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# TACTICAL JOURNAL

Official Publication Of The International Defensive Pistol Association



## The Greatest Show On Earth THE 2016 INDOOR NATIONALS

**CCP Match Master**

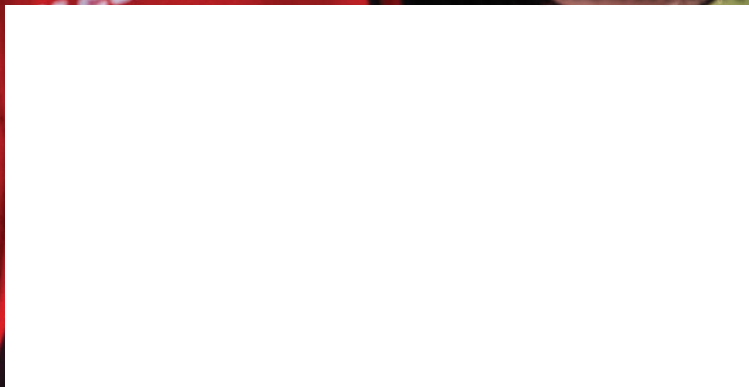
We Test The Springfield Armory EMP4

**Do You See What I See**

Training Your Eyes To Track Your Sights

**Sand, Sun And Fun At The Florida State Championship**

Summer 2016 / Volume 20 / Issue 2



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# September 14 -17, 2016 Triple C Tactical APPLICATION Training Range Cresson, TX

**Participants:** Entries must be **POSTMARKED OR SHIPPED (NOT RECEIVED) NO EARLIER than May 30, 2016**. Any entries received prior to this date will not be considered for squadding until July 1st and only if there are openings left. **SEND ENTRIES TO: IDPA CHAMPIONSHIP, 2232 CR 719, Berryville, Arkansas 72616**

- All applicants must be current IDPA members with a classification of Marksman or higher.
- **Limited to 290 entries based on accumulated points.** Ask that your match director makes sure to upload results to the IDPA website in the format that includes your IDPA number so you get credit toward the points system to attend the IDPA US National Championship.

<b>Points System:</b>	Points will be accumulated from May 30, 2015 through May 31, 2016. The points will be awarded based on participation at sanctioned matches whose results have been uploaded to IDPA HQ or as noted below. Clubs that hold matches in the last two weeks of May 2016, should have their results uploaded to IDPA HQ no later than June 3, 2016	<b>The Points:</b>	Tier 2 matches are worth 1 point. Tier 3 matches are worth 2 points. Tier 4 matches are worth 3 points. Tier 5 matches (Worlds, US and Indoor Nationals only) are worth 4 points. Match Directors of sanctioned matches in this year or the previous earn 1 point. The club contacts listed on the IDPA website as of May 31, 2016 earn 1 point.
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You will choose your own squad. We will send notification via email to let you know when and where to go for self squadding. To self squad, you will need to sign in using the same user name and password you use to login in to [www.idpa.com](http://www.idpa.com). Sign up now at [www.idpa.com](http://www.idpa.com) if you plan to submit an entry form for the US National Championship.

<b>How slots will be awarded:</b>	We will fill the first 200 openings using the Points System. 50 openings will then be filled by random drawing of all the remaining shooters who did not get a slot using their points. This will allow shooters in areas not featuring frequent sanctioned matches to have an opportunity to attend. 30 openings will be reserved for International Shooters and will be awarded by random drawing; any international shooters who do not receive a slot via this method will be entered into the random drawing for the 50 openings mentioned above. These numbers do not include IDPA Staff and SOs as they do not take up any of the slots on Thur, Fri or Sat.
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<b>Entry Fee:</b>	<b>Location:</b> Triple C Tactical Training Range, Cresson, TX
\$175 until July 1. \$225 after July 1, 2016. Entry fees for Foreign Members are to be paid by credit card only. Includes the match and all festivities. (One dinner is included in the entry fee. Extra dinners for guests are \$35.) No match fee refunds will be made for any reason after August 22, 2016. Make checks payable to IDPA.	<b>Match Director:</b> Brian Ehrler  <b>Assistant Match Directors:</b> Phil Torres, Rick Lund

<b>Events:</b>	<table style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tr> <td style="width: 15%;"><b>Tues., Sept. 13</b></td> <td style="width: 15%;"><b>12:00 pm</b></td> <td>Safety Officers and Staff shoot half match</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td><b>Evening</b></td> <td>On your own</td> </tr> <tr> <td><b>Wed., Sept. 14</b></td> <td><b>8:00 am</b></td> <td>Safety Officers and Staff shoot remaining half or full match</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td><b>12:00pm</b></td> <td>Lunch for Safety Officers shooting full match</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td><b>7:00-9:00 pm</b></td> <td>Competitor Sign-in/Hospitality Room open</td> </tr> <tr> <td><b>Thurs., Sept. 15</b></td> <td><b>8:00 am</b></td> <td>Squads 11-18 shoot 4 bays</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td><b>12:00 am</b></td> <td>Lunch at the range for squads 11-18</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td><b>1:00 pm</b></td> <td>Squads 11-18 shoot remaining 4 bays</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td><b>7:00-9:00 pm</b></td> <td>Competitor Sign-in/Hospitality Room open</td> </tr> <tr> <td><b>Fri., Sept. 16</b></td> <td><b>7:15 am</b></td> <td>Shooter's Meeting at the range for squads 21-28</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td><b>7:30 am</b></td> <td>Squads 21-28 shoot 5 bays</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td><b>12:30 pm</b></td> <td>Lunch at the range for squads 21-28</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td><b>1:15 pm</b></td> <td>Shooter's Meeting at the range for squads 31-38</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td><b>1:30 pm</b></td> <td>Squads 31-38 shoot 5 bays</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td><b>Evening</b></td> <td>On your own</td> </tr> <tr> <td><b>Sat., Sept. 17</b></td> <td><b>8:00 am</b></td> <td>Squads 31-38 shoot 3 bays</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td><b>11:00 am</b></td> <td>Lunch at the range for squads 31-38</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td><b>12:00 pm</b></td> <td>Squads 21-28 shoot 3 bays</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td><b>6:00 pm</b></td> <td>PreAwards Cocktails</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td><b>7:00-10:00 pm</b></td> <td>Awards Dinner - Dinner served at 7 PM with Awards Ceremony to follow</td> </tr> </table>	<b>Tues., Sept. 13</b>	<b>12:00 pm</b>	Safety Officers and Staff shoot half match		<b>Evening</b>	On your own	<b>Wed., Sept. 14</b>	<b>8:00 am</b>	Safety Officers and Staff shoot remaining half or full match		<b>12:00pm</b>	Lunch for Safety Officers shooting full match		<b>7:00-9:00 pm</b>	Competitor Sign-in/Hospitality Room open	<b>Thurs., Sept. 15</b>	<b>8:00 am</b>	Squads 11-18 shoot 4 bays		<b>12:00 am</b>	Lunch at the range for squads 11-18		<b>1:00 pm</b>	Squads 11-18 shoot remaining 4 bays		<b>7:00-9:00 pm</b>	Competitor Sign-in/Hospitality Room open	<b>Fri., Sept. 16</b>	<b>7:15 am</b>	Shooter's Meeting at the range for squads 21-28		<b>7:30 am</b>	Squads 21-28 shoot 5 bays		<b>12:30 pm</b>	Lunch at the range for squads 21-28		<b>1:15 pm</b>	Shooter's Meeting at the range for squads 31-38		<b>1:30 pm</b>	Squads 31-38 shoot 5 bays		<b>Evening</b>	On your own	<b>Sat., Sept. 17</b>	<b>8:00 am</b>	Squads 31-38 shoot 3 bays		<b>11:00 am</b>	Lunch at the range for squads 31-38		<b>12:00 pm</b>	Squads 21-28 shoot 3 bays		<b>6:00 pm</b>	PreAwards Cocktails		<b>7:00-10:00 pm</b>	Awards Dinner - Dinner served at 7 PM with Awards Ceremony to follow
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**September 14 -17, 2016  
APPLICATION**

**Triple C Tactical  
Training Range  
Cresson, TX**

PLEASE NOTE: Due to the large number of entries, your entry form must be completed **ENTIRELY AND CORRECTLY** or it will not be accepted. NO EXEMPTIONS. So please check thoroughly before mailing. Entry form is not considered complete unless accompanied by payment.

IDPA #: \_\_\_\_\_ NAME: \_\_\_\_\_  
 ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_ CITY: \_\_\_\_\_  
 STATE: \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP: \_\_\_\_\_ COUNTRY: \_\_\_\_\_  
 PHONE #: \_\_\_\_\_ EMAIL: \_\_\_\_\_

By applying for entry into the IDPA US National Championship, I hereby irrevocably consent to and authorize the use and reproduction by the International Defensive Pistol Association (IDPA), or anyone authorized by IDPA, of any and all photographs or video which IDPA has taken during the IDPA US National Championship and all associated functions of me, negative or positive, for any purpose whatsoever, without any compensation to me. All negatives and positives together with all prints shall constitute IDPA's property, solely and completely. And/or I hereby give my consent for IDPA to use any written quote I have given IDPA and/or my name and title in any and all of IDPA's advertising, magazines, catalog (whether printed or website) and etc. without any compensation to me.

**Only ONE Dinner is included with entry. All additional dinners will be \$35 each.**

**TOTAL number of people attending the awards banquet & dinner Sat. evening (including entrant): \_\_\_\_\_**

Entry Fee: \$175 (before 7/1/15) \_\_\_\_\_  
 \$225 (after 7/1/15) \_\_\_\_\_

Additional Dinner: \$35 \_\_\_\_\_

There will be **NO** Division changes once HQ receives your entry form.  
 Classifications **WILL** change based on the latest issue of the rulebook.

Total: \_\_\_\_\_

Division	Classification	Sub-Category (Circle ONLY ONE)		HQ Office Use Only	
CCP <input type="checkbox"/>	Distinguished Master <input type="checkbox"/>	Senior (50-64) <input type="checkbox"/>	Military Veteran <input type="checkbox"/>	Date Rec'd	
CDP <input type="checkbox"/>	Master <input type="checkbox"/>	Dist. Senior (65+) <input type="checkbox"/>	Law Enforcement <input type="checkbox"/>	Pay Method/#	
ESP <input type="checkbox"/>	Expert <input type="checkbox"/>	Junior (12-18) <input type="checkbox"/>	Industry <input type="checkbox"/>	Amount	
SSP <input type="checkbox"/>	Sharpshooter <input type="checkbox"/>	Lady <input type="checkbox"/>	International <input type="checkbox"/>		
REV <input type="checkbox"/>	Marksman <input type="checkbox"/>	Military <input type="checkbox"/>	Press <input type="checkbox"/>		

Sanctioned Match Director of what match?	1 point
Club Contact of what club?	1 point

**Sanctioned Matches you have attended**

(If you have additional matches beyond the space provided, please include them on a separate sheet of paper):

	point(s)
	point(s)
	point(s)
	point(s)
	point(s)

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## GUNS OF THE OLD WEST

This magazine gives attention to shooting matches, wardrobe, holsters, knives and other products and services in demand. In the fastest growing shooting sport, cowboy action shooting, the Old West is as alive today as it ever was.

