



The Flyer

Official Newsletter of the
Airfield Shooting Club

Volume 17, Issue 4

December 2022



Airfield Shooting Club

at the Airfield 4H Center ~ Wakefield, Virginia

P.O. Box 250, Wakefield, VA 23888

Winter Shooting News



Welcome
Winter

ASC Member of the Quarter

By The ASC Board of Directors

Name: Art Schoner



The ASC board of directors has chosen Mr. Art Schoner as the member of the quarter. Art has contributed a significant amount of time as a past XO/MO and has a major role in executing the ASC bowling pin match each month. Art's contribution has been a major factor in the success of many ASC range maintenance projects and bowling pin match events.

Please join the board of directors in recognizing Art's dedication, initiative, and hard work to make sure our club is a success.

URGENT – SRB Closed Until Further Notice

Scott Sampson

After careful consideration, the board has decided to close the Short-Range Berm (SRB) until further notice due to safety concerns. The wear and tear on the berm has finally exceed the allowable safety margins and we must close it until repairs can be made. The board is currently looking to repair the berm while performing some improvements. The board was working on some solutions, but this has accelerated the effort significantly. The intent is to reach out to some contractors on Monday, while we draft up specifications for our needed scope of work. The intent is to meet with folks in the beginning of Dec some time to walk through the modifications desired to establish quotes. After that we are at the mercy of the contractor's schedule once we select them. We apologize for the inconvenience, but it is in all of our interest to stay safe and be a responsible gun range.

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Airfield 4-H Swamp Shooters Members Compete at the State Level.

Ryan Delbridge & Dale Mullin

On Saturday September 24th several members of the Airfield 4-H Swamp Shooters team participated in the Virginia 4-H Shotgun Championship at Brushy Mountain Gun Club. Each competitor participated in the disciplines of skeet, trap and sporting clays. Brock Lester received the overall 8th place award in the senior category and will have the opportunity to participate in the 4-H State Shotgun Development Team. The ten members selected for the Development Team will practice and compete between now and next spring. At that time the top 4 participants in the Development Team will be given the opportunity to participate in the 2023 4-H Shooting Sports National Championships in Nebraska.

Josh Brown and Lee Kitchen earned 6th place and 8th place respectively in the Junior category at the Shotgun Championship.

On September 10th, several Swamp Shooters participated in the 2022 State 4-H Shoot, at Holiday Lake 4-H Center. Josh Brown won 3rd place overall for Trap and a silver ribbon in Skeet. Ashton Asbell took home the first-place award for 3-Position Smallbore Rifle with a final score of 216. Ashton also took 5th place in the Smallbore Silhouette competition, scoring 17 out of 20. Ella Daniels scored 14 of 20 in the Smallbore Silhouette competition.

The Airfield 4-H Swamp Shooters club welcomes all prospective members between the ages of 9 and 19. The club meets at Airfield on the 2nd and 4th Sunday of most months. Meetings begin at 1:30 pm and typically run until around 4:30 pm. The disciplines available to Airfield 4-H members are: Shotgun, Small Bore Rifle and Archery.

ASC Richmond Gun Show Table Help

Gary Wyse

ASC would like to have a presence from the club in the Richmond area but we need volunteers to man the table as well as someone who is willing to set up the table and tear it down and keep the gear from show to show. The gear is already available, we just need volunteers to work and be in charge of set up and tear down. I would make arrangements to meet with whoever is willing to take this on and hand over the gear as well as give them some idea as to what needs to be done. I would take care of making payment for the table. We can do it as often as we have enough volunteers to work and see what the response is from the Richmond area. I would have to get back on the list for the Richmond Raceway show as that was always the best option. Anything else, let me know and we can discuss further.

New Assist Secretary Needed

Newsletter Editor

The ASC board of directors Assistant Secretary position is currently vacant. Any member in good standing interested in filling this position should contact the ASC vice-president Tim Drewry.

Below are the duties of the assistant secretary position.

[Assistant Secretary](#)

When the position is filled, the Assistant Secretary shall assist the secretary in the performance of his/her duties. He/She shall maintain attendance records and greet new members and guests.



