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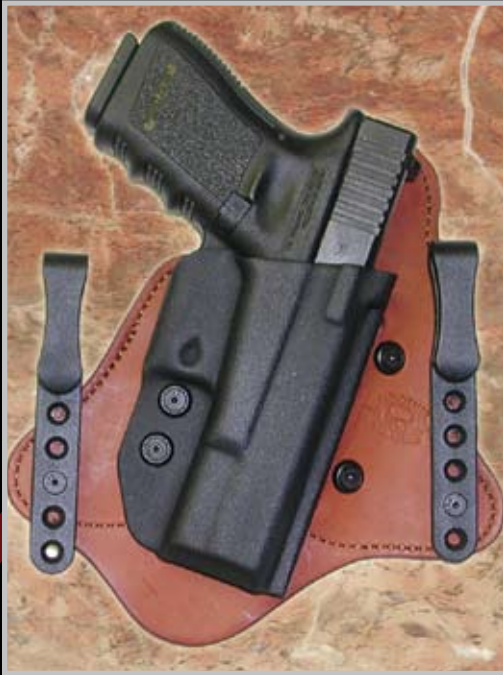
# Tactical Journal

THE OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF THE INTERNATIONAL DEFENSIVE PISTOL ASSOCIATION

Second Quarter 2009  
Volume 13 - Issue 2



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# ***"Shooter Ready"***

## **Letters to the *Tactical Journal***

The Tactical Journal welcomes letters to the editor for "Shooter Ready". Send your letters to "Shooter Ready" IDPA 2232 CR 719 Berryville, AR 72616 Email: editor@idpa.com

### **Blind no more**

Blind stages are fun, but from a competitor's standpoint they are only fair if they are "blind" for everyone. That's never the case, since the SOs have to know the COF to run it.

Having been on both sides of that (as an SO running one and as a "regular competitor" shooting others blind) I can tell you that the one who knows the COF has a huge advantage – it's like handing every other shooter a big penalty in the overall score before they even fire their first round.

Because of that, blind stages have become controversial, and deservedly so. They do not create a level playing field. It's like starting an NFL game with one team two touchdowns down before the kick off. Here is one suggestions as to how the game can start 0-0.

When a blind stage is set up, it should include a couple of doorways/rooms/etc. that hold no targets. Of the placed targets, a couple should be No Shoots, with moveable hands. When the SOs do their pre-match walk through, only two SOs per squad (SO1 and SO2) go inside the stage. SO1 shoots the COF first. But before he does, SO2 goes in and is free to move targets (even to different rooms) or hands. He is now the only one who knows the full layout. He runs SO1 and only they paste and score. Then, SO1 goes in and rearranges things. He's now the only one who knows and he's already shot it. He runs SO2, and no further course changes are needed.

Everyone else can then shoot the same COF that SO2 did.

It may not be the perfect solution, but SO1 and SO2 will be shooting, at least "mostly blind", and will then know it well enough to run the rest of the squad. The time the SOs spend changing the targets should also add no more than ten minutes to the time required to run a full squad through the stage.

Blind stages are fun. But they need to be made fair. Any suggestions from the other members?

Chris Christian A23489

*Chris is right in that a true blind stage is hard to do fairly. Blind stages are usually some type of house clearing scenario. The method that I have used is to give the bare bones of the wall placement but not where the targets are located. Each room in the scenario would have several threat targets and non-threats. The non-threat identifier would move between each shoot but not the targets placement. This ensures each competitor scans all the same targets. The last thing I do to help make sure it is the same for each competitor is that the last target in each room is a threat. This helps ensure that each competitor also has to scan (or pie) the same distance into each room. On the whole, blind stages can be a lot of fun but they really should not be held in sanctioned matches unless you can say that all competitors have the same CoF.*

*Editor*

### **A Spirited Argument**

The latest IDPA Tactical Journal (First Quarter 2009) has an article entitled "A Major Match in Nine Weeks". According to the author, the match was billed as a "Spirit of IDPA match". It featured low round counts, close distances, and no "game style" targets. I wholeheartedly agree that these are things that IDPA really needs to address. I also feel that there are other rules counter to the spirit of IDPA which also need to be corrected. Among these is the rule that only one No Shoot can be used for every three Shoot targets, and the requirement that reloads must "begin and end behind cover".

I'd really like to see IDPA begin to more closely adhere to the concepts of "defensive pistol". By emphasizing things that are absolutely real components of the defensive use of handguns, IDPA will be on the right track. Re-loading your gun ASAP is such an item. The same applies to being forced to engage "bad guys" in a crowded situation. Part of that type of situation should be to increase the penalty for shooting a "No Shoot" to equal the "Failure-To-Do-Right" 20 second penalty. After all, if shooting an innocent bystander is not a FTDR, I don't know

what is! This would also greatly add to the "challenge" of a COF for those who feel that low round count, close distance COFs are "too boring".

Of course, IDPA is not "tactical training". It is just a game. But it is one that is supposed to "...test skills required to survive life-threatening encounters." Things like being forced to NOT re-load your pistol as soon as possible are pure "gamesmanship". Remember that there is USPSA out there for all that "Hollywood style" flash and bang, unrealistic targets and procedures, and complicated "memory test" COFs. Let's do all we can to keep the two separate.

Wylie Moore, A03820

*The problem remains the same every time. Where do you draw the line? I have always said that IDPA is a game but based on the real world. As a game there are things you have to do to be able to officiate it that may run counter to the real world part. Reloading when you are empty quickly devolves to reloading any where and anytime you want. This encourages running into the open to engage targets so to be closer (and faster) to the end of the stage. Is this the "defensive" aspect we are looking for? As for non-threats, are you really going to engage a threat in a sea of non-threats? Bad guys on the whole do not want that type of attention. Granted there is the occasional nut job that opens up in a place of business or a mall. These instances are actually pretty rare. It is only the "if it bleeds, it leads" mentality of our national media that makes it seem less rare than it is. The most often encounter is still one on one. I suggest that clubs use more hard cover to make shots more challenging. Even the bad guys have learned that using a wall for cover is*

*(Continued on page 36)*

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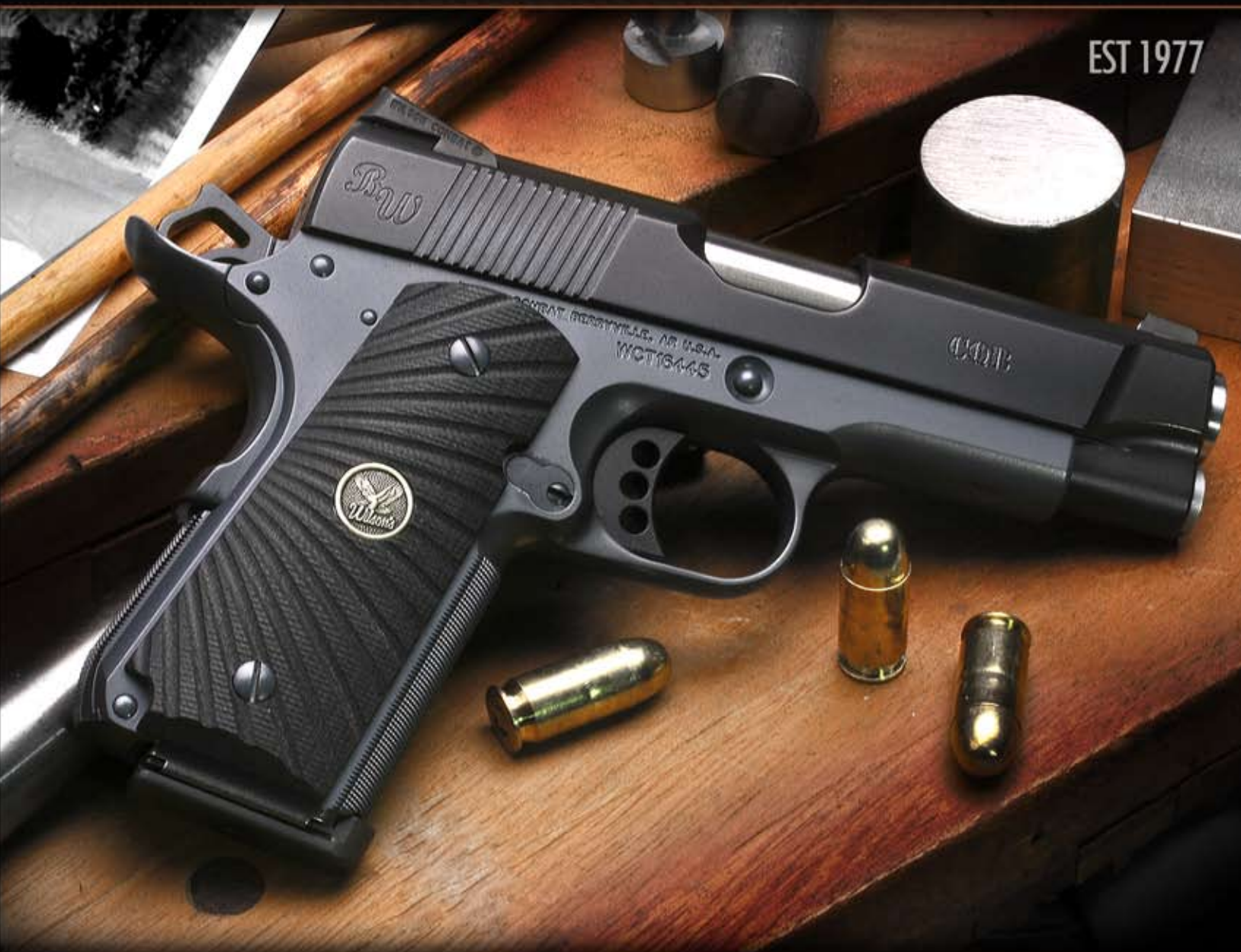


