



SASS Wild Bunch Action Shooting Orientation Program

Training Facilitator Outline

This training outline is designed to assist SASS CAS/WBAS clubs that recognize the value of providing a fundamental orientation for their members which covers the rules, equipment and safety aspects of the Wild Bunch Action Shooting discipline.

The information provided in this outline is designed to be the minimum foundational training that should be made available to potential WBAS participants BEFORE they fire their first shot at a WBAS match. Upon completion of this orientation members will be prepared to attend their first WBAS match with confidence, and experience the challenge and enjoyment that others have found associated with this new shooting discipline.

Beyond the WBAS Orientation, SASS/WBAS also provides the Range Officer Certification Program, and Match Director Training in the effort to further personal knowledge of the discipline.

The training includes lecture and demonstration on important fundamental topics. Practical live fire sequences will be performed by the training participants.

SASS and the WBAS committee recommends that training facilitators for this program be WBAS Certified Range Officers.



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Course Equipment List

The training facilitator(s) should have on hand the items of equipment listed below for instructional purposes:

A copy of the current SASS WBAS Handbook

A copy of WBAS is not CAS with a 1911

A 1911 pistol configured for the Traditional Category

A 1911 pistol configured for the Modern Category

A 1911 model “Blue” gun is useful for demonstration purposes

A WBAS legal rifle

A WBAS legal shotgun

At least legal three 1911 magazines (can include a “blue” magazine)

At least five .45 ACP snap caps or inert rounds

At least two .45 ACP empty cases

Several examples of WBAS legal leather gear (holsters, belts etc)

At least one chronograph (two is optimal)

An accurate scale capable of displaying weight in ounces

A set of 4 equal sized pistol targets

An appropriate number of WBAS Orientation Completion Certificates



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Equipment list for course participants

All three WBAS firearms Pistol, Rifle and Shotgun

Gunbelt, holster, magazine pouches

At least 50 rounds of 45ACP ammunition

At least 10 rounds of rifle ammunition

Safety glasses and hearing protection

Water, sun screen

Note taking material

Comfortable clothing: to include WBAS costuming or other casual clothing.

Class participants will not need any firearms or ammunition during the lecture and demonstration portion of the training. Please leave those items in your vehicle.



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Announcement to the training participants

(read this announcement to the class)

The WBAS Orientation training presented today is specifically designed to afford you a basic, safe, knowledgeable foundation for participation in Wild Bunch Action Shooting.

This course is not designed to be related to or to take the place of training in defensive shooting, tactical shooting, survival shooting or concealed weapons training.

Wild Bunch Action Shooting is a discipline that participants find interesting, challenging and enjoyable. Safety is the number one priority with Friendship, Fun and Enjoyment following close behind.



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The Philosophy of Wild Bunch Action Shooting

Wild Bunch matches are typified by the use of large caliber firearms, high power factor ammunition, and high round for each stage. Wild Bunch stages require different target placement, engagement sequences, and prop locations than normal CAS stages.

One of the best ways to grow your clubs attendance for Wild Bunch matches is to provide a training session to interested shooters. The first time a WB match participant fires a 1911 pistol should not be on the first stage of the match. Training, not only for pistol, but for the 1897 shotgun should likewise be considered.

Wild Bunch shooters should NOT be intermixed with CAS shooters during a match. Wild Bunch is not intended to be a CAS category. It is a totally separate match.

Part of the appeal of Wild Bunch is the high power factor ammunition coupled with the higher round count per stage, especially with the pistol. The shotgun round count should typically be from of 5 or 6 rounds.



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The Philosophy of Wild Bunch Action Shooting (continued)

Because Wild Bunch matches use the 1911 style pistol instead of revolvers it is vitally important that each posse have at least one or more members who are intimately familiar with the pistol operation.

Malfunctions WILL occur. Not only will this familiarity allow for the shooter to be coached safely through the course of fire, but if the shooter is unable to clear the pistol during the course of fire, someone must clear the pistol before it leaves the stage.

A greater emphasis is placed on shooting accuracy in WB matches. Therefore shotgun targets will be designated as non-comstock (no makeups).

The high power factor is an integral portion of Wild Bunch matches and testing of pistol and rifle ammunition to ensure compliance should be expected by participants.



