NAAGA 2026 Empowerment Summit Training Schedule

Day 1 (All Attendees)
Date/Time: Friday, October 9, 2026
Location: Freedom Shooting Center
485 Bishop St. NW, Atlanta, GA 30318

9:00 am – 5:00 pm	**NAAGA Basic Handgun Instructor Certification Course** **Presenter(s):** - Kyle Thompson - NAAGA Co-Director of Training; NAAGA Senior Training Counselor, NRA Training Counselor; President, Buffalo Rangers Gun Club - Darrell Edwards - NAAGA Assistant Director of Training, NAAGA Senior Training Counselor; Vice President of Buffalo Rangers Gun Club - Victor Williams - NAAGA Assistant Director of Training; NAAGA Senior Training Counselor - Keith Jerald - NAAGA Training Counselor; USCCA Training Counselor; President/CEO, Iron City Gun Club ***Course Description:*** *Leave with the knowledge, tools, and confidence needed to become a more effective instructor, strengthen your credibility, and expand your impact within the firearms community. The NAAGA Basic Handgun Instructor Certification Course is designed to prepare current and aspiring instructors to teach, lead, and represent NAAGA training standards with professionalism and confidence. This full two-day course covers instructional techniques, range safety, student management, teaching methodology, liability considerations, and methods for delivering safe, engaging firearms training. Participants will gain practical insight into building successful classes, improving communication skills, and creating a positive learning environment for students of all experience levels.*
4:00 pm – 9:00 pm	**Check-in / All attendees Meet and Greet (Hampton Inn)**

NAAGA 2026 Empowerment Summit Training Schedule

Day 2 – Freedom (General Members)
Date/Time: Saturday, October 10, 2026
Location: Freedom Shooting Center
485 Bishop St. NW, Atlanta, GA 30318

8:00 am – 8:30 am	**Opening Remarks (Virtual)** **Presenter(s):** - Philip Smith – NAAGA President/CEO
8:30 am – 9:00 am	**Training Department Announcements** **Presenter(s):** - Kyle Thompson - NAAGA Co-Director of Training; NAAGA Senior Training Counselor, NRA Training Counselor; President, Buffalo Rangers Gun Club - Monique Clarke - NAAGA Co-Director of Training, NAAGA Senior Training Counselor, Queens of Defense Leadership Team Co-Moderator - Darrell Edwards - NAAGA Assistant Director of Training, NAAGA Senior Training Counselor; Vice President of Buffalo Rangers Gun Club - Victor Williams - NAAGA Assistant Director of Training; NAAGA Senior Training Counselor
9:00 am – 9:50 am	**Beyond the Go Bag: What Most People Miss in an RSID Event** **Presenter(s):** - Sean Campbell - Attorney and Board Member of NAAGA ***Course Description:*** *Practical Preparedness for When Resources Are Scarce and the Infrastructure Is Down. Having a go-bag is a start. Knowing how to use it—and having a realistic plan when normal systems fail—is what truly matters. In an RSID (Resources Are Scarce and the Infrastructure Is Down) event, small details can have major consequences. The equipment you choose, the skills you develop, the decisions you make, and the people you*

can rely on may determine how effectively you protect yourself, your family, and your community. In this practical session, Sean Campbell will share preparedness principles, gear considerations, and real-world strategies designed for everyday citizens—not military personnel. Through demonstrations and lessons learned, attendees will learn how to identify vulnerabilities, improve readiness, build resilient networks, and make better decisions before a crisis occurs. Participants will leave with actionable preparedness concepts they can immediately implement at home, within their local chapters, and throughout their communities.

9:50 am – 10:00 am Break

10:00 am – 10:50 am **Defensive Mindset & Use of Force Decisions**

Presenter(s):

- Monique Clarke - NAAGA Co-Director of Training, NAAGA Senior Training Counselor, Queens of Defense Leadership Team Co-Moderator

Course Description:

Learn how to think faster, react smarter, and make legally and morally sound decisions when seconds matter most. This session explores the mental and legal aspects of self-defense, including situational awareness, threat recognition, decision-making under stress, and understanding the reasonable use of force. Participants will discuss real-world scenarios designed to sharpen judgment and improve personal readiness before, during, and after a critical incident.