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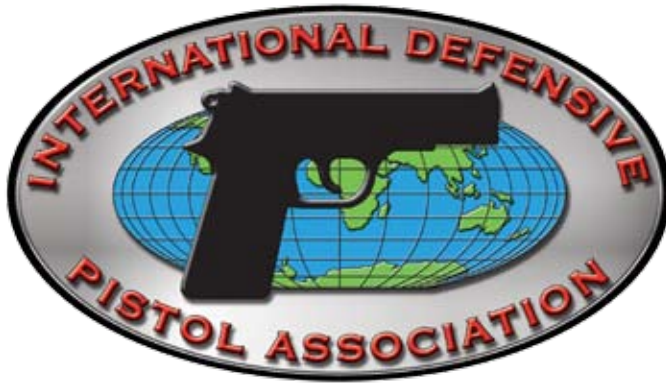
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May 2009

Volume 13 Issue 2

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## IN THIS ISSUE

The shooting season is well underway and hopefully we are going to see ammo a little easier to find soon. I know that people have been stockpiling all across the country and that has made it harder on us competitors to walk into the nearest Wal-Mart to pick up ammo for the weekend. It would be nice to see prices come down and availability go up. The Nationals entry forms are in this issue and I think that this will be the biggest year ever for the Nationals. Be sure to mail your forms on time. Have a great shooting season.

As always, if you would like to write, please do so at [editor@idpa.com](mailto:editor@idpa.com). Letters to the editor may be edited for brevity and clarity. RR



# Run a Better Match

## Build a Better Club



by John L. May A03563

On a recent trip to Nuremburg, Germany, to attend the “IWA” show, I became aware of things we forget. Imagine, if you will, a country that restricts gun ownership to the point that a fellow enthusiast has to decide carefully what exactly he or she wants in their very limited number of gun purchases. In some countries they may only own two or three “short guns”. While long guns are less restrictive they are still under close view of the ever watching government. I could not even fathom having to choose so carefully on my next handgun purchase. Here in the US we have the (ever decreasing) freedom to choose our next blaster with the criteria we choose and, with few exceptions, little input from the powers that be.

Here at the office, we deal on a daily basis with some of the restrictive laws that we as shooters face in our home states. I recently spent quite a bit of time learning the finer points of the gun laws in California. Some states have simple requirements while others are vastly more complex. Working in this industry is filled with challenges when it comes to the various state laws that affect our world. Currently, most believe that it only gets worse from here. I, as a shooter, do not understand why the powers that be insist on continuing down roads that do not prove to solve this ever elusive problem. I am not sure why the ones that write our laws have yet to realize that laws only affect you and me, the ones that are law abiding citizens.

If one could simply write a law to end crime, shouldn't every country on the globe be crime free? During this visit to Germany, the Germans were facing the issues that seem to show their evil faces around the world. They had just seen on the news what most called the worst shooting in history. Some crazed idiot took one of his father's pistols, went to the school he used to attend and began shooting anyone that crossed his path. Since Germany already has some of the most restrictive firearms laws, I guess that laws do not help.

The real answer to the problems that face us all is education. Having laws to stop free gun ownership is not the answer. Crazed idiots will do what they choose to do. They have other issues that keep them from having the ability to make good decisions and that is the problem, not some law that was missing. I was asked several times both on camera and off of my opinion of those events while I visited their country, only to continue the message that restricting freedoms does not solve the problem. I am just a simple guy who loves to shoot and enjoy my God given rights. I have made the transition from shooter, to gun club officer, to one who makes his living in this industry, and all along the way I am reminded of how important it is that we educate anyone who will listen about our favorite pastime and, some could say, way of life. I have spoken to groups of all backgrounds, creeds and interests when given the opportunity. We cannot stand by on

the side lines and watch to see what happens; we must get involved through education to help change the minds of those that do not understand why we love what we do. I have yet to see someone shoot any firearm for the first time, when given proper instruction and support, that did not have one of the best times in their life. Most leave the experience with the biggest smile you have ever seen.

When the opportunity arises to get involved with some program to help introduce others to shooting, you should jump at the chance to help make this happen. If it is First Shots, one of the many NRA programs, or just the local Boy Scout Troop, get involved. It is very rewarding and it might change the future of our country. Years ago, I took a day and did a “demo” for a troop to include various firearm types from pistols to rifles. Those boys still talk about that to this day. I understand that the tale is passed on to new troop members so the good news just keeps on going. When I was asked I thought about how many of our Country's leaders have been Boy Scouts and that made me want to take part even more. Given the opportunity to speak to current leaders before they held those positions, I could have changed the future. When that possibility shows itself to me I will not pass I up.

One of the other things I found remarkable is that shooters are the same worldwide. No matter the language or country of origin, you



## Run a Better Match

can pick a shooter out of a crowd. Last year I traveled to Germany for a pistol match as a sponsor. I noticed that, for the most part, I could not even understand what was said most of the time, but it is all the same no matter where you go. Hearing the Course description then followed by the range commands all given in English made me feel at home. Seeing the interaction between shooters and even between shooters and staff is the same no matter where you are. On this trip I spoke to gun enthusiasts from all around the world; shooters, dealers, and collectors alike. It was a pleasure to see their enthusiasm and to talk about what is going on in their country. In past years IPSC, was their only choice, but today IDPA is taking off worldwide. I talked to more who travel to countries where they could compete in an IDPA match even if their country was too restrictive to allow IDPA for whatever reason. I guess it will always be true, shooters will find a way. Over the years I have loaned pistols, holsters, and even ammo to competitors from around the world. I have made some really good friends that way. I still keep up with guys I helped out years ago with whatever it was that they needed to shoot. That reminds me, years ago I loaned a guy everything he needed to shoot our monthly match. He was visiting from out of state and could not bring along his favorite blaster. He read about our club on the net and contacted us to see if he could shoot with us. On the Monday following the match I received a package at the office as a surprise. Inside the box was the magazine pouches and holster I had loaned the guy that previous Sunday. I assumed that he left it with

one of the guys and here it was on my desk. Included inside the box was a really nice letter letting me know how much he appreciated my help and how sorry he was for taking it all back home. These are the sort of experiences that you can hear about all the time in the shooting sports. Good people having a good time doing what they all love to do.

Seeing all of that enthusiasm reminded me of things that I miss. Years ago when I first started shooting, it was an all day event. Friends would come from all over to spend the day shooting and enjoying each other's company. This may be an over simplified version of what actually happens, but that is what it should be. We would arrive first thing in the morning to setup the courses of fire. As the shooters started to arrive, we would shake hands and visit, spend time getting to know all of the new folks that turned out for the day and get it all started. After shooting for the morning, usually four or five stages, we would eat lunch and visit with all who stayed. After lunch we would start shooting again in a less formal manner, giving everyone the chance to shoot with their friends and the morning SO crew a chance to really enjoy themselves. At the end of the day someone would enter scores and a large group just sort of hung around for a while. We all became the guys that ran the matches and built that club, not to mention lifelong friends. If time does not allow you to make every match an event, plan at least once in a while to make a day-long event so the guys that make up the

heart of the shooting sports, which never attend a national level event get the chance to enjoy a shooting event. Plan a sanctioned match will all the props, lunch and all that come with it. Believe it or not, it is about more than shooting.

What little free time I had to wonder around the show (I was there to sell after all), I did take notice of how serious the Europeans are about their shooting accessories. We used to joke about our shooting uniform. We have no idea. I saw the finest quality shooting accessories made from the highest quality materials all on display to make it easier to make sure that you were outfitted correctly for your next shooting event. Leather shooting bags with all the right pockets, placed just right so you have access to your next stage magazines. Leather shooting vests for all occasions, one for bird hunting, one for target shooting, and one for a more discrete look while carrying your favorite firearm. I am telling you, they take this seriously. Proper range wear based on the season, type of shooting sport and personal flair. I even saw a large selection of the finest flasks

(Continued on page 36)



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# Behind the Badge

by Rob Haught CL068



Well, it's that time of year again. Spring has sprung and the local IDPA clubs are back in action. Hopefully you all had a good winter and passed the time reloading, dry firing and shooting whenever you could. Maybe you have even bought a new gun to use.

