

22lr Cowboy Silhouette.....what do I need to shoot?

Ans: In its basic form, this type of shooting is limited to tube fed .22lr cal. Rifles with open or iron sights. No scopes. Now in order to facilitate entry for rookie shooters and others, there has been some allowance made to permit the use of bolt action rifles, and even low power scopes if you do not have open sights. And these rifles would be of the less costlier manufactured makes.

As new shooters progress, they may want to acquire a more traditional rifle within the guidelines of the rules. All of the shooting is performed in the standing position. Each nightly match consists of two sets of 20 targets set out at 40, 60, 75, and 100yds, for a total of 40 rounds on score.

22lr Benchrest Matches.....what is it, what can I use; what works the best?

Ans: This is going to take a bit more time to explain. Benchrest matches are almost exclusively shot at 50yds sitting at the shooting table. The matches consist of two 25round targets fired in separate relays for a total of 50 rounds on score plus sighters.

Any bolt action rifle with a clear optics scope will get you started. The targets are quite small, and scopes powered in the 10x or more would be needed. A lot depends upon your eyesight. You will see shooters with more dedicated equipment using powers in the 25x to 36x range. Remember, you can't hit what you can't see!

A front rest is used to support the forend, and a rear bag to stabilize the butt stock. There are some rests and sandbags on the range for general use. As you get more advanced, you will probably want your own rest/bag set-up. One piece rests are not allowed.

Almost all of the rifles are single shot; some maybe with a 5 round magazine. Shooters who are more serious and striving for the utmost performance from their equipment will have invested in rifles dedicated to this sport. The rifles and the optics are more expensive and yield better performance.

Some of the rifles have fibreglass or synthetic stocks. Most of these shooters use more costlier target quality ammunition as well. But you don't need all of this when just starting out. Bring what you have to shoot, join in the fun, and take some time to look over the other equipment on the range. Talk with the other shooters. They will be more than delighted to show you their equipment and talk shooting.

As you become more involved you will find other good equipment that shooters are parting with to get to their next level. So, you can acquire some really good equipment without having to go and buy new. But, you can do this too, if you wish. Generally, it has taken some time for almost all of the shooters to acquire the equipment they use; it did not come overnight. That's all part of the experience.

And don't think everyone is eyeing what and how you shoot. Competitive shooters are deeply involved with their own performance and how to improve. Beat them at this game, and they will take a hard look at what you have. In the end it is competitive, but we are there for the fun of it; enjoying our equipment and the camaraderie of the friends who come out to shoot.

Centerfire Benchrest Matches.....what is it and what can I use?

Ans. These matches are very similar to the 22lr Benchrest matches in format and equipment. Matches are shot at 100yds. There are three targets of 10 shots each for score to be shot plus sighters. We do not shoot for group sizes at this time, but for score. We might try one group match in 2012 to see the interest. All shooting is done off the bench primarily using bolt action rifles with riflescopes. There is no restriction to caliber; but it is mostly shot with .22 and 6mm calibers. And there are a lot of different cartridges within that range.

Again, if you are just starting out, bring your hunting rifle; be it a deer rifle or your favorite varmint rifle with the heavier barrel. There is no limit to rifle weight nor power of the riflescope. Spotting scopes are allowed. You will see equipment quite similar to the .22lr Benchrest types, except in centerfire format.

As in the 22Benchrest equipment, front and rear rests are used. Almost exclusively, the shooters handload their own ammunition; for both economic and performance reasons. There is no greater satisfaction in knowing that your rifle is shooting great with you own handmade ammunition! If you are interested at all, drop in on a match and chat with the shooters.

Special 22lr Matches:

Bob Blakeney Memorial...what is it and what can I use?

This is more of a club fun match with some competitive spirit and permits the use of any 22lr rifle in bolt, lever, pump, or auto-loader configuration. Target rifles are not permitted. Sights allowed are iron open or peep/globe type. No scopes. As you can see this covers just about your every-day regular 22rimfire rifle that almost everyone owns. This match is for PSC members only.

The match consists of three rounds of 5 shots each at 40, 60, 80 and 100yds for a total of 60 rounds. The targets are metal silhouette type, no paper.

Rimfire Classic Shoot.....what is this about and what can I use?

This shoot allows the same type of rifles as in the above Blakeney Shoot (also, no target rifles), but scopes of up to 9x may be used if desired.

The match consists of three rounds from the bench position of 10 shots each at 50yds. And also two rounds in the standing position of 10 shots each at 50yds. Total rounds on target are 50 shots, and all fired on paper bulls targets. This match is for PSC members only as well. So come on out and join in the fun.

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