

Oak Ridge LRML – XXXI

Dear LRML Shooters:

I have to say, it's hard to imagine this match is starting its 3rd decade of existence. This year I want to add a Volunteer rifle match to run along the Long Range. This Volunteer match will be with such rifles with barrel sights, some refer to these as military sights. But, the true Volunteer rifles of the mid 1800's were of higher quality than the standard Military issue. Most notably the use of checkering and a slightly higher grade of wood was selected along with some smaller details. This Volunteer match will conclude at 600 yards. I am limiting the number of shooters to 48, which includes both Volunteer and LR.

The match will commence on Thursday & Friday March 29 & 30, 2018. I've been awarded the last weekend in March for over a decade, so this year unfortunately it falls on Easter (April 1), so I'm using Saturday as a travel day.

We'll be shooting 200 & 300 on Thursday and 600 & 1000 on Friday. Relay times will be 1hr to 1.5 hours according to distance. More on details in the Rules, etc, to follow.

I will have a catered dinner again in the Oak Ridge clubhouse following Thursday's day of shooting – 5PM. Non-shooters will be \$10/head for dinner so please let me know so I can plan accordingly.

CALLING ALL ORIGINAL WHITWORTH'S – I have been asked by Tom Rowe to assist with gathering Original Whitworth's for a book Tom plans to publish. He has taken the decades of work from Bill Curtis (UK) on logging/documenting as many as possible. 10 years ago we had a display of 29 Originals, I can only hope we can duplicate or exceed this display! Tom plans to set up his photography equipment for the display which will coincide with Thursday evening's dinner.

Attached are the rules as usual; this match is a ORSA sponsored Long-Range Muzzle Loading Match using traditional long-range muzzle loading rifles of the mid - late 1800's. I hope the rules are clear so potential problems at the range can be avoided. I included in the rules what to follow; not to answer the hundreds of question. If you're not sure about something then contact me.

This Match is designed to be an enjoyable shoot and as much as everyone wants to do their best, sportsmanship is needed in order for it to work successfully. This means that when you are shooting you'll need the utmost attention from your spotter and pitman to assist you and vice-versa. This especially holds true at 1000 yards. This translates into good communication / feedback to the shooter when the pitman and spotter are doing their job. **Please bring 2-way radios if you have them.**

Let me highlight that ORSA is allowing you use their facilities and it shall be treated with such respect at all times. This also means there are NO pit boys/girls and we all must be willing to spot and pull targets for each other. I will serve as range officer and try to shoot a little if I can. High-power shooters primarily use the ORSA range and there are NO provisions for Muzzleloaders. i.e. Loading Tables or covered firing line! **Each shooter is expected to bring their own loading table to safely support their rifle.** If you're traveling from abroad, please contact me on this as myself and many shooters don't mind sharing their table when not shooting.

Please feel free to publicize the match as well as the 'Calling of Whitworth's'.

Thank You & I hope to see you in Tennessee.

Rick Weber

31th Oak Ridge Sportsman Assoc. (ORSA)

Long Range Muzzle Loading Match + New Volunteer ML Rifle Match

The match is to be held on Thursday & Friday, March 29 & 30, 2018

Located at the ORSA Range in Oak Ridge Tennessee.

South (0.1 miles) from stop light #16 (Nebraska Ave.); south side of town on Hwy. 95

Match Rules are listed in another following attachment;

Format:

- a) Matches will start approx. 10:00am.(plan to arrive at the clubhouse by 8:30) – NO LUNCH
 - 1. Please first report/check-in at the clubhouse on Thursday.
- b) Each shooter will have to be able to shoot, spot and pull targets at each distance.
- c) Thursday's matches will be at 200 & 300 yards.
- d) Friday's matches will be at 600 & 1000 yards.
- e) Unlimited sighters and one or more record scores (10 consecutive shots) will be allowed at each distance. One sighter to convert for score is allowed.
- f) Restart of scoring on any target may occur at any time during the relay - reentry.
- g) Prizes will be multiple awards for Aggregate and for 200, 300, 600 & 1000 yards.

Cost:

- a) \$50 per shooter (limit 48 shooters)

Payment must be received by March 17; so please don't procrastinate

Check payable to:

Rick Weber,

902 Thurmer Circle

Lenoir City, TN 37772

Phone: Home (865) 986-5356

Email: rsscweber@mindspring.com

Registration Form below to fill out and send with payment

Send me an email if nothing has changed, or email this back.

Name: _____

Gun Manufacture & Style: _____

Powder (Mfg, 'F' & Qty): _____ PB Alloy: _____ MVel: _____

Bullet (GG or PP) & weight: _____ Lube/Wad: _____

Name of guest for catered dinner on Friday: add \$10: _____

1. Match Rules for ORSA LR Muzzle Loaders:

1.1 Safety

Safe conduct of all matches and associated activities shall be foremost. Any person or member who is conducting themselves in an unsafe manner shall be dismissed from the activity.