Speaking of reloading, have you tried to buy ammo lately? I know I'm preaching to the Choir, but there has never been a better time to get started reloading. I was in our local Wal-Mart the other day. They normally have a decent sporting goods selection including

long guns, ammo and reloading components. The ammo shelves were bare with the exception of shotshells and odds and end stuff. The manager told me that there were several stores in their district and ammo was in such short supply that they had to split cases of 45 and 9mm between several stores so that each could at least have a couple boxes to put on the shelf. Think about this, Wal-Mart is probably the nation's biggest retailer of ammunition and they don't even have it. This will have a huge effect on beginning shooters who don't reload. The cost of shooting factory ammunition is just too prohibitive for a lot of folks. If you want to play this game, you need to be thinking of reloading. It's not as hard as you might think. The good news is there are many folks out there at your club who will gladly help you get started. As I've said before, there are actually people who will admit to enjoying it, there are more and more of them coming out of the closet. It's scary to think about just how much brass I've left on the ground over the years. Now I wish I had it stored in the basement. Look at .45 acp brass as nickels on the ground and you will start to pick them up.

Now that the match season is underway, don't get discouraged if you are a bit rusty the first match or two. It won't take long to get back in the groove. If you have been following this column for the past year you may be ready to try a state match or two this season. Get a couple shooting buddies and make the road trip, you will have

a great time. When I was shooting as part of a team, the social aspect of traveling with my Bro's made it that much more fun. I remember one year a couple of guys and I shot the Carolina Cup as the legendary "Team Carlos". Anyone who has listened to a Rodney Carington CD can figure that one out. Years later, we still laugh about that. That's why I love the shooting sports.

As I write this edition of "Behind the Badge", I can't get recent events out of my mind. I live about an hour and a half from Pittsburgh and the shock wave from the recent tragedy has reverberated all through our LE community as it has the nation. Our world seems to be spinning out of control and becoming a more dangerous place to work every day. As our thoughts and prayers are with the families of the slain officers and the Pittsburgh Police Department, let us look inward and re-dedicate ourselves to our safety procedures and awareness. With the economy going south, the number of DV calls is sure to go up. Be careful out there.

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Second Quarter 2009  
Circulation 14000

# TACTICAL JOURNAL

Volume 13 - Issue 2

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Distribution Schedule: Quarterly publication with projected mailing dates of February 1; May 1; August 1; November 1

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Publisher: Joyce Wilson  
Production Editor: Dru Nichols

Printing/Distribution: Print Group, Inc.  
Advertising Sales: Robert Ray

Editor In Chief: Robert Ray

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# Competitive Pistol/Revolver Shooting: Getting Into Your Zone by Understanding Flow

by Dr. Bruce A. Larson A25363

## Study Abstract

The purpose of the study was to complete exploratory research on the flow experience of competitive shooters. There were two objectives for this study. First, the study attempted to determine if a competitive shooting sport lead individual shooters in a flow experience as defined by Chisikszentmihalyi (1990). Jackson & Eklund (2004) have summarized Chisikszentmihalyi's work and stated:

“Flow can be defined as an experience that stands out as being better than average in some way, where the individual is totally absorbed in what she or he is doing, and where the experience is very rewarding in and of itself.”

The second objective of the study was to determine if differences in a flow experience exist between the various ages, practice times, and skill levels of shooters.

Subjects for the study were participants at the International Defensive Pistol Associations 2007 national competition held in Allentown, Pennsylvania. Participants ranged in age from 18 to 65+. Participants were asked to voluntarily participate in the study immediately following the completion of their stages of fire for the competition. Total study participants equaled 110.

For the purposes of this study the Flow State Scale and specifically the Event Experience Scale (FSS-2) was chosen for its use in determining the flow of individuals who have just completed an activity or experience (Jackson & Eklund 2004).

Using Statistical Package for the Social

Sciences (SPSS) the correlation procedure was completed to determine if any strong relationships existed between the global and construct mean scores of the FSS-2. Before the correlation analysis was finished a screen was completed of the data to insure that no outliers existed that could provide disingenuous results. Additionally, the ANOVA procedure was utilized to determine if there were any differences between the shooters based upon the demographics of sex, age, level of shooter, caliber the shooter used, and the number of hours they practiced. Alpha for all tests was set at the .05 level.

There was a positive correlation between participant's age and their total mean score on the FSS-2. An analysis of variance (ANOVA) showed that the participant's age was a significant factor in the global mean score on the FSS-2 scale. Secondly, the ANOVA demonstrated that the participant's age was a significant factor in the FSS-2 construct mean scores on challenge-skill balance action awareness merging and loss of self-consciousness. Third, the ANOVA procedure established that a shooters classification was a significant factor in the participants FSS-2 construct mean scores on the challenge-skill balance and the action awareness merging. Post hoc bonferri tests demonstrated that master level shooters experience flow at a greater level than novice and marksman shooters. Lastly, the ANOVA procedure confirmed that the amount of practice performed was significant factors in the FSS-2 construct mean scores on establishing clear goals and the transformation of time.

Recommendations for future research are

presented. The following link will take you to Dr. Larson's research page where you can download a copy of the study which includes a complete reference list. Once on the research page click on the link titled "Competitive Pistol/Revolver Shooting: Finding your Peak Performance by Understanding Flow." <http://www.wku.edu/~bruce.larson/Research.html>.

Dr. Bruce A. Larson  
Western Kentucky University



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# Oklahoma State Championship

by Curt Nichols A02814

Have you ever watched the movie “The Quiet Man”? Where John Wayne wooed Maureen O’Hara? Every stage set looked like it had rained lightly about three hours ago.

Not enough to be muddy, just enough to have the tang in the air. And cool enough to need a light jacket and to keep one energetic while taking a long walk through the meadows.

This year’s Oklahoma State IDPA Championship was blessed with that kind of weather. The match was held on March 21st and March 22nd at the United States Shooting Academy in Tulsa, Oklahoma. USSA’s innovative facility, with over 36 pistol shooting bays, hosted 146 IDPA shooters from over 11 states.



There were 13 stages that required 188 rounds. The stages were easy to describe and very easy to know what to do. As a Match Director, I have one rule. If a shooter cannot walk up, get a 2 minute talk and shoot the stage – I have designed the stage wrong. Gunfights are not complex. Why they occur can be. What happens is not.

Executing the easy to do stages turned out to be another matter. If I stirred together the comments I heard from the match into one pot, they would say the following: “Funniest match I have shot all year and the hardest.” Targets were set into real world matrixes where a shooter had to aim and concentrate. Practicing defensive tactics by blazing madly at fully exposed targets is a recipe for an invite to a lawyer.

A perfect example is Stage 3 “You can’t always get what you want”. It was a simple premise; one barricade with 6 targets downrange to engage. The 6 targets were hard-covered to simulate them using good IDPA cover. If you use cover, the bad guy just might. The bad guys were using very good cover.

Another example was Stage 5 “Missed it by a foot”. This stage illustrated keeping all of a shooters person behind cover. After engaging 2 prior targets, all a bad guy had exposed was his foot. Once you shot his foot, he startled and ran across a doorway.





As a military veteran, I try to pay homage to our troops in current and previous conflicts. Stage 7 "Tunnel rat", was a tribute to some very special soldiers in Vietnam. I discussed this concept with Darrell West, a safety officer, and my "go to" prop man. In less than a week, he had the prototype prop at my house. Again, a simple premise; you are in a darkened tunnel on your stomach. Your left hand has your angle head flashlight; your right has your sidearm. On the signal, you engage three targets down one tunnel leg and three down the next. As you read this stage, take a moment and say a prayer for our current troops overseas. We get to play because they go to fight.

(Continued on page 30)



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# Women's Perspective

by Julie Goloski A19366

**mom·my:** a female parent

**ex·cuse:** a note of explanation of an absence

Some of you may know I took a year and a half off from shooting to have a baby. First being pregnant and then caring for an infant, I just wasn't ready to head to the range. I still watched the internet for scores posted at IDPA.com, looked forward to reading my Tactical Journal and searched You-Tube for videos from the matches. I knew I wanted to compete again, but the demands of motherhood kept me at home.

After working the Smith & Wesson IDPA Indoor Nationals I was inspired. I brought my daughter with me to the event and encountered what I love most about the shooting sports, how great the people are. Everyone was so helpful and my daughter was thoroughly entertained! When I returned home, I seriously started making plans to get back into shooting.

