



www.tcmsa.org tcmsa11@gmail.com

November 2018 Club Newsletter

Upcoming meetings: December 6, 2018 and January 3, 2019 (all meetings are at the Griggs Hunter Ed room @ 7pm)

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

General Announcements

New Benchrest Competition leader needed for the first half of 2019. The club needs a volunteer to organize and operate the Benchrest competitions starting in January through July 2019. The calendar for 2019 has been submitted, so the volunteer only needs to conduct the monthly competitions starting in January. Please contact Bob Birney at (509) 531-6151 or rebirney@gmail.com.

Training for trainers. Members volunteering to conduct practical training at the range for new members need to attend two training sessions. The first is on Tuesday, November 27, 7 to 9 PM, at Griggs Hunter Education Room. The second will be held on Saturday, December 1, 11 AM to about 1 PM. This is after the CMP match. If you have any questions, please contact Steven Schlegel at 509-539-6824.

TCMSA wants you to know: We are all responsible for safety at the range. If you see someone breaking the rules, take a moment to remind them. If they don't straighten up or you feel like they are disregarding what you are saying, fill out an incident report form & pass it on to the officers, we will take care of it.

President's Column:

The year is coming to a close and it is again elections time. During the December 6th meeting the Club will be looking for nominations for the Club officers, which are:

President

Vice President

Treasurer

Secretary

Membership Coordinator

There will also be nominations for two Board positions. If you have a nomination or want to run for one of the positions, make sure you attend the December meeting. The actual elections will be during the January 3rd meeting. Also up for vote is a proposed change in the Club bylaws, giving the Board authority to control membership. Please check the TCMSA.ORG web page for more information on this proposal.

The Club has placed five long handled magnets along the firing line for picking up fired steel cases. If you are shooting steel cases, this will make it easier to pick up and keep the range clean. Just deposit the empties in one of the trash barrels.

100 yard .22 LR Competition: The October rimfire Competition had 23 shooters including 2 women. This one is fun for everyone and is the most popular event at our club. Any .22lr, any sights are acceptable. You can shoot from the bench, prone with bipod, prone with sling, or prone shooting sticks. The course of fire is 40 rounds for record plus unlimited sighters. The next competition will be Saturday November 10th. Set up at 0830, competition starts at 0900. The best part about this one is that it is free, just bring your rifle and ammo.

Service Rifle Competition: The October Service Rifle Competition was cancelled because of weather, no one wanted to shoot in the rain, besides, the targets melt and fall off the target stands. The next competition will be Saturday December 8th. We will be shooting winter hours, set up at 0830 and competition starts at 0900. The course of fire is 50 rounds for record plus sighters. Any military rifle from any country will suffice. There are three classifications, iron sights, scope up to 4.5 power and Any/Any which is any rifle/any power scope. This competition is \$5 to participate. We follow most of the rules, and allow any alibis so everyone gets to fire all their rounds. *Gaylord*

Bench rest Competition: The October benchrest match had 12 competitors and weather ranging between still fog to mirage to mild breezes, just enough to keep some of us guessing. But not all were guessing as 4 perfect scores were shot and the guy who shot 249-21 is still wondering why.

Our next match is the Saturday morning after Thanksgiving so you'll have time to sleep off the tryptophan, get the hardware out, and come join us for a morning of fun. *Bob Birney*

Safety Committee Report:

The Safety Advisers were on duty the first weekend in October working 19 hours assisting 101 members with 11% teachable moments.

October was a swing month for us. All year long the percent of issues has been higher each month than last year. In 2017 October had fewer shooters with more issues while this year it had a lot more shooters with very few issues. Sunday the 7th had 54 members at the range in a 7 hour shift that the Safety Adviser worked with one contact.

For the year we had 12.6% teachable moments compared to 11.4 in 2017. The Safety Advisers assisted 808 members working 280 hours making 102 contacts. The vast majority of the membership takes our contacting them graciously but a few do not and the club had to permanently expel one member for his actions.

June and September were our highest months for teachable moments with 14 and 16 percent respectively.

There were six categories that had the most instances. Of the six, we hit the black in some and others were misfires.

<i>Issues</i>	<i>2017</i>	<i>2018</i>
Handling firearms while cold:	11	21
Muzzle control:	12	7
Forward of line when hot:	23	5
Firearms not made safe:	4	18
Firearms on back tables:	7	11
Eye protection:	35	25

As you can see we need to improve in some of the categories. To do this we need every member to make safety and range rules a priority to keep our range safe for everyone. Perhaps on your drive to the range mentally run through the safety/range rules on the way.

We need more Safety Advisers for next year. You get a \$25 dollar gift certificate for each shift worked and it counts as your work party credit. You will meet people and get to see a lot of different firearms which many guys will offer to let you shoot.

There still seems to be confusion for some as to the operation of the range warning system.

The system works as follows:

The stations at the pistol range, 50 yd line, flag pole and the cap (Civilian Marksmanship

Program) line (the far left area of the range that is graveled with no benches) all operate individually for the strobe light, as they are not interconnected. **If you turn on the strobe at a station you must return to that same station to turn off the strobes.** The signal for a cold range is one long blast of the horn and turn on the strobes and the signal for a hot range is two long blasts of horn and turn off the strobes. There is an instruction placard at each station if you are in doubt. Often times members will make the range cold, retrieve their targets and then immediately leave. When you leave other members do not know at what station you turned on the strobes. **If you are the member operating the strobes for a cold range, please stay at the range and make it hot.**

The club purchased several personal use magnets for picking up steel cases. They are hanging on posts spaced down the line. Also please remove your used targets as this time of year they get wet falling to the ground, then the wind blows them up the hill and someone has to walk around picking them up during a work party.

TCMSA caps are available just in time for Xmas. They are \$15 each and five of that goes to the range development fund.



You can purchase them from me at the meetings and matches.

We would like to encourage members that only use the range infrequently to review the safety rules available online or in the trailer before you start shooting.

Remember: Steel targets should be set at a minimum of 15 yards for safety reasons!

Stay informed: Go to tcmsa.org and in the upper left hand corner sign up for our newsletter to receive it and special announcements by email. Also always check the calendar before you go to the range.

We also need more members to volunteer as safety advisers. Contact me for more information.
Mark Johnson 509-308-5335

While shooting a handgun, what do you do when **hot brass** flies down your neck? **Control the muzzle of your gun!** Check out the article and video at: <https://www.usconcealedcarry.com/a-word-about-hot-brass/>

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