



TERRITORIAL BULLETIN



Volume 9 Issue 4

Keeping the Territorial Governors and Clubs Informed

June 2006

TERRITORIAL GOVERNORS SUMMIT WINTER RANGE 2006

*Thanks to Wild Colt Kate
for transcribing the minutes.*

The Territorial Governors Summit was called to order by Coyote Calhoun at Phoenix, Arizona's Ben Avery Range during Winter Range, the Single Action Shooting Society's National Championship, on Wednesday, March 8, 2006, at 3:37 p.m. Hipshot was present and joined in leading the meeting. Roll was taken by passing around a "sign up" sheet. There were 56 Territorial Governors in attendance.

The primary items of discussion were the recent modifications to SASS Rules and Regulations, all of which will be printed in the new Shooters Handbook to be published and distributed to all members in the April Cowboy Chronicle. The Handbook will include all information on ammunition, leather and equipment, shooting categories, basic rules, etc. It is intended all "rules and guidelines" will be found in one publication, and a shooter will no

longer have to consult the Handbook and RO I and RO II course materials to find the rules! A big "thanks" was given to all Territorial Governors for their work in accomplishing and clarifying these modifications ...

- a. "1/4 inch lever padding removed" – shooters may still pad the lever but cannot install a block to limit hand movement.
- b. "Cap and ball loading ram" – the ram can be modified so it fits the length of the barrel.
- c. Marlin's version of the pump shotgun has officially been banned. Marlin advertised

- d. 20-gauge 97 shotguns are banned – the major concern was that a proficient shooter should grab in excess of 6 or 8 shotshells at one time, which would give that shooter quite a competitive advantage. In addition, it was noted that only 12 models of the 20-gauge were ever made, and it was not a gun ever put into production.

The Territorial Governors looked at the
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FOUNDERS RANCH INVITATIONAL TG Meeting Minutes

April 27, 2006

Presiding: Coyote Calhoun, SASS #201
Wild Bunch Present: Hipshot, Coyote Calhoun
Governors Present: 12

Coyote Calhoun opened the meeting with a welcome and introductions and then asked if anyone needed needing clarifications on the new SASS Firearm Modifications. No questions were raised, so on with new business.

- **Should the Seniors Category be broken into smaller divisions?**
There was a lot of positive discussion about adding a Senior Category, but not splitting the category we now have by age. Most of the ideas were to add a Senior Classic Cowboy, Senior Gunfighter, or Senior Blackpowder. Most felt this was a better alternative to just adding another age category.
- **Should we re-instate the requirement of a "minimum velocity?" If so, should this requirement of a minimum velocity be by caliber?**
The general feeling was "Hell NO!"

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The Territorial Bulletin is the voice of the Territories and will accept submissions only from current Territorial Governors.

EoT 2006 TERRITORIAL GOVERNORS MEETING AGENDA

By Coyote Calhoun

The Territorial Governors Meeting at END of TRAIL will be held in the Belle Union Saloon on Wednesday, June 21st at 3:00 PM. Below is a list of preliminary agenda items we will be discussing.

1. Should the Seniors Category be divided into smaller divisions? There has been some discussion of dividing this category by age, i.e., 60-64 and 65-69 and there has been some discussion of dividing it by adding a Senior Classic Cowboy, Senior Gunfighter, or Senior Blackpowder.
2. Should we re-instate the requirement of a "minimum velocity?" If so, should a minimum velocity requirement be by caliber? It was noted many shooters are now using greatly reduced loads, but the shooter must be careful his round can actually defeat a target, knocking it down, if necessary.
3. Should all of the Traditional Shooting categories be allowed to use the Gunfighter Style when appropriate. At present the "B Western" category is the only category in which shooters may use all shooting styles: Traditional, Gunfighter, and Duelist.
4. Is it time to limit the number of shotshells a shooter can pull at one time regardless of what model

shotgun they are using? Double barrel shotgun shooters are limited to pulling two shells, which instantly penalizes them.

5. Is it time to eliminate the Modern category? While at one time there was a need to protect the non-adjustable site revolvers, it is no longer the case. If we did this, we would need to allow adjustable sites on revolvers in most categories.
6. Is it time we addressed a standard in stage writing and a standard in "Understood Stage Behavior?" END of TRAIL has for the last two years used what is called "Stage Conventions." It is a list of rules every shooter is expected know and follow on every stage. I think it is time we adopted these Stage Conventions and placed them in the SASS Shooters Handbook. They are as follows:

STAGE CONVENTIONS

>... or A few things you should know about every stage.

