

## **1000 Yard Range**

Tac Pro Shooting Center has available a 1000 yard rifle range for use by members and non members alike. The range has known distance firing points at 300, 400, 500, 900 and 1000 yards as well as large open area firing points for unknown distance ranging and firing practice. This range is open to all shooters for use up to 500 yards without qualification. The main rule with the 1000 yard rifle range is that upon first arriving at the 1000 yard range, you should drive the full length of the range to where the targets are checking all the way to see if anyone else is shooting on the range and at what distance. Do not go past them if they are ! **This is to ensure that no one sets up and starts shooting while someone is downrange.** If you want to shoot a different distance, check with them to see how long they are going to shoot at that distance or just set up next to them and nominate a range officer. To utilize firing points beyond 500 yards, attendance of one of the 1000 yards qualifiers is mandatory. The purpose of this activity is to assure the rifle you choose, along with sighting system and ammunition will maintain accuracy to a set standard at 1000 yards. Our neighbors prefer their privacy not be invaded by errant projectiles and we respect that.

### **Frequently Asked Questions**

#### **How long is the course?**

The course is about 3 hours in length, depending on the number of shooters participating. Start time is 9 a.m.

#### **What does the course cover?**

The qualifier is for the most part a **Show and Tell**. You are demonstrating the ability of yourself and your equipment. It is not instructional by design although coaching assistance is available. We want everyone to have an enjoyable experience.

#### **You need to demonstrate by example the following:**

Ability to safely handle your firearms.

Ability to follow range rules and commands.

A basic understanding of ballistics and trajectories.

Ability to shoot a **2 MOA three round group**, centered on the target, from prone position.

#### **What equipment will I need?**

A rifle and ammunition capable of striking a 20 inch diameter target at 1000 yards.

This may be a gas operated rifle, bolt action, or in some configurations Contender based rifles. That old WWII Mauser in the closet would not be allowed.

A sight system capable of 40 MOA elevation adjustment from a 100 yard zero. You may choose optics or open sights but optical sights are preferred by most shooters.

Ammunition appropriate to the range. The most common example is the .308

Winchester. Many other cartridges are equally suited and are too numerous to list here.

Call us when in doubt. Bring at least 50 rounds of ammunition. Maximum is limited by your vehicles load capacity. No .223 or 7.62x39 is allowed. ABSOLUTELY no Armor Piercing ammunition is allowed. A support method for your rifle. A bipod is the most often used, but a sling or sandbags are acceptable substitutes. A shooting mat of some type. The ground is cold/hot/wet/rocky, be kind to your body. A good spotting scope is nice, but not a requirement.

#### **What is the course of fire?**

We begin by confirming a 100 yard zero. You may need only three rounds to do this.

All ammunition is fired over a chronograph to establish velocity. This information is inserted into a ballistics program to aid in establishing baseline elevation adjustments for later use. Three rounds are enough to provide necessary information for the program. Having established zero and velocity checks, shooters progress to the 500 yard firing point. Shooting here accomplishes several things;

Confirms your ability to shoot at longer distances. 500 deer lease yards are much shorter than 500 measured range yards.

Confirms the ability of your sighting system to track accurately at longer ranges. Many optical sights fail in their ability to adjust at this range.

This stage is a confidence builder for those who have never shot targets at this distance.

We shoot until each shooter is comfortable in their abilities. Many shooters use 30 or more rounds, some use 5.

Once everyone has demonstrated ability at this range we move to the 1000 yard firing point. This is where a spotting scope is a good thing to have. At 1000 yards each shooter calls out the proper baseline adjustments to the sighting system. These adjustments are confirmed by the range officer prior to shooting. Holdover to compensate for lack of adjustment is not allowed. Shooters fire at one of several available targets at 1000 yards, and make adjustments to the sights as needed. You may fire as many practice rounds as needed to be comfortable. The final exam is firing into a 20 inch diameter target. This is where the 2MOA rule applies. You and your rifle must do this to qualify on the range. It isn't difficult. Range officers will assist you in this.

### **What disqualifies me?**

Negligence.

Major equipment failure. As an example a broken bipod can be discarded and replaced with a rucksack or sandbags, so this would not be a disqualifying condition.

Common failure is lack of scope adjustment at longer ranges. Things such as loose mounts that can be repaired on the range are not always disqualifying. PM your equipment prior to shooting the course!

Second most common failure is inappropriate ammunition.

Inability or unwillingness to follow range rules and instructions.

Inability of the shooter, rifle, or ammunition to hold a 2MOA group under observation Shooting over the berm.

The overall goal of this course is to assure fellow range users that everyone is a safe and competent shooter.

Should you have questions not covered in this article please call us so we can help.

### **50 caliber shooters**

Please do not shoot with armor-piercing rounds at steel targets – any one who does and causes damage to the steel plates will be given the bill to fix them!

Please do not shoot at ground level targets ie do not put things on the ground and shoot at them. The effects of shooting at ground level targets is that they ricochet over the berms and could be very dangerous.

Please do not shoot at the steel plates at under 500 yards, please shoot at paper only.

Tracer is ok as long as you check with the range officer on that day that it will not be a fire hazard.

Incendiary ammo is ok as long as you check with the range officer on that day and you do not shoot at steel targets as it tends to be armor piercing ammo.