



GIVE 'ER A SHOT

The Phoenix Police Athletic Club Shooting Team Newsletter

**NOVEMBER,
2005**

Uniform Purchase

We are going to place another order for team uniforms and give everyone who wants one, the opportunity to get in. If you would like some more uniforms, you may jump in and order more.

We will be ordering the 5.11 Professional polos in blue with the team logo and you can have your name embroidered on them, for an additional \$2.50. We are also ordering the 5.11 pants in khaki, and I will need the size you would like.

The prices for this order are higher than the last time because we could not get as good of a deal, but they will still be very reasonably priced, compared to other places to purchase them.

On our last order we did not receive some of the T-shirts we ordered (but didn't pay for them either), so I will be ordering those T-shirts (gray and blue) as well and they will have the team logo silk-screened on them.

We still have team hats and gray and blue t-shirts in some sizes that you can drop (armory) by and purchase, see Bret or Rich Hartson.

The Phoenix Police Athletic Club is fronting the money so all money will go to the Athletic Club, and if we get ahead, the money can go towards targets and props for the team.

I do need all orders returned to me by 12/12/05 so we can get the orders going.

Thanks

Bret Draughn

Recruit some of your buddies

We started the Shooting Team to get more officers into shooting matches to improve their shooting skills through competition. Just because we have a few folks showing up at the matches does not mean we are content with the number of folks that are participating, and I will always be looking for more.

So I am asking everyone to help recruit co-workers and friends on the Department to join us at our team shoots.

This is about practicing our skills, skills that are likely to save our lives. Just think, if it is someone you work with, you might find it beneficial if they can improve their shooting as well. ☺

By shooting competition, you begin pushing yourself beyond your comfort zone (important to be a little familiar with for a gunfight), find out what you are truly capable of, improve your confidence, and gain skills with the firearm. Your partners coming out will benefit from this as well.

When you get these newsletters, make copies for your squad members and other friends on the Department, invite people to come with you (which will be a better incentive to come yourself). Post the newsletters at your worksite so others can see it over and over, and eventually give in and try it out.

Don't get caught up in winning; get caught up in having fun and improving your shooting.

Bring someone to *Give 'er a Shot*, everyone is invited.

Upcoming Monthly Team Shoots

- Thursday, December 15, 2005, 1700-2100 hrs. – Change of plans on what we are doing. This will be a normal combat handgun match because of how early it is getting dark, we won't have time to run the Drill Master Drills. We may have to do a couple quick stages on Bays 3 and 5 and then go to the main range. We will start right at 1700 hours (I hope) because of light issues so be ready to go then.
- Saturday, January 21, 2006, 0900-1300 hours – We will borrow the Drill Master Drills from Rob Leatham's DMSC (<http://www.robleatham.com/>) and run through several drills that they used over the last year. We are going to run these drills in a way that will allow us to run 6-8 drills/stages. This will be a lot of fun and some good practice.

SHOOTING TIP OF THE MONTH – “Was that a hit or a miss?”

When shooting on steel targets we have a tendency to listen for the steel ring to verify we got a hit. Of course it is nice to have some type of confirmation, but it is time consuming and not necessarily the best way to approach our shooting.

If you are shooting on static steel targets and begin listening for the ring to verify you got your hits, you will invariably lose a lot of time. The same goes for reactionary steel targets, like the plate rack. If you look to see that they are going over before moving on, you will lose time.

By waiting for the audible feedback, you begin to hesitate between shots and before moving on to the next target or shooting box. Then, when you realize you had a miss, you

stop and have to go back to pick up your miss.

Here is what I am talking about. Let's say your normal split (time) between 2 shots on a target is .4 seconds when you have to shoot two shots and you take them. If you are shooting a steel target that requires only one hit, and you shoot it and wait for the ring to move on, and find it was a miss, you will have to process the miss information and then take the shot. The amount of time to make up your miss may cost you an additional .25 seconds, on top of your normal .40 split, or your splits between the two shots will be .65.

It gets worse if we have moved the gun towards the next target and realize we had a

miss and have to go back to that target (before engaging the other target) to get our hit.

Another approach is to read your sights, or call your shot.

