

MATCH POINTS

Official newsletter of the Magnolia Practical Shooters Club

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DANCING WITH THE STARS (OR TRYING TO ANYWAY)

For those of you familiar with the movie Mask of Zorro, there is a scene where the hero in his “civilian disguise”, cuts in on the villain who is dancing with the heroine. The villain looks at our hero and says, “ We were trying to dance.”. Our hero replies, “She was dancing, you were trying.” That was the story on this day as some were dancing and some were just trying. However, everybody had some rhythm. There was no Production “Polka” without the Louisiana crew, but we had the Limited “Lambata“, Limited-10 Single-stack “Samba“, Revolver “Rumba” and the Open “Hokie-Pokie“.

Even though this was Super Bowl Sunday, we still had a great turnout of twenty-three shooters. In addition to our regulars, we had a couple of new shooters and one old-timer returning to the sport. The early morning cold made getting started a little tough, but by mid-morning the sun had warmed everyone up and the competition started heating up.

In Limited, Bryant 'Burner' Chaffin waltzed away with High-Overall with his nearest competition being Scott Sims who was second and 1st B Class. Matt 'Wood-Butcher' Moorer was a close third and 2nd B Class. Tommy 'Dead-Eye Doc' Cabell slipped in a fourth overall and 1st A Class. 'Big John' Heiter, Richard Pittman and Cliff Cargill all tried to dance their way in, but lost their rhythm just enough to finish 5th, 6th and 7th. Ronnie Repsher was eighth overall and High Unclassified. Jared Hutchins continues to improve and was 2nd Unclassified. Danny Warren returning after nearly a ten year layoff shot with borrowed gear and finished 3rd Unclassified.

In Limited-10, Robbie Landry two-stepped his way to High Overall taking three out of the four stage wins. His only misstep was on the classifier where he had the speed, but not the hits and settled for third. David Donovan was second overall and 1st C Class. His miscue was on stage 3. Frank Farmer took third overall and 2nd C Class and won the classifier with a solid performance. Brett Hutchins came in fourth and High Unclassified. Bill 'Midget' Cheney switched over from his usual Limited to try his luck and got fifth overall and 3rd C Class. Bill Meyer coming in from out of town for his first match at Magnolia finished out the field.

In Open Division there were only two shooters going to the 'dark side' as Mark Young and Amanda Moorer shot it out. Each took two stage wins, but Mark managed to win the bigger stages so he got the High Overall by beating a girl, and a teenager at that. Better tighten up Mark. There will be tougher competition in May at the State Championships.

Last, but certainly not least, we have the most challenging division, Revolver. For those of you who are not regular readers of Team Magnolia's newsletter, or who have not been paying attention, other than state match time, there has been only one and very rarely two revolver shooters at the monthly matches. On a regular basis the revolver shooters have had to suffer the unkind comments and painful jibes of the other shooters, with nothing to show for it, but not this month. Three competitors took the field and now John finally has to order a trophy for revolver. When the match opened, Glenn Whitfield, came out strong to take the stage win with Hank Stern coming in second and "Bwana Pat" DeBerry coming in a poor third on Stage One. Stage Two was a repeat of Glenn coming in first, but this time "Bwana Pat" was second with better speed, but a miss in the hard cover. Hank had problems with that getting down low for the second part of the classifier and came in third. Stage Three was a turning point as Glenn tried to get a little fancy on his run and took an extra shot when he thought he had a miss and ended up making an extra reload to finish out his run. Hank had a solid run with all his hits and a slightly better time than Glenn to take second. 'Bwana Pat' took the safe left to right, don't get fancy approach and aced the stage win by five seconds and two points. Coming in to Stage Four it was still anyone's match and that's when things got fun. As Bryant put it, "These revolver guys take a week to shoot the stage and then talk smack afterwards!" 'Bwana Pat' opened up the ball with a run that looked pretty bad at first glance, 53. 62 with six points down. The Texas Star tried to do

him in again. Glenn came up next and in his own words, got a little overconfident and then tried to push it when the star bit him in the butt as well. He finished with a 51.78 second run, but drew three misses as he tried to make up for lost time from the star. Last came Hank with as smooth a run as you could want, five shots on the star and solid hits on all the rest of the targets. When the smoke cleared, 'Bwana's' run stood up and that was enough to give him the High Overall in revolver with Glenn only 1.46% behind for second and Hank third by 4.46%. There haven't been many matches this close in a while. Next month will be the sugar match for Revolver and the dancing will be fast and furious. You don't want to miss it.

After the match was over and all the props put away, the state match committee met to decide on the stages for this years championship. Seven stages have been selected and two alternates in case Magnolia is able to get the berm work done to increase the match to ten stages. John Heiter will be the match Director and will be starting the call for work nights soon to start getting things ready. There will be props to build and repair as we get ready for this years match. All help is gratefully appreciated. If you wish to help out at the state match as an RO or in any other capacity, contact John now and get your name in the hat. We also need designs for the state match shirts so get those in to John as soon as you can.

Next month will be a Special Classifier match, with four classifiers straight out of the book. If you aren't classified in a particular division or want to try and move up in class, this is the time to do it.

That's all for now. Sorry I got so carried away with the Revolver results, but it was nice to able to say something besides so and so was the only shooter and won that division. Don't forget that next month is also the Magnolia Rifle and Pistol Club annual meeting. Hope to see you there.

If Clear, Hammer Down and Holster. Range Clear.