Up until that point, I felt that I needed to be there for my daughter. I will admit though, for some time I have used the Mommy Excuse to keep me from the range. First off I need to state that I have a whole new respect for motherhood now that I am a mom. It's hard to even put into words! The amount of time, dedication and immense love, makes being a mother my most rewarding accomplishment. My daughter's needs always come before my own. At times I found myself using the Mommy Excuse, "I can't because I need to be there, or do this or have this, etc., for my daughter." What I didn't realize until another mom pointed it out, was that part of my daughter's needs were for me to be strong, happy and to continue to grow as a person, not just as her mom.

I have to stress that the Mommy Excuse is a valid one, much like a doctor's note. When you are a parent

## The Mommy Excuse

you have to be there for your children. Sometimes as mothers we just can't do everything and even the best plans fail. As a mother, only you know if you are ready and comfortable to take that next step to do something for yourself, like getting back in to shooting. Sometimes it takes another mom to point this out, as it did in my case. We all have our own special reason to go to the range, whether it's the thrill of competition, a chance to focus on something completely outside the day-to-day norm or a chance to spend time with that special someone in doing something you enjoy together. Just remember to use the Mommy Excuse only when necessary and that with some planning you can enjoy many of the things you used to.

So what does it take to be a mom that shoots? As a mother I have learned the importance of planning. Shooting matches actually helped me prepare for this aspect of motherhood in that when I traveled to events I did my research. I had my checklists for all my travel arrangements and everything I needed to compete. As a new mom, I make lists and use them faithfully to be prepared for as much as possible. Now as I start to hit the competition circuit, those lists become even more important. Whether it's what goes in the diaper bag or the range bag, an organized checklist can take that panic feeling out of making sure you and your child, or children, have everything needed.

Safety, safety, safety! If your children are old enough to bring to the range, make sure they have eye and ear protection, sunscreen, water, snacks and I strongly suggest that you invest in some D-Lead wipes. The range can be a dangerous place. Be sure to establish rules and make sure they are absolutely understood. You will need to make sure that someone will be able to watch them at all times, whether it's you,

your significant other or trusted friend. Show them how to wash up to prevent lead exposure. If childcare is an option, use a checklist to prepare everything needed while you are away at the range. Always have your cell phone in case of emergencies and be sure that your childcare provider has additional emergency contact information just in case you can't be reached. Being prepared will only help to make sure you have a good time.

How can you practice? Let's face it, moms don't have a lot of spare time, but that doesn't mean you can't do things to help you prepare for your next match. As a mother I have rediscovered the importance of dry fire. IMPORTANT: No ammunition accessible where you dry fire and remember the cardinal safety rules:

1. Treat ALL firearms as if they are loaded.
2. Keep your finger off the trigger and outside the trigger guard until ready to shoot.
3. Do NOT point at or cover anything with the muzzle you do not intend to shoot.
4. Be certain of your line of fire and backstop.

There are so many skills you can work on in dry fire. Even 15 to 20 minutes a day a few times a week can help you feel prepared for your next match.

Shooting has been so important to me. My accomplishments, the journey to reach my goals and the great times I have had shooting have defined much of my life. I have missed it. Whether I work out the details to bring my daughter with me to a match or have her stay with family, I know I can plan for time at the range. Trust me, if I need to use the Mommy Excuse I will, but now that I know I can enjoy shooting and still be a good mom, I hope I don't have to, and I wish the same for you!

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# 2009 S&W IDPA Indoor National Championship

by Robert Ray A05118

## Smith & Wesson®

Driving down the interstate under a lead colored sky with the windshield wipers struggling to keep off the intermittent rain and snow, I wonder... is this really worth it. Then I realize, absolutely! I just landed in Hartford, CT and I am on my way up to Springfield, MA to compete in the 2009 IDPA Smith & Wesson Indoor National Championships. It is about the only thing that can drag this Southern boy into the North in mid February. It is also the absolutely best way to kick off the new years shooting season.

The match is held at the Smith and Wesson Shooting Sport Center. This is the second



year that S&W has held the match under the title of the Indoor Nationals but they have been holding the second largest IDPA match in the country for the ten year prior to the status change as well. There is no doubt about their ability to host a great match and this year was no exception. This year's match was also the first year for Master revolver shooter Craig Buckland as Match Director. Craig stepped in to fill the shoes of past years MD Pete Goloski and a big pair of shoes they were to fill. Pete had always done a tremendous job as MD but Craig stepped up to the plate and continued the S&W history of putting on an excellent match.

One of the great things about the S&W match is that it is all done on the indoor ranges of the Sport Shooting Center. This is good for several reasons not

the least of which is that it is mid February and there is snow on the ground. The indoor facilities allows for doing things that you might not be able to get away with outdoors. Props for the match tend to be bolder and more elaborate because you don't have to worry about wind and rain. I know that some of you don't care much for "eye candy" but for a lot of us it really makes a match. You'll find that and more at the Indoor Nationals. They take great pride in not only great stage design but great stage looks.

The match offered several options for the competitors to choose from. You could choose to shoot a half day (morning or afternoon) on Thursday or Friday or you could choose to shoot on Saturday for a full day. This allowed competitors that have to schedule around work to shoot or allowed them the opportunity



to enjoy the many things historic Springfield has to offer. You made your choice when you completed your online registration. This is also when you chose what squad you wanted to shoot on. This was very easy to use and gave the competitor lots of options to shoot with friends.

I chose to shoot the match on Friday morning with a group of guys that I did not know. I quickly found that the guys in this group were like every other IDPA member I have come across, pleasant and fun to be around. I think IDPA members are the best people you can meet and my squad was no exception. We had a great time cheering each others good runs and ribbing each other for our mistakes. Shooting the morning run also allowed me to hang around a bit and talk to some of the match sponsors that were on hand before heading back to the hotel.

One of the things that this match did that I have not run across before is that they not only shot each competitor's ammo across the chronograph but they weighed and box checked the guns and then performed a check of the safeties. Unfortunately this accounted for some competitors not completing the match. This is a good reminder for everyone to check their ammo and guns before leaving to go shoot a big match.

The match was a great time and the staff and SO's were pleasant, courteous and professional. SO's have a largely thankless job. They take time out of their lives to make sure we have a great time on the range. The SO crew at the match did a great job and I really appreciate all they have to put up with. Thank you guys and gals for all of



your hard work! IDPA matches would not happen without you. The professionalism of these individuals and the entire event staff was put to the test on Saturday's run. A competitor had completed a stage of fire and reloaded for the next stage. When holstering his pistol, there was an accidental discharge. I am not sure what

(Continued on page 26)





# The Tactical Advantage

By: Robert Ray



STI International has always been known for their high quality custom guns and their fantastic 2011 platform for high capacity single action semi autos. Their guns have long since become one of the top choices for competitors in USPSA competition although a number of these fine guns are not legal for use in IDPA. Until recently they didn't have anything that would fit in SSP or USPSA Production class. That has changed with the introduction of their new production gun the STI GP6.

The GP6 is a SA/DA polymer frame pistol with



double strike capability. The frame is all black with textured side grip panels along with the rear strap. The front strap and squared trigger guard have molded serrations. These features offered a secure grip without being overly aggressive. The trigger guard opening is generous enough to accommodate large fingered shooters or someone wearing gloves. It is also undercut at the front strap to allow for a higher grip on the gun. The GP6 also comes with an integrated tactical rail.

The controls are all frame mounted with both righties and lefties in mind. The safety is completely ambidextrous with little detent balls that ensure a positive feel to engaging and disengaging the safety. The slide release is ambidextrous as well as the magazine release. These work well from either side without the hassle of having to switch parts. I like the ability to pick up the gun with either hand and have the controls where I need them.

The slide is steel with STI's signature "Tri Top" configuration with front and



rear cocking serrations. It also comes standard with a fixed 3 dot set of sights. The rear sight is dovetailed in the slide and held in place with a set screw with the front sight pinned into a slot. The barrel length is 4.25 inches but it's most interesting and different feature is that it uses a rotating lock system. The barrel rotates approximately 45 degrees as the slide moves to the rear. Different indeed.



Now you have heard the technical aspects the question is how did it perform? Well, the first thing I noticed when I picked up the GP6 was the way it fit my hand. The GP6 feels very comfortable in my hand, almost like an extension of my arm. Acquiring a solid grip on the draw took very little adjustment from my usual 1911 grip. The GP6 points just a shade high for me but again the adjustment was very minor to make. The 3 dot sights were easy and quick to pick up under match



conditions and transitions from target to target were very fast. I found that my holster for an M&P did a fair job of holding the GP6 as well. The mag pouches did require a little heating and bending to hold the magazines securely. A quick look on the internet showed that Blade-Tech is offering a holster for the GP6.

I shot the GP6 at the OK State match, the MVSA Regional and a local classifier match. In all matches I chose to shoot from the hammer down position in SSP category. The GP6 can also start with the hammer cocked and safety on if you would

(Continued on page 24)



# 2009 IDPA CHAMPIONSHIP ENTRY INFORMATION

## September 23 - 26, Tulsa, OK

### *PLEASE READ CAREFULLY*

Your application must be completed **ENTIRELY** and **CORRECTLY** in order to be processed.

