



# The Rattler

SEPTEMBER  
2020

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  
P.O. Box 785  
Richland, WA 99352

## TCSA OFFICERS

Mark Verwest	President	735-1662	<a href="mailto:mverwest1662@charter.net">mverwest1662@charter.net</a>
George Hager	Vice-President	979-229-1615	<a href="mailto:george.hager@gmail.com">george.hager@gmail.com</a>
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Roberta Ensminger	Treasurer	628-0889	<a href="mailto:mikeberta4@gmail.com">mikeberta4@gmail.com</a>
Mike Ensminger	Chief RSO	521-9628	<a href="mailto:chiefrso@tcsa.info">chiefrso@tcsa.info</a>
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Jim Petrilli	Operations Officer	392-2012	<a href="mailto:jpenterprizes7@gmail.com">jpenterprizes7@gmail.com</a>
Rose-Iris Toberg	President Emeritus		



Sue Verwest  
Newsletter and Membership  
[membership@tcsa.info](mailto:membership@tcsa.info) or 735-1662

Greg Spencer  
Range Safety Officer Scheduler  
[rsoscheduler@tcsa.info](mailto:rsoscheduler@tcsa.info) or 392-3649

Steve Scott  
Range Use Request and Facebook  
[Events@tcsa.info](mailto:Events@tcsa.info)

## PRESIDENT'S REPORT

By: Mark Verwest

Due to the governors ongoing restrictions, the TCSA will not be able to host our Annual RSO Appreciation Meeting and BBQ this month.

I would like to **thank every RSO** for their contributions to running the Range in a safe and family friendly manner. Without our **great volunteer RSO Staff**, we would not be able to operate the Range and be open to the public. Both the **TCSA Board** and **I** appreciate your efforts in helping to make us the **Best Range in the Pacific Northwest !**

Also, it is that time of the year again when the Range sees an increase in use by the general public for pre-hunting season firearms sight in. I would like to remind the RSOs that this is a good time to be extra aware of safety violations. In the past we have seen a number of inexperienced shooters show up and they are sometimes in need of some extra supervision. Some of the things I have seen in the past are handling of firearms when the range is cold and poor muzzle control, so a little extra vigilance will be appreciated by all your fellow shooters.

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## ROSE-IRIS RANGE

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

Wednesday, Friday, Saturday, Sunday

## ADVANTAGES TO BEING A RANGE SAFETY OFFICER

The advantages of being an 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 an 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 attend the RSO Training Class, obligate yourself to volunteer at the Range three to four times a year and keep your membership current.

If you or someone you know would like to attend the next RSO Training Class or would like more information about becoming a **Range Safety Officer**, contact **Dan Martini** at 509-627-3198 or [Dantini@charter.net](mailto:Dantini@charter.net).

## ANNUAL HUNTER SIGHT-IN CANCELLED

By: Ron Jorgensen

Due to the ongoing threat of the corona virus, the TCSA has determined that the Annual Hunter Sight-In should be cancelled. The current requirements for social distancing, limitations on group size and mask use make it difficult to conduct an event of this type.

Shooters may still use the Rose Iris facility to sight in their firearms during any of the regularly scheduled days.

## 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 Representative – **Charles Kissler** – 783-8505  
**Nelson Thomas** – 727-4678  
Practical Pistol Representative – **Don Brown** – 582-6993

**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 Representative – **John Julian** – 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. Representative – **Randy Absolon** – 628-3899

**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** – 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 Representative – **Dave Otto** – 619-4494

## “WELCOME” NEW MEMBERS

Welcome! In this Newsletter you can find the contact information for the Board Members and in the above Article 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 735-1662.

