



# The Rattler

**JANUARY  
2024**

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

### GENERAL INFORMATION:

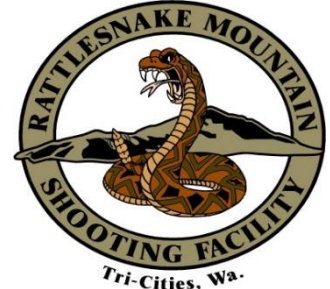
Web: [www.tcsa.info](http://www.tcsa.info)

Mailing Address:

**TCSA**  
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Chuck Nay	Oper. Officer	509.572.7115	<a href="mailto:chuckmail60@gmail.com">chuckmail60@gmail.com</a>
Rose-Iris Toberg	President Emeritus		



Sue Verwest  
Newsletter and Membership  
[membership@tcsa.info](mailto:membership@tcsa.info) or 509.735.1662

Ron Jorgensen  
Range Use Request / Range Events  
[Events@tcsa.info](mailto:Events@tcsa.info)

## PRESIDENT'S REPORT

By: Mark Verwest

The New Year brings in quite a few changes for purchasing a firearm in Washington State.

1. **You** must be **21 years of age or older** to purchase any firearm, frame or receiver.
2. **You** must take an **approved required training course** in order to purchase any firearm, frame or receiver.
3. All **background checks** go through the Washington State Patrol's SAFE System.
4. **You** will be required to pay an additional **\$18 fee per background check** payable to your Firearms Dealer.
5. All firearm purchases require a **mandatory minimum 10 business day wait** after purchase before the firearm can be transferred to the buyer.

### FREE TRAINING IS AVAILABLE!

Visit: [www.sporting-systems.com](http://www.sporting-systems.com)

Click on the link to Free Online HB1143/I-1639 Firearms Safety Training.

**Print your course completion certificate.** You will be required to show your FFL that you have completed the Firearms Safety Course prior to purchase.



**WISHING YOU AND YOUR FAMILY  
A HAPPY NEW YEAR**

### PRESIDENT'S REPORT: continued

At a recent TCSA Public Meeting we discussed possibilities for increasing shooting sports opportunities for youth. We agreed that it would be good to explore options which could include forming a **Youth Shooting Sports Club**, creating competitive shooting events for youth within our current disciplines, following up on introductory activities such as First Shots and any other activities that would attract and hold upcoming generations of safe and dedicated shooters. Stay tuned for information on how to share your thoughts and participate in development of youth-specific programs at Rattlesnake Mountain Shooting Facility. Youth do represent the future of our organization.

With winter upon us, there could be some weather-related Range closures and/or cancellations of Events. If the weather gets bad, check our Web Page and Facebook page for any updated Range closures before heading out to the Range and be sure to check the Discipline links on our website for the most up to date discipline events and/or cancellations.

### ROSE-IRIS RANGE

**Hours of Operation**  
9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.

**Wednesday, Friday, Saturday, Sunday**



### TCSA PUBLIC MEETING

**THURSDAY, JANUARY 11**  
7:00 p.m.

**RICHLAND LIBRARY**  
(Conference Rooms A & B)

# 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. – **John Julian** – 509.308.0376

**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](mailto:membership@tcsa.info) or 509.735.1662.

Check out our TCSA web site [www.tcsa.info](http://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**

Registration for our **January Traditional Class** is open and the Class will likely be full when this Newsletter comes out. There will be a



waiting list students can add their names to. I have started the process of arranging classroom space for **Online Class Evaluations** this spring. We are planning to hold sessions on **March 16, April 6** and **May 11** and might add an additional date. Our Classes and those offered by other instructor teams are all listed on the WDFW website.

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 use a firearm unless you are familiar with how it works.

If you have questions about our Hunter Education Classes contact me at: [randyabsolon@gmail.com](mailto:randyabsolon@gmail.com). Note this is an updated email address.

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



With the winter upon us, be sure to **check the road conditions** before driving out to the Range. **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.**



Rattlesnake Mountain Shooting Facility/TCSA  
<https://www.facebook.com/RMSFTCSA/>.

Contact **Robbie or Mike Ensminger** with questions or comments at [ChiefRSO@tcsa.info](mailto:ChiefRSO@tcsa.info)

**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!**



# CHIEF RSO REPORT

By: Mike Ensminger



Membership renewal time is approaching. Early renewals will get you early access to the RSO Duty Day signup calendar to pick your dates for next year.

When renewing, please keep in mind that the 2024 Rose-Iris Range Duty Year runs from **April 1, 2024 through March 31, 2025**. If you happen to see openings in March 2023, they are part of this current duty year, and do not count as a date for 2024-2025.

Until the new duty year starts, any 2024 dates you have signed up for can be seen on your RSO Dashboard on the secure RSO web page. The **new dates** you sign-up for **will not show up** on the "Duty Dates" list until April 1, 2024.

