

Match Points

- The TeamMagnolia Newsletter -



Returning from the ICORE match in Thibodaux, LA on Saturday where it was 75 degrees and humid did not prepare me for the shock of Sunday morning March 1st, 2009 which dawned with a rare dusting of snow with a temperature of 30 degrees and a wind chill of 23. A northwest wind of 12 mph with gusts to 27 mph made it very interesting to say the least. Steven Womack missed the shooting match due to camping out at Springwater Ranch near Puckett, MS. I bet he appreciated Dad taking him a U.S. issued Arctic Mummy style sleeping bag and extra clothes...so if you thought it was cold, my 11 year old slept outdoors the night before with the Boy Scouts Troop 29 of Brandon, MS.

Just getting to the range was dangerous with the ice on the bridges, and I passed one group of individuals who had crashed on Interstate-20 westbound on the bridge just west of the Pearl River. When I finally got to the range, at 7:25, there was a large group of shooters hustling to get the stages put up around the much needed dirt work that had been started on the Back 40, the West 100, and a small amount on the West 25 Ranges. The concern was how much rain had fallen turning the dirt into mud and until we got to the range it was difficult to ascertain how it would affect the match setup.

Shane Hutchinson and Richard Pittman were doing a fine job of preparing lunch with PLENTY of delicious red beans and rice for everyone. Thirty six brave souls showed up to weather the elements, help out and shoot the USPSA match, with 17 in Production, 10 in Limited, and 3 each in Revolver, Open and Single Stack. There were 3 Lady Shooters, Kristi Knight, Lauren Bonham, and Michele Willis. Congratulations are in order for those who were there to help setup and get the stages prepared for the match.

We had new shooter James Adams who did well, and Rickey Keith, an old friend from back home came out to watch the USPSA match and the Rifle side match...I think he will definitely return and probably bring some new shooters with him.

Stage 1 Both Sides Now #2 began with a huge group of shooters on the East 50 due to the dirt work forcing us onto the east side, as Mark Young, who returned with Sebastian, and Bryant Chaffin, who were shooting through to go shoot in Ellisville, MS at noon joined our squad....Now I know those two drove at or below the speed limit all the way there...

When the RO asks do you understand the Course of Fire and you answer yes, knowing that you didn't listen, and one of your friends tells you to shoot everything near and on the right from the right side of the barricade and everything distant and on the left from the left side of the barricade, and you decide in the middle to throw a shot at the distant left Pepper Popper from the right because it seems like the thing to do at the time, don't complain when you earn a Procedural, like I did, and later like Carl May did. Carl, after hearing the steel ring, and assuming that the steel had fallen, realized it had not and re-engaged from the right side of the barricade. I learned to read the Stage Design in January, I guess I need to LISTEN when it is being read rather than talking to prospective new shooter friends of mine. Hopefully, if it happens in the line of duty they won't be assessing procedurals for what order I engage threats.....This stage was completed in 6.08 seconds by Rodney May (GM), 7.08 seconds by Cliff Cargill (M), 7.25 by Bryant Chaffin (GM), and 7.71 by Bud Berthold (A).

Stage 2 Hit & Run was a great stage that I had intended to use to run during the Rifle side match after the USPSA match, but like the Stage name it was a hit and run that disappeared after the USPSA match being put up before I told Match Director John Heiter that I would like to use it in the rifle side match...my fault,

I live, I learn, OK, maybe I don't learn as quick as others, but remember what your working with here people. This stage was well designed and was a real run and gun, blaster of a stage, being completed in 11.51 seconds by Bryant, 13.3 by Bud, 13.37 by Rodney, and 15.26 by Adelo Aquino (A).

Stage 3 Steel n Run 2.5 was another great hose it stage and Jimmy Calendar wins the award for the cha, cha, cha dance, on this stage as he engaged the first three Pepper Poppers and was doing great until he missed the small left Popper and took off, only have to come back and re-engage, and took off again, and had to come back and re-engage, and after the fourth miss and take-off, Jimmy finally hit the small steel with his fifth shot....that was the best show of shooting and dancing ability that we saw all day. This stage was completed in 13.13 seconds by Rodney, 14.6 by Cliff, 14.91 by Bryant, and 13.69 by Bud Berthold. Bud's time was fast, but he had a miss that cost him 10pts. and dropped him to 4th overall on the stage.

