

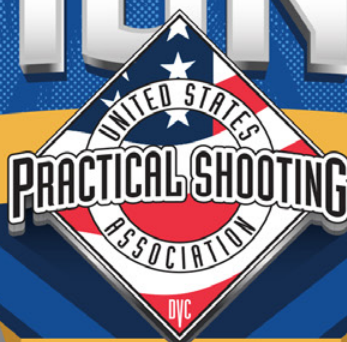
OFFICIAL MATCHBOOK
2020



20 20
UNIVERSAL SHOOTING ACADEMY

MULTI-GUN NATIONALS

JUNE 11-14



2020

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Mike Foley,
RD6 USPSA President
president@uspsa.org



WELCOME

USPSA President Mike Foley, Director of Media and Events Jake Martens, and Match Director Shannon Smith are excited to bring the **2020 SIG SAUER USPSA Multi-gun Nationals** to the Universal Shooting Academy for the second year in a row, after eleven years in the western U.S. Shannon Smith is known for hosting many of the most exciting handgun and multi-gun matches in the country. Universal developed terrain for use in the 2019 Nationals, and will be utilizing it even more this year. The match will be a mix of fun, challenging courses of fire, combining accuracy and speed across all three platforms. Be safe, have fun, and good luck!



Mike Foley
USPSA President

2020 SIG SAUER / USPSA MULTI-GUN NATIONALS CHAMPIONSHIP

UNIVERSAL SHOOTING ACADEMY | FROSTPROOF, FLORIDA

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USPSA MULTI-GUN NATIONALS **EVENT SCHEDULE**

STAFF MATCH

THURSDAY JUNE 11

FRIDAY JUNE 12

MAIN MATCH

(SINGLE FLIGHT OF SHOOTERS)

SATURDAY JUNE 13

SUNDAY JUNE 14

You must check in at registration at the range to verify your info:

CHECK IN TIMES

FRIDAY:

3:00pm - 5:30pm

WILL OPEN WHEN STAFF SHOOT IS COMPLETE

SATURDAY:

7:00am-7:50am



AWARDS & PRIZE TABLE

Awards and prize table is to be determined at this time.

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USPSA MULTI-GUN NATIONALS MATCH BRIEFING

SAFETY: USPSA rules will be followed and we operate a cold range. Safe areas are provided for your use and there will be no gun handling of pistols at your vehicle. Long guns may be transferred safely from your automobile to carts as needed. Chamber flags are required and must be inserted prior to shooting and between stages.

SHOTGUN AMMO: Limited to #6's or smaller. 3" OK. Lead only. No steel, tungsten or unobtainium.

RIFLE AMMO: No Steel projectile or jacket. Very simple; if your bullet sticks to a magnet you may not use that ammo and will be DQ'ed if you have. Easy test, please test it. Some of the Bi-Metal jackets you can't tell by looking at them but they will stick. While that particular ammo may not be unsafe the magnet test is the only practical way we have to test. If the bullet sticks we will not acquit.

SLINGS: Will not be required.

RULES: We will be following the current edition of the 2020 USPSA Rifle, Shotgun, and Multigun Rules.

GUN HANDLING

This is a USPSA match, under USPSA rules. Rule book can be found online or the mobile app. Please read the rules and follow them. However this was an area of the match the MD wanted to make more clear, so here is the standard as best as I can describe it in plain English. I have talked with the DNROI and the RM for the match and am posting the following info with their blessing. This section is not intended to be a rule book, they have one of those. I'm just trying to make some things more clear.

SAFE AREAS: Provided around the range. These are the same as safe areas for a USPSA pistol match. You may handle firearms, dryfire, perform maintenance, pet it, whatever but may not handle ammunition in the safe area. **Pistols may ONLY be handled in the safe area, or under direct supervision of a Range Officer.**

STAGING AREAS: These will be provided at each stage using long guns. Staging areas are for storage of long guns and you may handle long guns. These staging areas will also be used as a preload table for shotguns if necessary on the

stage. You will preload under the direction of the Range Officers on that stage. They know you need to preload and will tell you that you may do so as soon as is practical for their stage.

You may change chokes in the staging area provided you are not preloaded. If you are preloaded just tell an RO you need to change a choke and they will accommodate you.

You may store your rifle in the staging area before and after your run on the stage. In a bag or not, laying on or under the table. There will also be room to park baby buggies facing the berm next to the staging area.

Staging area and shotgun preload areas are the same.

YOU MAY NOT HANDLE YOUR PISTOL in the staging area. This includes taking off your holster with the pistol in it. This is explicitly against the rules. Just don't do it.

MOTORIZED VEHICLES: 4 wheeled motorized vehicles are permitted but you must have "USA Hotshots, LLC / Universal Shooting Academy" named as additional insured and present that policy to Jim Lewis, Range Manager on site. 2 wheeled electric vehicles are ok. Speed limit for all is 8mph. (fast walk)

CARTS, BUGGIES AND ATV'S: Long guns are to be carried vertically (ish) muzzle up or down in a cart, buggy or ATV (conveyance). If your long guns are carried horizontally (laying on a red wagon for example) they are to be bagged. Most common practices are muzzle up in the back of a UTV/ATV or muzzle down at 45 degree on a baby jogging stroller. If your long gun is racked in a motorized vehicle, you MAY remove your flagged long gun keeping the muzzle in whatever direction its in (up or down) and proceed to the stage or to the staging area at your discretion. Same for replacing it. You do not need to be close to a berm to take these actions provided your muzzle stays in the same orientation the whole time.

If your long gun is in a case, scabbard, or bag, or on a cart, you must uncase or uncart the long gun into a berm, without sweeping yourself or someone else. Please be as close to the berm as practical when doing so. The rules state within 6 feet. Staging areas may be used for this purpose.

COMING TO THE LINE: In the interest of match flow we want the on deck shooter to be as ready as possible depending on the stage. You MAY bring your gun(s) to

the start position without RO direction when you are on deck. **You may not stage them in a barrel, or on a table, or anything.** You may bring them to the line, muzzle up or down and wait for the Make Ready command. Example: Rifle/Pistol stage as they are nearing the end of scoring you can and should be at the starting position with your unloaded pistol holstered and your flagged rifle muzzle up or down awaiting commands. This includes bringing said rifle off of your conveyance without direct supervision or direction.

10.5.4.3 – Bottom line, you may not sweep any person with the muzzle of a firearm at anytime for any reason. Loaded, unloaded, flagged, not flagged. Common sense gun handling and also a rule. So again, just don't do it.

Hope this makes it more clear and not more confusing. Read through the rule book and if you have questions or concerns just ask before you act.

END GUN HANDLING DISCUSSION

PARTICIPATION: Shooter participation in resetting the stage is expected and appreciated.

SCHEDULE: Squad schedule is posted in the match book. Competitors must compete for score according to the published match and squad schedule. A competitor may not attempt a stage outside of his or her designated time without approval of the Match Director.

EYE & EAR PROTECTION: All competitors must wear eye and ear protection while shooting. Eye protection is required to be worn by everyone while on the range property.

DRAWINGS & DIMENSIONS: Drawings and dimensions of the stage diagrams are approximate and may change prior to the start of the match due to safety, production, or my laziness considerations. Inspect each stage carefully and listen to the stage briefing.

STAGE INSPECTION: Competitors may inspect the stages at any time as long as a squad is not currently there competing for score. You may not activate props or moving targets. Basically you may look but don't touch.

SPONSORS: Please take some time to thank our sponsors

either in person or via email. A little thanks goes a long way. A list of sponsors for this years match may be found in the match book.

SCORING: We are using tablet scoring and Practiscore USPSA time plus (points) scoring. Each stage will have a point value of 100. Verification sheets will not be posted on paper at the range. You may/must view them via your computer, hotel computer, or smart device. The RO's at the stage will keep a paper back up of every competitor score. I highly suggest you actually look at the review screen at the completion of your stage performance. The RO is instructed to read aloud the time for each competitor. Then the RO will transcribe the review screen on to a paper back up log. Your responsibility is to look at the review screen for accuracy, and then touch "Approve". It is not the RO's responsibility to track you down and they will be instructed not to. You may also record from the paper log at the stage either copy it down on paper or snap a photo with your phone or polaroid.

PRIZE POLICY: We are providing plaques for Division winners, top 3 or 8 depending on participation. Prize table will be walked in overall order of finish in Division. Should you win a firearm please follow the instructions on the certificate, they are plainly stated. We will not be transferring firearms at the range, they must ship to an FFL.

AWARD SCHEDULE: Awards schedule in the match book.