10:50 am – 11:00 am Break

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11:00 am – 11:50 am	**Community Safety & Building Stronger Black Gun Culture** **Presenter(s):** - Philip Smith – NAAGA President/CEO ***Course Description:*** *Leave inspired and equipped to become a more impactful advocate, mentor, and leader within your local community and chapter. Explore the importance of responsible firearm ownership, community engagement, and strengthening safety-minded leadership within the Black gun community. This discussion highlights how education, mentorship, and positive representation help create safer communities and stronger organizations.*
11:50 am – 2:00 pm	Lunch
2:00 pm – 2:50 pm	**Emergency Communication and Staying Connected** **Presenter(s):** - Stephen Alexander — NAAGA Assistant Director of Chapter Leadership; NAAGA Training Counselor; NAAGA Michigan State Director ***Course Description:*** *Learn practical tools and strategies to ensure you and your loved ones stay informed, connected, and coordinated during emergencies. Effective communication can save lives during emergencies and large-scale incidents. This session covers communication planning, emergency contact systems, digital preparedness, and maintaining connectivity when traditional systems fail.*
2:50 pm – 3:00 pm	Break

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3:00 pm – 3:50 pm	**Family Firearms Safety** **Presenter(s):** - Darrell Edwards - NAAGA Assistant Director of Training, NAAGA Senior Training Counselor; Vice President of Buffalo Rangers Gun Club ***Course Description:*** *Walk away with practical steps to better protect your family while promoting responsible firearm ownership and safety at home. This course emphasizes safe firearm practices within the home, including secure storage, educating children, family preparedness conversations, and reducing preventable accidents. Attendees will gain insight into building a culture of safety that involves the entire household.*
3:50 pm – 4:00 pm	Break
4:00 pm – 5:30 pm	**NAAGA Queens of Defense Empowerment Session** **Presenter(s):** - Queens of Defense Leadership Team ***Course Description:*** *Open Forum/Guided discussion to field questions, concerns, etc.*
6:00 pm – 9:00 pm	**NAAGA Mixer** *Transition to Hampton Inn, Midtown Atlanta (Rooftop Lounge)*

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Day 2: Hampton Inn (NAAGA Staff and Leadership)
Date/Time: Saturday, October 10, 2026
Location: Hampton Inn, Midtown Atlanta
1231 West Peachtree Street NE, Atlanta, GA 30309

8:00 am – 8:30 am	**Opening Remarks** **Presenter(s):** - Philip Smith – NAAGA President/CEO
8:30 am – 9:00 am	**Training Department Announcements (Virtual)** **Presenter(s):** - Kyle Thompson - NAAGA Co-Director of Training; NAAGA Senior Training Counselor, NRA Training Counselor; President, Buffalo Rangers Gun Club - Monique Clarke - NAAGA Co-Director of Training, NAAGA Senior Training Counselor, Queens of Defense Leadership Team Co-Moderator - Darrell Edwards - NAAGA Assistant Director of Training, NAAGA Senior Training Counselor; Vice President of Buffalo Rangers Gun Club - Victor Williams - NAAGA Assistant Director of Training; NAAGA Senior Training Counselor
9:00 am – 9:50 am	**Marketing for NAAGA Leaders** **Presenter(s)** - Kia Glenn — NAAGA Director of Marketing and Social Media; Queens of Defense Leadership Team Co-Moderator ***Course Description:*** *Learn how to attract more members, improve community impact, and elevate the professionalism of your organization. Discover effective strategies for promoting your chapter, increasing visibility, and growing member engagement through branding, social media, and community outreach. This session focuses on practical marketing techniques designed specifically for chapter leaders and instructors.*

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9:50 am – 10:00 am Break

10:00 am – 10:50 am **Mentorship, Leadership Development in the 2A Instructor Community**

Presenter(s):

- Casandra Light — NAAGA Assistant Director of Marketing and Social Media; Vice President, Bass Reeves Gun Club; Queens of Defense Leadership Team Co-Moderator

Course Description:

Gain tools to become a stronger mentor and leader while learning how to build lasting influence within your chapter and beyond. Strong leadership and mentorship are critical to sustaining and growing the firearms community. This session explores how experienced leaders can inspire, guide, and develop the next generation of instructors and community advocates.

10:50 am – 11:00 am Break

11:00 pm – 11:50 am **Building a Strong & Sustainable Gun Club Culture**

Presenter(s):

- Colin Mapp - NAAGA Director of Chapter Leadership; Board Chairman of Bass Reeves Gun Club

Course Description:

Learn practical ways to strengthen your chapter, improve member participation, and create a more engaged and sustainable organization. Creating a successful gun club requires more than hosting range days — it requires vision, structure, and community connection. This discussion focuses on member retention, chapter culture, leadership consistency, and long-term organizational growth.

