

Match Points

- The TeamMagnolia Newsletter –
Sunday, February 7th, 2010



Happy Valentines!

February's monthly match started with a cold morning, with the nearby Pearl River to the tops of the banks with the docks completely underwater but shuttling stage props from the building to the range kept everyone warm, although no one could figure out why the more they worked, the colder their feet seemed to get. 48 brave souls endured the winter weather and it was nice to see Shane Hutchins unloading Clam Chowder and Richard Pittman with an ice chest full of cold drinks for lunch.

48 shooters started the February monthly USPSA match off, 20 shooters for Production, 13 in Limited Division, 8 in Single Stack, 5 in Revolver Division, and 1 each in Open, and Limited 10. No one including myself, ever imagined we would see more than 20-25 shooters show up on a cold Super Bowl Sunday with the New Orleans Saints at their first ever Super Bowl appearance, therefore Match Director John Heiter had only planned for four stages so everyone would have time to shoot and get on to the Super Bowl parties. Shooters just kept driving up, including Jinnie Shramek who had other commitments and was unable to get to the range until after 10:30AM, just in time to shoot two stages with her new CZ 75 SP-01 9mm Shadow.

Stage 1 Who Dat? This stage, in honor of the New Orleans Saints, was set up with 15 IPSC targets, 30 shots, starting with heels against white dots on the fault line. 3 targets were hidden right against the walls, about 3 yards from the shooters position with 4 targets available from the first opening in the wall, 4 targets available at the second opening, 3 close targets available at the 3rd opening, and 4 targets available from the fourth position, of which 3 targets were behind no-shoots and I did notice a few white pasters on the no-shoots. Johnny Brister and I both had terrible malfunctions on this stage, which drove home the point to me of barrel checking my ammunition BEFORE a match, not as I shoot the match! Nothing like your pistol malfunctioning, looking into the ejection port and noticing the cartridge in the barrel has a primer with a huge firing pin dent in it, so I knew there was a failure to extract, with another cartridge nosed into the back of the first, which takes time to clear, so I dropped the magazine, racked the slide a couple times to eject the live cartridge on the feed ramp, and to extract the spent cartridge from the chamber, all while the timer was ticking. This was my third malfunction of the day, having experienced this twice between one shot on Stage 4 on the back forty. Did I say the point to clean the chamber and barrel check my ammunition was well driven home? Tommy Cabell, who was RO'ing me also realized how badly it threw me off my course memorization when I got to the third shooting position with three close targets and after engaging those three targets, I started to swing the pistol from target to target trying to locate the fourth target before realizing, I had shot all of the available close targets from that position.

Stage 1 was shot in 14.32 seconds by Bryant Chaffin (Limited), in 14.61 by Rodney May (Limited), in 17.21 seconds by Joel Senia (Limited), in 19.75 seconds by Cliff Cargill (Production). Hit Factor went to Bryant Chaffin with 9.6369, Joel Senia with 8.2510, Rodney May with 7.0500, and Cliff Cargill with a 6.9721.

Stage 2 Paper Poppers Classifier CS 03-05, 10 round Comstock with 6 Pepper Poppers and 2 IPSC Targets, which required a reload between the steel and paper targets. This was the same classifier shot at the Memphis Charity Challenge revolver only match on Halloween the Saturday before the Talladega NASCAR race. This is the stage where Jinnie Shramek debuted her new skeletonized aluminum thin grips for her new CZ Shadow. After the match, Sharon Watson who had come to see if she was interested in competition shooting, shot through this stage and with 10 shots, got all six steel Pepper Poppers with 2 Alpha and an Alpha Charlie on the two IPSC targets, although she had not fired a pistol in five years, and never shot at a competition. We may just have a new shooter in our midst. Stage 2 was shot in 5.21 seconds by Rodney May (L), in 5.43 seconds by Bryant Chaffin (L), in 6.56 seconds Bud Berthold (L), in 6.56 seconds by Robbie Landry (L). Hit factor went to Rodney May with 9.4050 (Limited), Bryant Chaffin with 8.6556, Bud Berthold with 7.4695, and Robbie Landry with 7.2808.