ALCOHOL POLICY: We do allow alcohol on the property, we are all adults. Your shooting must be complete and any alcohol must stay in the pavilion or parking lot. You may not have it out on the range or stages. It hasn't been a problem nor do I expect it to be. Byob.

If you have any issues on anything throughout the match please contact Troy McManus the Range Master or Shannon Smith the Match Director and we will take care of you. Have a fun, safe match!

Shannon Smith
MD Multi-Gun Nationals
SmittyFL@gmail.com

USPSA MULTI-GUN NATIONALS **RANGE FACILITIES**

REST ROOMS: Portable toilets are located conveniently around the range.

FOOD SERVICE: Lunch is provided at scheduled times. Water available all day. No other drink or snack facilities available.

CLOSED RANGE: If the range is marked closed, and a barrier is across the range road, no competitors may enter the range for any reason. We will have access to the bathrooms, registration, and ammo pickup available and clearly marked. Any competitor on a closed range will be required to leave and may be subject to disqualification. Please obey the signs.

PARKING: Parking areas will be clearly marked. Competitors may only park in the competitor areas. Lock your car and take your valuables.

PERSONAL VEHICLES: ATV/UTV, etc. allowed with USA named as additional insured. 10MPH speed limit. Contact Jim Lewis, Range Manager for additional information on insurance requirements 863.273.9514.

SPECTATORS: Everyone must wear eye protection while on the range and hearing protection is strongly suggested. Climbing on berms is not allowed. Children must be under the direct supervision of a parent. If you need eye protection, please see a range master.

EXHIBITS: The U.S. Nationals Exhibits, featuring many different suppliers to our sport, will be in the sponsor tent at the range. Only sponsors of the U.S. National Championships are allowed display areas on the range. Please acknowledge and thank them for their generous support.

ELIGIBILITY: The National Champion must be a U.S. citizen or a resident with a valid work permit (green card) and a current member of USPSA. Trophies/Plaques will be awarded based on the criteria in Appendix A1 of the current USPSA Multigun Rules. In a National Championship, there must be at least 10 competitors in a division and 5 in a category in that division for recognition. You must be a current USPSA member before the commencement of the match on June 11 in order to compete.



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The Universal Shooting Academy practical shooting school is located in Frostproof, Florida, USA, less than one hour south of Orlando's world famous Walt Disney world and many other attractions. You may arrange to fly into Miami International Airport, located four hours south of the academy or Orlando International Airport, located one hour north.

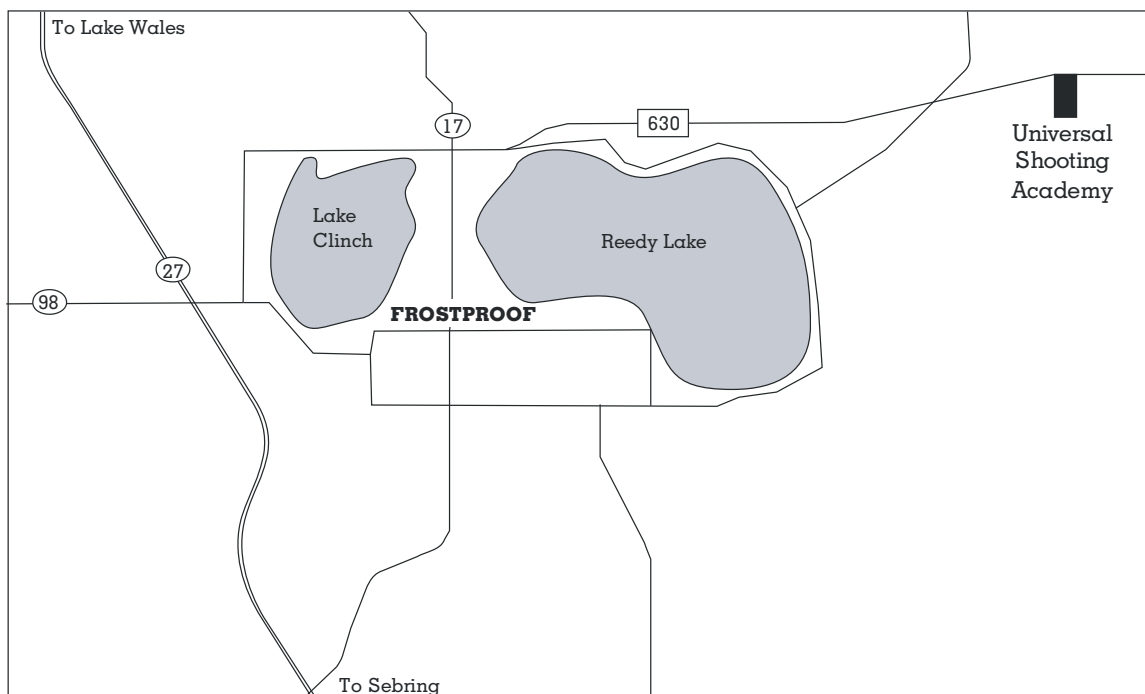
DIRECTIONS TO THE UNIVERSAL SHOOTING ACADEMY

4300 Co Rd 630, Frostproof, FL 33843

DIRECTIONS FROM TAMPA – Hwy. 60 east to Lake Wales. Turn south on U.S. 27. Go 10 miles to Hwy. 630A. Turn left (east) toward Frostproof. Go 1-1/2 miles to stop sign. Turn left onto Hwy. 630 East. Go 8-1/2 miles. The academy is on the right side of the highway.

DIRECTIONS FROM MIAMI – Take Florida Turnpike north to Yee-Haw Junction (Hwy. 60). Take State Road #60 west 26 miles to State Road #630 toward Frostproof. Go 8 miles. The academy is on the left side of the highway.

DIRECTIONS FROM ORLANDO AIRPORT – Bee Line Expressway #528 West to the Florida Turnpike South. Go to exit #193 (Yee-Haw Junction). Take State Road #60 west 26 miles to State Road #630 toward Frostproof. Go 8 miles. The academy is on the left side of the highway.





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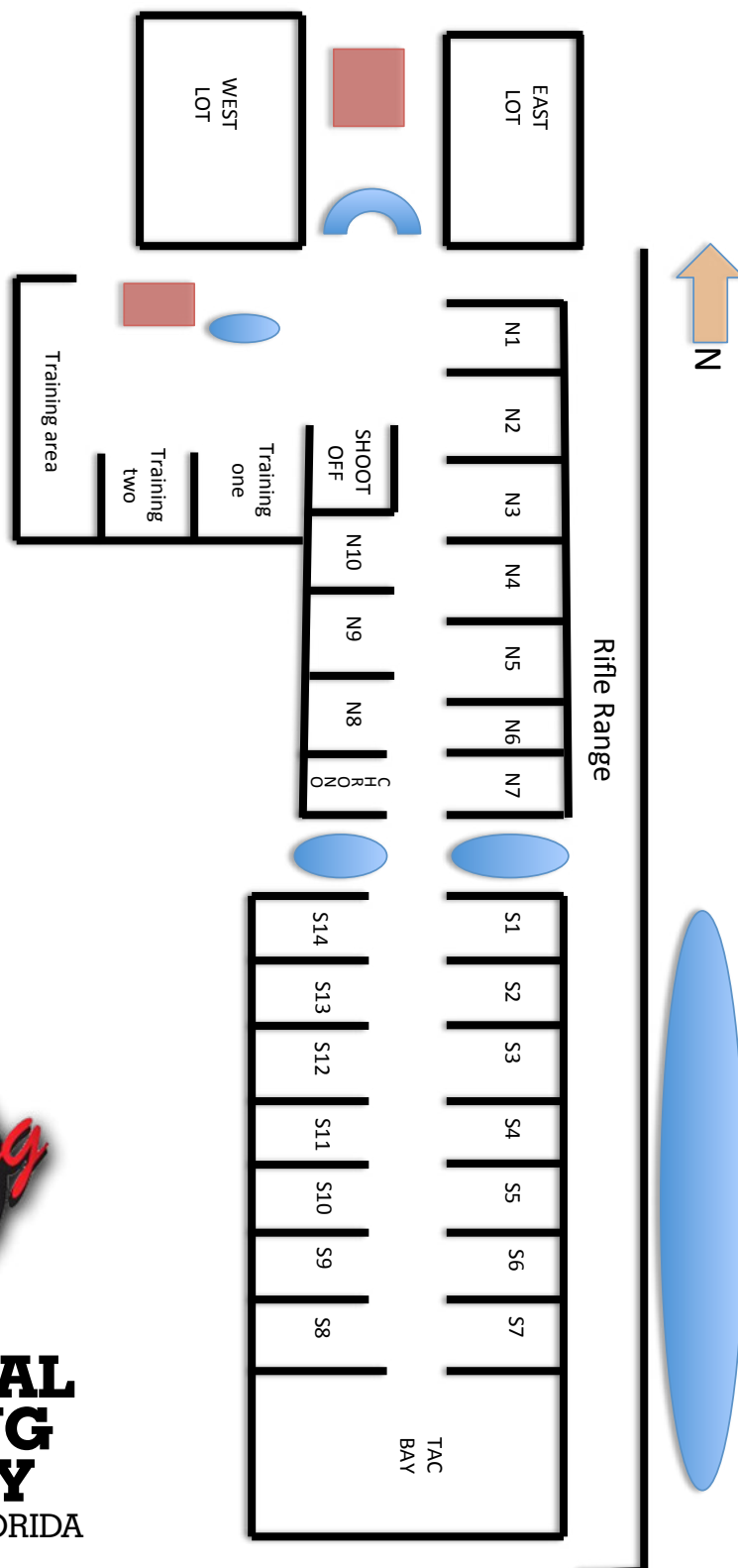
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USPSA MULTI-GUN NATIONALS **RANGE DIAGRAM**



