



The Rattler

JULY
2023

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

GENERAL INFORMATION:

Web: www.tcsa.info

Mailing Address:

TCSA
P.O. Box 785
Richland, WA 99352

TCSA OFFICERS

Mark Verwest	President	509.735.1662	mverwest1662@charter.net
George Hager	Vice-President	979.229.1615	george.hager@gmail.com
	Secretary		
Randy Bayuk	Treasurer	509.727.0177	g34_shooter@icloud.com
Mike Ensminger	Chief RSO	509.521.9628	chiefrso@tcsa.info
Dan Martini	Mbr at Large	509.627.3198	dantini@charter.net
Chuck Nay	Oper. Officer	509.572.7115	chuckmail60@gmail.com
Rose-Iris Toberg	President Emeritus		



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**

At the TCSA Board Meeting in May, **Robbie Ensminger** announced that she would be stepping down from her position as Treasurer. Robbie has held the position for over 12 years and her hard work got the TCSA through our most challenging financial times. On behalf of the entire TCSA Organization, I would like to thank Robbie for all her hard work and the time she volunteered over the years.

At the June TCSA Board Meeting, **Randy Bayuk** was unanimously elected as the new Treasurer. Randy has been our Secretary for quite a few years and with some subtle arm twisting, he volunteered to take on the Treasurer's position. He isn't new to that type of work as he also does the books for Practical Pistol. Congratulations and thanks to Randy from the TCSA Board.

On behalf of the Tri-Cities Shooting Association, I would like to thank the **Benton County Fire District #2** for cutting the fire breaks around our Ranges. Just in time for the hot and dry season ahead of us. Thanks!

I would like to also thank **Tex Long** for riding herd on the range gates in support of the Benton County Fire District #2 work.

With the high temperatures expected for this summer, you need to stay hydrated while out at the Range. Bring plenty of fluids and remember to drink them. If you need a break from the sun and heat, the Rose-Iris Range House and Shotgun Range House are air conditioned.

YOUTH INTRODUCTION TO FIREARMS

By: **Ron Jorgensen**

The Tri-Cities Shooting Association is scheduling an **Introduction to Firearms for Youth**. The event is scheduled for **Saturday, July 29**. The Introduction will be limited to twenty youths. If you or someone you know has children that might be interested, please have them contact me. These fun shoots will introduce youths to firearms safety and shooting with activities suitable for junior shooters.

Introduction is for youths aged 8 through 17 (girls and boys). It is an entry level activity intended for youths with little or no shooting experience and is free to all junior shooters. During the shooting portion, each shooter will be paired with a TCSA Range Safety Officer. There will be two classes scheduled with ten youths in each group.

All youths must be accompanied by a parent or guardian. Activities for the first group will begin at 9:00 a.m. The second group will begin at 10:30 a.m. Firearms and ammunition will be provided. The participants will be shooting .22 caliber rimfire rifles.

RSVP to 509.554.0048 or rjorge@charter.net. This will help us ensure adequate numbers of firearms and ammunition are available. Participation is based on order of response. Please feel free to contact me with any questions!



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 or 509.735.1662.

Check out our TCSA web site www.tcsa.info for a variety of information. If you have decided not to receive a printed Newsletter by mail, it is posted on the web site the first week of each month.

HUNTER EDUCATION AND SAFETY ASSOCIATION

By: Randy Absolon

We will have just finished our June Traditional Class when this Newsletter comes out. We had 19 students signed up for the Class, but only 13 showed up. This was still more students than we have had the last few years we offered this Class.



I have started the process to schedule evaluations for students who have completed the **Online Course** for **August 12, September 9** and **September 30**. These will be the last Classes we offer this calendar year. Information on our Classes and all other Hunter Ed Classes is available 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 know your zone of fire and stick to it.

If you have questions about our **Hunter Education Classes**, you can contact me at absolon@gorge.net

ROSE-IRIS RANGE

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

Wednesday, Friday, Saturday, Sunday

TCSA PUBLIC MEETING

THURSDAY, JULY 13
7:00 p.m.

