

July
2023

THE HOWLER

At 5 Dogs

Latest news and updates

5 Dogs Creek
PO Box 20051
Bakersfield, CA 93390

2022-2023 Town

Council

Mayor:

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Sheriff:

Lap Dog
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m

Banker:

Leia Tombstone
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Blacksmith:

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News Editor: Domino

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Range Wrangler: Utah

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Telegraph Operator:

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Territorial Governor:

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The Mayor's Anvil: Forging Understanding

JULY 2023

I recently saw an article about Preforming as a Timer Operator written by Snakebite. Seeing his views on the process was useful to me, so I will

write about my understanding hoping it will help others.

The timer operator / posse leader sets the pace of the posse by assigning the loading and unloading table operators, counters, and brass pickers. When progress is slow, say the brass is taking a long time to pick up, the timer operator will appoint a new or second picker. The counters can get tired and not agree on the number of misses and necessitate being replaced with fresh counters. The timer operator needs to be cycled to a new person every half dozen shooters or so. When everyone helps run the posse and shares the work, maximum enjoyment of shooting is possible.

The timer unit has both a speaker / transducer and microphone. When the shooter indicates he is ready to shoot by saying the start line, saying ready or nodding his head I put the speaker / transducer within 6 inches of the shooter's ear and call out Stand By. The start signal should occur in a uniform amount of time after the standby call stage to stage, so that the shooter is able to get his or her best start. If the shooter is moving or starting too soon, I don't give the start signal and wait for them to reassume an upfaulted position possibly with verbal instruction for what to do to get a clean start. (cont. next pg.)

After the start signal, I move back half a step to stay clear of the shooter but remain close enough to put a hand on the shooter to block an unsafe action (a very rare occurrence). My eyes are on the firearm watching the draw or pick up, then I count the shots. At this time, I look at the timer to see if it is receiving the shots and is counting. If it is not counting the shots, I move it closer to the firearm until it does count even if it is in the peripheral view of the shooter. It is not necessary to record every shot, but the last shot must be counted on the timer for a fair result.

I watch the shooter re holster or put down the firearm and transition to the next. If the shooter moves to a new position, I follow staying clear. If a shooter runs to the next position, I tend to run with them unless I get tired or overheated. As the last shot is fired, I as I said above, I watch the timer record the finish time. Immediately I call out the time, so the shooter knows his time. I look at the counters and note the miss and procedural calls. I then proceed to the scorer and repeat the time and declare the misses and P's or safety violations.

The last job for the timer operator is to note when the range is reset and call the next shooter to the line.

I hope to see you on the firing line.

Fordyce Beals

Mayor

Monthly Shooting Schedule:

Office opens at 8:00
Shooter's meeting 8:30
Saturday, July 1,
9:00 a.m.
Sunday, July 2,
9:00 a.m.

Happy Birthday Day AMERICA!



2023 MATCH CLAEANDAR COME AND JOIN US:

JULY 1 & 2
AUGUST 5 & 6
SEPTEMBER 2 & 3
SEPT 30 & OCT 1
NOVEMBER 4 & 5
DECEMBER 2 & 3

THE JUNE MATCH CLEAN SHOOTERS

Saturday 6/3



Fun...but no Clean Shooters

Sunday 6/4:



Panhandle Red, Badman Bob, Chick Ma, Buddy Love, Montego

Message from the Mayor

With the retirement of Mad Trapper, we will need someone to take on the duties of Territorial Governor. Please read the necessary qualifications below, consider filling this important role for our 5 Dogs Creek club and notify me as soon as possible so your name can be added to the ballot for the upcoming elections.

The Role of a Territorial Governor:

The primary role of the TG is communication. The TG serves as a direct line of communication between the club(s) he/she represents and SASS, being responsible for the dissemination of information regarding all clarifications and implementation of rule changes. The TG sets the gold standard within the clubs he/she represents, and aids in the education, implementation, and enforcement of all SASS rules at the club level. The TG must be active, engaged, and up to date on all rules and safety covenants within the SASS Shooters Handbook. The TG also serves as a direct line for SASS to keep a pulse on the satisfaction of affiliated clubs and the membership. The TG represents his/her club(s)' best interests to SASS and has voting privileges at the TG Summit on his/her clubs' behalf.

