

# Cowboy Action Shooting

## SHORTGRASS RANGERS



OKLAHOMA TERRITORY

Southwest Oklahoma/North Texas



SASS Affiliated

# Welcome

The Shortgrass Rangers welcome your interest in Cowboy Action Shooting, or as we know it, CAS. CAS is the fastest growing of the shooting sports. We have members of all ages and sexes who compete in a SAFE, friendly shooting competition, using firearms of the “Wild West” while dressed in period clothes. The Shortgrass Rangers were formed in 1999 and have provided this shooting experience in SW Oklahoma and North Texas for over 10 years. We welcome new shooters and encourage you to find out more about our sport but, better yet, come join us at a “shoot” or match, which we hold two times a month at our range, “The Big Pasture” near Grandfield, OK. We welcome you whether you want to shoot or watch, but shooting is much more fun.



## COME OUT AND JOIN THE FUN.

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

Cowboy Action Shooting is a competitive shooting sport in which competitors of all ages and sexes safely compete in a timed shooting event using the firearms of the Old West while dressed in period costume. Safety is stressed at all times. We are very relaxed about just about everything, but safety.

Although it is a competition, **the primary motivation for Cowboy Shooters is FUN.** It is hard to take yourself too seriously while dressed in duds more at home 120 years ago. For a lot of Cowboy shooters LOOKING GOOD is just as important as shooting well. For others, it is the competition, and for others, just a chance to get out and have a good time. **This is an event for the entire family.**

Our members, few of whom can boast of their shooting prowess, find joy in researching their characters, a shared interest in the Old West, and the camaraderie of their fellow shooters,

## **What do you do?**

Cowboy Action Shooting is a multifaceted shooting sport in which contestants compete with firearms typical of those used in the taming of the Old West: single action revolvers, lever action rifles, and side by side double barreled, 1897 pump, or 1887 lever action shotguns. The shooting competition is staged in a unique, characterized, "Old West" style. Contestants shoot in several one- to four-gun stages (courses of fire) in which they engage a variety of steel targets and an occasional clay bird. Scoring is based on accuracy and speed.



The truly unique aspect of Cowboy Action Shooting is the requirement placed on authentic period or western screen dress. Each participant is required to adopt a shooting alias appropriate

to a character or profession of the late 19th century, or a Hollywood western star, and develop a costume accordingly.

## **What do you need?**

A sense of FUN, a love of the Old West, common sense, and a desire to use that single action hog-leg for something besides a paper weight.

The internet is a rich source of information.

Begin by taking a look at the SASS website. It has the Shooters' Handbook (This is a must have), the SASS Wire and some pictures. (The addresses are in the back of this booklet)

CAS City also has some good articles on getting started.

Consider joining SASS. They register your alias; provide the "Cowboy Chronicle", a monthly newsletter and advertising wagon. More importantly, they provide the framework, on a national basis, for competition. The SHORTGRASS RANGERS have elected to affiliate with SASS and SASS rules will apply. This structure allows you to shoot at any other club using SASS rules (the vast majority) and feel right at home from the start. There are other groups of sanctioning bodies such as NCOWS and WASA. They all have their niche.



## **What do you need for a match?**

You need a single action revolver in a caliber from .32 to .45. You should be familiar with how to use it safely. You should have a western-style holster as well. Now, it is true that stages (the individual courses of fire - a match may have 3 to 7) will usually require a second pistol. Cowboy shooters are generous and borrowing a second SAA revolver is seldom an issue. You will need a lever action rifle, in a pistol caliber. If you have a question, just ask. It does not have to match your revolver. No, a 30/30 is not legal for matches, but with lead bullets may be

used if there is a side match for long range lever action. The Handbook can make this clearer.

You will need a shotgun. Basically Side-by-side 20ga to 10ga without ejectors (the thing that makes the shells rocket over your shoulder / Extractors (the thing that makes the shell just leave the chamber) are ok and desirable, or an exposed hammer pump (Winchester Model 97).

**All ammo must be lead bullets and shot only. No jacketed or copper clad bullets! No magnum loads.**

**You will need eye and ear protection for you and any spectators you have with you.**

### **What about Dress?**

Cowboy shooters often expend more effort on their character and their dress than on practicing their marksmanship. It all comes with time. When you first go to a match, denims, a long-sleeved cotton shirt, cowboy boots and inexpensive cowboy hat are just fine. This is one area that grows (and grows) as you become familiar with our sport.



**Have FUN!**

Keep in mind that the main purpose of cowboy shooting is FUN. Some cowboys take more interest in the shooting competition, some in creating an authentic western character, some in looking good, but we all enjoy the camaraderie. If you need help, have questions, feel free to contact us.

### **Do I have to join to shoot?**

We do not require that you belong to the Shortgrass Rangers to shoot with us. We have lots of new shooters and visitors from other clubs. If you choose to join, the Membership is \$30 per year. A numbered, sterling silver badge is available for \$55. Shoot fees are \$10 for non-members and \$8 for members.

