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**MARCH
2022**



FERRY BROOK RANGE

CHESHIRE COUNTY SHOOTING SPORTS EDUCATION FOUNDATION

MONTHLY NEWSLETTER

Securing the Future



Stay tuned for more
information about
the new indoor range
opening soon!

The Steel Challenge Series—Part One

Steel Challenge is a shooting competition where accuracy and speed are the keys. There are eight different courses of fire with five steel targets in each stage. The Steel Challenge Shooting Association defines all of this, as an international governing body.

The targets have three sizes: small round (10 inches), large round (12 inches), and rectangle (18x24 inch). Competitors shoot from six to eight stages depending on the local, regional, or national type of match. Shooters get five runs (strings) in each stage but one, which is limited to four runs. The runs are timed, and the shooter must hit all five targets ending on a stop plate. There is no round limit, and there are penalties for completing with a miss. The score is the total time of the runs/strings with the worst time deleted. The match score is the total of all the stage scores.

Stages are standardized, i.e., you shoot identical stage setups every match. You shoot from a fixed location—the box—and don't move. There are minor movement and position exceptions that will be covered in a future article.

Steel Challenge is a very friendly format for all ages and shooters using a great variety of guns. This is done using three parameters: classification, categories, and divisions.



Photo by Jeff Fifield

The classification covers skills allowing you to compete with similarly skilled folks. The category helps by segmenting personal characteristics: lady, law enforcement, military, pre-teen (under 13), junior (13 to 18), senior (55 to 64), and super senior (65 and up). Finally, the division is based on the characteristics of the firearms used in groupings: rimfire pistol, rimfire rifle, centerfire pistol, and pistol caliber carbine.

Why is this so much fun? Because it is so welcoming and challenging for every shooter, no matter their skill level. Competitors can range from a pre-teen, e.g., nine years old, shooting their first rifle, e.g., a Ruger 10/22, to a hotshot twenty-year-old shooting a \$5,000 "race" gun. This flexibility

MONTHLY NEWSLETTER

Beginner/New Owner Pistol Clinics and Skill Building Clinics:

Sunday

March 13

1:30 pm – 4:30 pm

**Pre-Registration
Required**

Please contact:

Jenifer Marchesi

jtmarchesi@gmail.com

508-259-6735

We have Limited Class
Size to provide 1:1
coaching for Beginners/
New Firearm Owners.

All attendees will begin
with classroom instruction
before going to the range.
The initial clinic is for .22
caliber only*.

