



JUNE 2021 NEWSLETTER

DRILL OF THE MONTH

Throughout 2021 we will be running a Drill of the Month in each edition of the newsletter. The goal is help motivate folks to get to the range and actually shoot their defensive weapons, and to have some fun in the process. Each month we'll post a drill or a short course of fire. You are encouraged to go to the range, shoot the drill, and then post your thoughts and a photo of your target on the Rangemaster Facebook page, <https://www.facebook.com/groups/rangemaster/> .

Paul Howe, Combat Shooting and Tactics (CSAT), Pistol Instructor Standards:

Howe served as a police officer before joining the US Army where he quickly proved himself and entered Delta, from which he retired. He was one of the primary Delta operators in the Battle of Mogadishu in Somalia, as well as other combat engagements. He founded CSAT in Texas and it has become one of the most respected schools in the US. Howe has high standards, which are based on combat experience. Here are his pistol standards for instructors. For us, this should be shot cold, from concealment.

CSAT Standards

PISTOL INSTRUCTOR STANDARDS 2017

The drills below are designed with three purposes in mind:

- 1.A measurable standard to maintain.

2. An efficient stair-stepped workout program that covers all the bases.
3. To test the individual shooter at various times to show areas needing improvement.

Only score shots in the center box and head of the CSAT target. If an enemy turns sideways, that will be all the shooter has to engage, resulting in the appropriate size kill zone. (See Note C)

DISTANCE / STANDARD

1. Ready 1 shot 1 target 7 yards 1 SEC
2. Holster 1 shot 1 target 7 yards 1.7 SEC
3. Ready 2 shots 1 target 7 yards 1.5 SEC
4. Ready 5/1 shots 1 target 7 yards 3 SEC (5 to chest, 1 to head)
5. Ready 4 shots 2x target 7 yards 3 SEC (2 shots on each of 2 targets)
6. Ready 4 shots 2x weak/2x strong (1 target) 5 SEC
7. Ready 1 shot Malfunction drill (1 target) 3 SEC (note A)
8. Ready 4 shots 2 Reload 2 (1 target) 5 SEC
9. Rifle up 1 shot Dry fire/transition 3.25 (Note B)
10. Holster 1 shot Kneeling (1 target) 25 yards 3.25

Total: 25 Rounds

INSTRUCTORS MUST PASS 8-10 STANDARDS IN ONE COURSE OF FIRE.