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# CONTENTS

## SUMMER 2016



# 22

## FEATURES

**14** MATCH REVIEW  
**2016 Indoor National Championship**  
It was all fun and games at this year's Indoor Championship. *By Allison Launius*

**18** IMPROVE YOUR MENTAL GAME  
**Process & Success Modules**  
There is more to a match than just pulling the trigger. *By Mike Seeklander*

**22** GUN REVIEW  
**Springfield Armory EMP4**  
A powerhouse for Compact Carry Pistol division. *By Robert Ray*

**32** MATCH REVIEW  
**2016 Florida State Championship**  
Deck: It was all fun and games at this year's Indoor Championship. *By Robert Ray*

**36** IMPROVE YOUR PHYSICAL GAME  
**Shooting At The Speed Of Sight**  
Training your eyes to follow the front sight during recoil. *By Duane Thomas*



# 10



# 36

## COLUMNS

**8** DIRECTOR'S LETTER  
**Exercise Your Rights!**  
A Message from Joyce Wilson.

**10** FROM A WOMAN'S PERSPECTIVE  
**On The Draw**  
No matter where you carry your gun, the basic steps to drawing it remain the same. *By Kathy Jackson*

**12** WHAT'S IN YOUR RANGE BAG?  
**BJ Norris**  
The gear he carries that helps carry him through a match. *By Allison Launius*

**26** PRO-TIPS  
**Dry Firing Your Way To Success**  
The cheapest and best method to improve your shooting skills. *By Morgan Allen*

**28** SPOTLIGHT  
**Scott Randolph**  
A look at the members that make up IDPA  
*By Walt Kloeppe*

## DEPARTMENTS

- 1** 2016 US Nationals Entry Form
- 39** Trophy Room
- 42** Match Calendar
- 43** Parting Shot

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**2232 CR 719**  
**Berryville, AR 72616**

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# EXERCISE YOUR RIGHTS!

## A Message from Joyce Wilson, IDPA Executive Director



It is early March and right now the news is full of exhortations, promises and darts from politicians jockeying for position in the primaries. Pick up any newspaper, magazine, turn on your laptop or television and you can take your pick of ideologies and the personalities behind them. The definition of exercise is "to perform or make proper use of". We all have the opportunity to make proper use of our ability to choose who represents us. Many patriots before us gave their blood to make sure we had this right. Please, no

matter who you support - VOTE in your local and primary elections and make your voice heard.

Two weeks ago I returned from the Smith & Wesson Indoor Nationals in Massachusetts. It is always a delight to shoot a good match, visit with our members and meet those companies like S&W who support IDPA. It was one of the most challenging matches we have seen in our sport. And despite the frigid weather, we netted three new Distinguished Masters who were warmed up enough to join only 29 other

shooters in this prestigious club. Thanks to S&W and MD/AMD Chad "Gunny" Barber and Debbie Singer for their hard work.

If you attended that match, you may have been made aware of an initiative we are very happy to support. Every day there are more than 22 veteran suicides and this program, Active Heroes, is a 501(c)(3) national charity committed to ending the epidemic of veteran suicide through activity programs, community centers and retreats. This program impacted over 9,000 lives



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ROBERT VOGEL  
2015 IDPA Champion

334



778



779



5197



last year alone, saving over 150 of them in the process. Aiming for Zero is a flagship program bringing together Active Heroes, IDPA, and competitors across the nation. Competitors can participate by making a recommended donation of \$0.10 per point down per match. Donations can be made by visiting [activeheroes.org/aimingforzero](http://activeheroes.org/aimingforzero) or mailing donations to Active Heroes at 8701 Old Bardstown Rd, Suite B, Louisville, KY 40291. Clubs wishing to promote the initiative can register for packages that include a banner and other promotional materials. You will be hearing more about Aiming for Zero and participation at the 2016 Nationals in the near future.

IDPA is pleased to announce that we also have a new Social Media Manager, Mandy Bachman from Texas will be working with our members to highlight matches, events and news on all of our social media sites. If you have news or announcements or need ideas on how to promote your IDPA event, please feel free to send her information you would like posted or tweeted to [mandy@idpa.com](mailto:mandy@idpa.com).

The weather will be a vastly different in Cresson, Texas in September for the 2016 IDPA National Championship. MD Brian Ehrler and AMDs Rick Lund and Phil Torres have selected the theme "The Wild West" for this event, so bring your boots, cowboy

hat and sun screen for some yee-haw fun!

The 2017-18 Rulebook Team continues to meet. Tasked by IDPA with streamlining and simplifying the current rulebook, they are meeting weekly to look at the current and past rulebooks to make life easier for shooters new to our sport. Everywhere I go, I am asked by folks about the 1 second per point down rule. As a reminder, this change is not in effect currently but will take effect with the 2017 rulebook when it is released.

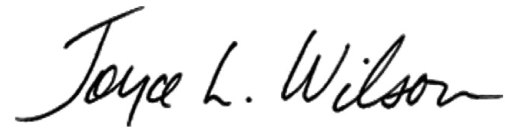
Our Technology partner, RANGELOG, has been hard at work with us to help meet the needs of our members. Recently they released an option that enables the downloading of clarifications so that members can easily sort and search them. They also are working on the last phase of a wire-frame for IDPA videos. Much to the delight of our Area Coordinators, we are in testing with an option that would allow ACs the ability to search the member database to get a current list of members, SOs and SOIs in their area of responsibility to help them track and trend in their area.

Many of you will have seen the HQ staff at the US Concealed Carry Association Expo in late April in Atlanta and we will be at the NRA Annual Meeting in Louisville in May. Whenever and where ever you see us, please stop by and say hello as we work to represent YOU at these events. Some

of you reading this in Europe may also see Robert Ray and Kitty Richards in Italy in May at a European Summit there. Continue watching the Tactical Brief for more information on this event.

At a conference aimed at female gun owners last fall I had the chance to meet and talk with Sandra Froman, former president of the NRA. I have mentioned before that Sandy told all the women there her story. "I was not all that into politics, but I became political to protect my Second Amendment rights." I remind you of this as this year we all must exercise our right to vote. If you count yourself as apolitical today, look around, study the candidates and issues, educate yourself and vote. The time is here that all gun owners and lovers of freedom need to become political and make our voices heard.

See you at the polls.



**Joyce Wilson, #CL087**

*Joyce Wilson is the Executive Director of IDPA. Members can contact her at [joyce@idpa.com](mailto:joyce@idpa.com)*



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FROM A WOMAN'S PERSPECTIVE

# ON THE DRAW

**No matter  
where you  
carry your gun,  
the basic steps  
to drawing it  
remain the same.**

**WORDS**

KATHY JACKSON



TGHS PAGE: STRAIGHT 8 PHOTOGRAPHY/SHUTTERSTOCK. OPPOSITE: DON STAHLNECKER

## Basic



## Appendix



## Bra



## Ankle



**“How can IDPA be good concealed carry practice for me? I don’t carry my gun in a belt holster.”** If I had a dime for every woman who’d ever said something like that, I’d be a rich woman today. Good news, though: as common as the sentiment might be, it’s not really true. It only takes a few minor tweaks to turn belt-holster practice into useful practice for other types of concealed carry – and to reap the practical benefits of shooting competitively in IDPA events.

Let’s discuss the elements of a basic drawstroke. No matter what kind of holster or carry device we use, there are certain elements all good drawstrokes have in common. The goal is to get the gun out of the holster as quickly as possible when you need it, so you are prepared to fire at your identified target without endangering yourself or innocent others, and also prepared to hold onto the gun in case the criminal tries to grab it away from you before you’ve fired.

This means that whenever possible, a good concealed-carry draw should help you:

- ▶ Avoid unnecessarily muzzling your non-shooting hand or any other part of your body.
- ▶ Clear your cover garment reliably and efficiently.
- ▶ Get your dominant hand into a solid firing position on the gun (with the trigger finger high and alongside the frame) while the gun is still securely inside the holster.
- ▶ Bring the gun smoothly out of the holster.
- ▶ Align the muzzle on target efficiently.
- ▶ Get both hands onto the gun in a solid two-handed grip as early as reasonably possible.

The specifics of how each drawstroke will accomplish these things will vary de-

pending on your body type, your clothing, where the gun rides on your body, and the specific type of holster or carry device you use. But paying attention to these common points can help you get the most out of your matches, and decide which specific skills you’ll need to focus on during your solo practice sessions.

### Basic Draw

During the basic draw from a belt holster (shown here with a Galco TacSlide holster), you’ll want to (1) clear the cover garment and get your hand on the holstered gun; (2) rotate the muzzle to the target and bring both hands together in a firing grip; and (3) drive the gun out to align the sights on target.

### Appendix Carry

*(Belly Band Or Other Soft Device)*

From the appendix position (shown here with a soft Can Can Hip Hugger), you’ll want to (1) clear the cover garment and get your hand on the holstered gun; (2) rotate the muzzle to the target and bring both hands together in a firing grip; and (3) drive the gun out to align the sights on target.

### Flashbang

Using a Flashbang Bra Holster, you’ll want to (1) clear the cover garment and get your hand on the holstered gun; (2) rotate the muzzle to the target and bring both hands together in a firing grip; and (3) drive the gun out to align the sights on target.

### Ankle

From the ankle holster (shown here with a Galco Ankle Glove), you’ll want to (1) clear the cover garment and get your hand on the holstered gun; (2) rotate the muzzle to

the target and bring both hands together in a firing grip; and (3) drive the gun out to align the sights on target.

In other words, no matter where we carry our gun – whether it’s on the belt or in a belly band, in a bra holster or on the ankle, or anywhere else on the body – the basic steps to safely and efficiently drawing it always remain the same. By focusing on the elements each type of draw has in common, we can feel secure that our competitive shooting practice yields practical benefits for everyday carry. **TD**

### ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Kathy Jackson of Cornered Cat LLC. My husband and I have five children, all sons who are now young adults (20, 21, 22, 24, 26). I’ve been shooting since 1999, and professionally teaching defensive handgun skills to others since 2003. From 2008 to 2012, I worked as the editor of Concealed Carry Magazine, and since 2012 I have been teaching handgun and self-defense classes all over the country under the Cornered Cat banner. I’m a staff instructor at the Firearms Academy of Seattle, and hold instructor credentials from FAS, Rangemaster, and the Massad Ayoob Group (MAG).

Photo By Oleg Volk



# BJ NORRIS

The gear he carries that helps carry him through a match.

WORDS ALLISON LAUNIUS PHOTOS ERINN O'DONNELL



In this issue, we welcome BJ Norris to “What’s in Your Range Bag.” BJ, who is a member of Team Wilson Combat, has been shooting competitively since he was 11 years old. BJ has secured a place at the top of the action shooting sports and we are happy to be looking into his range bag. When I asked BJ if I could peek into his Range Bag at the 2016 Smith & Wesson Indoor Nationals, he looked a bit caught off guard but quickly recovered and said “Sure, there isn’t much in there but I’d be happy too.”

Here is what BJ has to say about what’s in his Range Bag.

“When it comes to my range bag, I’m somewhat of a minimalist. Staying as light and easy to carry as possible is important, as matches can be an all-day affair, and staying fresh can mean the difference between having a great performance, or a fun day at the range. Obviously, you’re going to need a gun, and in my case that’s either a Wilson Combat 9MM 1911 or Brigadier Tactical 92G depending on the division I’m shooting. With either gun, I carry 6



1. Safariland Model 568 holster
2. Safariland Model 779 mag pouch
3. ESS eye protection
4. Wilson Combat ETM magazines
5. Freedom Munitions 9mm ammo
6. Wilson Combat custom 1911 9mm
7. Match ID
8. Spare parts



**BJ ripping through a stage at the 2016 Indoor Nationals.**

magazines. Mags are pretty lightweight and easy to carry, so if I ever have a question on whether one is acting up, I can go right to the bag and grab another. This also lets me have some extras available in the case of back-to-back stages in the same bay.

