



******* THE BEAR FACTS *******
October 2009

Southern California Golden Bears Highpower Rifle Club, Inc.
P.O. Box 1362
San Gabriel, CA 91778-1362

NEXT MATCH – CLUB MATCH – October 18 – This match will be a 50 shot club match. Meeting to follow.

OTHER MATCHES:

Gopher Flats Sportsman Club will host their monthly high power match on October 24 on the Big Bore Range. This October, we will hold a 50 round National Match Course. All stages will be fired on the SR target. CMP rules will apply. Competitors will stand and load in both rapid fire stages. Check with Tom Temple.

Ojai Valley Gun Club - The November 1 match will be a 60 shot NRA approved mid range match (3X20) at 600 yards - Starts at 7:30 AM - The matches are open to both members and non-members, and new shooters or beginners in the high power discipline are welcomed and encouraged. Check with Robert Coffey.

CLUB MEETING MINUTES

Minutes for September 20, 2009

Meeting called to order at 11:40
8 members present

Treasurer's report

The Club has two members. Welcome Luis Rodriguez and Steve Sandler.
We discussed our insurance again.

Old/New business

Discussed trying to get the rein actors to come out to shoot.
Nelson discussed having a graphic artist design the club's logo. Money to come from donations. Design to be used on patches, tee shirts etc.
Nelson has updated the club's website. Check it out. Give Nelson any comments.
Tom observed and made comments on shooters positions during match. Very helpful.

Meeting adjourned at 12:10

BEARS RANGE TALK

This match was the club's last NRA approved match of the year. We had 10 shooters. With the 80 shot competitors Gary Carter was high shooter with 770-7x. Robert Coffey had high offhand with 189-4x. Gary had high rapid sitting with 198-7x. Blake Aaron was high rapid prone with 197-8x. Victor was high slow prone with 193-6x. With the 50 shot competitors Pat Hector was high shooter with 485-7x. Pat had high offhand with 93-0x. Pat and Steve Caplan tied in the rapid sitting with 97-3x. Pat had high rapid prone and slow prone with 98-1x and 197-3x respectively. Good shooting everyone. Thanks Tom for running the line.

80 shot											
	Competitor	OH	x's	RS	x's	RP	x's	Prone	x's	Total	x's
1	Gary Carter	183	0	198	7	196	0	193	0	770	7
2	Robert Coffey	186	4	189	4	190	3	192	6	757	17
3	Victor Murillo	169	1	178	2	193	3	193	6	733	12
4	Blake Aaron	164	1	189	4	197	8	180	1	730	14
5	Nelson Green	185	4	175	2	183	2	160	1	703	9
6	Luis Rodriguez	174	2	161	2	166	1	171	3	672	8
7	Steve Sandler	148	0	160	0	149	0	161	1	618	1
50 shot											
	Competitor	OH	x's	RS	x's	RP	x's	Prone	x's	Total	x's
1	Pat Hector	93	0	97	3	98	1	197	3	485	7
2	Steve Caplan	88	0	97	3	90	1	182	5	457	9
Will Hector did not record his scores											

*******OTHER MATCH NEWS*******

**Gopher Flats, High Power Rifle Match Report, September 26, 2009
John C. Garand Match-Course "B"**

The September 26th match was attended by 10 shooters. Robert Coffey placed first with a score of 478-9X. Martin Tardiff placed second with a 475-13X and Mike Avooske placed third with a 453-1X.

And now, the rest of the story. Robert Coffey changed rifles due to a sight problem, switching from a match rifle to a service rifle. With 11 minutes remaining, he hammered a 199-5X in slow prone. Congratulations to Victor Murillo for his 199-11X in slow prone. His first 11 rounds for record were X's. Sub-minute of angle with an M-1 Garand. Outstanding! Martin Tardiff firing a match rifle shot all slow fire stages in the standing position and all rapid fire stages from sitting. Even with a saved round that cost 10 points, his score of 475 is exemplarily. It is an honor to have such talent on our firing line. Paul Schultz fired a very credible 442-1X with his AR-15. Great job, Paul. And thanks to one and all for your continued support.

No.	Competitor	Paid	Class	Rifle	Slow Prone	Rapid Prone	Rapid Sitting	Off Hand	Match Total
1	Robert Coffey	\$15	EX	M1A	199-5X	99-2X	89-2X	91-0X	478-9X
2	Martin Tardiff	\$15	MA	Match	188-3X	90-4X	99-5X	98-1X	475-13X
3	Michael Avooske	\$15	SS	M1	190-1X	84-0X	93-0X	86-0X	453-1X
4	Bruce Kawaguchi	\$15	EX	M1	194-6X	79-0X	80-1X	91-0X	446-7X
5	Victor Murillo	\$15	MA	M1	199-11X	97-3X	68-0X	79-1X	443-15X
6	Paul Schultz	\$15	MK	AR15	179-0X	88-0X	93-1X	82-0X	442-1X
7	Steve Caplan	\$15	SS	M1	189-3X	81-1X	79-1X	83-0X	432-4X
8	Erwin Galvez, Sr.	\$15	UNC	M1	186-3X	89-2X	71-0X	73-0X	419-5X
9	Steven Sandler	\$15	UNC	M1	164-2X	65-0X	75-0X	68-0X	372-2X
10	Nelson Green	\$15	MK	M1	142-0X	76-1X	67-0X	82-1X	367-2X

Ojai Valley Gun Club National Match Report

No information at this time

*** FOR YOUR INFORMATION ***

This article was submitted by Robert Coffey. Part 1 of 2. Thanks Robert.

