

## Colorado State Shoot June UPDATE:

Hello, Muzzleloaders! Can you believe we are less than three months away from the 2024 Colorado State Shoot? The exact dates are Thursday, August 15th, through Sunday, August 18<sup>th</sup>. As you can see, the shoot will be 3 ½ days this year vs. 2 ½ days as in the past. We believe the extra day will allow more time to fire off another aggregate or two, possibly attract shooters from longer distances looking to tent or trailer camp, and give more time for just some good 'ol fun and socialization. We hope to see you there. Shooting starts on Thursday at about 1 pm after the range setup has been completed.

The 4H shooters have a bit of a conflict this year. They have a major event on the same weekend. To accommodate these shooters, we will hold the range open until 7 p.m. on Thursday and Friday.

As in the past, we would appreciate any donations for blanket prizes. If you are a vendor or have a business, we will be sure to feature your enterprise throughout the shoot with a blanket prize donation.

Also, if you are able to put in a few hours to help in registration or serving as a range officer please let anyone on the Shoot Committee know. The shoot runs on volunteers, and we need YOU!

The Shoot will again be sponsored by the Buckhorn Skinners, the Colorado State Muzzleloading Association (CSMLA), and the Ft. Lupton Muzzle Loading Club (FLMLC). The shoot will be held at the FLMLC range on the north edge of Ft. Lupton. Go west two blocks from CO Hwy. 85 on County Road 14 ½ to Historic Parkway, and make a right (north) to the range.

Just a plug to please become a member of the State Association if you are currently not one. CSMLA serves to keep the sport of muzzle loading alive through various activities. These include:

- Working with the CO Division of Wildlife regarding policy changes and hunting regulations
- Partnering with the South Platte Valley Historical Society with various activities.
- The Colorado State Shoot in August
- The Colorado Invitational Shoot in October
- Educational event related to muzzleloading
- Working with junior and sub-junior shooters to encourage them into our sport
- Hosting the Winter Convention
- Promoting Muzzleloading in general which helps to keep our sport alive.

These are all very important activities, and it takes members to complete all of them. So, to encourage muzzle loaders to sign up, the usual annual dues of \$30 will be reduced to \$20 for any NEW member wanting to sign up at the State Shoot. This is your opportunity to be a part of something special at a reduced price.

Something new for 2024 is the return of the bench aggregate. You asked for it, and there you go!

Many of you will remember that one of the shooters at State last year brought up the fact that 4H and the Olympics use a broken line to trigger the next higher score vs a half-ball-in. So, since a broken line is easier to identify than a half-ball-in, why don't we go in that direction? Frankly, it made sense, and we looked into doing just that. We contacted the National Muzzleloading Association to see why they continued using the half-ball-in method. The answer is that muzzle loaders use a variety of calibers for any aggregate. A .54 caliber has a much higher chance of cutting a line than a .40 caliber. This gives the larger caliber rifle or pistol an advantage. However, a half-ball-in is the same for any caliber. It just makes sense. So, we will continue to use the half-ball-in method.

I think that about covers the three-month update. The Shooting Committee looks forward to seeing you all at the State Shoot in August!

Ron Ring – [Rring282@Gmail.com](mailto:Rring282@Gmail.com) 970-692-4658

Lou Garone – [Garone3@Comcast.net](mailto:Garone3@Comcast.net) 303-324-3403

Bob Kagohara – [Bkagohara@Yahoo.com](mailto:Bkagohara@Yahoo.com) 303-999-5539

Tom Boudreau – [Tom7Bike@Outlook.com](mailto:Tom7Bike@Outlook.com) 970-222-4994