

Match Points

- The TeamMagnolia Newsletter -



Sunday, July 5, 2009 July's match was held after nearly a month without rain and extreme record breaking temperatures in the past few weeks, which certainly set the stage for a hot Fourth of July celebration weekend. This match was dedicated to the memory of shooter Brian Davis (7/9/1969-6/29/2009).

I really did not anticipate many people attending the match due to the July Fourth Celebration weekend, and had even decided not to go due to the extreme heat after talking with Cliff Cargill who had been teaching in the heat and humidity with heat indices of 113-114 degrees over the past several days. Saturday night while at the New Hebron Rodeo watching the Bull riding with the boys, I started getting text messages from Michele May Willis asking if the boys were coming because her son Randy would be there, as well as the May and Callendar families.

Am I glad I drug myself out of bed, when I got there, I was amazed at how many shooters had set up the four stages quickly and by 8AM where standing back in the building helping John Heiter enjoy the cool A/C. So much work was done early, we even discussed setting up earlier and shooting at 8 AM in August due to the heat, so if anyone is interested let John know what you think....I doubt everyone would be there, but maybe enough to get everything set up to shoot by 8AM.

While waiting for the shooter's meeting, more and more vehicles kept pulling up and more shooters from Mississippi and Louisiana kept arriving to enjoy the Fourth of July match which consisted of 41 shooters split into 4 squads, with several new shooters attending. Thanks to Rodney May for conducting the new shooters briefing in Cliff's absence. We had no disqualifications (DQ's) so everyone was safe on the range, which is really good for the Range Officer's (RO's) who are enforcing the rules we all must compete by to insure safety.

Both Limited and Production had 14 shooters each, followed by Limited 10 with 5 shooters, Single Stack with 4 shooters and both Open and Revolver with 2 shooters each.

Stage 1- Don't Close That Door consisted of 9 Targets, 2 Pepper Poppers and a small round plate on the West 100 range. The port at the end of the hall had a clamshell with a no shoot to cover the port which was attached to BOTH Pepper Poppers. If you had your gun in the port, the clamshell would give it a good whack on the end, and if you weren't finished shooting, you had to Exit, Stage Right to a shooting box to finish. This stage was shot by Rodney May (Production) in 9.47 seconds, Robert Konrady (Open) in 9.72 seconds, by Walter Latapie (Limited) in 9.99 seconds and Amanda Moorer (Limited) in 10.39 seconds.

Stage 2- Seven consisted of 3 Targets with hard cover and a small Pepper Popper on the West 50 range. It looked fast and simple with only seven shots and was, as long as you got all your hits on the target and not in the hardcover area. This stage was shot by Rodney May (P) in 3.18 seconds, by Bud Berthold (L) in 3.83 seconds, Jimmy Callendar (L) in 4.21 seconds, and Matt Moorer (L) in 4.27 seconds.

Stage 3- Rack 'Em Up II consisted of 10 Targets, the Texas Star, and a round plate, with the shooting area running parallel to the 180, on the West 25. The Texas Star with an added round plate in the area of the center spoke really gave some shooters including Chris Bonham, Kalyn Ulmer, and myself a real challenge. Whereas Rodney May and Lauren Bonham ran it like professional shooters. Rodney was so fast on the Texas Star that I actually had him go back over the sequence in which he shot, bottom to top, that's right, I've never seen it shot bottom to top, but Rodney shot it so fast it barely even moved....I was standing there admiring his handiwork, then realized I better get the timer down to the end to pick up his last shots. This stage was shot by Rodney May (P) in 14.91 seconds, Robert Konrady (O) in 15.81 seconds, Bud Berthold (L) in 17.02 seconds, and by Adelo Aquino (O) in 19.58 seconds.

Stage 4- I Got This consisted of 14 Targets and 2 Pepper Poppers on the Back 40 range. Beginning with both thumbs on the wall, the shooter had to backpedal before engaging the targets to

either side before moving forward down the hallway engaging targets as they became visible. This stage was shot by Rodney May (P) in 13.61 seconds, Walter Latapie (L) in 13.71 seconds, Robert Konraday (O) in 13.83 seconds, and Adelo Aquina (O) in 14.26 seconds.

Looks like all the tips I have been showing Rodney May on "how not to shoot", have paid off, as he won all four stages this match, shooting Production with 14 shooters, which was won by May, Daniel Hildalgo, Steve Roberts, and Jeremy Jouette. Limited Division was won by Walter Latapie, Bud Berthold, Jimmy Callendar, and Matt Moorner. Limited 10 Division was won by Frank Farmer, Robbie Landy, Carl May, and Dwayne Martin. Single Stack was won by Ben Davis, Mike Harrell, Dwayne Jones, and Gale Butler. Open Division was won by Robert Konraday, followed by Adelo Aquino. Revolver Division was won by Sam Keen, followed by Pat Deberry.

At this match we had several new faces such as Sam Keen and lots of new shooters, Dwayne Martin, a U.S. Postal Inspector, who I work with on occasion. Dwayne is the federal law enforcement arm of the U.S. Postal Service and deals with criminal matters for the Postal Service and is the guy who you might see dressed up in the space suit checking out packages with suspicious white powder. There was Morgan Callendar, oldest daughter of Jimmy and Carrie Callendar who shot her first USPSA match, Billy Berthold who occasionally shoots with his dad, Bud, as well as Mike Harrell and Dale Harrell. We also had a Magnolia Rifle and Pistol Club member come out and watch a few stages who is considering coming out to join us in the future. We also had a lot of people absent who must have been visiting with family or decided to wait out the heat, I'll not try to name them all but if they had been here, we likely would have surpassed our highest local match number.

Once again Shane Hutchins and Richard Pittman were there early, preparing the grill for the bed of hot coals on which our traditional Fourth of July meal of hot dogs, chips, and soft drinks were ready when we finished shooting the match. This meal was excellent once again, just as the beef stroganoff was last month that I forgot to mention. John Heiter commented about how much the shooting has improved and I think that with the level of out of state shooters bringing knowledge and competitiveness to the monthly matches as well as the ICORE and Outlaw Steel matches that allow more trigger time each month, I can see where shooting abilities have really improved for all of our handgun shooting programs at Magnolia Rifle and Pistol Club. Thanks are in order to John Heiter, Glen Whitfield, our Section Coordinator Bryant Chaffin, and Cliff Cargill who spend a lot of free time helping with the shooting programs, new shooters, and volunteering to do many things the rest of us seldom are aware of, as well as the Board Of Directors of the Magnolia Rifle and Pistol Club who have recently provided concrete on five of the six firing lines, and you the shooters who volunteer your time to set up and tear down the stages at every match we all enjoy shooting.

Our next monthly USPSA match is scheduled for Sunday August 2, let us know before the shooter's meeting if you would be willing to come out earlier to setup so we could shoot at 8AM and get finished before the heat becomes unbearable. Outlaw Steel match is Sunday, July 12, and ICORE is Saturday, July 25.

Range is Clear!

Sincerely,
Scott Womack
601 573 2006
scottwomack10@yahoo.com