

Thunder Hole

Smoke-Out 2026

May 1st - 3rd , 2026

The Thunder Hole Long Range group is hosting our 3nd annual **Smoke-Out** match on May 1-3, 2026. The match will consist of 80 rounds of ammunition over two days of shooting stuff “way out there” to 600 yards. Everything is included in the match for a single fee of \$65.00. You may shoot either day alone for \$35.

GENERAL GUIDELINES

- Either black powder or smokeless powder is allowed, lead bullets only.
- Polymer coated bullets and gas checks are OK.
- Any period correct sight is allowed, including Malcolm type telescopic sights.
- There will be separate categories for men, women, non-telescopic sights, and telescopic sights.
- ***All shooting may be from the prone or sitting with cross-sticks, or from a bench*** with a rest for the rifle barrel.
 - No rear rifle rest is allowed if shooting from the bench.
 - A stool is OK for the sitting position.
 - This includes all side matches except the 400-yard off-hand
- Black powder and smokeless will be in the same category.
- If you want to handicap yourself with that new, fad smokeless powder, that’s your choice!

SCHEDULE

- **Wednesday, April 29th**
 - Property is open for dry camping beginning at 12:00 noon.
 - Be aware there are cattle in the field
- **Thursday, April 30th**
 - Range is open for sight-in from 8:00 am to 5:00 pm
 - Thunder Hole staff will be available to assist with sighting, but bringing your own spotter is recommended.
- **Friday, May 1st**
 - Range is open for sight-in
 - Rimfire Side Match
 - Distances to 200 yards
 - 40 rounds of ammunition required
 - Pistol caliber lever rifle side match (25 rounds of ammunition)
 - Rifle caliber lever rifle side match (25 rounds of ammunition)
 - Offhand Side Match
 - 400 yard gong target
- **Saturday, May 2nd**
 - Sight-in from 8:00 am to 9:00 am
 - Main Match from 9:00 am until ??
 - 5 Gong targets from 200 to 600 yards, 8 rounds per target
 - We’ll take a lunch break during the match
 - Cold cuts – build your own sandwich, chips, desert and drink

- **Sunday, May 3rd**
 - Sight-in from 8:00 to 9:00
 - 5 Full size NRA silhouettes plus our own unique Warthog silhouette
 - Lunch after main match sequence, included in registration fee
 - Cold cuts – build your own sandwich, chips, desert and drink
 - Match scores and awards after lunch

LONG RANGE MATCH RULES

Single Shot Rifles

- Period correct cartridges
- Smokeless, black powder and duplex loads are allowed.
- Soule sights or period telescopic sights may be used
- The number of squads will depend on total number of shooters. There will be at least 2 relays per squad
- Each squad will shoot at a single designated target. Once everyone in the squad has completed shooting at the target, the entire squad will then engage the next target in the sequence
- This continues until all 5 targets for that day have been engaged.
- Targets will be repainted before each new squad engages them.
- As an example –
 - If we have 3 squads, squad 1 will start on the 200 yard target, squad 2 on the 400 yard target and squad 3 on the 600 yard target.
 - After all squads complete shooting the first target, everyone will advance one target in the sequence – squad 1 to the 300 yard target, squad 2 to the 500 yard target and squad 3 to the 200 yard target.
 - Rinse and repeat until everyone shoots all 5 targets.
- **Day 1**
 - Targets will consist of square gong targets at distances of 200, 300, 400, 500 and 600 yards.
 - All targets are approximately 8 MOA in size.
 - 8 rounds will be fired at each target
- **Day 2**
 - Targets will consist of an NRA regulation chicken silhouette at 200 yards, pig at 300 yards, turkey at 400 yards, warthog at 485 yards and ram at 500 yards
 - 8 rounds will be fired at each target

Rifle Caliber Lever Rifles

- Non-telescopic sights only
- The course of fire will consist of 100 yard gong, 150 yard pig silhouette, 200 yard gong, 250 yard ram silhouette and 300 yard gong
- 5 rounds will be fired at each target

Pistol Caliber Lever Rifles

- Non-telescopic sights only
- The course of fire will consist of targets at 50, 75, 100, 125 and 150 yards
- 5 rounds will be fired at each target

Rimfire Side Match

- 22LR only
- Any 22LR rifle is allowed.
- Open sights or scoped (modern scopes OK)
- No suppressors
- Appropriately sized silhouette targets at 50, 100, 150 and 200 yards.
- Targets for the scoped class will be approximately ½ the size of the targets for open sighted rifles
- Categories for men, women, scoped and open sights.

400-yard Offhand Side Match

- Everyone shooting the match puts \$10 in the pot
- Every shooter gets 5 shots to attempt to hit the 400 yard gong target
- Those who hit the target in the first 5 attempts go into a sudden death shoot-out
- Each remaining shooter fires one round at the target, in sequence
- Last man standing wins and gets the pot!