

- Treat all firearms as though they are loaded.
- Never allow the muzzle to cover (point at) anything you are not willing to destroy.
- Keep your finger off the trigger and out of the trigger guard until your sights are on target and you are ready to fire.
- Be sure you have an acceptable target, know its surroundings, and what is beyond.

KRRC Needs Volunteers!

With an ever-expanding list of activities and improvements happening at the range, we need all of the help we can get. We particularly need assistance in the following areas:

- **Fair Committee.** The Kitsap County Fair is always a big event for KRRC. This year we are looking for a volunteer coordinator for the fair as well as volunteers to man the booth for one or more four hour periods during Fair week in August.
- **Courage Classic Committee.** This annual event, now in its eleventh year, draws competitors from various law enforcement agencies throughout the region. This is a fun competitive event that raises funds for local charities while allowing teams to "show their stuff" on the range. Assistance with event coordination, score-keeping, publicity, and set-up will be needed for this early fall event.
- **Fun Steel Matches.** Volunteers are always welcome at our monthly Fun Steel shoots. Score keeping, set-up and take-down of targets, and assistance with other general tasks is needed. Training is provided so come out and help!

- **Action Shooting.** This year Earl Jull, our Action Shooting coordinator, is providing free training to volunteers who wish to learn how to set up, score and assist competitors during Action Shooting matches. More information on this can be found on page 3.
- **Friends of the NRA.** This group coordinates an annual dinner and auction to raise funds to support shooting sports both locally and nationally. Donations for the auction are now being sought and can include anything from shooting related items to goods and services from local businesses.
- **Work Parties.** That may sound like an oxymoron but we actually have a lot of fun during our monthly work parties at the range. Since we recently acquired a grant to re-orient the rifle line and make many other much needed improvements to the range, your volunteer efforts are even more important as all hours donated by our members are used as part of the "match" for the grant.

If you are interested in participating in any of these activities, please contact Marcus at 360-373-1007 or email info@gunsafety.org.

Range Officer Schedule

There is a Range Officer on duty Tuesday through Friday from 11am to 7pm and on Saturdays from 8am to 4pm. We are open to the public during these hours and RO's will make Club equipment available to Club members while they are on duty.

Range Safety Briefings for new members are held on Thursday at 5pm, Friday at 11am and Saturday at 1pm. If you wish to attend a safety briefing at a different time, please call Marcus at 360-373-1007 to make an appointment.

Action Shooting Corner

By Earl Jull

This year's shooting season will commence on the third Saturday of March at 9 AM. We are implementing a .22 division for those who would like to play the game but may not enjoy the recoil of the bigger calibers. A small match and a meeting after for all the active action shooters was held on the 21st of February to plan out the year's events.

What to Pack in Your Range Bag

Longtime members of USPSA know first hand what a fun, exciting, and rewarding sport we have. One of the most enjoyable aspects of this sport is to meet and welcome new shooters into our fold and help them get started in the right direction. It is with this ideal in mind that the following list of items worth consideration of bringing to a match is offered.

Your Range Bag

Remember that a new shooter need not concern themselves with packing all this stuff! While lots of experienced members do pack a lot of stuff, items are added to our range bags as we learn the ins-and-outs of this sport. In time, you will learn what is important to you and what can be left out. In reality, there is often no need to actually carry with you all these things! Many items that are heavy such as extra ammo or extra water, can be left in your car at the match. Small tools such as pliers and the like can be left in a second small bag in your trunk, waiting there if you ever need them—you don't need to haul them around all over the range.

You should know that participating at USPSA matches does not require a lot of equipment; you can get well started with a minimal investment in guns and gear. This is especially true with our Production and Revolver Divisions.

How Much Ammo?

One of the most frequently asked questions by a new member is how much ammo to bring. A quick answer is lots! In the Northeast Section of USPSA, our monthly club matches typically require around 100 rounds. A suggestion is to triple this amount, carrying 200 rounds with you and keeping some extra in your car. The same formula would be true for attending a Major Match such as a US Nationals, an Area Championship, or a Tournament level event.

Why so many rounds?

One reason is that we are a dynamic sport, often charging from one shooting position to another. When we get to the new position, we want a freshly charged pistol, fully loaded with whatever the proper capacity is. As we move from one location to the next, we drop our partially spent magazines along the way, onto whatever range surface is provided, and usually this is dirt.