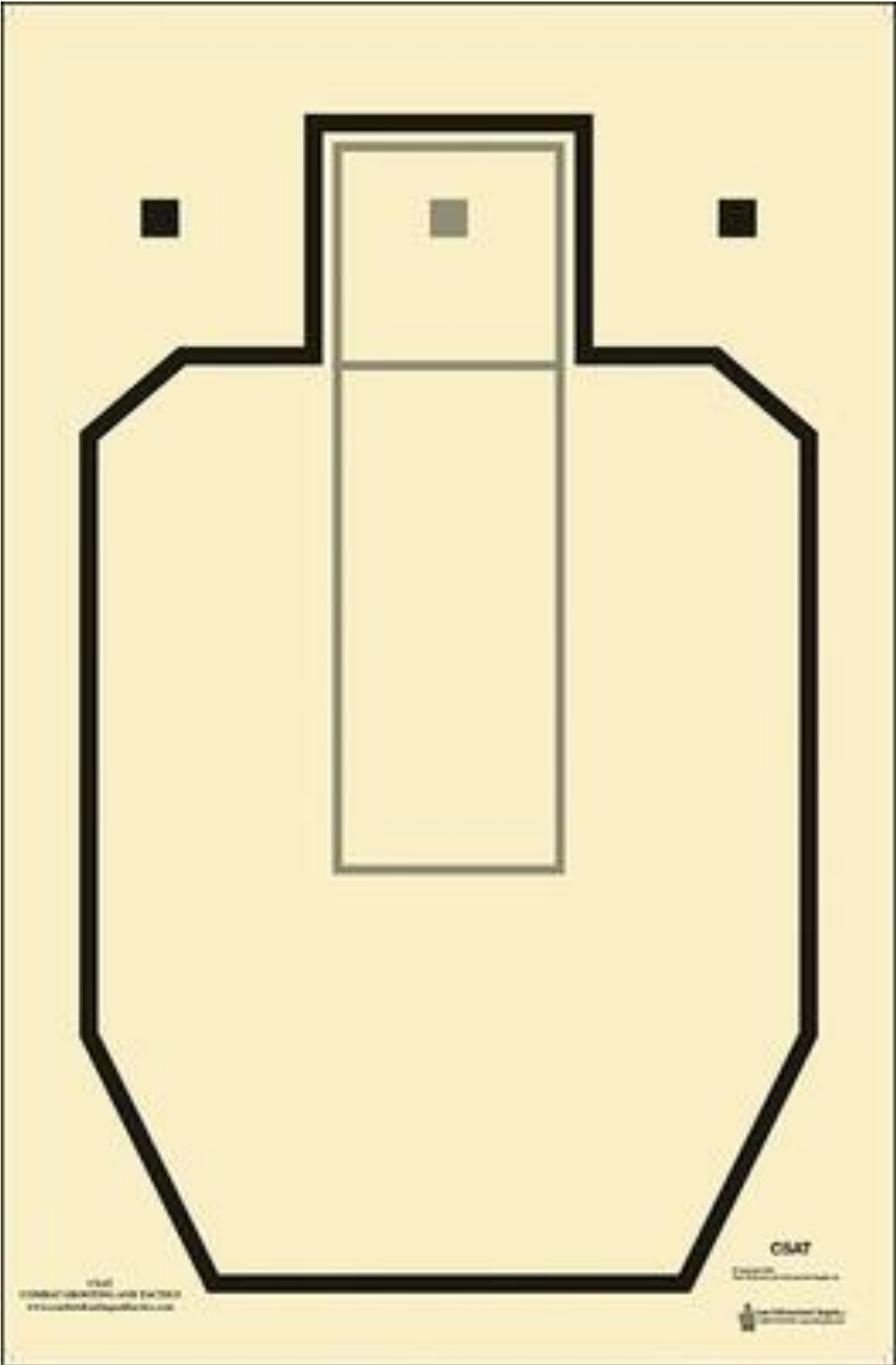
-All stations shot at 7 yards except #10.

Note A- Malfunction Drill- start with empty chamber, attempt to fire, remedy malfunction, fire.

Note B- If not using a carbine, hold both hands chest high extended from chest until GO signal on this stage only.

Note C- A USPSA cardboard target will work. Only the A-zone and head count.

The CSAT target is available from Action Target, or as noted the USPSA target is essentially the same.



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The Need for Ambidextrous Skills

Several years ago I attended the NRA Law Enforcement Tactical Shooting Instructor School. This was a week- long school which covered a lot of material intended for those who teach law-enforcement officers firearms skills. During the course of that week, we were supposed wear two holsters, one on the right side and one on the left side. We only had to wear one pistol, but for certain courses of fire the class instructors would announce that all of the shooters would be right-handed or left-handed for that particular course. That was why we needed a holster on each side. A lot of firearms instructors have their students do at least some shooting with their nondominant hand. However, this was the first formal class I attended in which we were required to draw, shoot, reload, fix malfunctions and do all other operations from either side. I picked up several valuable tidbits during the five days of this class but one of my major takeaways was the wisdom of having everyone work with those two holsters.

Many instructors require their students to do at least some shooting with their nondominant hand. The most commonly cited reason for this practice is the fact that people get hit in the hands and forearms so commonly during exchanges of gunfire. The famous FBI shootout in Miami in 1986 is a classic example. There were a total of nine people actively involved in that gunbattle; two bad guys and seven FBI agents. During the course of the furious gunbattle five of those nine persons were struck by gunfire in their hand or forearm. That's over half the people involved. So, obviously the need to be able to shoot the gun with your nondominant hand is a useful skill. What about having to draw from the holster on the nondominant side? Reloading and malfunction fixes while using the nondominant hand as the primary? Well, there are actually two really good reasons for that.