RICHLAND PUBLIC LIBRARY
(Conference Rooms A & B)

RATTLESNAKES

Watch where you step and when you reach for things. Be aware of your surroundings.



CHIEF RSO REPORT

By: **Mike Ensminger**



The local fire district has placed the fire danger at "High", so .50 BMG's are not allowed at the Rose-Iris Range until that is relaxed.

If you would like to become an RSO, please send an email to Dan Martini (dantini@charter.net) and we will schedule classes whenever we have enough interest to fill one.

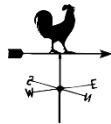
RSO INFORMATION

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

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!**



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



Hearing and Eye protection required when shooting!



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

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



RATTLESNAKE MOUNTAIN STEEL SHOOTERS

By: **Mike Ensminger**



36 guns were represented in the June Match and **Curt Berger** pretty much walked away with it.

We will be out there again on **July 2**, shooter's meeting is at 9:15. Sign-ups are at the Range on Match Day, but send us an email ahead of time if you know you are coming (mikeberta4@gmail.com) and would like us to start a squad for you. All we need are names and number of guns each.

COWBOY ACTION

By: **Mike Ensminger**

We had 15 shooters at the June Match and I have to say it was nice to see a couple of new faces.



We are planning 6 stages again on **July 22**. We are moving our shooter's meeting to 9:00 a.m., so plan on getting here a little bit earlier than usual. Entry will be using the gate at ~mile 7.4.

PRIMITIVE RANGE



By: **Clint Bouslaugh**

Our June Shoot was a **Youth Shoot** held at the Hunter Education Range. Turnout was light, we only had a couple of youth show up, but they had a good time. They got off about 20 shots each and their parents took a few shots too. None of them had fired a muzzleloader before and were pretty excited about it. The youth went home with their targets a Washington State Muzzleloaders Association pilgrim's medallion for first time shooters. I would like to thank the RSO's that volunteered to support this Event.

The **July Shoot** is scheduled for **July 15**, from 9:00 to noon. Remember, if the fire danger is listed as "extreme" the shoot will be canceled, due to potential for hot patch fires.

~~ FIRE SEASON ~~

Use Extra Caution!



SHOTGUN REPORT

By: **Mark Monopoli**

Happy Fourth of July everyone! That is always a strange sentence to utter. On the one hand, fireworks are fun to watch and, in my case, I like listening to them even more. On the other hand, with how fast time goes by these days, the beginning of July seems like the end of summer is already drawing near. Moral of the story? Get out there and enjoy this great summer weather as much as you can.

I can attest to Wednesday afternoons being a wonderful time to come out and shoot. As the sun gets lower in the sky it provides great lighting that makes the targets practically glow. Now, I can also say that being able to see them better doesn't always translate to breaking them better. The **Shotgun Range is OPEN 9:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. on Wednesdays**, come and join us for a few rounds.

I would like to talk about anything other than the **2023 Birdshot Challenge**, but I can't talk about the weather forever. So, the long and short of it is after years, and years, and years of trying, the **Walla Walla** and **Milton-Freewater** hybrid team beat **Rattlesnake** in 2023. I know, and they were as shocked to win as we were to not win.

Saturday morning saw us all converge on the **East End Rod and Gun Club** for (2) rounds of 5-Stand. Rattlesnake did what we were supposed to do and we left there with a slim lead. Saturday afternoon we moved to the **Walla Walla Gun Club** for a round of Super-Sporting and a half round of Continental Doubles. Well, I can tell you we should have practiced our Continental Doubles a little more than we did. When we left Walla Walla that evening, we were down by (47) birds and we had some work to do on Sunday.

Sunday morning, **Rattlesnake** was to be the battlefield, and we were on home turf. We had (2) more rounds of 5-Stand, a round of Skeet, and a round of 30 Yard Skeet crossers. All of these events Rattlesnake should come out ahead and maybe pull back into the lead. Spoiler alert, it didn't happen that way. Even though Rattlesnake was able to claw back (12) targets on Sunday, we ended up losing by (35) birds.

