

TACTICAL JOURNAL

Official Publication of The International Defensive Pistol Association



**2014 U.S. NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP
INDIANA STATE CHAMPIONSHIP
MICHIGAN STATE MATCH**

4TH QUARTER/VOLUME 18 - ISSUE 4

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You Can Always Count On Change

A Message from Joyce Wilson, IDPA Executive Director

As I hope most of you are aware, there has been a date and venue change for the IDPA World Championship. It will now be held in place of the US National Championship on September 16th – 19th, 2015. I hope to be seeing many of you at the second IDPA World Championship in Tulsa, Oklahoma, at the premier US Shooting Academy. Mark your calendars, the applications will be available online and in the *Tactical Journal* in February. Not only will our Match Director, Brian Ehrler, have some great stages for us, we will also have the opportunity to meet many new friends from around the world. This is one of the most exciting shooting adventures many of us will experience – I hope you can join the fun.

As I write this, I am still unpacking from our national competition in Tulsa. Thanks to Match Director Mike Webb, Assistant Match Director Phil Torres, and all of the SOs and staff who supported us there. We will be happy to be back at the USSA Range and the Renaissance Tulsa Hotel next fall for the 2015 IDPA World Championship. We have also settled on a standard date – the third week of September – for future Nationals. It is always difficult to coordinate with other events that occur near that time. By selecting and sticking with a firm date, we hope to avoid those issues and help our members plan their travel.

For the third year in a row, the IDPA national match allowed online squad assignment for all match competitors, with 50% of eligible competitors assigned in the first 15 minutes. As the needs of IDPA members grow, so does the list of improvements and features that RANGELOG will continue to make to our website and infrastructure. Just recently, IDPA match pages were updated for an easier display of scores, and new changes allow members more flexibility over profile and bio details.

In the coming months, IDPA will be updating the site to offer more mobile friendly pages, including easier match

search options and score displays, and more integration with scoring providers. Additionally, a new Safety Officer Course calendar will be launched on the IDPA site, with online registration and IDPA SO Certificates available for printing by members. As the ease of using the IDPA site continues to grow, we hope to continue to allow members and clubs to focus on the sport and competition.

As this column is written, we are in the second week of feedback through our Member Suggestion Tool. I am pleased with the number of responses we have received. After the Tool closes, the hard work of sorting through the suggestions and taking action begins. As always, we will not make every member happy with our updates and decisions, but I promise that we will stay true to the intentions of the founders of our sport and our mission to continue to improve our rulebook. We will strive to have the updated rulebook go into effect Q1, 2015. Announcement of the updated Rulebook will be made via eBlast, the *Tactical Journal* and the IDPA official Facebook page.

An updated rulebook necessitates an updated recertification of those who represent our sport, the Safety Officers. Our Continuing Education Team is

already working on tools and a format for the on-line recertification that will happen after the 2015 Rulebook is released. Their plans include additional training for CSOs and MDs to aid them in all levels of matches. Our Video Tiger Team will kick off in late October and will work closely with the Continuing Ed Tiger Team. Our goal is to provide a series of short videos for issues seen frequently in IDPA (i.e., how to call cover, how to do an equipment check, etc.). As mentioned before, I feel that one of the keys to developing consistency in the sport is to have as much information available as possible so that our members can easily access it.

Our membership numbers continue to increase and the number of matches and clubs continues to multiply. This expansion brings with it some growing pains, which we hope to address with an updated rulebook, a new web-based question and answer area and more training. Thank you for being part of the celebration of our Second Amendment.

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year.

~ Joyce



Joyce Wilson, #CL087

Joyce Wilson is Executive Director of IDPA. Members can contact her at Joyce@idpa.com.

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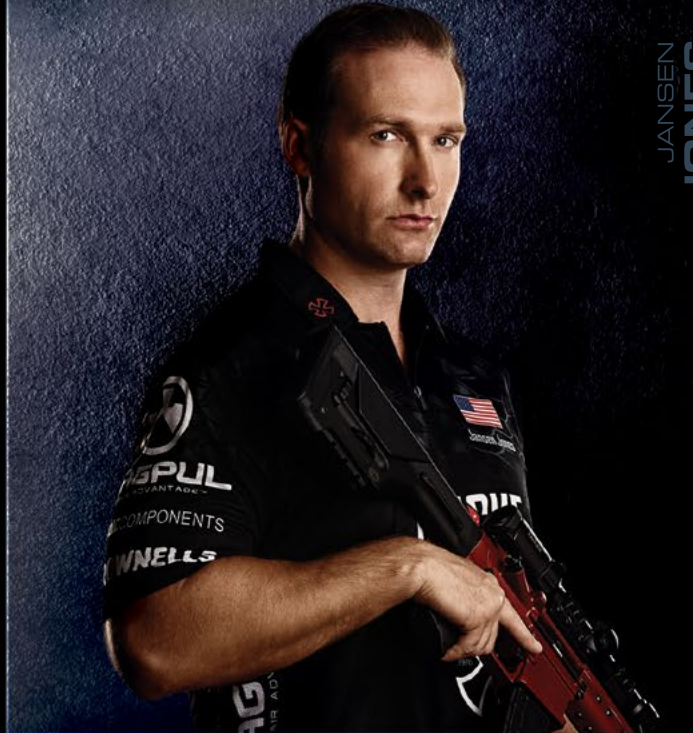


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Christmas Wishes!

By Kitty Richards

Those of us who attended the IDPA US National Championship in Tulsa were surprisingly cold. The wet, chilly weather was a big change from the usual hot and muggy Oklahoma September climate. Those conditions made it easy for several of the female competitors to tell FAWP what they were dreaming of for Christmas.

Perky Dot Goodwin from Hurst, TX, was a Squad SO for the match. The SSP Sharpshooter, a quality manager for a pharmacy benefits management company, is a constant fixture at local IDPA, USPSA, Steel, and Three Gun matches. Dot says she shoots IDPA because, "I really enjoy shooting the stages and becoming more familiar with my hand gun. I like the competition and social aspects of our matches. We have a lot of fun with our shooting family."

Goodwin is a big fan of training and that figures prominently in her goals for 2015. "I will be practicing more and focusing on moving up a classification. I will also be working to help promote IDPA to new shooters to help build our



Photo: © Paul Erhardt

Dot Goodwin, Texas

club membership. I will also be looking to encourage more women shooting with us since we have so few." Her Christmas wish list echoes the desire to advance in classification through both training and tools. "I will be looking for a certificate for a class with Gordan Carroll to help me with how I look at shooting IDPA, and a new STI Eagle .45 to shoot CDP."

What did Dot like about Nationals? "I loved the way everyone working the match came together to help wherever it was needed. The people really make the event. Not just the competitors but all the folks who were involved in putting on the National event. They really worked well together. They took pride in making sure everything was ready each day, to provide

everyone with a great experience. I loved seeing all of our out of town friends and meeting new ones. The stages were fun and creative and set up in a way that competitors, at all levels, were challenged. I enjoyed watching how the competitors shot the stages (and wondered why I did not think of that)."

The trip to Tulsa was the first National Championship for Sarah-Jane Maynard from Espanola, NM. An SSP Marksman, she says she has been shooting IDPA for 8 years because, "It is fun, the people are great, it keeps me comfortable with my gun since I carry, and I enjoy shooting with my husband and helping him run our local matches."

Maynard runs the Export Control Program at Los Alamos National Laboratory and is looking forward to retirement down the road to give her more time for practice. As a training aide, she is asking husband Toran for an NLT SIRT pistol in a Smith & Wesson M&P and more Federal 147 grain 9mm ammo. Sarah-Jane's 2015 shooting goals include trying to bring in more women members and to do more dry-fire practice.

