



MDRC Newsletter February 2023

All,

We are two months into the new year and really have not seen any winter. The improvements to the range have been slow but moving forward. We got the pines down to open up for the Trap Field. Also, the soft ground that has been so much trouble mowing hopefully has been corrected. A French drain through the area has been added. The old Trap Field lanes that were in the Hi-Power infield have been removed. Once the ground dries out and can support the equipment, we will get the new Trap Field lanes installed.

Coming up are two important dates in March. Membership renewal dates are Sunday, March 5th and Saturday, March 11 both at the range. Times for the Sunday (2/5/23) meeting are 12 noon to 4 pm. Then the following Saturday (2/11/23) are from 10 am to 2 pm. Be sure to bring your gate card and check them in the Gate, Bench House and Restroom locks. I recently found a card that failed to work. Make sure the card is recognized and does not read ACCESS DENIED. We can correct the problem.

This year we will have a few painting projects to complete, weather permitting. The roof on the "Steel Trailer" is quite rusty and needs painting, Trim, painting of the windows sills at the Bench House. Touchup of the Main building as needed. As the summer progresses, we also need to do soffit and fascia on the Main building. We can take care of the downrange side of the building ourselves but I think we should find a contractor to do both ends.

We are increasing the membership this year, data from the gate card readers show the club can support the increase. It is modest, and will be monitored by the gate reports. Applications for membership have been coming in since the updated form was posted. We should have completed on those we have received by the next Board meeting and will be able to notify applicants to meet us in early April.

Now for the bad news. Recently I have seen things that are not acceptable. Props being used as Target Stands, Steel with bullet holes and Rounds striking the midfield range. Not the kind of things we permit. As members, the range is yours to use. We can only maintain it as a quality range with your help.

Safe handling of all firearms is paramount. Remember the 4 Basic Rules of Firearms Safety.

Always keep the firearm pointed in a safe direction. When you uncase your rifle, is the muzzle pointed downrange or back at the parking lot. If it is pointed toward the parking lot DO NOT take it from the case, close the case and turn it around. Think of it as a "Cutting Laser" always turned on whenever you are handling any firearm.

Treat all guns as though they are loaded. There has been many TVs, walls and loved ones accidentally shot by supposedly unloaded firearms.

Keep your finger off the trigger until you are ready to shoot. Being startled, tripping or reaching to pick something up can cause you to squeeze the trigger. Holstering a pistol with your finger still inside the trigger guard could end a great day

Always be sure of your target and what is beyond. A round can travel farther than that target 25 yards in front of you. Also, the bullet can ricochet, sending it off to an undetermined location. The berm is the safest backstop at the range. Place all of your targets to use them.

We will soon be starting the various shooting events: IDPA, Sporting Clays, Steel Challenge and Smallbore Metallic Silhouette. Schedules for all will be posted. We can always use help at these events and the time you help out can be used to fulfill your Work Waiver.

Stay safe,

Bob Cheslock, President MDRC, Inc

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