For ammo, I use Freedom Munitions 135 Grain Hollow Point. The 135 Gr bullet is one of the best bullet weights in 9MM, as it


stays sub-sonic, eliminating the supersonic crack, but is light enough to keep the slide velocity up so the gun doesn't feel sluggish.

I stick with a basic paddle holster and double mag pouch from Safariland, with Magpul's Tejas gun belt, while eye protection and ear protection round out the absolutely necessary items for matches.

But what about spare parts?! Yes, spare

parts are VERY important to keep on hand, especially in the case of traveling to major matches. That being said, I only keep basic small parts and tools in my range bag, with the major parts and tools staying in the car. While you can, and should be able to fix a small problem like replacing a fiber optic, or giving your gun a quick oil without leaving the nearest safe area, I like to take a little more time for major issues. If your extractor breaks for instance, chances are, you're going to need a minute to think through the problem, and also relax after the stage that probably just went horribly wrong. A quick walk to the car to get your toolkit gives you a chance to breathe, collect your thoughts and get ready to get back in the game.

For the practice range, I stocked a secondary box with a timer, staple gun, targets, pasters, cordless saw, notebook, and all of the other stuff you usually need to have a great practice. This just lives in the back of my truck along with a bunch of MGM targets so it's always ready to run out to the range in the afternoons."

I want to thank BJ for opening up and sharing his Range Bag with us. Remember if you see me on the range come on up and talk to me about what's in your Range Bag. 

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# 2016 INDOOR NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP



**It was all fun and games at this year's Indoor Championship.**

**WORDS ALLISON LAUNIUS PHOTOS ERINN O'DONNELL**

**“Welcome men, women and children of all ages to the IDPA Smith & Wesson Carnival!” This is how Chief Safety Officer, Jon Wolfe, welcomed competitors to the match. He came out with gusto and energy that no one else had at 7 am on a cool winter's morning in Massachusetts. Dressed in full ringleader regalia, complete with a top hat, competitors were treated to a helium infused voice which broke up the usually mundane but important shooters meeting where shooters were introduced to the Match Director, Chad Barber, and Assistant Match Director, Debbie Singer. I know it brought a smile to everyone's faces and gave the shooters some excitement to see what laid ahead on the stages.**

This introduction at the shooters meeting is what I as an IDPA employee love about our sport. I view our IDPA competitors and staff as family. Jon's big top welcome really brought some personality to the match that I love. This year was my third time shooting it, and one big difference

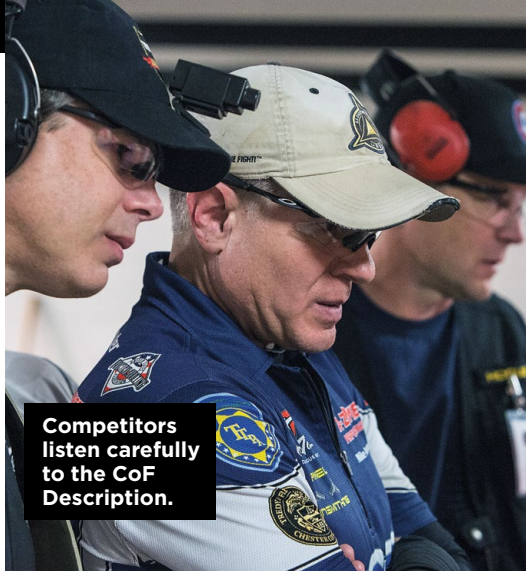


**Assistant MD Debbie Singer (left), Executive Director, Joyce Wilson and SQSO Michelle Lonergan (right) tirelessly work to help run a smooth match.**





Even though this was not a dark stage the slightly reduced lighting made for great photos.



Competitors listen carefully to the CoF Description.



After engaging his first set of threat targets he moves to the second position out of four of stage 1.

from the other years was the amount of low / no light stages. If you are unaware, Smith & Wesson's Training range does not have to worry about outside elements which really allows them to play with lighting condition. This year was no exception to that, 8 out of 14 stages were low light. Most of us don't even think about practicing with a flashlight. Those that do, have confidence when they step up to the line vs. thinking about how you are going to get through this without fumbling. This sets them apart from the rest of the competitors.

On stage 3 in the Small Training Bay, Pasqueille, stage designer and CSO, had a frightening large mouthed clown with even scarier bad guys hidden behind his mouth. However, on stage 4 was where competitors found the real horror show. Targabot was back. If you are unfamiliar with this target system, it is just as its name describes it. A robotic target that also doubles as a modern torture device that moves up and down or in a 180 degree rotational movement with a programmable sequence or you can use the built in sequence. This adds a new level of difficulty especially while you are seated on a swinging bench, that competitors haven't seen before and we hope to see more of these systems on ranges around the country.

Keeping up with the theme, Jon Wolfe and company brought some amazing stages to the large training bay. Where every nook and cranny was festive and bright, a larger than life teddy bear acted as a vision barrier and a fun photo booth kept the kiddies, I mean shooters, entertained till it was their turn to ride. With a lot of hard work and clever engineering, this year's crew really brought down the house with their carnival themed stages.

The real story is about who came out on top in the winner's circle. High Lady went to Randi Rogers, who had a phenomenal

## With a lot of hard work and clever engineering, this year's crew really brought down the house with their carnival themed stages.

match. Up and coming shooter, Mason Lane, took High ESP. Once again Bob Vogel took High SSP. CCP has had a great start as a new division with a lot of competition and winning out in CCP was Joseph Linsky. The real nail bitter was in CDP this year with David Olhasso competing against last year's CDP division champion, Glenn Shelby. David beat out Glenn by two one hundredths of a second. Think about that. Two One Hundredths of a second. That is so incredibly quick and I will be looking forward to next year when these two face off for High CDP. Congratulations to all the winners.

One thing I noticed that was different about Chad was the way he communicated and ran this operation, aka Indoor Nationals. He came to the match with a clear mind set of what he wanted to see and how to obtain it. He asked the Squad SOs to report to him by text when they arrived to a bay, when the first shot was fired, and when they departed a bay. This helped him figure out how much time was being spent from arriving at the bay to first shot and how long to reset the stages. This gave him a lot of data that MDs never had and allowed him to put extra staff on bays that were running a little behind. Another thing I noticed is how much appreciation he showed towards his staff. After years of running a bay here, he knew what passion his staff had and how much blood, sweat and tears they put into this match. He showed me by example what is was like to be a leader and giving confidence to his staff. At the awards banquet, Tom Yost gifted Chad with an Autographed

Target signed by not only the staff but also the competitors. As everyone in the room stood in applause, Chad had a few tears which must be from those onions he was cutting at his table.

As well as being the Match Director, Chad Barber has been volunteering his time and energy at S&W since 2009 and his wife, Angela, also started volunteering there in 2010 and has been a pivotal member of the staff since then. Chad is also the Area Coordinator of Alabama and Georgia. When he isn't on the range, you can find Chad serving for the United States Coast Guard where he has been for the past 28 years. Chad is expected to be pinned as a Chief Warrant Officer III this summer.

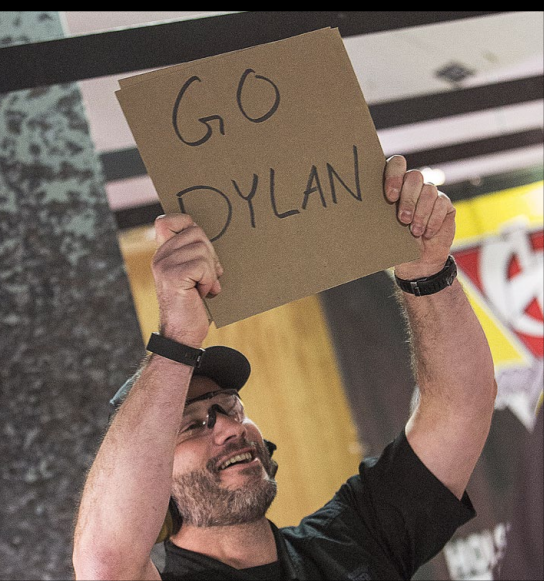
Even though I traveled from Arkansas to Massachusetts to shoot this match it always feels like coming home. A very cold home, but one where I get to laugh and enjoy my IDPA family with everyone who is there for the same experience. I can't wait to travel up to the cold state of Massachusetts next February and what new, challenging stages will be there and to see my IDPA family once again. Well, that is unless I manage to talk the boss into sending me to Florida next year instead of Robert. You'll see his match report later in this issue. **TJ**

**Allison Launius, #A51146**  
Allison has worked for IDPA HQ since 2011 and is the Advertising Coordinator while also wearing many different hats at HQ. She is enthusiastic about the sport and helping it grow. Members can contact her at [allison@idpa.com](mailto:allison@idpa.com)



IDPA would like to congratulate all of the competitors in the 2016 Indoor National Championship. We would also like to extend a very heartfelt Thank You to Smith and Wesson and all of the SO's and Staff that helped make this match such a huge success. We look forward to seeing you there next year.





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## TACTICAL

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IMPROVE YOUR MENTAL GAME

# PROCESS & SUCCESS MODULES

There is more to a match than just pulling the trigger.

WORDS MIKE SEEKLANDER PHOTOS RICK LUND JR. & ERINN O'DONNELL

**“Shooter ready....stand by....BEEP!” The stage started to flow, all was going well and then it happened. The first position went great, zero down so far...the next position good as well, but in the third position I visually indexed the first target and the sights appeared in the center of the zero incredibly fast and I pressed the trigger two times resulting in two more zero down hits.**

A millisecond later my brain realized what happened. Disaster! Did I move the gun resulting in a couple down threes or misses? No. The shots landed perfectly in the center of the target. The only problem? IT WAS A NON-THREAT! And I did not shoot it by accident, I shot it with purpose... although obviously wrong. So what caused this dreaded mistake to happen so fast that my conscious decision making mind could not keep up with my subconscious skill of executing the shot? Simple, I had failed to follow the “process.”

In analyzing my performance at the 2015 IDPA World Championship, I realized that the errors made were, not surprising, all resulting from two key areas, one in training and one in application of the skills. This article will break down those two key areas and help you set yourself up for success in your next match if you put the time and effort into practicing and then deliberately executing with a process.

Let's define the two key areas that I can attribute ALL of my mistakes at ANY major match when I look at them objectively. The

two key areas are:

- Correct application of key training modules.
- Following a set “process” when shooting match stages.

The first thing I look at when analyzing my mistakes at any major match is whether or not I followed my preparation plan. Think of this as more than just doing training drills on the range, but rather a way to break down and develop your skills from a broader perspective. Years ago when I wrote my first book ‘Your Competition Handgun Training Program’, I looked at the various methods of preparing both mentally and physically for a match, and I came up with the following “training modules.”:

## Six Modules Of Success

There are six key areas that you will focus on to ensure your success. They are: live and dry fire training, visual training, mental training, physical fitness, and game day quizzes (matches). The symbiotic effect of doing all of these training modules in a systematic manner will increase your skill more than the raw results of them just added together. Your training program will be a systematic set of processes that will give you the skills needed to reach your goal, rather than a random set of practice sessions that are unlikely to work as well.

The key is to realize that each area must be addressed in order for you to gain real success, but each might require more or less time depending on your individual

circumstances. For example, you can see that two of the modules are live and dry fire training. I found years ago that if I worked hard and practiced in those two key areas I would possess a great deal of skill, but if I failed to address the “game day” module (shoot matches), I could never truly use that skill to it's potential. Simply because I could not process the information as quickly as I would need to in order to be competitive.

