



# RATTLER TATTLER



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## NOTES FROM THE RANGE



Well another year has come and gone. It's been a great year and we have had many good shoots. Each year is getting better and this year will be no exception.

The January shoot proved that. You could not have asked for a better winter's day to shoot Cowboy Action.

The day started cold and breezy but the temperature climbed quick and the wind died down. Nine hardy souls headed down to the range and we shot 4 full stages. Just like in December we had all 4 stages at Shaketail City. 1 stage at each false front. The shooting went quick and everyone had a good time. There were several clean stages shot. Haywire Snuffy, John Henry and several other cleaned stages. Bloody Lane even shot a clean match, way to go Lane.

After the shooting was done we cleaned up and headed to the ranch house for a hot meal and a chance to lie about how we shot and make good excuses for missing. It was a truly good day of shooting. I'm not sure if the weather will continue to cooperate throughout the winter and into the spring but we will be there making the steel ring and having fun. Thanks go out to all that helped set up and tear down, without you folks it would not be much fun to shoot there. Thanks also to all that came out on brisk winter day to shoot.

After all was said and done it was a

wonderful day of shooting with some wonderful people. I truly think this is going to be a great year here for the Shaketails. After the match Hoosier & Steel Belle attended a showing of the new True Grit movie with several other shooters from other clubs. I sure he'll let us know about that in the Governor's report in the Tattler. I do hope they had fun and made some in roads to getting more shooters here. We will always welcome new shooters and would love to see some returning shooter.

I thank all who came out to help set up. Bloody Lane, Dirty Pole Cat, Shootin' Hoosier & Haywire Snuffy. Your help is always appreciated and it will be much more appreciated in the coming months. I have injured my shoulder and I am waiting to hear if surgery will be needed. If so I am going to need all the help I can get out there for every shoot. I'm usually

only half a hand to start with and being one handed will make me that much less help. Thankfully it is my right hand that is injured so I can still write and pick my nose. I'm even a fair pistol shot with that hand. I may miss shooting a few but I'll be there riding herd and helping where I can.

I'll sign off for now and wish everyone a VERY HAPPY NEW YEAR. Let's all make this our best shooting year ever. Invite a friend, find a missing Shaketail and bring them back out, Shanghai a stranger and introduce them to Cowboy shooting. But most of all come on out yourselves and enjoy this great sport.

Until we meet on the range again; Keep your powder dry and never tangle with a truck tire, they hit harder than a stubborn mule with a tooth ache.

*Midnite Slim*



### UPCOMING EVENTS

- |       |  |
|-------|--|
| Jan 9 | Monthly Cowboy Long Range Shoot – arrive about 9:00 AM |
| Feb 5 | Setup for the match at 2:30 PM                         |
| Feb 6 | Monthly Shaketails Shoot – safety meeting 9:00 AM      |

DATE 2-Jan-01										Stage 1				Stage 2				Stage 3				Stage 4			
Match Final	SASS #	Alias Name	Class	Class Final	Posse #	Total Raw Time	Total Time	Total Miss	Total Proc	Raw Time	Miss	Proc	Adj Time	Raw Time	Miss	Proc	Adj Time	Raw Time	Miss	Proc	Adj Time	Raw Time	Miss	Proc	Adj Time
1	71855	Bloody Lane	49	1	1	217.92	217.92	0	0	47.39	0		47.39	59.41	0		59.41	47.84	0		47.84	63.28	0		63.28
2	7317	John Henry	D	1	1	190.84	220.84	4	1	40.86	0		40.86	53.78	0		53.78	35.95	3	1	60.95	60.25	1		65.25
3	66901	Haywie Snuffy	LW	1	1	219.21	249.21	6	0	44.94	3		59.94	61.14	0		61.14	47.92	1		52.92	65.21	2		75.21
4	57060	Dirty Pole Cat	SS	1	1	213.70	278.70	13	0	57.22	4		77.22	57.24	2		67.24	42.53	3		57.53	56.71	4		76.71
5	28607L	Yaro	ES	1	1	277.54	292.54	3	0	67.25	1		72.25	62.58	1		67.58	76.43	0		76.43	71.28	1		76.28
6	64401	Midnite Slim	D	2	1	235.87	300.87	13	0	55.26	2		65.26	72.28	3		87.28	46.34	4		66.34	61.99	4		81.99
7	8347	Lost River Bill	SS	2	1	307.10	317.10	2	0	68.71	1		73.71	79.29	0		79.29	63.07	0		63.07	96.03	1		101.03
8	64296	Shootin Hoosier	49	2	1	344.15	384.15	8	0	44.32	2		54.32	203.54	2		213.54	42.18	2		52.18	54.11	2		64.11
9	89971	Steel Belle	LW	2	1	528.24	678.24	28	1	123.15	8		163.15	201.23	5		226.23	88.36	9	1	143.36	115.50	6		145.50