CDP Marksman Jeri Leigh McDowell is from Ft. Worth, Texas, and is a student at the Texas Tech University School of Law in Lubbock. Her goal for 2015 is



Photo: © Paul Erhardt

Sarah-Jayne Maynard, New Mexico



Photo: © Jonathan Miller

Jeri Leigh McDowell, Texas

to advance to Sharpshooter. For Jeri, shooting IDPA gives her “a sense of community and fun. The shooting world is a surprisingly small, tight-knit group, and I love being a part of this community. Additionally, shooting is my stress relief. It is a fun break from the daily reality of law school, and the one hobby I have continued participating in during my return to school.” McDowell easily rattled off two shooting-related items she would like to see. “I want a set of SLIM Charcoal and Blue Dymondwood Raasco Grips with Double Diamond Checkering and a standard ambi safety cut, and pink and silver shooting glasses from GunGoddess.com.” Ft. Worth shooters may see Jeri Leigh flashing those new grips at local USPSA and Steel Challenge matches, as well as IDPA.

Robyn Reihner, a six year IDPA

veteran, shoots regularly at four IDPA clubs near her home in Washington, PA. The avid deer hunter is a year-round home manager and winter ski instructor, and is enjoying being a first-time grandmother.

Reihner says she shoots IDPA because,

“It is fun. I love to shoot and I keep trying to improve my skills.” She hopes to “Work hard next year to improve my speed and accuracy and move up to Sharpshooter Class.” A smile spreads across her face when asked what she liked about the 2014 National Match. “The coolest thing was seeing my daughter Michelle’s pictures from the 2013 Nationals on all the elevator doors on the IDPA posters in the Renaissance Hotel, and on the cover of the match booklet. Very cool to see her great grip and stance and the intensity on her face. The most fun was shooting well on some of the stages. I have much room for improvement but felt really good with how I handled more than half the stages. I am a work in progress!!”

Robyn may have been inspired by Jason Mather’s *Tactical Journal* articles on video. She says, “I would like a Go Pro camera to help with my IDPA training and NRA



Photo: Dwight Pries

Robin Reihner, Pennsylvania

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Jennie Van Tuyl, Washington

Tru-Spec short pants and long pants to wear to the range on match days.”

The big news from the 2014 US National Championship was the appearance of the first all-female squad. Members of A Girl & A Gun shooting clubs from across the US shot the match as a group. One of the members of that historic group was Jennie Van Tuyl from Lakebay, WA.

Van Tuyl is employed in the firearms industry. “I do membership services for the Armed Citizens Network, I am a pistol instructor at Firearms Academy of Seattle, I own and operate my gun shop, Rivendell Sales and Consulting, I teach NRA classes at MCSA and I am the facilitator for the Onalaska Chapter of A Girl & A Gun club.” Why does she shoot IDPA? “It started as becoming an SO for Marty Hayes at the Firearms Academy of Seattle, then I continued because I enjoy it. I don't have to have a super race gun to do well, I like the classification process, and I get to practice self-defense skills.”

Jennie says she liked Nationals and was honored to be on the A Girl and a Gun all ladies squad. “I enjoyed seeing people I had not seen in a while, like Joyce Wilson. I hope I made a few new friends among my squad mates.” She thought the stages were fun and challenging and appreciated how happy the many SO's seemed to be to see the ladies squad. Her 2015 shooting resolution is to be more comfortable

shooting faster. The SSP Sharpshooter knows exactly what she wants Santa to bring her. “I want a new concealment vest. I am considering one from She brand or one from Carhartt. I very much want an ACOG (Advanced Combat Optical Gunsight) for my AR.”

Asking what ladies want for Christmas that is “related to the shooting sports” can cover a broad perspective. This author

wants a few items to help in IDPA, but maybe not in the traditional sense. As I become more involved in setup and tear down at my local club, the list of tools I have acquired has grown, from a simple hammer and crowbar to recent purchases of a jigsaw and circular saw. My want/need/love list now includes a cordless impact driver, as well. Finally, in preparation for my journeys to matches across the country, a travel scarf with hidden pockets is on my list from the Speakeasy SupplyCo on Etsy, www.etsy.com/shop/SpeakeasySupplyCo.

My wish for you this Christmas: safe shooting, more shooting, and a country where our shooting rights are never infringed. **TJ**

Kitty Richards, #LM18564

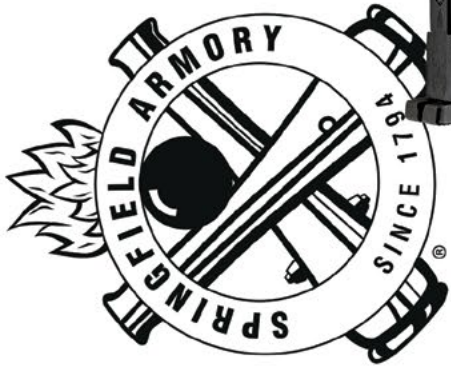
Kitty Richards is an SOI in New York, has been shooting IDPA since 2002 and works more than 12 sanctioned matches each year.

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Getting Your Match In The Journal

By Robert Ray

You have put together a successful sanctioned match. You have taken care of all the details, large and small, that contribute to making a great match including fun and challenging stages, polite and fair SO's, a great tasting lunch, a nice prize table and awards that everyone loved. The only problem, hardly anyone outside your local area knows about the match. Sure, it was up on the IDPA website and your club website but it is a new match and word of mouth has not gotten around yet on the good job you do. How do you help get the word out faster? Get your match featured in the *Tactical Journal*.

How do you go about it? Well, it is easier than you think. You write a little something, take some photos, and send it to headquarters. I try to write about some of the matches I attend, but I can't get to every match in the country so the job is going to fall on you. We use a lot of member generated material in the TJ so I want to cover a few things that will help you provide the best coverage of your match possible and entice members to attend your match.

Writing about the match

This is something you, as the Match Director, can do or ask someone to do for you. It can be most anyone that attended the match. The task does not have to be daunting, but there are a few things to keep in mind.

One of big things is word count. On average, we are looking for an article that runs around 700 or 1,400 words (one or two pages). You don't have to hit this right on the nose, a little over or under is ok but we prefer it to be in this ballpark. However, over is better than under as we can always pare it down if we need to. We can't easily add content.

Tell me and the readers a story. Don't

tell me that the food was good. Unless there is a really good story about the food, we will all assume it was edible. No one makes a decision to attend a match based on the food, except maybe me.

Likewise, unless there is a good story regarding a specific SO, like a guy that had open heart surgery the day before the match then crawled across a field of broken glass to be a SO, we will assume that you think the SOs did a great job. I have never had a MD write me telling me his SOs did a horrible job.

Another huge mistake often made is how you write about the stages. This is important as you want to give a glimpse into your stage designs. You can tell me what they are like and how challenging and fun they are, but no one wants to hear "on stage one you shot 6 rounds, on stage two you shot 12 rounds, stage three you shot 15 rounds etc." This will bore a reader to tears. Again, tell me a story. Did you have a stage or two that were really interesting? Did you have a cool new prop or target actuator? Did you design a stage that was substantially different from what is normally seen? Did you have a guy recreate the local cityscape out of toothpicks for a stage? There is usually a story in there somewhere, you just have to let the reader know about it.

You also want to talk about if you had a title or major match sponsor. We really don't have the space to run a list of all your sponsors (you should be thanking them though), but you do want to give a



This shot captures the shooter's face and his pistol as it cycles.