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Division and Class wins are based on USPSA Rule Appendix A2 for participation. Participants must shoot Syntech Action Pistol during the match and return the Certified Match Ammunition form signed by the Match Director or Chronograph RO to jake@uspsa.org within 30 days of the qualifying match.

[STAGE 1]

REACHIN OUT

STARTING POSITION:

Standing beside platform.

GUN READY CONDITION:

Rifle loaded buttstock touching belt. Shotgun loaded in barrel.

STAGE PROCEDURE:

From platform engage 6 orange steel with rifle. Then from shotgun shooting area engage clays, steel and blue slug steel.

TARGETS: 6 orange rifle steel, 10 shotgun steel, 6 clays, 1 slug steel

START-STOP: Audible - Last shot

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[STAGE 2]

DOUBLE WITH THE HOUSE

STARTING POSITION:

Standing in either shooting area.

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GUN READY CONDITION:

All guns loaded.

Holstered, in bucket, port arms or in barrel(s).

STAGE PROCEDURE:

Engage targets as they become available.

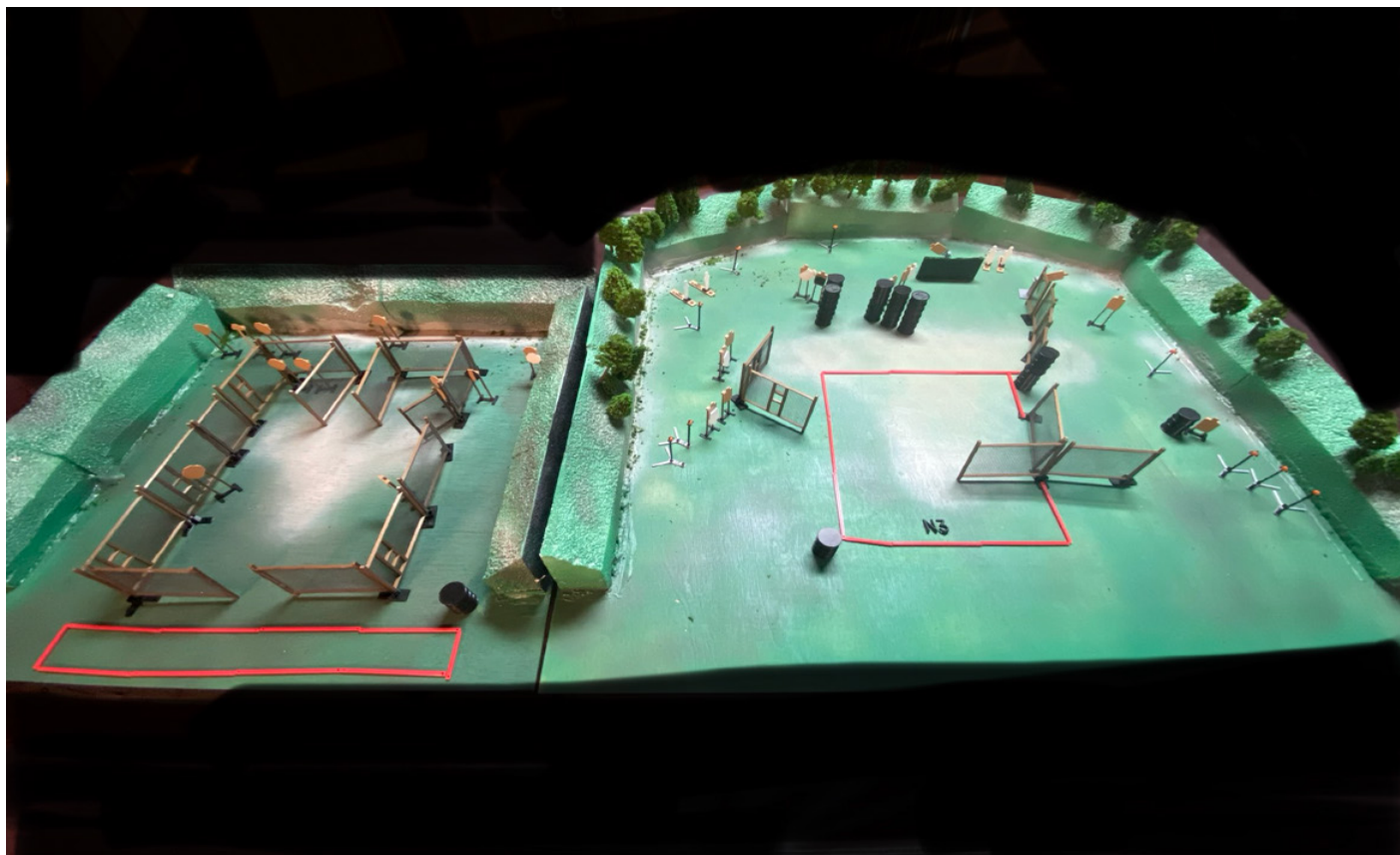
May not carry firearm from bay to bay.

TARGETS: 12 IPSC, 12 USPSA, 4 Steel, 9 Clay

Steel: Pistol or Birdshot / USPSA: Pistol / IPSC: Rifle / Clay: Birdshot

START-STOP: Audible - Last shot

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[STAGE 3]

SNAKE BAY ATTACK

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STARTING POSITION:

Standing in shooting area of south bay
or heels on either marks of north bay.

GUN READY CONDITION:

All guns loaded. Holstered, in bucket, port
arms or in barrel(s).

STAGE PROCEDURE:

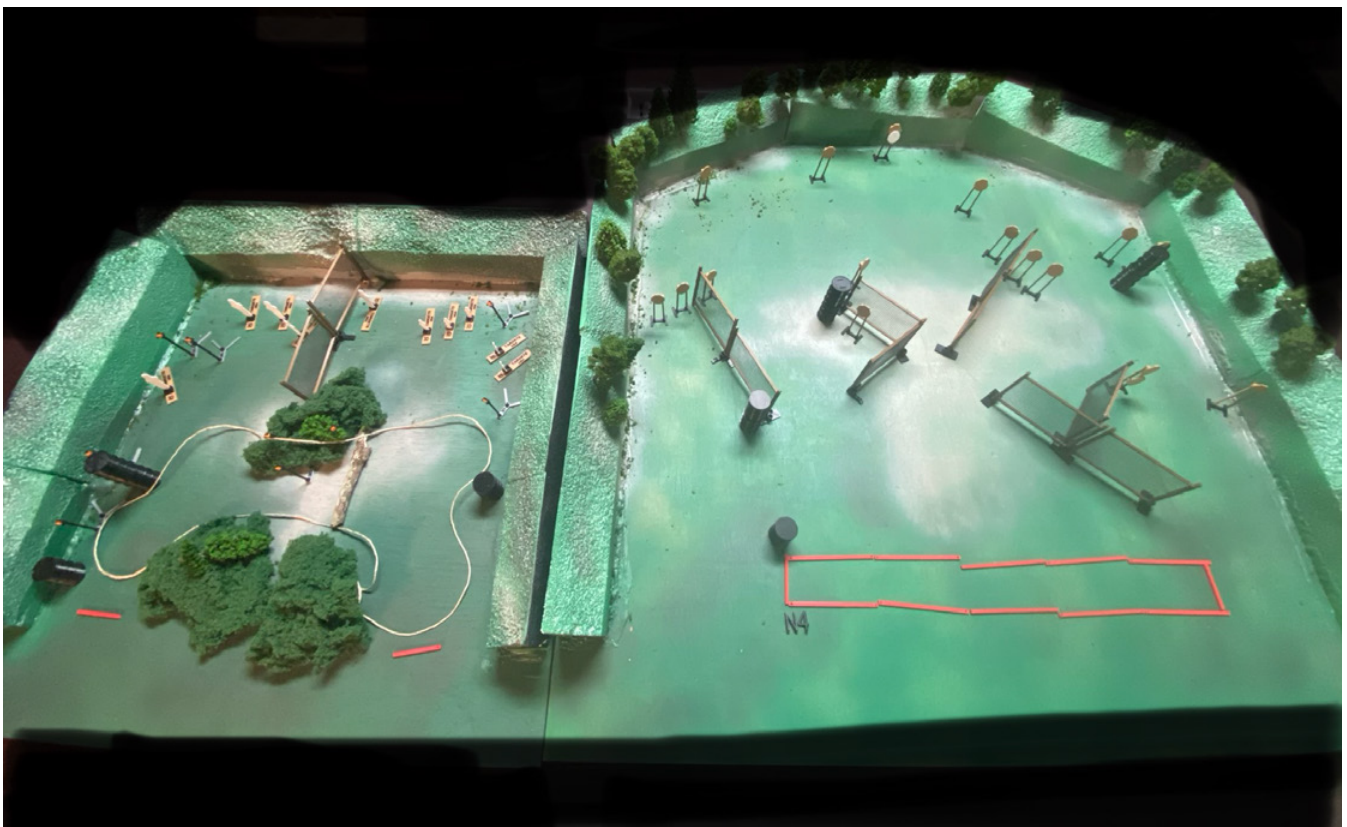
Engage targets as they become available. May not carry firearm from bay
to bay.

TARGETS: 17 IPSC, 10 Steel, 9 clay

Steel: Pistol or Birdshot / IPSC: Rifle / Clay: Birdshot

START-STOP: Audible - Last shot

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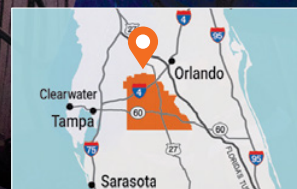
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[STAGE 4]

DOUBLE WIT DA HOLE

STARTING POSITION:

Standing in shooting area.

GUN READY CONDITION:

All guns loaded. Holstered, in bucket, port arms or in barrel(s).

STAGE PROCEDURE:

Engage targets as they become available. May not carry firearm from bay to bay.

TARGETS: 14 USPSA, 11 IPSC, 12 Steel

Steel: North Bay birdshot, South Bay pistol

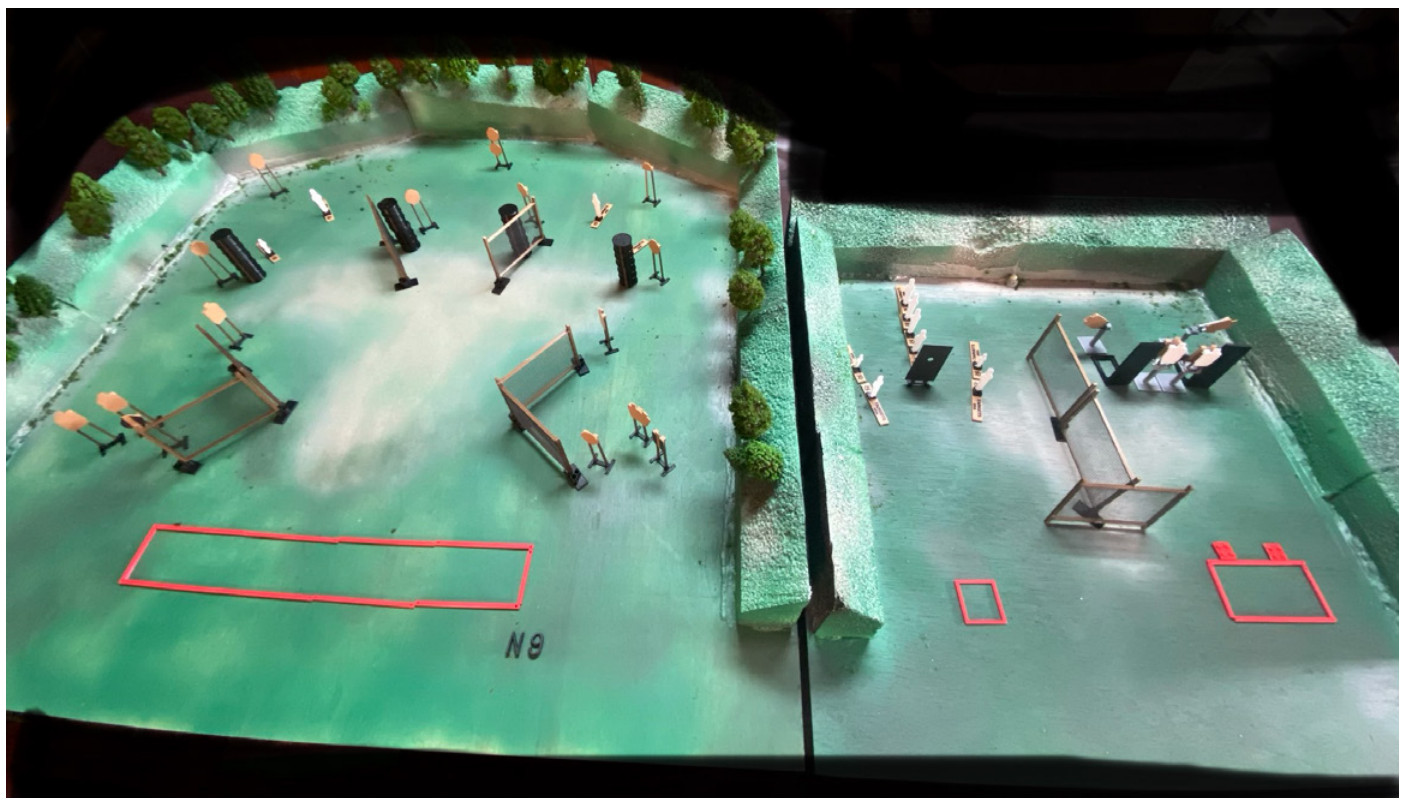
USPSA: North Bay slug, South Bay Pistol

IPSC: Rifle

START-STOP: Audible - Last shot

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[STAGE 5]

CROSSING GUARD

STARTING POSITION:

Standing in shooting area.

GUN READY CONDITION:

All guns loaded. Holstered, in bucket, port arms or in barrel(s).

STAGE PROCEDURE:

Engage targets as they become available.

Poppers activate Bobbers. May not carry firearm from bay to bay.

TARGETS: 16 USPSA, 14 Steel, 10 Clay

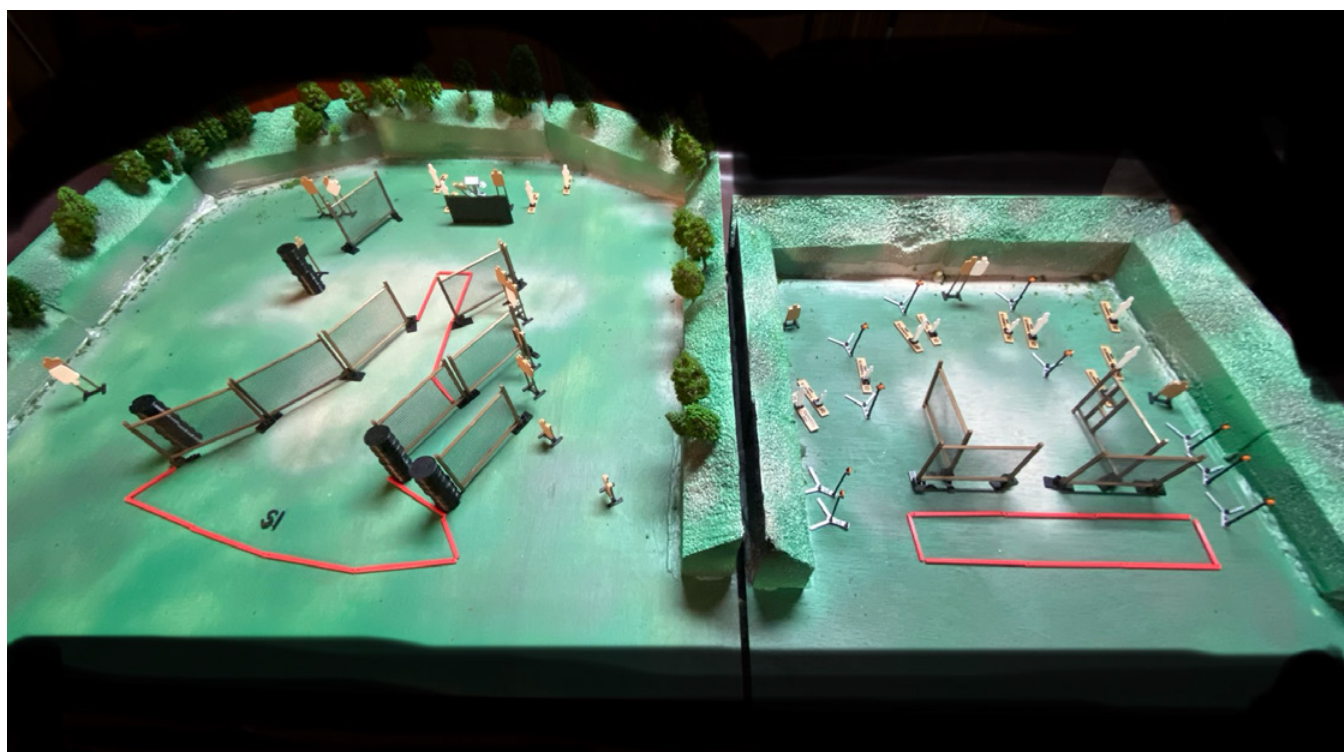
Steel: West Bay Birdshot, East Bay Pistol