Being a Responsible Member

Dale Mullin, member number 4

We have about 8 pages of rules which apply on our 50- and 100-meter ranges. Each of those rules are in place for a reason. If we want to continue to be able to have a range at Airfield, we need to make certain that we do not have any mishaps on our range.

In my opinion, the best way to avoid mishaps is to follow the rules. As responsible ASC members it is important that we not only know and follow the rules ourselves, but that we also help our fellow members to be aware of and to comply with the rules.

Please help each other out on the range. If you see something which is questionable, please have a conversation with the member. If another member should question whether or not you are in compliance with the rules, please do NOT become upset. Any of us can make a mistake. If in doubt about a rule, a copy of the range rules is kept in the back of the sign-in book. Let's work together to keep this range open for all of us to enjoy.

New Webmaster Needed

Newsletter Editor

The ASC board of directors Webmaster position is currently vacant. The webmaster is responsible for maintaining the club website and email distribution list. Any member in good standing interested in filling this position should contact the ASC vice-president Tim Drewry.

Membership Cards

David Willis

Secretary, ASC

The board of directors would like to remind all members that memberships are renewed each year in March. So, if you have a yellow membership card with an expiration date of March 31, 2023, it will be good until then. Members will be sent a bill for the 2023-24 year when the renewal period starts in the Spring. At that time, you can pay via mail or online. Once you pay, the ASC Secretary will send you a new membership card in the mail to replace the one you have. Assuming you pay in a timely manner, there should be no lapse in membership.

If you have any other questions, feel free to reach out to the ASC Secretary.

White Arrow Attack

Newsletter Editor

The Airfield Shooting Club has recently been having incidents whereby individuals have been seen shooting at the white range arrow. All members are reminded to NOT Shoot the range arrow (on the 50-yard range) nor the post it is mounted on. Rounds that impact to the right of the range arrow could exit the range.

Shooting the range arrow or its pole is grounds for immediate dismissal from the Club without refund (in accordance with ASC Range Rules and Regulations, page 11, section II, paragraph A.4).



How accurate is the 22LR?

Tom Sanford

Rimfire Match Director

Everyone has a tack driver they love to plink with, and most can easily knock a bottle cap off an ole rusty nail at 100 yards, but can you? Watch for upcoming rimfire events on the ASC calendar, I believe Rimfire challenges are most humbling and after completing a successful 2022 season 50-yard bench rest competitions, we have the experience to prove it.

We all know the 22LR cartridge is one of the most popular sporting cartridges ever produced and in this author's opinion the most difficult to be consistent with precision and accuracy.

Unlike center fire cartridges, the .22 Long Rifle is basically manufactured by ammunition manufacturers with the shooter dependent on what's available in the marketplace.

Olympic and competition shooters enjoy rifles that can easily put a bullet in the same hole at 50 yards. To be competitive without spending thousands of dollars you might not be able to turn your old squirrel rifle into a tack driver without spending more money than the rifle is worth.

The good news is there are several things you can do to make your .22 LR more accurate, which should translate to more success with precision and accuracy at target shooting, competition, or small game hunting.

What is accuracy for a .22LR rifle? Generally, accuracy is a broad term and very different from a competition shooter to a squirrel shooter. Just like centerfire cartridge rifles are considered accurate at 1 MOA at 100 yards, 22LR rifles are considered "accurate" at a sub-one-inch group at 50 yards. Since 2017 the popularity of rimfire rifles

have exploded because of PRS and NRL22/NRL22X, these matches have been pushing accuracy out to 300 + yards. CZ, Rugar, and Begara are a couple of common rifles that are competing at an entry level price point with RimX and Vudoo rifles are at the high end rifles.

If you're thinking about competing in an NRL22/X, American Rimfire benchrest, Small Bore Silhouette, or Rimfire Challenge or other rimfire competitions, or to just improve your skills in general there are a few things that can be done to tighten up the (precision) grouping of your shots. I will say, accuracy is more dependent on your shooting skills and sight alignment of your optics. I will touch on that later.

