

## ***What is Cowboy Action Shooting?***

Cowboy Action Shooting is the Ultimate Family Sport. It's perfect for anyone who loves the Spirit of the Old West, and the Cowboy Spirit. It is for those of you who grew up watching Roy Rogers, John Wayne, Bonanza, The Rifleman, Gunsmoke, Open Range, Tombstone, and so on. It gives you the chance to be a Cowboy or Cowgirl just like your TV & Movies heroes.



The idea behind Cowboy Action Shooting is dressing up like a Cowboy, using firearms of the era in a competitive timed event, keeping in mind Safety, and the Cowboy Spirit. The time at the range enjoying this sport lets you get away from the stress of everyday life. It is enjoyed by people from all walks of life, Pastors, Teachers, Truck Drivers, Law Enforcement Officers, Nurses, etc. It's for Men, Women, and Youth.

## ***The Single Action Shooting Society***



The overall encompassing club for the sport of Cowboy Action Shooting is the Single Action Shooting Society. SASS as it's known, was started in the late 1980's to setup the rules and regulations for the sport. SASS also hosts End of Trail, the World Championship of Cowboy Action Shooting. SASS has affiliated clubs throughout the world who serve to preserve and promote the sport of Cowboy Action Shooting.

Membership with the Single Action Shooting Society consist of creating your own unique alias. This alias is the name you go by at the shooting events. Alias' can be a play on words, refer to your Western heroes, or a nickname. For example, Angie Oakley, Split Rail, Stone Creek Drifter, Buckaroo Bubba, Rye Miles, Swiftwater Jack, Moosetracks, Prairie Dawg, and Muleskinner just to name a few. As a paid member of SASS, once approved, your new alias is yours along with your unique membership number which is engraved on your SASS badge. Membership also includes a digital subscription to the Cowboy Chronicle, the monthly publication of SASS. You do not have to be a SASS member to shoot at the local level (like Tusco). However, membership is required to shoot at any State or above matches.

## ***The Firearms & Ammo***

Cowboy Action Shooting is just that, using Cowboy type firearms. You must use firearms that were made or reproductions of that were in existence pre-1900. The most common rifles you will find in the sport are the 1866, 1873, and 1892 Lever Action Rifles. Shotgun's that are commonly used are Double Barrel coach guns, with or without hammers or the 1897 Pump Shotguns. Pistols also have to be of the Old West style as well. Ruger Vaquero's are one of the most commonly used pistols in the sport.

We use live ammunition. They have to be of a pistol caliber from .32 Caliber but no larger than the .45. No jacketed bullets are acceptable, they must be fully lead bullets. Shotgun shells must be at least a 20 gauge and no larger than a 10 gauge.

For the complete guidelines please visit [www.sassnet.com](http://www.sassnet.com) and refer to the Shooter Booklets.

## ***Clothing***

Clothing plays a big part in this sport. It is Cowboy Action Shooting, so you want to look like a Cowboy. The minimum requirements are a Cowboy Hat, Button-up shirt, Jeans and Cowboy Boots. You can make your outfit as flashy or period correct as you want but keep in mind the spirit of the game. Keep the Cowboy in Cowboy Action Shooting! As a new shooter you may not have all the necessary clothing. Just come out and give it a try but please work on getting a "Cowboy" outfit. It's the only sport where the men will talk about clothes more than the women!



## ***How it works***

Each of the Shooting stages consist of the following: Loading Table, Props, Unloading Table, Timer Operator, and Three Spotters. When you are prepared you take your unloaded firearms, your holstered pistols, your rifle, and shotgun, along with your ammo up to the loading table. You proceed to load your firearms. Five rounds in each of your pistols, with the hammer down on the empty chamber. Ten rounds in your Rifle again with the hammer down on an empty chamber. The shotgun remains unloaded, you will load the shotgun on the clock. Once your guns are loaded you stay at the loading table until the Timer Operator calls you to the Firing Line. Then you will stage your guns as described by the shooting scenario. The scenario explains the gun placement, gun order, and the order in which you will engage the targets. Once your guns are set and the shooter is ready, the Timer Operator will "Beep" the Timer, starting the clock. The goal is to hit each target in the proper order as fast and safely as you can. Each missed target will add five seconds to your time. Ten seconds will be added to your time for shooting the scenario improperly. Once you are done shooting the stage, you will move to the unloading table. Someone will watch you unload each gun before you leave to take your guns back to your gun cart. The Timer Operator will have the time written down, and the number of misses and penalties recorded by the three spotters. At the end of the day the scores are added up and put into the computer. Scores are ranked overall against all the shooters and against each shooter in your category.

