

THE POWDER KEG

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July 3rd Meeting

- **Belton Goodwill Learning Center.**
- 6:00 pm New member applications and NRA membership.
- 6:45 pm New membership closes.
- **7:00 pm Club meeting.**

Programs

- July – Home invasion. Bring your spouse. This may be a wakeup call.
- August – Long range shooting.
- September – Human & sex trafficking

We can sure use your input for October and beyond. If you have suggestions &/or recommendations, please contact me at 254-698-0085 or dick@dwinellonline.com.

A Girl and A Gun

The Temple Chapter of A Girl and A Gun Women's Shooting League meets for Girls' Night Out at the Range in IDPA Bay 2 the first Tuesday of each month, 6-8 p.m. with a social hour to follow. agirlandaguntemple@gmail.com, or see our events calendar at TexasFirearmsTraining.net.

West Tactical Bay Now Reserved 1st Saturdays

The west tactical bay is now reserved the first Saturday of each month from 8-12 for Shooting Saints.

Range Maintenance

Saturday, July 22nd from 07:30 – 09:00. Please come out and help maintain your range. Remember that the Temple Gun Club is maintained by members for members. All routine maintenance at the range is by volunteer work from members like yourself.

From the President

How to Get Started in Competitive Shooting:

Starting something new can be intimidating. When that new thing involves firearms and a timer, it can be overwhelming to get involved in if you don't know where to start. Do not worry, young padawan, I am here to help.

I've noticed a trend on local shooting forums where people will add a comment to a thread about a shooting match and say something like "I wish I could do that, but I'm not a good enough shot" or "I need more practice", or something to that effect. Some of these people have been making the same comments for years. If you want to try competitive shooting, do it. Nobody cares how bad of a shot you are. Chances are, they will all be stuffing magazines, or BSing while you are shooting anyways. As long as you are safe, you will enjoy your time. You will also be surprised how fast you improve.

Who wouldn't like to spend an afternoon at the range, with 100 other gun nuts, blasting holes in cardboard targets? Somewhere, somehow, people got it into their heads that competition shooters are all professional shooters, and there isn't room for the little guy. This is false. 100% false. Shooting sports are for the gun nuts.

I started a thread on a local shooting web forum, asking people why they are not involved in competitive shooting and the overwhelming response was that they either did not know where to start, or they didn't want to show up unprepared and be "that guy" that shows up unprepared, or breaks some unspoken rule, or whatever.

The first thing you need to do, is decide what type of match you want to shoot. I'm going to focus primarily on action pistol type matches because they are the most popular, and probably the easiest to get started shooting.

For more information and to read the remaining articles in this series check out - <https://triangletactical.net/get-started-competitive-shooting/> or contact us at TGCIDPA@gmail.com to get started.

Lucas Apps

Zeb Pomeranke

"Mind your muzzle." Cody S. Alderson

Why an LTC class won't prepare you to defend yourself

Aaron Marshal, Guncraft Training Academy

At my training company, we are frequently asked if we teach the Texas License to Carry (LTC) class (formerly known as CHL). When we explain that our training is what you need after you've completed an LTC class, we're often given quizzical looks, as if to say "What else is there?"

If you believe that your LTC class has adequately prepared you for a self-defense situation, you are not alone. Many people believe that the reason this course is required is because it gives you the skills to protect yourself with a handgun. After all, it's a state-sanctioned course necessary for carrying a handgun, so it must give you all the information you need, right?

Not by a long shot. The LTC class serves several important roles, but preparing you to successfully use your gun in self-defense is not one of them. Read on for four reasons why this is true.

Reason #1: That's not its purpose

The LTC class was designed by lawyers and politicians, with the purpose of informing you of the administrative regulations and restrictions on carrying a concealed handgun in the state of Texas. It provides the minimum information that your representatives determined you should know before issuing you a license. This is not to disparage the LTC class. This is important information for the concealed carrier, as you certainly want to ensure that you're staying within the bounds of the law while carrying a handgun. However, while important, this information is largely administrative in nature, because the LTC class is largely an administrative class.

Reason #2: It's not long enough

Being prepared to defend yourself is a multi-faceted skill set. You must not only have all the right skills and knowledge, but you must be proficient enough with those skills to use them successfully at a moment's notice, under the stress of having your well-being threatened. Even if an LTC class focused on these skills, four hours (or even the maximum-allowed six hours) is simply not enough time to develop the level of proficiency required. In my experience, it takes a minimum of two days of training to give you a full set of skills, and even at that, it's going to take some practice on your own after the training.

Reason #3: It won't teach you to shoot

Over 75% of the LTC class is spent in the classroom. Of that time, virtually none is spent on learning the gun handling, marksmanship, and defensive techniques that ensure you can use your gun effectively. The one hour that is spent on the range is dedicated to running you through the qualification test. If you've never shot before, you'd better hope your LTC instructor has the time and patience to give you a crash course on shooting so you can pass the test. And speaking of the test...

Reason # 4: The shooting test is a very low standard

The LTC test was designed to be easy to pass. You're only required to achieve 70% accuracy, and you have up to three attempts to pass. The amount of time you have to make your shots is quite generous, as well. For instance, you have three seconds to make two shots from a ready position at 3 yards. I would suggest that if your attacker is only 3 yards away, you probably don't have 3 seconds! In our classes, we train our students to be able to fire two shots in just over 1 second from that position. Furthermore, none of the shots on the LTC test are from a concealed holster. Presenting the gun from the holster consistently takes practice, and it seems the height of irony that a License to *Carry* class doesn't require any demonstration of that proficiency.

Again, none of this is to demean the class or the important work that LTC instructors do. By all means, take an LTC class and get your license. But understand what the class was and was not designed to teach you. Having the skills to defend yourself will take additional training. When you're ready to reach the next level in your shooting, seek out a quality defensive shooting training course to develop a comprehensive skill set and ensure you're ready if you ever have to use your concealed handgun to protect yourself.

NOTE TO MEMBERS

Be sure to keep us informed of your address and email address changes to ensure that we can keep you informed of club news and ensure that you receive your renewal notices on time.

Changes can be sent to templegunclub@gmail.com