

PARKER COUNTY SPORTSMAN CLUB

FEBRUARY 10, 2018 PISTOL MATCH AAR

Like the weather during our January match it was COLD! No, make that COLDER! Not only cold but the wind was blowing, slicing through our layered clothing like a hot knife through butter. There were ten shooters who helped to set up the match stages but only seven at match time, it was that cold. Also, three of the seven were new shooters and we appreciated them joining us for the match.

We started match set-up a little early with all the shooters there and helping well before the scheduled set-up time of 7:30AM; we were finished and heading to the Clubhouse for the Shooters Briefing by 7:35AM. We also had two guests stop by to see how we were doing. Phillip Mason, who heads the Club's Safety Committee and Scott Maclaskey who is in charge of the Pistol Committee. Their presence at the match was greatly appreciated, and while Scott had to leave after an hour or so, Phillip stayed for the whole match and helped us break down after the match was over. With the wind chill, the temperature at the start of the match had to be in the teens; resulting in a break after each stage where we went back to the Clubhouse to warm up.

We started the match with a warm-up stage to help reduce the jitters that people have at the start. This allows each shooter to loosen up and rid themselves of the gremlins that sometimes dog us for the first stage or two. The first stage consisted of three targets that were shot in three different strings at three different distances (30', 21', and 15'). This stage emphasized strong hand/weak hand shooting and is a good learning tool. Alex Komisarz won the stage followed by Brian Danilowicz, and Brian Amerman in third; back to the Clubhouse to warm up.

The second stage had a target array of seven shoot targets with a no-shoot target in front of each shoot target. These double targets were set out in the form of a "V" with the closest target to the shooter at 20' and the furthest target at 32'. The shooter shoots from around a barricade; three or four targets from the right and three or four targets from the left. The positioning of the scoring target behind the no-shoot target gave the shooter a greatly reduced amount of scoring area so

each shot has to be careful and deliberate to avoid hitting the no-shoot targets. Each shooter needed to slow down and get their hits. Surprisingly, based on our affinity for hitting no-shoots during past matches there were only two no-shoots hit (by accident I'm sure). Alex Komisarz was the stage winner, followed by Brian Danilowicz in second place, and Dan Hymer in third. Then back to the Clubhouse to get warm.

Our third and last stage was a challenge! There were four targets; two at 105' (35yds) and two at 45' (15yds). This was the stage killer for most of those shooting. It requires a Bill Drill (6 shots) on each target with two strings of fire, using strong hand/weak hand with magazine changes. Again this stage requires a strong focus on the target and most of all trigger control. When the dust settled Brian Danilowicz was the stage winner followed by Alex Komisarz, with Dan Hymer in third.

We usually will let those shooters who want to, to reshoot one or more stages. Today there were no shooters who wanted to. All wanted to break the match down and get back to the Clubhouse where it was warm. Thank you to all who helped in that endeavor.

The shooters debriefing is a time when those who shot the match can discuss what they liked, what they disliked, and what changes they would like to see made in future matches. The one universal dislike was shooting in the cold, but we can't always pick the weather when we may be called upon to protect ourselves or our family. There is also some grousing about having to shoot targets "so far away" as in the third stage. Again one may never need the skill to hit a target at 15yds or 35yds, but we should be practicing at that distance in any event. As an observer Phillip Mason made some comments about the match which were well received. We are looking forward to the time when he will show up to participate at one of our future matches as a shooter. Thanks again Phillip, we appreciate your support and input.

After all the dust settled, the match winners were Brian Danilowicz as the Match winner, followed by Alex Komisarz in second place, and Dan Hymer in third place. Congratulations to you and all the rest of the shooters. The PCSC funds the Pistol

Matches, and as we normally do at the debriefing we have a voluntary donation bucket where the 7 match shooters contributed a total of \$53.00 to help offset the match costs. Thank you one and all, and thanks to Jon Kitts for his help in running the Match.

I left the range around 12:35PM and the outside temperature at the range was 28 degrees which I'm sure was lower as a result of the wind chill. All in all it was a good match where the shooters help to build on their shooting skills. Thanks to all who participated and helped to make the match a good one. After all, it's you the Club members who make these matches what they are with your continued support; and with your support the matches will continue into the future. The Club Board of Directors also need a round of applause for helping to set up these matches for all members, and for their continuing support of the monthly Pistol Matches.

Respectfully submitted,

Fred Muller, Chief Range Safety Officer and Match Director

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