Photo: © Robert Ray

shout out to your key sponsor.

And last, tell the reader about any other interesting facts that happened or maybe a human interest story. Did you have an epic battle between two women for top lady or between two juniors? Did you have a competitor or staff person that just battled back from near death or a debilitating illness and still wanted to compete or help? Was your match benefiting a charity or local person in need? We want to hear about it if this was your 15th anniversary for hosting the state championship or if your range is 100 years old. All of these things help tell a good story.

A standard that should not be missed is to make sure that you recognize the Division winners as well as any specialty sub-categories. Be sure that you get this info listed in your article.

There are a number of different, interesting stories in each match. It is just a matter of taking a little time to think about them and get them down. The key is to get the reader to remember your match article in a positive way. It does not have to be all about the shooting. When that member is thinking about their next year match schedule, you want them to think "hey, those guys

sounded like they had a great time and maybe we should check them out.”

Photos of the match

We have talked about the writing, now let's talk about photos. Humans are very visual creatures and make a lot of decisions based on what we can see. This makes match photos critically important. Good match photos can make up a lot if you happen to be lacking in content. While bad match photos will not kill interest in your match, they certainly are not going to help.

Focus, not on what I am saying (though that is important), but focus your camera. I can't tell you how many out of focus photos we get. We are not going to use out of focus photos in the TJ and if that is all you send us, we are not going to run your article either. I don't mean that to sound harsh but blurry photos just look bad for everyone.

At least most everyone, I've been told that blurry photos make me look handsome. Also you need to remember to shoot high resolution pics. They need to be at least 300dpi and at least 4 inches. We can scale them down if they are bigger but expanding them presents problems.

Keep in mind that we want to see our friend's faces. This is not a 70's porno so keep the “back of the head” shots to a minimum, like none if possible. If possible, get pics from down range looking back at the shooter. DO NOT go down range and stand there while the stage is run. That is a great way to get perforated. More and more cameras have a wireless shutter



Happy mother and daughter winners make a good photo.

Photo: © Robert Ray

releases for remote pics. This provides a great perspective on the stage. This also allows us to see the odd faces people make while shooting, which is always entertaining.

If you do not have a wireless shutter setup for your camera, try to get over to the side and get profile shots. You will

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Take photos that capture "Character."

need to work with your SO's to ensure that your photographer stands in a safe place, but in most stages there will be at least a couple of positions that you can safely get side shots of the shooter in action.

Remember to take candid shots of the shooters. Pics of people smiling, laughing and having a good time are tons better than stone faced shots of competitors as they concentrate on the stage. Remember, you want to convey

that people that attend your match are having a great time.

Also, remember to get photos of the awards ceremony. We have the Trophy Room section in the TJ so if you do nothing else you can get pics of your competitors in there. If possible, get shots where we can see the placement on the trophy so we can identify the competitor or better yet send us a list of the winners identified with your photos.

One last item on the photos. Please do not embed your photos in the text of your article. This decreases the resolution and makes life tougher for us when laying out the magazine. I know that you might have certain photos that you want in certain places in the article, but we also have to deal with the ad layout for the magazine and this affects where they go on the layout.

This covers all the major bases in a match article. I cannot guarantee that a

well-executed match article will fill your match but it should help get the word out faster and increase attendance. Once you get all this together, contact me at HQ and we will see what the best way is to get your info to me. Most of the time you can send it to tacticaljournal@idpa.com. If you have a ton of photos, we will use a file transfer service and I will send you the link to download the files.

I hope this helps you with the planning of your match next year. This can be just as important as trophies or targets so give it a little thought as well. I look forward to reading your match coverage and getting it in an issue of the *Tactical Journal*. **TJ**

Robert Ray, #A05118

Robert Ray is the editor of the Tactical Journal and a long time competitor in the sport. Members can reach him at robert@idpa.com.

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Balancing Speed vs. Accuracy

By Morgan Allen



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Finding your performance edge where your speed matches your shooting accuracy also includes flaw free draws, mag changes, and movement.

For those of you who've shot a few local club or sanctioned IDPA matches, try asking yourself when the last time was that you finished shooting the last stage and silently thought to yourself, "Wow, I shot that match way too slow"? Never is by large and far the most common response. Instead, thoughts tend to drift toward things that may not have gone well during the match, be it a hit on a non-threat, missed shots, a rushed draw that lead to a poor grip, way too many points down on a stage, etc. The coulda, woulda, shoulda leads to wondering about how much better you could have performed. And the kicker is that in practice, it's likely that your technical skill is good enough to have performed better during the match. The root is often match shooting speed.

Everyone has butterflies before shooting a stage in a match and therefore is susceptible to shooting too fast under pressure. We wouldn't be normal if the nervous energy wasn't there. So what can be done to help maintain the correct pace to allow for your performance to match your skill as close as possible? The answer lies within maintaining the right balance between speed and accuracy.

To arrive at the correct balance,

having a look at what that means is a starting point. Most shooters believe that they are shooting at a speed somewhere in the middle of the spectrum of pulling the trigger as fast as their gun will operate and shooting the entire match with zero points down with no extra shots. To learn the reality of where you reside, try shooting a monthly match perfectly clean. If successful, you'll quickly learn that you've been shooting much

closer to the highest possible speed end than you thought. To determine a good measure of where you should be from a speed perspective, or the sweet spot, I like to compare total points down shot in a match to the total minimum shots required. For example, if you earn 24 points down in a 6 stage monthly match requiring a minimum of 82 shots, that percentage is 30%. Over time I've accumulated a number of match scores to compare



Photo: © www.davegoldmanphotography.com

Unusual shooting positions may require a change in shooting speed or even a reversed grip as shown.

and have found the optimal ratio to be in the 15% range, or in this case about 12 points down. Said another way, if you shot a little slower, your total score would have improved by more than the raw time lost by shooting slower.

Ironically, almost all competitors shoot too fast to achieve a good ratio. There's no surprise that when reviewing the match results, you will find that the top five finishers overall will fall somewhere in the top ten spots within accuracy rankings as well. It's not that these top finishers are shooting faster than everyone else. Instead, they've learned over time that the path to a match winning score is to maintain the balance correctly. These top shooters are actually shooting some amount slower than they are capable of shooting. They are backing off of the gas pedal. I've shot monthly matches in the past where after finishing, I've re-shot the last stage again just for fun, unloading on the speed and running the stage four to five seconds faster than I did for score in the match. With only a couple more points down, I always get asked why I didn't run it that fast in the match. Had I done so over the course of the full match, the crash and burn factor would have

entered somewhere and thrown off the end result of my match. Backing off at the right places also aids with the consistency goal.

This game is not about how fast you can shoot the match, but rather how fast you can shoot zeros roughly 90% of the time, with the outliers being fairly close to the zero / down one scoring perforation.

Some shooters who finish a match with a good points down total may have shot a lot of extra shots to get to that accuracy level, which is

counterproductive and misses a critical point. Suppose I took three shots at a target to land two zero zone hits, all shot with .30 second splits between shots, totaling .60 second spent engaging a target. If I instead slowed down and spent .40 second between shots and only took two shots to hit two zeros, my total time on that target reduces to .40 second spent on that target. Stating the obvious, shooting .40 second shots at a target is easier than .30 second splits. While a .20 second savings seems like a very small gain, add that up over the course of a full match. Combine that with the fact that unnecessary extra shots will throw off your pace and do things like change to your reload point or add an unnecessary reload, and the impact to your performance changes significantly.