**Participants:** Limited to 250 entries on a first come/first served basis. All applicants must be current IDPA members with a classification of Marksman or higher and have shot TWO sanctioned IDPA matches between June 1, 2008 and June 1, 2009.

**Entries must be POSTMARKED (NOT RECEIVED) NO EARLIER than June 1, 2009. Fed Ex and UPS entries must sent no earlier than June 1, also.** Any entries received prior to this date will be squadded after July 1, 2009, only if there are openings left. **Exception:** Safety Officers. Please see SO Application for details.

If you wish to be squadded with another person or persons, your applications and fees must be mailed together. Squad size will be limited to 12 people per squad. We will not be able to change squadding once the match is full. We will make every attempt to place you in your first choice of shooting dates and squadding requests, however, we obviously cannot guarantee all requests.

**Match Stages/ Round count:** 15-18 stages/200 rounds minimum

#### **Entry Fee:**

\$165 until July 1, 2009. \$185 after July 1, 2009.

(Checks from outside the USA require a \$10 (US) surcharge in addition to the match fee.)

Includes the match and all festivities.

No match fee refunds will be made for any reason after September 1st.

Make checks payable to IDPA.

#### **Events:**

Wed., Sep. 23	7-9 pm	Competitor Sign-in / Hospitality Room open
Thu., Sep. 24	7-9 pm	Competitor Sign-in / Hospitality Room open
Fri., Sep. 25	On your own	
Sat., Sep. 26	7-10 pm	Dinner & Awards Ceremony

(Events listed above are located at the Match Headquarters Hotel)

**Location:** United States Shooting Academy, Tulsa, OK

[www.uss shootingacademy.com](http://www.uss shootingacademy.com)

#### **Match Headquarters Hotel:**

Hilton Tulsa Southern Hills

7900 S. Lewis Ave.

Tulsa, OK 74136

Phone: 918-492-5000

Fax: 918-492-7256

Website: to be posted on our championship info page

The group rate is \$79.00/night.

**Match Director:** Curt Nichols

# 2009 IDPA Championship Entry Form

## September 23 - 26, Tulsa, OK

PLEASE NOTE: Due to the large number of entries, your entry form must be completed **ENTIRELY AND CORRECTLY** or it will not be accepted, even if sent with a group. NO EXEMPTIONS. So please check thoroughly before mailing.

NAME \_\_\_\_\_ IDPA # \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

CITY \_\_\_\_\_ STATE \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP \_\_\_\_\_

PHONE # \_\_\_\_\_ EMAIL \_\_\_\_\_

By applying for entry into the IDPA National Championship, I hereby irrevocably consent to and authorize the use and reproduction by the International Defensive Pistol Association (IDPA), or anyone authorized by IDPA, of any and all photographs which IDPA has taken during the IDPA National Championship and all associated functions of me, negative or positive, for any purpose whatsoever, without any compensation to me. All negatives and positives together with all prints shall constitute IDPA's property, solely and completely. And/or I hereby give my consent for IDPA to use any written quote I have given IDPA and/or my name and title in any and all of IDPA's advertising, magazines, catalog (whether printed or website) and etc. without any compensation to me.

**SHOOTING DAY:** There is no guarantee that you will receive your first choice, nor is there an option to shoot the entire match on Friday or Saturday. **Making the same choice could mean that you won't be able to get a slot.** (Circle either "Thursday" or "Friday/Saturday" for each choice only.)

**ONE LUNCH** is included in your entry fee. Please designate which day you will be eating at the range. (Additional Lunches are available for purchase at \$8 each.)

CHOICE	SHOOTING DAY(S)		LUNCH DAY		
<b>First</b>	Thursday	Friday/Saturday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<b>Second</b>	Thursday	Friday/Saturday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday

NUMBER ATTENDING DINNER SATURDAY EVENING: \_\_\_\_\_

DIVISION  
 \_\_\_\_\_ CDP  
 \_\_\_\_\_ ESP  
 \_\_\_\_\_ SSP  
 \_\_\_\_\_ ESR  
 \_\_\_\_\_ SSR

CLASSIFICATION  
 \_\_\_\_\_ MA  
 \_\_\_\_\_ EX  
 \_\_\_\_\_ SS  
 \_\_\_\_\_ MM

**Entry Fee:** \$165 (before 7/1/09) or \_\_\_\_\_  
 \$185 (after 7/1/09)

**Additional Lunches:** Thursday \_\_\_\_\_ x \$8 \_\_\_\_\_  
 Friday \_\_\_\_\_ x \$8 \_\_\_\_\_  
 Saturday \_\_\_\_\_ x \$8 \_\_\_\_\_

**Total:** \_\_\_\_\_

SUB-CATEGORY (SELECT ONLY ONE)

_____ Senior (50 - 64)	_____ Lady	_____ Law Enforcement	_____ International
_____ Dist. Senior (65 +)	_____ Military	_____ Industry	_____ Press
_____ Junior (12 - 18)	_____ Military Veteran		

Sanctioned Matches shot between June 1, 2008, and June 1, 2009:

Include copies of 2 scoresheets as proof. **Without proof, your entry form is considered incomplete and will not be accepted.** Please ONLY include 2 matches. If the match name is not printed on score sheet, please include the match name.

No match fee refunds will be made for any reason after September 1st.

Make checks payable to IDPA.

**MAIL ENTRIES TO:** IDPA CHAMPIONSHIP, 2232 CR 719, Berryville, AR 72616



# **SAFETY OFFICER APPLICATION**

## **2009 IDPA CHAMPIONSHIP**

### **September 23 - 26, Tulsa, OK**

**Safety Officer, please send your entry form and SO application in starting May 18.**

**PLEASE NOTE: You must complete the regular entry form in order to shoot this match. Any application received without the regular entry will not be accepted.**

NAME \_\_\_\_\_ MEMBER # \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

CITY \_\_\_\_\_ STATE \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP \_\_\_\_\_

PHONE # \_\_\_\_\_ E-MAIL \_\_\_\_\_

**SAFETY OFFICER TRAINING CLASS DATE:** \_\_\_\_\_

**GIVEN BY:** \_\_\_\_\_

**YEARS OF COMPETITIVE SHOOTING:** \_\_\_\_\_

**YEAR/S PREVIOUSLY WORKED CHAMPIONSHIP:** 00 01 02 03 04 05 06 07 08

(Circle all that apply)

**HAVE ORGANIZED OR SO'd STATE LEVEL MATCHES:** YES NO

(Circle one)

**HAVE ORGANIZED OR SO'd CLUB LEVEL MATCHES:** YES NO

(Circle one)

#### **GENERAL ITINERARY FOR SAFETY OFFICERS:**

Wednesday	September 23	Safety Officers Shoot Match
Thursday	September 24	Work Match
Friday	September 25	Work Match
Saturday	September 26	Work Match & Awards Ceremony

# Random Shots

## "Carry Gun Practice Matches"

Thought provoking ideas to stimulate discussion on the continued growth of IDPA

by **Thomas Pinney A24541**

IDPA is a relatively loose confederation of shooting clubs which, among other things hold both sanctioned matches and practice matches. Clubs may be missing out on a type of match that is both useful and fun, the "Carry Gun Match".

Those familiar with IDPA know about the five divisions of IDPA, SSP, ESP, CDP, SSR, & ESR. But we tend to forget there is a sixth division: BUG.

BUG is, of course, the acronym for Back-Up Gun. The rule book is quite specific about this division.

["This division is intended for club level matches ONLY and will not be recognized at the annual Championship or any Sanctioned Match."](#)

The book then goes on to specify what a Back-Up Gun is and what should be the courses of fire for this division.

One of the best things about IDPA shooting is the stated goal to "simulate self-defense scenarios." There is no doubt that IDPA shooters are far better able to defend themselves with handguns than those who do not shoot regularly. But we are missing a very important element in this goal. Most of us do not shoot the same weapon that we carry on a day to day basis in IDPA competitions. There is no doubt that practicing with any handgun carries over in the use of any other similar weapon, but shooting one gun and carrying another violate two important tenants for self defense.

Hunnicuttt's Dictum: **"Make sure the gun works."**

Vandermolen's Corollary to Hunnicutt's Dictum: **"Make sure you know how to use it."**

As one experienced shooter put it, "I have carried this gun 100,000 miles and shot it maybe 200 times."

Our club has held a number of modified BUG matches; we refer to them as "Fun BUG" or "Carry Gun Practice Matches". During these matches some of us discovered that the self defense weapon we depend upon for personal protection didn't work reliably. More than one individual in our club has discovered that the light little polymer automatic that they picked up at a really attractive price jammed with every other shot when shooting hollow points. Some members found out that the bargain ammunition that they bought four years ago now yields 10% light strikes. And these are the weapons that we might have to depend upon to save our lives.