Stage 4 Perfectly Legal was pushed into the southwestern corner of the West 25 due to the dirt work which will soon make the range a better place to shoot. Top four on this stage were Bryant in 10.13 seconds, Rodney in 9.21 with one miss, Richard Pittman (A) in 11.39 and Cliff in 12.87.

Unofficial results of the top four competitors are as follows for each Division:

Production Division- Rodney May, Cliff Cargill, Steve Roberts, Mike Gilbreath

Limited Division- Bryant Chaffin, DC Alantara, Richard Pittman, Ed Krieger

Open Division- Bud Berthold, Adelo Aquino, Mark Young

Single Stack Division- Matt Moorner, James Adams, Donnie Miculek

Revolver Division – Tommy Cabell, Pat Deberry, Tom Duchmann

We had 2 DQ's one happened when Mark Young's pistol fell to the ground after the Make Ready Command and before he even got it loaded and the other was Donnie Miculek who touched the trigger while reloading and fired a shot unexpectedly, his first DQ in nearly 30 years of competitive shooting.

Michele Willis brought her eleven year son, Randy, who was a huge asset in pasting targets, as well as kicking Steve "Window Licker" Roberts, and I in the back of the knee while he was waiting for the last stage to finish up. I think Randy identified the two bad apples on the range and was delivering a bit of well deserved street justice.

Thanks again to Tom Duchmann with Action Shooting Supply for coming up to compete and bringing supplies for those of us who realize that shooting supplies are getting harder to find due to the panic buying going on across the nation. Next time Tom, remember Joel Senia gets to sleep outside the RV, because he would not wash the dishes when asked to do so, I mean, if I got a free ride and a place to sleep, I would have had the dishes washed.

Lunch was well received and the tough part was going back out afterwards to shoot the rifle side match which signed up 10 shooters with AR-15's. We shot stage 3 and 4 after pulling the steel; I meant to say after shooting the steel once and pasting the holes with white pasters....I will get these scores to John Heiter as soon as possible for tabulation. Stage 1 Steel n Run 2.5 of the Rifle match was completed in 8.24 seconds by Rodney May, in 10.73 seconds by Donnie Miculek, 12.26 by Adelo Aquina, and in 12.68 seconds by Tommy Cabell.

Stage 2 Perfectly Legal with Rifle was in 9.74 seconds by Rodney May, in 10.55 seconds by Tommy Cabell, in 10.75 seconds by Donnie Miculek, and 13.52 seconds by DC Alcantara.

I really appreciate Rodney May helping out with the Rifle Match Safety Briefing, going over the Course Description as well as being so helpful with others shooters. Rodney works every day training some of the finest shooters on the face of the planet today and it is really appreciated by a lot of shooters the few minutes Rodney takes to give suggestions and advice on improving your shooting abilities as well as

explaining the gear and parts that he has found to be superior in sustained use. I heard several other shooters during clean up express their appreciation among themselves when Rodney was not around for what Rodney does by offering advice and to help out when the Vicksburg crew is always working hard to setup and tear down. Several people came by to say thanks for holding the rifle match and what I would like to say is thank all of you for showing up to setup, tear down, RO, keep score, and above all, do so safely. I understand John Heiter when he says that you guys make it all very easy. In fact while Rodney was handling the safety briefing, I took Chris Bonham's daughter, Lauren just in front of the berm on the West 25 and let her shoot my Smith & Wesson M&P15Tactical, and watched as she told her dad how much she enjoyed shooting it. Chris told her to come on let's go get one for you....so I think we have a new, up and coming rifle shooter. Feel free to send me any ideas, suggestions, and even your constructive criticisms on how we can produce a better Newsletter.

Don't forget we have a Outlaw Steel match March 8 in Byram, a classifier on March 15th that Tom Duchmann is putting on in Pearlington, and the ICORE Southern Regional's in Thibodaux, LA, March 20-22. See you there.

Range is Clear.

Sincerely,

Scott Womack

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