RSO Questions / Concerns  
Chief RSO - Mike Ensminger  
[chiefrso@tcsa.info](mailto:chiefrso@tcsa.info) or 509.521.9628

## ADVANTAGES OF BEING A RSO AND THE NEXT RSO CLASS

By: Dan Martini

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.

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!

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

### 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. If the trash blows out, "someone" has to pick it up. Buckets are provided for spent cartridges.



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

# RATTLESNAKE MOUNTAIN STEEL SHOOTERS

By: Mike Ensminger



The December Match has to go on record as one of the most miserable matches I have ever attended. The light rain ending around 10:00 was not light and did not end till after the Match was over. Some of the crowd actually prepared for it, but not all of us could say that. Almost everyone that started the Match finished it, with 30 guns represented.

Weather permitting, we have had time to clean the rust off everything and will be out there again **January 7**; with the Shooter's Meeting at 9:15. Send us a note if you are planning to shoot with a group and we will start a squad for you ([mikeberta4@gmail.com](mailto:mikeberta4@gmail.com)).

## COWBOY ACTION

By: Mike Ensminger

The weather cooperated and we had a really nice but really small Match in December, with only 8 shooters out there playing.



Weather permitting, we plan to be shooting again **January 27**. We start shooting at 9:00 these days.

## PRIMITIVE RANGE



By: Clint Bouslaugh

The Primitive Range is open for traditional black powder firearms shoots. This includes percussion, flintlock and matchlock rifles and pistols. We also shoot cap and ball revolvers.

We also have a trail walk set up for knife and tomahawk throwing. During special events we set up a primitive archery range with 3D animal targets.

So, if you want to try something new this year come to the Primitive Range and check us out. We are open on the third Saturday of the month from 9:00 to noon.

Our next shoot is scheduled for January 20.



**WHEN THE RANGE IS COLD**  
NO HANDLING OF ANY FIREARMS


**WHEN THE RANGE IS HOT**  
HANDLING OF FIREARMS IS PERMITTED

# SHOTGUN REPORT

By: Mark Monopoli

Welcome to 2024 and the month of January! Hopefully everyone had a fun and safe holiday season to end 2023. I am happy to announce we made the turn and the days are getting longer once again. Getting dark at 4:00 p.m. was getting a bit tiresome.

After a successful **Turkey Shoot** in November, we had an even more successful **Christmas Shoot** on December 17. All in all, we had about 80 shooters show up and compete for bacon from Hills Meats. We had shooters join us from Post Falls, Idaho, The Dalles, Oregon, Wenatchee, Prosser, Yakima and several other cities and towns from our little corner of the PNW.

Once again **Chad and Paulyn Ungerecht** did a wonderful job of keeping everyone shooting and well fed throughout the day. I believe we were shooting Annies and Buddy Shoots almost straight through from 9:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m. with a short break for lunch. There was a lot of bacon given away as well. Who doesn't like winning bacon?!? 

We again owe a big thank-you to **Lyle Laughery** and **Mike Peale** for running the upper trap for the shooters who were a little less experienced. From all reports Trap 1 was having as much fun, if not more, than Trap 2.

When you look at the numbers for both the **Turkey** and **Christmas Shoots**, we threw just over 4,900 targets, fed approximately 140 shooters, gave away 80 turkeys, 298 pounds of bacon, and several gift cards. It is hard to quantify how much "fun" is had at these shoots but if we go by the smiles, laughter and the amount of good-natured bantering, it is safe to say they are fun. There is also a fair bit of work that goes into these shoots each year, with most of the burden falling on Chad's broad shoulders. Luckily, he is still up to the task. Save the dates for next year, as I am sure we will be doing it all over again.

With the holidays and Christmas Shoot taking up most of the Sundays in December we only had one **50 Bird Handicap Trap Shoot** which was also the final shoot of this series. We had (10) shooters show up for their final chance at trap shooting glory. **Mark Monopoli** (me!), managed to squeak out a win over second place shooter **John Dyes**. The best part of winning the final round is that you get the spoils without any of the penalty. That's right, when we start these shoots back up in January everyone starts back at the 20-yard line! Keep an eye on the Shotgun Webpage at [www.tcsashotgun.com](http://www.tcsashotgun.com) for updates.

If the inevitable winter weather ever rolls in, please be careful on the sidewalks and the trap and skeet fields as they can be icy in the morning. There is ice melt in the backroom of the Range House that can be used on any

slick spots. Also be careful on the steps down into the trap houses and the ramp into the high-house on the skeet field.