That leads into the other finding many of our shooters made; an unfamiliar gun is not only slower and less accurate, it can also be positively dangerous. We shoot them slower, because the mechanisms to operate the gun might be subtly different. One shooter who carries the compact version of the same gun he competes with in IDPA found that the magazines on his short little carry gun would not drop like the ones on his competition pistol; he had to rip the magazine out. This is not a big problem, unless, of course, you are in an actual shootout and you need to reload. Other shooters found that the sights on a snub nose revolver are a lot harder to see than the nice three dot sights they compete with. Many of the shooters found they were holding high because they were having trouble picking up the front sight.

There are lots of good reasons

why you should 'shoot what you carry' at least once in a while; or at least 'once in a while' more often than you do now.

That said, IDPA is about a lot more than purely self-defense training. As was stated at the top of the article, shooting "Carry Gun Practice Matches" are for local club matches only; they are not and should not be considered a normal match. Even though they are a lot of fun and the members of the club love to shoot 'Carry Gun Matches' they are exceptions to the normal club matches. Our club has been successful in shooting these types of club matches and we have discovered some things to pass along in the event your club wants to have an event using your carry guns.

**How often should you have a "Carry Gun" practice match?** Not all that often. Probably not more than once a quarter; our club has them two or three times a year. We like to have one just after the last big Major Match of the season. The serious competitors are ready for something a little more low-key after a big match. We also tend to have one in our first match after Christmas. These "Carry Gun" matches are a really good way to 'break in' a brand new 'gift gun'.

**What type of equipment should you allow?** The Rule book permits [A. Be single or double action. B. Be either pistol or revolver. C. Be .32 auto or larger. D. Have a barrel length: 1. Semi-automatic, 3.8" or less \(factory installed cone style barrels with or without a barrel bushing are permitted\). 2. Revolver 3" or less. E. Maximum \(total\) number of rounds that may be loaded into a](#)

(Continued on page 28)





rather compete in ESP. It does not have a decocker so you do have to pull the trigger while manually lowering the hammer to start in double action for SSP. I always like to mention this to the SO before hand so they are aware of what I am doing. The double action pull is long but very smooth. It did take a little getting used to at first but having shot revolvers years ago in

IDPA helped me make the transition. The single action is very crisp and trigger reset is short. This combined with a very soft feeling recoil made the gun very easy to shoot.

The GP6 is a double stack gun with inherit ease of reloads that brings to the table. I did find that aggressively inserting a magazine caused the slide to drop. This helps make for a pretty quick reload in the match. The magazine releases were easy to find and empty magazines were forcefully ejected from the gun.

There was very little to dislike about this gun. Over the course of the three matches and a couple of quick practice sessions I managed to put a little over 500 rounds through this gun. This comprised

of several different types of factory ammunition as well as reloads. The gun ate everything I fed it with only one exception. The only malfunction I experience was a trigger freeze during a CoF at the MVSA match. It required a complete magazine change to unlock but I was unsuccessful at trying to recreate the issue. I did encounter one other minor problem with this gun. The set screw holding the rear sight in place worked its way loose and fell out allowing the sight to move and subsequently come out of the gun. This was an easily correctable problem.

Ultimately, I really enjoyed shooting this gun and I felt that it performed very well overall. The people that handled it at the matches I attended all had positive remarks about it. With the economy in the tank, 9mm is very attractive right now and the GP6's ability to compete in two different IDPA divisions makes taking a look at this gun very worth while. With a MSRP of only \$656.44 the GP6 is a very reasonable buy. If you are in the market for a new blaster (and even if you are not) I would recommend getting your hands on this and giving it a go. I think you will be impressed as well.

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may have been in the trigger guard when holstering (coat, shirt, finger but the result was that the competitor lodged a bullet in his leg. This is not something that we like to think about but it is something that we should all have a plan for. Once again the staff at the range showed their professionalism, training and prior attention to safety plans. There were 3 trauma bags on site as well as 4 medics. The competitor was receiving

ing with emergencies before we go to our next match. The staff at

medical attention within seconds of the shot going off. I hope that each of us as competitors or match staff think about this and have a plan for deal-

the range was ready for anything and it showed. Due to their quick response, the competitor was stabilized and then transported to the nearest hospital by ambulance. He is doing well and is expected to make a full recovery and be back in competition by the time you read this. The quality of our competitors showed through again as, after being stabilized and reaching the hospital, the competitor convinced his wife to go back and complete the match. How about that! My hat is off to the staff and the competitors for their actions.



The match finished up a little behind schedule but it's understandable. The match staff did a great job of getting everyone completed and off to the hotel for the awards ceremony. At the ceremony we were able to sit down and

relive the bright shining moments of a great stage run or more often (for me anyway) tell amusing stories about the bone headed mistake you made. If you did not want the talk about your mistakes, well that was OK because a friend was sure to tell about it for you! The

(Continued on page 29)



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handgun is five (5).

We modify this for our 'Carry Gun practice matches'. Our rule is first, any pistol must be 'serviceable and safe'. We encourage shooter to bring either their carry weapon or other pistols that they do not normally shoot in competition. People shoot everything from tiny 32 caliber autos to 1911s. (We will not allow derringers, however; there are limits!) If a shooter wants to use his standard IDPA weapon, that is fine. The intent however, is for these events to be for practice, not for competition.

Only approved hip holsters are allowed in our matches. This is a hard and fast safety rule. In order to accommodate those shooters who do not carry in approved hip holsters, every scenario must have the option of starting with the pistol on a barrel or table. This highlights the non-competitive nature of these sorts of matches. Not only are shooters using

wildly different types of guns, they are not even shooting with the pistol in the same position. It is a personal practice, not a competition against other shooters. We make concealment optional in our 'Carry Gun practice matches'.

**How do you run 'Carry Gun practice matches'? What about scoring?** You run a Carry Gun match the same way you run any IDPA match: safely. Everything is run the same way as a normal match. A safety officer briefs the squad on the scenario, then runs and times each shooter. Score are available just like a regular match. The only difference is that there are no divisions or classifications. For this reason, we list the scores for shooters in alphabetical order for this type of match.

**What types of courses of fire should you have for your scenarios?** The rule book says: "**All CoF for the Back-Up Gun Division must be limited to five (5) rounds maximum per string (no reloads on the clock) to allow autos and revolver shooters to compete equally.**" This makes sense if you are in a competition, but since 'Carry Gun practice matches' are non-competitive practices, we don't hold strictly to that rule. We chose to limit the maximum number of rounds in a gun to six for all scenarios because a fair number of carry guns do have six or more rounds and we did not want to unnecessarily handicap them. Even so, most (about two thirds) of the scenarios we shoot are limited to five shots or less to accommodate the five-shot revolvers that are used as carry guns. About one third of the scenarios require seven to ten shots. Self defense shootings seldom require reloads, but as was pointed out it is a good idea to be able to practice reloads with your carry gun 'just in case'.

Most of the courses of fire are short, sudden scenarios with limited

movement. Most targets are between one to seven yards from the shooter. Often one scenario will require strong hand only shooting. As previously mentioned, each scenario should be set up so that a gun may be either drawn from a hip holster, or placed on a surface in front of the shooter so it may be safely picked up instead of drawn from a holster.

**How are 'Carry Gun practice matches' different than regular practice matches?** Aside from the non-competitive aspect of these matches, and the relaxation of some of the eligible firearms, a 'Carry Gun practice match' looks very much like a regular club match. The scenarios may be shorter and there are fewer rounds fired, but the standard commands and safety rules are identical. In fact, that is one thing that must be highlighted at the shooters meeting before any Carry Gun practice match - an increased emphasis on safety. The shooters are often using a weapons they don't shoot very often. That is the point of these matches, to maintain familiarization. Therefore, everyone must be especially vigilant about safety. The feel of the gun will be different; that increases the chances of a dropped gun. The sights are unfamiliar; that raises the probability of putting a round over the berm. The guns are often smaller and more 'toy-like'; that increases the possibility of sweeping the other participants. Safety Officers will have to be on their toes to keep the practice match safe.

Carry Gun Practice Matches will never be part of a sanctioned match; nor should they be. They are a fun and useful type of practice match that local clubs can choose to hold from time to time. They offer a refreshing change of pace and let you practice with what you may have to use. You just never know when that might come in handy.




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awards were presented and if you were lucky or good enough to place in the top three places of each class and division you received a beautiful plaque. Those that did not place in the top three received a very nice enameled medal. Even if you did not place in the top third to receive a trophy or medal, each competitor received a metal and enamel coin that commemorates the match.

Smith & Wesson is a class act and this was proved once again by the people that staffed and helped produce the match. I



would like to thank Match Director Craig Buckland, match organizer Julie Goloski, director of marketing Paul Pluff and the entire staff of this match for all of their hard work in making this match happen. This is one of the best matches you will ever shoot and it is due to the hard work of these dedicated people. If you didn't make the match, never fear. You can at least see all the action later on this year on Jim Scouten's, Shooting USA.