11:50 am – 2:00 pm Lunch

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2:00 pm – 2:50 pm

Women in Leadership: Promoting Inclusion, Confidence, and the Shooting Sports

Presenter(s):

- Jeri Persley – Vice President, MonarKC Gun Club; Queens of Defense Leadership Team Co-Moderator
- Casandra Light – NAAGA Assistant Director of Marketing and Social Media; Vice President, Bass Reeves Gun Club; Queens of Defense Leadership Team Co-Moderator
- Nezida Davis - NAAGA Legal Counsel; Queens of Defense Lead Coordinator
- Naki Edward - Vice President, That Gun Talk Gun Club; Queens of Defense Leadership Team Co-Moderator
- Kia Glenn - NAAGA Director of Marketing and Social Media, Queens of Defense Leadership Team Co-Moderator
- Karise Allen-Crew, Co-founder, That Gun Talk Gun Club; Queens of Defense Leadership Team Co-Moderator

Course Description:

Gain insight, encouragement, and actionable strategies to help foster stronger leadership opportunities and a more inclusive environment for women in the firearms space. This panel highlights the experiences, challenges, and successes of women within leadership and the shooting sports community. Topics include confidence-building, inclusivity, mentorship, and increasing female participation within the Second Amendment community.

2:50 pm – 3:00 pm

Break

3:00 pm – 3:50 pm

Communication, Community Engagement & Conflict Resolution

Presenter(s):

- Chad King — NAAGA Midwest Regional Director; President, Black Bottom Gun Club

Course Description:

Learn how to communicate more effectively, de-escalate difficult situations, and build stronger relationships both inside

and outside your organization. Effective communication is essential for leadership, instruction, and community growth. This session explores techniques for conflict resolution, relationship-building, and improving interactions within chapters and with the public.

3:50 pm – 4:00 pm Break

4:00 pm – 5:30 pm **NAAGA Gentleman's Empowerment Session**

Presenter(s):

- Larry Brown, Jr. – President, Bass Reeves Gun Club

Course Description:

Open Forum/Guided Discussion to field questions, concerns, etc.

6:00 pm – 9:00 pm **NAAGA Mixer – Hampton Inn Rooftop Lounge**

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Day 3: South River Gun Club (All Attendees)
Date/Time: Sunday, October 11, 2026
Location: South River Gun Club
5205 Georgia Hwy 212, Covington, GA 30016

NOTE: Sig Sauer P320 firearms are banned at South River Gun Club.

South River Gun Club is a Cold Range, meaning your firearm must be unloaded at the range unless you are on the firing line.

7:00 am – 9:00 am	Vendor Setup
9:00 am – 6:00 pm	Vendor Showcase and Demonstrations [Bay 8]
9:00 am – 11:00 am	NAAGA 2-hour mini training sessions 1 and 2 - [Bay 2] TBD - [Bay 3] Kyle Thompson - Red Dot Reckoning - [Bay 4] Darrell Edwards - Building a Solid Foundation
9:00 am – 9:45 am	New Pistol Competition Shooter Safety Check (First-time competition shooters only)
9:00 am – 9:45 am	Check-in for Shooters Participating in Pistol Competition
9:15 am – 10:00 am	Check-in for Queens of Defense Range Day
9:45 am – 10:00 am	Pistol Competition Safety Briefing
10:00 am – 1:00 pm	Pistol Competition [Bays 14-17]
10:00 am – 3:00 pm	Queens of Defense Safety Briefing/Range Day [Training Bay 1] Lunch break (12:30 pm - 1:30 pm)
12:00 pm – 2:00 pm	NAAGA 2-hour mini training sessions 3, 4, and 5 - [Bay 2] Larry Brown Jr. / Stephen Alexander - Stop the Bleed - [Bay 3] Kyle Thompson - Red Dot Reckoning - [Bay 4] Andre Sidney – Defensive Marksmanship Pistol
12:15 pm – 1:45 pm	Lunch