# How to get more information:

## **Check the web:**

Shortgrass Rangers Website: <http://www.rgose.com>

Single Action Shooting Society: <http://sassnet.com>

SASS Shooter's Handbook (IMPORTANT):

<http://www.sassnet.com/Shooters-Handbook-001A.php>

CAS City: <http://www.cascity.com>

## **Contact the Club Officers:**

President: "Redleg Reilly", Ted Brogden

<mailto:tedbrogden@aol.com>

Territorial Governor: "Goose Terwilligher", Bob Gose

<mailto:rcgose@swbell.net>

Vice President: "Texita Draw" Danny Brown

<mailto:dsbrown@nts-online.net>

Sec/Treas: "Capt. Allyn Capron", Claude Matchette

<mailto:match73@sbcglobal.net>

## **Come to a Meeting:**

We meet before the first Saturday shoot each month.

## **Come to a "Shoot":**

We shoot on the first Saturday and the third Sunday of each month. We start at 9:30am June-Sept, 10am Oct-May.



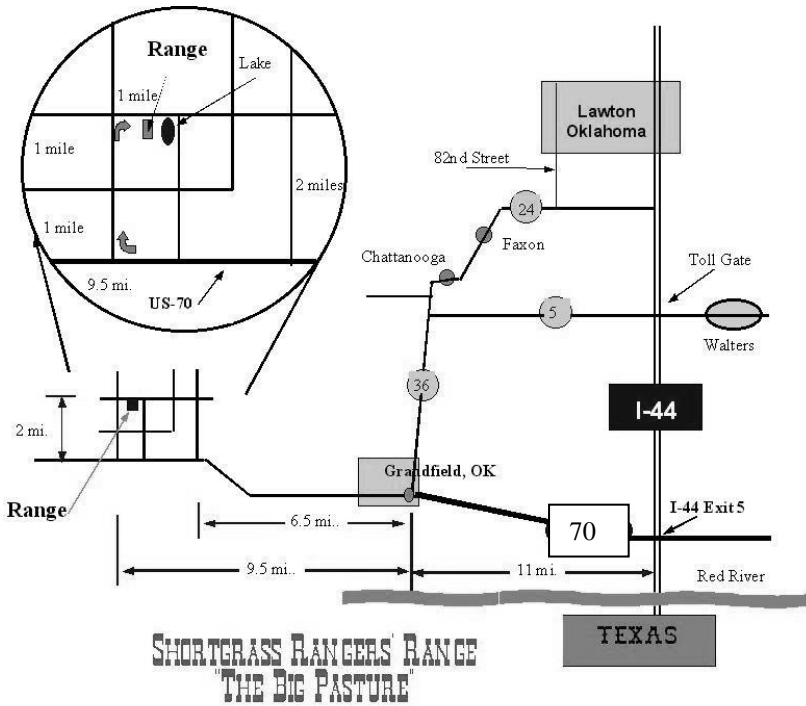
Call if you have questions.

## Shortgrass Rangers Match Safety

- **Eye protection must be worn at all time, no exceptions!** This applies to visitors as well as shooters. We shoot lead bullets at steel targets. Splatter can and does occur. Ear protection is recommended.
- Watch your muzzle direction! Treat all guns as if they are **LOADED!**
- This is a "cold" range. All guns must be unloaded until you are at the loading table.
- All long guns will have their actions open, when not on the firing line, or at the loading bench. The actions will be reopened when the last shot has been fired in that gun.
- Rifles will be loaded with the action closed, hammer down on the empty chamber.
- Shotguns will always be loaded on the clock. Shotguns can not be staged "muzzle down".
- Handguns will be loaded with 5 rounds, hammer down on an empty cylinder.
- All guns, loaded or empty, will be handled so that the muzzle of the gun does not sweep other shooters. They must be pointed down range or in a safe direction (i.e. up or down, if they are being carried to or from the loading tables).
- The person timing the stage is the primary safety officer. He or she can stop the shooter at any time.
- Jammed or defective guns will be safely taken to the unloading table and cleared there. A second Shooter should be present to assist and act as safety Officer.
- Dropped guns, sweeping other shooters with the muzzle of a gun (loaded or unloaded) or an accidental discharge within five feet of the firing line will result in the shooter being disqualified from the stage.
- Repeated safety violations will result in the shooter being asked to leave the ranges. If you have ANY questions, please ask. The only dumb question is the one you don't ask.

Be safe and have fun!

## Map to the Range of the Shortgrass Rangers The "Big Pasture"



**Directions to the Shortgrass Rangers Shoots:**

Travel on Interstate 44 to Exit 5, ("Randlett") just 5 miles north of the Texas border (Red River). Proceed West on US-70 11 miles to Grandfield, OK. From the junction of 70 and Oklahoma 36 (Grain Elevators) continue West for 9.5 miles. Turn North on the gravel road for 2 miles (watch your odometer). Take the dirt road to the East for about 3/4 of a mile. The range in on the Right just before the lake.

**Scheduled Matches: First Saturday**

**Third Sunday 9:30am June-Sept, 10am Oct-May**

**Road Conditions may change with weather. Check the website or call:**

**<http://www.rgose.com>**