First to make any 22LR rifle more precise is to start with ammunition. It is commonly said to try different ammunition until you find the ammo your barrel likes. Some barrels can shoot various ammunition made by different manufacturers but there is one cartridge the barrel likes best. To find it may take some time but if you want to make your rifle more "accurate," find the ammo it shoots the best. After shooting five, five-shot groups with each ammo type, you'll know which one your gun likes best. Once you find the cartridge of choice one can drill down even further by "lot" testing your bullet of choice. Lot numbers are the manufacturing information that represents the date, machine number, etc. on when the bullet was manufactured.

As far as improving accuracy, try to remove yourself from the equation as much as possible. Everyone is different but make sure both the front and rear of the gun are stabilized on sandbags or gun rest, take your time, breathe properly, and make sure to follow through with your trigger pull keeping your eye on the target.



How accurate is the 22LR?

Continued

We all know .22 LR is a dirty cartridge, a clean weapon is very important and don't forget to remove the carbon ring. You might be surprised at how much your groups will tighten up with a clean weapon. I recommend fouling the barrel with about ten rounds to season the barrel before you start measuring for that sub-MOA.

Over time action screws that mate a rifle receiver to the stock can loosen. This happens more frequently in larger caliber rifles that generate lots of recoil, but .22 LR is no exception rifles aren't immune to the issue.

Make sure the action screws are tightened to the specifications listed in your owner's manual or rifle manufacturer. There are theories out there that changing the front action screw can improve your groups, but I tend to believe the rifle manufacturers on this one.

Additionally, make sure your scope rings and bases are tight as well. Torque settings are very important to protect the scope and any looseness can affect a rifle's accuracy.

Obviously, there are different things one can do to your rifle; changing triggers, barrel or stock. The rimfire rifle has the potential to be exceptionally accurate, remember to first try different ammunition, give your rifle a thorough cleaning, and remove that carbon ring often, check the action screws and bolt torques.

Get out to the range and practice, see you on the 50-yard line!

New Maintenance Officer (MO) Needed

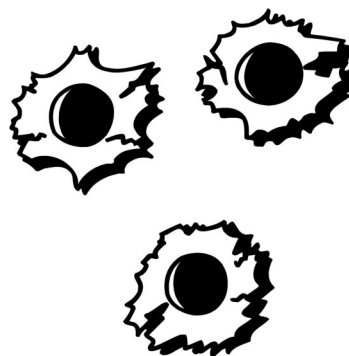
Newsletter Editor

The ASC board of directors Maintenance Officer position is currently vacant. Any member in good standing interested in filling this position should contact the ASC vice-president Tim Drewry.

Below are the duties of the Maintenance officer position.

Maintenance Officer

The Maintenance Officer shall have charge of the maintenance and security of the ASC range, property, and equipment. He/She shall be responsible for planning all work parties and shall have primary responsibility for overseeing new construction projects. He/She shall provide oversight for and maintain an inventory of the club's more valuable maintenance assets. The Maintenance Officer shall be responsible for replacement of all consumables routinely used in the course of maintaining the range. Additionally, he/she shall ensure compliance with Lead Best Management Practices. A Lead Management Report and a State of the Range Report (improvements, proposals, accomplishments over the period) shall be submitted to the ASC Board and to the Director of the Airfield Conference Center in June of each year.





Using Your Self Defense Ammo

Scott Sampson

How often do you shoot your self-defense ammunition? Almost never right – have you seen the price of that stuff (if you can find it)?! I have been guilty of this in the past but have tried turning over a new leaf in my more enlightened years. The question is why do you want to shoot your self-defense ammunition on a routine basis. There are many reasons, let's explore some.

