

ANNUAL MATCHES



VOLUNTEER SCORE TABULATORS DESOTO BOB (SASS #51862) AND MYSTIC RUBY ROSE (SASS #105375) SMILE THROUGH THE PRINTER FAILURES AND CONCENTRATION-CRACKING CLUBHOUSE RACKET. WE CAN'T THANK THEM ENOUGH!

BELOVED HEROES NON-SHOOTERS OF THE SASS 2024 MISSISSIPPI STATE CHAMPIONSHIP

BY DEANNA CASWELL

While shooters take center stage at the Single Action Shooting Society Mississippi State Championship with their quickdraws and sharp aim, the non-shooters contribute in countless ways to ensure the event runs smoothly and remains a memorable experience for all.

BEHIND THE SCENES

At the heart of the non-shooter community are the volunteers — the workers behind the scenes who dedicate their time and effort to make the



SEAN, SPENDING HIS MILITARY LEAVE WITH HIS FAVORITE COWBOY FAMILY, DONS HIS FAVORITE COWBOY HAT AND JORDANS TO HELP OUT WITH THE FESTIVITIES.

SASS Mississippi State Championship a success. From event setup and registration to scoring and feeding/fortifying the competitors, non-shooter volunteers play a pivotal role in every aspect of the event. Their dedication and service ensure shooters can focus on the competition without worrying about logistics.

Non-shooter volunteers come from all walks of life, ranging from shooters' spouses and family members to retired cowboys that like being part of the action. Their willingness to lend a helping hand embodies the true spirit of camaraderie that defines the Mississippi SASS community, fostering a sense of unity and belonging among all participants.

“My non-shooter wife jumped right in to help with everything from registration and prizes to food, and discovered a whole crew of new friends who were ready and willing to help everything run smoothly.”

said Padre de Cinco (SASS #111846), Match Director. "Their support and hard work make it possible for us to enjoy the competition, and we can't thank them enough."

PILLARS OF SUPPORT

While shooters take aim and compete for glory, their non-shooter partners provide unwavering encouragement and support every step of the way. Whether cheering from the sidelines, organizing, or simply offering words of encouragement, non-shooters play a vital role in the success of the competitors.

For many, the SASS Mississippi State Championship is not just a competition but a family affair, where generations come together. From grandparents to grandchildren, the event provides a unique opportunity for families to bond over a shared passion for Cowboy Action Shooting™.

"This was my first ever competition," said 13-year-old, Robin DaBank (SASS #114035), who shot alongside her father and brother. "My grandparents and mom and big sister,



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PADRE DE CINCO, ROBIN DABANK, AND SMOKEY BONES — SHOOTERS WHO CAN CONCENTRATE ON COMPETING THANKS TO OUR VOLUNTEERS.

who don't even shoot, helped out everywhere."

AN ESSENTIAL INGREDIENT

From offering their time and expertise to providing unwavering support and camaraderie, non-shooters embody the true spirit of the event and ensure its continued success year after year. Without the dedication and contributions of non-shooters, the event would not be the vibrant and welcoming community it is today. They may not be the ones pulling the triggers, but their presence and dedication are felt in every aspect of the event, enriching the lives of shooters and spectators alike.

"The only photo I have of my dad in my phone is the one our volunteer photographer, Zach Jr., took," said 18-year-old Smokey Bones (SASS #112306), "Whenever I reference my dad's incredible cowboy mustache, that's the photo I show."

LOOKING AHEAD

As preparations begin for 2025's SASS Mississippi State Championship, let us remember once again to appreciate the non-shooters who work tirelessly behind the scenes to make the event possible. They are an integral part of the Mississippi SASS family and their contributions deserve to be perennially celebrated. Together, shooters and non-shooters alike, we will continue to make the SASS Mississippi State Championship a premier event in the world of Cowboy Action Shooting™ for years to come.

If you missed out on the 2024 SASS Mississippi State Championship, don't worry — we're gearing up for 2025! The match will be held May 23 to May 25. Visit <https://mississippiriverrangers.org> to find out more. Spaces are limited, so don't wait — saddle up and prepare to ride into another weekend of wild fun and camaraderie!



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