The WW/MF team shot well this year and they did a better job of focusing their team to the task at hand. Rattlesnake? Well, we rolled in like it was another weekend of shooting, a little more lax than we should have been and in the end I had to hand the trophy over to "them". Next year is only 11 months away, so we will be doing 2 a day from now until however long it takes to get our trophy back! That's all I have to say about that.

On a more somber note, the 2023 Birdshot Challenge will be the last time many of us got to shoot with **Cody Miller** who passed away after a sudden cardiac arrest a

week later. Cody was the current President of the WWGC and was usually present at these types of shoots. Cody was a good guy and I was happy to have been able to score a couple of rounds with him on that Saturday.

Never a fun paragraph to try and follow, but it's probably a good time to bring up our current "**Hero Volunteer of the Month**" for July. For the second or third time now, it is my honor to nominate **John Dyes as Mr. July!** John is an all-around good guy that does little things around the Range. This month John was nominated for emptying the garbage can on the 5-Stand field. John doesn't really shoot 5-Stand much and really only noticed it was full by looking down from the Skeet field. At that point John sprang into action, and viola, problem was solved. Thanks John!

Would you like to be a "**Volunteer Hero**" like John? The first step is to take the **TCSA RSO Class** and then get certified for the Shotgun Range, and then you can be the "**Volunteer Hero**" you were meant to be!

I am sure there are a lot of you that do this sort of thing as well when you're at the Range and I'm just not there to see it. So let me say thank you to everyone for helping out by doing tasks that are great or small. I would be willing to bet 85% of the work done at the Range isn't noticed most of the time. We have a great Range to shoot at and compared to most others it is cleaner, more comfortable and most importantly less expensive.

We had a junior shooter come up from the Boardman, Oregon area to shoot skeet this past Wednesday in preparation for a 4H National shoot back East somewhere. He mentioned several times how nice it was to shoot on a grass field. And that's when all our hard work pays off.

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.

SHOTGUN RANGE HOURS

Wednesday – 9:00 a.m. to 7:00 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 and www.tcsa.info.

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



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

HIGH-POWER

By: **Dave Baalman**

Another month is behind us, and we are about to get into the hot weather time of year. Remember that water bottle when you load up to go to the Range and the sunscreen too!

July is another busy one. For **Centerfire** we've got a **Regional Match Course** on the **8th**, a **Long Range v2 Match** on the **15th** and a **200/300 Yard Match** on the **25th**.

On the **Smallbore** side note that the **50/100 Dewar Match** on the **4th has been cancelled**, as has the **100 Yard Mini Palma** on the **18th**. We do have **Vintage Smallbore** on the **6th**, **100 Yard Mini-Palma** (use of provided ammo mandatory) on the **9th**, **50 Yard Benchrest Smallbore** on the **11th**, **50 Yard ARA Smallbore** on the **13th**, **100/200 Yard Smallbore** and **ELR Smallbore** both on the **22nd**.

Match descriptions, start times and match director contact information is available on our website for each match discipline: <https://www.tcsahighpower.org/match-descriptions>

Looking back at June, we had a **50/100 Dewar** on June 6. Five hearty souls toughed it out and shot both the 50- and 100-yard legs of the Match. It took large amounts of rock to stabilize the targets and prevent wind caused upsets. A big thank you to **Tex Long** for running the line and helping with the score keeping. **Phil Keuhlen** shot a "clean" at 50 yards and an overall score of 395-20x for the win. No small accomplishment in the 20 mph winds with gusts to 30 mph. **Tom Halecki** had the high X count of 24 which is remarkable given the environmental challenges, and a second-place overall score of 394-24x.

