

Magic City Action Shooters February 2020

# INTRODUCTION TO COMPETITIVE SHOOTING

### **Shooting Disciplines**

- United States Practical Shooting Association (USPSA)
  - Primarily Handgun Only Competitions
  - Movement
- Steel Challenge
  - Handgun and rifle
  - .22 rimfire and centerfire
- Multigun
  - Competitors may use handguns, rifles, shotguns and/or pistol caliber carbines

## What is USPSA Competition?

 United States Practical Shooting Association (USPSA) competitions are handgun matches that test a shooter's skill in practical shooting scenarios.

• Matches are freestyle: the competitive problem is presented and the competitor has the freedom to solve it in the manner he considers best.

## What is USPSA Competition?

- Matches combine the elements of accuracy, power, and speed.
- Competitors are grouped with other shooters in different divisions depending on their equipment.
- Competitions are safe, fun, and addictive!

# What is USPSA



# What Skills Do You Need To Compete in Matches

- Basic Gun Handling Skills
  - Understanding of how your firearm functions
  - How to clear malfunctions
  - How to change magazines
- Understanding of General Safety Rules
  - Treat each gun as if it is loaded
  - Do not cover anything with the muzzle that you are not willing to destroy
  - Keep your finger off the trigger until you are ready to shoot (take finger off the trigger when reloading or moving)
  - Be sure of your target and what lies beyond it

# What You MUST Have For USPSA Matches

- Handgun (or PCC) 9mm or Larger
- Ammo 200 rounds will be plenty
- Magazines minimum of 4
- Holster that covers the trigger
- Eye protection
- Ear protection
- Good attitude/sense of humor

#### What is Recommended to Have

- Magazine pouches– two to fivedepending ondivision
- Sturdy belt
- Quality holster

#### What You DON'T Need

- BRGC Membership
- USPSA Membership





#### How to Find Matches

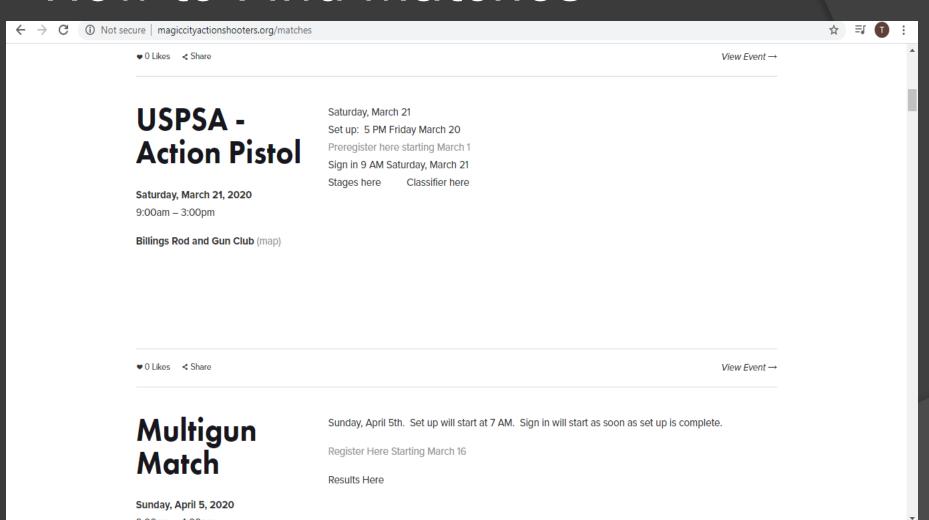
Magiccityactionshooters.org



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Magic City Action Shooters (MCAS) is a competitive shooting club, based at the Billings Rod and Gun Club, in Billings, MT. MCAS was officially founded on February 10, 2003 as a USPSA affiliated club. However, they starting holding matches in September, 1999.