I had a great time and I am already looking forward to going back next year. I hope that I see you there.







*(I know that window glass will not stop a 9mm but a 70's model truck bed will help earn you two FTN's – Editor).*

Stage 12 “TV programming sucks” was in USSA’s shoot house. This house is notable in that you can shoot in 360 degrees safely with variable lighting and room setup. This stage was incredibly simple and I know we all practice it constantly. You start the stage in an easy chair with a remote in one hand, a beverage in the other and pithy comments toward the newsmen on your lips.

Stage 9 “Halloween smash” was another favorite. This stage illustrated that bullets do not always penetrate. Two arrays of five targets were set behind hay bales with steel targets portraying pumpkins on top. The shots were very manageable – if the shooter aimed.

Stage 10 “Truck stop blues” also demonstrated this premise. Four of the nine targets were placed into vehicles. A truck fender will stop a bullet, ask me how I know

On the signal, engage 3 targets with a gun from the end table.

Stage 13 “Home invaders” was also in the shoot house. This allowed the shooter to clear 3 rooms and a hallway of his house.

The State match was supposed to be held over Saturday and Sunday morning. Something happened though. First, as shooters at the match will agree, we possibly had the best, and hardest working crew of Safety Officers I have ever seen. Pleasant,  
(Continued on page 37)



One never-ending job of running a major match is securing sponsors. There are many companies that ceaselessly fund our matches, and we hold a great appreciation for their support and their products. We were fortunate enough at this years Oklahoma State IDPA Championship to welcome a new sponsor. SilencerCo.

SilencerCo has a innovative new product out called the Sparrow. I have been selling machine guns and suppressors for many years, and this is honestly one of the most useful products I have seen.

It is a modular .22 caliber suppressor that takes down for cleaning. It also has an internal assembly that holds the carbon and lead build-up away from the take down threads, so that it will come apart easily.

We put this suppressor, along with my beloved HK4, at the rifle side match with some free ammo for the shooters to enjoy.

It is one of the quietest suppressors I have used, and the cleaning advantages are phenomenal. Rimfires are inherently dirty

cartridges, and suppressors made for them get packed with debris.

To backtrack, some of you do not know suppressors are legal. Guys, and gals, this is America. If you got the money, we got the toys. There is a paperwork form that goes to the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, and Firearms for approval. Once they approve you, and cash your \$200 tax payment, a dealer can transfer one of these items to you. They are illegal in some states, and if you live in one of those states – MOVE! Take your tax payments, and MOVE! See how they enjoy their idiotic laws when they have no tax revenue to enforce them with.







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# UPCOMING MAJOR MATCHES

**April 25, 2009**

## **2009 IDPA SC State Championship**

Columbia, SC

Phil Folkers

803-414-1324 h

803-414-1324 w

idpa.2009.sc.match.director@

earthlink.net

Richard Hart

803-230-6529 h

803-230-6529 w

rhdesign80@hotmail.com

idpa2009.midcarolinarifleclub.

com

**April 25 - 26, 2009**

## **Badlands Regional IDPA Championship**

Tulsa, OK

Jack Ostendorf

918-438-2669 h

918-438-2669 w

948-438-2669 fax

jack38@att.net

www.badlandsidpa.com

**May 1 - 2, 2009**

## **2009 MD State Championship**

Lexington Park, MD

James Jackson

301-274-0214 h

240-682-1163 w

301-274-0214 fax

jamesdjackson@comcast.net

Greg Knapp

301-904-6182 w

treerats2@yahoo.com

www.geocities.com/

sannerslakeidpa/2007

**May 1 - 3, 2009**

## **2009 AZ State IDPA Championship**

Tucson, AZ

Bob Lee

520-825-9222 h

925-786-6360 w

520-825-1094 fax

idpa\_azstate@yahoo.com

Jo Anne Linneman

520-825-2406 h

www.pimapistol.org

**May 9, 2009**

## **AR State Championship**

Berryville, AR

Carroll Lawrence

Marvelle Stines

870-545-3400 h

870-545-3400 w

870-545-3819 fax

marvelle1@windstream.net

www.acpl.net

**May 14 - 17, 2009**

## **2009 MO State Match**

Wright City, MO

Charles Parisi

636-745-0616 h

636-262-6237 w

636-745-061 fax

charles@parisi-eco.com

www.benchrestidpa.com

**May 15 - 17, 2009**

## **4th Annual Great Lakes Regional**

Munger, MI

Gary Cuttitta

989-846-4473 h

989-928-2796 w

cheetahs@hotmail.com

David Alexander

989-846-1836 h

989-329-0257 w

dwalex1@hotmail.com

www.linwoodbaysportsmans.com

**May 16, 2009**

## **Cherokee IDPA**

## **Wheelgun Championship**

Gainesville, GA

Paul Tod Rieger

404-274-6106 (After 7PM)

www.cherokeegunclub.org

**May 23, 2009**

## **Southern Regional Championship**

Manchester, TN

Kurt Glick

931-455-7056 h

731-455-1121 w

931-454-1767 fax

kglick@tullahoma-tn.com

Tom Foster

931-596-3662 h

www.midtnshooters.com

**May 30, 2009**

## **TX Multi Club Regional**

San Antonio, TX

Jim Beitel

210-857-0847 h

210-857-0847 w

jimbeitel@hotmail.com

www.rivercityshooters.org/

index\_files/regionalidpa.htm

**June 6 - 7, 2009**

## **2009 MA IDPA Championship**

Dartmouth, MA

David Bold

508-984-9589 h

filthydave@hotmail.com

Jay Litchfield

774-274-0488 h

www.rodgun-nb.org

**June 14, 2009**

## **IL State Championship**

Plainfield, IL

Scott Baron

815-609-6537 w

scott@opscdp.com

John Serafin

john@opscdp.com

www.opscdp.com

**June 18 - 20, 2009**

## **The Carolina cup**

Oxford, NC

Frank Glover

919-693-6313 h

(Continued on page 34)

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(Continued from page 32)

919-691-7686 w  
therange@gloryroad.net  
www.the-range.com

## June 19 - 21, 2009 PA State Championship

New Tripoli, PA  
Kenneth J. Ortbach  
908-310-2079 h & w  
ppcexecofficer@aol.com  
John Plum  
908-419-7566 h & w  
rkba@comcast.net  
www.nepaidpascores.net/  
ontelaunee/ont\_club\_master.  
html

## June 27, 2009

### TN / GA Regional Match

Sale Creek, TN  
Ronnie Dodd  
423-877-0399 h & w  
redodd@doddtraining.com  
Mike Fielden  
423-715-0387 h & w  
mfielden@doddtrainging.com  
www.doddtraining.com

## July 18, 2009 2009 BC IDPA Provincial Championship

Terrace, British Columbia  
Bob Bonenfant  
250-635-0654 h  
250-635-0654 w  
rbb@citywest.ca  
Dave Bjorkman  
250-635-6028 h  
t6028@citywest.ca  
rodandgun.net

## August 1, 2009 Summer Sizzler Championship

Manchester, TN  
Kurt Glick  
931-455-7056 h  
931-455-1121 w  
931-454-1767 fax

kglick@tullahoma-tn.com  
Tom Foster  
931-596-3662 h  
www.midtnshooters.com

## August 1, 2009 9th Annual WI IDPA State Championship

Ripon, WI  
Gay Trepanier  
920-602-0080 h  
920-602-0080 w  
g.trepanier@charter.net  
James Williams  
920-229-5079 h  
920-229-5079 w  
acwiscidpa@live.com  
www.wisconsinidpa.com

## August 1 - 2, 2009 Singapore Open Shooting Championships

Singapore,  
Raymond Loh  
+65 97499923 w  
+65 3125 7182 fax  
hq2@idpa-singapore.com  
Helmie Ashiblie  
+65 9070 0340 w  
+65 3125 7182 fax  
hq@idpa-singapore.com  
www.idpa-singapore.com

## August 15, 2009 NC State IDPA Championship 2009

Boone, NC  
Robert Niemi, Jr.  
828-446-8778 h & w  
celticmith@yahoo.com  
Gary Hoyle  
828-963-6307 h  
828-963-6671 fax  
gary@wgc-idpa.org  
www.wgc-idpa.org

## August 15, 2009 2009 WA State IDPA Championship

Renton, WA  
Richard Breneman  
206-365-1674 h  
206-428-0538 w  
rick45x8@yahoo.com  
Sandy Wylie  
206-719-8593 h  
206-719-8593 w  
s\_wylie@2alpha.com  
northwestsection.org/  
waidpac09

## August 15 - 16, 2009 2009 New England Regional IDPA Championship

Harvard, MA  
Gene Gelberger  
617-901-0461 h  
617-901-0461 w  
508-796-5150 fax  
hipobrow@gmail.com  
Michael Joffe  
617-803-1307 h  
978-528-8057 w  
253-322-6675 fax  
anotherhooya@yahoo.com  
www.metrowesttactical.com