During stage walk-throughs, shooters should identify what targets represent the most important points of focus (read – they should slow down). These may include the obvious difficult targets like distance targets with hard cover or a popper placed directly in front of a non-threat. There are others that are as important if not more so that deserve similar consideration



Photo: © www.davegoldmanphotography.com

Throwing extra shots at a target may be great for accuracy but might hurt your overall score.

like an activator array where a steel popper that if not engaged will cause the shooter to stop and have to return to it, which in turn adds a substantial delay and disruption in the stage flow. These types of negative events increase your stage raw times by a lot more than the .20 second saved on various target splits mentioned above.

Post-match analysis is also a critical component toward developing a better balance going forward. While your performance is still fresh in your mind, review each stage after the match and take a few notes, highlighting areas where your skills were executed well and others that could have been better. It's important to recognize where you have an opportunity to improve but also give yourself credit for what you are doing well. Match video is another excellent tool to use because when under stress, your perception of



Photo: © www.davegoldmanphotography.com

Post match analysis of video can be an excellent tool for shooter development.

performance may differ from what you recall. This activity will help you plan stages within your pre-shoot routine more effectively, developing better performance using a good speed vs. accuracy balance.

In the end, applying the appropriate speed vs. accuracy balance is one skill that the best shooters who play the game always work on to maintain and improve. For top shooters, the impact could be a match win or loss. The same

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is true for shooters of all levels but with important caveats – staying on the right side of the balance can mean the difference in a class win, bragging rights, or a much greater impact toward improvement in future match performance. **TJ**

Morgan Allen, #A24050

Morgan Allen is the winner of 50+ IDPA Division Championships and 10 top-five division finishes at Nationals events, including 2nd at the Inaugural IDPA World Championship. He can be reached at: morgan_allen@yahoo.com.

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Indiana State Championship

By Jason Mather



Photo: © Jason Mather

The first Thursday in October was warm and sunny as I drove west from Ohio to work and shoot the 2014 Indiana State IDPA Championship. Forecasters called for wind, rain, and cold for the match, and, for once, they got it right. Fortunately, as a frequent IDPA match traveler, I always over pack and only required two runs to America's biggest retailer in Indy to stock-up on foul weather gear.

The match is in its seventh year and is held at the Atlanta Conservation Club (ACC). It was my second year shooting and first year working the match. In fact, it was my first time working a sanctioned match and I left with a new appreciation for the enormous effort it takes to put on a big match. Working was a great experience that left me wind burned and exhausted, but I'm definitely willing to return. According to the pedometer on my phone, I walked four miles inside the shooting bay.

Co-Match Directors Joe Tyson and Mike Wilkewitz and the staff at ACC presented shooters with eleven challenging courses of fire. The stages required a good balance of speed and accuracy. Total round count for the

match was only 130, but most shooters probably needed more. Shooters were tested in various shooting positions, left and right around cover, standing, kneeling, prone, dragging a dummy, and weak-hand while handcuffed to a bar on 'Make 'em Count.'

The sixteen-shot standards stage served to remind me of the need to practice reloads with retention. Four shooting positions requiring a tactical reload between each left me with a pocketful of loose



Photo: © Jason Mather

The dummy always gets the raw deal.

.38 rounds and brass. I was worried I'd have to load by hand if I dropped a speed loader or had a malfunction. I'm happy to report that didn't happen, but I did manage to put a few rounds into the ever-present hardcover.

The stage all the shooters were talking about (and wanted to shoot again) was 'The Dummy Has Done It Again,' which was the stage I worked on Saturday. The shoot house featured a turner, a pair of tip-in/tip-out targets, a double non-threat swinger, near and far targets, a low port, and a sizeable dummy. Shooters had to drag the dummy to safety with their weak hand while engaging targets. This



Photo: © Jason Mather

Nothing like a blue sky at the Safety Meeting to start your match off right.



Photo: © Jason Mather

Cold & raw. Save for shooting a stage most people bundled up to stay warm.

was the first stage I shot on Friday and I wasn't really pleased with my 18 PD performance, but after watching eighty-odd shooters go through on Saturday, I realized I'd shot it okay.

No one managed to shoot 'The Dummy' stage clean, but a few came close. Eric West, a junior SSP shooter

from Ohio, turned in a match best run of 24.43. The fifteen year-old Master also walked away as SSP Division Champ and High Junior. Jon Dalton was ESP Division Champ and turned in the best overall score for the match. The rest of the division winners are as follows: CDP – Mike Wilkewitz, SSR – Kyle Munn,



Photo: © Jason Mather

There's always someone wearing shorts.

and ESR – Mike Philley. Patricia Grane - Johnson took High Lady honors.

Complete match results, photos and videos are available at IndyIDPA.com. TJ

Jason Mather, #A45223

Jason Mather is a wheel gunner and self-proclaimed average shooter. For more information on these and other cameras, visit his blog at AverageShooter.com.

Tachyon OPS HD 1080p

Several shooters at the Indiana State Match came up to me and said, 'Aren't you that good shooter who writes articles in the *Tactical Journal*?' I replied, 'Good shooter? No. You're probably thinking of Morgan Allen.'

Actually, I was recognized by several shooters from my video pieces in the TJ, which we'll use as a segue for this piece. Yes, another camera review.

The folks at Tachyon sent me one of their OPS HD 1080p bundles to try out. The bundle includes the camera, charging cable, and a mounting solution- just about everything.

The camera shoots in 720p or 1080p. Video quality is decent, but I noticed some graininess with camera movement. The camera is very lightweight and battery life is excellent. The

camera does not have removable batteries and must be recharged with a proprietary charging cable (i.e. don't lose it). It has a handy dashcam feature if you want to find a use for it away from the range. The GunCam does not have a waterproof housing, so I wouldn't recommend it for spearfishing.



I saw several shooters sporting Tachyons at Indy. Compared to other cameras on the market, Tachyon provides an affordable entry point to wearable video. Visit their website, www.tachyoninc.com, for more details.

Video gear provides just enough material for about two articles in the TJ. This is the fourth. Before we end this series, I'd like to remind readers you probably have a camera on your phone that will take great match video. If you want one you can wear, I am always of fan of whatever is on sale. The camera market is constantly evolving and last year's model will likely meet your needs. Cameras used on the range take lots of abuse and will eventually malfunction (or worse). Cheap ones are easier to replace. TJ



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2014 U.S. Nationals

By Robert Ray



I have to remember, be careful what you wish for because you just might get it. I rolled into Tulsa, Oklahoma, to begin the set up for the IDPA US National Championship and the temperature was 98 degrees and 80% humidity. I have a recollection of looking at the sky and thinking “I sure hope it gets cooler”. Well it did... a lot, going from that high of 98 degrees on Tuesday during set up, to a high of only 62 degrees on Friday. Oh yeah, it rained as well, but that still did not cool the smoking hot shooting at this year’s Championship.

There were several hot performances at this year’s match. The big question was would one of them be enough to knock the reigning champion, Bob Vogel, off his pedestal. Bob has for the last several years held the top spot, turning in times that averaged 20 seconds faster than his nearest competitor. As you know, 20 seconds in an IDPA match is an eternity. However, there have been several competitors that have made great attempts at overtaking Bob, guys like Brandon Wright, Matthew Mink and relative new comer Nils Jonasson. Nils actually turned in a performance that



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From hot and muggy to cold and wet, Tulsa was a week of contrasting weather and great shooting.

would have accomplished that last year except for an unfortunately too wide magwell. That accidental oversight on his part caused his match DQ which he took with good humor. He even posted a video online talking about it while eating ice cream from Dairy Queen.

