

# BEST TARGETS

## **BEST Targets Shooting Team After Action Report (AAR)**

**Event:** Infidel Gunfighter League Tactical Match

**Date:** April 4, 2015

**Location:** 37 PSR Gun Club, Bunnlevel, NC

**Websites:** [www.37psr.com](http://www.37psr.com)  
[www.facebook.com/InfidelGunfighterLeague](http://www.facebook.com/InfidelGunfighterLeague)

**Shooter:** Chris Andrews (with Scott Whitehead)

**Gear:** Sig 226 Blackwater 9mm, Bushmaster M4A2, Jerry Miculek Mossberg 930 shotgun from Scott Whitehead

### **Facility Notes**

37 PSR Gun Club is an outdoor shooting range and training facility that includes a 100 yard range, three tactical bays, a 270 degree shoot house, classroom facilities and a pro shop. A longer distance range is also available off site but nearby. There is a variety of paper and steel target arrangements and many shooting positions and barricade options to work with.

### **Event Format**

Although stage times were kept, misses were scored and hits on no-shoot targets and procedural errors were recorded the focus of the event was training and practice – not competition. No final scores or rankings were published before we left. The group was divided up into four squads of roughly 15 people each. We shot 5 stages. The participants spanned the range of experience from nearly first time shooters to trained, experienced military operators. Gear seen at the event ranged from all types of 9mm, .40 & .45 handguns; .22 cal ARs to a variety of AR15s and a few AKs; and wood stock pump shotguns to Saiga's and 3-gun type autoloaders. The event started with a briefing from Frank at 11:00 and shooting wrapped up around 5:00. The four squads rotated around the facility led by a Team Leader and a Scorer.

In our first stage we shot three different courses of fire. The first was simply (3) cardboard IPSC torsos approx. 15 yards out that had to be engaged quickly with 2 rounds each from the AR and then 2 rounds each from the handgun. The second course was a seated "el Presidente" type stage with (3) cardboard IPSC torsos approx. 5 yards out that had to be engaged with 2 rounds each from the pistol. This stage started with the shooter in a seated position with the handgun holstered. Some people stood before taking their shots, others shot from the chair. Scoring on these cardboard torsos was the typical "2 to the chest or 1 to the head". The final course of our first stage was a drill to hit a 12"ish square steel plate approx. 15 yards out as many times as possible in 10 seconds. Hit counts on this stage ranged from an 8 to a 32 including my 23. There was nothing difficult about any of these courses of fire but after I finished each I could tell that I was out of practice and could have done better by taking my time and focusing on quality hits rather than speed.

Our second stage of the day was a move and shoot stage that started with the competitor seated in suburban. At the buzzer you had to move out and around the suburban and take cover behind the engine block and/or axles. There were (4) cardboard IPSC torsos that had to be engaged approx. 30 yards out from this position. Some of these torsos were partially blocked by no-shoot torsos. After hitting the first (4) torsos the shooter had to move to a flight of stairs, climb the stairs, clear over a wall and engage (4) more similar cardboard IPSC torsos at the same distance. After these torsos were cleared the shooter had to come down and run to a tall, narrow barricade and knock down (5) bowling pins at 10 yards.

The third stage was a man vs man 3-gun steel challenge. The layout of this stage was symmetrical and the two shooters started in the middle of the range with a foot touching a red cone. A shotgun was placed on a table at the shooting position and the shooter carried the rifle and pistol. At the buzzer the shooter ran approx. 20 yards to the shooting position and engaged (3) cardboard IPSC torsos approx. 15 yards out. After hitting these torsos and a transition to the holstered handgun there were (3) small steel circles and (5) large poppers to hit. The final set of targets were (4) steel squares to be hit with the shotgun. The final steel square triggered a clay pigeon to be released that had to be hit as the last target.

While waiting for the shoot house stage everyone in our squad had to take three shots at round paper target at 100 yards for score with their primary rifle. Although this was not a very exciting stage this was a good skill to test.

Our final stage was the 270 degree shoot house. The instructions for this were simple – pass thru the door, shoot all the targets, don't shoot the no-shoot targets, pickup any Easter eggs you see and don't expose yourself to any unfriendlies. I had never done this before and although it sounds easy it's NOT. Almost nobody that came out of the house offered any help or suggestions to those that hadn't been in yet – not because they weren't nice guys, only because part of the challenge is not knowing what's thru that door. I rushed thru the house, opened doors too slowly, exposed myself to fire many times, left some rooms uncleared and shot several no-shoot targets. Clearly I have a lot to learn about room clearing!

## **Things Done Well**

The first thing done well was getting to the event. Get out and shoot. I had never shot some of these types of stages and I was pretty happy with my first time. I definitely know what I need to work on. Although I can always see different or nicer gear at any event I was happy with what my gear was able to do. My AR15 with carry handle mounted AimPoint that is 4" over bore center is not ideal but I know my holds and it worked ok. I hadn't shot a shotgun in 20 years before the 6 rounds of warmup Scott let me shoot the day before the event and I was happy with how I handled that part of the 3-gun stage. Since the penalty for misses was so large I took three shots at every torso on every stage to be sure I scored a hit. After seeing how well I shot most of the groups I would probably only take two shots on each one next time. Some very good shooters took only one shot on each torso scoring in the head each time.

## **Things Done Poorly**

After most stages I had to remind myself that I would have probably done better if I hadn't rushed myself. These IGF events are more about scoring hits and not suffering the penalties of misses than they are about time. Not knowing all the rules for all the stages was a poor move on my part as well. The rules and regulations were all posted online. Although I didn't make any major errors Scott did leave a partially loaded AR15 magazine on the ground after a reload during the second stage and was docked a procedural penalty for it. At some events this would be a non-issue but any live rounds left behind were frowned upon here. Obviously knowing the rules and scoring system for an event are key to scoring well.

Although I did well with a few things I had never done before I definitely need training in room clearing and shoot houses!

## **Results**

Total scores and final standings were not released before we headed home. Again, this event was focused on training and practice not so much competition or final score. Scott and I agreed that the competitor in us found this hard to grasp.

## **Lessons Learned**

There is no substitute for training and practice. After each stage I juggled in my mind the tradeoff between speed and accuracy. In almost every case I tried to go too fast and my accuracy suffered because of it.

## **Notable Names**

The owner of 37 PSR Frank McRae is a retired Army Special Forces member and instructor. He clearly brings a practical application perspective to the event stages and scoring and I hope to get back there to do some training with him someday. Our Team Leader Dan St. John and our Scorer Chris Ward were both very helpful and kept our squad moving thru the stages quickly. We also caught up with Al DeOrleans who we met at a DMM Match at Woody's last year.

Jeremy Kahn from Kahntrol Solutions met us at the event to set up some 3-gun muzzle brakes for us. We also picked up some new PodMod adapters from him for our precision rifles along with some Atlas cleats and rubber feet. Check out Kahntrol Solutions at [www.kahntrol.com](http://www.kahntrol.com) and [www.facebook.com/kahntrol](https://www.facebook.com/kahntrol) for some great gear.

## **Summary**

The once a month Infidel Gunfighter League events at 37 PSR are great practice. The stages were fast paced and challenging. The five stages had enough variety that we didn't repeat anything throughout the day. The match was run well and we moved thru the stages quickly. We met some great people and had a ton of fun. We'll definitely be back.

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