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# Official Monthly Newsletter of the NRS

By the NRS

for the NRS

## From the Section Coordinator

To all NRS Members, family and friends,

Practical Shooting can be a great experience to share with a friend or family member. Invite them out for a course or two. The only way we grow is to invite a person or to attract them to the sport with some type of advertisement.

Inviting a friend is always a positive way to introduce them to a sport that is growing across the nation.

Also help out wherever you can with your local club. We are an all volunteer sport and without your help we do not exist. Everyone has to remember that without someone setting up the match, we would not be enjoying our sport. PLEASE~~~HELP YOUR LOCAL CLUB!!!

Please note that we have a member feedback section where we will publish articles from you, the local shooters, about your shooting experiences and your ideas. You can Email me at [gene@computerbrothersinc.com](mailto:gene@computerbrothersinc.com) with any of your stories or ideas pertinent to our clubs and the section.

Welcome to your NRS newsletter  
 Gene R. Pipinich NRS/SC 06

## Calendar

### Bozeman

July 1, 2006 - NRS Slot Match

August 5, 2006 Northern Rockies Section Championship

### Billings

July 15th - Big Sky State Games

Aug. 19th - plus long gun side stage

### Bigfork

Matches are always scheduled on the 4<sup>th</sup> Saturday of each month  
 March thru October

**Jul 22      Aug 26      Sep 23      Oct 28**

Present format for all matches is 5 stages, 100 to 120 rounds total, with one stage being a classifier submitted to USPSA

### Missoula

July 9~~ 5th Annual MT Single Stack Classic w/ 6 club stages

August 13~~Special Classifier with 4 classifiers and 1 club stage

# Club

# Rep

# Advisory

## GAS - Bozeman

Our next match is July 1, that is this coming Saturday and it is the NRS SLOT match. We will again be setting up on Friday, for those who would like to come out and give us a hand. In August, on the 5<sup>th</sup> is the NRS Section Championship. The match is shaping up to be a really fun and challenging match. We hope you can all come out and enjoy the matches.

If you check out the USPSA web sight and go to additional content, you can look at the classifier stages that the USPSA just added in June. We will be running a few of the new ones at the rest of our matches this year. You will also notice that one of the classifiers now has the classic target. If you haven't seen these targets take a look, I have a feeling we will be seeing more of them coming up. We look forward to seeing everyone out to the matches.

Nick

## BFGC- Bigfork

Hi all

A few weeks while visiting my brother in Virginia my father got seriously ill and had to have emergency surgery. He is still in ICU and although he is making steady progress we don't expect for him to be discharged from the hospital soon. I plan to fly back to help my mother transport him home to Colorado and very likely I will be out of town on the 24th of June (the fourth Saturday of the month). I therefore will have to cancel the June BigFork Gun Club Practical Pistol match. I am sorry that the match has to be canceled but know that everyone understands. Please let anyone who might come know about the cancellation. We will be back in business next month on July 22, and hope to see everyone there.

DVC

Bill Zerwekh

## MCAS - Billings

Our season continues to do well. We are looking forward to the Big Sky State Games. **REMINDER:** our July 15th match will again be part of the Big Sky State Games this year! You need to register with the BSSG (\$15) in addition to the regular registration at the match. If you register prior to July 1st, you receive a souvenir t-shirt.

Go to [www.bigskygames.org](http://www.bigskygames.org) for more information, or to register. All participants are also invited to the big opening ceremonies on Friday night. We will award State Games medals, in addition to our regular trophies. This has always been our best-attended match, we hope you'll join us!

Scott

## BSPSC - Missoula

July 9<sup>th</sup>-5th annual Single Stack Classic- 6 stages

(you are welcome to shoot other firearms but only SS arms will be eligible for match awards)

August 13 - Special Classifier with 4 classifiers and 1 club stage

Paul

## Tech Notes

Our DSC (Deputy Section Coordinator) Nate Marten has the next article which you will find as the last page of our newsletter.

