TRAC match – January 24, 2023 – Wayne Mauler, match director

We seem to have a COLD pocket in the valley, that does not want to leave. It was cold and windy last Tuesday, it was cold and windy on Saturday, and it is cold today…..but not too windy. As a matter for fact, the wind was near non-existent. It was coming from multiple directions, floating in and out. Most of the time between 0 and 3 mph, but at times increased to 5 – 6 mph and floating the pellets away from the kill zone enough to cause splits. Just when you thought things were good, the wind shifts just enough to create mayhem, as if to say, “who, me?”

The temps started out today at 34° and only warmed to 45°, with the humidity in the mid-50% range. Yeah, still a little damp, with all the low-lying vegetation covered in frost for most of the match. As the sun was warming the upper portion of the metal deck of the canopy, the underside was accumulating condensation, and we were getting rained on! Big, solid splats! Everything was getting wet, gun cases, guns, score cards, sign-in sheets, you name it. I kept my hood up to keep from getting them down the back of my neck. Little bastards are cold!

Otherwise, it appeared to be a very nice looking day; blue sky, no clouds, bright sunshine, and some distant haze. If our fingers weren’t numb, it would have been next to perfect. I am guessing that the follow up email that was sent, with the temp warning, had more than a little to do with the lack of attendance. Only 6 guys today; 3 shooting pistol and 3 shooting piston. Wayne did get an email from Barry and Van stating they would be shooting. They must have sent it while still inside. Stepped outside and changed their mind. I know I wanted to stay home, snuggled in my nice warm bed, but duty calls……

On the pistol side of the equation, we had…….

35/48 – 2 bagger Mike, shooting his FX Ranchero. He shared his gun with a buddy of his, shooting for the very first time……

22/48 – Dave shared Mike’s gun for his first match

7/24 – Wayne shot his Brocock Atomic and was having problems with the scope and was overall feeling blah. So he only shot half the course.

On the piston side……

46/48 – Mark, shooting his trusty TX200 and getting caught by 2 errant wind shifts…..Aaaarrrggghhh!

45/48 – Tony, “Turk”, shooting his TX200 with new internals and new stock. He is finding out that sub 12 fpe works pretty good!

36/48 – Joe shooting his HW97, which is still a pretty decent score. (75%)

We have one more Tuesday match for January (Jan 31), then the first two weeks in February, followed by 2 Tuesdays where we don’t have access to the ranges, so we, in effect, get two weeks off! Then we shoot the first two Tuesdays in March, followed by two more weeks off. If you think about that, we won’t have another pistol / piston match until April. Plenty of time to go and buy one…..or two. And by then, the weather should be warmer. Such a deal!

Respectfully submitted,

Mark Kauffman, aka “springer-dinger”

Secretary, Airgunners of Arizona, Inc.

OOOOOOOOOoooooh, I almost forgot! Mike actually shot a springer today and knocked down A target!! Not sure if it was Joe’s or Tony’s gun, but he shot one. I don’t think he was ready to press his luck with a second shot. Now there is no excuse for him not to obtain one and prove to everyone that he does know how to shoot! He was soooooo excited…….LOL!