Cost:**

\$40 per session

CCSSEF Members

\$50 per session

Non-Members

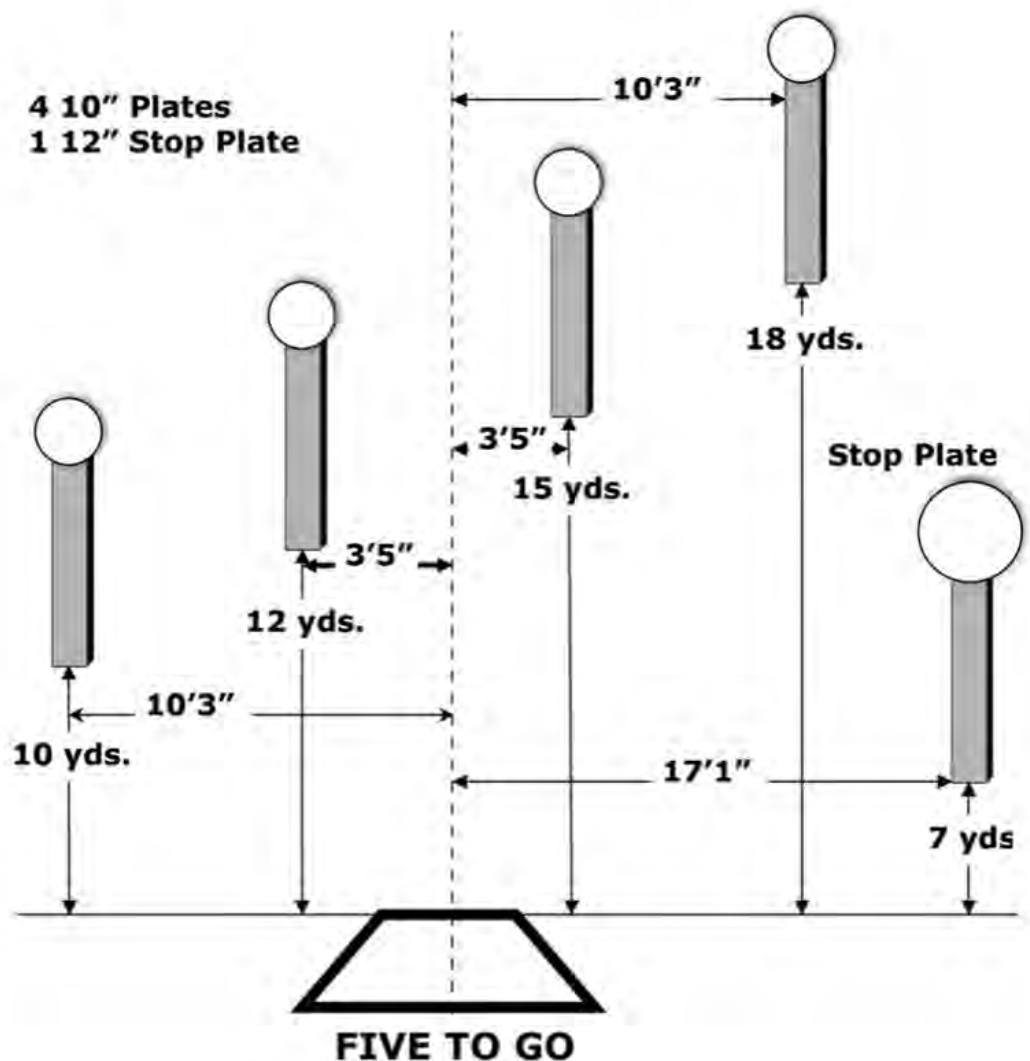
***Beginner Class Includes:**
Targets, hearing protection, use of eye
protection, .22 semi-automatic pistols,
50-round box of .22 ammunition, and
additional ammo for sale at cost.

**** All proceeds benefit CCSSEF and
offset materials cost**

allows competitors to compare themselves to similarly skilled, aged, and equipped competitors while in the company of folks ranging across all skill and equipment levels.

An example of one of the stages appears below. Keep your eyes on this newsletter for more articles that will give you more insight into the sport and some how-to competition techniques.

Peter Crowell,
General Manager




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MONTHLY NEWSLETTER

New Hampshire National Guard

For more information about the education benefits provided by the New Hampshire National Guard:

Warrant Officer 1
Sukari Statton-Bill
(603) 225-1207 or
sukari.d.stattonbill.mil
@mail.mil

The NH National Guard is a new sponsor.

Remember, Active Duty Military and First Year Guard/Reserve folks get free memberships!

"Liberty must at all hazards be supported. We have a right to it, derived from our Maker. But if we had not, our fathers have earned and bought it for us, at the expense of their ease, their estates, their pleasure, and their blood."

-John Adams

How To Graduate From College Debt Free (And Become A Leader In Your Community)

Student loan debt has become an economic crisis – not just for individual students and families but for the entire economy. In 2021, average total student debt was just around \$30,000, according to U.S. News & World Report. And with tuitions and fees rising nationally by 2-3% in 2021-2022, the challenge of getting a good education while minimizing personal debt continues to grow.

Fortunately, there are avenues students can take to meet that challenge: One such opportunity is the New Hampshire Army National Guard.

According to Warrant Officer Sukari Statton-Bill, education services officer, "Our goal is to help you get a degree with the least expense at the end."

Full Tuition Waiver for NH Colleges

In 2020, Statton-Bill says, New Hampshire state law was changed to allow for tuition and fees to be waived at state-funded colleges and technical colleges even before Basic Combat Training and Advanced Individual Training are completed, as was the case in the past.

This has become a big draw for potential recruits, says Master Sgt. Erik Hansen, who oversees recruiting. "The day you raise your right hand and swear in you can start using the tuition waiver to any of the state schools." He adds, "A lot of applicants do join the New Hampshire Guard because of the benefits." That ability to start using the tuition waiver immediately gives recruits the opportunity for a true head start, Statton-Bill says.

