

TRAC match – July 9, 2024 – Tony Turchetta, match director

Well, after checking the weather conditions prior to the match and sending out an email warning, everybody that shot today brought LARGE thermos, water bottles, and even one entire cooler, filled with ice, with them. We were prepared!

Of course, there were only 9 of us crazies present and, as promised, Tony had a doozie of a course designed for us, but he forgot one little item....

.....the wind.

Lets get the preliminaries out of the way....

It was clear and cloudless, with distant haze, very bright and sunny with lots of glare and it was warm. During set up, it was in the upper 80's with a light wind of about 3 mph +/- . Not bad.....

At the start of the match, the temp was up to 95° and rose to 100° with humidity in the low 20% range. As I write this, it is a not-so-pleasant 112° and I am glad to be inside with A/C.

The wind.....I mentioned this up above.....ranged between 6 and 12 mph with one brief period around 9:30 with gusts of 16 mph. Wind direction was predominantly out of the southeast. Guess what that does to pellet flight downrange?

Tony designed this lovely little course to be a somewhat challenging 36T. To quote Tony, and keep the language clean, he stated....."I totally forgot about the wind....!" Yeah, no shit, Sherlock.

Barbara was not present today, so the number of F-bombs was somewhat significant.....especially by our illustrious match director. There was also the corresponding amount of laughter, as well. Yes, it was challenging. Yes, we did have fun. Yes, there were several that emailed or texted that they would not make it, and all for, curiously, the same reason....."Upset stomach". Guess they read the emailed weather alert. Heh, heh, heh, heh, heh.....!

Those of us that were present and can therefore be called “Crazies” are as follows:

45/48 – Wayne Mauler / Thomas / Hunter PCP

40/48 – Mark Kauffman / Steyr LG110 / Open PCP – Yes, I have been known to shoot a puffer gun on occasion. Gotta give them some love, too.

38/48 – Scott Hunt / BRK Sniper / Hunter PCP, and tied with....

38/48 – Van Tucker / Daystate Herr Ranger / Hunter PCP

36/48 – Barry Diehl / Daystate Revere / Hunter PCP, and tied with....

36/48 – Bill Cole / Daystate Revere / Hunter PCP

34/48 – Tony Turchetta / Daystate Blu-wolf / Hunter PCP – for those who have asked, that is a Red Wolf in a blue laminate stock. Very pretty.....

27/48 – Joe Pruzinsky / Daystate Revere / Hunter PCP

26/48 – Loren Braud / Daystate Revere / Hunter PCP

Tony did bring his portable “shower” with him today. This is a 5-gallon bucket, filled with water, and a fan actuated “misting” system attached to the top. He was in front of that constantly during the match and is considering how to mount it in a back pack configuration so he can wear it. It actually ran dry today!

We were also entertained by a little ground squirrel (aka, prairie dog) that was running back and forth during the match. Personally, I did not notice him until he stood up and leaned against the 48-yard target that I was getting ready to shoot. Imagine seeing that in your scope! I waited until he moved away from the target, then dropped the target behind him. He flew away like greased lightning! I had to laugh while imagining him thinking, “WTF was That?”

.....simple pleasures for simple minds.....

Also, the Saturday after next is the next monthly match at Mormon Lake. Not sure what the current fire restriction are, but we will keep you posted and send out a reminder beforehand.

Stay cool, stay safe, stay hydrated,

Respectfully submitted,

Mark Kauffman

Secretary, Airgunners of Arizona, Inc.