

SCSA IDPA Program – New Shooter Info

The South Cuyahoga Sportsmens Association has a very active IDPA program. We hold IDPA practice matches year round in our heated indoor range. The range is located at 5370 Erhart Rd., Medina, OH 44256. Our range is about 6 miles west of the center of Medina. While we hold indoor matches year round, from Spring through Fall, we hold outdoor IDPA matches once per month in our newly constructed outdoor pistol bays. These are at the same Erhart Rd. location. Additionally, we run monthly outdoor steel matches at the same location.

Here is some information on our weekly practice matches. We run probably 45 or more weeks per year. We only cancel matches for holidays and if winter weather makes driving hazardous. We open the range at about 5:30 or a bit before for setup. Shooting normally begins at 6:00 PM and we are finished by 8:30 give or take 15 minutes.

Our matches consist of 3 to 5 separate stages. A stage is a specific shooting scenario. We have moveable walls, doors and other props that we use to create different defensive situations. You will almost never see the same scenario twice. We give a stage “walk-through” before each stage is shot so that all the shooters understand how the stage should be shot. Each shooter gets a chance to shoot the stage under the control of an IDPA Safety Officer (SO). The stages are timed and scored for accuracy. We do this on a tablet. After the match, we post the scores on Practiscore so that you can see how you did relative to the other shooters.

What do I need to shoot a match?

You will need a centerfire handgun (9mm or 38 special minimum), a holster, and something to hold spare magazines (mag pouch). These should be suitable for concealed carry. Your holster cannot be a “serpa” type holster which has a retention device that is released with your finger. We have banned these because of the potential for accidental discharges. On your second night and thereafter, you’ll need some type of cover garment so that your firearm is concealed. You should also bring about 100 rounds of ammo. Normal round count is between 50 and 75, but we have had matches where you can shoot up to 100. If you have 4 magazines, bring them. If you have less than this, we’ll work around it. We often run scenarios where you will need multiple magazines.

What’s this going to cost me?

First of all, you don’t need to be an SCSA member or an IDPA member to shoot our matches. We’d like to have you be a member of both, but it isn’t required. If you are not an SCSA member to cost to shoot an indoor match is \$10. If you are an SCSA member, the cost is \$5.00.

Your first match

For your first match, we ask that you arrive at 5:30 or a bit before. When you arrive, a safety officer will have you fill out and sign our club’s liability release form. This is done once per year. Then the SO will explain to you our range safety rules. After the SO has gone through that, he will explain IDPA shooting and the rules and scoring.

Cold Range

Many of our shooters are concealed carry permit holders. You may be too. Since we operate a cold range, you may only have a loaded firearm at the firing line and after an SO has given you the command to load. For this reason, we ask that when you come to the range, you bring your firearm cased or in a bag or gun rug. We also ask that it be unloaded with the magazine out.

What if I arrive at the range carrying my concealed weapon? If you arrive at the range carrying concealed, we ask that on arrival you immediately contact a safety officer. The SO will take you down range and get you unloaded, holstered and in compliance with our cold range rule.

Safe Table and Handling of Firearms

Firearms may only be handled when under the instructions of the SO, or at our Safe Table. We set up a Safe Table at the beginning of the evening. It is there – when there is nobody downrange – that you may take your firearm out of its case, bag or gun rug and holster it. After your firearm is holstered, it must stay there unless you are given the command to unholster by the SO.

No ammo, spent cases or snap caps are permitted on the Safe Table while it is in use.

At the end of the match, after there is nobody downrange, we can again use the safe table to remove firearms from their holster and put them back in the case, bag or gun rug.