when you are done shooting.

SAFE SHOOTING OPPORTUNITIES FOR YOUTH

By: Dave McNeal

FREE CLAY BIRD SHOOTING: Three youth from two families participated in the **January Trap Shoot**. Shooters fired one round to warm up and then fired a one round Match. **Izaiah Lane** was high score in the Match with 14 birds. **Mark Monopoli** coached the shooters and gave a well appreciated description of how to improve scores.



The **February event will be Skeet on Sunday the 9th** at 12:00 noon. Bring your personal shotgun and shells and shooters 17 and under, accompanied by an adult, can shoot 2 rounds of 25 shots for free. **Please RSVP to president@tcsashotgun.com**

INTRODUCTION TO GUN CLEANING AND MAINTENANCE: The activity on January 11 provided instructional and hands-on experience for 9 young people from 5 families to learn about different types of firearms and how to safely maintain them. **Mike Ensminger** not only provided access to the Pistol Bays Building for the event, but he also donated the door prize which was an oil-resistant Smart Gun Cleaning Mat with an integrated parts tray.



INTRODUCTION TO HANDLOADING SHOTGUN SHELLS: **Eric Bickel** will donate the components and will demonstrate techniques so that young shooters can make and then fire their own handcrafted shotgun shells. The event will be at the **Shotgun Range House, Saturday February 15 at 2:00 p.m.**

COMING SOON: We will start a series of **.22 Matches for Youth** shooters at the new Smallbore Competition Range in April. The Matches will be on the **second Saturday** and **fourth Sunday** of the month and we will have an indoor clinic March 30 to prepare the shooters and their adult for the Event. Information on sign-up is available from TCSAYouth@tcsa.info

Also; we already have **Cowboy Experience, First Shots, Introduction to Muzzle Loaders** and **CMP .22 Sporter Match** on the 2025 calendar. Volunteers wishing to offer other Safe Shooting Opportunities for Youth activities are welcome to submit plans, dates and information to TCSAYouth@tcsa.info

AND ELSEWHERE

REGIONAL JUNIOR ROTC AIRGUN MATCH: There will be a Spectator Opportunity at Kennewick High School on **February 22** to observe an Airgun Match with up to 125 shooters participating. The easiest entrance is the Lion's Den gym entrance on 6th Avenue. If you are facing the main entrance of the school with the big flagpole, the gym entrance is to the left a short distance. Matches will be from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. in the auxiliary gym, just past the main gym.

ALL MEMBERS MUST show a current **Membership Card** to the RSO on duty upon arrival at the **Range**. Membership Cards need to be shown at **all Ranges** and **all Events** or **you will be required to pay the non-member Range Use Fee**. **EVERYONE must sign-in!**



LIFE / PATRON / BENEFACTOR MEMBERS

Thank you to those who have already updated their information for the year.

Life Members who are RSOs only need to update if you wish to keep your **Access Key Card activated for the year**. If you still need to update, complete a Membership Renewal form with the Personal Information filled in or email this information to **Sue Verwest** at membership@tcsa.info. Thank You!

SHOTGUN REPORT

By: Mark Monopoli

Please let us continue this “winter” weather through February. I believe we have put out ice melt one time this year and I am good with that. Of course, February has held some surprises for us in the past, but hopefully not this year.

February will see the Shotgun Range continue on with our monthly Trap, Skeet and 5-Stand Shoots. Not to spoil the surprise but we will be hosting shoots each Sunday of the first 3 weeks of each month. February shoots are below:

- **Feb. 2** **100 Bird Trap Shoot**
- **Feb. 9** **50 Bird Skeet Shoot**
- **Feb. 9** **Youth Skeet Day**
- **Feb. 15** **Tri-Cities Waterfowlers**
- **Feb. 16** **50 Bird 5-Stand Shoot**

The **Tri-Cities Waterfowlers Shoot** on the 15th is the brainchild of **John Wilgus**. The Tri-Cities Waterfowlers is a Facebook Group that John belongs to and he decided to try and get a group of new shooters to come and give a 5-Stand Shoot a go. If you are a new shooter and want to give it a try, feel free to come out and join the fun. There will be more experienced shooters on hand to help with finding the targets. This one is for new/inexperienced shooters. All of you big time shooters can come out on the 16th for our regular 5-Stand Shoot.



We will also be hosting other shoots throughout the year. The first being the triumphant return of the **Don Klages SxS and Pump Gun Shoot!** That’s right we have ironed out the licensing agreement with The Don so we can once again use his name and likeness. **Save the date of Saturday, April 12** to break out your Side by Side and/or Pump Gun for the best 100 birds you have ever seen! Yes, you can shoot both.

Stay tuned for more shoots to be announced once we pin down the dates and details.

After many years of throwing Northwest Targets, we are going to have to make a change this year. We are looking at either White Flyers or Euro Targets right now. They are both good choices, but it just comes down to which makes the most economical choice for the Range.

Final numbers for 2024 came out at 12,104 rounds and a total of 315,507 targets thrown. That is a lot of targets! The one thing that is really impressive is that our loss for the year was just over 4% or 12,907 targets. While that is a lot of targets, it only equates to (1) bird per round which is pretty darn good.