When the smoke cleared, Bob retained his crown for another year with a time of 209.42 which was 22.8 seconds faster than the next nearest competitor, Nils Jonasson. Granted, Bob was shooting SSP and Nils was shooting ESP but it is fun to watch the race. Nils did take Division Champion in ESP and thus

became the newest Distinguished Master in ESP. Congratulations to Nils on that accomplishment.

One of the other performances of note was the one turned in by CDP DM, Glenn Shelby. Glenn, besides holding onto his crown as CDP Division Champion, came in at fourth place if you look at overall final times. Placing that high, while going against 10+1 9mm's with his 8+1 .45acp, is an impressive feat.

I want to congratulate all our competitors for their performances but especially our Division Champions. As I mentioned, we crowned a new DM in



MD Mike Webb preps for his run in handcuffs.

Photo: © Dwight Pries

Match Report

Nils but I would be remiss if I did not mention that we also crowned two other new DM's in this match. In SSR we have Rhett Crutchfield and in ESR we have Gregg Kratochvil. Congratulations to you two gentlemen as well.

Another "cool" feature of this match, to go along with the plunging temperature, was the inclusion of the first all ladies squad. IDPA worked with the A Girl and A Gun organization to create this opportunity. The squad had the very good fortune to have the advice of multi time match High Lady, Randi Rogers. Randi shot the match on the Friday/Saturday split but came in early to help guide the AG&AG squad. The squad was a great addition to the match and all the women that participated had a great time. We look forward to working with AG&AG in future matches.

The stages in the match were awesome. We had a decided Texan flair



AG&AG Team Coach Randi Rogers and Shelly Giddings talk game plans for a stage.

Photo: © Dwight Pries

to the match, which is no surprise as the match director was Michael Webb. Mike is a long time shooter of IDPA as well as the Area Coordinator for Texas. You might recognize him as the tall guy in shorts and the big cowboy hat in a number of past National Match photos.

One of the stages had you shooting out of a steel cattle trailer (kinda sucked to be the SO for that one) and included cow silhouettes and fresh, fragrant piles of cow dung. I am not sure if the SO's ears have stopped ringing yet but being

continued on p. 26

An advertisement for Precision Delta Ammunition & Bullets. The background is black. On the left, there is a logo featuring a stylized orange and blue bird or animal head with a yellow triangle containing a blue 'P'. In the center, a single bullet is shown in profile, with a textured, jacketed appearance. To the right, there is a large, vertical pile of brass bullet casing. Text elements include: "free shipping on all orders!" in white at the top; "PRECISION DELTA™ AMMUNITION & BULLETS" in orange and white in the middle; "www.precisiondelta.com" in orange below that; "THE JACKETED BULLET EXPERTS" in large, white, distressed font at the bottom left; "1-800-337-3621" in orange below that; and two small logos at the bottom right: a red one for "30 Center Fire Cartridge" and a blue one for "PRECISION DELTA™ International Ammunition". The phrase "made in the USA" is written in blue at the bottom right.

AG&AG All Women's Team At The Nationals

By Julianna Crowder



Photo: © Dwight Pries

The AG&AG squad looks on as the SOs read the course description.

While I was at the 2014 Indoor Nationals this past February, I was chatting with Joyce Wilson, Executive Director of IDPA and I had a flash in my brain (which happens a lot when I'm chatting with "Industry People" about the things I am most passionate about- women and the shooting sports). I asked her if there had ever been an all ladies squad at Nationals, she said no, I immediately asked if I could bring one. She gave her blessing and sent me over to IDPA HQ for the final approval and logistics.



Photo: © Dwight Pries

Renee Krawiec engages a target while advancing.

I made the announcement at the A Girl & A Gun Women's Shooting League National Conference a few weeks later. To fill the 12 spots on the squad, it was

important that the process was fair and something that everyone had a real opportunity at. The rules were simple: Be a member of AG & AG and IDPA, Shoot the 1 stage qualifier... and that is it. We did not keep record of time/points, it was just a matter of participation. Then the names of the women who participated went in the pot for a random draw. By July we had our squad and were ready to make history (or Herstory as we like to call it)

My main goal was to introduce the amazing experience of a major match to our members who didn't know what they were missing out on and I successfully met that goal! The 12 women on the team were all in different stages of their competitive shooting journey, some new to the sport with just 6 months experience, others with a few years under their belts, but none of them had been to a Nationals. I was extremely proud of them for so many reasons, but most impressive was how well prepared they were. For weeks they were chatting as a team about what to bring, best equipment, best clothing, best food choices as an athlete, best travel practices, and just about any other thing 12 girls can talk about. It was like going to camp!

Our Squad shot 15 stages in one day. I was worried about them hanging in there for such a long day with this brand new experience, but the weather was wonderful, and with all the preparations they took, they sailed through the day like champs. They asked questions at every stage really taking in every opportunity to learn. Our Team Coach Randi Rogers was on hand to make sure they understood how to best approach each stage safely and efficiently. It was a huge treat to have Randi spend the day with us, she is a wonderful role model and just a really kind person.

We had a really enjoyable match and were very excited to be making IDPA history. We hope that we can come back next year and repeat this experience. **TJ**

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Photo: © Dwight Pries

Ashley Rheuark and Austin Proulx present Joyce Wilson with a custom target shaped memory case.

continued from p. 24

a cowboy himself, the SO did not seem to mind the extra potpourri on the stage. Maybe that should be poopourri?

Another stage consisted of something that you can't seem to get Texans to shut up about, the Alamo (hey, just kidding guys). It was a visually stunning stage

with a perfectly scaled down painting of the Alamo church rendered on 4 sections of plywood. Those that shot the match will always "Remember the Alamo."

Mike did a great job of bringing the competitors a straight forward match that allowed the shooter to push, or over

push, the gas pedal. Several of the stages had competitors coming away from it saying some version of, "I thought it was a simpler stage than it turned out to be." This caused a number of competitors to crash and burn on these "simple" stages. When Mike would hear these comments, he would just give that big Texas grin and say "we got that stage perfect".

In all, barring the rain and cooler than hoped for temps on one day, the match was a huge success. The facility is great and we look forward to returning there again in the future. Until then, we hope you have a great shooting season and we look forward to seeing you on the range. **Tj**

Robert Ray, #A05118

Robert Ray is the editor of the Tactical Journal and a long time competitor in the sport. Members can reach him at robert@idpa.com.

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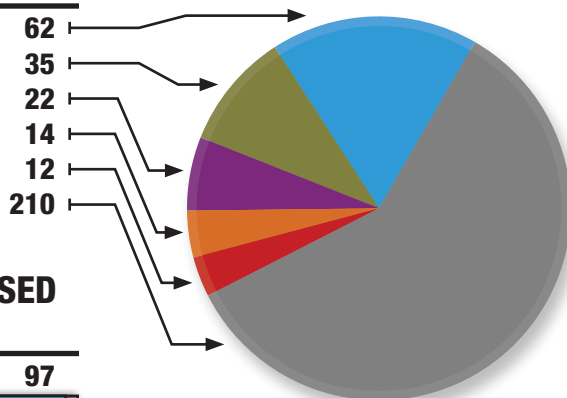
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Glock 17	14
CZ 75 SP-01 Shadow 9mm	12
Other Models	210



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Springfield Armory	42
STI	22
CZ	21
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Nighthawk Customs	11
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Walther	7
Caspian	6

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Handload Ammunition	210
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Wiley X	17
ESS	13