## August 21 - 22, 2009 2009 Ontario Provincial IDPA Championship Match

Chatham, Ontario  
Ken Soucie  
519-250-9829 h  
519-250-9829 w  
519-250-0027 fax  
ken@idapwindsor.com  
connie Burgess  
519-919-9547 h  
519-919-9547 w  
519-250-0027 fax  
connie@idpawindsor.com  
www.idpawindsor.com

## August 29 - 30, 2009 2009 10th Annual MI State IDPA

# MORE UPCOMING MAJOR MATCHES

## **Championship**

Dorr, MI  
Tom Tiethoff  
616-644-2573 h  
616-644-0369 w  
tom@tiethoff.com  
Mike Visser  
616-218-9576 h  
616-249-1911 w  
mrvisser@charter.net  
www.tacticalblasters.com  
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shooters/day

## **September 6, 2009**

### **TX State IDPA Championship**

Hempstead, TX  
Al Liczwek  
281-288-7522 h  
281-355-7467 w  
281-288-1366 (call ahead) fax  
liczwek@sbcglobal.net  
Ricky Gilbert  
936-271-4890 h  
832-813-4187 w  
rgilbert7@comcast.net  
www.tts-idpa.net

## **September 12, 2009**

### **Tri-State Regional Championship**

Arlington, TN  
Larry Hill  
901-233-7557 h  
901-233-7557 w  
ljhill3@comcast.net  
Myrin Young  
901-826-3300 h  
901-826-3300 w  
twoalpha@comcast.net  
www.tri-state-regional.com

## **September 19, 2009**

### **2009 ID State IDPA Championship**

Parma, ID

Aaron Goodfellow  
208-454-6578 h  
208-724-0595 w  
aarongoodfellow@hotmail.com  
www.parmarng.org

## **September 23 – 26, 2009**

### **IDPA National Championship**

Tulsa, OK  
870-545-3886  
870-545-3894 fax  
info@idpa.com  
www.idpa.com

## **October 3, 2009**

### **2009 KY-TN Regional IDPA Championship**

Puryear, TN  
Jerry Hunt  
731-782-3940 h  
731-782-3940 w  
vhunt@wk.net  
George Rob  
270-354-8263 h  
270-354-8263 w  
grob@wk.net  
www.hcgc.net

## **October 10, 2009**

### **2009 MS State IDPA Championship**

Saltillo, MS  
Nicky Carter  
662-869-1417 h  
662-871-3346 w  
662-337-3323 fax  
tansu@prodigy.net  
De De Carter  
662-869-1417 h  
662-871-1723 w  
662-377-3323 fax  
tansu@prodigy.net  
ridgecrossingshootingclub.com

## **October 17, 2009**

### **TN State Championship**

Manchester, TN

Kurt Glick  
931-455-7056 h  
931-455-1121 w  
931-454-1767 fax  
kglick@tullahoma-tn.com  
Tom Foster  
931-596-3662 h  
www.midtnshooters.com

## **October 24, 2009**

### **2009 IDPA GA State Championship**

Conyers, GA  
Capel English  
770-346-7771 h  
678-324-2005 w  
770-953-8917 fax  
cenglish@snapsinc.com  
Brett Hanus  
404-936-7166 h  
justcallmebrett@juno.com  
www.gadpa.com

## **October 24 - 25, 2009**

### **Blackwater Shootout**

Moyock, NC  
Jim Wilson  
804-347-6790 h  
turbomarine@yahoo.com  
Ron Reiner  
757-351-3478 w

## **October 31, 2009**

### **IDPA 2009 IN State Championship**

Atlanta, IN  
Jeff Brown  
317-984-1758 h  
317-645-5068 w  
idpashooter1@hotmail.com  
Benny Dukes  
317-679-2935 h  
317-679-2935 w  
benny.dukes@unitedpetgroup.  
com  
www.atlantacc.net/ACC\_  
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Championship\_2009.pdf





## Shooter Ready

(Continued from page 3)

*a good idea.*

Editor

### Match Done Right

I was happy to attend the 2009 Oklahoma State IDPA Championship. The USSA facility is very impressive, the stages were challenging. What was extremely impressive was the staff. From Curt Nichols down it was courteous and professional. On our first stage a new shooter to IDPA that had a physical problem with taking a knee, (10 knee surgeries) asked the SO what his options were. The reply was a jaw dropper. "What can we do to make this match a good experience for you?" The shooter was able to and allowed to squat low enough to shoot around the low cover of the barrels. That satisfied the SO's and satisfied me as a competitor, that the shooter was not "gaming." That shooter, a personal friend, is now planning to attend many more sanctioned matches. That experience was the first of many professional responses to any and all questions that arose. The staff was fair and efficient. The attitude was outstanding. Curt Nichols is an asset to any group he would lead. He has surrounded himself with good people. Hats off to Curt and the staff at the Oklahoma State Championship. We had a great weekend surrounded by great people.

Everyone that shot that match was a winner; they won the experience of a well run, well staffed match.

As a Match Director, the Oklahoma State Championship Match experience was educational. Every match, weekly to sanctioned, can and should be run with the attitude that was prevalent in Tulsa.

The IDPA quote of the year should be what the chief SO on stage 8 said: "What can we do to make this match a good experience for you?"

John Abbott, A19493

*I shot this match as well and it was one of the most challenging (and fun) matches I have shot in a while. Curt and his crew did an outstanding job. I guess that's part of the reason he was chosen as the next National Championship Match Director. If you are planning on attending the Nationals, I would think about reacquainting yourself with the thingy on the end of the barrel. The OK State was surely a "front sight" match.*

Editor



## Run a Better Match

for your after-shooting relaxing. No doubt they are setup for whatever comes their way. I guess it goes back to the limited amount of firearms that can be owned individually. What a deal though they make our choices of accessories look like we just started in the gun accessory business, you just thought you had options. At that show, you could see the latest in AR15 gizmos, the world's finest shooting clothing, state of the art police gear and the world's finest handmade armor. No kidding, I stopped by a booth that offered swords and armor that were handmade. So you could outfit the state of the art warrior of today or the same from hundreds of years ago. I almost forgot the wood. The most beautiful wood you have ever seen was on display there. Mostly Turkish walnut, but various species from various places around the world were for sale. You could pick the fine wood for your newest safari gun or world's most expensive over and under. Not really my thing, but cool all the same.

I know that this isn't exactly about building a club or running a match, but there is some of that as well. Try to remember that it takes all of us to make a shooting sport. A gun club is no different; it takes all of the members to make it work. At CASA, we had members that never attended a match; they just wanted a place to shoot. I'll bet if you look close, IDPA has members that probably don't actively compete, but that is OK; it takes us all. I miss the old days, but the new days are OK, too. Here at my local club, I was reminded that I did not attend enough matches last year. Business, kids and any other excuse I can come up with have kept me from fulfilling my trying

(Continued from page 7)

to keep the good old days alive and well here in Berryville. I'll make a deal with you; you try harder to remember to have fun and make shooting an event that you enjoy, and I will try to get to the range more often. Who knows, maybe we will run into each other there.

Till next, stay safe, shoot straight, and always watch six.



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The editorial staff of the Tactical Journal is always interested in articles from the membership pertaining to IDPA, guns or other relevant topics.

**Pictures with articles are encouraged and welcomed.**

Submission or editorial information should be sent to:

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**Berryville, AR 72616**

**or**

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**Submissions can be sent as:  
#1 WORD Via e-mail  
#2 Word on disc Via Snail mail.**

**Include high resolution photos too if possible (COLOR Digital is preferred but B&W is OK).**

knowledgeable, brief and to the point, these gentlemen ran 101 of the 146 shooters thru 13 stages and 188 rounds in a little less than 8 shooting hours. Phenomenal.

The shooters were also an incredible bunch. I do not think I have ever seen a more enthusiastic, involved, helpful bunch of shooters. If I needed something, I asked a squad, and it was magically done. Kudos to this very fine bunch of shooters.

Since we were done early, we broke and retreated to USSA's lodge. After shooters were inspected for no weapons present, we all enjoyed one to nine adult beverages.

Since we were done early, we got to sleep in a little on Sunday, and then we shot side matches. Dave Guyer very kindly put on very nice rifle side match. John

Oxford ran a back up gun match with a very nice S&W Model 60 and Model 638 that was provided by Smith & Wesson. Terry Pregler then did his always efficient job of running a shotgun side match.

In closing, I could not have done this match without a lot of help. From the USSA staff to the scorekeepers, I received assistance wherever I turned. Two folks are notable. I know they, and their spouses, were tired of hearing my phone calls before this match was over; Jerry Biggs and Don Cannon.

Guys, this match would not have gone on without you. Thank you.

And some truly incredibly sponsors. I have a little on my plate with the Nationals coming up ☺ I did not have a huge amount of time to dig up sponsors. The

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