



WOLVERINE RANGERS

An Organization of Cowboy Action Shooters in the State of Michigan

Wolverine Rangers
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Dear Wolverine Rangers Range War participants and Wolverine Rangers members,

I am reaching out to address a scoring issue that was found at Range War this year. I will explain the timeline, the review procedure and steps taken to resolve the issue.

First there was no fault or maliciousness by anyone. All SASS rules were followed, no scores were entered, written down or finalized fictitiously. There were two stages in question, stages 3 and 5. On both stages the times were clearly read out by the timer operator and shown to both the iPad and paper backup scorekeepers. Those times were then shown back to the TO. Which was the procedure the posse used all weekend, and the proper procedure. At no time on those stages did anyone, including the TO, score keepers, spotters or any other member of the posse question the times recorded. Again, all SASS procedures were followed without question.

The scores were compiled by Camptown, our official match scorekeeper. Unknown to me at the time, when compiled the anomaly was found that showed on stages 3 & 5 my time was ~4 seconds faster than anyone else. Camptown brought this up to Bad Brass (Range Master for the match and First Lieutenant of the Wolverine Rangers) and Carolina Belle (Secretary of the Wolverine Rangers). Upon review it was determined that the paper copies and the iPad matched. There was no evidence of scores being changed, and that the signed scores were locked into the iPad with no history of changes. (The software tracks any and all changes). At that time the scores were to the best of everyone's knowledge correct. Upon further review it showed that the only two anomalies were with my scores on stages 3 & 5.

When I arrived later at the clubhouse, after the team vs. team event I was given the full awards breakdown and scores for the awards presentation. Upon review I saw the anomaly and that it was my scores. I was informed that the review had already taken place. I also recalled that those were the times that were read by the TO and I did sign for both times. Please also consider how long of a week that is for our team and I and that I had only 30 minutes to review the awards breakdown, change clothes and get to the banquet facility.

Immediately after the awards presentation and the naming of the men's top ten, Michigan State and Overall, Champions we placed the overall scores on the awards table.

On Monday we started to receive questions on the scores. As these were questions regarding my scores, I forwarded all the information to Bad Brass, as it is the Range Masters role to review any protests or challenges. It is necessary to note that at no time were any formal protests made, no challenges were formally made, and no official request made to review the scores any further. On Tuesday when Bad Brass continued his review, he was provided contact info for the posse's TO, posse marshal and posse deputy. I provided this info when I got home from work. Bad Brass spoke directly with the parties, and they all reported that no issues were observed with the timer during the match, and that no issues were noted with the posse reporting the scores.

After all this investigation was complete. The following was found: All SASS rules were followed. At no time did anyone on the posse make a mistake in the scores as announced. There were no changes to the scores as announced and entered. At no time did any posse member state any concern or issue over my times.

So, this is where it gets difficult. Everything was completed properly and on the up and up. But there is still this anomaly. I have the utmost respect for this sport and wouldn't do anything that would shed a bad light on it. Those that know me well know the time and effort I put into this match. The hours are endless, year-round. Nothing should overshadow the fantastic match that this was. Everything went so well; we received nothing but tremendous compliments throughout the weekend. This was a top-notch event all around.

As Match Director, I hold myself to the highest possible standard. I am the territorial governor for the Wolverine Rangers, Captain of the Wolverine Rangers and a SASS appointed Black Pin RO instructor. All of these show my commitment to SASS and cowboy action shooting in Michigan. It is with a heavy heart that I have decided to make the decision to recuse myself from the match entirely. My scores across the board will be removed from the main match. Soon the revised scores will be posted on our website. This is the only way I can see to address the issue to provide a resolution for all parties.

With that being said: Deuce Stevens is now the Overall Match Champion, Three Gun Cole will be the Michigan State Champion, and Mountain Man Jim will be the Wrangler category Michigan State Champion.

After I made the decision to be removed from the match, Bad Brass discussed this resolution directly with SASS HQ. They fully support this resolution and agree that all SASS rules were followed, including the review process. I don't know what we could have done differently during the match, or during the review process, but we will take some time to review all procedures and discuss within the executive board of the Wolverine Rangers organization.

Again, in no way should this overshadow an amazing event.

Very truly yours,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Sinola Kid". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Sinola Kid, Captain