Territorial Governor Qualifications:

To qualify for appointment or election as a TG, the following criteria must be met, and must be maintained for each term served.

- SASS member in good standing for a minimum of three years

- Belong to at least one SASS Affiliated Club
 - RO-I & RO-II Certified (and current)
- Must have attended at least one SASS Sanctioned match event
- Committed to serving the interests of his/her club consistent with the promulgation and preservation of Cowboy Action Shooting™ and the "Spirit of the Game."

Expectations of a Territorial Governor:

SASS expects the following from all TGs:

- Represent and support SASS, its philosophy, and its purpose to club members
- Gather comments, criticisms, needs, suggestions, and proposed rule changes to communicate directly to the ROC and/or the SASS Board of Directors. (cont. next page)
- To act as ambassadors of SASS and the sport of Cowboy Action Shooting™, communicating the Cowboy Action Shooting™ story locally and regionally to further the growth of SASS and the sport
 - Attend TG Summits to represent his/her club and vote on proposed rule changes and other issues tabled by the Board of Directors
 - Remain active within the sport
- Support and participate in SASS Sanctioned matches, attend and actively participate in the TG meetings held at Regional, National, International, and World Championship Events.
- Network, support, and actively communicate with Regional Chief ROs, fellow TGs, the ROC, and SASS.

Maintain and actively monitor an email address adequate for primary communication between SASS and the TG.

- Actively monitor and participate in the TG section of the SASS Wire Forum.

Term of Service:

TG's term of office is for 12 months from the time of appointment. SASS does not impose a limit to the number of terms served. SASS reserves the right to deny and/or revoke any TG appointment at any time within the certification period due to failure to adhere to the guidelines of the program, inadequacy, inactivity, poor attitude, or any conduct not conducive to the mission of the program.

THE SHERIFF'S LOG



As of this Newsletter, our beloved Sheriff, Lap Dog, is still out of the country with her sisters but she wants everyone to know a couple of things:

Friday night will be “appetizer night” with a chance to hang out and visit. Saturday night will be the potluck.

With summer saying hello to us by creeping those temperatures up, Mayor Fordyce announced at the June Match that the July and August matches “Cowboy” dress will be optional. You may dress however you want to stay cool, as long as it is safe.

Traditionally, **August** is our “Paniolo Shoot” which means tropical clothes such as grass skirts, shorts, Hawaiian shirts, etc. You must wear closed toe shoes.

Coming Up: July and August matches will be written by Sam Ootie as a warm-up for the Western Regional.

September match will be written by Buddy Love and will be his ‘gunfighter challenge’.

It is an opportunity to try shooting a different style than what you normally shoot if you would like to.

October, not sure about.

November is the She-Bang and the stages will be written by the ladies of 5 Dogs Creek. (Respectfully submitted, Domino Blaze)

RANGE WRANGLER NEWS

Well, first of all thank you to D B Hawk for raking up the grass that had been previously cut along the sides and the back of a few of the bays we had not yet managed to get done. And thank you to Domino Blaze who trimmed tree branches to make them easier to walk under at our June match, except perhaps for a couple of the really tall cowboys.

We are making slow progress on possibly getting some things done along the way. Dirty Hands and Brandin' Iron have volunteered to help get another loading table constructed. I have sent them both the plans for the loading table constructed at Bay 2. Of course, it will soon be July and August bringing with them the balmy days of summer heat. So, it may be September before real progress is evident.

Wanderin Rose and Mad Trapper pf Rat River have had some real steel posts made and Bones Brannon has created some hooks to put on them for hanging targets. They have gone to 5 Dogs Creek and installed them for long range shooting on Bay 1. Of course, those areas will have to be cleared of tall weeds and grasses so the view for long range shooting will be clear of any interference, that there will be a good sight picture.