He has conducted a review of the 2006 Area 1 match in Portland OR. I think you will find a good deal of info and numerous topics to discuss at your local clubs

Take time to check this out and let Nate and I know your thoughts. We are working hard together to help represent you and provide usable information to all section members.

Also if any of you have a tech tip topic you would like covered or reviewed, please let us know. This newsletter is for you as a NRS member. We look forward to hearing from you.

## Member Feedback

With all the new people joining our clubs, remember to stop and take time to introduce yourself and make these new folks feel welcome. They are the future members of your clubs and your crews at your matches. Listen to what they have to say about our sport.

Share the sport with them and then submit an article on how it went. We need to hear what they have to say.

Practical Shooting can be a great experience to share with a friend or family member. Tell us how it went and what the experience was like. Tell us your story and share the experience!

**We all got started in this game somehow—tell us your story!**

The 2006 Area 1 is over and Montana had a good sized number of shooters attend. Portland was beautiful and the weather was perfect for shooting except for Friday morning when there was a bit of rain. Montana was well represented with 17 shooters that I recognized with nine of those coming from Missoula.

There were plenty of big names in Open and Limited so you got a pretty good idea of how you stack up against the top shooters if you shot in those divisions. The top couple of shooters in limited were twenty percent above the next group of competitors. Open had 91 competitors and was more competitive at the top level. I was surprised that Single Stack had the smallest number of shooters. I will be interested to see if it is as popular as was first anticipated. The match had one hoser stage and 11 technical stages that challenged the competitors in many different ways. One stage "The Dummy" got thrown out due to a bad stage briefing. The quality of the RO's seemed to be pretty good and they held up alright but were showing a good bit of fatigue by Sunday morning. There were more DQ's than you would hope to see at a major match and, as usual, many were 180 violations. This is always a difficult call to make as most stages don't sit so that the 180 is always immediately obvious. There probably could have been a few more but the RO's did use their voices to "encourage" the muzzle down range.

The stages were well built in design and construction. They used black snow fence for the majority of stages. 2x4's were used to put them together rather than 2x2 and they were very sturdy but not light. They used the same support system used here in Missoula and the walls were quite secure. They did use some black fabric walls to provide a vision barrier and there were doors at this match. I am not a big door fan as they are heavy, can be difficult to set up, can be a hazard in the wind and on the rebound and are not necessarily consistent. They do provide a realistic tactical situation, and can be used to activate targets. They remain very popular in stage design.

I mentioned 180 violations earlier and I have a few words about "traps" built into stage design. It is easy to say that 180 traps can be eliminated and are a cheap trick when in reality many violations occur when a shooters plan to shoot a stage exceeds his ability. If there is a target around a wall that you can only take one step before you risk a DQ you probably can't shoot it on the move. Also if you have four open targets in a row you can only run as fast as you can shoot. Many shooters have a natural feel for when they are close to the invisible line but many do not. A no shoot at the 180 can help and be a cue, but some folks are just going to make the mistake. How can we make it safer? Set up the stages deep into the bay, keep the squad up range until the range is clear and, as an RO, make sure you know where the likely trouble is and stay clear.

They have not decided where to host the Area 1 match for next year as there was not a quorum of section coordinators. That decision will be made at some point in the near future. This year's match had a spectacular prize table that was awarded by drawing and most came away with a nice prize. There were many guns and Mr. Anderson went to a LOT of work to arrange all the donations.

There were a few light moments at this years match including a new term created by a Missoula shooter. If you empty a couple of three mags at a single spinning plate well after any scoring benefit may be gained, it is now called a "Miller". Ask and I will let you see it on video. There is also a "shoot the monsters" type video game at a Portland area theater that will never be the same after being worn out by two unnamed limited shooters. If you get a chance to shoot a larger match give it a try, it gives you a new perspective on practical shooting. Don't forget the Section Championship in August. Thanks, Nate