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1:30 pm – 2:00 pm	Check-in for Shooters Participating in Instructors Only Shooting Competition
1:30 pm – 2:00 pm	Check-in for Shooters Participating in Long Range Rifle Competition
2:00 pm - 2:15 pm	Long Range Rifle Competition Safety Briefing
2:00 pm - 2:15 pm	Instructors Only Shooting Competition Safety Briefing
2:15 pm – 4:15 pm	Instructors Only Shooting Competition [Bay 14]
2:15 pm – 4:15 pm	Long Range Rifle Competition [Rifle Range]
2:15 pm – 4:15 pm	NAAGA 2-hour mini training sessions 6, 7, and 8 - [Bay 2] Yusef Abd Al-Rahman - When the Grid Goes Down: Communications for the Prepared Citizen - [Bay 3] Rick Archer - Drills to Proficiency - [Bay 4] Will Robinson – Intro to Competition Shooting
4:30 pm – 6:00 pm	NAAGA Awards Ceremony [Bay 8]

RANGE TRAINING BLOCKS ADDENDUM

Red Dot Reckoning

Presenter(s): Kyle Thompson

Equipment:

- 150 Rounds
- A reliable firearm (no Sig P320 variants)
- Quality Holster (Kydex or duty grade; no Serpa allowed)
- 3 magazines (minimum)
- 2 magazine pouches (minimum)
- Sturdy belt (duty or concealed carry)
- Eye and Ear Protection
- Permanent Marker & small notebook, range and weather-appropriate clothing

Course Description:

Red Dot Reckoning is a performance-driven pistol course designed to give shooters a deeper understanding of how to maximize efficiency, precision, and consistency with a pistol-mounted optic. This program emphasizes measurable performance standards and real-world application, equipping students to run their pistol with confidence under pressure.

Students will refine their draw stroke and presentation, learning how to drive the dot into their visual plane with speed and repeatability. The course also incorporates concepts to strengthen target focus, visual indexing, and dot acquisition when the optic is compromised or partially obstructed.

By the end of the course, shooters will walk away with a clearer visual strategy, improved consistency, and a performance-based framework for continued growth beyond the class.

Building a Solid Foundation

Presenter(s): Darrell Edwards

Equipment:

- 100 rounds
- Personally owned handgun (no Sig P320 variants)

- 2 magazines (minimum)
- Eye and Ear Protection
- Permanent Marker & small notebook, range and weather-appropriate clothing

Course Description:

This Basic Pistol Class is designed for new and beginning shooters who want to learn the safe and responsible use of a handgun. This course provides students with a comprehensive introduction to pistol safety, operation, and marksmanship fundamentals in a supportive and hands-on environment.

Participants will learn the essential rules of firearm safety, safe loading and unloading procedures, proper grip, stance, sight alignment, and trigger control. Students will also receive instruction on range safety, shooting etiquette, and basic defensive awareness.

This course is ideal for first-time gun owners, individuals considering firearm ownership, and anyone seeking to improve their understanding of handgun safety and basic shooting skills.

Defensive Marksmanship Pistol

Presenter(s): Andre Sidney

Equipment:

- 200 Rounds
- A reliable firearm (concealed carry preferred; open carry accepted; (no Sig P320 variants))
- Quality Holster (Kydex or duty grade; no Serpa or soft shell (including belly bands) allowed.
- 3 magazines (minimum)
- 2 magazine pouches (minimum)
- Sturdy Belt duty or (concealed carry)
- Eye and Ear Protection
- Individual First Aid Kit (IFAK)
- Range and weather-appropriate clothing
- Brimmed cap (optional)
- Water source
- Positive and open-minded mentality.

Course Description:

Defensive Marksmanship Pistol is an intermediate-level course designed to bridge the gap between basic marksmanship and defensive firearm application. This course focuses on developing safe, efficient, and consistent holster skills, including proper drawing and re-holstering techniques, while reinforcing the core fundamentals of pistol shooting such as grip, stance, sight alignment, sight picture, trigger control, follow-through, and recoil management.

Students will apply these fundamentals under increasing levels of pressure through a series of structured and timed drills designed to improve speed, accuracy, decision-making, and overall firearm proficiency. Emphasis is placed on building confidence, consistency, and efficiency while maintaining strict adherence to firearm safety principles.

Depending on class progression and available time, students may also receive a high-level overview of self-defense law, including key considerations related to the use of force, reasonable belief, and the responsibilities that accompany defensive firearm ownership.

This course may include movement, positional shooting, and other practical exercises that require a low to moderate level of physical activity. Students should be prepared to actively participate throughout the training and safely handle their firearm from the holster.

Stop the Bleed: Until Help Arrives

Presenter(s): Larry Brown Jr. / Stephen Alexander

Equipment:

- N/A
- No background required. No prior experience necessary.