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

## FIRST SHOTS®

### An introduction to Safe Handgun Shooting

For information about future Classes and to get your name on the list contact **Mike Ensminger** at 509-521-9628 or [chiefRSO@tcsa.info](mailto:chiefRSO@tcsa.info)

## HUNTER EDUCATION AND SAFETY ASSOCIATION

By: **Randy Absolon**



It is now official, all **in person Hunter Education Classes** have been cancelled through the end of the calendar year. The uncertainty of the current covid-19 situation and a resulting complicated logistical situation, made trying to hold in person classes impractical.

Students who are age 9 or older can complete the entire **Online Course** through the online process, including the field course. Younger students will have to complete the field exercise in person when Classes are again offered.

The good news for most of us, is that many hunting seasons open in September including dove, turkey and some big game seasons.

**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 after you are done shooting, including returning target stands to the Rose-Iris Range House and picking up all brass.**

Always remember to control the direction of your muzzle, be sure of your target and what lies in front of and beyond it, keep your finger off of the trigger until you are ready to shoot and never cross a fence, climb a tree, cross a stream or jump a ditch with a loaded firearm.

If you have questions on our **Hunter Education Classes** you can contact me at [absolon@gorge.net](mailto:absolon@gorge.net)



## TCSA PUBLIC MEETING

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 10  
7:00 p.m.

Shotgun Range House

# CHIEF RSO REPORT

By: Mike Ensminger

I just recently realized the RSO Handbook still recommends bringing \$20 in change for a duty day at Rose-Iris. Many thanks to the first RSO to actually read that in a while, but times have changed and you should plan to bring at least \$50 in small bills, more if you can.



I try to always leave a few dollars in quarters in the "donation" can for those that only want one target, so check there if you need coins. You can always impose a 4 target minimum if short on coins.

The "found" pile at Rose-Iris is getting pretty big these days, with ear muffs, slings, even ammunition sitting there awaiting an owner, so please check it out if you have left anything behind in the last few weeks.



## PISTOL BAY NOTES:

Please be sure to sign in on the clip board at the Pistol Bays, even if you (and any guests) have already signed in elsewhere on the Range that day. Just note "paid at Rose-Iris" for any paying guests. We track specific Pistol Bay usage on these sheets, so it is important that they accurately reflect every visit.

If the sheets are full, drop them in the safe at Rose-Iris and grab a few blank Sign-In Sheets from the desk; just change them to read "Pistol" instead of "Rose-Iris".

Make sure you take down the "bravo" flag if you are the last one out, but please make sure you are actually the last one out. Just because it is quiet does not mean everyone else left, so you need to drive end to end and check.

## RSO INFORMATION

RSO Questions / Concerns  
Chief RSO - Mike Ensminger  
[chiefrso@tcsa.info](mailto:chiefrso@tcsa.info) or 509-521-9628

RSO Access Key Cards are only for opening gates. Access key cards are not to be used in place of or as a substitute for your Membership identification card.

RSOs must have their Membership Card confirming they are a current RSO. **Without your current Membership Card, you will need to pay the \$10.00 Daily Use Fee and shoot with the general public.**

# RSO TRAINING CLASSES

By: Dan Martini

The last two RSO Classes offered this year are full. Individuals wanting to have their names added to the **next 2021 RSO Class** list should send an email to me at [dantini@charter.net](mailto:dantini@charter.net).



## ROs vs RSOs

Current **Range Officers (ROs)** who have not attended the new **Range Safety Officer (RSO) Class**, please consider the following benefits. You will get an updated copy of the Range Safety Officer guide, be briefed on all of the changes that have occurred at the Rose-Iris Range since you qualified as an RO, cover the new safety brief guidelines, receive introductory trauma training, discuss firearm and ammunition malfunctions and get a new Range Safety Officer badge. And the best part is that it is **FREE**. Send **Dan Martini** an e-mail message at [dantini@charter.net](mailto:dantini@charter.net) and he will put your name on the next RSO Class list and send you information with all the details.

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

Write a review and share your opinion about TCSA's Rattlesnake Mountain Shooting Facility! Let us know how we are doing. Contact **Steve Scott** with questions or comments at [Events@tcsa.info](mailto:Events@tcsa.info)



Hearing and Eye protection required when shooting!



