

2015 Utopia Shootout

2015 marked a significant milestone as it was the 10th annual shoot held at the Duke Ranch. As usual, practice day and match day provided plenty of suspense and drama for all. Friday started as an overcast day with a feel for rain in the air all day long. However, those who were on hand to practice enjoyed rain free conditions up until the middle of the afternoon. Then the cool front blew thru with a strong rain that drenched everyone and everything in sight with a quick 1 inch of rain. After standing around huddled under the awning watching it rain for an hour or so, we called off further practice and all went home.

Saturday dawned thoroughly muddy, overcast, and with the threat of rain again. However, it did not rain all day long and the ground did begin to dry as the day went on. The wind proved to be switchy but other than that, it was a good day to be shooting and I think everyone enjoyed themselves. I know everyone enjoyed the noon meal. Again, the banana pudding seemed to be the winner of the day. It was a real task to keep Matt from doing a face plant in the middle of the bowl!

Several shooters started the match hot by cleaning the first board or two but then began to drop points as the wind and cloud changes took their toll. But as usual, there were some shooters who handled the conditions much better than the rest of us. They just kept quietly working away as others fell further back.

When all the shooting was finished, Johnathon Stigall prevailed as the 2015 champion by shooting a very fine 980 score. Turns out Johnathon left a medium clay on his first board and then shot clean for the next four boards. Congratulations Jonathan for an excellent match. In second place was Bubba Holcomb with a nice 920 score. Bubba was shooting a straight 6BR and drove it very well all day long. In third place was Debbie Pohl with a score of 900 points. Debbie was on a mission all day long and the results showed her concentration. Below is the full list of shooters and scores.

Since this was the 10th annual shoot, the attending shooters who had also shot the very first shoot were treated to a match within the main match. There were seven shooters in attendance who had attended the very first shoot, including Tom Schmidke who won the first shoot. At the end of the day, Joe Duke won this event with a score of 860, Sam Duke was second with 720 points and Stick Starks was third with 680 points.

I think this shoot is indicative of how balanced and wide spread the talent is in this group. In the ten years of the Utopia match, there have been nine different winners. It is exceedingly difficult to win one of these shoots. All of you who participate are to be commended on your abilities. We enjoyed having everyone who showed up to shoot, eat, and visit. We hope you enjoyed yourselves as much as we did and look forward to having you back again next year.

Note that after final review, a couple of placings did change.

Now, it is a new day and on to Huntsville. See you there.

2015 UTOPIA SHOOTOUT

Name	POS	Board 1			Board 2			Board 3			Board 4			Board 5			Small Target Hits	Med Targets Hit	Large Target Hits	TOTAL POINT	PLACE
		L	M	S	L	M	S	L	M	S	L	M	S	L	M	S					
Johnathon Stigall	1B	1	1	5	1	2	5	1	2	5	1	2	5	1	2	5	25	9	5	980	1
Bubba Holcomb	5C	1	2	5	1	2	5	1	2	4	1	2	5	1	1	4	23	9	5	920	2
Debbie Pohl	12A	0	0	4	1	2	5	1	2	5	1	1	5	1	2	5	24	7	4	900	3
Dick Cunningham	12B	1	2	5	1	0	4	1	2	5	1	0	5	1	2	5	24	6	5	890	4
Ron Wilson	11B	1	2	5	1	2	5	1	2	3	1	1	4	1	2	5	22	9	5	890	5
Malford Jost	4C	1	2	5	1	2	5	0	2	5	1	0	2	1	2	5	22	8	4	860	6
Joe Duke	3C	1	2	5	1	2	5	1	2	5	1	2	2	1	1	4	21	9	5	860	7
Kris Whitman	3B	1	2	2	1	2	5	1	2	4	1	2	5	1	2	4	20	10	5	850	8
Donnel Gaines	2C	1	2	4	1	2	5	1	2	4	1	2	5	1	2	2	20	10	5	850	9
Danny Barringer	11A	1	2	4	1	2	5	1	2	4	1	2	5	1	2	1	19	10	5	820	10
Denny Henderson	10C	1	2	5	0	2	4	0	2	3	1	2	5	0	0	4	21	8	2	810	11
Rolando Aviles	6B	1	2	3	1	2	5	1	2	3	1	1	3	1	2	5	19	9	5	800	12
Lance Modawell	4B	1	2	5	1	2	5	1	2	2	1	2	1	1	2	5	18	10	5	790	13
JB Cason	1C	0	2	5	1	2	2	0	2	5	1	2	3	0	2	3	18	10	2	760	14
Matt Holcomb	5B	1	2	5	1	2	5	1	2	2	1	0	2	1	2	4	18	8	5	750	15
Sam Duke	10A	1	2	5	1	2	5	1	2	4	1	2	1	1	0	2	17	8	5	720	16
Gary Worlow	5D	1	2	4	1	2	5	1	1	2	1	0	4	0	0	3	18	5	4	680	17
Stick Starks	7A	1	1	4	1	2	4	1	2	1	0	1	5	1	2	2	16	8	4	680	18
Jason Leavelle	12D	1	1	4	1	2	3	1	2	5	1	2	3	1	1	0	15	8	5	660	19
David Pohl	8B	1	2	2	1	2	5	1	1	4	1	0	2	1	1	3	16	6	5	650	20
Arnold Jewell	1D	1	1	4	0	2	3	1	1	2	1	1	5	1	0	2	16	5	4	620	21
JC Lee	8C	1	2	5	1	0	3	1	1	2	1	2	1	1	2	3	14	7	5	610	22

Original Shooters
Match

Joe Duke	3C	1	2	5	1	2	5	1	2	5	1	2	2	1	1	4	21	9	5	860	1
Sam Duke	10A	1	2	5	1	2	5	1	2	4	1	2	1	1	0	2	17	8	5	720	2
Stick Starks	7A	1	1	4	1	2	4	1	2	1	0	1	5	1	2	2	16	8	4	680	3
Jason Leavelle	12D	1	1	4	1	2	3	1	2	5	1	2	3	1	1	0	15	8	5	660	4
Chrsty Woods	11D	1	1	3	1	1	5	1	2	2	1	2	1	1	1	0	11	7	5	520	5
Carl Porter	8D	1	2	5	1	1	2	1	0	3	1	1	0	1	2	1	11	6	5	500	6
Tom Schmidtke	11C	1	2	4	1	2	1	0	0	3	1	0	2	1	0	1	11	4	4	450	7