These dropped magazines often get filled with dirt, and the cartridges get covered with grit as well. You would not want to fire these dirty rounds without cleaning them first, to prevent damaging the bore of your barrel. Take these dirty rounds home with you and clean them some night before your next match! They can be recycled in this way, and if you shoot several stages in one match it is not uncommon to accumulate 50 or so dropped rounds. Had you only brought close to the required amount of ammo, you would have to hurriedly clean these rounds between stages, instead of participating in the scoring and pasting of the targets for other shooters.

Also, re-shooting a stage is sometimes required in a match. An example would be when a piece of range equipment malfunctions or when an error occurs with scoring that prompts a re-shoot. Having lots of extra ammo with you will alleviate any anxiety about having enough ammo to finish the match.

Remember that whatever spare ammo you bring with you will be brought back. You will recycle much of it and it will not go to waste. Most USPSA matches are produced by members who love to shoot. Expect to do some shooting!!

Bring Water!

A worthwhile item to bring is some drinking water or sports-type beverage for yourself. Our matches often take two or three hours to complete, and longer for a Major Match. Most clubs offer water for the competitors, but sometimes water may not be available. Competing outdoors, often in the warmer months and in places with little or no shade such as a shooting pit, it is relatively easy to become de-hydrated. Should you allow this to occur, you will not be able to compete at your best level and your stamina may fade.

Bring an adequate amount water with you, leaving some in your car if need be to reduce the weight of your range bag. Some of the best range bags available now even feature a pouch for a water bottle to take from stage to stage, such as the Tournament Series of range bags from Shooter's Connection.

Continued next page

Action Shooting Corner continued

What Else to Bring

Besides your gun and gear, bring yourself a good attitude! The folks who do the best at this sport really enjoy it and have a lot of fun at our matches—you should too. Plan on having a good time with some good people and enjoy yourself at our matches. Everything goes better while you are having fun. Also consider bringing a friend, a co-worker, or a youth shooter with you to our matches. Why keep this sport a secret? Bring a friend and introduce them to this most dynamic of shooting sports!!

Some items to consider packing in your range bag:

- USPSA Rule Book
- Scoring overlays
- Pens and paper
- Small first aid kit
- Small pack of hand-wipes
- Hearing Protection
- Brass bag
- Sunglasses
- Clear / yellow shooting glasses
- Squib rod
- All-in-one cleaning kit
- Leatherman or equivalent multi-tool
- Magazine brush
- Bore-snakes in your pistol's caliber
- A clean rag
- A hat
- An umbrella and/or poncho
- Small Gladware container with spare contact lenses contacts solution
- Spare foam ear plugs
- Spare dot batteries
- Spare ear-muff batteries
- A hotel-supplied "dust cover" (that little plastic shower cap)
- Small bottle of Excedrin or ibuprofen
- Small container of antacid
- A squeeze bottle of solvent
- Squeeze bottle of pistol lubricant
- Small baggie off Q-Tips and patches
- Assorted Allen wrenches
- A set of small screwdrivers

By Earl Jull

- A couple of small punches
- Small bits of skateboard tape
- Bent paper-clip for takedown of bull-barreled pistols
- Small needlenose pliers
- Various pre-fitted parts (hammer, sear, firing pin & spring, extractor, barrel link, thumb-safety)
- A grip screw
- A Bomar sight pivot pin
- A magwell pin
- A plunger and spring etc.
- Small tube of Lock-Tite thread locking compound
- "Work Gloves" to help with the match's tear-down

There Ya Go!

See ya at the range, Earl

Wanted:

Action Shooting Match Trainees

During the upcoming season, Earl Jull, our Action Shooting guru, will be expanding our Action Shooting staff and will train interested Action Shooters how to run an entire Action Shooting match.

Topics such as score-keeping, target set up and course coordination will be taught. Shooters of all abilities are welcome to participate.

Training is beginning now so contact Earl at 360-405-8348 as soon as possible to sign-up.

March/April Range Calendar

March 2, 9, 16, 23, 30 (Tuesdays) USPSA practice. 5pm. All interested members are welcome to attend

March 11 (Thursday) Club meeting; 7:30pm at the range

March 13 (Saturday) Fun Steel Match; 9am

March 19 (Friday) Rifle line closed at noon to set up for IPSC match. Pistol range open.

