

Procedure for the Conduct of Hunter Education Classes at the HE Range

Operated by the Hunter Education and Safety Association (HESA) August, 2012

Definition

The "HUNTER EDUCATION (HE) RANGE" is defined as the shooting range posted as such and located south of the Rose-Iris (RI) General Purpose shooting range. The Hunter Education Practical Area is also considered part of the HE Range.

Use Restrictions

The HE Range may only be used when a TCSA qualified Range Safety Officer (RSO) is present and the red range flag flown on the flag pole before any handling of firearms or shooting can occur. Individuals desiring to use the HE Range for an Event shall submit a TCSA Range Use Request to the TCSA. The TCSA Operations Officer will contact the HESA Chief Instructor to verify HE Range availability. The HESA Chief Instructor will forward this procedure to the Event Lead Instructor for his acknowledgement and assign a confirmation number to the request when this procedure is returned. The TCSA Operations Officer will then approve or disapprove the request depending upon range availability and appropriateness of the request, and include the Event on the master TCSA Range Use calendar. During the time when HE classes or other Events are being conducted, no other shooters may use the HE Range. The Practical Area is **only to be used** to conduct field course evaluations of HE class students. **No ammunition or loaded firearms are allowed in this Practical Area.**

When the HE Range is used for a Hunter Education Class, in addition to the HE Range Rules, the following Event rules will be in effect from the time the Event begins until the Event has been completed. For each Event, the Head or Chief Instructor shall identify themselves to the Range Safety Officer in Charge. Compliance with these rules is required to ensure individual's coverage under the TCSA Liability Insurance Policy.

Safety

1. Sign in for shooting Events (HE classes, First Shots, etc.) will be done at the HE Range. At the end of the shooting Event the sign-in sheets shall be put in an envelope and deposited in the RI Range safe in accordance with the RI Range Instructions. All shooters shall check in with the HE Range Safety Officer **BEFORE** moving firearms or shooting at the HE Range.
2. Adults and children under the covered HE Range area must wear hearing and eye protection
3. HE Range rules may not be modified or changed to be relaxed unless approved in writing by the person(s) designated by the HESA. Any other procedural changes must be approved of by the Range Safety Officer in Charge. Any procedural changes made shall only be for the one time use of the HE Range and must be approved again for each additional use of the Range. Violation of these rules or failure to obey the Range Safety Officer commands may result in the cessation of all Range Activities.
4. A TCSA Range Safety Officer(s) representing, and appointed by the HESA shall be in charge of the safety at the HE Range and Practical Area field course during HE classes. They must be present in order for Event activities to be conducted safely at this Range. Their sole purpose is to ensure the safe conduct and adherence to the TCSA and HE Range rules during class usage. Range Safety Officers shall not be expected or used to fulfill any other role during the use of the Range by the Event. They may offer opinions if asked, but they shall not interfere with instructors in the operation of their Event unless it is to enforce the Range Rules.
5. Firearms shall remain cased and/or in vehicles until given permission by the Range Safety Officer to be removed and placed in the racks provided. Firearms may only be handled when the HE Range is Hot
6. Before beginning any training Event, the Range Safety Officer will go over the HE Range and Practical Area Rules with everyone present.
7. All firearms shall be unloaded (both chamber and magazine) and grounded with actions open with an open chamber indicator flag visible, in a rack with actions open and not handled when the HE Range is declared Cold by the Range Safety Officer.
8. When the Range Safety Officer in charge declares the HE Range is Hot, firearms may be handled and firing may commence. No part of any person is allowed to be forward of the firing line (front edge of concrete pad or firing benches).

Hunter Education Practical Area Field Course

The purpose of the Practical Area Field Course is to simulate various obstacles hunters are likely to encounter while in the field or hunting areas, and to be able to evaluate the student's ability to safely handle their firearms and maintain muzzle control while crossing or traversing various obstacles.

Due to the close proximity to the Highway and other ranges that may have shooting Events being conducted at the same time as the HE class is being conducted, special precautions must be taken to ensure none of the firearms used for the HE Field course portion of the class have been cleared of all ammunition.

Before using the field course students shall prove to all participants their firearm action(s) are cleared of all ammunition. No ammunition, live or otherwise, shall be in the possession of any individual or group using the field course part of the range. All individuals using the field course portion of the range must declare to the Instructor or Range Safety Officer supervising the field course that they do not have in their possession ammunition of any sort.

1. The Practical Area Field Course is not classified as being in a Hot or Cold condition as defined for the other TCSA Ranges. While on the Practical Area Field Course, unloaded firearms may be handled while the HE Range is cold with the approval of the Instructor in Charge and the duty Range Safety Officer for the Event.
2. Students will be directed by the HE Instructor who will coordinate movement through the Field Course.
3. When exiting the Practical Area Field Course with the Hunter Education Range Cold, the students shall not approach either the firing line cover or their vehicles, but shall gather at a point approved by the Instructor or Range Safety Officer and wait for the duty HE Range Safety Officer to call the range Hot. They may then proceed with their firearms to their next destination.

Definitions

Actions open and visible – means one can look at the firearm to determine if it is unloaded. An exception is if the action is not able to be made readily visible, however an open chamber indicator flag will be required to be used in the action as evidence of the unloaded state of the firearm. Single action revolvers may not easily be made to see all the chambers, however a range flag through the loading gate into a chamber usually makes them inoperable and indicates they have been checked to make sure they are unloaded.

Downrange – means the portion of the range where the targets are placed and the direction bullets go.

Event – means a TCSA approved training activity taking place at the Range such as a HE course.

Generator – means the person creating or causing the waste or garbage.

Governing Authority – means that body which has control over the functioning and use of the Range. The Governing Authority for the operation of the HE Range is HESA

Grounded – means the firearm is placed; on a bench, on the ground, in a rest, or otherwise securely stored so as not to be touched or held in any way.

Head or Chief Instructor – means the lead Instructor present in charge or responsible for the Event.

Hunter Education Class – A class conducted for the purposes of training and evaluating Hunter Education students.

Other Firearms Training – means training by groups approved by the TCSA, such as the First Shots.

Range Office in Charge – means the Head Range Safety Officer on duty for the Event.

Secure – means that the firearm is contained in a plastic or thick padded material case that will prevent any trigger contact.

My return of this message means that I as the Lead Instructor have read and will comply with these additional HE Range rules during the conduct of my HE class.