USPSA: West Bay Slug, East Bay Pistol

START-STOP: Audible - Last shot

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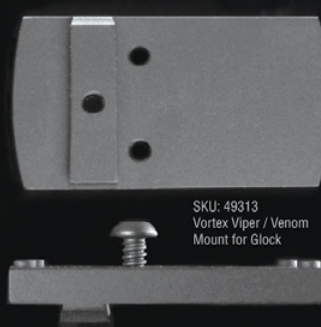
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[STAGE 6]

STICK IT IN THE HOLE

STARTING POSITION:

Standing in shooting area.

GUN READY CONDITION:

Loaded rifle buttstock touching belt.

STAGE PROCEDURE:

Engage targets as they become available.

TARGETS: 19 IPSC

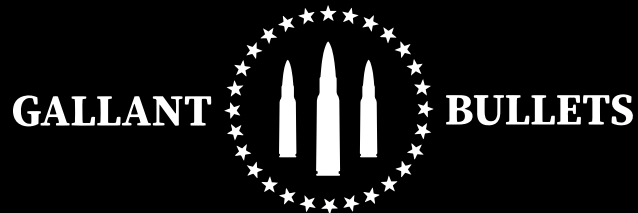
START-STOP: Audible - Last shot

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[STAGE 7]

NOT ON THE GROUND BEACHES

STARTING POSITION:

Standing in shooting area.

GUN READY CONDITION:

All guns loaded. Holstered, in bucket, port arms or in barrel(s).

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STAGE PROCEDURE:

Engage targets as they become available. Popper activates swinger.

TARGETS: 6 IPSC, 8 USPSA, 4 Steel, 7 Clay

Steel: Pistol or Birdshot / USPSA: Pistol / IPSC: Rifle / Clay: Birdshot

START-STOP: Audible - Last shot

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[STAGE 8]

HOPE YOU FARE WELL....NOT!

STARTING POSITION:

Standing in shooting area.

GUN READY CONDITION:

Loaded shotgun in weak hand, clay in strong hand.

STAGE PROCEDURE:

On signal, throw clay, this is your first target.
Then engage remaining targets from shooting area. Pushing button on table activates thrower. Popper 1 and 8 activate flippers.

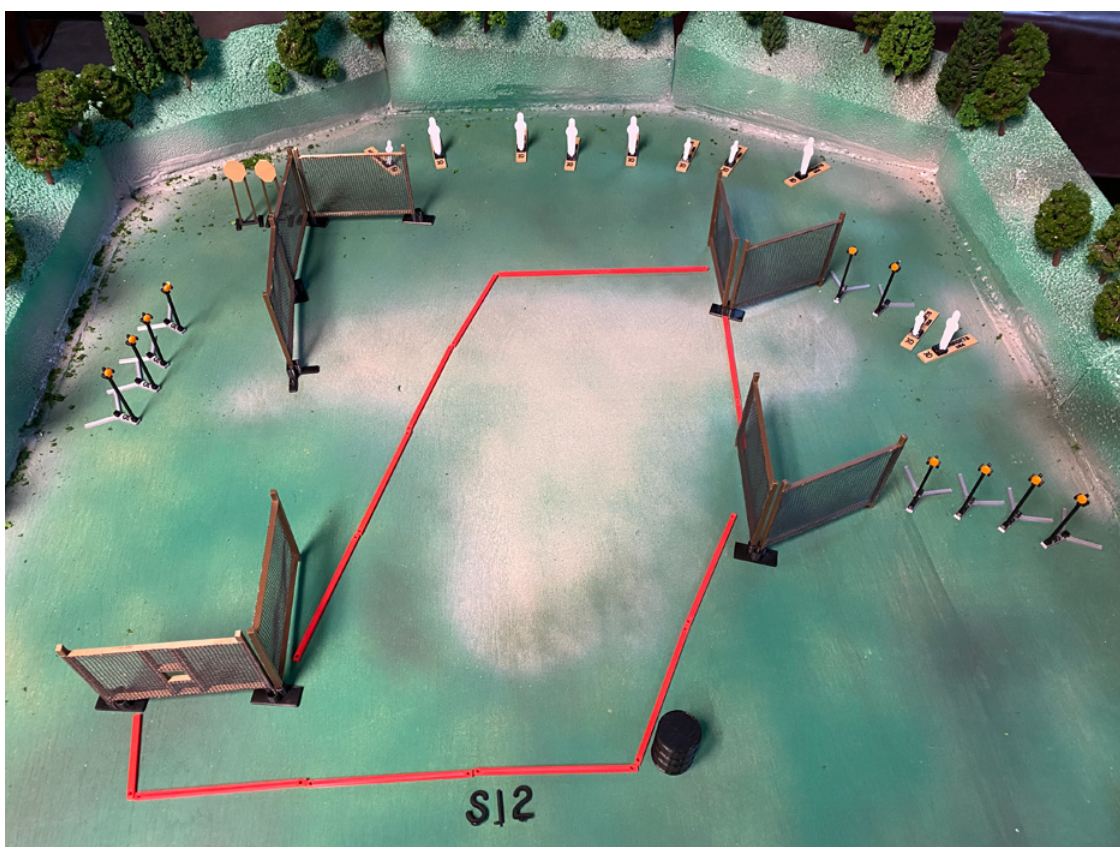
TARGETS: 10 Steel, 14 Clay, 2 IPSC

Steel: Birdshot / IPSC: Slug / Clay: Birdshot

START-STOP: Audible - Last shot

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[STAGE 9]

HAZARD AREA (NO GROUNDING)

STARTING POSITION:

Standing in shooting area.

GUN READY CONDITION:

All guns loaded. Holstered, in bucket, port arms or in barrel(s).

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STAGE PROCEDURE:

Engage targets as they become available. Poppers activate tip out targets.