March 20 (Saturday) IPSC Match; 9am

April 6, 13, 20, 27 (Tuesdays) USPSA practice. 5pm. All interested members are welcome to attend

April 8 (Thursday) Club meeting; 7:30pm at the range

April 10 (Saturday) Fun Steel Match; 9am

April 11 (Sunday) *Happy Easter!*

April 16 (Friday) Rifle line closed at noon to set up for IPSC match. Pistol range open.

April 17 (Saturday) IPSC Match; 9am

For more information on the classes and events listed in this calendar, please check out our website at www.gunsafety.org or call the range any time a Range Officer is on duty at 360-373-1007.

* Please note: ALL events listed in this calendar are open to ALL of our members. We encourage your participation and support! USPSA (Action Shooting) is open to all members regardless of ability; basic safety training and some loaner equipment is available upon request for this program.

Friends of the NRA Update

The local Friends of the NRA Committee is gearing up for our annual fund-raiser to be held May 22, 2004. This event will include a fabulous dinner followed by a lively auction which raises funds for local shooting activities.

The location and time will be published in the next newsletter.

If you are interested in attending this event, participating on the Committee or donating goods or services for the auction, please contact Ed Lyons at g.spider@ix.netcom.com.

Safety Notice—Fog

There are a few days each year when fog rolls in at the range and this can severely limit visibility down range. We hope to shed a new light on one of our 4 Commandments of Firearms Safety. Commandment number 4 states, "Be sure you have an acceptable target, know its surroundings and what lies beyond."

When shooting, you must not only be able to see your target, but you must be able to see the impact area for your projectiles. Firing at a target when you cannot see the final stopping point is not only unwise, but is an unacceptable practice—at our range or anywhere else. Wildlife, off-course hikers and other shooters can be down range. We are each responsible for every projectile we load into our firearms, so lets make sure we know exactly where they come to a stop.

In Memory of Bill Barber

For those members that have been around awhile, we have received word that Bill Barber passed away late last year. Bill was a former Executive Officer and very active participant in all club activities. As I review past club records, it is obvious that Bill held a great affection for this club and the shooting sports in general. His presence has been missed in our community, as well as at our club, and we send our condolences to his family and friends.

The Range Report

By Marcus Carter

It's Our Watch!

We have a real opportunity to secure an invaluable part of our heritage for our posterity. A lot of hard and laborious work has been done by a handful of members to get us where we are now; a 15 year lease, a substantial construction grant and a direction that includes a workable overall plan to secure the shooting sports in Kitsap County, and in World Class style. We now MUST have our general membership kick into gear and take advantage of this rare moment. It is our watch, and we best not be caught sleeping!

We recently signed the contract with IAC to start the re-orientation of our rifle line, so we are officially off and running. Club Trustee and Life Member Dick Wilson is working on the drawings to submit to the county in order to apply for the grading permit. We need members with expertise in all areas of construction, from final planning and engineering to completion...clearing, grading, landscaping, concrete, carpentry, electrical, and we need you to let us know now. We must get this project going and finished this year, preferably before summer. We are not asking for a full time commitment, but if you are willing to put your name on the list so that we can occasionally call upon you. Even if you have told someone in the past that you would help, PLEASE do it again as we are assembling a specific list for this project. Drop us an email at info@gunsafety.org or call the range at 373-1007 to be added to the list. WE NEED YOU!

Heavy Equipment Needed (Light Equipment Too!)

Once the grading permits have been obtained, to make this project happen we can contract it out, which will chew up our funds quickly and not give us much to show for it, or we do it ourselves. There is plenty of skill and members who have contacts. We need heavy equipment (and light equipment) to get the most bang for the buck. Ideally we need a good size excavator, a dump truck, a D8 with a ripper, a roller (preferably two of each). Once we have a grading permit in hand, we will want to move fast to complete the work efficiently and with as little shut down time as possible. "Many hands make light work". We will get credit for all that can be donated, and we will have a budget that cover fuel and maintenance. So call in your favors, talk to your friends, and help us make this happen.



This is what the range will look like when the rifle line re-orientation is completed. This re-orientation will extend the length of the rifle line to 300 yards, provide for a better line of site when it is sunny (ie: the sun won't be directly in your eyes while you are shooting) and it will also allow for all shooting bays to be used at the same time—we won't have to close the rifle line to use the side shooting bays as we do now.

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