[WWW.TCSA.INFO](http://WWW.TCSA.INFO)

TCSA Webmaster:  
Aaron Howell  
[webmaster@tcsa.info](mailto:webmaster@tcsa.info)



# RATTLESNAKE MOUNTAIN STEEL SHOOTERS

By: Mike and Robbie Ensminger



The weather was nice and we had 43 guns at the August Shoot. We hope to shoot again **September 6**. Shooter's meeting at 9:15.

Contact **Mike** or **Robbie** to start a squad in advance - [mikeberta4@gmail.com](mailto:mikeberta4@gmail.com).

# COWBOY ACTION

By: Mike and Robbie Ensminger

We had a good turnout for this time of year and these conditions with 19 shooters at the **August Match**, including a couple of brand-new faces.



With 5 Saturdays in August, we also hosted a **Wild Bunch Shoot** on the 29th, which entails a 1911 in .45, an 1897 or 1912 Winchester and a lever action rifle and had 10 shooters in attendance.

If nothing changes, we will be out there shooting **Cowboy** again **September 26**, shooters meeting at 9:15.

# PRIMITIVE RANGE

By: Clint Bouslaugh

Had a good shoot at the Range this month. Getting a consistent group showing up every month.

It is getting to that time of year to come out and sight in for hunting season.

Our next **Monthly Shoot** will be on **September 19** from 9:00 until noon.



# UNITED WAY

Keep us in mind when the United Way campaign kicks off at work. The **Tri-Cities Shooting Association** is a **501(c)(3) non-profit corporation** and is eligible for donations through the United Way. Any donations are genuinely appreciated.



# 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/templates-and-other-resources/>

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

The USPSA Rules

[https://uspsa.org/documents/rules/2019\\_USPSA\\_Competition\\_Rules.pdf](https://uspsa.org/documents/rules/2019_USPSA_Competition_Rules.pdf) can be downloaded to your phone for easy access or get the **USPSA App** at <https://uspsa.org/app> for your phone.

**LOCAL NEWS:** The August **Fun 2-Gun in the Sun Match** had 20 competitors with 2/2 divisions represented. Social distancing fun was had by all! The Division winners were: Open: **Mike Czebotar**; Tactical: **Gerald Olson**. Complete Results at: <https://clubs.practiscore.com/results/new/114648>

The **USPSA August Match** had 39 competitors with 5/8 USPSA divisions represented. Social distancing fun was had by all! The Division winners were: Open: **Shane Hill**; Carry Optics: **Rachel Harper**; Limited: **David Blosser**; PCC: **Warren Harper**; Production: **John Morgan**.

Complete Results at:

[https://clubs.practiscore.com/results/new/115313?q\\_division=0](https://clubs.practiscore.com/results/new/115313?q_division=0)

**EWPSA** will be hosting their **Monthly Match September 20**, limited to 40 participants is required, so sign up early. **Registration should be done on Practiscore** at <https://clubs.practiscore.com/ewpsa-2020-09/register>. Gate will open at 9:00 a.m., new shooters briefing at 9:30 a.m, shooting begins at 10:00 a.m. The Match costs \$15 TCSA members, \$20 non-TCSA members and juniors shoot for free. More details on Practiscore.

**Set-up for the Match will begin September 19** at 9:00 a.m. If you sign up as Staff, help set up and tear down, **you can shoot for FREE!** 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 **Don Brown** at [dl\\_brown@charter.net](mailto:dl_brown@charter.net).

# SHOTGUN REPORT

By: Mark Monopoli

It was hot, but now it is nice, and that heralds the coming end of summer. We are not there yet kids, so get out to the Range and shoot as many targets as you possibly can! Why? Because we are a Shotgun Range and that is what we do! Two of the three shotgun games offered at Rattlesnake sees us shoot the same dang birds over, and over, and over. Someone said the definition of insanity is doing something the same way and expecting a different result. Is it true? No idea, I've never looked it up. What's that have to do with anything? Nothing really, but sometimes I shoot at a bird with the same lead every time and it never breaks. There may be a lesson there, but I don't see it.