Stage 3 World of Walls consisted of 15 IPSC targets and 2 Pepper Poppers and started with hands on the X's with 4 IPSC targets in that opening , two of which had hardcover, one horizontal, the other vertical, with the third target open and the fourth partially concealed behind a no-shoot. Moving to the left, there appeared two Pepper Poppers and 2 IPSC targets, then moving to the right there were four targets through two ports, two open, and the other two with hard cover, and to the left where five IPSC targets with no-shoots concealing portions of the targets. It gave the six shot revolvers a lot of standing reloads but was a great stage designed by Jeremy Jouette and set up by the Vicksburg crew and others while Pat Deberry and I discussed what customers had been purchasing at the package store prior to the Superbowl. The most intriguing was Harrah's Casino in Tunica sending a car and driver all the way to Jackson to pick up two bottles of a particularly rare Scotch total value of \$1,200 paid in cash, of course! Stage 3 was shot in 13.43 seconds by Bryant Chaffin (L), in 17.39 seconds by Jimmy Callendar (L) in 17.46 seconds by Joel Senia (L), in 17.94 seconds by Johnny Brister (Single Stack). Hit Factor went to Bryant Chaffin with 11.2435, Johnny Brister with 8.0268, Jimmy Callendar with 7.7056, and Rodney May with 7.6652.

Stage 4 Spank T was another of Jeremy's stages and was located on the back 40. It consisted of walls and fault line arranged in a T pattern with 16 IPSC targets. This is where I experienced the first two malfunctions which were both double feeds due to a failure to eject the spent cartridge, and a second cartridge being taken forward with the slide only to jam when it impacted the read of the spent cartridge still in the chamber. Lesson learned. They say the two loudest sounds in shooting are a CLICK when you expect BANG and BANG when you expect CLICK. I can say without a doubt, when a malfunctions happens, everything seems to go in slow motion, as you work as fast as possible to diagnose the malfunction and get it cleared and running in the least amount of time, which with a double feed means taking the long way home! Stage 4 was shot in 14.16 seconds by Rodney May (L), in 14.77 seconds by Bryant Chaffin (L), in 14.42 seconds by Blake Manning (Open), and in 15.21 seconds by Joel Senia (L).

Production Division was won by Jeremy Jouette, followed by Cliff Cargill, Mike Harrell, and Nick Wilson. Limited Division was won by Bryant Chaffin, followed by Rodney May, Joel Senia, and Robbie Landry. Single Stack was won by Johnny Brister, followed by Bernie McHugh, Gale Butler, and Tom Duchmann. Revolver Division was won by Tommy Cabell, followed by Pat Deberry, Todd Lancaster, and Sammy Moorer. Open Division and Limited 10 were won single handedly by Blake Manning and Frank Farmer, respectively.

After getting home and finally getting everything unloaded and stowed away, as I was taking off my boots, I noticed my feet were cold as blocks of ice. After watching the Super Bowl and the Saints winning, I finally realized that Hell had frozen over and the Devil was having a snowball fight. Now I guess when I wake up in the morning and my feet hit the floor, the Devil who normally shudders, and thinks, oh no, he's awake again, will instead shudder from all the ice and snow!

The Outlaw Steel Match is Saturday February 13, Valentine's Day is Sunday, February 14 (just trying to help some of you guys out here), the Cowboy Action Match in Mendenhall is Saturday, February 20, the local ICORE match is Sunday, February 21, Magnolia Rifle and Pistol Club members the Annual Club meeting is scheduled for Saturday March 6, and our next monthly match is Sunday March 7, 2010! Don't forget there will be a Level 1 Range Officers class in Byram, February 20-21. Sign up has passed on Sunday but if you can contact Hank Stern at 601 946 5402, you MAY be able to get in this week.

Thanks for all of the help setting up and tearing down the stages in record time. We had a lot of new shooters that we want to welcome and invite to come back again.

Range is Clear!
Sincerely,
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