## SASS Convention and TG Summit Report



The SASS Convention and the Territorial Governors Summit was held in Las Vegas again this year but one week later in December from the 9<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup>. Steel Belle and I had a great time there. I wanted to provide a summary of the summit and few notes on the convention.

The summit again set a record for the number of clubs actually present or represented by proxy with 329. If you follow the SASS Wire, you probably already know that 3 of the 4 agenda items failed. Remember that it takes a 2/3<sup>rds</sup> majority to pass. Here are the specifics:

1. Should we eliminate the 10-second minor safety penalty for overloading a RIFLE?

This will do away with the double penalty for overloading a rifle at the loading table and then leaving the extra live round(s) in the long gun. Penalties for leaving unfired rounds in the rifle would still apply, but, if a shooter overloaded the rifle, they could clear it within the current rules and not be charged a penalty. This rule change would not make the rifle any less safe. *Note this only applies to a rifle and NOT to a revolver or shotgun.*

### **Should the following Minor Safety Penalty be deleted?**

*Loading more than the correct number of live rounds in a firearm.*

**Failed --- For 174 Against 135 Abstain 0 - 57% in favor**

2. Should we change the rule regarding empties left on the carrier or in the chamber of a long gun? An unfired round in the chamber would continue to carry a Stage Disqualification penalty and an unfired round anywhere else in the action or magazine a 10 second minor safety. This change would eliminate all penalties for EMPTY rounds in the chamber or action of long guns.

### **Should the MSV penalty for leaving an EMPTY case/hull in a long gun be deleted?**

**Failed --- For 130 Against 179 Abstain 0 - 42% in favor**

3. Should we create the new sanctioned shooting category "Frontier Cartridge Gunfighter"? The category would follow the firearm and ammo guidelines of the current "Frontier Cartridge" category and follow the shooting style and holster requirements of the current "Gunfighter" Category. The main reason to add FCGF to the list of "*officially recognized*" categories is it brings the black powder categories up to par with the smokeless ones in regard to available shooting styles.

**Smokeless** = Open/age-based (**two-handed**); Duelist/Senior Duelist/Classic (**one-handed**);  
Gunfighter/B-Western (**both hands**);

**Black powder** = Frontier Ctg (**two-handed**); Frontiersman/Frontier Cartridge Duelist (**one-handed**);  
**Frontier Cartridge Gunfighter** (**both hands**)

**Failed --- For 194 Against 115 Abstain 0 - 63% in favor**

4. The Burgess Rifle is a SASS legal firearm. It was patented in 1882.

### **Should the rifle regulations for B-Western be changed as follows to allow the earliest rifle to be from 1880 instead of present 1884?**

*Rifles: Any SASS-legal rifle of 1880 or later design or a replica thereof (e.g., Burgess, Lightning, 1892, 1894 Winchester or Marlin).*

**Passed --- For 278 Against 30 Abstain 1 - 90% in favor**

Agenda item #4 to change the B-Western rifle regulations easily passed and generated no real debate in the meeting.

Agenda item #2 regarding empties on the carrier failed by a wide enough margin that the proposal cannot be reconsidered for 3 years. It failed despite the fact that during the debate most argued that a spent round in a firearm is not a safety issue. One concern expressed was that side by side shooters would not make an attempt to clear their shotgun with the rule change.