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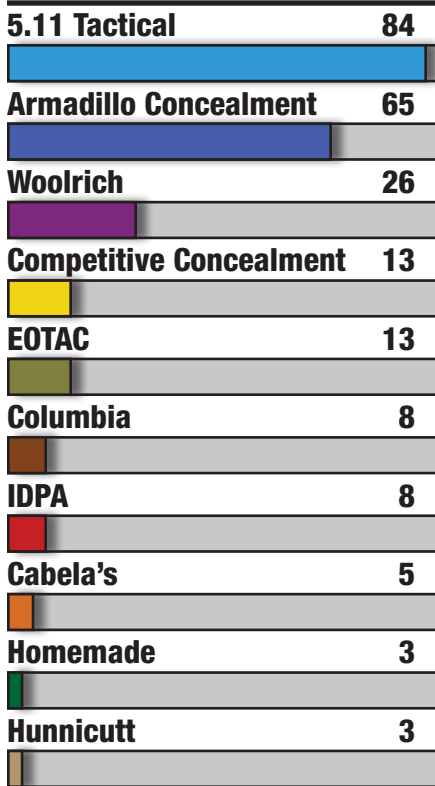
Comp-Tac	149
Blade-Tech	98
Safariland	21
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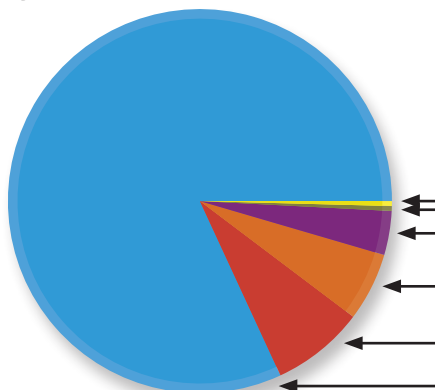
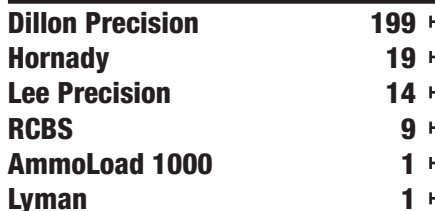
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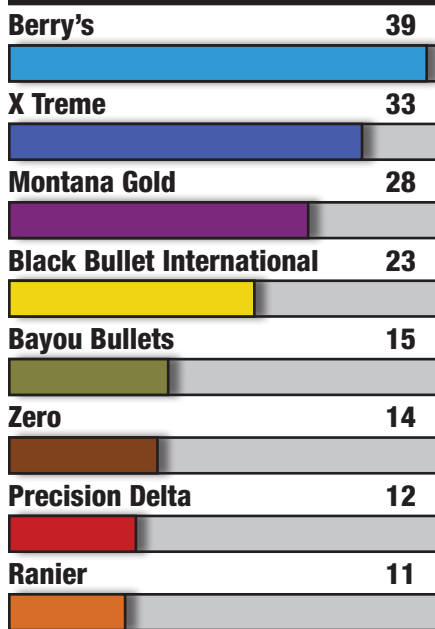


TOP RELOADING PRESS BRANDS USED



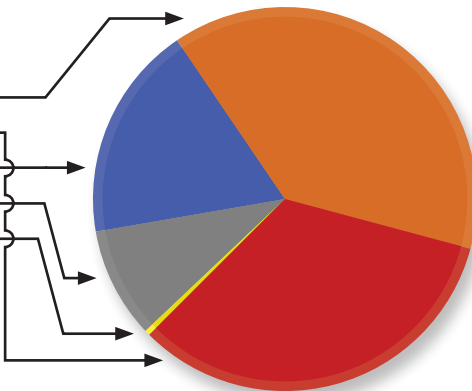
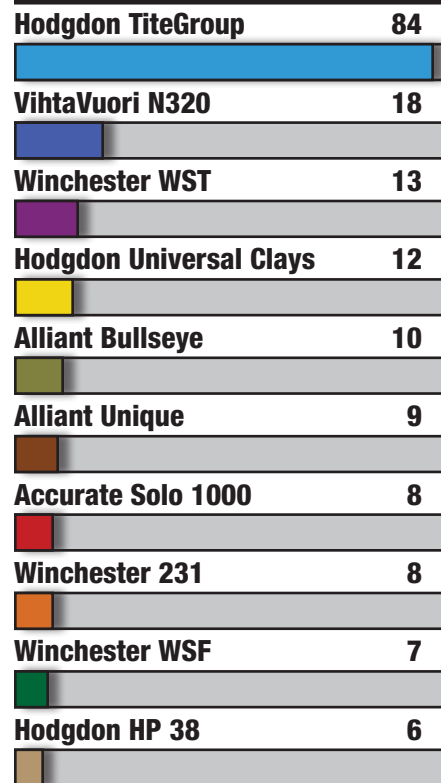
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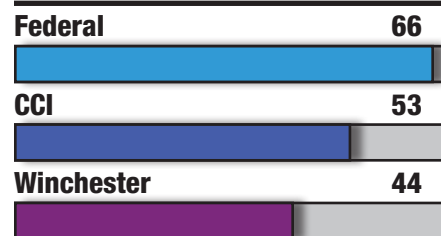


TOP 10 POWDERS

(226 Total Reported)

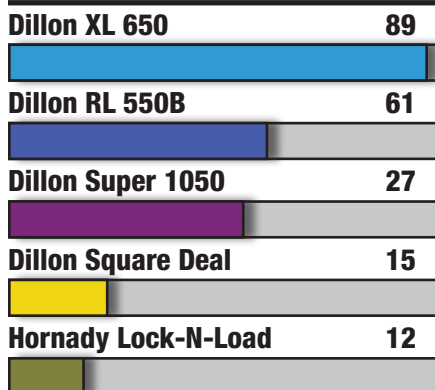


TOP 3 PRIMER BRANDS



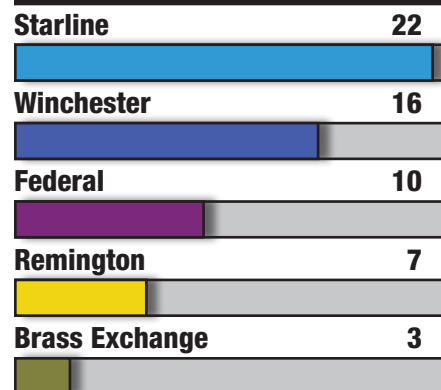
TOP 5 RELOADING PRESS MODELS

(243 Total Reported)



TOP 5 BRASS BRANDS

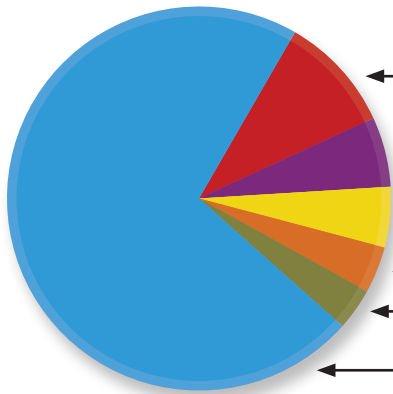
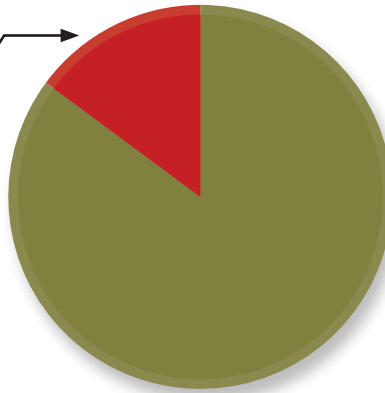
(12 Brands Total Reported)



CCW DATA

Competitors w/CCW Licenses (323 Total Reported)

No	48
Yes	275



TOP 5 CCW GUN MODELS (255 Total Guns Reported)

Glock 19	25
S&W M&P Shield (9mm)	15
Glock 26	13
Glock 23	10
Glock 17	9
Other Models	183

TOP 5 CCW GUN BRANDS (12 Brands Total Reported)

Starline	22
Winchester	16
Federal	10
Remington	7
Brass Exchange	3

TOP 4 CCW HOLSTER BRANDS (209 Total Guns Reported)

Comp-Tac	53
Blade-Tech	21
Crossbreed	11
Milt Sparks	11

TOP 10 CCW AMMUNITION (208 Total Reported)

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Speer Gold Dot	21
Federal HST	13
Remington Golden Saber	10
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15th Annual Michigan State Match

By Ron Rabine



Photo: © Leapers.com

Dedicated Safety Officers, Squad Leaders and match staff pose in front of a coal mine tailing pile from 1892, a center point in the new Munger range.