Look at each key area and assign yourself a value on a scale from 1-10 on how good you are in each area. A 10 being the best and requiring little attention from you, and a 1 requiring more work. For example, you might have great vision and simply shooting your practice drills is enough in that module, where a different person might have vision deficits and need work in that area. The solution would be to spend some time on vision exercises (yes the eyes can be trained). Some of you might be very physically fit, and need to pay little attention to that module, but sorely lack the mental confidence and skills to perform well. In that case, you will need to research and utilize mental tools to improve in that area.

Take a look and see where you fall.

The next area I want to talk about is “the process” I referred to early in this article. This simply means that if I want to perform at my best in a match, I need to do more than just practice and then hope when I get to a match it will all come together. I need to follow a process to ensure it does. I like to tell my students that I don't “shoot” a

NADA GIRL/SHUTTERSTOCK

match, instead I “work” one. This simply means that the entire time I am working through the process. Mine looks like this (at the match):

**1. Prepare** (magazines loaded and double checked, gun checked, gear ready).

**2. Recon** (the stage). This includes finding all targets, learning the stage procedure, observing the activators if there are any, and beginning my process of putting it all together. It is in this step that I like to take what I would describe as a “Kodak picture” of each array of targets so visually I know what I should be seeing when I come into the shooting position.

**3. Plan** (the shooting sequence). This is where I take the information from my recon and start developing my plan. From the very first target to the last, I figure out how I will shoot the stage. This includes the target order in each array, and to get that order correct I take mental pictures of each target array. You need to remember that your vision leads everything when shooting. This means that from the first shot fired your vision starts to flow from the sights, to the next target, to your stage and stop markers (spots on the ground or on walls that get you into position), etc. I know if I can find my visual flow, I will perform well on the stage.

**4. Validate** (the plan). This is where I take my plan and bounce it off other shooters, or simply watch how they are planning to shoot the stage. This is my chance to see if I missed something.

**5. Visualize** (the plan). Now it's time to work. After the plan is set, now I have to run it in my mind until I can turn away from the stage and close my eyes and see every single visual shift I plan to use on the stage. (see step 3) I normally visualize my plan until I am up to shoot, often ten times or more.

**6. Execute** (the plan). Now it's go time. If I have done steps 1-5, all I need to do is use my vision and subconscious skills (developed in practice) to lead me through the stage.

**7. Debrief and document** (the execution). This is a key step that has nothing to do with the stage, but rather helps you prepare for the very next stage (and future stages). The key is to find a way of assessing your performance on the stage, and documenting anything you can directly influence in future practice. I like to have the match booklet, and analyze how my stage went. If I can write something down that I can address in future training sessions I do so, and then when I close my logbook (or match booklet), that stage is over. I DO NOT carry it over to the next stage. This is a good tip for those of you that tend to carry

Carefully listening to the stage briefing is a key part of the Recon process.



There is more than one key to shooting success. It takes all six to unlock your full potential.



negative thoughts to the next stage.

So in closing, what area did I fail on that caused the mistake in the beginning of this article? I simply failed to take my “Kodak picture” of the arrays in that stage. When I came into the shooting position, mounted my gun perfectly based on the stage marker, and shot...I shot the wrong target. Had I really possessed a picture in my mind of the array I would see, I would have keyed my conscious mind to index on target

number two in the array instead of number one. Problem solved! I got lazy in my stage recon, and paid for it.

Take some time to address your own success modules and figure out where you might be lacking. Then add your own “process” you can follow to ensure that hard earned success in matches. The rest is simply following the plan! Put the work in; you will get the results.

Until Then - Train Hard! —Mike S.

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## IMPROVE YOUR MENTAL GAME

The author during the Plan process at the Indoor National Championship



### Mike Seeklander, #A31187

Currently Mike Seeklander is owner of Shooting-Performance LLC ([www.shooting-performance.com](http://www.shooting-performance.com)), a full service training company and the American Warrior Society ([www.americanwarriorsociety.com](http://www.americanwarriorsociety.com)). Mike is also the co-host of The Best Defense, the Outdoor channels leading firearm instructional show as well as Rapid Fire, a fun and exciting face paced show covering a spectrum of fully automatic machine guns.

Previously, Mike was Chief Operating Officer, Director of Training and a Senior Instructor at the U.S. Shooting Academy in Tulsa, Ok. He was directly responsible for the development of all U.S.A. training programs.

Prior to that as an employee of the Federal Government, Mike has served as the Branch Chief and Lead Instructor for the Firearms division with the Federal Air Marshal Service as well as a Senior Instructor at the Federal Law Enforcement Training Center (FLETC).

He has extensive formal training and experience in all phases of military and law enforcement training. Mike is a highly sought after tactical and competitive trainer and a high level performer on the competition handgun circuit. Currently a nationally ranked competitor on the practical handgun competition circuit, Seeklander has authored/produced instructional books, DVD's and has developed hundreds of lesson plans specifically related to basic and advanced firearms training.

As a local law enforcement officer with the Know County Sherriff's Department as well as the Knoxville Police Department Mike worked in corrections as well as patrol and with the Organized Crime division.

Mike is the recipient of numerous awards and honors in the law enforcement community, and as a semi-professional shooter.

Shooting accomplishments are as follows:

- ▶ 2013 and 2014 IPDA BUG (Back Up Gun) National Champion
- ▶ 2011 Steel Challenge World Champion (Production Division)
- ▶ 2007 European Championships (2nd Overall)
- ▶ USPSA National Championships (Top 5 Overall Numerous Times)
- ▶ Area Championship wins: Area 7, Area 4, Area 1 (USPSA)
- ▶ State Championship wins (Multiple times in some states): Oklahoma (USPSA and IDPA), Badlands Regional (IDPA), Tennessee (USPSA), Arkansas (IDPA and USPSA), South Carolina (USPSA), Georgia (USPSA), Texas Limited (USPSA), New Jersey (USPSA)

Having competed in the shooting sports nationally, Mike adds to this experience with more than 15 years of experience in various martial arts holding multiple ranks including a Black Belt in Okinawan Freestyle Karate.



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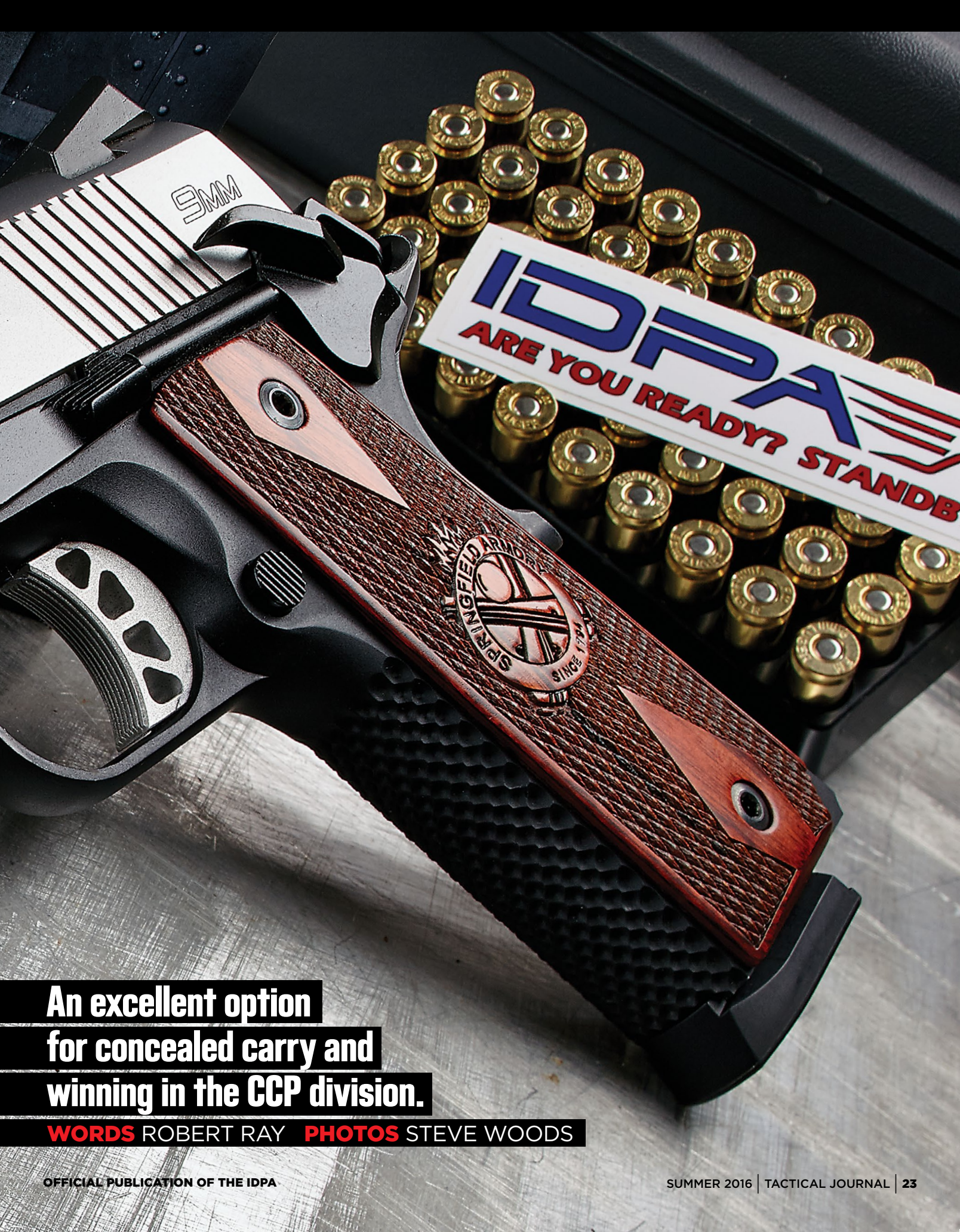




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**WORDS** ROBERT RAY **PHOTOS** STEVE WOODS



A two toned finish with nice wood grips makes this gun look as good as it shoots.



Left is a standard 1911 9mm mag and right is the narrower EMP4.

With the introduction of the Compact Carry Division, it instigated a new discussion amongst the membership on what the “perfect” CCP gun would be. As to be expected, there was a lot of back and forth with members but most suggestions revolved around a double stack polymer gun. There were not a lot of 1911 platforms mentioned. This is mostly because everyone wants the full 4 inches allowed for the barrel length. With most 1911’s available you have three options, 5 inch (full sized), 4.25 inch (commander sized) and 3.50 inch (officers sized). However, there are a few available that have a true 4 inch barrel and light enough to make the CCP weight limit. The new Springfield Armory EMP4 Lightweight Champion is one and it is a good one.

The Enhanced Micro Pistol (EMP) line of 1911’s were designed specifically around the 9mm and .40 caliber rounds. In doing this, Springfield was able to reduce the

overall grip size. This reduction makes for an incredibly comfortable grip. I don’t have huge hands but they are on the larger size and the EMP felt extremely good in the hand. I was also able to put it in the hands of several ladies, youths and others with smaller hands and they all were very impressed with how comfortable it felt. The checkering on the back strap and the Posi-Lock™ texture on the front strap provide for a secure, yet not overly aggressive, grip while shooting. This was true even with sweaty or oily hands. The frame is a lightweight forged aluminum alloy and has a black hardcoat anodized finish. This is what enables the EMP4 to meet the 37 ounce weight limit for CCP. The frame is finished off with a good looking set of cocobolo ultra thin grips bearing the Springfield Armory logo.

