

TIRED OF PUNCHING PAPER?

Do you love to shoot firearms but find that just shooting bullets at paper targets is getting a little boring? That is where I was a few years back. I have always been interested in competitive shooting but just seemed to never get around to doing it until I finally took the plunge a few years ago and have never looked back.

SGC Pistol Range shoots 3 disciplines, United States Practical Shooting Association (USPSA) Steel Challenge Shooting Association (SCSA) and 3-Gun. All 3 fall under USPSA as the governing body.

So why shoot competitively?

1. Your firearms safety will improve and will become second nature
2. Your firearm handling skills will improve- drastically.
3. A great sport for women and children or anyone for that matter. I shoot with kids as young as 8 in Anchorage. Their shooting .22's in USPSA matches and their gun handling skills are impressive.
4. You do not have to be athletic- this sport is for anyone
5. You can go as far as you want with this. You can either strive for Grandmaster status or just come out and shoot for the fun of it. The choice is yours.

People have come out to watch our matches and say that looks like fun and will be back when I get better, but they never return. In this sport you shoot against others for time and/or points, but you are shooting against yourself first. How do you know if you are getting better if you have nothing to judge yourself against? Do not try to shoot better than someone who has been doing this for a while. I found out early on to shoot your own game, have fun in the process and you end up in the final results where you end up. It is up to you if you want to improve or are happy with where you are at.

You do not need race guns to compete. More than likely what you have will be fine but there are some equipment stipulations that can be discussed. Everyone starts out with a stock firearm. If you have a magazine malfunction someone will lend one. If someone has a firearm that interests you, they will let you try it out. At the recent Kenai Peninsula Steel Challenge Championship, a competitor drove down from Anchorage and his gun malfunctioned on the first stage and was unusable.

Another competitor loaned him his firearm so he could finish the day. Why? That is just the way we do things.

On Saturday April 24th, 2021 at 9AM starting at the training building we at SGC are wanting to put on a clinic at the Pistol range, with a USPSA stage, a 3-Gun stage and a Steel challenge stage. We'll show you what and what not to do and then you can shoot the course to see if you like it. Maybe it is just Steel Challenge or you like all three. The choice is yours. There will be no charge for this and you do not need to be a SGC member.

Lastly, I shoot 50-60 matches a year in all 3 disciplines at SGC, Birchwood and Palmer. One thing I have never seen at any match is someone laughed at because of their abilities or lack thereof. Words of encouragement, tips and advice are the norm. We want everyone to be safe, have fun and succeed. Again, that is just the way we do things.

But fair warning up front, the fun, the camaraderie, the competitive spirit can be addicting. So if you are tired of punching paper and are interested drop me a line and we can discuss or go to [Practiscore.com/](https://www.practiscore.com/) create a free login/ click on the EVENTS tab/ scroll down to Snowshoe Gun Club New Competition Shooter Clinic and register.

See you at the range.

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