1. All knockdown shotgun targets may be reengaged until down.
2. All knockdown targets (shotgun, rifle, or revolver) must go down to count.
3. All staged guns shall have their barrels pointed safely downrange.
4. Staged shotguns shall be open and empty.
5. Shooters may not start a stage with ammunition in hand.
6. Long guns shall be discarded open and empty with their barrels pointed safely down range.
7. Unless otherwise stated, revolvers are returned to leather after the shooting string.

8. Revolvers are drawn and used in accordance with the shooter's category.
9. Safe gun handling is the shooter's responsibility. The 170-degree safety rule is in effect. When there is a live round under the hammer, the basketball traveling rule is in effect.
10. Where possible, all long guns shall be staged where no part of the firearm hangs over the edge.
11. Unless otherwise stated in the stage description, shooters shall start with revolver holstered and hands not touching any firearm.
12. If no starting position is given, the shooter shall stand fully erect with hands at their side not touching revolvers.
13. Interpersonal Conflicts **WILL NOT** be tolerated at this event.

Any additions to the agenda will be welcome during the open floor discussion. Hope to see you at END of TRAIL!



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TERRITORIAL GOVERNORS SUMMIT WINTER RANGE 2006 . . .

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possibility of dividing the Seniors category into smaller divisions. There were 93 Seniors and 40 Elder Statesmen at Winter Range 2006, and it was noted the Senior category was getting bigger every year! The Territorial Governors observed "age creeps up on us in a hurry" and there is a difference between the "athletic ability" of a 60 year old versus a 70 year old. There was discussion of further splitting other categories into "senior" divisions as well: e.g., Classic Cowboy and Senior Classic Cowboy. At this time, it is not felt the numbers justify splitting all shooting categories into a "senior" division. Clubs would not be obligated to offer a divided Senior category, but it would be used at the State, Regional, National and World levels. A "straw poll" was taken, and the vast majority of Territorial Governors present favored a split at the 65-69 year old level for Seniors. A "straw poll" was taken regarding splitting Elder Statesmen, and while the number of votes was much less, there was little opposition.

Discussion was had as to whether or not SASS should re-instate the requirement of a "minimum velocity" by caliber. It was noted many shooters are now using greatly reduced loads, but the shooter must be careful his round can actually engage a target and knock it down if necessary. The Territorial Governors voted a resounding, "Hell No," for a minimum velocity requirement and felt it would be impossible to administer without a great deal of time and effort.

At present the "B Western" category is the only category in which shooters may use

all shooting styles: Traditional, Gunfighter, and Duelist. There are 16 male and 3 female B-Western Shooters at Winter Range. The question was whether or not the other Traditional Shooting categories should be allowed to use the Gunfighter Style. A "straw poll" was taken and the vast majority of the Territorial Governors felt very strongly that Gunfighter should not be permitted in all Traditional Shooting Categories. Since B-Western is a new category, it was felt that some time should be given for it to "evolve" before changes to other categories were looked at.

The Territorial Governors were asked if they felt it was time to limit the number of shotshells a shooter could pull at one time regardless of what model shotgun they were using. Double barrel shotgun shooters are limited to pulling two shells, which already gives the double barrel shooter a disadvantage. It was noted a "shoot 2 – move – shoot 2" scenario removes such disadvantages, and stage design can cure some of the problems. A "straw poll" was taken and the Territorial Governors present did not favor limiting the number of shells a shooter could pull by any number.

The Territorial Governors were asked if SASS should "rethink" the 2/3 vote rule for Territorial Governor's Meetings. It was noted almost 300 Territorial Governors representing over 500 Clubs attended the SASS Convention in December, 2005. It was felt the voting requirement should remain at 2/3 and the Clubs had no reason for not having their votes counted, as many could use the proxy method when their own TG could not attend a Convention or Summit. The 2/3s majority makes a clear statement on an issues value.

Although it had previously been decided the XS sight would be ruled "illegal," it has been removed from that classification and is now a

permitted sight. Reference to an old book had disclosed the sight in fact existed "in the good old days," and there was no present reason to outlaw it.