At some point soon the area for long-range shooting above Bays 3 or 4 will have to be cleared of interfering weeds and bushes. But before these targets can be used

some repairs are required. The roof over five circle targets at about 100 yards must be replaced. I had previously talked with Dave Olds who said he had some telephone poles that could be used for the roof. Whether that is still the case I do not know but will check. Whatever the case, help will be required to replace that roof. One of the railroad ties forming the roof over hanging the gong at 150 yards is hanging down. It needs to be lifted and put back in place. This will likely require the help of at least a couple of cowboys. And to use that gong a lot of dirt will have to be dug out around the bottom. I do not know if it is possible to build a three-sided wall around the bottom to prevent accumulation of dirt or not. I had floated this idea once before, but it seemed like digging the dirt out from around the bottom of the gong was the preferable way to go.

And so as all of you know, maintenance and improvements on the 5 Dogs Creek Range in a constant, sometimes difficult ongoing activity.

Utah Blaine





Montego, 5DC Telegraph Operator

5 Dogs Creek Town Council Has A Big Announcement!

Howdy Folks,

There has been a lot of progress made since the invention of black powder, percussion caps, revolving arms, cartridges, lever action rifles, smokeless powder, pump shotguns, horseless carriages, checks, internet, and credit cards.

That's a lot of progress. Even so it's still a bit surprising that WE'VE COMBINED ALL OF THOSE - so now you may join or renew your 5 Dogs Creek Cowboy Action Shooters membership online with a payment card.

You don't have to, this is just an additional option. Everything that used to work, still works- such as cash or hand written checks on the morning of the match. We are not changing any of that. Just adding a convenient way to stay connected to your club. Even if it's been a rainy winter. We want to make it easy for you to stay current as a 5 Dogs member.

You may renew or join by clicking the "Membership" link at the top of the 5 Dogs Creek website.

Then the online form is pretty much the same as the paper form, except it can accept a credit card after you fill in the form & push the button.

<https://5dogscreek.com/5dc-membership-join-renew/>

If this thing gives you any trouble and you need some help, or to report an issue with it, please contact Montego

directly: Telegraph@5DogsCreek.com

Please say what the issue is, so I have a good chance of finding & fixing it.

If you send me your phone number I could call you back.

(It's also OK to give us a thumbs up if you like the idea & think it's about time!)

Thanks for your support.



Big "Thank You" to Lucky Lu for taking The lovely BAY 1



The very spacious BAY 2 STILL needs a Proprietor or two

Territorial Governor's News:



Mad Trapper of Rat River has retired as the Territorial Governor. We thank Mad Trapper for his input and hope he rides our way again soon. Please see Mayor Beals' message regarding the position qualifications and consider volunteering for this very important position with our club.

5 DOGS CREEK ELECTION NEWS

It's Election time again Cowboys & Cowgirls! We are accepting nominations for Town Council officers. You may nominate yourself or any 5DC club member.

Voting will take place at the Range **Saturday, July 1st**.

NEW FOR THIS YEAR: VOTE BY EMAIL.

5DC members in good standing may vote either in person or by email, but not both.

If you haven't paid your 5DC membership yet this year, you can still do that online:

<https://5dogscreek.com/5dc-membership-join-renew/>

5DC members will get an email from:

VOTE@5DogsCreek.com before **July 1st**. To cast your vote, just reply to that email with your votes OR show up on **July 1st** and vote in person. To ensure fairness your email votes will be received and counted by 2 or more members of the election committee (Sheriff & Mayor). We want to keep this process as clean and as fair as we can.

If you're not sure if your membership is current or might need to update your email address with the 5DC Banker, please contact the Banker or Montego directly and they will be happy to get it squared away.

All positions are available for nominations. We have some nominations. We don't have any nominations yet for Territorial Governor and Blacksmith, so we especially need nominations for those positions. The positions are: Mayor, Sheriff, Banker, Storekeeper, Range Wrangler, Blacksmith, News Editor, Telegraph Operator, Territorial Governor.