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General WBAS Information

- **Refer to the “WB is not CAS with a 1911” document and explain how the two disciplines differ.**
- **Explain the ammunition requirements for WBAS**
- **Discuss the ammunition testing procedures**
- **Discuss and display the SASS legal WBAS firearms**
- **Discuss and display examples of WBAS legal leather equipment**
- **Discuss and demonstrate the proper loading table procedure for each firearm**
- **Discuss WBAS legal costuming**
- **Discuss the two primary WBAS categories and point out what constitutes a Traditional vs a Modern Category 1911**



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The 1911

- **Discuss the nomenclature of the 1911**

- **Discuss the design of the 1911**
 1. **Speak to the concept of “kitchen table” gun smithing of the 1911**

 2. **Discuss the design/operation of the 1911 relative to the recoil spring, main spring, sear spring, and firing pin spring relationships**

 3. **Expose the urban legend of reducing recoil by reducing the recoil spring weight**

 4. **Discuss the use of recoil shock buffers**

 5. **Discuss proper lubrication of the 1911**

 6. **Discuss how ammunition relates to reliability**

- **Discuss and display WBAS legal vs illegal magazines**

- **Discuss and display a legal WBAS holster, gun belt and magazine pouches shotgun belt and shotgun slide**



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Basic/Safe Handling and Use of the 1911

- **Discuss and demonstrate safe drawing and charging of the 1911 (emphasize that the 1911, once drawn is never returned to the holster until the stage is complete and the pistol is shown clear)**
- **Discuss and demonstrate the 3 grip methods for the 1911**
- **Discuss and demonstrate a safe/legal magazine change (finger outside trigger guard, slide locked back and show alternative method of operating the magazine release)**
- **Discuss and demonstrate the use of the slide release (explain the advantage and disadvantage)**
- **Discuss the use of the “slingshot” method of releasing the slide (explain the advantage and disadvantage)**

Basic/Safe Handling and Use of the 1911 (continued)

- **Discuss and demonstrate safe movement with the 1911 (both before and after charging)**
- **Discuss and demonstrate how to safely stage the 1911 after the shooting sequence**



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Basic/Safe Handling and Use of the 1911 (continued)

- **Discuss and demonstrate the 4 most common 1911 malfunctions**
 - 1. Failure to seat the magazine fully**
 - 2. Failure to go into battery**
 - 3. Failure to feed**
 - 4. Stove pipe**
- **Discuss and demonstrate what procedure to follow if a 1911 malfunction cannot be cleared by the shooter during the course of fire**
- **Discuss and demonstrate how a 1911 can be fitted to the shooters hand**



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Basic/Safe Handling and Use of the 1911 (continued)

- **Discuss and demonstrate how to show the 1911 clear at the end of the stage**
- **Discuss the 1911 unloading table procedure**
- **Discuss when a magazine may be loaded with ammunition**
- **Discuss when a magazine may be inserted into the 1911**
- **Discuss and demonstrate the “tactical” reload**
- **Discuss and demonstrate the rule exception for reloading the 1911 after a malfunction**



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Basic/Safe Handling and Use of the 1897

- **Discuss and demonstrate the loading table procedure for the 1897 shotgun**

- **Discuss the mechanics by which 6 rounds may be successfully loaded in the 1897**
 - 1. Modifying the magazine spring**

 - 2. Modifying the magazine follower**

 - 3. Using commercially loaded shorter shotgun shells**

 - 4. European shotgun shells**

- **Discuss and demonstrate 1897 malfunctions**
 - 1. Failure to feed rounds from the magazine**

 - 2. Double feed**

 - 3. Extraction failure**



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Basic/Safe Handling and Use of the 1897 (continued)

4. Ejection failure

5. Failure to go into battery

- **Discuss and demonstrate what procedure to follow if a 1897 malfunction cannot be cleared by the shooter during the course of fire**
- **Discuss and demonstrate safe movement with the loaded 1897 when the stage requires targets to be engaged for more than one position**
- **Discuss and demonstrate how to deal with an empty shotgun case left on the carrier of the 1897**
- **Discuss and demonstrate how to deal with a live round left on the carrier of an 1897 shotgun**
- **Discuss and demonstrate the unloading table procedures for the 1897 shotgun. Reinforce visually checking the chamber, AND the magazine tube**



**This completes the
lecture and
demonstration portion of
the
WBAS Orientation
Training**

At this time participants should be asked to retrieve their firearms, leather gear and ammunition and report to the range bay(s) for further training.



