
THE POWDER KEG

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April Club Meeting

From the President

On 3/18/20, the Bell County Judge declared a "local state of disaster due to public health emergency". Which among other things prohibits the gathering of 50 or more people.

Our President asked in his *15 Days to Slow the Spread* issued 3/17/20 in part that we should avoid social gatherings of 10 or more people.

Bobby Whitten one of our County Commissioners is reported to have said on 3/19/20 that we should behave as if we are carriers of the virus and make sure we do not expose anyone else. This is based on the reported fact that a healthy person can have the virus and never know it.

While this may be an overreaction, the majority of your Board believes we should take this information seriously. Therefore, the meeting 4/6/20 **may be** cancelled. This could all change tomorrow. Please watch the web site for up to date information.

GunCraft Training Academy Handgun Training

For club members that would like to sign up for the two and/or four day handgun training the third weekend of this month and the first weekend of May the websites are:

Handgun I:

<https://store.guncrafttraining.com/pd/411/defensive-handgun-i-april-18-19>

Handgun II:

<https://store.guncrafttraining.com/pd/412/defensive-handgun-ii-may-2-3>

See the March issue of the Powder Keg for the syllabi of the two courses.

Range Hours

It is vital that we follow our hours of operation for the range! The range operation hours are 0800 to Official Sunset seven days a week, 365 days a year. These hours are established as rules for the range to show respect for our neighbors.

Official sunset is not sundown, it is not dusk, it is not twilight. Our neighbors know the difference, do you? It is very easy to find. Here is one example: <https://sunrise-sunset.org/search?location=76502>.

Before you take the first shot or the last shot, look at your watch or your phone and make absolutely sure you are on the right side of the timeline.

Range Maintenance HELP!

Are **you** proud of the way **your** range looks? Policing the range is the responsibility of **every** club member. Maintaining it belongs to **all of us**. Please help your club maintain a clean, operational facility. You do this in two ways:

First: police the range you use. In other words, leave that part of range you used better than when you arrived. Take away your and any trash left by others.

And second, formal range maintenance is scheduled the last Saturday of every month at 8:00 am. We will be pleased to have you join in and help. No particular skills are necessary, only a desire to keep the range well-manicured, neat and tidy. Come and be prepared to stay only as long as you would like.

If we all do the first part, the second will not take long. I've been asked, I have a bad back can I still help? The answer is an emphatic yes. We'll find something for you to do. Just tell us of your limitations.

The April range maintenance will be on 4/25/20. In addition to the grass/weeds, we have tree cutting that needs to take place and hauling off junk. Please bring chain saws, weed trimmers, rakes or what you have that can help in those tasks. A truck and/or trailer for the junk would be great.

We'll have hotdogs and chips at about 11:00.

If you can't make the Saturday maintenance days, please check out the "Range Maintenance Posting" in this newsletter.

Meeting Location & Time Reminder

Our meetings are at the Belton Goodwill Learning Center, 2601 Commerce St (the corner of Commerce and Sparta Rd about halfway between HEB & Belton High), Belton TX. The meeting times are:

- 6:00 pm New member applications. No applications accepted after 6:30.
- 6:30 to 6:50 pm Range Orientation.
- 7:00 pm Club meeting.

Monthly Membership

Membership prorated schedule is:

August	\$100	December	\$80	April	\$40
September	\$100	January	\$70	May	\$30
October	\$100	February	\$60	June	\$20
November	\$90	March	\$50	July	\$10

The initiation fee remains at \$25. Applications will be accepted from 6:00 pm to 6:30. Contact your friends and acquaintances who are responsible gun owners about joining our club and bring or send them early to the meetings.

Programs

- No programs scheduled for April and beyond. Not a good place, as far as I'm concerned.

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

God Bless



Dick

Hello Shooters!

We had our first NRL22 Match Saturday 14 March and everyone had a great time. The NRL22 Match Saturday will become a regular monthly match on the 2nd Saturday. So tell your friends and neighbors to come out and enjoy 5 or more stages of steel shooting with your 22LR rifle. We will need help setting up the stages, so please arrive early to help if you can.

Depending on how this coronavirus goes the next match will be 11 April.

Here are the details:

Temple Gun Club NRL22 Match is held at Temple Gun Club Range 3924 FM 438 Loop, Temple, TX 76501. Sign up / Check in starts at **8:00 am til 8:45 am**. Shooting starts at **9:00 am**. Match fee is \$10 per person, Juniors are FREE. Please make sure to bring a chamber flag for your rifle. The caliber is 22LR (Standard/subsonic shoot best). Please make sure you arrive early for check in. If you have signed up on Practiscore and are unable to attend please withdraw as soon as possible.

If you are not familiar with NRL22, it is a great (and cheap) way to experience precision rifle shooting. You will need a 22 rifle with a scope that can help with bullet drop from 50 to 100 yards (8 inches) and parallax adjustment from 25 to 100 yards. A bipod, sling and a couple bags to help stabilize the shooting position. Below are several links that talk about NRL22 and explain how the match is run.

The intent of the first few matches will be to get out and try it! We will closely follow the NRL22 rules and monthly course of fire but we just want everyone to come out and try shooting NRL22 and have fun. If you have a handicap and cannot get into some of the positions, we will make accommodations. Just come shoot if you are interested. Later we can closely follow the NRL22 match stages and add a couple more stages that our club membership would like to shoot. That could mean longer distances, incorporating 22LR pistol, or moving targets!

Having a great (expensive) gun is not the key to performing well at this kind of match, knowing how to build a solid position on unfamiliar objects is the key to making good shots. Practice, Practice, Practice!

If you have questions, contact Stephen Hammonds (254)721-0534

This is the link to NRL22 site for additional information.

<https://nrl22.org/>

This link will give you past courses of fire, rules and target information.

<https://nrl22.org/downloads/>

Good review of NRL22 and list of equipment.

<https://rifleshooter.com/2018/05/nrl22-precision-rimfire-competitions/>

Good review and list of 8 guns ready for NRL22 matches.

<https://www.fieldandstream.com/8-match-ready-22-rifles-for-any-budget/>

Good overview of NRL22 and information about the National Championship match.

<https://www.fieldandstream.com/new-22-competition-craze/>

Shooters,

As COVID-19 continues thru the country, you will start to see shortages or even panic purchases on firearms, ammunition and reloading supplies. So plan ahead for your range needs. Several of the local gun clubs around the area have cancelled all their matches for the rest of March and maybe even thru April after the announcement by the CDC requesting no gather of over 50 people. We have this newsletter so if you have extra supplies that you want to sell to your fellow members to help them thru the shortage period, please post.

Shot straight but shot fast,
Jim

Temple Gun Club, Inc.

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