Winter Water Wonderland, Great Lakes State and the Wolverine State are all slogans used to describe Michigan and all are true. Hold out your left hand (palm out) like Michiganders do as a mitten map and in the web of the thumb you will find the Linwood-Bay Sportsman's Club (LBSC).

Founded in 1950, their enthusiasm of the shooting sports was further fueled in 1996 when the International Defensive Pistol Association spread its wings. By 1999, IDPA had grown in Michigan to the point that LBSC under the guidance of Match Director Jim Fibke, hosted the first state match. 40 shooters made use of the new outdoor Munger range, a seventy foot high tailing pile from an 1892 coal mine that you walk around it in the woods as you shoot. The mine closed and became a rifle range with rifle shooting out to 300 yards, Bay Rifle Club. Linwood

Sportsman's Club acquired the property and merged with Bay Rifle to become Linwood-Bay Sportsman's Club.

They say time flies when you're having fun so that must explain why this year, LBSC was again the site for the Fifteenth Annual Michigan State IDPA Match. Over the years many range improvements have been made since that first match expanding from 5 to 10 bays creating a state of the art shooting facility in mid-Michigan. Eleven alumni of the "99" State Match, including Joe Shiros of Linden, Mi., and Scott Gruenburg of Marquette,

Mi., were among the two hundred nine shooters that recited the Pledge and a prayer used to open all LBSC matches.

It takes a lot of people to put on a quality match like this one. One group is our generous sponsors. New event sponsor UTG Leapers joins faithful Dardas Cast Bullets, Comp-Tac, D-Wipe, Charter Arms, Midway USA, Rainier, Hornady, Starline Brass, and A.C. Welding this year. A special thanks goes to Dave Zimmerman and Target Barn for supporting LBSC from the beginning.

Another crucial group of people are the Safety Officers and Staff. Match Director Dave Alexander and co-director Gary Cuttitta have formed a strong core of LBSC volunteers to share the load in running a world-class event. Dave,



Stages at the Linwood-Bay Sportsman's Club had lots of movement and kept you on your toes... Mostly.

along with his stage design team of Mike Crawford, Ron Rabine, Ted Beauchamp, and Russ Clewley, challenged shooters in ten well designed stages. With lots of movement to well defined shooting positions and hard corners, many lost track of targets or round count. However, none ever managed to lose their smiles or sense of humor.

Dave and Gary called upon staff from the many fine IDPA clubs of Michigan and tasked them to stress consistent calls bay to bay. Our SO teams worked together, positioning SOs at every position of cover (when possible) to keep calls consistent. Our Chief SO's took command of their stages and their confidence carried over to the entire staff. In the SO's minds they finally put the "Old" rules to rest. SO teams this year were asked to quote the rules, the "Current Rules" if you must but



MD Dave Alexander begins his stage run.

absolutely not the "New Rules" since they have been in effect for almost one year.

We also need to thank our Squad Leaders. They keep the squads moving and are a big part of our staff. This is the fourth major match we have used Squad leaders and the shooters all comment how much they love Squad Leaders. During lunch, a veteran shooter said he never had so many cover calls. A junior told him that at the annual LBSC Great Lakes Regionals he felt the same but at this match he hadn't gotten called once because he had learned what cover was. On that note, at the post match SO meeting it was agreed our future is bright with SOs in the correct position to make the calls, Squad Leaders organizing squads and the record number of youth shooters all extremely well-mannered and versed in the rules. Just about every rule was exercised; DQ's for finger, accidental discharge, sweeping, squib round calls and mobility challenged shooting positions, along with the usual reload and cover procedural. Because of the hard work of all our volunteers and the "well-oiled" organization each of the 3 days shooting was done before 2 pm.

Also, a big thanks goes out to Tonya Sies, Heidi Hockman, and Tom Burzyck, our stats team who had scores posted



Checking the view from the pressure plate.

less than 15 minutes after the final shot was fired. One final thanks to Brenda Wightman. She handled registration, shooters bags and many behind the scenes activities. She also came out of hiding as a Squad Leader.

Here at Linwood-Bay Sportsman's IDPA, we started years ago with one mission: "Good Stages—Good Staff—Good Food—Good Trophies" Everything else just fell into place.

If you want to experience a great time with great people and good food in a beautiful state, May 15-17th, 2015, we will be hosting our 10th Anniversary Great Lake Regional. Online registration will be open at the first of the year. Come out and help us celebrate and be part of our 10th Anniversary.

More photos and complete scores are on our web site <http://www.linwoodbaysportsmans.com/>

The "Rules" may never be perfect to all but they are in the front of our minds and in the now well-worn Rule Book. **TJ**

Ron Rabine, #A39411

Ron Rabine is an SO in Michigan shooting IDPA since 2009 to hone carry skills. He can be reached at: rlrabine@comcast.net

Match Report



Photos: © Leapers.com

Trophy Room



(Left to Right) David Jose Bento Borzacchini (High International/4th Master/SSP),
Edgar E. Coronado (1st Sharpshooter/ESR), Juan Cheng (2nd Expert/SSR)
2014 U.S. National Championship
Photo © Dwight Pries



Nicholas Dumont (1st Expert/SSP), Rafael A. Sanchez, (1st Marksman/SSP)
2014 U.S. National Championship
Photo © Dwight Pries



Ashley Rheuark (High Junior/6th Master/ESP)
2014 U.S. National Championship
Photo © Dwight Pries



Mark Goede (4th Expert/ESP)
2014 U.S. National Championship
Photo © Dwight Pries



Morgan Allen (5th Master/ESP)
2014 U.S. National Championship
Photo © Dwight Pries



Nils Jonasson (High ESP)
2014 U.S. National Championship
Photo © Dwight Pries



Randi Rogers (High Lady/3rd Master/SSP)
2014 U.S. National Championship
Photo © Dwight Pries



Randy Dillman (8th Expert/SSP)
2014 U.S. National Championship
Photo © Dwight Pries



David Williamson (4th Expert/SSP)
2014 U.S. National Championship
Photo © Dwight Pries



Cody McKenna (2nd Master/SSP)
2014 U.S. National Championship
Photo © Dwight Pries



Patrick Doyle (1st Master/SSP)
2014 U.S. National Championship
Photo © Dwight Pries



Tell Stout (1st Expert/ESP)
2014 U.S. National Championship
Photo © Dwight Pries



Michael Barrera (1st Expert/CDP)
Michigan State Championship
Photo © Leapers.com



Gary E. Cuttitta (Division Champ/ESR)
Michigan State Championship
Photo © Leapers.com



