May 08, 2021

Thirteen shooters were present today at Magnolia R & P Club in Byram, MS for the monthly Smallbore prone and F-Class 22 match. On the surface, the conditions were pleasant and comfortable with mild temps beginning in the 50’s and just enough breeze to keep the Pearl River swamp mosquitoes from being bothersome. But, before the match could even begin, variable and shifting southerly winds picked up speed as another dangerous weather front is headed our way. Gusts of up to 15mph were frequent and created havoc during every phase of the tournament, but especially at 100yds. There was plenty of good marksmanship skills on display up and down the firing line that prevented the scores from being worse than one might associate with good performance. Indeed, there are times that the numbers just don’t tell the story of the skill it took to get the score that appears afterwards. This was one of those days!

After setting a new Magnolia F-Class22 course record last month, Jimmy Shoemaker kept it going with his highly customized Winchester 52D. Still with the original factory barrel, this old rifle continues to turn in amazing one hole groups, and Jimmy did his part handling the rifle and by making some Master class wind calls. James Wilson and Danny Warren followed Shoemaker, taking second and third places, respectively.

Sling shooters had four participants today, with Tom Sutton and Johnny Mc shooting metallic sights, and Odie Redmond and Dave Heidenthal shooting with “glass”. As with the F-Class shooters, suffice it to say that there were several bulls that we wanted a “do over’ on.

We welcomed new shooter Chase Shoemaker to our ranks today, and he turned in some mighty good targets for his first time out. Chase is a retired Navy service member and we are glad to have him with us. I had the pleasure of hunting with Chase and his family this past season and I quickly learned that whenever he shot, you may as well get your knife out because some skinning would be needed! We hope he will join us again in the future.

Scores posted below. Next match will be June 12, so I hope to see you there.

Johnny Mc