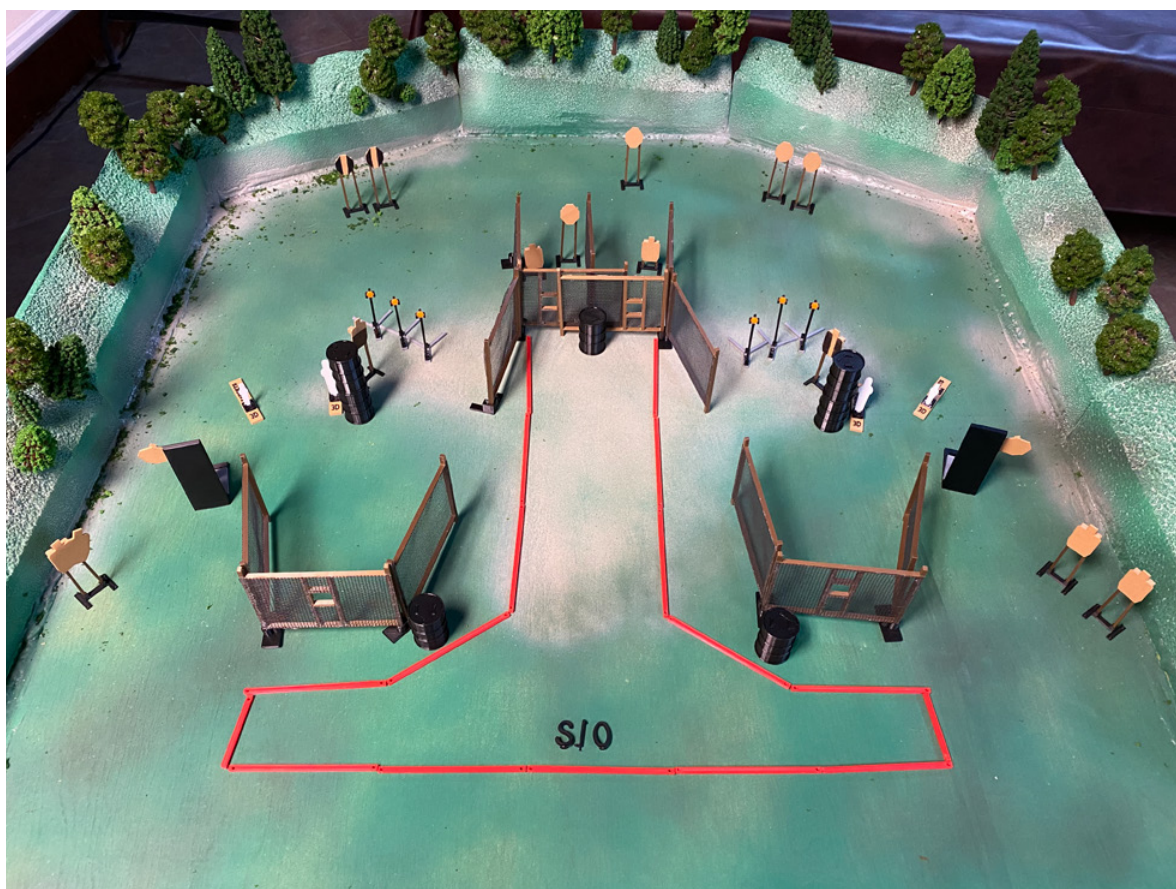
TARGETS: 8 IPSC, 8 USPSA, 4 Steel, 6 Clay

Steel: Pistol or Birdshot / USPSA: Pistol or Slug / IPSC: Rifle or Slug

Clay: Birdshot

START-STOP: Audible - Last shot

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ERGO

[STAGE 10]

GARCIAESQ

STARTING POSITION:

Standing in shooting area.

GUN READY CONDITION:

All guns empty chamber, magwell and tubes. Configuration of your choice. Slide back, bolt forward, safety on or off. Don't matter....just empty. Ammo on table or belt. Pistol left table, shotgun center, rifle right.

STAGE PROCEDURE:

Engage 4 rifle targets, mandatory reload, engage other 4 rifle targets.
Engage 3 pistol targets, mandatory reload, engage other 3 pistol targets.
Engage 8 shotgun targets. May be done in any order.

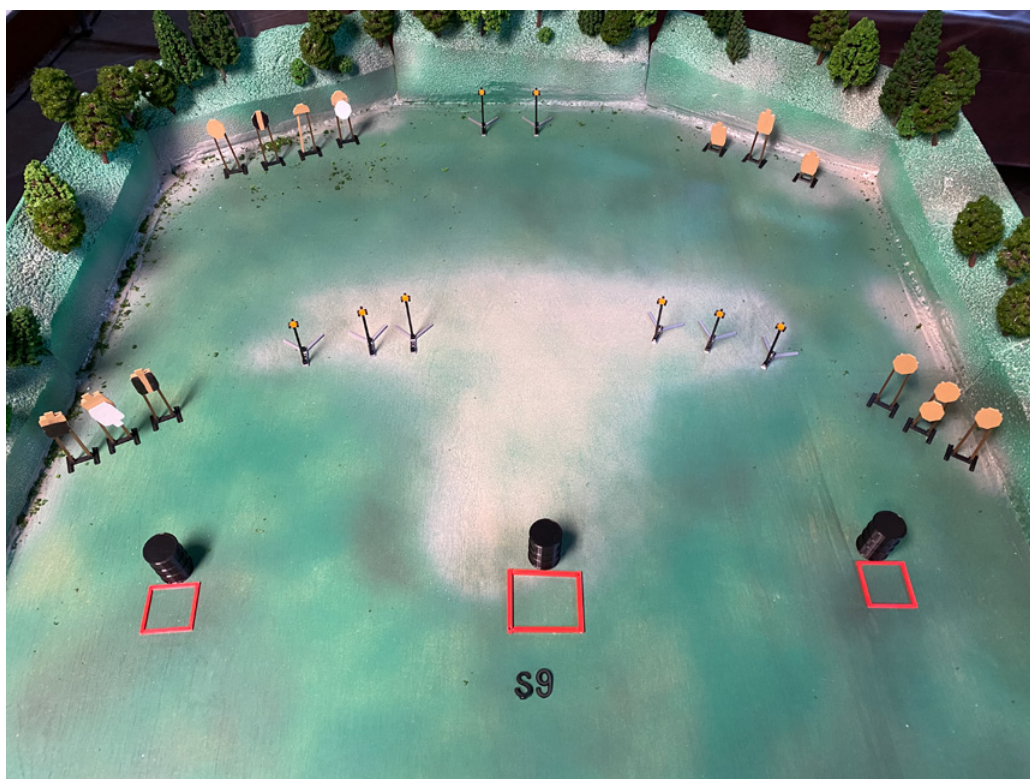
TARGETS: 8 IPSC, 6 USPSA, 8 Clay

USPSA: Pistol / IPSC: Rifle / Clay: Birdshot

START-STOP: Audible - Last shot

RULES: Practical Shooting Handbook, Latest Edition

stage sponsored by



[STAGE 11]

DECISIONS?

stage sponsored by



STARTING POSITION:

Standing in shooting area.

GUN READY CONDITION:

All guns loaded. Holstered, in bucket, port arms or in barrel(s).

STAGE PROCEDURE:

Engage targets as they become available. Steel to the east (left) will be orange. (not depicted orange here) Popper activates swinger.

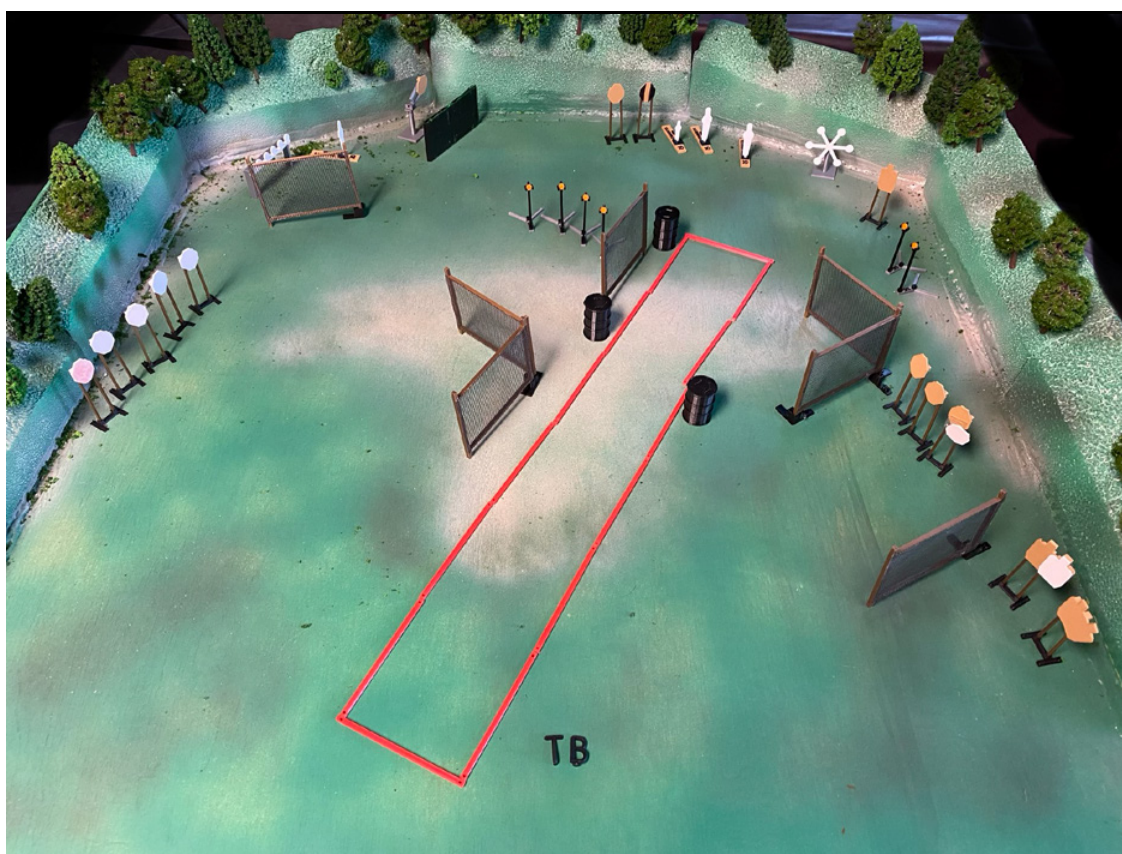
TARGETS: 6 IPSC, 4 USPSA 18 Falling Steel, 5 Static Steel, 6 Clays

