

Tri-county Spring Combat Shoot

The Ridgway Rifle Club hosted the Tri-County Spring Combat and Self-defense pistol tourney Saturday, April 10 at the Ridgway Rifle Club indoor range. Although sunny, the brisk chill in the morning hours gave pause to the event planning group, and the big event was held indoors. Event winners were Jared Shaffer .45 acp CDP, Brian Kraus standard service pistol, Doug Morgan enhanced service pistol, and Adam Ginther revolver.

The competition following IDPA guidelines, consisted of a safety reminder by Bob Gnan of St. Mary's, who told the 40+ shooters that all safety rules will be strictly enforced, and there will be no loaded weapons behind the line of fire which is carefully maintained by Bob, and the other range officers Keith Van Horne, Mike Newell, and Paul Day.

The four defensive scenarios were explained by the range officers, and the competition began. Each stage represented different real-life defensive situations, and the competitors used speed and accuracy to save their own lives and the lives of their loved ones. Procedural regulations had the pistol competition keeping the weapon concealed until the draw, shooting both strong and weak hand, reloading behind cover, shooting while moving, and using a barricade for protection while shooting downrange.

Paul Day, event organizer, commented, "We had over 40 participants today, and using the indoor range, time was managed very well. I think each of us enjoyed both the live-fire scenarios, facing the pressure of the clock while maintaining good hits, and of course, the brotherhood of fellow shooters who come to this great facility from far away. This was a great combat match."

The next International Defensive Pistol Association (IDPA) match will be held on May 8th, and will be a qualifier when shooters can receive their status as novice, marksman, sharpshooter, or master class. All spectators and shooters are welcome with ear and eye protection at 10 a.m. on the Ridgway outdoor pistol bays.

Pictures:

Adam Ginther, champion of Revolver class handgun, with Mike Newell running the clock as range officer.

Jared Shaffer, champion of CDP big bore pistol, shooting weak hand with flames from live-fire scenario. Paul Day and Mike Gray check time and safety.

Doug Morgan, champion of Enhanced Service Pistol class, with Bob Gnan watching time and Keith Van Horne safety officer.

