



www.tcmsa.org tcmsa11@gmail.com

May 2018 Club Newsletter

Upcoming meetings: June 7 and July 5, 2018 (all meetings are at the Griggs Hunter Ed room @ 7pm)

Upcoming work parties: Consult our website (maintenance chair Greg Hagen 545-4705)

General Announcements

The new 2018 club calendar is up on the website (see link above). As always, it may be updated as new things come up, but we hope these changes will be minimal. **Be sure to take a look at the calendar before you head out to the range, and pay special attention to which events allow general shooting while the event is going on. We don't want you to waste your time or fuel driving out to the range if you won't be able to shoot.**

Membership: Dues: It is \$80 to join with renewals at \$60, or \$40 if you participated in a work party in the last year. If the renewal is late (after July 1st) you will need to rejoin at \$80. You can mail your renewal to the club address during Jan/Feb to save from being on long lines during meetings, or come to a meeting to renew but face the lines. Also please remember that our membership committee is made up of volunteers, and all of them have day jobs, and remember that all mail in the Tri-Cities now goes through Spokane, so make sure to send in your renewal early so you don't get locked out.

It is now the time to think about 2018 membership dues. To avoid the lines at the meetings, you can mail a check to:

TCMSA
P.O. Box 4587
Pasco, WA 99302

Remember, when mailing your dues, it will take about 3 weeks before you receive the new combination to the gate. The combination is changed on April 1st.

TCMSA wants you to know: Steel core bullets on steel targets make sparks, & sparks make fires. If you don't know if you are shooting steel core bullets, check them on the magnet next to the flag pole.

President's Column:

Spring and nicer weather is finally here, meaning more members using the range. Communication with other users is important for a safe range and an enjoyable day. Talk to everyone before going hot or cold.

Our club is hosting the **Washington State Sporting Highpower** match this year. The matches take place on Saturday May 19th and Sunday May 20th. We will have a work party on Sunday May 13th to get the range looking good for the matches. Start time will be 0800.

The number of members in our club is continuing to grow. Every monthly meeting is having at least a dozen new members joining. With the use of the range growing, **please remember to physically contact all persons on the range before going cold, not just hitting the buzzer and turning on the safety lights.**

Remember....no steel core ammo on any of the steel targets! Steel core destroys the targets your club pays for.

Civilian Marksmanship Program (CMP) Match: The CMP match on April 7th had 9 participants, but not a shot was fired! Just as we were to start sight-in shots, the rain came. The targets got so wet so fast that they just 'dissolved' and fell off the target boards. The next competition will be Jun3 2nd, set up at 0730, shooting starts at 0800. Any military style rifle can be used, and you will need 50 rounds for record plus sighters. The cost for this competition is \$5.

100 yard .22 rimfire Match: The competition on April 14th had 21 participants, including 2 women and 3 juniors. This competition only requires a .22 LR rifle and 40 rounds for record plus unlimited sighters. This competition is very popular and doesn't require fancy equipment. You shoot in one of the classifications according to the rifle you are using. A 'plinker' is not competing against a target rifle, just those having like equipment. This is free and is open to members and non-members-as is the CMP.

For the third month in a row, **bench rest shooters** were welcomed with 20+ MPH winds to add to the experience. This month we had 6 shooters brave the ever twitchy winds, as was demonstrated by the scores. The top three 100/200 yard aggregate scores were 475, 474, and 473 so the competition was tight, as usual.

Bob Birney

Safety Committee Report:

The Safety Advisers start working Friday May 4th.

Greg Hagen reported that there was evidence of someone shooting at rocks laying in the mixed fill we added at the seven yard line for new target frames. This could be a serious ricochet problem.

Also if you set up your own target frames on the pistol line make sure that they are at the correct height so that the bullets impact the berm.

Now that we are entering our busy season if you see someone not following safety or range rules politely advise them of their actions. If they react negatively please get their name and contact me. All of the rules are to ensure that we have a safe range to enjoy our hobby.

Reminder: Goals for Safety Advisers:

- 1.) To educate members in understanding and following range rules so we have a safe environment for our sport.
- 2.) We are not primarily there to run the line for a cold/hot range. That is up to the shooters present.

One of our goals this year is to teach members a more complete way to go cold/hot. We would start by **declaring to shooters present** of a cease fire for target change and **ask them to make their guns safe**. If there are only a few shooters present, members can contact each person ensuring everyone has made their firearms safe. If the range is busy with more members, members can use the buddy system and check the person on either side of them to ensure firearms are made safe which is defined as, **magazine out or empty with a fixed magazine, action open, empty chamber preferably with chamber flag**. They can look up and down the line to verify, by a signal that everyone is ready. **A good signal is armed raised vertically in the air**. Then turn on the strobe lights and one long blast of horn.

When everyone has returned, get a signal up and down the line to check that everyone is ready to go hot. Then sound two blasts of the horn and shut off the strobes. It is better for the same person to operate signals as the posts are not interconnected.

The reasoning behind doing a more complete job of establishing a safe line is to possibly prevent the necessity of having an actual RO (Range Officer) present in the future as we get more members.

Mark Johnson
509-308-5335

Lessons Learned (formerly: Don't Be This Guy)

The post and 2x4 are not targets or target hangars. They were designed to hang the target frames used for Sporting Rifle, 22 LR and Benchrest matches.

If you are using combat style pistol targets that are too large for the frames please fold the head and lower torso under so the bullets do not hit the frame on the top and bottom, bring your own target holder or just buy smaller targets.



Example of Post Damage

Smith & Wesson Issue Alert On M&P 380 Shield EZs With Thumb Safety... <https://bearingarms.com/tom-k/2018/04/10/smith-wesson-issue-alert-380-mp-shield-ezs-thumb-safety/>

To receive the newsletter via your email, go to the club website and enter your email in the subscribe link at the top left corner of the home page. You will then receive an email confirming your subscription, there is a link in that email that you need to click to confirm, and you will be all signed up. Contact us at: <http://tcmsa.org/contact-us/>.

Stay safe, keep your powder dry and we'll see you at the range! TCMSA