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WBAS Orientation Practical Training

- **Divide the class into two groups of equal number**
- **Half the class will report to the chronograph station, taking their pistol and a 5 round magazine, and their rifle with 5 rounds to chronograph their ammunition**
- **Record the velocity and Power factor using the Chronograph Results form for each shooter.**
- **When the shooter has chronographed both their pistol and rifle ammunition they will report to the loading table for the live fire training**
- **The other half of the class will line up at the loading table, load a 5 round magazine in their pistol (no shotgun or rifle) and holster it, and have at least 3 additional magazines loaded with 5 rounds on their person**
- **When called to the firing line by the training facilitator the shooter will be given the stage instructions. A timer shall be used to start the shooter, but no time or hits and misses will be recorded**



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WBAS Orientation Practical Training (continued)

- **During the 20 round course of fire the training facilitator will observe the shooter and if necessary for training purposes or to offer instruction may stop the shooter after each 5 round magazine is expended**
- **While the participant is completing the course of fire the training facilitator will be evaluating the shooters draw, pistol charging, technique, grip, stance, magazine changes, and operation of the 1911's controls**
- **The training facilitator will also coach the shooter in reference to the safe operation and movement with the 1911**
- **Once the shooter has completed the live fire training they will report to the chronograph station for pistol and rifle ammunition testing**

At the completion of the training all shooters will have chronographed their rifle and pistol ammunition and completed the pistol live fire exercise at least twice.



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Near the end of the training session call the shooters together and provide them one last opportunity to ask questions that may have developed during the training.

NOTE: If the predominant number of shooters attending this training are transitioning from a double barrel or lever action shotgun to an 1897 you should consider providing live fire training for the shotgun. Please use the same format for the shotgun training as was used for the pistol

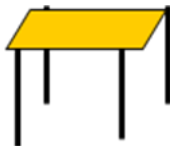


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WBAS Orientation Practical Training

Live Fire Exercise

20-Pistol



Shooter starts standing at either table; pistol loaded with 5 rounds and holstered, hands at sides.

At the signal engage the two targets in front of your position in a 3-2 sequence, for 10 rounds.

With pistol, move to the opposite table and engage the two targets in front of your position in a 3-2 sequence, for 10 rounds.

**No time, hits or misses will be recorded or counted.
Targets should be at least 7 yards from the firing line.**



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- WBAS ORIENTAION
- WBAS RO CERTIFICATION
- WBAS MD CERTIFICATION

TRAINING ROSTER

LOCATION: _____

DATE: _____

CLUB SPONSOR: _____

NAME	ALIAS	EMAIL	MAILING ADDRESS



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CHRONOGRAPH RESULTS

ALIAS & SASS#	PBW	AVG V	PPF	RBW	AVG V	RPF	Pistol Weight



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Wild Bunch is Not Cowboy Action Shooting with a 1911

Major rule differences between Wild Bunch and Cowboy Action Shooting in the treatment of long guns

In Wild Bunch you may load the Shotgun at the Loading table.

There is no penalty for overloading the shotgun at the loading table.

In Wild Bunch there is no penalty for overloading the rifle at the loading table.

In Wild Bunch there is no penalty for an empty case/hull in an OPEN long gun.

Major rule differences between Wild Bunch and Cowboy Action Shooting in the treatment of hand guns

In Wild Bunch the already cleared pistol is NOT removed from the holster at the unloading table.

In Wild Bunch you may NOT re-holster the pistol at the completion of a shooting string. (SDQ) It must be placed on a provided prop. If the course of fire ends with the pistol it must be shown clear and made safe then re-holstered.

In Wild Bunch the shooter must keep their trigger finger outside the trigger guard when moving or reloading the pistol. (MSV)

Major rule differences between Wild Bunch and Cowboy Action Shooting in Range Operations

In Wild Bunch you may NOT "hand off" any malfunctioning firearm. (MSV) It must be staged on a provided prop with the muzzle in a safe direction.

In Wild Bunch the shooter is the only person who may physically clear a malfunctioning firearm during the course of fire. Once it leaves the shooter's hands it may not be used again during the course of fire.

In Wild Bunch once the shooter stages their firearms on the firing line, no other person shall touch them. The shooter shall be the only person to move their firearms from the firing line to the unloading table.