Mark M. Boruta (1st Master/ESR)
Michigan State Championship
Photo © Leapers.com



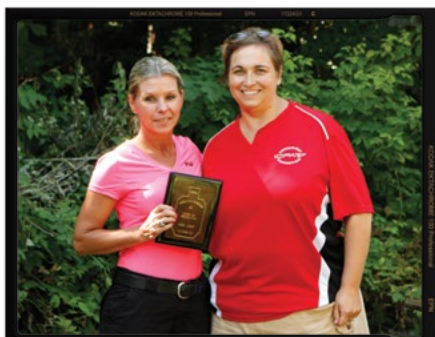
Brian Roznowski (1st Expert/ESR)
Michigan State Championship
Photo © Leapers.com



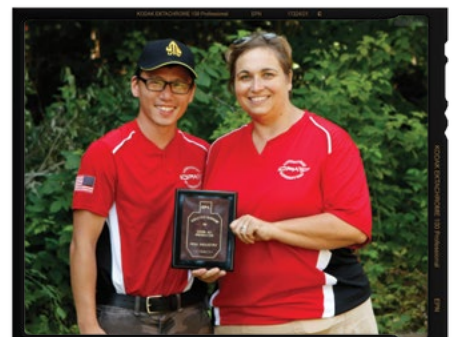
Tom Burzyck (3rd Expert/ESR)
Michigan State Championship
Photo © Leapers.com



Tonya Sies (1st Marksman/ESR)
Michigan State Championship
Photo © Leapers.com



Robin Boruta (High Lady/ESP)
Michigan State Championship
Photo © Leapers.com



Andy Chen (High Industry/SSP)
Michigan State Championship
Photo © Leapers.com



David Lund (1st Sharpshooter/SSR)
Washington State Championship
Photo © Brett Russo



Lars Liden (1st Marksman/ESR)
Washington State Championship
Photo © Brett Russo



Alan Feucht (Match Director's Award)
Washington State Championship
Photo © Brett Russo



Kyle Medidell (4th Marksman/CDP)
Washington State Championship
Photo © Brett Russo



Euan Garden (3rd Marksman/CDP)
Washington State Championship
Photo © Brett Russo



Nick Munch (1st Marksman/SSR)
Washington State Championship
Photo © Brett Russo



(Left to Right): Cody McKenna (Div. Champ/1st Master/SSP), Brett Russo (1st Expert/ESP), Tom Crawford, Nils Jonasson (Div. Champ/1st Master/ESP), Danielle Vermeulen (1st Master/ESP)
Washington State Championship
Photo © Erika Russo



Cel Alvarez (1st Expert/ESR)
Washington State Championship
Photo © Brett Russo



Gregg Straathof (2nd Marksman/CDP)
Washington State Championship
Photo © Brett Russo

Trophy Room: We want to recognize the hard work and success you've had in the sport. Have a photo of you with your trophy? Send your photos to us at: TacticalJournal@idpa.com Include your name, event title, order of finish (ex. 2nd Marksman/ESP), and the name of the photographer if possible.



Scott Pontrelli (1st Marksman/CDP)
Washington State Championship
Photo © Brett Russo



Kurt Ferstl (3rd Sharpshooter/CDP)
Washington State Championship
Photo © Brett Russo



Andrew Hong (2nd Sharpshooter/CDP)
Washington State Championship
Photo © Brett Russo



James Venters (1st Sharpshooter/CDP)
Washington State Championship
Photo © Brett Russo



Sean Young (2nd Expert/CDP)
Washington State Championship
Photo © Brett Russo



Jeff Phillips (Division Champ/1st Master/CDP)
Washington State Championship
Photo © Brett Russo



Greg Corley (2nd Marksman/SSP)
Washington State Championship
Photo © Brett Russo



Jon Miller (1st Marksman/SSP)
Washington State Championship
Photo © Brett Russo



Tony Soper (6th Sharpshooter/SSP)
Washington State Championship
Photo © Brett Russo

Corrections

The Concealed Carry Guide from the Q3/Fall 2014 issue incorrectly listed the MSRP of the Triton holster by Galco. The Actual MSRP is \$54.95. Visit www.galcoGUNLEATHER.com and enter the code "20IDPA14" at checkout for a 20% discount.

In the Q3/Fall 2014 article "Austin's Last Stand", Ashley Rhouark was incorrectly attributed the title of High Junior at the 2014 Carolina Cup. The title winner of High Junior for that match was Danny Cover.



Triton
Holster



Greg Vanlandingham (4th Sharpshooter/SSP)
Washington State Championship
Photo © Brett Russo



Daniel Smith (3rd Sharpshooter/SSP)
Washington State Championship
Photo © Brett Russo



Tim Smith (1st Expert/SSP)
Washington State Championship
Photo © Brett Russo



Josh Blankenship (3rd Marksman/ESP)
Washington State Championship
Photo © Brett Russo



Eron Barsalou (2nd Marksman/ESP)
Washington State Championship
Photo © Brett Russo



Andre Garcia (1st Marksman/ESP)
Washington State Championship
Photo © Brett Russo



Wilson D. (Bill) Calvert (3rd Sharpshooter/ESP)
Washington State Championship
Photo © Brett Russo



Jim Boone (2nd Sharpshooter/ESP)
Washington State Championship
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Malcolm McIver (1st Sharpshooter/ESP)
Washington State Championship
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Parting Shot

Comp-Tac Victory Gear is giving you the opportunity to take a parting shot – but be kind, we don't want to hit you with a Failure To Do Right. Submit your own original caption for the photo below by emailing it to PartingShot@IDPA.com. We suggest you don't post your entry on Facebook to keep others from "stealing" your idea. Once your entry is received a super secret panel of judges (think of them as a Trilateral Commission or the Illuminati) will review the entries and select their top three. So bring the funny.

**Ready?
Caption
this...**



Photo: © Dwight Pries

Parting Shot Winners From Our Last Issue



Photo: © Greg Burkhead

WINNER

"IDPA teams up with Dancing with the Stars.

Stage 1: From P1, you must engage all threats in tactical priority while performing a Cross-body Lead and transition to Dos-a-dos while moving to P2.

Vickers 4 count."

Con Sofologis, #A35056

SECOND PLACE

"I'm going to keep doing this until you reconsider that PE you just gave me."

Alan Finkel, #A41079

THIRD PLACE

"I disagree with the safety officer. I only broke the 180 by this much."

John C. Bates, #A17716

HOW TO ENTER:

Step #1:

Think of something funny to caption this photo.

Step #2:

Email your (hopefully) funny caption to PartingShot@IDPA.com.

Step #3:

Sit around waiting to find out if you won, all the while complaining about the whole process being unfair in not recognizing your obvious comedic genius.

Step #4:

Cross your fingers, hope we like your wry sense of humor best.



Winners (1st, 2nd, 3rd) will be published in the next issue and will receive, courtesy of our good friends at Comp-Tac, a gift certificate for \$75 (1st), \$50 (2nd), or \$25 (3rd). (And yes, you have to be an IDPA member.)

The Quality & Service you expect!



Double-Alpha Academy PDR Holster

The new DAA Production Division Race (PDR) Holster is the latest word in competition holsters specifically tailored for the special needs of IDPA shooters. The DAA PDR Holster is a quick-draw Kydex holder with an injection molded base for strength and durability. It offers a smooth and uninhibited draw, and a wide range of adjustable features. The Holster has an additional inner suede leather lining to protect your valuable firearm from wear and scratches. The DAA PDR now comes in two models! Low-Ride for USPSA and Belt-Ride for IDPA match use.

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