There are multiple shooting categories in Cowboy Action Shooting. Most of the categories are age-based. "Cowboy" is for anyone 18 years old and up, "Wrangler" is for 36 years and up, "49ers" 49 years old and up, "Senior" 65 and up, "Silver Senior" 66 and up, "Elderstatesman" 70 and up. There are

categories for Women and Youth as well, like “Cowgirl”, “Lady Wrangler”, “Buckaroo”, etc. Shooting Style also determines certain categories. In the “Duelist” category you shoot each pistol with one hand, “Gunfighter” you have both pistols out at the same time alternating shots. Clothing requirements also come into play with the “B-Western” and “Classic Cowboy” Categories. For a complete list of categories please refer to the SASS Shooters Handbook.



## ***The Tusco Long Riders***

The Tusco Long Riders are a SASS Affiliated Club. We promote SASS, Cowboy Action Shooting and the Spirit of the Old West. Our Club is based in Dennison, Ohio at the beautiful Tusco Rifle Club. We shoot the 1<sup>st</sup> Saturday of every month (not December), with our annual 3-day shoot the first weekend in October.



On shoot days, registration starts at 8:30am with a mandatory safety meeting at 10am. In this meeting we review safety rules and information about the shoot. All of the shooters are divided up into what we call “Posses”. Posses usually consist of 15-20 people who will move to each shooting stage together.

At Tusco, we shoot and score 5 stages. At a typical shoot we shoot the first stage you start on twice, creating a practice stage, taking the best score. This provides more shooting for our shooters.

Another attraction at Tusco, is our famous kitchen that is known all around the country. People in other states talk about the food at our range. Pam Legg provides an excellent breakfast and lunch that is available for purchase at each of our shoots.

After each posse finishes all of their stages for the day. We input all the times and penalties in the computer. The results are read off after the shoot and 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup> Place Ribbons are presented to the winners. Clean Shoot Ribbons are also presented to the shooters who shoot the entire match without missing any shots or having a procedural (shooting the scenarios wrong).

Our Annual Event in October, High Noon at Tusco, features 3-days of fun. Friday is side match day. It’s a fun day to try your hand at the speed events or long range side matches. Saturday holds the first half of the main match shooting five stages and the Saturday Night Banquet. The Banquet features dinner catered by Hog Heaven and our big prize



table. Then on Sunday, the last half of the main match is shot. Awards soon follow with nice plaques for each 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup>, and 3<sup>rd</sup> place finishers for each category, overall winners, and the clean shooters.

## ***Shoot with World Champions***

Could you imagine playing baseball with the Indians, catching a pass from Ben Roethlisberger, or playing Golf with Tiger Woods? In Cowboy Action Shooting you get to participate with some of the best Cowboy Action shooters in the World. You could possibly shoot right beside the 2010 & 2013 Women's World Champion, Sage Chick or the Two-Time Frontiersman World Champion, Split Rail who shoot at Tusco. The best thing about this sport is the Spirit of the Game. Even these World Champions would bend over backwards to help a fellow shooter. We all have had our first shoot, a little bit scared, a little bit intimidated, but the folks you will meet that play this game are some of the nicest people you will ever meet. Most of them want to give back to this sport we all love. What better way to do that than helping a new shooter. Like our motto says "The Shooting makes it fun, the People make it special".



## ***New Shooters and Spectators***

Spectators are always welcome at Tusco. It is free of charge. Please bring eye and ear protection. We do have ear plugs and safety glasses at the range to use but it's always easier to bring your own. You will also need to fill out a range release from either the website or at the range. It is highly recommended before you decide to start into this sport, to come and watch a shoot. See what it is all about. Ask any questions you may have. See the different firearms that are used. Make sure it's something your serious about. The startup cost for the equipment is a bit steep but once you're involved it's not too bad. Our monthly shoots only cost \$10 per shoot.

## ***Further Information***

Check out our club's website at [www.TuscoLongRiders.com](http://www.TuscoLongRiders.com) or the Single Action Shooting Society's Website at [www.SASSnet.com](http://www.SASSnet.com) for more information.



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