

\*\*\*\*\* Coming Spring 2015! \*\*\*\*\*



## **Welcome to Air Gun Field Target at Crooked Creek Conservation Club!**

OK, now I'm sure you're asking, what the heck is air gun field target?

Well, the goal of this sport is to provide the most fun possible while using an air gun! We combine the attributes and precision of formal bull's-eye shooting with the instant gratification of seeing targets fall. We shoot at unmarked distances like they do in 3-D Archery. Our matches are set up in a natural hunting type environment where the shooter must take into account varied distances and wind. There you have it, Air Rifle Field Target!

We use scoped adult air rifles in either .177, .20, or .22 calibers and limit the amount of power to no greater than 20 fpe (foot pounds of energy). This limit has a two-fold purpose, 1, safety and 2, to minimize target damage. Although any of the three calibers is allowed, .177 is the one

most often seen in use. BBs are NOT allowed primarily because of the safety hazard due to ricochets.

We shoot at steel targets usually resembling small game animals; rabbits, squirrels, crows, etc. These targets have a hole, or "kill zone" (KZ) located on the front. The KZ may be as small as 3/8" diameter and as large as 1-3/4". Behind the KZ hole is a steel paddle that triggers the target to fall when struck by a pellet passing through the hole. The target is then reset by pulling a string that extends from the target to the firing line. A pellet hitting the face of the target (Not passing through the hole in the face.) will lock up the linkage preventing the target from falling. Up top is a photo of one of the targets we use.

Shooters get one point each time they hit the KZ and the target falls. The shooter with the most points at the end of the match wins. To level the playing field, shooters compete in different classes depending on the equipment used and the shooting style chosen. This sport can get quite competitive, but for many of us Air Gun Field Target is more about having fun knocking some targets down with an air gun.

A typical match might be 15 lanes with two targets on each lane and two shots per target for a total of 60 shots. Targets are set at unmarked distances between 10 and 55 yards. Although a clear line of sight is required according to the rules, we strive to position the targets in as natural a setting as possible using all the terrain features, existing vegetation, and obstacles that are available to make the course as realistic as possible. The matches usually provide two hours + of premium shooting fun!

The tentative plan is to hold one Sunday match per month, May through October 2015. There will be a sight in period from 8-10 am, a shooters meeting from 10-10:30 am, and the shoot will start at 10:30 am. Following completion of the match, we'll have a luncheon and an awards ceremony.

All you really needed to get started shooting with us are a scoped pellet rifle, some pellets, and a bucket or cushion to sit on. Heck, if you let us know ahead of time, you may not even need that. One of us will probably have something you can borrow for a match.

If you're interested in getting involved with the group setting up this Air Gun Field Target program or have questions, shoot an email to Roger Barker at [rbarker1@windstream.net](mailto:rbarker1@windstream.net).

For more detailed information about the Air Gun Field Target sport, visit this website: <http://www.aafta.org/>

Below are a few photos showing a little what Field Target is like.