- a) No smoking on the firing line, please stay behind the cars.
- b) No open Powder or Flammable containers.
- c) No blowing or breathing into the muzzle.
- d) Snapping of percussion caps must be done with the muzzle in front of the firing line.
- e) In the course of discharging the rifle, the cap shall not be placed on the nipple and/or the hammer on full-cock until the shooter is down in the firing position.
- f) All rifles shall be muzzle loaded from a **single** charged container; loading directly over the muzzle using a flask or similar device is prohibited.
- g) Rifles shall remain at the loading bench (with muzzle up) until the pit area is safe and the range officer instructs that you may commence firing.

1.2 Rifles

Rifles shall be of the traditional muzzle loading style of the firearms fired from the shoulder in the mid - late 1800's era of International Rifle Matches. If rifle is in question, please confer with match organizer/director for approval prior to event.

- a) Rifles may be of original make or recreated pieces made so as to fulfill the intent of a traditional rifle.
- b) Patent type sealed breech are required, no screw in side-drum designs will be permitted.
- c) Rifles may be of full-stock or half-stock design and must have an external hammer.
- d) **The maximum weight of the rifle shall not exceed 12 pounds.** (Sights & Sling excluded) Note: Pedersoli Gibbs rifle shooters should remove lead slug from inside the butt stock if they are unsure of weight.
- e) Set Triggers are allowed.
- f) The ignition shall be of the percussion type using conventional percussion caps.
- g) Fixed, adjustable or add-on leather covered cheek rest are permitted.
- h) False muzzles and/or bullet starters may be used provided there is NO form of any mechanical advantage, or use of any such device (including hand), which serves as a 'hammer' to start the bullet. They must be tied with a string to the loading bench or shooters jacket.
- i) Shooter must clean and/or load his own rifle during a match, unless physically handicapped.
- j) The rifle checked in at registration shall be the rifle to be shot the entire match; exception may be made for a mechanical failure.
- k) In the event the acceptability of a rifle is in question, the event organizer and one event setup member shall be designated to judge and inspect the rifle to be used. If the rifle fails the acceptance criteria, the rifle and shooter will be allowed to participate but ineligible for awards.

1.3 Sights

- a) Sights shall be iron peep rear and aperture front.
- b) Sights may have front and/or rear windage adjustment.
- c) Sights may adorn a spirit level.
- d) Open or grooved rear sights with post or aperture front sight may be used.
- e) No glass optical lens shall be used on either front or rear sight.
- f) Volunteer rifles shall be barrel mounted sights.

1.4 Shooting Position

- a) Rifles may be fired without the aid of any artificial support.
- b) The rifle may be fired from the prone or sitting position with the rifle resting directly on one set of cross-sticks.
- c) Rifles may be fired with the support of a sling only.
- d) Rifles may be fired with a combination of a sling and wrist rest at 1000 yards.

- e) **Shooters in the shooting position are expected to fire**, if not, they need to acknowledge and allow others shooters who are ready to fire. The Scorer is expected to control the rotation of all shooters if spotting delays occur.

1.5 Propellant / Powder

- a) ONLY black powder shall be used in matches.
- b) No smokeless or semi-smokeless powder of any kind shall be used.
- c) Black powder granulations shall be between 1F and 3F size only.

1.6 Projectiles / Bullets

- a) Only lead projectiles are permitted in matches.
- b) Two-piece lead and lead alloy projectiles are permitted.
- c) Projectiles may be of solid or hollow nose construction with any type base design.
- d) Paper patch or grooved lubricated lead bullets shall only be used.
- e) Projectile caliber shall be greater than .400 inches and not exceed .580 inches in diameter.
- f) Projectile weight shall be greater than 400 grains and not exceed 580 grains.
- g) Bullets may not be coated with a copper or any other metal or alloy.
- h) Gas checks and Sabots of any type are prohibited.

1.7 Wads

- a) Wads made from any safe non-sparking flat material such as cardboard, paper, plastic, hair, wax, grease solid lubricants and combinations of these may be used.
- b) Wads must be cut from flat sheet material.
- c) No "cupped" wads or sabots allowed.

1.8 Targets/Scoring

- a) Targets will be official NRA HP mid & long-range targets for the appropriate distances.
- b) At each distance, one or more 10 consecutive shots for score may be scored within the relay; the highest score at each distance will be recorded.
- c) Unlimited number of sighters are allowed at each distance.
- d) One sighter can be converted to start any 10 shot string.
- e) Restart of any 10 shot string may occur at anytime.
- f) Scored shots fired at the target will count regardless of load.
- g) Mis-loaded rifles may be discharged safely into the berm with no effect on scoring; Shooter must alert spotter of the situation before firing.
- h) Cross firing will be scored a miss.
- i) Paper targets shall be scored using the method of bullet hole touching the line - the higher value is given.
- j) In the event of a tie: 1) the X-ring; 2) the shooter with the least number of bad shots will win. Then starting with the 10th shot, the first longest consecutive string of X's, 10's, etc.

The spotter shall only give the shooter bullet location at the target. (Ex: 9 ring at 6 o'clock) and indicate mark on score sheet. The pitman and spotter shall assist their shooter with missed shots in relation to the target.

Hotels: Lenoir City; Days Inn 865-986-2011. Holiday Inn Exp. 865-635-0070