The remaining two agenda items both actually garnered a majority favorable vote but could not attain the 2/3<sup>rd</sup>s majority required to pass. Since the proposals did get a majority vote they are eligible to be reconsidered next year. Item #1 should sound familiar because it was voted down last year with a similar percentage. The rules committee recommended passing this change but there were strong opinions against it based on the possibility for abuse when a shooter deliberately overloaded in certain scenarios where it might be advantageous. Agenda item #3 failed based on the sentiment I described last year on no new category additions. There is a large contingent of TG's that are reluctant to add more sanctioned shooting categories. It was emphasized during the discussion that individual clubs can provide special categories that meet the needs of their club without it being a SASS sanctioned category.

In addition to the main agenda items there was a fairly lengthy number of other topics covered that would take several pages to cover. I'll hit on a few, borrowing heavily from the minutes published by Chuckaroo.

#### **Additional Discussion Items (Non-voting)**

##### **MULTIPLE ENTRIES IN A SINGLE MATCH BY THE SAME SHOOTER**

Example of a shooter that was entered twice. One got a Match DQ. The other alias continued in the match. Majority agreed that the shooter should have a match DQ for both shooters. There was some discussion on the concept of permitting multiple entries by the same shooter (It is the clubs option to allow this or not).

##### **MARES LEG 92 CONVERSION**

Should the Mares Leg 92 handgun be allowed as a main match handgun? Straw poll votes were almost unanimous that it was not a good idea.

#### **RO Committee Report Highlights**

Currently, ROII holders can teach a ROI course. Starting January 1st, SASS requires that an ROII instructor must observe the teaching of an ROI class. In the past, any ROII could teach the class. A regular ROII can still teach the class but they must be observed by an ROII instructor. The ROII instructor must sign off on the class roster.

How do we handle a rules violation that is observed when it is not your posse? It is OK to quietly talk with the posse marshal about the infraction. If it is brushed off, take it to the match officials (range master or match director). Let them deal with it from there. It is then out of your hands.

The official coach, for a shooter, is the timer operator. The spotters are a match official and they too are expected to coach the shooter only on safety items, round counts (one more etc.) and knock down targets (still up etc.). If the shooter listens to someone else in the gallery and follows incorrect coaching, the shooter would not get a reshoot. The issue boils down to the timer operator is in charge. Improper direction, followed by the shooter from anyone else does not qualify for a reshoot. For clarification, the rule book will have a change of references from Range Officer to Timer Operator to alleviate any confusion.

The timer operator is the only one that can offer a restart (not to be confused with a reshoot) for a shooter having difficulty before the first round goes downrange. If a shooter fumbles and looks up at the TO and says I want to start over, it is up to the TO, to allow it or not. It is a judgment call and TO's should be aware of abuse.

When stage instructions say load nine rounds in the rifle - these are stage instructions. To load ten rounds is not a failure of loading table procedures (Stage DQ) but a failure to follow stage instructions (Minor Safety). Failure to follow loading table rules is not leaving hammer on an empty chamber, loading somewhere other than the loading table etc.

A clarification on allowing the bending of the opening lever on a shotgun created much discussion. It was decided to add verbiage to the rules permitting the opening lever on a side by side shotgun to be bent so that it clears the hammers. The final verbiage will be "The top opening lever on break action shotguns can be bent laterally, such that the outside of the lever does not exceed the outside edge of the tang with the action closed." (This means bent only, no additional metal added).

A number of other refinements for clarification were presented to the TG's that will be made in the handbook and other rules material.

### **Open Discussion and New Business**

It was suggested that the RO committee consider removing "Failure To Engage" from the book and have it covered by Spirit of The Game.

It was recommended that a committee should review the SASS categories, make a recommendation on their findings and make report to be presented at the 2011 summit.

Bolo ties will be added to the costume list for B Western.