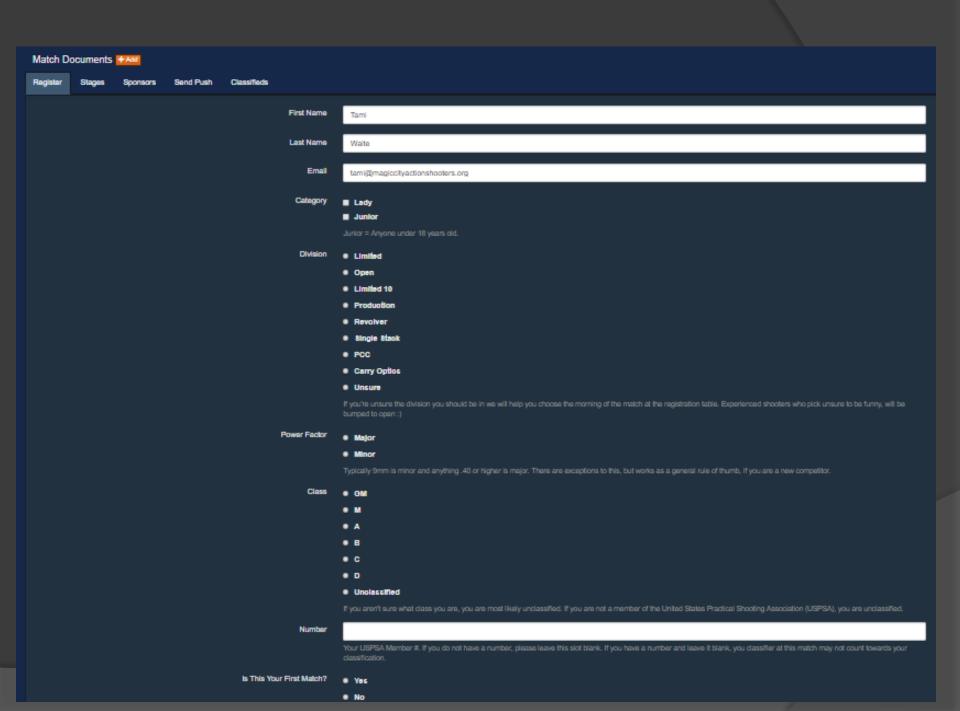
#### How to Find Matches



#### How to Find Matches

- https://practiscore.com/clubs/magic-cityaction-shooters
  - You need to have a free account to register for matches

#### Magic City Action Shooters Dashboard Home Classifieds Calendar Other Next Match Match Date Pending/Registered Shooters MCAS February 2020 Warm-Up Match February 15, 2020 0/2 Club Details edit details BOARD SERVICE http://www.magiccityactionshooters.org Email tami@magiccityactionshooters.org 45°49'00.5"N 108°35'23.6"W Phone 4062083373 View larger map Address Billings Rod and Gun Club 2931 Rod and Gun Club Rd Billings MT 59106 Unfollow Map data @2020 Imagery @2020, Maxer Technologies, USDA Farm Service Agency Terms of Use | Report a map error Upcoming Matches ① Magic City Action Shooters Events 106 total matches 1 total event 20 Active Matches @ Intro to Competitive Shooting February 1, 2020 · Billings Rod and Gun Club opens in 11 hours 2931 Rod and Gun Club Rd ⚠ MCAS February 2020 Warm-Up Match Billings, MT 59106 February 15, 2020 · Billings Rod and Gun Club 73 of 75 spots open · USPSA level I Manage + Match emails: (turn off) Manage ▼ MCAS March 2020 USPSA opens in 1 month View All Match Results March 21, 2020 · Billings Rod and Gun Club **/** 1 75 of 75 spots open · USPSA level I Match emails: ON (turn off) Date Update Name Manage ▼ MCAC June 2010 HCDCA Metab 2010 DE 20 2010 DE 20 22-88-20



Be the first to squad here!



#### Match Lingo

- RO Range Officer, they will over see the safety of the squad and shooter
- Squad the group of folks you will spend the day shooting with
- Stage the course of fire, usually there are 4-7 stages in a match
- Cold Range no ammo in your gun until the RO tells you to do so
- Safety Area the only place you can handle your gun without an RO

#### For Your First Match

- Pack all your gear the night before
- Pack snacks and a water bottle or beverages
- Arrive at the range early so you can load your magazines and look at the stages
- Check in at the registration table, find which stage you will be starting on
- Attend the new competitor briefing
- ASK LOTS OF QUESTIONS

#### Divisions

- Production
- Limited
- Limited 10
- Single Stack
- Revolver
- Carry Optics
- Open
- Pistol Caliber Carbine

#### Safety

- Safety First, Last, and Always.
- Cold Range: Firearms must be unloaded with the hammer down and either holstered or bagged unless:
  - Shooting, under the direct supervision of a range officer, or
  - Manipulating the firearm within one of the safety areas.
- Eye and ear protection is required!

### Safety (Disqualification)

- 180-Degree Plane: an imaginary line that is perpendicular to straight down range. Shooter must not point the firearm more than 90 degrees to the downrange line (i.e. point it uprange).
- Muzzle Control: shooter must not sweep himself or others with the muzzle.
- Accidental or Negligent Discharge (AD or ND).

### Range Commands

- Make ready
- Are you ready
- Standby
- "Beep"
- If you are finished, unload and show clear
- If clear, hammer down and holster
- Range is clear

# Targets

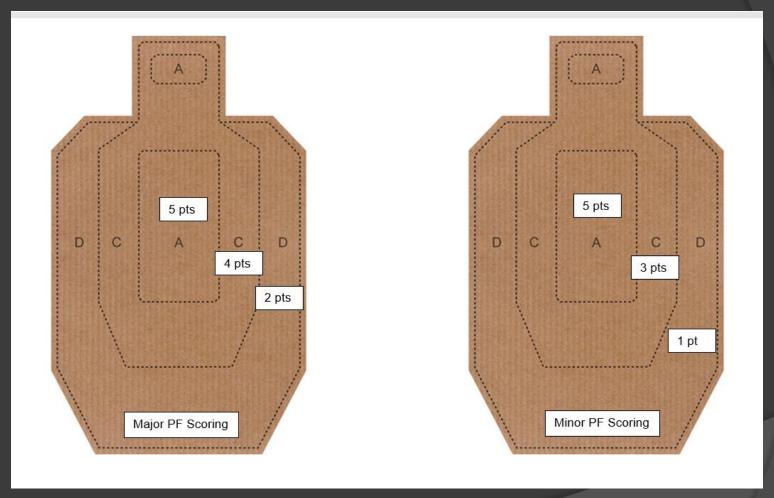
Cardboard



Steel



# Target Scoring



Steel Down scored as an A (5 pts)

