

## January 2022 MDRC Newsletter

Another new year is upon us, we can only hope that it is better than the last two years. As we start the year we are faced with the same issues as last year.

The new COVID variant seems to be running rampant throughout the country. Those who have been vaccinated and have had their booster shots appear to be handling it better, but still getting it. Still, it isn't something I want to experience.

**Ammunition both availability and cost.** I have heard that 9mm is becoming more plentiful although at a higher price. Many brands are approaching \$1.00 a round. Many other calibers are still not available. Ammunition manufacturers are using their stock of primers and bullets to produce complete rounds and not making that stock available to those of us that reload.

We can only hope this gets better in the coming months.

Range safety is still paramount. We must all practice safe handling. Think of the Firearms Safety Rules when reading the next few paragraphs.

Know where the muzzle is pointed at all times, even your cased firearms. When you open the case, the long gun should already be pointed downrange, not needing to turn it possibly pointing at a family member or another shooter on the benches next to you. When showing another person proper grip, stance or other positions, **KEEP THE MUZZLE DOWNRANGE**. When reviewing range videos, I have seen firearms pointed 180° away from the downrange berms. You may know that the firearms is unloaded and safe, but others around you may not know that. So many times, after an accidental discharge, the person has said, "I thought the (rifle – pistol) was unloaded".

**Target placement.** Look at the target position and what is beyond it. Is the line of sight over the berm, is it into the ground just beyond your target. So many times, I have seen shooters place the target close to the firing line on a short stand. The bullet strikes 10-15 feet behind the target. Chewing ruts in the ground; or possibly striking a hard object causing the bullet to ricochet. Every season I see this repeated by both novice and experienced shooters. Position the target high enough that the bullet path is into the berm. You may need multiple targets if you are changing distances or shooting from prone, kneeling or standing positions while engaging your targets. You may be hitting the target where you want, but where is the bullet hitting downrange?

**Be observant of others.** We have neighbors on both sides, houses to the left and the Botanic Gardens to the right. There has been times when hikers or riders have entered the downrange area.

We still have a list of improvements to the facilities. We will complete these as we can. A safety warning system will be added to alert all that the range is not safe, that someone is moving downrange. **DO NOT HANDLE OR TOUCH ANY FIREARM WHILE SOMEONE IS DOWNRANGE, THEN ONLY AFTER THAT OR THOSE PERSONS ANNOUNCES IT IS NOW SAFE TO RESUME SHOOTING.**

**Smallbore Metallic Silhouette Matches** we will be adding additional silhouettes at each distance and berms immediately behind the 60 and 80 meter lines.

**Action Bays:** Look at the barrier blocks at the top of the berms. Notice the pock marks from bullet strikes. Questions? Re-read the last sentence of the above paragraph on Target Placement.

**Action Bay 1.** We will be increasing the height of this berm.

Schedule shooting matches for the coming year. As before the range will be closed 2 hours prior to the start of each match for set up, then be opened after the Match Director gives the "All Clear"

**IDPA** Matches will be held the first Saturday of each month starting in May running through November.

**Sporting Clays** Matches will be held the first Sunday of each month. Check for schedule for match dates, those falling on a holiday will be adjusted.

**Steel** Matches will be held the third Saturday of each month starting in April running through October.

**Smallbore Metallic Silhouette** will be the third Sunday of each month May through October. NOTE: There will be a familiarization Match on the third Saturday of April immediately after the Steel Match.

**Trap** It is still undecided on this schedule.

As always club members can receive credit toward their Work Waiver for helping with the match; setup, S.O., scoring, tear down

Membership

**New Member Applicants:** The application form is posted. Print it out and once completed return it to the listed address. Make sure all of the required fields are filled in. Again, the address is MDRC Secretary Dan Hill, P.O. Box 136, Morgantown, WV 26507 Do not email the completed application.

**Current Member Renewal:** Our Treasurer Richard Kerr has added a letter explaining the renewal procedure and it has been emailed to all current members. Late fee will be added to renewal (\$25) after March 7<sup>th</sup>. Letter attached:

### **2022 DUES NOTICE**

Dear Mason Dixon Rifle Club (MDRC, Inc.) member,

I need your help and cooperation, starting with your reading this dues notice carefully. Due to the prevalence of the Chinese virus, we will not be having our usual two dues meetings nor our annual membership dinner. Annual dues for 2022 remain at \$120.00. Members who have not participated in a scheduled work

detail and have not done alternate service to the club, as verified by a club Director, are also subject to a \$100.00 work waiver fee, payable along with the dues.

For the safety of all involved, we will collect dues and fees primarily by mail. After I receive your check or money order for \$120.00 dues plus, if applicable, \$100 work waiver fee, Secretary Dan Hill or I will send you your new 2022 photo ID membership card. Your electronic gate card and your standby physical gate and restroom key will stay the same. DO NOT send them with your payment. Please send your check or money order, **made out to MDRC, Inc.**, as soon as convenient to:

Richard Kerr, Treasurer  
483 Rebecca St.  
Morgantown, WV 26505

I would like to process most of the dues payments by the end of February, but payments are due by March 7, 2022. After March 7, 2022, EVERY DUES PAYMENT WILL BE SUBJECT TO A \$25.00 LATE FEE!. Any member who has not paid dues by March 30, 2022, will lose his/her membership and can be considered for future membership only upon new application. Every year we have several members who face potential expulsion because they procrastinated and “forgot”. Please don’t make me track you down for your payment. I would rather have your timely payment than your late fee!

Any member who cannot renew by check or M.O. and who needs to pay in cash can make arrangements to meet me for the purpose. Email me at [rskerr1@comcast.net](mailto:rskerr1@comcast.net) or text me at 304-288-1655 to schedule a meeting. I will get back to you by telephone, text, or email. Because we are a “business” the bank will NOT let us accept payment by Zelle, Venmo, or other money transfer services. We ask that any member who does not wish to renew his/her membership for 2022 notify me in writing, by mail or email, and return gate and bathroom keys and gate card as soon as possible.

If any of your personal info (address, phone number, preferred email address, make or tag number of your vehicle, etc.) has changed, please send that info with your check and I will deliver it to Dan Hill for a database update.

This is your dues notice. Although this information will be posted on our website, consider this your final notice and take responsibility for paying your dues on time.

Best regards,

Richard Kerr, Treasurer  
MDRC, Inc. d.b.a. Mason Dixon Rifle Club  
[rskerr1@comcast.net](mailto:rskerr1@comcast.net)  
M: 304-288-1655  
H: 304-599-8056

The Annual Stockholders meeting will be held on Sunday, April 10<sup>th</sup> at 5:00 pm, at the Range.  
There will be no dinner due to the COVID threat.

Finally, to all, enjoy the range and have a great shooting season.

Stay safe,

Bob Cheslock, President MDRC

[bob.cheslock@comcast.net](mailto:bob.cheslock@comcast.net)

P.S.N. 304-276-1972