Getting the Best Precision and Accuracy from VLD bullets in *Your Rifle*

Background

VLD bullets are designed with a secant ogive. This ogive shape allows bullets to be more efficient in flight (retain more velocity = less drop and wind deflection). While this result is desirable for many rifle shooters the secant ogive on the VLD bullets produces another result in many rifles. It can be difficult to get the VLD to group well (poor accuracy).

For years we encouraged shooters to use a *base of cartridge to end of bearing surface* OAL (I will use the term *COAL* to represent this dimension) which allows the VLD to touch the rifling or to be jammed in the rifling. This provided excellent results for many shooters but there were others who did not achieve top performance with the VLD jammed in their rifling. These shooters were left with the belief that the VLD bullets just won't shoot in their rifle.

Other groups of shooters were discouraged by our recommendation to touch the rifling. Some of these shooters knew that at some point during a target competition they will be asked to remove a live round. With the bullet jammed in the rifling there was a good chance the bullet will stick in the barrel which could result in an action full of powder. This is hard on a shooter during a match.

Yet another group of shooters who were discouraged by our recommendation to touch the rifling are those who feed through magazines or have long throats. Magazine length rounds loaded with VLDs could not touch the lands in most rifles (*this is the specific reason that for years we said VLD bullets do not work well in a magazine*). When a rifle could be single fed but was chambered with a long throat a loaded round that was as long as possible still would not touch the rifling.

Until recently, shooters who suffered from these realities were believed to be unable to achieve success with VLD bullets. Admittedly, we would receive the occasional report that a rifle shot very well when jumping the VLD bullets but we discounted these reports as anomalies. It was not until the VLD became very popular as a game hunting bullet that we were then able to learn the truth about getting the VLD bullets to shoot well in a large majority of rifles.

After we proved that the Berger VLD bullets are consistently and exceptionally capable of putting game down quickly we started promoting the VLD to hunters. We were nervous at first as we believe the VLD needed to be in the rifling to shoot well and we also knew that most hunters use a magazine and SAMMI chambers. Our ears were wide open as the feedback was received. It was surprising to hear that most shooters described precision results by saying "this is the best my rifle has ever shot."

We scratched our heads about this for awhile until we started getting feedback from hunters who were competition shooters as well. Many were the same guys who were telling us for years that the VLDs shoot great when jumped. Since a much larger number of shooters were using the VLD bullets with a jump we started comparing all the feedback and have discovered the common characteristics in successful reports which gave us the information needed to get VLD working in your rifle. We were able to relay these characteristics to several shooters who were struggling with VLD bullets. Each shooter reported success after applying our recommendation.

Solution

The following has been verified by numerous shooters in many rifles using bullets of different calibers and weights. It is consistent for all VLD bullets. What has been discovered is that VLD bullets shoot best when loaded to a COAL that puts the bullet in a "sweet spot". This sweet spot is a band .030 to .040 wide and is located anywhere between jamming the bullets into the lands and .150 jump off the lands.

Note: When discussing jam and jump I am referring to the distance from the area of the bearing surface that engages the rifling and the rifling itself. There are many products that allow you to measure these critical dimensions. Some are better than others. I won't be going into the methods of measuring jam and jump. If you are not familiar with this aspect of reloading it is critically important that you understand this concept before you attempt this test.

Many reloaders feel (and I tend to agree) that meaningful COAL adjustments are .002 to .005. Every once in a while I might adjust the COAL by .010 but this seems like I am moving the bullet the length of a football field. The only way a shooter will be able to benefit from this situation is to let go of this opinion that more than .010 change is too much (me included).

Trying to find the COAL that puts you in the sweet spot by moving .002 to .010 will take so long the barrel may be worn out by the time you sort it out if you don't give up first. Since the sweet spot is .030 to .040 wide we recommend that you conduct the following test to find your rifles VLD sweet spot.

Load 24 rounds at the following COAL if you are a target competition shooter who does not worry about jamming a bullet:

1. .010 into (touching) the lands (jam) 6 rounds
2. .040 off the lands (jump) 6 rounds
3. .080 off the lands (jump) 6 rounds
4. .120 off the lands (jump) 6 rounds

Load 24 rounds at the following COAL if you are a hunter (pulling a bullet out of the case with your rifling while in the field can be a hunt ending event which must be avoided) or a competition shooter who worries about pulling a bullet during a match:

1. .010 off the lands (jump) 6 rounds
2. .050 off the lands (jump) 6 rounds
3. .090 off the lands (jump) 6 rounds
4. .130 off the lands (jump) 6 rounds

Shoot 2 (separate) 3 shot groups in fair conditions to see how they group. The remarkable reality of this test is that one of these 4 COALs will outperform the other three by a considerable margin. Once you know which one of these 4 COAL shoots best then you can tweak the COAL +/- .002 or .005. Taking the time to set this test up will pay off when you find that your rifle is capable of shooting the VLD bullets very well (even at 100 yards).

Regards,
Eric Stecker
Master Bulletsmith

******* 2009 CALENDAR *******

January (CLUB) S M T W T F S 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24	February (CLUB) S M T W T F S 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 8 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28	March (CLUB) S M T W T F S 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 8 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28	April (NRA) S M T W T F S 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25
May (CLUB) S M T W T F S 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30	June (NRA) S M T W T F S 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30	July (John Garand) S M T W T F S 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31	August (CLUB) S M T W T F S 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29
September (NRA) S M T W T F S 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30	October (CLUB) S M T W T F S 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31	November (CLUB) S M T W T F S 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30	December (CLUB) S M T W T F S 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31

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