With "Membership Renewal" season just around the corner please be diligent with taking in renewal forms. As a reminder, if you take a **NEW TCSA Membership** application, you must provide that person with one of the Temporary Membership Cards found in the RSO briefcase. Be sure they understand that until they get their membership card in the mail, they need to present the temporary card to avoid paying the Daily Range Fee. Membership cards are mailed out promptly, but still may take 3-4 weeks to reach them.

## SHOTGUN RSO INFORMATION

Remember current Membership Cards need to be presented every time a shooter signs in if they want to avoid the Daily Range Fee.

"Hero Volunteer of the Month" is going to be bestowed on someone who comes out to Range each week to help our Wednesday afternoon **RO Don Knowlton**. Since Don had knee replacement earlier this year **John Jaeger** has been coming out to help Don with running and closing the Range on Wednesdays. Thanks for helping out John! Honorable mention to **Mike Inglima** for becoming an RSO to also help out on Wednesdays and for serving his very first duty day on the same morning he went through the Shotgun training with Stu!

Thank you to those who have contacted me about helping on Wednesdays, it is a great help and is much appreciated. Don't get me wrong, we are still looking for RSOs who would like to volunteer for even more Wednesday Duties. They are shorter shifts and pretty easy as most everyone on Wednesdays are regulars. Shoot me an email at [mark.monopoli@outlook.com](mailto:mark.monopoli@outlook.com) if you would like to help out.

## SHOTGUN RANGE HOURS

Wednesday – 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.

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](http://www.tcsashotgun.com) and [www.tcsa.info](http://www.tcsa.info).

Thanks for reading! Feel free to drop me an email at [mark.monopoli@outlook.com](mailto:mark.monopoli@outlook.com).



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





# HIGH-POWER

By: Dave Baalman

With the new year comes a new calendar! The 2024 High-Power calendar is up on our website, link below. This month there is only one event, a **1000-Yard 1MOA Steel Match** on **January 7**. Come on out and join us for that one and the rest of the month is free for RSO's with a High-Power endorsement to work up a new load or try out that new rifle or gear Santa left in their stocking!

Speaking of the calendar, I would like to take a moment to acknowledge the people who put together our calendar and all the other competition schedules throughout the region. There are 4 full yardage High-Power Ranges in the state of Washington and 4 or 5 weekends in a month, so you would think it would be easy to schedule everyone's events without overlap but let me assure you that it is FAR FROM A SIMPLE TASK!

Each Range has varying schedule pressures and limitations, not to mention the other ranges outside our state to consider like those in Oregon, Idaho and Montana. There are also Regional and National Events to work around and holidays too. The cardinal sin of course is having two or more similar Matches scheduled somewhere near each other on the same weekend, trying to draw the same crowd in different directions. The coordination needed to avoid those issues involves Match Directors of every discipline at each range, coordinated by each range's staff and the state association. These efforts start around September each year and last well into December. So, a big thank you to all our Match Directors who's efforts go toward creating a schedule that works for all involved each year!

As described last month, we will have 3 High-Power Matches in 2024 that will be fired at reduced yardage (200 yards). Any repeating centerfire rifle that can hold at least 5 rounds combined with any decent ammo will be capable of achieving competitive scores. Wind effect will be reduced so it is a great opportunity to work on form and fundamentals without worrying about getting blown onto your neighbor's target. By using the e-targets we won't have to go down range at all during the Match, so we should be able to finish up in less than a couple of hours. The April Match will be a CMP League Match, with scores submitted nationally. The July and August Matches will be club matches only so they will be very informal, just come out and have some fun! If you are a new shooter looking to get into across the course high-power this is a great way to start. If you need more information, contact **myself** or **John Julian**, contact information below.

For many of us in the high-power world, winter is the time of year to prep for the upcoming season. Tasks like loading large amounts of ammo, working on gear, maybe building a new rifle or re-barreling an old one is common. Many of us spend some time working on form

and technique using a dry fire trainer like a SCATT or maybe shooting an air rifle in the relative warmth of the garage. When it gets dark at 4:30 though, it can be tough to find enough things to keep the mind occupied. If you find yourself in this boat or just needing something useful to listen to while tinkering or loading ammo, I have got a great suggestion for you, a podcast devoted entirely to high-power rifle! It's called *The Highpower Hangout*, and you can find it on Apple Podcast, Spotify, Podbay and others. As of this writing there are 32 episodes out there with tons of information on technique, load development, equipment, mental training and many other topics. I met the creator/host "JP" at the nationals at Camp Perry back in 2022 and can tell you he is knowledgeable, entertaining and oh by the way one heck of a shooter too. Check his podcast out, you won't be disappointed!



