

# Hellgate Civilian Shooters Association

## 2025 Newsletter

The layout of our newsletter has changed. Please take a minute and read through it. And please visit our website at [www.hellgatecsa.org](http://www.hellgatecsa.org) for updated information.

Our **Annual Meeting will be Saturday, March 8, 2025**, at 1:00 PM. The meeting will be at our **West Riverside Range, 7350 Zaugg Drive, Missoula**. All members are encouraged to attend. Match Directors will be elected this year.

The Hellgate Civilian Shooters Association (HCSA) operates two range facilities. One at Deep Creek and one at West Riverside. The facility at Deep Creek includes both "Members Only Ranges" and a non-member "Day-Use Range". The West Riverside Range is for members only. HCSA members may use our facilities seven days a week. Spouses and children under 18 are welcome to accompany members.

Follow the posted rules at all range facilities. On all our ranges, no uncased firearm may be brought to the firing line or removed from the firing line when people are downrange. Firearms on our ranges may not be touched or otherwise handled when people are down range. Actions will be open and empty at all times when not shooting. Muzzles will always be pointed down range. Stand behind the shooting bench or the yellow safety line when people are down range. Bump stocks, echo triggers, binary triggers, or similar attachments are not permitted on our ranges. Tannerite or other explosives are not permitted on our ranges. The shooting of breakable targets, glass, cinder blocks, clay pigeons, bowling pins or other objects creating a mess on our ranges is considered "littering" under state law, and is not permitted.

**Shotguns** are authorized on the Shotgun Range at Deep Creek only. Shotguns are not permitted at the West Riverside Range. The Shotgun Range is open to members seven days a week. The Shotgun Range is open to non-members as part of the Day-Use Range, Fridays through Mondays.

**Fully automatic and .50 cal. firearms** are only permitted on the Member Ranges at the Deep Creek facility. They are not permitted at West Riverside. Prior approval from the Deep Creek Caretaker must be obtained. This will be strictly enforced, and violators will have their memberships revoked.

We have a bear problem at both ranges. Trash cans are for targets, cartridge boxes, etc. Any and all food garbage must be packed out with you. We have very limited garbage can space at the ranges, and they fill up fast. Please do your part and pack out what you pack in.

**Guests** are not allowed to shoot on our Members Only Ranges unless they are in possession of a Guest Pass. Guest passes are available for guests who live 100 miles or more from our range, and are limited to two per member. Guests must be accompanied by a card-carrying member. Guest passes must be requested in advance from the HCSA Secretary or the Deep Creek Caretaker. Non-members without a guest pass will be directed to the Day-Use Range. The West Riverside Range is for members only; guest passes are not available for this range. **Non-shooting guests** are welcome to accompany members at any time without a pass.

You can renew your membership by mail through the Secretary/Treasurer, Eric Reiber, PO Box 4561, Missoula, MT 59806. The membership application can be downloaded from our website and mailed in with a check made out to HCSA. You can also renew your membership with the Deep Creek Caretaker on Fridays through Mondays (exact change or checks, please). Membership dues are \$45.00 / year, and memberships expire on December 31<sup>st</sup>. The gate combinations are changed in early February.

We value your membership. We hope you value your membership too. **A condition of your membership is to understand and follow the rules of our ranges.** Firearm safety must be adhered to at all times. Common sense and courteousness will go a long way.

### **HCSA Officers**

For questions about any particular shooting discipline, please refer to the Directors list below.

President	Mike Cassidy	<a href="mailto:president@hellgatecsa.org">president@hellgatecsa.org</a>
Vice President	Gary Swartz	<a href="mailto:Ghswartz214@gmail.com">Ghswartz214@gmail.com</a>
Secretary/Treasurer	Eric Reiber	<a href="mailto:secretary@hellgatecsa.org">secretary@hellgatecsa.org</a>

### **HCSA Directors**

For questions about any particular discipline, please call the director in charge.

Black Powder Cartridge Silhouette	Jim Brannon	(208) 661-3528
Black Powder Cartridge Long Range	Jim Brannon	(208) 661-3528
Bullseye Pistol	James Poelstra	(406) 646-6154
Cowboy Action Shooting	Eric Reiber	(406) 370-1777
High Power Rifle	Amos Wisherd	(406) 544-4688
1000 Yard Bench Rest	Lonnie Anderson	(406) 491-1824
Muzzle Loading	Fred Beyer	(406) 258-6526
Schuetzen	Walt Briggs	(406) 728-9155
Small-bore Rifle	Gary Swartz	(406) 542-1978
Silhouette Rifle	Terry Kien	(406) 543-7412
	Mike Cassidy	(406) 240-5591

### **Non-member Day-Use Range**

17770 Deep Creek Road  
Deep Creek Caretaker: Rebecca Kien

**The Day-Use Range** at Deep Creek is open Friday through Monday, from 9:00 AM until 7:00 PM (or dusk), including holidays. **It is closed to everyone, including members, on Tuesdays, Wednesdays, and Thursdays.** The Day-Use range has twenty-four covered firing points with concrete benches. Target holders are at (25) twenty-five to (200) two hundred yards. The fee for the public to use this range is \$5.00 per day per person, cash or check. The caretaker cannot make change. Bring your own paper targets and a stapler, and remove your targets after shooting to help keep our ranges tidy.