RSO Scheduler for Shotgun, David Russie has been emailing everyone about duty days for 2025. We appreciate everyone volunteering their time at the Range again this year. **One thing to remember is that you need to serve the duty days you signed up for.** Finding last

minute substitutes can be difficult, so please sign up for days you can make. You can reach **David Russie** at roscheduler@gmail.com or at 509.979.3664 call/text.

We had to say goodbye to another one of our shooters this past month. Oh wait, not that type of goodbye. **Tom Walchuk** shot so poorly that he decided he is done shooting shotguns. Word on the street is that after (14) rounds of subpar Skeet, Tom up and left the field never to return. Well maybe not never, but there’s a lot of quit in that man so it could be a while. Even though I have been spreading the rumor he is selling everything shotgun related, there is no truth to it. Yet.

Even being away from the Shotgun Range, somehow Chuckles heard about my absentmindedness at a shoot in Walla Walla resulting in 2 lost targets because I can’t remember we are shooting a report pair rather than a single. I wonder who spread that tidbit of information around, **John Dyes?**

Have a great month everyone! Try to come out and shoot one, or all of the monthly shoots with us.

SHOTGUN RANGE HOURS

Wednesday, Saturday and Sunday
9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.

Current weather conditions at the Range can be found at www.tcsashotgun.com and www.tcsa.info.

Thanks for reading! Feel free to drop me an email at mark.monopoli@outlook.com.



Like us on Facebook! Or don’t...
[@rattlesnakemountainshotgun](https://www.facebook.com/rattlesnakemountainshotgun)

MEMBERSHIP RENEWALS

By: Sue Verwest

Thank you to all who responded to the recent Renewal Email. If you did not receive an email, we do not have your current email address, or the email may have ended up in your Spam File.

Membership Renewal forms can be found on our web site www.tcsa.info under the tab “**Join/Renew**” **found on the top of the homepage.** Membership Forms are also available at the Rose-Iris and Shotgun Ranges. **Your early renewal will ensure you receive your Membership card in time for your next visit to the Range.**

This year we have TWO Early Renewal Prizes which will be given away to TWO lucky winners who renew early. Your chance of winning is doubled if your renewal is received by **FEBRUARY 28.** The drawing for the Prize will take place at the **General Membership Meeting in April.**



Donations – Always Appreciated
(100% of Donations go directly to the Range)

HIGH-POWER

By: Dave Baalman

The weather continues to cooperate by providing good shooting conditions and the schedule is relatively unencumbered for another month or so. If you are an RSO with a High-Power endorsement now is the time to get those zeros for the upcoming competition season.

On that note, we are updating the non-match use SOP for the High-Power Range. A few items still need to be addressed and we need to get it approved by the board, so we don't expect to release it until March some time. In the meantime, the existing SOP is available on the TCSA website after you log in with your RSO credentials.

A few items of note that I have seen this winter:

- Do not forget to put the bravo flag up by the Shotgun/ High-Power/Smallbore entrance gate whenever the High-Power Range is occupied.
- Do not forget the other bravo flag by the big end of the pits.
- Sign in and pay your day use fee at the little end conex.
- Set the chain gate at the top of the canyon road in the correct direction. This is especially important if you are at 800-1000 yards. If the gate is directing people down-range, they have no opportunity to see where you are firing from until they are already downrange of you.

Schedule wise for February, we have an **NRL 22 Match** on **February 1** and a **PRS 22 Match** on **February 2**. These are usually held at HESA, but they will have a Hunter Ed Class that weekend so we will be up at High-Power this month. Also on the schedule is a **1MOA Steel Match** **February 16**.

March will begin our full competition schedule, beginning with the **Korean War Memorial Service Rifle Match** **March 1** and **2**. Get that ammo loaded up and we hope to see you for multiple matches all season!



The full schedule is available at <https://www.tcsahighpower.org/>. You can see a full description of each match on our website as well <https://www.tcsahighpower.org/match-descriptions>

High-Power Contacts:

Mike Sowa: High-Power Chairman

MikeSowa@ix.netcom.com

Andrew Clark: High-Power Treasurer

clarkand25@gmail.com

Robert Lougee: High-Power RSO

RPLougee@protonmail.com

Ron Jorgensen: High-Power Webmaster

rjorge44@gmail.com

Dave Baalman: Newsletter

509.528.0183 / dpbaalman@msn.com

UPCOMING EVENTS FOR THE MONTH OF FEBRUARY

Saturday February 1

Team 2-Gun Match

Hunter Education Class

NRL22 Rimfire Match

Sunday February 2

100 Bird Trap Shoot

ISSA Steel

PRS22 Rimfire Match

Friday February 7

RSO Training Class Shotgun Range House

Sunday February 9

Shotgun Youth Skeet Shoot Day

50-Bird Skeet Shoot

Thursday February 13

TCSA General Meeting – Richland Public Library

Saturday February 15

Tri-Cities Waterfowlers

Primitive Match

Youth Introduction to Handloading Shotgun Shells

Sunday February 16

1 MOA Steel - 1000-Yard Range

50 Bird 5-Stand Shoot

USPSA Match



TCSA HATS

Available at the **Rose-Iris Range**

\$20.00 (includes tax)