What we need to get in the habit of doing is being aware of where the sights are at the time the gun goes off. By reading the sights, we will learn to tell if our shot was a miss at the time the shot breaks and we will not have to wait for feedback, we can immediately take the makeup shot, and our split will be closer to that .40 second split time.

I wish I could do this all of the time, but I can't. However, I use this to tell me when I am not paying attention to my sights well enough, when I catch myself listening for the

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Results of November Shoot

Friday, Nov. 4, 2005

Overall scores

Tim Lantz	89.80
Robert Whiteman.....	110.73
Bret Draughn.....	120.90
Larry Darr.....	131.86
Jack Villa.....	133.12

Try Shootin' while Scootin'

Tim Lantz	29.41
Robert Whiteman.....	40.96
Larry Darr.....	47.01
Steve Pilcher.....	47.49

Sitting Bull...

Bret Draughn.....	15.82
Tim Lantz.....	20.81
Robert Whiteman.....	22.62
Larry Darr.....	27.13

Trouble from A to C

Tim Lantz.....	24.77
Robert Whiteman.....	27.86
Larry Darr.....	31.33
Jack Villa.....	32.24

Clang Clang between Tangos 1 & 2

Tim Lantz.....	14.81
Bret Draughn.....	16.38
Robert Whiteman.....	19.29
Jack Villa.....	22.33

“Was that a hit or a miss?” *Cont'd from pg. 1*

the hits, or watching for the steel to fall. If I realize this is a problem I try to make the adjustment and start watching my sights a little better.

Now, when I am watching my sights well enough and can see a miss as soon as the shot breaks, I immediately fix my alignment and let another shot go. It works so well, that I have had people ask me how I was able to make up that miss so fast. The answer is because as soon as the shot broke, I realized it and started fixing the problem as the gun was returning in recoil, so when it got back to where I wanted it, all I had to do was press the shot again. This occurs before moving onto the next target or the next box, but unfortunately it does not happen frequently enough.

The end result is that I may have lost .30 to .40 seconds on that run because of the miss I had to make up, but that is much better than .55 to 1-second (when I already started to move to another target). Another benefit is that when I am on my sights well enough to see this, I generally have a lot fewer misses and am shooting better.

The good shooters do this all of the time, so the damage of their misses is minimized and they can survive a couple missed shots during a match.

This carries over to shooting on paper targets, particularly when there are hostage targets involved. When shooting on paper, we don't get that audible feedback so we tend to either push on and accept the bad hits, or we start reading the targets to see where the hits actually are, and that costs you even more time.

The goal is to read your sights and know about where the hits are located so you know right away if it is one you want to make up, such as a “D” zone hit, a hostage hit, or a miss.

Nowhere can I think of this being more prevalent than on the plate racks. I see people all of the time shoot and then look to see if the plate goes over and if it does, they move to the next plate, if it doesn't they try to look back at their sights and shoot again and look at the plate. This bouncing the eyes back and forth costs us time and really hurts our shooting.

We have to learn to trust ourselves on what we see, and through practice we will learn how to read the sights, and for the plates, if you have a miss your peripheral vision can actually see the plate there so you don't have to look down range to see it, you will know.

Cut along the dotted line and return order form

PPAC Shooting Team Uniform Order

5.11 Tactical Pants (khaki):

Number of pants requested = _____ Times \$33.00 each pair of pants = \$ _____
 Size needed: Waist-_____ Length-_____

5.11 Tactical Professional Polo:

Number of polo shirts requested = _____ Times \$34.00 each polo = \$ _____
 Size needed: _____ (sm., med., large, X-large, 2X-large, 3X-large)
 Name will be embroidered on right breast, how do you want it to read? _____

Gray T-shirts with team logo (you can choose 2 sizes) :

Number of shirts requested = _____ Size = _____ Times \$10.00 each = \$ _____
 Number of shirts requested = _____ Size = _____ Times \$10.00 each = \$ _____

Blue T-shirts with team logo (you can choose 2 sizes in sm, med, large, XL, 2XL, 3XL):

Number of shirts requested = _____ Size = _____ Times \$10.00 each = \$ _____
 Number of shirts requested = _____ Size = _____ Times \$10.00 each = \$ _____

Hats = In stock, include \$10.00 each when you come to pick up the rest of the order

Total = \$ _____

This order is for: _____

Precinct/Bureau assigned: _____ Contact #: _____