**5-Stand League has begun with a bang!** Pun intended. After the cancellation of Trap and Skeet League this year a little friendly competition with good people is a great way to end the summer. August 30 was the first day of League and we have a strong turnout of 18 shooters so far! **You can join the League at any time** and you can score (4) rounds per Sunday, so getting done should not be a problem for anyone. **Phil Volkman** is again putting together some great target presentations that are fun and challenging. Truth be told the first week was pretty challenging, but no one was seen crying afterwards, so it must have been ok. There is all level of shooters in League, beginners to mildly good, so come out on Sundays beginning at 9:00 a.m. and join a great group of shooters for a fun time. We have shooters from Walla Walla, Pendleton, Milton-Freewater and as far away as Kansas City!

The continuing saga of the Skeet vs. 5-Stand field is still smoldering and the complexity of the retribution is getting a little more complicated. In an effort to literally bury the 5-Stand field in grass, Ron has enlisted poor **Dave Otto** into his plans and they're doing their best to drive poor **Rick "The Cleaver" Poehls** insane by making the lawn grow at 2" per day! Now Rick is smarter than your average lawn boy, so he enlisted the help of **Phil Volkman** to mow twice per week to keep up. Phil being a tire guy knows about things that go round and round so he in turn flips **Dave Otto** as a double agent to find a way to thwart Ron! Otto being Otto, and not wanting to go up against Ron directly, tells Phil he should activate the sleeper cell known as **Eric Bickle!** Luckily Phil held back from unleashing the Bickle on everyone, thereby averting a beat down of epic proportions and a strained peace now exists across the fields. See what you miss out on by not volunteering at the Shotgun Range? Just so everyone is caught up, Ron loves the Skeet Field and keeps it in tip top condition. The 5-Stand field is taken care of mostly by the 5-Stand shooters each week, but truth be told it is not up to the same standards as the Skeet field mainly due to target chips coming down from the Skeet field Ron so loves. The Trap fields? Well the trapshooters must work extremely hard on their fields because they

are always tired and sitting on the porch resting. Like most news these days this story is very loosely based on secondhand information from a "source" not authorized to speak to the "press". This Author did try and help by using the backpack blower on the 5-Stand field. The results? Ron looked down from on high and said I lacked proficiency, Rick point blank asked me not to "help" anymore. Luckily I'm undeterred in my quest to sow division in the ranks for the entertainment of you all!

**Chad Ungerecht** must have seen his shadow which means there will be (2) **Fun Shoots** coming up on the dates listed below. If you enjoy shooting trap, having a good time, and bringing home some meat for the table, come on out and join the fun! There will be more details to follow.



**PRE-TURKEY SHOOT**    **OCTOBER 25**  
**TURKEY SHOOT**        **NOVEMBER 22**

**Good Guy of the Month** goes to **Justin Smith** for taking the initiative of emptying the trash can on the 5-Stand Field just because it was full! Great job Justin, your prize is that you get to empty the trash cans for the period of one year!

Get out and shoot! It's fun even when you miss! Maybe not as much as a hit, but still fun! Which brings up something we should all try and do. Bring out new shooters and introduce them to this real-life video game we all play on a weekly basis. I was lucky enough to bring out a great group of guys from **Family First Dental** and introduce them to the fun of trapshooting. It was fun for them, and even more fun for me getting to share something I enjoy doing with a good group of people. In this day and age anytime we can introduce new people to any type of shooting sport is a very good thing.

This was one rambling mess of a Shotgun Report! Thank you for reading this far and thank you for being part of the Rattlesnake Mountain Shotgun Range! The Range with the coolest patches around!