1. Our carry ammo goes through a lot when it comes to environmental conditions. It goes from hot to cold to wet etc. If you recall from any NRA training class ammunition likes to be stored in cool dry locations. If we put ourselves (and hence our ammunition) in conditions that are not cool dry conditions, it runs the risk of having issues. We need to make sure it still works.
2. Legal protection. There are some legal aspects that you need to consider as well. God forbid you are involved in a self-defense shoot and one of your rounds impacts someone else. While you may escape charges in a criminal court, the civil court is a harder thing to win due to the lower bar of requirements. One of things the prosecution may ask is how often do you practice with this ammo? Are you aware that it has a different point of impact than regular ammunition? They are trying to prove “negligence” that you carried this deadly weapon without understanding how it worked and as such the jury should award punitive damages. I recommend you keep a record of each time you shoot your self-defense ammunition (as well as any time your train).
3. Make sure your system works. Ammunition manufactures don't set up a line and leave it up. Typically, they set it up, run a particular style, then put up the next one and the next etc. This take down, set up over and over can result in minor changes that impact the function of your firearm.

In addition, if the vendor changes components or even the design (they are always trying to improve) it might not work in your gun anymore. Also, your gun may get more worn in or something tweaked that all of a sudden, your self-defense ammo isn't working the same way it did when you tried it 10 years ago. Test the self-defense ammo in your firearm routinely to make sure everything works.

4. Clean things out. Do you have any idea how dirty magazines and such can get carrying? By shooting those stored magazines, you will clean out all the pocket lint etc. You don't want the lint causing problems when you need it most.

How often is routine? I recommend once ever 6 months or no more than a year. This will be sure to keep things fresh, cleaned and give you a reasonable defense.

See ya on the firing line!





Shooting One Handed

Scott Sampson

Do you think you will always have two hands to shoot with? If you do, you might want to reconsider. If you have to carry something or someone or if an arm or hand is injured then you are down to one hand. Will you have a only your strong hand to use or will you have to use your weak hand? Any way you look at you should consider being able to use one hand (strong or weak) to shoot, but how do you do it?

Defensive one-handed shooting is similar to two handed except you are not using your other hand. There are some differences that you need to be aware of when you are practicing. Let's discuss some of those.

The one differences is obviously having only one hand holding the gun. The support hand should be held to the chest area. It is recommended that you clench your hand into a tight fist and tighten the forearm. The primary reason is keeping the hand away from the muzzle during a training evolution. Obviously if you are carrying something or it is broken it is going to be where is it is going to be. You can see the support hand in the picture below.



The next difference that I recommend that you try is a flagged thumb on the shooting hand. Instead of laying the thumb down as shown in the picture above, try "flagging" it or raising it upward as seen in the picture below. This technique depends on the size of the hand and the geometry of the firearm. Many times, when you raise or flag the thumb it feels like the gun is being pressed into your hand and feels more secure. This is pictured below.



After you try that you might notice that as you hold the gun out it might feel a bit more comfortable with the gun at a slight cant rather than being straight up and down. A cant is perfectly fine, just don't get to crazy with it. The picture above from Lucky Gunner shows a cant that I would consider to be the maximum I would want to go.

Mike Seeklander describes a one-handed shooting method that rotates that elbow under the gun. In the picture with the cant above you will notice the elbow is rotated outward and away from the body. Mike's method suggests bringing that elbow in and pointing more toward the ground. He claims that this helps to manage recoil better for him.

Either way, you want to hold your elbow, give one handed shooting a try and see how it works for you. Remember you are going to have more movement due to only having one hand on the gun vs two. Movement is ok and expected, just try to minimize it as best you can. Establishing a good one-handed shooting skill just might save your life.

See ya on the firing line!



Successful TCCC Course Held!

Scott Sampson

On October 16th we held a Tactical Combat Casualty Care introduction class. The TCCC class is actually a emergency trauma care class that is put on by the military. Our instructor HM1 Kalheel from the US Navy did an OUTSTANDING job for us! I want to extend a huge thank you to one of our members Brandon Jantzen who coordinated HM1 and assisted with the class and another member John Lowe who offered the use of his training room at his facility in Chesapeake.

The class ran a full two hours and was well attended with 16 members. We covered the use of tourniquets, hemostatic gauze, chest seals, emergency blankets, AEDs and way more. The short 2 hours was a quick introduction to gun shots wound care on various parts of the body, cardiac arrest and much more. Scott Sampson our Chief Instructor presented HM1 with a letter of appreciation for his time. We can't thank these folks enough for offering this up and we are hoping to get them back for another round.

Overall, just a great event!