**The posted range rules must be adhered to and will be strictly enforced.** This applies to both members and non-members.

# **Deep Creek Members Range**

17770 Deep Creek Road  
Deep Creek Caretaker: Rebecca Kien

The Deep Creek **Members-Only Ranges** are open seven days a week, from 9:00 AM until 8:30 PM (or dusk), and are for members only. Members may also use the Day-Use Range Friday through Monday.

At the Deep Creek Range, **all members must sign in at the sign in shed.** The main gate is locked on Tuesdays, Wednesdays, and Thursdays. The Members Range gate is locked on Friday through Monday. Relock the gate behind you after entry and exit. Be prepared to present your membership card and photo I.D. on both ranges, and do not be offended by this request, as it is being made for your benefit.

Members must read and adhere to the posted rules on the ranges. Be both courteous and safety conscious when other shooters are on the same range.

The Deep Creek **High-Power Silhouette Range** has plywood frames at 200, 300, 385, and 500 meters; and at 300, 400, 500, and 600 yards. These target frames are located on the right-hand side by the range road. They are to be used for paper targets only. All shooting must be done on the plywood at the above distances. The plywood must not be moved away from their backstops. No vehicles are to leave the road. The only exception will be during competitive matches to retrieve steel targets.

The Deep Creek **Small Bore Silhouette Range** is restricted to the use of .22 cal. rim fire ammunition only.

Cowboy Action Shooters use the Cowboy Action bays and do not interfere with other member ranges.

Schuetzen Shooters utilize the 200 yard Wilson Range.

Black Powder Cartridge Silhouette Shooters utilize the 500 meter range.

**Members should consult the schedule** to be aware of potential conflicts on our ranges. Match days and training will close down various ranges for general member use. Modifications to the schedule will be posted on our website. Note that **all member ranges are closed when long-range shooting (1000 yd, 900 yd, 800 yd) is taking place.** This applies to long-range match days, long-range match set up days, and long-range practice days. Members may use the Day Use Range when the member ranges are closed.

## 2025 Deep Creek Match Schedule

Check the website for date changes and updates. These may affect the availability of ranges for use.

March 22-23*	1000 Yd. Bench Rest	June 28-29*	High Power Rifle
April 5	Cowboy Action Shooting	July 5	Cowboy Action Shooting
April 5	Rifle Silhouette	July 5	Rifle Silhouette
April 6	Rifle Schuetzen	July 6	Rifle Schuetzen
April 12-13*	1000 Yd. Bench Rest	July 12-13*	1000 Yd. Bench Rest
April 19-20	BP Cartridge Silhouette	July 19	BP Cartridge Silhouette
April 26	Work Day (Deep Creek)	July 20*	BP Cartridge Long Range
May 3	Rifle Silhouette	August 2	Rifle Silhouette
May 3	Cowboy Action Shooting	August 2	Cowboy Action Shooting
May 4	Rifle Schuetzen	August 3	Rifle Schuetzen
May 10-11*	1000 Yd. Bench Rest	Aug 8-9-10*	1000 Yd. Bench Rest
May 17-18	BP Cartridge Silhouette	Aug 16-17	BP Cartridge Silhouette
May 24-25-26*	High Power Rifle	Aug 23-24	BP Cartridge Long Range
June 1	Rifle Schuetzen	Sept 5-6-7	Rifle Silhouette
June 6-7-8	Rifle Silhouette	Sept 6	Cowboy Action Shooting
June 7	Cowboy Action Shooting	Sept 7	Rifle Schuetzen
June 14-15*	1000 Yd. Bench Rest	Sept 12-13-14*	High Power Rifle
June 21	BP Cartridge Silhouette	Sept 18-19-20-21	BP Cartridge Silhouette
June 22*	BP Cartridge Long Range	Oct 2-3-4	Cowboy Action Shooting

**(\*) Denotes long range is in use.** All other member ranges are closed. Members may always use the Day-Use Range when member ranges are closed. Adhere to the posted rules when using the Day-Use range. Long range Match Directors have specific protocols for down-range activities and the use of the access road during long range matches. Down-range activities and use of the road will only occur under direct supervision of Match Directors.

