

Tuscola County Conservation Club 2023 Lights, Heaters, Action!

It is hard to count all of the right people making so many good choices to get the club where it is today and to continue the momentum. It is a huge undertaking that I am thankful to be a part. We are growing every year, and we have the capacity for more members on our ranges. Our monthly pistol and tactical shoots have ample capacity for greater participation as well as skeet and trap. I have concluded, that the majority of the membership enjoys just showing up to shoot and leave; and that is ok too! If you have wondered how you can help out, the number one way is to keep your membership current. It is a lot more work when you let it expire and we have to add you back into the system. Secondly, show the club to a friend. You may be surprised at how desperately most people are looking for a great place to shoot! If you really like them, buy them a membership. Finally, I am putting a list together of people to call on to help with light maintenance, setting up club matches promoting participation via social media and good old-fashioned word of mouth if you want to help let me know!

We now have lights and steel targets downrange on Bay 3 (25 yards pistol only), Bay 4 (25 yards pistol only) Bay 9 (50 yards rifle, shotgun, or pistol) Bay 10 (100, 200, and 300 yards rifle, shotgun, or pistol) and the Gallery Bay (12 yards pistol only). In addition, we have added 1500 watt heaters on the Gallery Bay, Bay 3 and Bay 4. They run via a timer switch and are just enough to take the edge off Jack Frost as you are keeping sharp on your pistol skills. All of these ranges now have lights, allowing shooting until 9:00 pm. I am *pretty sure* there is no other place in Michigan you can shoot that far after dark without night vision optics. To sum it up, we have one of the best clubs in the State of Michigan, hands down, judging by the many members we have who drive from a hour away, that fact becomes undeniable.

Dues are very affordable for what you receive for your Membership. Our members can practice real life shooting skills like drawing from a holster for example. Many shooting ranges do not allow drawing and shooting from a holster. We don't mind if you rapid fire safely or load your magazine to capacity. We have a mutual respect for each other and the sport we enjoy. Take a minute to renew if you still need to, or join TCCC as a new member if this letter was passed to you by a friend. A 1-year membership is \$70 (renewals are \$50) but the better deal is \$100/2-years and, you would not expire until January 1, 2025. A membership includes your spouse and children until age 18. Visit the membership page to pay online or to print an application and mail it in. www.tcccmi.com/membership Alternatively, come out to the clubhouse on Thursday evenings 6:00pm until 8:00pm or Sunday afternoons 1:00pm to 4:00pm after the New Year to pay in person. Thank you for your support!

The Junior Rifle League will run from Thursday, January 5 through Thursday, March 28. We start at 6:30pm and run until everyone is finished shooting which is typically around 9:00pm. There is no age requirement. Your child must be able to safely handle a target rifle. We have rifles of all sizes so if you are not sure, come out and try one on for size. The program is free! thanks to the generous support of Whitetails Unlimited. Participants do not need to bring anything. We have the ammunition and the rifles. We use single shot .22 caliber rifles with peep sights. You may bring your own if it is the same configuration. The program is indoors (and in the dark just like the Olympics!) If you have questions, you can text or call Craig at 989-280-1558. Craig is 47 and has been shooting small bore rifles since he was 10. He is very good at this and can teach anyone a thing or two about shooting. You are not required to attend every week and if you have to leave a little early or arrive a little late, we understand! You do not have to be a member to take advantage of this program.

Winter skeet league is February and March. We are going to go back to shooting eight rounds or 200 targets. We will handicap you at the end so shoot your best every time! League fee is \$40 for league rounds, practice rounds are standard rate. There will be a special for everyone who shoots head to head with a different team throughout the league. Getting to know other skeet shooters is a good thing!

Summer trap and sub-gauge will be after winter skeet. If you have what it takes to lead a league, please contact me.

Caro Scholastic Clay Target Club has finally arrived! All youth in the area can participate! They must shoot under the Caro colors. They are responsible for paying for ammunition and obtaining their own shotgun. TCCC provides targets at a reduced rate for youth. Currently, we have a trap team started and need about 12 more shooters, If you have what it takes to get a skeet or sporting clays program started, let's talk!

Our TCCC Pistol matches run on the fourth Saturday of the month, April through September, starting at 10:00am. Matches are under USPSA shooting guidelines (rules/scoring). We can always use help setting up or taking down so even if you are not into shooting competitively, but would like to be involved to help others, want to shoot for practice not score, come on out!

Multi-gun matches generally run on the second Saturday of the month, starting off 2023 with a night match in February! 2-Gun and 3-Gun and Spectators are welcome. Contact Bob Leavitt 989-891—7623 or Rich Cross at 989-737-6407 with questions. <u>http://www.tcccmi.com/brass-3-gun.html</u>

Monday night pistol practice starts in April. Rules are also USPSA standard guidelines. This is a great way to hone your pistol skills beginners to experience shooters alike. Member cost is only \$5, and non-members are \$10. Contact: Troy Oliver 989-948-1243.

Concealed Carry Classes are held the first Saturday of every month. Sign up here <u>http://www.tcccmi.com/instruction-pistol.html</u> or enroll at Gambles Gun Shop, or call Ron Champagne at 989-670-5234.

Warrior Poet Society will be here for 5-days in August. We are their only stop in Michigan. Sign up on their website as soon as classes are posted – get training tips on youtube.com or visit their website www.warriorpoetsupplyco.com/train1.

Battle Buddies is a working on scheduling an event this summer also at TCCC. They are a multi-gun competitive shooting organization for people with handicaps. Everyone is welcome to attend and always welcome to assist in the event. Check out their website at <u>www.tbbf.org</u> or <u>www.battlebuddiesusa.org</u>.

If you have a discipline you would like to introduce or champion, let us know! We would encourage ladies shooting opportunities or shotgun league, or speed-shooting. We would also love someone to lead a weekly multi-gun practice night. In addition, 5-stand needs a Leader for a couple of extra weeks toward the end of summer too.

To reach me, call 989-673-7938 or email <u>1060gunclubrd@tcccmi.com</u> with questions or ideas.

Thank you for your support! See You On The Range! Doug Kline, President