### **The Convention**

I wanted to end with a few comments on the convention which was a lot a fun with seminars, social events and exhibits. NRA President Ron Schmeits was again the guest speaker on opening morning. Attendance seemed similar to last year – maybe a little higher but the number of vendors on the exhibition floor was less.

SASS made a couple of positive changes. The seminars did not require advance registration this year which made managing time much easier and made the seminars better attended. They also brought in the *Riders in the Sky* for entertainment Friday night which was a big hit. The theme this year was "Tombstone, The Town Too Tough To Die." The historical presentations based on the Tombstone theme I found interesting.

The exhibition floor included many vendors and entertainment, including the SASS "Wild West Performing Arts Society" (WWPAS). You could walk in any time of the day and always find something going-on on the stage to entertain. Even with fewer vendors, Steel Belle and I managed to spend more money than last year – just too many tempting goodies out there.

I spent some time watching the Fast Draw match on Sunday. Some of these folks, like Master Gunfighter, are amazing to watch. Don't know how it is possible to draw and shoot that fast.

If you ever get the opportunity to attend the SASS Convention, I would highly recommend it. Undoubtedly the best part of the convention is the time spent meeting SASS members from around the world and other Territorial Governors. We enjoyed spending time with some Shaketails familiar faces like Marshall Ransom Payne and Calico Glo (we solved a CSI crime mystery together) and Calhan Kid and his wife. I have included a few pictures below.

Territorial Governor, Colorado Shaketails

*Shootin Hoosier*



Convention Floor



Life Member Reception



Saloon Dance



Riders In The Sky Concert



Keynote by NRA President



Steel Belle Goes Shopping

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Open

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August 5-7, 2011

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# Cowboy Classifieds

☞ For Sale: J.C. Higgins double barrel Cowboy shot gun; \$175.00. Contact Yaro at [mayoryaro@msn.com](mailto:mayoryaro@msn.com) or phone 303- 646 3777.

☞ For Sale: Beretta A391 Urika 12 gauge 28" semi auto shotgun, 5 factory tubes, factory hard case, 1 extended comp-n-choke competition tube -- great sporting clays gun \$900

Winchester M70 .22-250 heavy varmint (.87" dia barrel) with Burris 8x32 1/8MOA Signature Scope w target knobs (lifetime transferable warranty), Burris mounts/rings, all original boxes for Scope/Gun, averages .6-.8MOA (sometimes better) \$900

Burris 1" med Signature Rings and 2 pc bases for Rem700 short or long action (NIB) \$35

Ruger 10/22 Black Hogue Heavy Target Barrel (.920) stock \$35

## Reloading Stuff

Pact Electronic Powder Dispenser/Scale \$125

Midway 1292 Tumbler \$25

Lee Deluxe 4 die set 44Mag/Special \$20

Lee Deluxe 4 die set 45ACP \$20

RCBS .223 X-die \$15

RCBS .223 2 die set \$15

Contact Dan at [dnanddogs@comcast.net](mailto:dnanddogs@comcast.net).





# Some Nearby Clubs Along The Front Range

<b>Club Name &amp; City</b>	<b>Shoot Dates</b>	<b>Contact Alias</b>
<a href="#"><u>The Colorado Cowboys</u></a> Lake George, CO	1st Saturday	<b>el Gato Gordo</b> 719-683-6713
<a href="#"><u>Coyote Gulch Cowboys</u></a> Boulder, CO	2nd Saturday	<b>T.J. Walker</b> 303-494-5229
<a href="#"><u>Pawnee Station</u></a> Wellington, CO	3rd Saturday	<b>Red Creek Dick Martin</b> 303-857-0520
<a href="#"><u>Rockvale Bunch</u></a> Rockvale, CO	3rd Saturday	<a href="#"><u>Nevada Steel</u></a> 719-784-6683
<a href="#"><u>Pawnee Sportmens Center</u></a> Briggsdale, CO	4th Saturday	<b>Governor General</b> 970-484-3789
<a href="#"><u>Sand Creek Raiders</u></a> Byers, CO	4th Sunday	<a href="#"><u>Sweetwater Bill</u></a> 303-366-8827