**Open Category Specifics**

**PHILOSOPHICALLY:**

This Open Category is NOT open to anything that shoots. Rather, we intend to maximize the exposure of Wild Bunch Shooting by allowing those interested an opportunity to shoot in a Wild Bunch match without having to invest the time/money in obtaining the specific firearms. At the same time, we endeavor to keep within operating boundaries and to uphold the safety standards of SASS. Therefore, we will handle approvals on an individual basis.

Generally, SASS Wild Bunch rules will serve as a default with some easing of the hardware requirements as specified below. ALL SHOOTERS are expected to be familiar with the current Wild Bunch Action Shooting Handbook available on the SASS Website. The Match Director will have final say in any questions about interpretation.

The Louisiana Championship Match will be conducted under SASS rules; therefore, those participating in the Open Category will not be eligible for SASS awards or recognition. However, we will have awards for the category winners—Men’s and Women’s.

**HANDGUNS:**

Any auto loading pistol similar in style to the 1911 (e.g., Browning Hi Power but not Glocks). This includes any variations of that pistol and/or its clones, so long as they conform to the original appearance of that firearm. Per SASS rules, all pistols must be capable of being holstered and have a mechanism for locking the slide back. Magazines may have extensions and mag wells may be flared. Any SASS pistol cartridge is allowed with the addition of 9mm and .380. Regardless of caliber, ALL BULLETS MUST BE LEAD ONLY.

**RIFLES:**

Any SASS legal rifle. Others will be approved if they are of design/manufacture up to 1922. Rifles must be of pistol caliber and loaded in accordance with normal SASS requirements (i.e., magazine loaded, hammer down on an empty chamber, capable of having the action locked open at the end of a string of shots). No automatic firearms are authorized. ALL BULLETS MUST BE LEAD ONLY.

**SHOTGUNS:**

Any SASS legal shotgun is allowed. The 1897/1887/Model12 Winchester shotgun and clones are the norm. A double barrel shotgun may be used. Normally, shotguns will be staged with the magazine stoked with the proper number of rounds with the hammer down on an empty chamber with the action closed (magazine loaded at the loading table). Double barrel shotguns will be staged empty with the action open.