First, the vast majority of firearms instructors are right-handed, as are most of the population. About 15% of the student base is left-handed, however. Having to actually work the gun over an extended period of time with the nondominant hand gives the instructor a much better understanding of how his left-handed students will have to function.

Most handgun designs are set up for use by right-handed people and may require some adjustment in technique to operate them efficiently with the left hand under combat conditions. The instructor should be familiar and comfortable with these operations so he can teach them to his left-handed students.

The other reason is that as we go through life Stuff happens. I am right-handed. In 2014 I had surgery on my right hand and it was in a cast, and then a brace for four months. During that period I would not be operating at 100%. I could not use my right hand to draw, shoot, or perform any other task requiring any manual dexterity. Fortunately, I had Tony at JM Custom Kydex make me a left-handed version of his excellent IWB holster that I wear every day. I ordered it well in advance so that I would have it in my possession when my hand surgery took place. For the period that I was left-handed, I wore my gun and other equipment in a mirror image to my normal set up. Having already spent time learning to draw, shoot, reload, etc. with my left hand, and having proper left hand equipment I could then just carry on my normal routine without interruption. Since I had the same gun I normally carry the only adjustment I had to make was drawing and operating it with my left hand, something I had prior training and practice doing. Whether you have a problem with your dominant hand right now or not, I would urge you to acquire a holster made to wear on your support side. Then if you have to have hand surgery, you sprain your wrist badly, or you break your arm you'll have on hand the gear you need to continue to be adequately armed. Once you get your nondominant side holster do some practice with it, including some dry work to clean up and speed up your presentation and some live fire practice including shooting, reloading and fixing malfunctions. One day you may be glad you did.

TACTICAL CONFERENCE 2022

The 2021 Tactical Conference was a resounding success. Three hundred trainers, students, and practitioners of our Art gathered in Dallas, Texas, for a three day extravaganza of defensive training. Over 40 well known trainers conducted live-fire firearms training, as well as work with empty hands, blades, hands-on medical training, and more. There was also live role play simulation. Classroom sessions

included legal issues, historical information on gunfighting and training, home invasions, active shooters, and more. Just a few of the trainers who presented included Jedi Jedlinski, Tim Herron, Tatiana Whitlock, John Farnam, Massad Ayoob, “Southnarc” Craig Douglas, Cecil Burch, John Holschen, Gabe White and many others.

For 2022 we are returning to the Dallas Pistol Club. This is an excellent facility, with multiple live-fire ranges and modern classrooms. See <https://taccon.info/when-and-where/> for lots of details, including photos. This event will sell out by October, so don't procrastinate. Once it's full, that's it.



Cindy Bowser (left) and Annette Evans (right) compete in the Ladies' Shoot-Off, part of the defensive pistol match. There are as many as nine to ten training blocks going on concurrently all over the Dallas Pistol Club complex, plus the match.

UPCOMING TRAINING EVENTS

July 23-24 Advanced Instructor Development, Pittsburgh, PA

<https://www.eventbrite.com/e/advanced-firearms-instructor-development-course-pa-tickets-101908125948>

July 25 Defensive Shotgun, Pittsburgh, PA

<https://www.eventbrite.com/e/rangemaster-defensive-shotgun-pa-tickets-101908280410> **sold out**

Aug 14-15 Advanced Instructor Development, Nashville, TN

<https://www.eventbrite.com/e/advanced-firearms-instructor-development-course-tn-tickets-101235558280>

Aug 20-21 Combative Pistol, Dahlonega, GA

<https://www.eventbrite.com/e/rangemaster-combative-pistol-ga-tickets-101753505474>

Aug 22 Defensive Shotgun, Dahlonega, GA

<https://www.eventbrite.com/e/rangemaster-defensive-shotgun-ga-tickets-101753651912>

Sept 17-19 Pistol Instructor Dev., Red Hill Range, Martin, GA

<https://www.eventbrite.com/e/three-day-firearms-instructor-development-course-ga-tickets-101013492074>



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