The EMP comes with an ambidextrous safety which I like for a carry gun. Unfortunately it also makes the gun slightly

too wide for CCP. This forces one of two options. You can grind down the ambi by about 1/16 of an inch or you can install a single sided safety. Even though the grip dimension has been scaled down for a 9mm, it still uses standard 1911 safety controls so swapping the safety is no big deal.

The EM4 comes standard with a red fiber optic front sight and white dot low profile combat rear. I found the sights to be very fast to pick up on the draw. I am not big on white dots but that is a personal choice and easily fixed with a black Sharpie if you feel the same way. The front sight is in that perfect medium, not too wide so it fills the rear notch making quick acquisition difficult yet not too thin to allow for precise shots.

This leads into accuracy. The EMP4 comes with a 4 inch stainless steel bull barrel with a fully supported ramp. In shooting the gun for group, it did very well



Recoil was very mild even with strong hand only shots.

**I feel that the EMP4 could really dominate in CCP. For me, it is the perfect gun for concealed carry and match day fun.**



5 shot group with handloads off sandbag rest at 15 yards.

with the mixed group of ammo that we put through it. Shooting from a sandbag rest, the best 5 shot group measured right at  $\frac{3}{4}$  of an inch at 15 yards with reloads using Berry's 124gr round nose. It ate everything I fed it with only 3 malfunctions in the 2,000 or so rounds we sent down range. I can attribute one of those to me riding the slide to hard with my thumb causing a FTE. Now, I know that those of you that saw me shoot at Florida State are saying "WTF, I know that's not true. It had a bunch of issues". You are right it did, but those turned out to be verifiably ammo related. On that first day of the match I was using some borrowed ammo that turned out to be so hot it was not only flattening the primers but leaving some primer material in the firing pin hole causing the issues. I changed ammo and had no other problems.

Over all, I loved the feel and function of this gun, I carried it every day for 60 days. The alloy frame makes it light enough to be comfortable on the hip. The 4 inch barrel gives it a slightly muzzle heavy feel. This helps with recoil and makes driving the gun from target to target very quick. With its 10 round magazine you can play in ESP or CCP (if you download to 8) but I feel that the EMP4 could really dominate in CCP. For me, it is the perfect gun for concealed carry and match day fun. If you are just getting into shooting then you are in luck as the EMP4 ships in a factory plastic case that includes 3 magazines, a paddle holster and double mag pouch. The MSRP on the EMP4 is \$1179 but street prices are going to be a little under that figure. Check it out at your local gun shop and good luck at your next match.

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# The cheapest and best method to improve your shooting skills. WORDS MORGAN ALLEN

Most popular sports seem to have quite a bit of common knowledge that's easily found or innate to just having been around the games, if even only as a spectator. What equipment to use, how to learn technique, ways to practice, and other facets of those games tend to be comparatively easy to find and readily available for people to come by. Action pistol shooting sports is not one of them.

The most frequent questions I get at matches revolve around equipment I use. Next in line are questions about how to get better. Nearly every conversation about practice drifts toward me asking what they are doing today to improve, in part to get

a little background, but also to help better understand what most people do so I can apply it to how I teach the sport more effectively. Their answers usually detail live fire training at their local range and amount to a set of drills, sometimes without the context of why those drills should be the ones being practiced which is something that's been addressed in an earlier article. When I bring up dry fire training, it's often an unexplored opportunity. In fact, it's one of the most underutilized ones out there.

Dry fire has value in many ways. It allows you to save time driving to and from the range, save cost of ammunition, and provides an opportunity to hone in on a

specific skill more intensively by not having to stop, reload, paste targets, etc. as often.

"Let me tell you what I dream about, having my own bay available at any time and a thousand rounds a week for practice. But since I live where there are no public ranges that rent bays and I pay for ammunition I need to approach practice in a different manner than my dream. We'd all love to have the resources to be knee deep in brass every day but until that day comes we need to be smart and efficient in our practice." – Rowdy Bricco

While there are some things you cannot get as a benefit from dry fire, like felt recoil or confirmation of hits on target, the ben-

efits greatly outweigh it to the point that for every round that comes out of my gun in live fire practice, I've pulled the trigger about a dozen more times while dry firing. In a sense, live fire is a method to validate skill improvement achieved during dry fire. Rowdy Bricco frames it up well, "I like to use dry fire to learn new techniques, to refine ones that might be deficient and to increase my speed. All of these are able to happen due to the high number or repetitions one can put into their dry fire practice. I like to use my live fire training to confirm what I've been working on in dry fire and the feeling one gets from actually doing something instead of replicating it."

Before I start a session, observing the 4 rules of gun safety is always the first step. I take other precautions like keeping all ammo in a separate room away from where I am when practicing.

My focus during any training is on the top 2-3 skill based opportunities for improvement that I have at that time. Dry fire has the advantage of letting me layer on additional skills I do in every session, briefly hitting all of the core skills. The closer I get to a sanctioned match, that focus changes to things I don't necessarily work on frequently but know will probably be in the match such as: shooting from low cover, prone, drawing from a box, unloaded or un-chambered starts, reloading from a seated position, tactical sequence arrays, and so on.

Having full and reduced sized targets (some with hard cover painted on them), paper poppers, make shift barricades, and other props will help emulate what you'd see on the range. A timer with a par time you can set is a necessity so you can vary the time between beeps and know if you are "beating the second beep" and completing the skill within that elapsed time. In successive sets of the same technique, I'll lower the par times and try to maintain form.

What you do during the session is as important as how you execute your skills. Without the recoil present, it's easy to be lazy and not grip the gun as hard. Trying to beat the par time but with sloppy mechanics only reinforces the same back on the range. As an example, I like to use snapcaps when I'm practicing slide lock reloads so I am actually chambering something and get the near full effect. I take reloads one step further and practice slide lock reloads while leaning left or right as if in position to shoot around a barricade and without repositioning upright during the reload. When doing loaded chamber reloads (aka reloads with



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**Dry fire practice can be done almost anywhere, even at home or on a static range.**

## For every round that comes out of my gun in live fire practice, I've pulled the trigger about a dozen more times while dry firing.

retention), I'll go from one side of a barricade to the other.

If I'm working to improve my draw times for matches, dry fire allows me to spend more time doing minor variations of draws I wouldn't ordinarily have the time to do on the range. For draws, I might run 10 repetitions of various distances of: from concealment, no concealment, turn on draw, draw while moving a couple steps laterally (think of when starting in the middle of a wide barricade), drawing to immediately shooting on the move, from a box, gun and mags on a table or drawer, empty gun starts, mag seated but empty chamber, draws from a seated position, strong hand only, support hand only, draw while retreating, from surrender, while holding a door knob that I have to turn and open on start, hands out stretched in front of you holding an object, and more.

Another important component is to track what you do in the dry fire sessions to the level of detail that best suits you. Rowdy Bricco's take is, "Record keeping to this detail and for as long as I have has helped me in multiple ways. I'm a firm believer in the saying, 'That which we fail to measure we fail to improve.' First, it is satisfying to see concrete evidence of improvement. To know I got better at something rather than just feeling that I had improved. Secondly, it allows me to focus on areas where I'm weak.

Working on your weaknesses does more to help you improve than just doing what you do well. Third it has provided focus when I might have wandered. I don't feel I would have ever improved at the rate I did if I'd just shot a bunch, instead of having focused practice sessions."

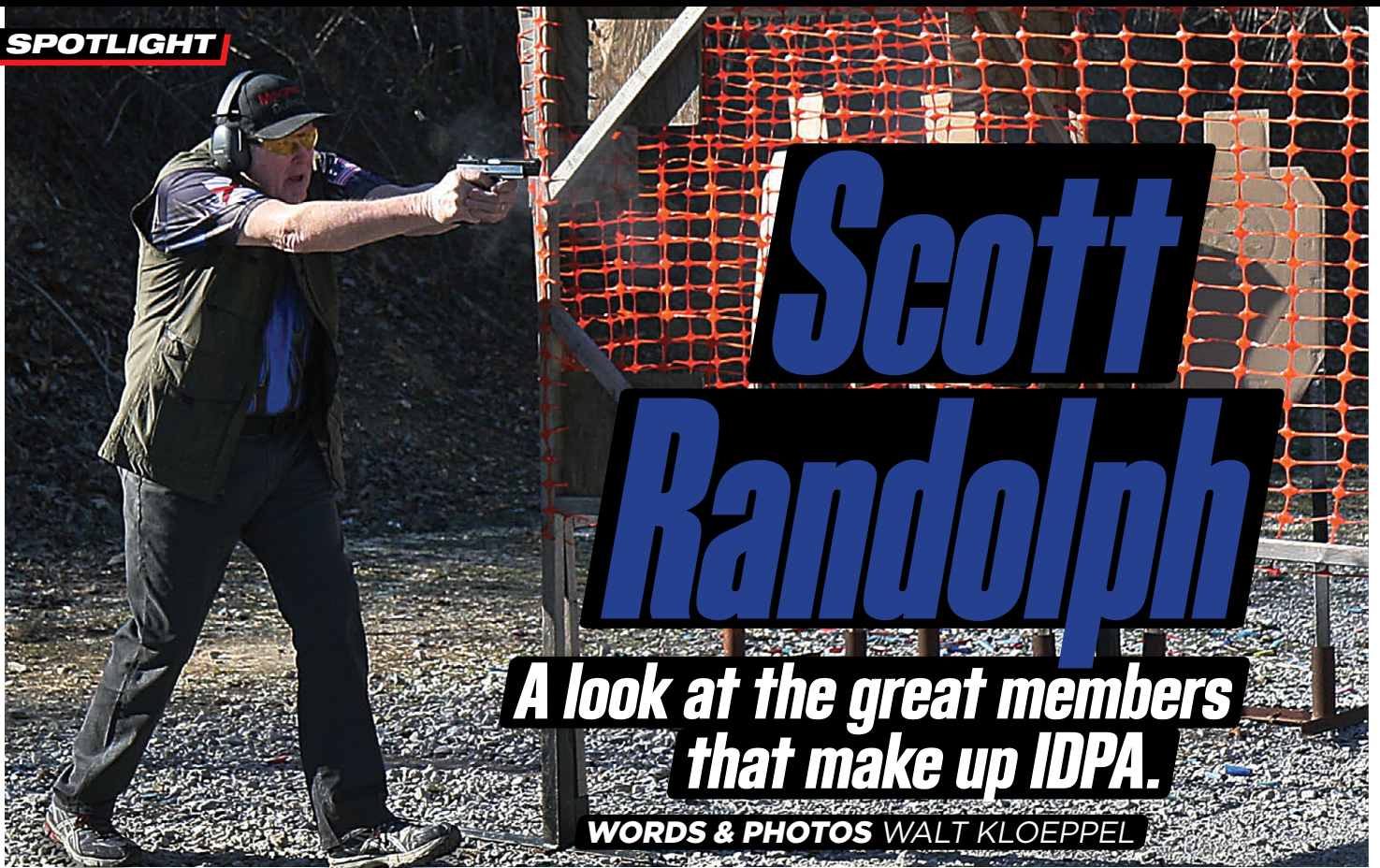
Rowdy Bricco sums dry fire training up well with, "Good competition shooting has been described to me as 'Doing the basics perfectly, at speed, on demand, every time and under conditions not of your choosing.' When you record your data, use live and dry fire to complement each other and practice regularly, you're on the road to achieving your best."

I'll add that a tool is only as good as the skill of the person wielding it. Learn the skill, and a tool becomes more valuable, and more readily transferable to other tools. Dry fire is a great way to improve your shooting skills.