Orange Steel: Rifle, Pistol or Slug / White Steel: Pistol or Birdshot

USPSA: Pistol or Slug / IPSC: Rifle or Slug / Clay: Birdshot

START-STOP: Audible - Last shot

RULES: Practical Shooting Handbook, Latest Edition



[STAGE 12]

MULTI-GUN OR BUS

STARTING POSITION:

Standing in shooting area.

GUN READY CONDITION:

All guns loaded. Pistol holstered. Shotgun and rifle in respective barrels.

STAGE PROCEDURE:

Engage targets as they become available from respective shooting areas. Rifle shooting area is inside the Bus. May not carry firearm from bay to bay.

TARGETS: 5 IPSC, 6 USPSA, 12 Steel, 14 Clays

Falling Steel: Pistol / Static Steel: Rifle / Blue Steel: Slug

USPSA: Pistol / IPSC: Rifle / Clay: Birdshot

START-STOP: Audible - Last shot

RULES: Practical Shooting Handbook, Latest Edition

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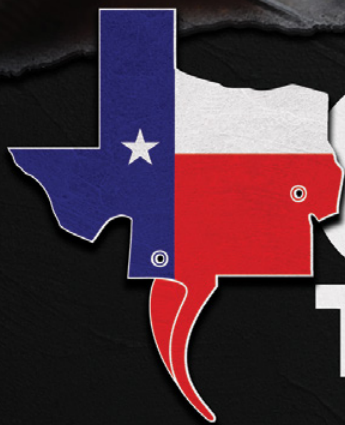


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USPSA MULTI-GUN NATIONALS SQUAD SCHEDULE

THURSDAY

Time/Stage	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
0800-0900	101	102	103	104	105	106	107	108	109	110	111	112
0900-1000	106	101	102	103	104	105	112	107	108	109	110	111
1000-1100	105	106	101	102	103	104	111	112	107	108	109	110
1100-1200	LUNCH											
1200-1300	104	105	106	101	102	103	110	111	112	107	108	109
1300-1400	103	104	105	106	101	102	109	110	111	112	107	108
1400-1500	102	103	104	105	106	101	108	109	110	111	112	107

FRIDAY

Time/Stage	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
0800-0900	107	108	109	110	111	112	101	102	103	104	105	106
0900-1000	112	107	108	109	110	111	106	101	102	103	104	105
1000-1100	111	112	107	108	109	110	105	106	101	102	103	104
1100-1200	LUNCH											
1200-1300	110	111	112	107	108	109	104	105	106	101	102	103
1300-1400	109	110	111	112	107	108	103	104	105	106	101	102
1400-1500	108	109	110	111	112	107	102	103	104	105	106	101

SATURDAY

Time/Stage	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
0800-0915	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
0915-1030	6	1	2	3	4	5	12	7	8	9	10	11
1030-1145	5	6	1	2	3	4	11	12	7	8	9	10
1145-1245	LUNCH											
1245-1400	4	5	6	1	2	3	10	11	12	7	8	9
1400-1515	3	4	5	6	1	2	9	10	11	12	7	8
1515-1630	2	3	4	5	6	1	8	9	10	11	12	7

SUNDAY

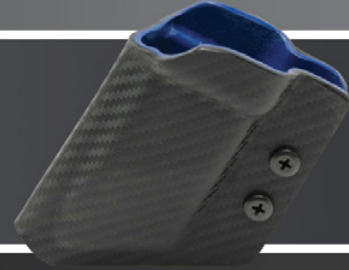
Time/Stage	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
0800-0915	7	8	9	10	11	12	1	2	3	4	5	6
0915-1030	12	7	8	9	10	11	6	1	2	3	4	5
1030-1145	11	12	7	8	9	10	5	6	1	2	3	4
1145-1245	LUNCH											
1245-1400	10	11	12	7	8	9	4	5	6	1	2	3
1400-1515	9	10	11	12	7	8	3	4	5	6	1	2
1515-1630	8	9	10	11	12	7	2	3	4	5	6	1

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LOOKING BACK

THE 2019 SIG SAUER / USPSA

MULTI-GUN NATIONALS

BY JAKE MARTENS, A52987

The 2019 SIG Sauer USPSA Multi-Gun National Championship was held at the Universal Shooting Academy in Frostproof, Florida, April 3rd through 7th, the first Multi-Gun National Championship to be held at Universal Shooting Academy and the first time that the match has been held in the Eastern United States in more than ten years.

Match Director Shannon Smith delivered 12 challenging courses of fire, testing competitors' skills with pistol, rifle, and shotgun against a variety of terrain and mental challenges. The match featured long-range targets out to over 415 yards, multiple

bays on stages with options, and three stages that were a tribute to classic three-gun.

When asked why Universal Shooting Academy, why Frostproof? the answer is easy – Shannon Smith. In the summer of 2018, USPSA had a contract out for a new host range for the Multi-Gun Nationals; however, the chosen venue was not going to be in a situation that would allow them to host the event. With less than nine months of calendar left for the traditional spring match dates, we needed a range and a match director. With a text message and follow-up phone call to Shannon stating that we wanted to meet about the 2019 calendar, he

was already on board – he just didn't know what for yet. Having a range with all the necessary walls, props, bays, and everything else that you need on the ground is one thing, but having an experienced Match Director with a dedicated crew to put on a Nationals is something different.

Universal and Shannon are no strangers to Multi-Gun, having hosted 3Gun Nation regionals and the annual Area 6 MG match as well as being a 3-gun competitor himself, he took the bait, I mean opportunity. After the 2018 IPSC Nationals we met with Shannon, discussed some things about the Multi-Gun Match, and the wheels in his head started to turn as the discussion moved to stages. Over the next seven months, Shannon worked on developing stage ideas, and reached out to his fellow competitors on what they were looking for in this match at a new location. Part of this planning also involved Universal clearing an area the size of four football fields to add additional long-range shooting for the match and to build additional props that would be used.

Shannon wanted to create a multi-gun



match that would test the competitors' use of all three guns, but push the options with regard to stage planning while also paying tribute to the traditional 3-gun format on stages. In the mix would be a stage that required all shotgun, one that would be all rifle and one that would be all pistol. The all-shotgun stage had a rather unusual start where competitors would throw their own clay bird at the buzzer. Standing off to the side with camera in hand, I was able to witness several competitors' awkward attempts at holding their shotgun while trying to figure out the best way to toss the bird in order to mount the gun and get off the shot. The best was the competitor who managed to inadvertently throw the orange disc behind him in a failed effort of just when to let go, but it got better when he held his hand out to get another, then realize it wasn't coming.

The stage named "I Hate the Gauge", sponsored by Safariland, had 20 steel targets, seven clays, and four USPSA targets. The steel could be shot with bird or buckshot, the USPSA paper targets required buckshot, and the clays required bird shot. There was a mix of steel poppers, steel swingers, low clays that required competitors to get into a kneeling position, and a stomp pad that activated clays on a swinger. There was a lot going on here, not to mention that the entire center section of the shooting area was on a raised platform with ramps on either side that required you to stop at the right locations to engage the steel poppers. Mike



Phil Strader



Lanny Barnes



Joe Easter

Whitesides in Open division took a stage win here with 32.57 seconds and no penalties, Tactical had Jeremy Lightner edge out Garret Dietrich for a stage win with a 47.61 second run, and in Limited, Florida native Joe Easter finished ahead of Bennie Cooley with a 47.91 second run.