On 1000-Yard Match weekends, the range will be in use for setting up all day on the Friday before those weekend matches, and by the Black Powder Cartridge Long Range shooters on the Friday before their August match. On the Black Powder Cartridge Silhouette (BPCS) weekends, the Long-Range shooters will use the 800, 900, and 1000-yard ranges on the Friday preceding the BPCS match until 12:00 noon. Members are welcome to shoot with them. Upon completion of long-range competitions on Sundays, the member ranges will be re-opened.

The Deep Creek **1000-Yard Range** is available to members for practice on the dates listed below. All other member ranges will be closed. Authorization must be obtained from the Deep Creek caretaker in advance, and very specific protocols and times must be adhered to. The ending times indicate when the 1000-yard range is clear and member ranges are open.

- Jan 5, Jan 19, Feb 2, Feb 16 – 7:00 am – 12:00 noon
- March 1<sup>st</sup> through August 31<sup>st</sup> – Mondays and Fridays, 7:00 am – 11:00 am
- End of General Hunting Season through December 31<sup>st</sup> – Mondays, 7:00 am – 11:00 am

The Deep Creek **500 Meter Range** will be open on the second Sunday of each month after 3:00 pm or upon the completion of the 1000 Yard Bench Rest competitions until closing time. The 500 meter range will also be open after each scheduled High Power and BPCLR competition on Sunday after 5:00 pm until closing time.

Rifle Silhouette Shooters utilize the .22 caliber silhouette range on Saturday mornings and the 500 meter range Saturday afternoons on single day match weekends. They will use both .22 caliber silhouette range and 500 meter range starting at 12:00 noon Friday, all day Saturday and all day Sunday during their June and Sept. match.

Directors of Black powder Cartridge Silhouette, Black Powder Cartridge Long Range, Silhouette, High-Power Rifle and 1000 yard Bench Rest disciplines set up their ranges and conduct live fire from 12:00 noon until dusk on the Fridays preceding their weekend matches, plus the Thursdays preceding a three day match. Their respective ranges will be closed for any other usage during these practice times.

## **West Riverside Range**

7350 Zaugg Drive

West Riverside Caretaker: Fred Beyer

The facility in West Riverside is a Members-Only Range with covered firing points and target stands at 25, 50 and 100 yards. It is open to members seven days a week from 9:00 a.m. until 8:30 p.m. (or dusk). **Remember to lock the entry gate after entry and exit.**

Members must read and adhere to the posted rules on this range. Be both courteous and safety conscious when other shooters are on this range.

**Ground-placed targets at West Riverside can only be shot on bays #1 and #2.** The concrete foundation on the 25-yard line on the other bays is for connecting and turning target frames. No targets shall be placed such that bullets impact this foundation, hardware, or the underground sprinkling system.

**Use of the indoor range is limited to competition and organized practices only, and must occur under the specific direction of one of our Directors.** General use of this building by members is not permitted. The only firearms permitted on this range are small bore rifles and pistols, using standard velocity .22LR ammunition.

## **2025 West Riverside Match Schedule**

Check the website for date changes and updates. These may affect the availability of ranges for use.

February 22	Open Sectional Small Bore Rifle
April 5	State Indoor Small Bore Rifle
April 12	Western Division State Indoor Pistol
May 17	Work Day
May 24	Paul Crawford Memorial Pistol
June 14	Small Bore Rifle Outdoor Prone
August 23-24	State Open Small Bore Rifle Championship

Muzzle Loaders: 2nd Sunday of each month. Please call Fred Beyer at (406) 258-6526 in advance to confirm.

Schuetzen: 3rd Sunday of each month 9:00 am to 1:00 pm. Please contact Walt Briggs at (406) 728-9155.

## Gate Policy

The **gate combination** is on the back of your membership card. Annual memberships run on a calendar year basis, and memberships expire on December 31<sup>st</sup>. The gate combination will change in February.

**At Deep Creek**, the Day Use Range is closed to everyone, including members, on Tuesdays, Wednesdays, and Thursdays, and the main gate is locked. Members will need to unlock the main gate for entry and relock it behind them on those days. The Members Only Range gate will be locked on Fridays through Mondays (when the Day Use Range is open). **Members must always sign in on the member clip board located on the right side of the sign-in shed.**

**The West Riverside Range** is a Members Only range. There is no Day Use Range here and no guests are allowed. Members will need to unlock the main gate for entry and relock it behind them.

During competitive matches, the member gate will be unlocked and open through the end of the match so that non-member participants and spectators can come and go. While we welcome non-member participants and spectators at our matches, we cannot allow them to shoot on our other member ranges.