Next up, Match Tips and Tricks – a collection of common things competitors do while shooting stages that if tweaked just a little would lead to better scores. **TJ**

### **Morgan Allen, #A24050**

Morgan Allen is the winner of 50+ IDPA Division Championships and 10 top-five division finishes at Nationals events, including 2nd at the Inaugural IDPA World Championship. He can be reached at: [morgan\\_allen@yahoo.com](mailto:morgan_allen@yahoo.com).



**Old Guys Rock. I spotted Scott Randolph about a year ago at a local indoor match in Gallatin, TN. The younger shooters were**

chattering among themselves, throwing a glance now and then towards this tall, quiet man who seemed more absorbed in the stages laid out than any range chit chat.

My son approached me about that time and said, "See that guy there, he's a Master Class shooter from Alabama."

As the buzzer started stages, one by one the younger shooters did the run and gun shuffle, in their generally impressive showing on those Wednesday nights.

Then the grey haired gentleman from Alabama shuffled up to the starting position. A shrug of the shoulders seemed to set him ready, and a nod confirmed it. When the timer buzzed, the long arm of the 6'3" Master drew his 1911 as smoothly as a Swiss watch with a proficient execution that separates the Masters from the rest. The resulting rhythm of shots was a consecutive string of zeroes. When the stage time was announced, you could see the look of awe on the local gunners' faces.

In between stage sets, Scott was sitting alone on the bench, looking like the new kid on the block. Being an old retired guy myself, I plopped down beside him and

introduced myself.

"Hello ... Scott Randolph ... nice to meet you," he said.

Being a relative newbie IDPA Marksman, I told him it was kind of fun to watch a grey haired guy like myself rocking the boat of all those young whippersnappers.

"I just enjoy shooting," he laughed.

The four gun Master recently moved to Tennessee from Huntsville, Alabama, where he retired after 45+ years with an electrical distributor business. It's easy to understand why he has quickly become friends with many of the Tennessee IDPA shooters in the area. Scott is a very humble competitor. Ego is non-existent; I had to twist his arm in fact to do this interview. He is very gracious with giving advice on becoming a better shooter to anyone who asks.

Kenneth Kloeppel, an Expert Class shooter at our local club gave another member some advice on drawing - by directing him to Scott.

"Next time you're at our shoot, watch Scott Randolph. He is not the fastest at drawing, or moving for that matter, but Scott is one of the best shooters I've had the pleasure of shooting with. He gave me some very good advice and that was to make sure the draw is clean and to get a

positive sight picture on the first target. From there, it's a matter of simply pressing the trigger and making smooth transitions. Scott proves this time and time again with smooth and exact motions, and it shows when the rest of us are trying to catch his match times," said Kloeppel.

When you consider that so many shooters cut their teeth with firearms at a very young age, Scott's transition to shooting sports is a bit off the beaten path. Believe it or not, Scott was not a gun guy by a long shot in his early years. After a stint with the Navy, he settled down and raised a family. He never even considered purchasing a firearm until his two boys were teenagers and he decided they should know how to shoot.

"I was in my late 40's when I purchased a gun and wanted to show my kids how to shoot."

Scott stepped up to the competition plate when his local gun range started bowling pin matches.

"I bought a Springfield 1911 and found I really enjoyed competing. I then bought an S&W 686 7-shot with a red dot and did really well with it."

Some of his shooting friends from the range decided to form the first IDPA club in



**The proof is in the pudding. Scott Randolph has done well in the past 18 years of IDPA competition.**

Huntsville. Scott shot his first IDPA match there in January, 1998 at the age of 53. He started as a Marksman, shooting a Glock in SSP and soon moved up the ladder.

By 2004, he match bumped into Master Class in SSP, ESP, and CDP. He classified Master in revolver not long after.

Scott took High Distinguished Senior at the IDPA National Championship in 2009, a title that had been held for many years by IDPA founding member, John Sayle.

"I ended up shooting on the same squad as John ... a really nice guy and great shooter. But the highlight for me was being awarded the plaque by him during the awards ceremony. It was an honor."

Scott again won the High Distinguished Senior for three consecutive years in 2013, 2014, and 2015.

Over the years, Scott has had the opportunity to shoot with some of the IDPA greats such as Dave Sevigny, Todd Jarret and Rob Leatham. With an estimated 800+ matches shot in his past 18 years of competition, skills developed paved the way to so many wins.

"I try to be as accurate as possible. I go up on the line to shoot and instead of thinking how fast the last guy shot it, I just think about what I need to do. It's a mind game. I'm going to shoot as accurate as I can and move from one position to another as fast, and as proficient as I can. The shooting part ... the pulling of the trigger, is not the key to a high score, it's how smooth you can transition from one target to the next."

An active senior, who regularly walks and rides a bike, Scott's advice to older shooters who still want to compete, but have maybe felt like they dropped a notch or two in recent years, is sound advice.

"Try to maintain your health and exercise. Get out and ride a bike, walk, hike in

the woods or whatever to keep that muscle tone. It's a must to shoot competitively. I see a lot who are overweight or their knees hurt and that just distracts from being competitive. And in a competitive world, you have to be in good condition."

What about advice to the younger guns?

"Forget about everyone else's time, and only worry about yours. Many times I see the younger guys trying to beat me and when they do they're only hurting themselves. While for me, I'm only there to have a good time and shoot the best I can. I'm

not worried about beating them"

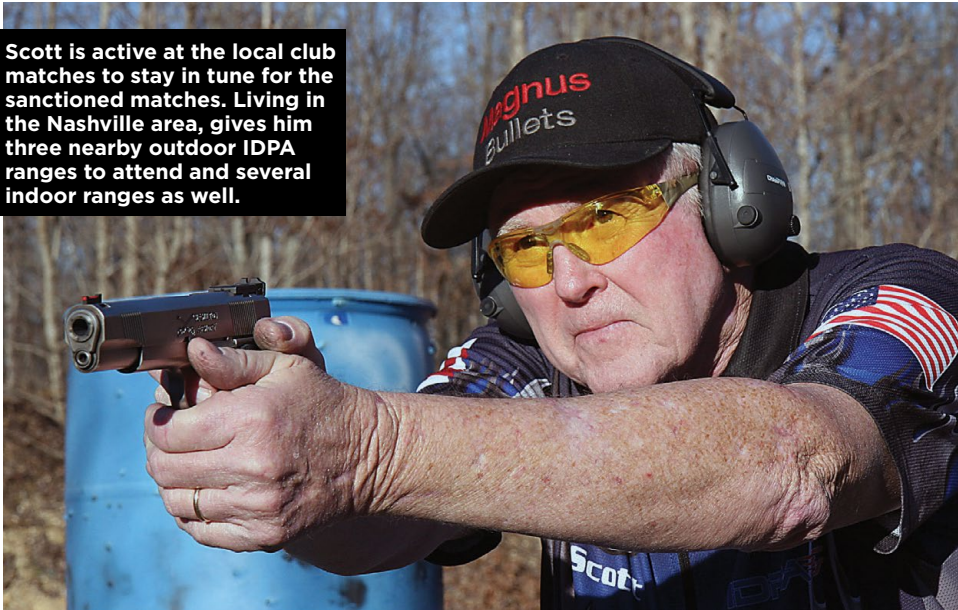
Of course, behind a good man is always a good woman. Ellen Randolph, Scott's wife of 48 years, has stood behind her husband's passions.

"I've always supported the things he enjoys. He loves to shoot and has done well. I've gone to several matches over the years to watch him compete. I'm his biggest fan."

When asked if his goals as a competitive shooter have been met, he laughed.


"Never," he said. "It's so easy to go to a match and watch a really good shooter shoot a stage and in your conscious mind

Scott is active at the local club matches to stay in tune for the sanctioned matches. Living in the Nashville area, gives him three nearby outdoor IDPA ranges to attend and several indoor ranges as well.



**The shooting part ... the pulling of the trigger, is not the key to a high score, it's how smooth you can transition from one target to the next."**

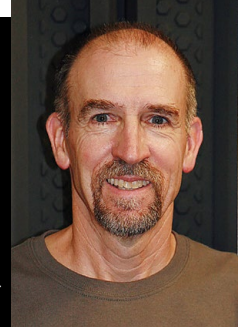
you say that you can do that. But I realize at 71-years-old I can't do that anymore so I have to make myself shoot my own game."

There is no doubt Scott Randolph will continue to shoot his own game and continue to win for many more years. May he inspire us all - young and old alike - by showing us that old guys really do rock. 

*Do you know an IDPA member with an interesting story? Let us know by writing us at [tacticaljournal@idpa.com](mailto:tacticaljournal@idpa.com). We would love to share their stories.*

**Walt Kloeppel , #A56663**

Walt Kloeppel is an Army Veteran and retired as a writer/editor from the U.S. Army Recruiting Command in 2010 after 36 years combined Army/Civil Service time. A former metallic silhouette/bullseye shooter, he joined the IDPA ranks in 2013, after being introduced to the sport by his son Kenneth. He enjoys tagging along with his son, Kenneth, who is quickly moving up the ranks. Kloeppel likes to joke that he's a five gun Marksman, and he can only move up ... hopefully. He resides with his wife in Nashville, TN.



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# FLORIDA STATE CHAMPIONSHIP

**WORDS** ROBERT RAY

**PHOTOS** RICK LUND JR.

PER BENGTSSON/SHUTTERSTOCK; RASHEVSKY1 VIACHESLAV/SHUTTERSTOCK



Simple looking at first, the tight shots and hard cover made this a challenging stage.



Exiting a vehicle always adds realism and difficulty to a stage. Morgan Allen made it look easy.

With chin tucked to my chest, I trudged into the howling wind and spitting snow. My gloveless hands were clenched deep in my pockets as I had once again forgotten to bring my gloves. I shivered with the cold and shuffled a little faster across the icy parking lot toward the warmth of the indoor range.

I smiled and leaned back in my chair at the ocean marina side bar and grill. The remains of a plate of fresh fish and a mostly finished tropical rum drink sat on the table before me. "Greg" I said, "I am not missing that part of going to the Indoor Nationals." Wilson Combat Pro Shooter, Greg Martin, and I were finishing dinner and talking while enjoying the warm tropical breezes associated with Miami, Florida in early March. As much as I enjoy the Indoor Nationals and the friends I have made at that match, I had convinced the boss that I needed to come down to lower Florida to attend the Florida State IDPA Championship this year. I admit, it was tough to keep my gleeful chuckle to myself while talking with Joyce and my coworker, Allison, about them going north. I don't believe I was entirely successful.

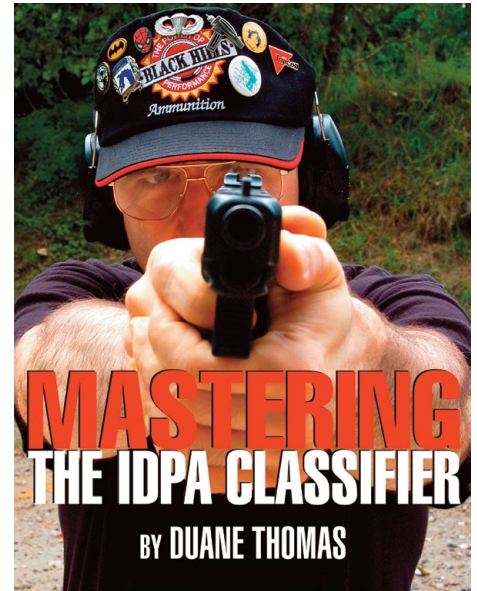
Part of me hated not going to the Indoors but I was excited to see what Rick Lund, MD Brian Chesloff, and their talented crew would have in store for us at the Florida State match and they did not disappoint. You may remember Rick, besides being the AC for Florida, he is also the new owner of the host range for the

## "The 2016 Florida State was by far the most challenging IDPA match I have ever shot."

—GREG MARTIN

match, Homestead Training Range. The range gets its name from the fact that it backs up to the Homestead Air Force base just south of Miami. Not only was it a great range, but daily you were treated to things like watching high G maneuvers by fighter jets and parachute drops. He is probably a little more famous for the VERY challenging Subway stage at last year's World Championship. This lead me to believe that it would be a very challenging match, I just did not realize how challenging.