One of the long-range stages that was presented for competitors to navigate was “May I Be Accurate”. This was a shotgun and rifle stage on the original long-range bay at Universal. Many people come and go from the range and maybe like me never knew that this bay existed. This stage would push a competitor’s ability to maneuver through the “jungle” area, shooting shotgun as they worked their way to one of two shooting positions for long range. There were small steel plates and clays that needed to be shot while you worked your way up to a forward shooting position to engage two steel 1/3-size IPSC steel targets with slugs. The start was “in the weeds” and required competitors to travel up through the sandy surface along the bank of the creek bed where they ended up taking the 50-yard slug shots. If they made it through the sand and avoided the Florida native critters, i.e. alligators, they would need to dump the shotgun and head over to the first of two long-range positions.

The first was the “tank barricade”, something that is usually seen at PRS matches. The asterisk-looking wooden prop required competitors



to set up on and engage six targets from 100 to over 415 yards. These same targets would need to be engaged 25 yards closer from the shooting area that had the swinging rope. This created some unique shooting positions, sitting or somehow bracing on the rope. It was obvious that some competitors were more comfortable than others working this rope-and-shooting position. Long range always comes down to who knows their dope and who doesn’t, and this stage added the element of unique shooting positions as well. Keith Garcia took a stage win here with a flat 77 seconds in Tactical. Josh Froelich and Gabe Dietrich battled it out in Open with Gabe coming in at 60.08 over Josh’s 63.75 for a stage win. Magneto Speed was a stage sponsor and their hit indicators were in use on this stage, giving off that beautiful bright red LED showing your hits when you got them.

Shannon left it up to competitors to decide what gun to use on many stages, and the stage “Undecided” was a perfect example. The shoot house utilized in the double bay stage had 21 IPSC targets and 16 poppers; competitors were allowed to engage the cardboard targets with either rifle, pistol or slugs. The steel could be shot with pistol or birdshot. One other caveat to this multiple bay stage was that you could not leave one bay and enter the other with a firearm, so you were going to have to dump something in one bay to get to

work in the other bay. Competitors could start in any shooting area as well. So, were you going to shoot rifle and shotgun, or pistol and shotgun? Were you going to start in the shoot house and finish running over to the other bay? Were you going to slug the cardboard targets or mix it up with pistol? There was not one sure way to do this; it came down to a competitor's strength on what gun they felt the best with and what was the best option for them.

There were at least a 100 different ways this stage was shot over the course of the match, and several competitors could be heard saying, "I should have done it differently." In Limited, Riley Kropff's stage plan and execution got him a stage win, Gabe Dietrich snagged another stage win, this time over Jerry Miculek, 51.40 to Jerry's 52.62 total time in Open. It was another tight race in Tactical with Daniel Horner's former AMU teammate Nate Staskeiwicz finishing .76 seconds ahead of Horner, 49.46 to 50.22 total time.

Multi-gun has a very dedicated fan base of competitors who travel all over the country every year shooting 3-gun matches from several different disciplines; 3Gun Nation, UML, USPSA and the other annual outlaw matches all have great support. The upside is that there are several big matches to shoot, the downside is that there are multiple rulesets to know and understand. USPSA Multi-gun is no different; there is a specific set of rules that govern the Nationals, and ensuring that you are current with them before the first start buzzer is paramount to one's match performance, sometimes just making sure you are going to be able to finish without an unplanned trip for your favorite frozen treat.

The stage where a thorough knowledge of the USPSA rules was a plus was named "Unrealistic", and in this case, there are several people who would agree that this was a fitting name. Set up in one bay, but divided into two shooting areas, competitors were going to need to use all three firearms from the shooting areas on this stage. How to do it with the least amount of running back and forth is where someone figured out how to use rule

2019 MULTI-GUN NATIONALS RESULTS

LIMITED

High Overall.....	Riley Kropff
2nd.....	Jacob Hetherington
3rd.....	Mason Lane

OPEN

High Overall.....	Scott Greene
2nd.....	Jerry Miculek
3rd.....	Josh Froelich
High Lady	Lena Miculek
High SR	Jerry Miculek
High Super SR.....	Bernard Davis
High Military	Tyler Payne

TACTICAL

High Overall.....	Daniel Horner
2nd.....	Tim Yackley
3rd.....	Nate Staskiewicz
High Lady	Ashley Rheuark
High SR	Bob Devore
High Super SR.....	Craig Nordgren
High JR	Brady Lawing
High Military	Nate Staskiewicz



Erich Leipold

10.5.3.1/10.5.3.2 to their advantage.

The stage consisted of 12 USPSA targets, four poppers, 14 IPSC targets and nine clay birds. Pistol or birdshot could be used on the steel poppers, but you were still going to have to use all three guns from each shooting area, with the dump bins located in the downrange shooting area. If you started in the uprange shooting area with your shotgun, taking out the clays, then moved forward to finish the remaining clays and/or poppers in the downrange shooting area, you could draw your pistol after dumping your shotgun and engage the USPSA cardboard, holster, grab your rifle and start shooting the IPSC cardboard – then retreat to the rear shooting area, finish up the remaining IPSC targets, set your rifle down, stay within one yard of it and draw your handgun to finish shooting the remaining eight USPSA cardboard targets. There was still a risk to this, because the rear shooting area was in a tight triangle shape and the USPSA paper targets were laid out in such a way that required you to move in order to see all of them. Moving more than the one yard away from the rifle would have a young freckle-faced cashier handing you a spoon and your frozen treat upside down.

The match was well into its third day before word got out that someone had “gamed” it and figured out “The Way”. As usual, anyone who had shot it before “The Way” was discovered wanted to know “who, what, where, why and how” this was done. Some felt like it shouldn’t have been allowed, others felt like they should have been told it was legal, and some realized that they should have been more familiar with the rules. When Shannon got word that his stage had been “played”, he said, “Damn, I wish I would have figured that out.” I asked him if he meant before the start of the match and he said “No, when I was shooting it, that (would) save a bunch of time.” Josh Froelich took an Open stage win here over his squadmate Scott Greene, and Keith Garcia slid past Joe Farewell in Tactical for the stage win. Farewell, a local Florida 3-gunner, was staff for the match and shot this before “The Way” was figured out.

As you worked your way through the other stages that had low ports, tight shots, running from multiple bays, and more stage plans with several options, you would eventually end up at a new long-range rifle bay where you would be waiting to get on the bus. Yes, the bus. “School Bus Rocks” would require rifle and shotgun, where competitors would be engaging the steel targets from three different shooting positions, two from the bus and the third through a car. After engaging the steel that varied in distances from 200 to 225 to 300 to 325 yards, competitors would finish up on the 16 steel plates and two clay birds with their shotguns.

The start position had competitors standing outside the school bus where at the signal they would take their first position behind the driver’s seat, shooting out of the open bus window. Magneto Speed hit indicators would show your hits, but before getting out of the first seat, you needed to shoot some close cardboard. Getting out of the first spot and into the second near the rear of the bus, you again shot out an open window. If you were on and the wind was in your favor, you could move quickly out the rear open door, dropping down and heading over to the abandoned car where you would need to take the long-range steel through the rear passenger windows. Since the targets





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Becky Yackley reloading, throwing and shooting a clay bird.



Shannon Smith shooting pistol and shotgun.



L to R standing Thomas Query, Erich Leipold, Jason Olson, Raleigh Hart, Fernando Almedia, Joel Bessette
L to R kneeling Tucker Schmidt, Joe Easter

were distance targets, the time limit was 200; if you didn't time out on the rifle, then you got to work with your shotgun, finishing up in the fourth shooting position. Jerry Miculek took a stage win in Open here over Scott Greene; Scott's raw time was faster at 81.39 but had a five-second penalty. Riley Kropff would win the stage in Limited with a 94.24 and Daniel Horner blasted through with a 74.90 total time for the Tactical stage win.

The competitors and hard-working staff made their way to the awards ceremony and dinner that was sponsored by "Visit Central Florida" Polk County at the Nora Mayo Hall in Winter Haven. The tunes of Wes Dearth greeted everyone as they entered the banquet hall, as did the sweet smell of grilled pork chops. Shannon took to the stage for awards presentations before the competitors headed upstairs to walk the prize tables. You could hear them talking "great stages", "tough match", "loved the options", "cool props", "loved the challenges", as they gave handshakes and pats on the back for Shannon and his crew. With a few Yuenglings and maybe a Jamesons in him, Shannon was already thinking about what changes could be made, so, never one to miss an opportunity to strike while iron was hot, well, he took the bait, I mean the opportunity again to host the 2020 Multi-Gun Nationals April first through fifth at Universal Shooting Academy. You will need to ask Shannon Smith if there is a practice match beforehand – trust me, he will find it funny. ■



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