Course Description:

When severe bleeding occurs, the clock starts immediately.

A person can bleed to death in as little as 3–5 minutes, while the average ambulance response takes significantly longer. Those critical minutes often determine whether a loved one lives or dies.

Most life-threatening bleeding injuries don't happen on a battlefield or at a shooting range. They happen during everyday life:

- A child falls through a glass door.
- A family member is involved in a serious car accident.
- A loved one suffers a chainsaw or power tool injury.
- A hunting or outdoor accident occurs miles from immediate medical care.
- A kitchen or home improvement project goes terribly wrong.
- A natural disaster leaves emergency services overwhelmed.

And sometimes, the emergency isn't your own. It may be a car crash you witness on your commute, an injury at the park, a workplace accident, or a stranger in your community who desperately needs help before first responders arrive.

In this hands-on Stop the Bleed course, you'll learn how to recognize life-threatening bleeding, apply direct pressure, pack wounds, and properly use a tourniquet to keep someone alive until professional help arrives.

You don't need medical experience. You simply need the knowledge and confidence to act when every second matters.

The life you save is far more likely to be someone you love than a stranger—but you may be called upon to save both.

When the Grid Goes Down: Communications for the Prepared Citizen

Presenter(s): Yusef Abd Al-Rahman

https://www.youtube.com/@MetroAtlantaHamRadio334

Equipment:

- N/A
- No technical background required. No prior radio experience necessary.

Course Description:

When disaster strikes, communication becomes one of the most valuable resources you can have.

Whether it's a severe storm, widespread power outage, overloaded cellular networks, or a community emergency, amateur radio operators have the ability to stay connected when others cannot.

In this engaging and interactive session, Yusef Abd Al-Rahman (K4KHO) will introduce attendees to the world of amateur radio through real-world examples and live demonstrations. You'll see how ordinary citizens communicate across neighborhoods, states, and even around the globe using skills and equipment available to anyone willing to learn.

You'll discover:

- Why communication is one of the most overlooked preparedness skills
- How amateur radio works when traditional systems fail
- The role radio operators play during emergencies and disasters
- How is local, regional, and worldwide communication possible
- What equipment beginners actually need
- What it takes to earn your amateur radio license
- How members of NAAGA's **NAAGA Communications Readiness Initiative (NCRI)**—affectionately known as the **Black Hammies**—are building communications networks and preparedness capabilities across the country

Live demonstrations included.

Come see why thousands of Americans continue to rely on amateur radio when reliability matters most and discover why communication is a critical component of personal preparedness, family readiness, and community resilience.

Self-defense does not end with firearms. When the grid goes down, communication may be the most important tool you possess.

Drills to Proficiency

Presenter(s): Rick Archer

Equipment:

- 200 Rounds
- A reliable firearm (concealed carry preferred; open carry accepted)
- Quality Holster recommended (Kydex or duty grade; no Serpa or soft shell (including belly bands) allowed.
- 2 magazines
- 2 magazine pouches (minimum)
- Sturdy Belt duty or (concealed carry)
- Eye and Ear Protection
- Permanent Marker & small notebook, range and weather-appropriate clothing

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Course Description:

This course is designed to provide shooters with dry-fire and live-fire drills you can do at home or at the range to build skills that improve performance, proficiency, and confidence. These drills are intended to reinforce basic fundamentals and create habits that will create consistency throughout the shot-making process.

Introduction To Competition Shooting

Presenter(s): Will Robinson

Equipment:

- 150 Rounds
- A reliable firearm (no Sig P320 variants) - Your EDC will work fine if you don't have a dedicated competition pistol/PCC
- Quality Holster - must completely cover the trigger guard (no Serpa or similar style holsters)
- 2 magazines
- 1 magazine pouch (minimum)
- Concealed carry or duty/competition belt
- Eye and Ear Protection
- Note-taking supplies along with range and weather-appropriate clothing

Course Description:

Introduction to Competition Shooting covers the different competitive sports, their scoring systems, classifications along with range commands, scoring methods, and registration processes.

Students will learn various techniques that high-level competition shooters use to get the highest scores possible. This includes vision, movement, and the importance of stage planning. While this is a competition-focused class, the vast majority of the shooting skills covered also translate to real-world scenarios.

Upon completion of the course, students will understand how to register and prepare for a competition and then use the post-match data to help shape their practice sessions going forward.