We had a Smallbore Benchrest Match June 13. 10 shooters attended despite the rumor of nasty wind conditions forthcoming, the actual winds were not horrible. The May Fly infestation was REALLY an annoyance! There was some fine shooting on display that morning, although X's were few and far between for everybody. **Phil Keuhlen** and **David Vance** were way ahead of the pack with scores of 479-7x & 470-1x respectively. Phil took Match Winner, High Card and High X Count. Congratulations Phil! A big thanks to **Tex Long** for helping run the Match.

There was a **100 Yard Smallbore Slowfire Match** on June 20. From the Match Director: although we nearly got rained out, it paid to hang in there and the wind was (mostly) constant from our rear and the precipitation held off. It was certainly a pleasure to be able to witness some really fine shooting today. Although the turnout was a bit thin, the four who did attend more than made up for lack of quantity with excellent quality. Nobody

shot under 96%. **Jeff Davis** FAR outdistanced the whole pack with two cleans, the high, near perfect, aggregate (449-29X, 99.78%) and the high X count. Congratulations Jeff!

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 / b24jcyj@gmail.com

John Hauptmann High-Power Secretary
509.308.9230 / jhauptmann@gmail.com

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: Do an equipment check (belt, gun, and mags) before going to a major Match. Check the Rules for equipment requirements. In USPSA, equipment out of compliance can get you moved to the Open Division. If out of compliance in Open Division, you will shoot for NO score.

NATIONAL NEWS: www.uspsa.org

The dates for USPSA Nationals 2023 have been released <https://uspsa.org/nationals>

The **USPSA Rules** were updated March 1, 2023. <https://uspsa.org/viewer/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/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** June 3 had 25 competitors with 4 Divisions represented. The Division winners were: Armored: **Matt Newburn** (overall winner); Open: **Brian Humann**; Retro: **Nancy Martin**; Tactical: **Nicolas Espitia**.

The **Fun in the Sun 2-Gun Match** June 11 had 17 competitors with 3 Divisions represented. The Division winners were: Tactical: **Gerald Olson** (overall winner); Open: **Randall Hecht**; and Stealth: **Nicolas Espitia**.

The **EWPSA Monthly Match** June 17 - 18 had 69 competitors with 7/9 USPSA Divisions represented. The Division winners were: Open: **Ryan Barnes** (overall winner); Carry Optics: **Richard Ingram**; Limited: **James Thomas**; Limited Optics: **Brian Humann**; PCC: **Mike Czebotar**; Production: **Thomas Leachman**; and Single Stack: **Trevor Gray**.

COMING UP:

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

EWPSA will be hosting:

Independence Weekend Rifle Match July 1. Gates will open at 8:00 a.m. The Match cost is \$15. More details on Practiscore.

Steel Challenge Monthly Match July 9. Gates will open at 9:00 a.m., shooters meeting at 9:30 a.m., shooting begins after the meeting. More details on Practiscore.

EWPSA USPSA Monthly Match July 15 - 16. Gates will open at 9:00 a.m., shooters meeting at 9:30 a.m., shooting begins at 10:00. The Match cost is \$20 members / \$25 non-members. More details on Practiscore.

DMR 2-Gun Monthly Match July 22. Registration will open at 8:30 a.m., shooting begins at 9:00 a.m. The Match costs \$15. More details on Practiscore.

Monthly 2-Gun Match August 5. Gates will open at 8:00 a.m. The Match cost is \$20. 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



Garbage cans are available for your trash and buckets are provided for spent cartridges.

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



*I pledge allegiance to the Flag
of the United States of America,
and to the Republic
for which it stands,
one Nation under God,
indivisible, with liberty and justice
for all.*



ADVANTAGES OF BEING A RANGE SAFETY OFFICER

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 an RSO, you must be a **current member**, **attend the RSO Training Class** and obligate yourself to **volunteer at the Range three times a year**.

If you would like to become a RSO or would like more information about becoming a RSO, contact **Dan Martini** at Dantini@charter.net or 509-627-3198.

CHECK OUT THE TCSA WEB-PAGE
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](#)