Statton-Bill points to the experience of Staff Sergeant Courtney Rorick as an example of someone who made the most of the benefits the Guard offers. Rorick, who, along with her husband, is a full-time employee with the New Hampshire National Guard, will graduate in December from Granite State College with a bachelor's degree in professional communication and associate's degree in business.

She appreciates that an education like hers comes at no cost to Guard members. "When you have a family and the costs associated with that, nothing beats getting a degree at little to no cost," Rorick says. She adds that she only paid for her textbooks and about \$45 in fees.

Multiple Paths to Success

In addition to tuition waivers to state schools, the New Hampshire National Guard offers a variety of other education benefits, including federal tuition assistance, a student loan repayment program, the Montgomery GI Bill, and the Minuteman Scholarship, which provides tuition and fees at colleges served by an Army Reserve Officer Training Program (ROTC).

This, says Staff Sgt. Derek Kirlis, a recruiting team leader with the New Hampshire National Guard, "jump starts your life as an adult." As opposed to leaving college to a host of unfamiliar living expenses along with student loan repayments, the student graduates debt-free with strong career opportunities, leadership skills, and the rank of second lieutenant.

“One thing they learn in ROTC is leadership – how to get people to work together to get common goals done. This is valuable if they want to get into management,” Kirlis says. This can also put someone “leaps and bounds” ahead of others with the same four-year degree, he adds.

Not everyone’s goals include two- or four-year college, however, and the Guard has alternative opportunities for crafting a successful future, including professional credential and apprenticeship programs.

Statton-Bill says some of the most popular credential programs include personal trainer, welder, commercial driver’s license, pilot, emergency medical technician, and associate or senior professional in human resources. But if one of those doesn’t catch your eye, not to worry. The Army’s Credentialing Assistance (CA) Program lists more than 1,500 different programs.

Education In the Guard – and Beyond

Hansen feels it’s important to note that soldiers in the Guard who are taking advantage of the education benefits are really receiving two tracks of education simultaneously: one via school and the other via their job in the Guard the overall military training they receive.

He says that being strategic about aligning those two factors can really pay off in future career opportunities. His team sees their role not only as recruiters, but also as career counselors. “A lot of them take it to heart,” he says. “They want to be lead, guide and mentor these young kids coming in.”

That guidance can help provide important insights. For example, Hansen says, field artillery jobs are important in the New Hampshire National Guard. They also provide both technical training and a secret security clearance, which can be a tremendous advantage when applying for federal contractor jobs in the civilian world.

“If you’re going to join,” Hansen says, “understand you’re not just getting the benefits, you’re getting a whole bunch of other stuff out of it too.”

DID YOU KNOW?

Numerous training opportunities exist at Ferry Brook Range— from beginners who have never handled a firearm to veteran shooters. Members of all abilities are welcome to pursue new shooting disciplines and further their education.

Visit our website for more information!

Ryan M Goodell

*Realtor - Associate Broker
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**MARCH
2022**



FERRY BROOK RANGE

CHESHIRE COUNTY SHOOTING SPORTS EDUCATION FOUNDATION

MONTHLY CALENDAR

Mar 13 Sunday

Every Tuesday:

Every Wednesday:

Every Thursday:

Every Saturday:
Every Saturday:

SPECIAL EVENTS & COURSES

Beginner / New Owner Pistol Clinics & Skill Building Clinics. Info in the newsletter.

REOCCURRING EVENTS – OPEN TO THE PUBLIC

Northbranch Bowman Open Archery–<https://www.facebook.com/nhbowmen.nhbowmen/>
Will start in spring 2022.

Open Trap starts at Noon (fee applies)

Action Pistol–3:00 pm to 7:00 pm (fee applies). Will start in spring 2022.

600 Yard Practice–9:00 am to 12:00 pm, 4:00 pm until dusk (fee applies).

Will start in spring 2022.

5 Stand Sporting Clays & Open Trap–Starts at 10:00 am (fee applies)

Apply for a range Membership! 10:00 am–1:00 pm



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Contact Keith Hanson: 1-877-486-8724 (1-877-GUN-TRAIN)



Check out our
online calendar for
latest updates!

A well regulated Militia, being necessary to the security of a free State, the right of the people to keep and bear Arms, shall not be infringed.

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