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:

**John Julian** High-Power Chairman  
509.308.0376 / [b24jcj@gmail.com](mailto:b24jcj@gmail.com)

**John Hauptmann** High-Power Secretary  
509.308.9230 / [jlhauptmann@gmail.com](mailto:jlhauptmann@gmail.com)

Dave Baalman Newsletter  
509.528.0183 / [dpbaalman@msn.com](mailto:dpbaalman@msn.com)



**Hearing and Eye protection  
required when shooting!**



**CHECK OUT THE TCSA WEB-PAGE**

[www.tcsa.info](http://www.tcsa.info)

**Calendar of Events**

**Range Photos**

**Shooting Venues**

**Frequently Asked Questions**

**Items For Sale**

**TCSA Forms**

**Monthly Newsletter**

**Weather**

**Range Rules**

**Banned Ammo**

# PRACTICAL PISTOL



By: Pam Harper



The **Inland Empire Sectional Match** will be held **June 15 - 16, 2024**. Registration will open **January 1, 2024 at 5:00 p.m.** Hope to see you there!  
<https://practiscore.com/2024-inland-empire-sectional/register>

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:** If you get new equipment over the holidays, check to make sure it meets the sport's Division requirements. Nobody wants to start a Match by adjusting their equipment to meet Division requirements right before their first stage.

**NATIONAL NEWS:** [www.uspsa.org](http://www.uspsa.org)

The dates for USPSA Nationals 2024 can be found here <https://uspsa.org/nationals>

The **USPSA Rules** as of March 1, 2023 can be downloaded to your phone:  
<https://uspsa.org/viewer/USPSA-Competition-Rules.pdf>.

The USPSA Rules Change Log is located here:  
<https://uspsa.org/viewer/USPSA-Competition-Rules-Change-Log.pdf>

## LOCAL NEWS:

All **EWPSA match results** can be found here (Practiscore.com): <https://bit.ly/EWPSAscores>

The **Monthly 2-Gun Match December 2** had 28 competitors with 4 Divisions. The Division winners were: Open: **Grant Fujimoto** (overall winner); Armored: **Derek Ball**; Retro: **Nicolas Espitia**; and Tactical: **Skeetz Guilbeau**.

**Speedway At Home Match December 2** had 28 competitors with 4 divisions. The Division winners were: Open: **Kelly Hill** (overall winner); Armored: **Cory Allen**; Retro: **Hunter Neilsen**; and Tactical: **Skeetz Guilbeau**.

The **EWPSA Monthly Match December 17** had 58 competitors with 9/9 USPSA Divisions represented. The Division winners were: Open: **Ryan Barnes** (overall winner); Carry Optics: **Clark Cagle**; Limited: **Daniel Hughes**; Limited 10: **Clayton Glasgow**; Limited Optics: **Jonathan Tran**; PCC: **Mike Czebotar**; Production: **Latu Moala**; Revolver: **Trevor VanArsdale**; and Single Stack: **Nicolas Hall**.

## COMING UP:

All upcoming **EWPSA Matches and Registrations** can be found here:  
Practiscore.com: <https://bit.ly/EWPSAmatches>

## EWPSA WILL BE HOSTING:

**EWPSA USPSA Monthly Match January 21.** Gates will open at 9:00 a.m., shooters meeting at 9:30 a.m., shooting begins at 10:00 a.m. The Match cost is \$20 members / \$25 non-members. More details on Practiscore.

**Monthly 2-Gun Match January 27.** Sign-in begins at 9:30 a.m. Shooting begins at 10:00 a.m. The Match cost is \$20 members / \$25 non-members. More details on Practiscore.

**2-Gun Team Match February 10.** Sign-in begins at 9:30 a.m. Shooting begins at 10:00 a.m. The Match cost is \$20 members / \$25 non-members. 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](https://www.facebook.com/groups/267093763957174/?ref=bookmarks)

Any questions or comments can be directed to **Curt Berger** at [bergercj@icloud.com](mailto:bergercj@icloud.com)

# MEMBERSHIP RENEWALS

By: Sue Verwest

With the start of a new year comes the start of "**Renewal Season.**" We currently have just over 2,600 members! To the members who have already sent in their renewals for this coming year - thank you!

**Membership Renewal forms** can be found on our web site [www.tcsa.info](http://www.tcsa.info) under the tab "Join/Renew". Membership Renewal Forms are also available at both the Rose-Iris Range and the Shotgun Range. Print out a Membership Form or get one from the Range and send in your renewal. Your early renewal will ensure you receive your Membership card in time for your next visit to the Range.

As in the past -- we have a firearm which will be given away to one lucky winner who renews **early**. The firearm is a **Ruger 10/22**. You will **double** your chance of winning if your renewal is post marked / received by **FEBRUARY 28**. You will have a single entry if your renewal is post marked / received during the month of MARCH. The drawing for the Ruger will take place at the General Membership Meeting in May.

Adult Membership - \$50.00  
Spousal Membership - \$75.00  
Junior Members wanting a Membership Card - \$10.00