# Scoring Penalties

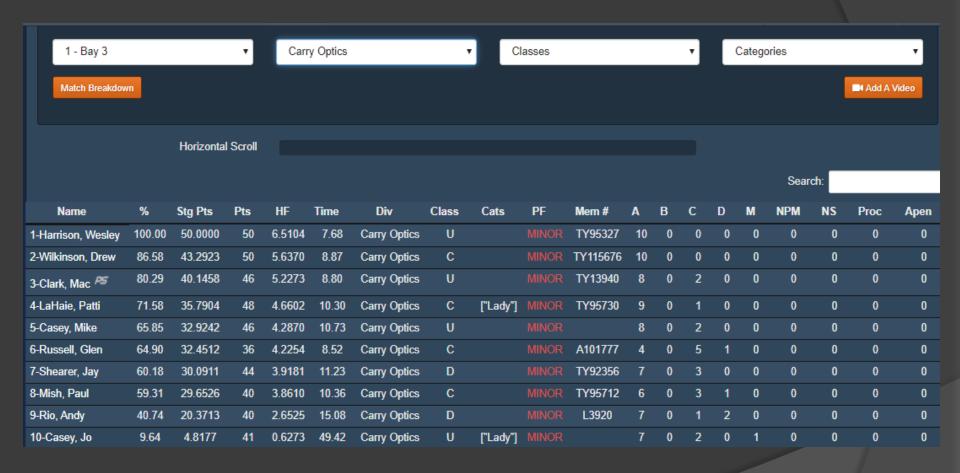
- Penalties (minus twice the maximum scoring value on a target – typically ten points each) are assessed for:
  - Missing.
  - Hitting a no-shoot target.
  - Procedural violations.



#### Hit Factor

- Overall stage score is determined by "hit factor".
- HF = points minus penalties divided by time.
- HF is points per second

#### What do the Results Look Like



#### Power Factor

- Major power factor scores higher than minor in some cases.
- PF = bullet weight (grains) X velocity (ft/s) ÷ 1,000.
- Minimum power factor for minor = 125
  and for major = 165.

### Scoring Methods

- Comstock: number of rounds fired is not limited.
- Virginia Count: number of rounds fired is limited; procedural penalties apply for extra shots <u>and</u> extra hits. Cannot have steel targets in a Virginia Count course.
- Fixed Time: all shots must be taken within a set period of time (these are rare).

# Written Stage Briefing

- Start position.
- Placement and ready condition of handgun.
- Stage procedure.
- Number and type of targets are listed.
- Points available and total number of shots are listed.

# Stage Description



#### 2020 March Bay 3



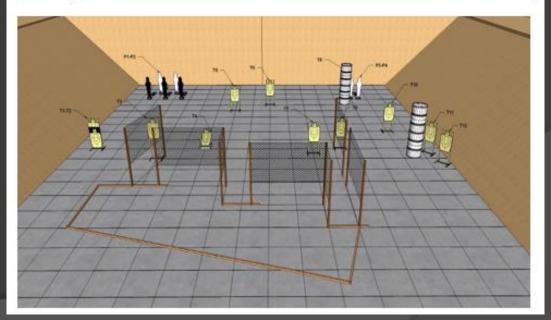
Course Designer: MCAS

2020 March Bay 3 is a 28 round Comstock long course with 12 USPSA targets and 4 poppers. Scoring is best two hits per paper target; steel must fall to score.

Handgun ready condition and start position: Loaded and holstered; standing anywhere inside the shooting area facing downrange, wrists below belt.

PCC ready condition and start position: Loaded with safety on; standing anywhere inside the shooting area with PCC held in both hands with stock touching belt and muzzle pointing downrange.

Stage procedure: upon the audible start signal, engage targets from within the shooting area.



#### Classification

- Each USPSA match will have at least one classifier stage.
  - Stage descriptions are set by USPSA
  - Set up around the country at matches
- Classifier stages determine a competitors classification
  - D, C, B, A, M, GM
- To become classified you need to be a member of USPSA
- You need to shoot 4 classifier stages to earn your initial classification
- At matches you are competing against others in your division and classification

### Steel Challenge

- Rimfire or higher (rimfire does not require a holster, but you do need a bag to carry your firearm).
- Stages consist of 5 steel targets.
- Each steel target must be hit one time.
- Targets may be engaged in any order, but "stop" plate is engaged last.
- Each stage is shot 5 times, highest time is discarded.
- Score is total time plus any penalties for missing a plate or engaging the stop plate early.

# Steel Challenge





#### Match Etiquette

- Good sportsmanship
- Taping targets after they've been scored
- Setting steel targets, painting
- Picking up brass
- Help with set up, if possible
- Stay until the match is over to help tear down
- The previous, current, and next two shooters typically are preparing for or recovering from their run – everyone else has a job to do

#### Questions?

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