

CODY/DIXON CATEGORY

There are a lot of Cowboy Action Shooters that have "big bore" rifles, but say that they hardly ever get a chance to shoot them. Most Annual Shoots usually have a "big bore" side match of some sort. Some Clubs have enough room on their range that they can set up long-range target at their monthly shoots, but again that is usually for just a few shots either during or after the main match. Or maybe you have been shooting Cowboy Action for a long time and are looking for something a little different to try. Well, the Cody/Dixon category was developed for just those kinds of shooters. For Cody/Dixon a shooter will shoot the same scenarios as everyone else on the posse does. They shoot the same pistol targets and the same shotgun targets with their regular cowboy guns; the difference is in the rifle targets. A Cody/Dixon shooter must use a "big-bore" rifle, and shoots at a different set of targets that are farther out than what everyone else shoots at. Realizing that the ammunition for these rifles is more expensive than pistol caliber ammunition, each stage is shot using six rifle rounds only. All shots are fired from an off-hand, unsupported position.

The name Cody/Dixon is based on two well known "Old West" shooters. Buffalo Bill Cody, known for his abilities with a lever rifle, and Billy Dixon, famous for his long-range shot at Adobe Walls with a single-shot rifle. There are two classes in the category. Cody, which requires the use of a "big bore" lever rifle and Dixon, which requires the use of a "big bore" single-shot rifle. Of course, these can be further divided into Ladies and Mens if wanted. Every body shoots the same stages, in the same order. The lever shooters are competing against only the other lever shooters, and the single-shots against the other single-shots. As stated earlier, Cody/Dixon shooters will shoot the pistol and shotgun targets, in the same order, as everyone else. The only difference is that it is entirely up to the shooter as to how they want to do that. It makes no difference if you shoot one-handed or with two, use smokeless or black powder, a hammered double or a pump shotgun, or have Traditional or Modern class pistols; it is all the shooter's choice.

Rules for the category are few and simple, but firm. For Cody/Dixon, the shooter must accommodate the category to participate, not the category accommodates the shooter to let them in. With this brief explanation there is a copy of the rules, please read them for further explanation as to what types of rifles, what calibers are acceptable, and specific loading instructions. If there are further questions, please contact Charles Goodnight at home phone 281-342-1210, or e-mail charlesgoodnight@comcast.net. Here is your chance to use that "big bore" rifle that seems to spend most of its time in the safe. Everyone that has shot this category has had a really good time with it, come on out and give it a try, you will not be sorry

Cody/Dixon Rules

All shooters must wear a hat and period correct (1860–1899) boots and clothes.

Rear sights must be period correct (1860-1899), and may be either barrel mounted open iron sight, or a tang mounted adjustable sights. Front sights may vary from simple blades to hooded types with interchangeable inserts. Spirit levels are okay. Optical or receiver mounted sights are not allowed.

Rifles must be of a design and a model readily available prior to 1899. Lever actions must be tube fed, with an exposed hammer. Marlin 336's and 1895's will be allowed. Single Shot Rifles must have an exposed hammer. Spring-loaded ejectors are not allowed, except for Trapdoors. No Savage 99's, Ruger #1's, H&R's, or any "Little Sharps" rifles allowed.

Rifle cartridges must be of at least .30 caliber, and be a center fire, rimmed Rifle cartridge that was readily available prior to 1899. The 30-30 Winchester, 32 Winchester, 38-55 Winchester, 40-65 Winchester, 43 Spanish, and 45-70 Govt. are a few examples. No cartridge smaller than 30-30 Winchester will be allowed.

Any propellant powder, smokeless or black is allowed. Duplex loads are OK for black. Bullets must be all lead. Paper patched or gas checks are OK.

All Rifle shots must be fired off-hand, no leaning, supporting, or resting is allowed. Each stage will require a total six Rifle rounds. Target distances should be between 80 and 125 yards, if range size allows.

Ammunition for Single Shots may be either staged; loaded from stock mounted loops made of period correct material, or loaded from the body.

Lever Action Rifles must be loaded with five rounds at the loading table. The sixth round may be staged, or kept on the body, and then loaded, while on the clock, at any time during the stage.

Pistols and Shotguns used, are any SASS approved Main Match pistol or shotgun, with the addition of period correct Winchester '97 or Marlin pump shotguns in 12, 16, or 20 gauge, and new Winchester '93 pump shotguns.

Shooting style and powder used is each shooter's choice. Shooter can shoot one handed or with two, use Modern or Traditional Class pistols, shoot smokeless or black powder.

If a Cody/Dixon match is shot in a team format, each team will have eight members. Each shooter must be a dues-paid member of the Club they are shooting for. Of the eight shooters, four must shoot Lever Action Rifles and four must shoot Single Shot rifles. Shooters may share rifles, but a shooter must shoot the same type rifle for the entire match.