Are we nearing time to eliminate the Modern Category? It was noted there are 71 Traditional shooters and 36 male and 16 lady Modern shooters at this Winter Range. While some of the Territorial Governors noted "modern sighted guns" weren't around in the "good old days," Coyote Calhoun pointed out this is a "fantasy sport," and modern firearms have been around since the beginning of Cowboy Action Shooting™. The chances of eliminating modern guns isn't very good! A "straw poll" was taken as to whether or not SASS should eliminate the Modern Category and allow both Traditional and Modern (fixed versus adjustable sights) to be used in all shooting categories (except Classic Cowboy and the Blackpowder Categories). While few Territorial Governors actually voted on the question, there was little opposition.

The Territorial Governors felt it was a good idea to meet occasionally/regularly. It was a way for the Clubs to be heard by SASS Administration. Coyote Calhoun pointed out a Territorial Governor had a two-prong purpose: take SASS information back to the Clubs, and represent the Club's concerns at SASS TG meetings. Clubs need to know their ideas and concerns can be taken to TG meetings and Summits and will be addressed. It was noted the TG Wire had evolved into a developed, open debate forum that has been very positive. Territorial Governors were reminded in their Club representative status, they needed to vote as the Club had directed, and since Territorial Governors are either elected or appointed by the Club, a TG could be removed and replaced if the Club felt it was necessary.

FOUNDERS RANCH INVITATIONAL TG Meeting Minutes . . .

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- **Should all of the Traditional Shooting categories be allowed to use the Gunfighter Style when appropriate? At present the "B-Western" category is the only category in which shooters may use all shooting styles: Traditional, Gunfighter, and Duelist.**

There was not a lot of discussion, but most in attendance did not think this was a good idea.

- **Is it time to limit the number of shot shells a shooter can pull at one time regardless of what model shotgun they were using? Double barrel shotgun shooters are limited to pulling two shells, which already gives the double barrel shooter a disadvantage.**

This idea raised a few eyebrows. The general discussion was we did not need to regulate this. The regulation could come from stage design.

- **Is it time to eliminate the Modern category? While at one time there was a need to protect the non-adjustable site revolvers, it is no longer the case. If we did this we would need to allow adjustable sites on revolvers in most categories.** Again not a lot of discussion, but most in attendance did feel it may be time to eliminate the Modern Category.
- **Coyote opened the Founders Ranch Invitational Program to the section where the Stage Conventions were printed and proposed we adopt these conventions**

as a standard in stage behavior. There were a couple of items that were not in the book at the time of printing and Coyote added them at the meeting. There was good discussion on this, and all were in favor of adding these conventions to the SASS Handbook. A list of these conventions can be found in this TG Bulletin in the 2006 END of TRAIL Agenda article.

TA Chance asked for a clarification of remaining in costume for Classic Cowboys. I responded Classic Cowboys did not have to remain in Classic Cowboy attire during formal dinners and non-shooting events, but did have to dress in Cowboy attire during all dinner and social functions of the match.

Meeting Adjourned
Respectfully Submitted
Coyote Calhoun

THE WILD BUNCH

Judge Roy Bean, SASS #1
(SASS Ambassador)

U.S. Grant, SASS #2
(SASS President)

Tex, SASS #4
(Editor in Chief)

Hipshot, SASS #7
(Range Operations & Safety)

Coyote Calhoun, SASS #201
(National Programs Director)

Chiz, SASS #392
(SASS Marketing Director)

SASS MOUNTED SHOOTING ROUND TABLE MEETING END OF TRAIL 2006

The SASS Mounted Shooting Round Table Meeting at End of Trail will be held in the Edgewood Theatre on Thursday, June 22nd from 3:30 PM to 4:30 PM. SASS invites all SASS Mounted Club Presidents, Mounted Club Representatives, Mounted Territorial Governors, and Mounted Regulators. Others are invited to listen in on the discussion. The moderators will be **Johnnie Concho, SASS #2926, Wildcat Kate, SASS #7873,** and **Chiz, SASS # 392.**

AGENDA

1. SASS Mounted Shooting Program
2. Affiliated Clubs and membership requirements
3. Insurance
4. Promotions, Marketing, Advertising, Public Relations
5. Mounted Shooters Registry
6. Territorial Governors
7. National Advisory Board
8. CMSA, MSA, other Mounted Shooting Organizations
9. SASS Mounted Points
10. Awards Uniformity

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