I have shot matches all over the place including National Championships, the Carolina Cup and various other state and regional matches. The 2016 Florida State was by far the most challenging IDPA match I have ever shot, a statement that was echoed by pro shooter Greg Martin. And the great thing, it was done without forcing the competitor into contrived, off balance,



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BY DUANE THOMAS

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**— Massad Ayoob**

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## MATCH REVIEW



Good friends and good stages  
make for a great match.



**“If you don't  
like longer  
shots, this  
was not the  
match for you.”**

unlikely shooting positions or resorting to unreasonable, unrealistic stages. Yes, there was one stage that had you standing on two springboard platforms, but the rest of the stages relied on tight shots, swinging non-threats, the use of hard cover and simple distance to make them challenging. If you don't like longer shots, this was not the match for you. I figure that on average, the targets were 5 to 7 yards farther away from the competitor than most IDPA sanction matches. To give a feel just how challenging it was, the plaque for Most Accurate shooter went to Michael Mendoza with 74 points down. There were a few guys that had lower points (not a lot) but they also hit non-threats, knocking them out of contention for Most Accurate.

I freely admit, I was not ready for the difficulty of the match. I had not practiced, I was running a new gun, I had ammo issues and let's see...what other excuse can I use? There must be something to explain my poor performance! Joking aside, I had a really fun time. I had a great squad, Go Team Italia! The stages were challenging and a blast to shoot. The SO's were friendly and most importantly, knowledgeable and fair. The overall match sponsor was Glock and the match also had several sponsors on sight for competitors to visit, including



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There were plenty of vehicles in this match, which is appropriate considering how much time we spend in and around them.



5.11 Miami, The Self Defense Association and National Gun Inc. Also, the Combat Wounded Coalition was set up providing coffee and accepting donations to their very worthy cause.

As I mentioned, Glock was the overall sponsor and their sponsored shooters were in attendance. Pounding home their tag line, Glock Perfection, the Glock Team shooters took home 3 of the 6 Division Champion trophies. Congratulations Team Glock shooters Deon, Clint and Joel. Also, congratulations to all the competitors on their place of finish. It was a tough match and bringing home a trophy took some doing.

My hat's off to Rick, Brian and the entire Florida State SO and Staff team. It was a great match and I hope to get that way again in the future. If you are looking to shoot a challenging match, I would put this one on your schedule for next year. **TJ**

### Robert Ray, #A05118

Robert Ray is the editor of the Tactical Journal and a long time competitor in the sport. Members can reach him at robert@idpa.com



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# SHOOTING

## AT THE SPEED OF SIGHT

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WORDS DUANE THOMAS PHOTOS ED LEAVITT

**One thing of which lower skill level shooters are unaware, and I'm firmly convinced it's something many higher level shooters don't realize either, is that one reason good shooters can fire a handgun, or anything for that matter, more accurately at speed is simply because their eyesight is working faster. Or, perhaps more precisely, their brain is processing visual input in a more complete fashion. In this article we will discuss the advantages of, as I call it, "seeing fast," and how to develop that skill.**

To shooters at the lower skill levels, when the time comes to push the speed, things seem to begin happening very fast. At the higher skill levels, when the time comes to push the speed, things seem to begin happening more slowly. I believe this is because our sense of the passage of time is built around the amount of visual input we're used to receiving during a particular time frame. Let me preface what I'm about to say by making it clear that when I use

terms like "unit of visual input," "one unit," "five units," etc., those aren't meant to be measured-out, actual amounts, they're just a way of discussing the concept.

Okay, let's say we're used to receiving and processing one unit of visual input per second. Suddenly things begin happening in such fast sequence there are actually five units of visual input out there that could be processed. A good example would be firing a handgun fast, and the need to see the movement of the sights. When most people fire a handgun, their visual input goes like this: acquire front sight, bang! lose front sight, reacquire front sight, bang! This is slow. If they fire the gun faster than they can complete that process, they begin outshooting their sights, everything in front of their eyes kind of turns into this gray blur of terror, and they really see very little. Any accuracy they get while shooting fast will be accidental.

At the higher skill levels, instead of

shoot, lose sights, reacquire sights, THE AIMING IS A CONTINUOUS PROCESS. It's "acquire front sight, bang! track front sight through its entire arc of recoil, see it lift out of the rear notch, see it to the top of its movement, see it come back down into the rear notch, bang!" When you see the sights continuously, your shooting acquires this very effortless, low stress, certainty. You don't have the doubt factor, that little part of your mind holding you back, even though you don't realize it, because there's always a part of you wondering, subconsciously, "Did I hit or miss with that last shot?" You KNOW you've hit with every shot, because you saw where the sights were at the instant the gun fired, thus you can let go of each shot as soon as it happens, and focus on what is happening NOW.

Why the difference in visual perception? Let's say, just for purposes of discussion, we have two different shooters, one person has the ability to process visual input at a

rate of one unit per second, the other can process visual input at five units per second, but also has the ability, on demand, to crank the dial all the way over to the right and turn up their visual processing speed to ten units per second. Let us also say, again for purposes of discussion, that tracking the front sight through its entire arc of recoil when we're shooting with .25 second splits requires processing five units of visual input per second.

Shooter #1, with the ability to process one unit of visual input per second, suddenly has five units of visual input occurring right in front of their eyes. They are absolutely overwhelmed, and things seem to be happening way too fast for them to track, because they are. When you can only process one unit of visual input per second, and suddenly you've got to deal with five units, things seem to happen very fast because your time sense tells you that what should be taking five seconds is actually occurring in one.

By contrast we have Shooter #2, who not only has the ability to process five units of visual input per second, they also have the ability, on demand, to up that to ten units. To someone like that, tracking the front sight through its entire arc of recoil, knowing where it's at during every instant of the process, is easy. When they begin tracking the sights, it seems to them that they're seeing at a normal speed, but in fact they're processing ten times as much visual input as a normal person does in the same amount of time. Therefore their time sense tells them one second has passed when in reality it's only been a tenth of a second. To them, the sights are moving at a speed well within their capabilities to just sit back and watch.

I tell people it's easy, once you reach a certain level, to see your sights for every shot, even when shooting fast, and a common response is, "Human eyesight doesn't work that fast." Yes, it does. In fact it works MUCH faster than that. I invite you to perform the following experiment. If you have a camera with a flash unit, go into a darkened room with your camera, have a friend stand in front of you and hold up any number of fingers, then hit the flash. I GUARANTEE you'll be able to see how many fingers are being held up. According to the owner's manual for my Sunpak 338, its light strobe lasts 1/2,000th (yes, I said ONE/TWO THOUSANDTH) of a second.

Training myself to see the sights in recoil has given me an ability to see fast that never really turns off. I can see things that happen so fast other people aren't even



**Keeping your eyes open is one of the keys to doing things like a maximum speed double tap.**

## **“At the higher skill levels, instead of shoot, lose sights, reacquire sights, THE AIMING IS A CONTINUOUS PROCESS.”**

aware of them. For instance, I'm the guy who can see that "extra" frame showing up onscreen when someone editing a movie did a sloppy cut and left ONE frame in place that shouldn't have been there. I have been told that something like that is only up onscreen for about 1/60th of a second, but I can see it. When you start seeing things like that, you'll know you've really brought your eyesight online.

So, how to develop this ability? Well, this is meant as an observation, not a criticism, but if you can't see your sights in recoil, in overwhelming probability it's because you had your eyes closed at the instant the gun fired. Why would you do that? Macho male gun carriers never like to admit this, but mostly it's the noise. **“Well, I don't blink because of the noise. I am way too tough for that.”** Yeah, sure thing, dude. When we fire a handgun, it's like a firecracker just went off about two feet in front of our face. Also this bar of metal flips up across our line of sight. Consciously or subconsciously, people are afraid the gun's going to come back and hit them in the face. Of course, that couldn't possibly be true for a REAL manly man either. We pause to knock back a healthy belt of pure testosterone.

It is normal to blink as the gun fires, it's a natural self-protective reaction. And because we frequently blink during the day, it's necessary to keep our eyeballs moist, our brain is programmed to remove the blinks and give us the perception of continuous visual input. As you're going about your day, does it seem to you like things are constantly getting black for a fraction of a second then you can see again? Of course not. The vast majority of people don't realize they're

blinking while shooting, every time the gun fires. YOU CANNOT SEE THE SIGHTS WITH YOUR EYES CLOSED.

Stand to the side of most shooters, watch their eyes as they fire a handgun. Bang! Blink. Bang! Blink. Bang! Blink. Then do the same thing with an advanced level shooter. Bang, bang, bang! No blink. Their eyes just stay open, relaxed, watchful. They are WAY too interested in what's going on out there in front of their eyes to not look at it.

What I suggest, and admittedly you'll need access to a range allowing this: get the gun up in front of your face, focus on the front sight, and just rip off a long string of shots, let us say six, as fast as you can pull the trigger. Start with your eyes consciously held wide open, go for the "deer in the headlights" look, and try to hold them open that far while shooting. This will not stop you from blinking, but with your eyes held open that far, suddenly you'll be able to FEEL yourself blinking. The first step toward not blinking is to really understand you're doing it.

For the first few shots you're probably not going to see anything, but along about the third or fourth shot you're going to suddenly see the sights moving because they were still moving in-between blinks. Yes, they actually are out there, and they really are moving! Wow. Who'da think it? It will be a revelation, because suddenly you're seeing something you never saw before. At that point, because you know it's happening, that it is in fact possible to see it happening, and because it's just so bloody INTERESTING to watch, you are well on your way to bringing your eyesight online.

Add a draw to that at seven yards, and you're into the Bill Drill, THE classic drill for developing a fast draw, the ability to return the gun to the same spot after every shot, and building eye speed. As a shooter looking to create an ability to see fast, you could do a lot worse in training than to shoot nothing else but Bill Drills for awhile. Anything under three seconds in a Bill Drill, with all A-hits on a USPSA target or all down-0s on an IDPA target, is good. By the time you can do it under two seconds, you will be REALLY good. Don't get too hung up on "making the time," i.e. that magic two second mark that is considered "really good," as you're shooting Bill Drills. Get hung up on CONSTANTLY seeing the sights the entire time. When you can do that, the speed will come. You will be able to see the front sight through its entire arc of motion, up/down, up/down, like a little bouncy ball, every time, even though you're firing six shots in about a second.

Of course, there are people who'll never believe that. For some people, "I can't do it" and "It's impossible" are synonyms. Allow me to tell you a story, that illustrates both this concept and how useful being able to see fast can be at a match.

I was at an IDPA match where we were faced with a standards stage, which was, actually, a pretty basic shooting problem: three targets, in the center a steel Pepper popper, to the left a drop turner (a target that begins facing away from the shooter, is activated by hitting the Pepper popper, briefly faces the shooter, then turns away again) and a static, unmoving paper target to the right.

