

DMRPC NEWSLETTER

3rd QUARTER 2017

Compiled by SplitHoof, #282

Membership Renewals!

If you have NOT started the membership renewal process, you need to do it now, as the gate access combo will be changing July 1st. Due to the high volume of members going through the renewal process, our volunteer team that handles the necessary info and payments is very busy. With over 1,400 members, this is a huge chore.

Special thanks to Jackie and crew for taking on this major operation!

Work Party Thank you!

We wish to express our thank you's to the thirty DMRPC members who took the time to show up at our last work party event. A whole lot of brush clearance and debris removal was completed, which is a good start to this ongoing task.

DMRPC Updates

*Our weather station will be up and running soon; you will be able to check weather data and conditions at the range complex prior to arrival. More info soon.

* Fire protection water barrels have been placed at several locations around the DMRPC shooting range and camping areas. These large, blue barrels contain water that is treated to prevent mosquito and algae growth, and therefore must not be used for drinking. There are buckets placed inside the barrels, to allow transport to the area where needed. Two of the barrels are adjacent to the fire ring in the camping area, as any permitted campfires must be FULLY EXTINGUISHED when the users are finished using the campfire ring. When finished with the water buckets, any remaining water is to be poured back into the barrel, and the bucket replaced in the barrel on it's side. These fire protection barrels will be topped off regularly, and as needed. Please remember that this water is the ONLY water up at the DMRPC complex, and that these barrels and buckets are NOT to be used as targets.



Safety Message

For every edition of the newsletter I try to include a “message of safety”; being that DMRPC operates as a “hot” range, and we police the complex ourselves, these will serve as good reminders. If you have something to add, please use the contact form for the newsletter section. Keep reading below for this edition’s message.

Have you ever been shooting and experienced (or observed another shooter experience) a “**squib**” load? What is a “squib” load you may ask?...Generally, it is a type of malfunction in which the projectile (bullet, shot load, etc.) does not exit the barrel of the firearm, and is lodged somewhere between the mouth of the cartridge case and the barrel’s muzzle. This can be a very dangerous occurrence if the shooter is not aware of what just happened, as the next round fired can lead to disaster. Typically a squib is noticed during the firing sequence as a round that exhibits much less sound and normal recoil for that particular cartridge. Often there will be some unburned powder that spills out of the firearm’s action, and usually the round makes only a “puff” noise when fired. Sometimes, a squib load in a revolver can result in a cylinder that will neither rotate or be able to open, as the bullet becomes lodged between the face of the cylinder and the barrel’s forcing cone. In an automatic pistol, sometimes a squib results in bullet just beyond the chamber, and not allowing the next round to be fully seated in the chamber. This is illustrated below:



This squib occurred with some older imported European factory ammunition of .45 ACP caliber; the pistol is a Glock model 30S. Upon firing, I noticed a round with very light recoil, and the pistol had what appeared to be a “double feed” malfunction. The steel target was clean, so at that point I released the magazine, and noticed some unburned powder that came out of the magazine

well. Locking the slide open, I observed the base of the bullet just forward of the chamber. This could have resulted in disaster, had the next round chambered and been fired. This is a total bore obstruction, often resulting in a destroyed barrel at minimum, and potentially severe personal injury. In the above case, I left the stuck bullet in the barrel, and used it as a reminder during the last DMRPC monthly meeting. Luckily, it was easy to drive the bullet out using a brass rod. If you experience a squib load, **STOP SHOOTING IMMEDIATELY**, and check it out! Always wear safety glasses!

Summer Heat Advisory

As we approach another hot Southern California summer, this is a good time to review a few points on weather conditions and some tips you can use to make your next visit to DMRPC nice despite the heat. If you have any additional tips, please send them to the editor.

- **Hydration:** Bring a gallon of water (minimum), and consider sports drinks to help replenish lost fluids. In the hot, dry climate we often loose much more fluid volume than we realize. There are serious medical hazards associated with dehydration. Drink early and often!
- **Clothing:** Light colored that loosely covers exposed skin helps to prevent burning in direct sun. A good hat to fully cover the top of your head. Consider a light shroud for the back and sides of your neck. Soaking your clothing with additional water can help during extreme heat. If you are moving steel targets, use gloves. Steel gets hot!
- **Shade:** Some of our ranges have covered firing points; some do not. Simple camping type shelters that are anchored keep you and your shooting gear cooler. A chair under the shade is a must.
- **Vehicles:** Inspect fluid levels, batteries, belts, hoses, **TIRES**, A/C, etc. Having a breakdown off the main highway is time consuming and can be very expensive. Of course you have plenty of fuel as well.
- **Physical condition:** Don't over-exert yourself during extreme conditions; dehydration comes up rapidly. Know your limits.
- **Shooting hours:** Ever practice low-light/night shooting? DMRPC is one of the few places to practice this valuable skill, and later hours are much cooler than mid-day. Often there will be very little/no wind, which can be helpful for serious target shooting. Of course, abide by the regular safety rules, and know where others are.
- **Rattlesnakes:** I have observed several large rattlesnakes in the camping areas and adjacent to some of DMRPC's storage containers. Usually in the late afternoon and early evening hours, however caution and awareness are necessary at all times. Watch where you walk, and what you reach down to pick up.