



GIVE 'ER A SHOT

The Phoenix Police Athletic Club Shooting Team Newsletter

**AUGUST,
2005**

Some Notes to Update Everyone

NOT DROPPING ANYONE:

Okay, Rich and I got to talking and we decided not to take anyone off of the mailing list because when we got to looking at the number that would be taken off, there really would not be enough to make a difference.

Since we want everyone to come to the monthly shoots, when they can, we want to keep hitting you with these newsletters, hoping that you might just say, "Okay, I will go to that one." Coming out once in a while is better than not coming out at all, and if you stop getting these, you may forget about us and not come out again.

Of course if you don't want to be hassled by these things coming to you, let me know and I can take you off of the mailing list.

AUGUST NEWLETTER COMING IN SEPTEMBER:

Yea, we are running a little late on this one. The monthly match was towards the end of the month and life has been a little busy so no time to do one until now.

NEW FACES

We are still getting some new faces coming out to the matches, and it's great to see. Keep inviting your squad members and buddies. Everyone seems to have fun, enjoy the challenges, and we are all improving a skill that might save our lives someday. If you invite your squad members and/or Department friends, they can improve a skill that may benefit you and you will be doing a buddy a favor. Give them a copy of this newsletter.

Bret Draughn

Update on the Combat Classic

You saw the headline and thought we had something in the works didn't you. Sorry, we don't and that is what this one is about.

Frankly, we are busy as heck and I just have not had an opportunity to even put thought into it, much less try to find insurance to cover it or start to organize any of it.

For those not with the Department at the time, Arnie Stallman and Steve Proctor teamed up and for 12 years ran the Phoenix Combat Classic and it was incredibly popular with officers coming from around the state, and farther. It was a hoot, and I enjoyed it so much I shot in all 12 of them.

Everyone shot about 5 (or was it 6?) stages and they gave out prizes and had a raffle for some great stuff. It got hectic and they couldn't keep it up so it died off.

I seriously would like to bring it back, and a lot of folks who had shot in them have asked if we were going to bring them back someday.

We have two problems, finding insurance to cover the match at a reasonable cost, and finding time in life to do the work to hold this match (insurance will be the most difficult).

If anyone knows an insurance person we can deal with for the insurance issues please let me know. If someone has extra time on their hands and plenty of energy to help us out with the planning and organizing, let me know (it's bigger than I thought it would be).

We will look into it again, to see if it will be possible.

Upcoming Monthly Team Shoots

- Saturday, September 10th, 0800-1100 hrs. – This begins our warm-up for the upcoming Police Olympics. We will be shooting a PPC match. This is a pistol match that requires a lot of accuracy work and includes shooting from the 50-yard line. If you are equipped to bring 4 magazines with you, that would be great, otherwise we will work it out.
- Saturday, October 1, 2005, 0800-1200 hrs. – A 3-gun match to prep for the Police Olympics. This includes handgun, shotgun, and rifle (AR-15 type). These are very popular matches to shoot (incredibly fun) and if you don't have the guns for it, come anyway and borrow one. To those who can not make Saturdays, I apologize for holding 2 Saturday matches in a row, but the range calendar is full and we did not have much of a choice here.

SHOOTING TIP OF THE MONTH – *Have a Plan!*

When stepping into the box to shoot a stage, you should walk in with a plan already in place on how you are going to shoot it. This will help you get through the stage much quicker because you made your plan and now you just have to implement the plan.

If you walk into the box without a plan, you are likely going to have a much slower run because you are making up your plan while you are going, and instead of thinking of what you are doing, you will be thinking of what you have to do.

Let's tie this to work. When you approach mister bad guy, or any situation,

you should do so with a plan already in place.

If you don't have a plan when the fecal matter hits the oscillating air circulation unit, instead of taking care of the problem at hand you will be coming up with a plan and multi-tasking.

In a shooting match, before starting, I know which cover I am moving to first and the approximate order I am going to engage the targets. When it starts, I just go and do it.

On the street, if in a gunfight, you are not likely going to be thinking clearly enough to develop an elaborate plan. But

if you already developed the plan before it started, you may find yourself doing what you just planned without even thinking about it.