The slow way to run this drill is to hit the steel activator, transition over to the drop turner, shoot it, then engage the static. The fast way is to hit the activator, use the time interval after hitting the steel but before the moving target turns to engage the static target first, then shoot the turner. By the time most people would have only shot one paper target, you've shot them both and you're done. This takes decent shot-to-shot speed, and especially the ability to swiftly transition the gun between targets, but it's simply not that tough a nut to crack.

I was way down in the stack on this stage. And we had one of THOSE people in the squad, the sort of guy I think of as Mr. Impossible. He asked me, "What would be the best way to shoot this?" I told him, "Well, ideally, you want to hit the steel, then shoot the static target on the right, then come over and hit the drop turner on the left." He watched other people shoot the

stage, and no one was doing it that way, everybody was going steel, drop turner, static, and frankly most of them were missing the drop turner completely. And this guy was saying, "I don't see how they could expect us to hit the open target first, that's IMPOSSIBLE." And he just would not shut up about it. "That's IMPOSSIBLE. That's IMPOSSIBLE." Over and over again. I cannot begin to express to you the absolute certainty in his voice. This was not an opinion, he was stating an obvious FACT. I told him, "Okay, I'm still way down in the stack, but when I get up there I'll show you it's not impossible."



**Keep both eyes open while shooting. This will allow better depth perception, faster focal changes, a wider field of view, and the maximum level of speed with accuracy.**

Okay, I get it. For most people, this is a tough problem. When shooting something like this, here's what most people see: they hit the steel, before they know it the steel is on the ground and the drop turner is facing them. Hurry, hurry! They get the gun over to the drop turner just as it's turning away, fire a couple of hoppers. Only then can they even begin to think about the static target.


Here's what I saw when I shot this stage: I draw the gun, I see it coming up on-target, the sights stabilize, I see the sights aligned

in the middle of the Pepper popper's fat popsicle as the gun fires, I know I've hit it. The sights lift. At this point the Pepper popper has not even begun to move. I transition the gun to the right, over to the static target, sights stabilize in the middle of the down-0 circle, fire two aimed shots, sight lift, return, sight lift, return, I know I've got two down-0s, I track back to the left, as the gun crosses the Pepper popper I see it's only about halfway down, I get to the drop turner... And then have to wait because it's not yet facing me. I have time to think, "Damn, I really should have shot that Pepper popper twice to make it fall faster," then the target is facing me, I fire two more aimed shots, lift, return, lift, return, and I'm down the road. Final score, 3.01 seconds, down zero.

Yes, there are many people in the world who could do all that considerably faster than I; still it's not the shooting equivalent of a 98 pound weakling either. To someone who has their eyesight up to speed (pun intended), seeing all that is not a problem. It's easy. I'm not saying it's like watching super-slo-mo but there's nothing out there happening in front of your face that you don't have all the time in the world to watch happen. It's like playing a fun but not particularly challenging video game with the speed level set on Beginner.

"See," I said, "not impossible."

Then Bruce Bennett stepped up to the line. I have known Bruce Bennett for 20-plus years. At the time of this match, Bruce had fairly advanced Parkinson's and the seriously shaky hands that came with it. Since then, I'm happy to report, Bruce has become a bionic man with multiple electronic brain implants that have at least partially reversed the symptoms of his disease, and he has his old B class USPSA shooter skill level back, mostly. At the time, however, it was only pure guts and an absolutely awe-inspiring love of shooting and unwillingness to whine that kept him out there at matches. I told Bruce, "I'd really like to see you do this, steel, static, drop turner. And I think you probably can."

So, I won't keep you in suspense, yes, Bruce did it, too. Okay, his gun malfed on the very last shot, but he hit the Pepper popper, engaged the static twice, two down-0s, transitioned over to the drop turner, shot it once, down-0, and had plenty of time left over for a second down-0 when his gun choked. His raw time: 4.01 seconds. At which point I turned to Mr. Impossible and said, "If the guy with advanced Parkinson's can do it....no one else has any excuse." 





# WINNER'S CIRCLE

Congratulations to the winners of the Indoor Nationals and the Florida State Championships. PHOTOS ERINN O'DONNELL



**Kenneth J. Ortbach**  
REV,MA 2nd



**Scott Folk**  
REV,MA,1st



**Lee M. Adams**  
CCP,MA. 3RD



**Noel Gardner SSP**  
MM. 5TH



**William Cox**  
SSP, SS. 9TH



**Gregy Hayes**  
ESP, SS, 1st.



**Gerardo Hidalgo**  
ESP, Ex. 3rd.



**Blaese Romano Jr.**  
ESP, Ex. 2nd.



**Mason Lane**  
ESP Divison Champion



**Mark Hergott**  
CCP, MM, 1st



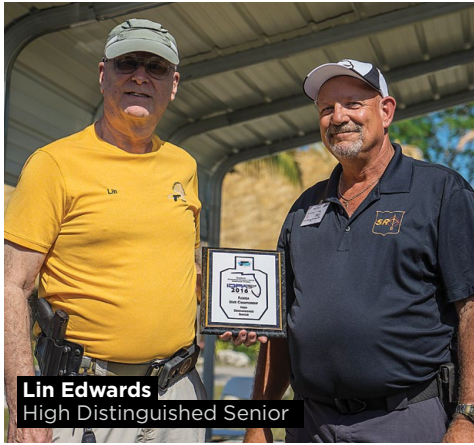
**Logan Franklin**  
ESP, SS, 1st



**Jose R. Garcia**  
CDP, EX, 1st



**Howard Woodruff**  
CCP, SS, 1st



**Lin Edwards**  
High Distinguished Senior



**Todd Haller**  
High Law Enforcement



**Michael Mendoza**  
Most Accurate



**Deon Martin**  
High Industry



**Gerardo Hidalgo**  
High International



**Deon Martin**  
CDP Division Champion



**Clint Bowen**  
ESP Division Champion



**Joel Hodges**  
BUG Division Champion



**Bob McCarthy Jr.**  
REV, SS, 1st



**Eric Leach**  
REV, EX, 1st Place



**Paul Jones**  
CCP, SS, 3rd



**Chris Tessier**  
SSP, SS, 11th



**Hakim Satterfield**  
SSP, Ex, 3rd



**Anthony Spinelli**  
SSP, Ex, 1st



**Shane Coley**  
SSP, MA, 1st



**Julie Golob**  
High Lady, 3rd



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# UPCOMING MATCHES

Visit [IDPA.com/compete](http://IDPA.com/compete) to find a club match near you.

EVENT NAME	START DATE	HOST CLUB
Think of the Children Benefit Match Tier 2	Apr 23, 2016	Lewistown Pistol Club, Inc.
Badlands Regional & Oklahoma State 2016 Championship	Apr 23, 2016	Oil Capital Rod and Gun Club
The Alabama 2016 IDPA State Championship - Tier 3	Apr 30, 2016	Central Alabama Gun Club
Maryland State Championship - Tier 2	May 6, 2016	Sanner's Lake Sportsmen Club
ACPL Northwest Arkansas IDPA Championship - Tier 2	May 14, 2016	Arkansas Combat Pistol League (ACPL)
2016 MO State - BackStoppers Challenge - Tier 3	May 14, 2016	Arnold Rifle And Pistol Club
Comp-Tac Republic of Texas 2016 State Match - Tier 4	May 14, 2016	Team Trainwreck
Central California IDPA Regional	May 15, 2016	5 Dogs Action Shooters - IDPA
11th Annual Great Lakes Regional	May 20, 2016	Linwood - Bay Sportsman's Club
2016 Utah State IDPA Championship	May 28, 2016	Utah Defensive Pistol League (UDPL)
2016 Tennessee State IDPA Championship- Tier 3	Jun 4, 2016	ORSA IDPA
2016 Illinois IDPA Championship Tier 3	Jun 4, 2016	WSRC Sparta IDPA
2016 Massachusetts State IDPA Championship	Jun 10, 2016	Woburn Sportsman's Association
Stars & Stripes Tier 3 Regional	Jun 11, 2016	United States Shooting Academy
The Keystone Cup, Presented by Gander Mountain - Tier 2	Jun 17, 2016	Keystone Sportsmen Association
2016 Snake River Regional IDPA Championship Tier 2	Jun 18, 2016	South Eastern Idaho Practical Shooters
2016 Virginia State IDPA Match - Tier 2	Jun 25, 2016	Kettlefoot Rod and Gun Club
2nd Annual Central New Mexico Scorcher Tier 2	Jun 25, 2016	Del Norte Defensive Shooters
2016 Iowa State IDPA Championship - Tier 2	Jul 16, 2016	Ankeny Ikes Practical Shooters
Wisconsin 2016 State Match - Tier 3	Jul 16, 2016	Badger IDPA
Mountaineer Classic 2016 - Tier 2	Aug 13, 2016	Watauga Gun Club-IDPA
Michigan State IDPA Championships Tier 3 Aug 19-21 2016	Aug 19, 2016	Brooklyn Sportsmans Club
2016 Blade-Tech Washington State IDPA Championship	Aug 20, 2016	Northwest Practical Pistol Association
Showdown in the Ozarks - Tier 2 Match	Aug 26, 2016	Razorback Dynamic Shooters
Battle-n-Benton III	Sep 10, 2016	Benton Gun Club
2016 IDPA US National Championship; Tier 5 match	Sep 13, 2016	Cross Timbers Action Shooting Association
Comp-Tac 2016 MS State Championship (Miss'ippi Showdown) - Tier 3	Sep 30, 2016	Desoto Rifle And Pistol Club
Delaware State IDPA Championship 2016 - Tier 3	Sep 30, 2016	Bridgeville Rifle and Pistol Club
The Western, 2016 Regional IDPA Championship - Tier 4	Oct 1, 2016	Sacramento Defensive Pistol Shooters
Space Coast Challenge - Tier 3	Oct 15, 2016	Port Malabar Rifle and Pistol Club
Fall Brawl 2016 Tier 4	Oct 15, 2016	Central AR Shooters Association (CASA)
Liberty Match at Valley Forge 2016 - Tier 3	Oct 21, 2016	Lower Providence Rod and Gun Club

# PARTING SHOT

PRESENTED BY COMP-TAC



Comp-Tac Victory Gear is giving you the opportunity to take a parting shot-but be kind, we don't want to hit you with a Failure To Do Right. Submit your own original caption for the photo on the left by emailing it to [partingshot@IDPA.com](mailto:partingshot@IDPA.com). We suggest you don't post your entry on Social Media to keep others from "stealing" your idea. Once your entry is received a super secret panel of judges (think of them as a Trilateral Commission or the Illuminati) will review the entries and select their top three. So bring the funny.

## READY TO CAPTION THIS?



### HOW TO ENTER

**Step #1:**

Think of something funny to caption the photo above.

**Step #2:**

Email your (hopefully) funny caption to [partingshot@idpa.com](mailto:partingshot@idpa.com)

**Step #3:**

Sit around waiting to find out if you won, all the while complaining about the whole process being unfair in not recognizing your obvious comedic genius.

**Step #4:**

Cross your fingers, hope we like your wry sense of humor best.

## PARTING SHOT WINNERS FROM OUR LAST ISSUE

### Winner

So... We have to wait on two more squads to eat lunch, Grrr.

—Marie Macon, A495460

### Second Place

"You're right, Randi. These pictures will never end up in print."

—Jason Mather A45223


### Third Place

"Really??? A perfect double????"

—Holcomb Kerns A35311




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(Extra-Large case w/retractable handle & wheels – not shown)



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