## SHOTGUN RSO INFORMATION

**Remember, if you plan to be sick on your duty day please plan ahead and find a replacement.**

**RSO scheduling questions? Contact Mr. Chris Quinton at [roscheduler@tcsashotgun.com](mailto:roscheduler@tcsashotgun.com).**

## **SHOTGUN RANGE HOURS**

Wednesday, 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! Don't be shy, shoot me a note at [mark.monopoli@outlook.com](mailto:mark.monopoli@outlook.com) and let me know what you think about anything at all.



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

# HIGH POWER

By: John Hauptmann

COVID related match restrictions and social distancing protocols will remain in place for the remainder of the year; updates and schedule revisions will be posted on the High Power web page at [www.tcsahighpower.org](http://www.tcsahighpower.org). Outside of our scheduled Matches the Range is open for informal High Power RSO use but please maintain social distancing and use common sense when you do so.

**RANGE CLOSURES:** None

**MATCH REVISIONS:** Start times for the **September 4 - 6 Mid & Long-Range Matches** has been moved up to 7:00 a.m. The Match format has also been changed to reflect Mid-Range Matches at 600 yards only and Long-Range Matches at 1000 yards only. The applicable calendar and match program updates are posted on the High Power web page at <https://www.tcsahighpower.org/> about the time this Newsletter goes out.

**The following adjustments to Match operations will be in place for the duration of the COVID-19 emergency:**

- Social distancing will be required by all attending.
- Bring exact match fees; Match Directors will not be making change. Alternatively match fees may be waived at the Match Director's discretion.
- Registrations and scores will be taken verbally.
- Shooters MUST bring their own writing instruments.
- CDC and State guidelines will be followed when social distance cannot be maintained

**HIGH POWER RANGE OFFICER OPPORTUNITIES:** We are always looking for volunteers to help with our major Matches, so please let **John Hauptmann** know if you are available and willing. No experience is required and all you need to bring are season appropriate clothes and a good attitude.

**ROAD CONDITIONS:** The roads remain in good shape, but please still use common sense and keep your speed down, particularly on the corners.



**CANYON GATE COMBINATION CHANGE:** The Canyon gate combo was changed last Spring. As a TCSA High-Power RSO you were either provided the new combo when you signed up for your 2019 High-Power duty day or as part of your initial range briefing. If in doubt, contact **John Hauptmann** to get yourself squared away; Life Members with High-Power endorsement are exempt from the duty day requirement, but you still have to contact John for the new combo



**HIGH-POWER RSO ENDORSEMENT:** For any interested TCSA RSO, 1KYD High-Power Endorsement Training is scheduled on an as-needed basis throughout the year. It only takes an hour and allows you unrestricted access to the High-Power Range outside our scheduled Matches. The only prerequisite is that you be a current TCSA RSO. Please contact **John Hauptmann** with questions or to schedule your training.

**HIGH-POWER CONTACTS:** Contact High-Power Chairman **John Julian** at 509-308-0376 / [b24jcg@gmail.com](mailto:b24jcg@gmail.com) or High-Power Secretary **John Hauptmann** at 509-308-9230 / [jlhauptmann@gmail.com](mailto:jlhauptmann@gmail.com) if you have questions about an Event or how to get involved with High-Power at any level or discipline. Please keep an eye on our **Facebook** page at TCSA High-Power and our **web page** at: [www.tcsa.info/disciplines/highpower](http://www.tcsa.info/disciplines/highpower) for additional details, match highlights, photos and related links.

**ALL MEMBERS MUST** show their **CURRENT 2020/2021 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!**



## GENERAL FIREARM HANDLING SAFETY TIPS

Treat every firearm as being loaded.

Always keep the muzzle pointed in a safe direction.

Keep your finger off the trigger until ready to shoot. Do not rely on your firearm's "safety device".

Keep the firearm unloaded when not in use.



**TCSA HATS - \$20.00 each (including tax)**  
These can be found at the Rose-Iris Range

