

# THE BUFFALO BULLS-EYE

THE OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF THE  
BUFFALO TARGET SHOOTERS ASSOCIATION,  
Box 394, 300 – 8120 BEDDINGTON BLVD. N.W.,  
CALGARY, ALBERTA T3K 2A8  
[INFO@BTSA.CA](mailto:INFO@BTSA.CA)



## A BUSY SHOOTING EVENTS CALENDAR FOR 2012

The opening of the new Action Ranges at the Homestead Facility have allowed us to greatly increase the number of official shooting events taking place this year.

There's a calendar of our major events for the year below, but more events are shown on the calendar on the APRA website ([www.albertarifle.com](http://www.albertarifle.com)). Given the number of events now taking place on the Action Ranges, you are again reminded to check the calendar when scheduling a trip out to Homestead, to make sure the ranges you want to use are available on a drop-in basis. There will be lots of access for drop-in, use, but still, it'll be worth your while to check the calendar.

Another reminder, as well, that access to the range is controlled by electronic key. The gate to the range will be locked at all times, so you can't piggyback on the key of someone else. But as a BTSA member you can get a key. You'll need to complete and submit a key application form for review by BTSA. Once approved, you'll be given your key and away you go!

Part of the requirement for getting a key is completing one of our scheduled range orientations (see the "Accessing the New Homestead Ranges" story later in this issue of the Bullseye, and the calendar below).

### BTSA EVENT CALENDAR (AS OF MARCH 6)

Homestead Action Range Orientation #1	March 25
Homestead Action Range Orientation #1 (backup date)	March 31
Monday "Holster Night" (Homestead – every Mon.)	Begins Apr. 2*
AACCA Easter Gun Show (Stampede Grounds)	April 6 - 7
Homestead Action Range Orientation #2	April 14
BTSA – IPSC Black Badge Training (registration req.)	April 27-29✓
ACHF Charity Shoot – Homestead	June 2
BTSA Fall Turkey Shoot – Homestead	Sept. 29

\* Weather permitting – check the calendar

✓ See details later in this edition

## ACCESSING THE NEW HOMESTEAD RANGES

### Key Access to Homestead

As has been stated numerous times, access to the new ranges, and other ranges, at Homestead are controlled by electronic key, so you will need a key to access the range outside of times set for scheduled shoots. Keys cost \$100, which is a refundable deposit.

BTSA has also made it very clear that getting a key to the new ranges is a privilege, not a right. At the same time, we want to ensure as many of our members as possible gain the privilege of being able to access the range.

This means submitting the key request form and attending one of our range orientation sessions listed on the calendar and, after that, doing your part, ALWAYS, to follow and uphold all range rules and courtesies. We're in the process of finalizing the rules for the new ranges and will make sure that all members are familiar with them.

### What Key Access gets you, and Doesn't get You

When you have received your key from BTSA, you will have the ability to unlock the gate leading into the parking lot at the new action ranges. This will allow you to share, with other range users, the new 100/200-metre rifle range, the two new 50-metre pistol bays and the "jungle run", as well as the "old" pistol bay. Your new key does **NOT** give you access to, or the right to use the 900-metre fullbore range, the Swiss rifle and handgun ranges, or the Rosebud range facilities. If you want to access those facilities, you'll need to join those clubs and follow their key request processes. BTSA has, in the past, been granted some limited access to the Fullbore range for our Wednesday Night "Hunter Group" to allow our members to sight in hunting rifles at longer distances. That is the only time, unless as a guest of one of those other clubs, that BTSA members can use those ranges.

BTSA members found using the other ranges without authority to do so will have their key privileges immediately revoked and risk further sanction from BTSA and/or APRA.

If you are interested in a key, please come out to one of the scheduled range orientations, and send a request to [info@btsa.ca](mailto:info@btsa.ca).

### RESPECT THE RANGES – REPORT PROBLEMS

Caretaking of the APRA ranges is everyone's responsibility. Clean up after yourself, respect and share the ranges with other shooters, and report any abuses, especially on the public range. If you see inappropriate or unsafe behaviour use the incident form (copies available on the BTSA website) to note the date, time and other information, preferably with photos and submit it to the BTSA executive at [info@btsa.ca](mailto:info@btsa.ca). We'll let the APRA know.

## BLACK BADGE TRAINING

A number of BTSA members are already IDPA and IPSC members and shoot the programs associated with those groups, and a number of other members have indicated a keen desire to find out more.

To support BTSA's mandate as the handgun discipline within APRA, we will look for opportunities to help our membership get the necessary training, and practice to help them become active shooters in one or more of the disciplines. To that end, we will be helping arrange some training programs.

The first of these will be a Black Badge Course to be held April 27- 29 at SJR and Homestead. This three-day course will combine classroom lectures at the SJR clubhouse followed by live firing exercises at the pistol bay at Homestead.

This course is designed to teach the new IPSC shooter how to safely draw from a holster, reload on the move, proper range commands and more. The new shooter will come out of this course with a new sense of safe gun handling and a new respect for shooting skills.

Space for these classes is limited, and if the first one is a success, we'll look to repeat the course at a later date. If you're interested, contact [nadraz@nucleus.com](mailto:nadraz@nucleus.com).

Don't forget; even if you can't make the Black Badge course work, you can learn from trained IPSC and IDPA range officers in the informal setting of our Monday Night Holster nights at Homestead, and BTSA members are welcome to all IDPA and non-sanctioned IPSC Matches.

Check the calendar for updates and information as to how to get in on the action.

### BTSA NEEDS YOU!

- We need 2x4s for target stands. If you've got some going spare, 24" or longer, please contact BTSA at [info@btsa.ca](mailto:info@btsa.ca)
- In order to prevent erosion of the berms at the new action ranges at Homestead, we are going to be gathering some willow cuttings for replanting later this year. Watch your email for details!
- Have you renewed your membership yet?

#### BTSA COMMUNICATIONS POLICY

All BTSA members are advised that in an effort to control expenses and increase the efficiency of communications with members, the Executive of the Association has approved a change to the Association's communication policy. All communications to members will be by e-mail. The only exception will be for members who specifically request communications by mail. If you wish to receive BTSA notices and communications by mail, please ensure that we have an accurate record of your address, including postal code. IF YOU MOVE, PLEASE MAKE SURE THAT YOU KEEP US UP TO DATE.