

FCSA Matches: Quantico Marine Corp Base

Exit **148** off **I-95** proceed west into the base, about 3.5 miles. You are going to Range 4 it is on the right just past the firehouse on the left, and 250 yards past the Quantico Shooting Clubhouse on the right.

After many years of laying the foundation for these matches, the FCSA is well established with the Marine Command, however, it is still a Marine Corp base, and you are subject to their rules. Speed limits as posted, for example. The Marines reserve their rights to Range 4 for Friday, and their Scout Snipers are often training on the range Friday mornings, which means that shooting on the Range is not available to us until **noon** in most cases. We have priority use of the Range other than the Marines, until 5 pm, and we will have benches set up for sight in, and lots of assistance as needed for spotting. We can run some official targets if there are volunteers to work in the pits for this Friday afternoon, so that shooters can get rounds on target. We will have some 12" squares on the back berm for sighting on, in any event.

We will have weigh-in and registration Friday from 10 am on, on the range. Late registration can be done by prior arrangement. The shooter's meeting will be held at 4 pm. This is required for all shooters, but exceptions are made for experienced FCSA match shooters who register and do their tech inspections and request to be excused. This is mandatory for all first time FCSA shooters, who must receive the basic training on the pit duties required of all competitors.

The Marine rules are strict about the access gate to the pits being secured at all times during firing, and there is to be no one on the pit side of the gate, outside the pits. Our RSO is required to call in our status to Marine "S-3", prior to our opening the gate. For this reason, the rule is that we will arrange for transport of people down and back for pit duty, and any other vehicles than those taxiing shooters are not allowed. Bring a back pack or bag to take your snacks and supplies with you, since once the pits are closed (gate is locked), there is no leaving the pits without calling the line cold. For some matches, there is a pistol range on the right hand side of the pit access road that is active, too, and that range must also be called cold for the gate to be unlocked and the pits to be unsecured. We have a fully trained Range Safety Officer who will be in charge of all directions about this, but all shooters need to be aware that the "pit taxi" issues and range rules make it very much a closed pit situation once the pits are sealed and the gate is locked.

Cell phone service is spotty depending on your location on the range. Someone always seems to be able to get service, so calls *can* be made and received, but don't expect totally reliable phone service.

You will go through a check point, where vehicles are subject to search. You must display ID for people in the vehicle. Answer questions about firearms in the vehicle, which may be asked. Guns must be unloaded and cased. In all the years we have been there has never been a search, but if asked about carrying firearms, and anything else for that matter, be forthright. It is as simple as saying you are headed to a match at Range 4, and the firearms in the vehicle (which should be cased) are for the 1000 yard match. Full details about the search policies contact

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