Example: You are approaching two 647s in a park and have already identified your cover, concealment, evacuation route, you have decided what you are going to do if they fight with you, what you are going to do if one runs, or what your are going to do if one or both draw on you, etc.

Your plans don't have to be elaborate, and take just a 2nd to do. Then if something happens, you will only have to react to them and not make up a plan first.

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Results of August Shoot

Tuesday, Aug. 23, 2005

Overall:

- 1) James Smith..... 105.16
- 2) Tim Lantz..... 107.16
- 3) Vern Brink..... 114.27
- 4) Bret Draughn..... 118.18
- 5) John Harma..... 119.40

Movin' On:

- 1) Vern Brink..... 32.32
- 2) Tim Lantz..... 32.88
- 3) Bret Draughn..... 33.03

Simple Standards:

- 1) John Harma..... 21.07
- 2) James Smith 22.22
- 3) Vern Brink..... 22.72

El Prez on Steroids:

- 1) James Smith..... 21.39
- 2) Bret Draughn..... 21.48
- 3) Tim Lantz..... 22.86

Bring Oxygen:

- 1) Bret Draughn..... 22.75
- 2) Chas Clements..... 25.92
- 3) James Smith..... 26.90

Team Members Making a Showing in other Matches

We don't have a lot to report on because there is not a lot going on during the summers, especially around here. However, a couple months ago, John Harma was **invited** (impressive) to participate in the Nationals. This is the national championships for USPSA, a match the best shooters in the world come to compete in.

John's first time there and he places respectably and represented the Phoenix Police Department (and the PPAC Shooting Team) well. He plans on going back next year and taking them by storm (well, he didn't actually say that to me - but he will).

Congratulations John

The Phoenix Police Athletic Club

Although there is no requirement for Shooting Team members be members of the Athletic Club, we do recommend it. They help us out with shooting supplies and fronted the money for our team uniforms, and the cost benefits are worth it to you, and it only costs \$2.00 per check.

PPAC is also involved in a variety of other sports.

Contact me, Bret Draughn (at the Academy), for a signup packet. I can send you a packet through the Department mail or you can get one from me at a monthly shoot.

I can be forgetful so remind me, frequently.

WE HAVE EXTRA TEAM T-SHIRTS AND HATS FOR SALE

We have extra T-shirts in Blue and Gray, and hats. We still need to purchase some of the sizes we did not get in the first place and more 5.11 clothing, but want to unload some of what we have on hand before doing so (we still have to order more but I still have a lot of the other stuff on hand). If you are new to the shooting team and would like a team hat or shirt, let us know and we can get you set up. I think they ran about \$9.00 for hats and the shirt.

If interested contact Bret Draughn or Rich Hartson down at the Armory. You can also come to a monthly shoot and we will take care of you after the match.



UPCOMING MATCHES AND OTHER OPPORTUNITIES TO SHOOT

If interested in other outside shooting events, here are some things Rich and I are doing if you would like to get with us and *Give one of these a Shot*.

Here is what is going on:

The Mesa Police / Fire Games (Police Olympics): are coming October 13-15 and you can go to <https://www.mesagames.org/OnlineRegistration.aspx> to register.

- Combat Handgun is on Thursday, 3-Gun is on Thursday and Friday, and the PPC Match (handgun) is on Saturday, **and at our Academy.**

Rich, Mark and I have been trying to get over to the Phoenix Rod and Gun Club (next to Academy) every Thursday night at 4:00 P.M. to shoot their all steel match (4 stages). If we get there close to 4:00 we can generally be done by 5:00, and it is \$10.00 for non-members. If a lot of folks show up to shoot with our group we may run a little longer.

On Sunday mornings, Rich and I have been shooting Trap out at Peoria Rod and Gun for those on the west side who may want to try that out.

If interested, contact Bret Draughn or Rich Hartson at the Armory.

FOR THOSE WHO DON'T KNOW US

We started the Shooting Team to get more Phx. officers to come out and improve their shooting skills with some shooting matches (hence, the name of this newsletter).

We change up what we are doing as much as we can, we keep it fun, we help everyone learn, and most importantly, we improve our shooting skills.

Come out and Give 'er a Shot, everyone is invited.

Did you notice that we have a two pager this month? I had some spare time at home, for a change, and decided to put a little more effort into the newsletter.