The Cannoneer AUGUST 2020

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Will it ever end? Who knows. Every time an event gets close it slips away like a mirage in a desert. Our hopes get built up and then dashed on the rocks. Very disappointing. But all we can do is hunker down and hold tight. Sooner or later the command with be announced, giving us one minute to the firing line.

**2020 Skirmish Schedule: As of now.**

**Canceled** Lefthanders club skirmish**,** Spring Nationals**,** Twin cities skirmish**,** Zerko Relic Show,Frank V Matuszek memorial Skirmish, Streator Illinois**,** Brookield July 4th Parade**,** Wauconda Civil War Day, Bristol Conservation Club, Civil War Relic show – Wheaton Ill, **FALL NATIONALS**

August 21 - 22 Beloit Wisconsin

September 19-20 Bristol Conservation Club

**Future possible events**

A**ugust 21-22 Beloit Wisconsin**

This Skirmish is being sponsored by 46th Illinois. They said it will happen. They asked that we try to send as many of our skirmishers as possible. This is a new range for the N-SSA. The Beloit Range Officers will be there to see what we do and how we conduct ourselves on and off the firing line. (so no placing squirrels down other people’s shirts.) The Battery is presently sending 7 members and are trying to find a few more. Please check the schedule of events and plan accordingly. The 46th did say they will not be changing the start times and will stick to what was posted. They will be serving breakfast and dinner. Camping area is said to be in the trees and shaded. **PLEASE**, if you are not feeling well or think you may have any signs related to covid-19, stay home.

**September 19-20 Bristol Conservation Club**

The N-SSA part of the first Bristol skirmish was canceled due to reasons yet to be truly explained. Someone said it was due to low N-SSA turn out. Others said it was due to bad cheese between the two host teams. Either way, it was canceled and the battery should be prepared for the same to happen again. The 46th Illinois is fed up with the ever changing schedule times and have decided to head to Michigan for an N-SSA only skirmish being held by the NWT. This leaves the Battery and the Sharpshooters as the only N-SSA teams. Also last year they never made the skirmish an official N-SSA event and said they signed every one to the ACWSA to ensure we were covered by the insurance. The Commander will check to see what they do this year. If it is the same, the Battery will bow out. Maybe if there is interest in joining the 46th, we may go out to Michigan.

**The 142nd National CANCELED -CANCELED-CANCELED**

We just got the official word that the 142nd National Skirmish has been canceled. The main factor for this was the restrictions placed into effect by the state of Virginia. It is believed that the Board of Directors were also worried about the health and well-being of the members as well. The Battery was to host this fall by cleaning the bathrooms. Like the Spring Nationals which were also canceled, those that were to host were returned to the rotation and will be called upon as if the skirmish was held and they did work it. Well the same will go for the Battery. Please expect to host again in 4 to 5 years. FYI the N-SSA Board of directors have also suspended all other skirmishes in the state of Virginia. They are leaving it up to the other Regions to follow their state protocols and take actions as needed.

 For those that are interested, the Commander after struggling to get off to help host the now canceled event, is still planning on going out to the Fort Shenandoah. He and Stan might do a little practicing with the mortar at the fort. They might event do a small mock national skirmish. Me thinks this might be related to the little competition they have between themselves but maybe not. Afterwards they hope to travel and do some additional sight-seeing. You can bet that the Commander will come home with apples. If you need powder, let the Commander know and he might be able to bring some back for you. Or if you also took time off and would like to join the Commander and Stan out there for some of the time, pack things up and head on out and isolate yourself around a Virginian camp fire.

**Grayling Long Range Artillery Match.** The battery has not heard a word about this event. It is very unlikely to happen and after some discussion, it was decided that if it is held, there will not be enough time for us to prepare for it. We would have to buy materials for and make projectiles. We would have to acquire powder and prepare things. So if the Battery gets an invite tomorrow, they will not be attending.

**June 27th Work Party at Sandy Ford**

Thanks to everyone that was able to attend the work party. It was hot but we got a lot done. The 46th Illinois joined the battery and made a second set of target frames. The trailer was cleaned and a lot of old materials were thrown out. Inventory was taken and the Battery is prepared for the beginning of 2021. The battery did buy lunch for those members that attended. The cost was $100.

**This is all we have for now. Please keep in touch with each other and be safe. Hopefully this will all end soon.**

**Beloit Skirmish information**

Individual and Team matches – Awards & Fees

Individual                     Awards                                          Individual Fees
Musket                          50 & 100 yd 3 places, agg                 -Entry fee $2
Carbine                         50 & 100 yd 3 places, agg                 -Re-entry $1
Smoothbore                   25 & 50 yd 2 places, agg                   -All aggregates
Breechloader                 50 & 100 yd & 2 places, agg              must be purchased

                                                                                          with targets $2

Team                            Awards                                          Team Fees

Musket (5 person)          3 places, 1st sleeve of caps                 $10 per shooter
Carbine (5 person)          3 places, 1st sight black                      $10 per shooter
Smoothbore (4 person)    2 places                                           $10 per shooter
Breechloader (3 person)  1 place                                            $10 per shooter

All individuals are un-classified.  Uniforms must be worn to compete in any competition, if it is hot the skirmish director will determine if uniforms must be worn.  All N-SSA rules apply.

Beloit rifle club is a new range this year for the N-SSA.  We will be using the western entrance “A”, it will be open at 1pm on Friday for camping set up.

**Camping & Amenities**:  There is plenty of camping space available for trailers, tents and RV’s with a very short walk to the range.  There is a clubhouse on the black powder range along with porta-potties, there are flush toilets near-by at the main clubhouse.
**Food**:  Breakfast will be served at the main clubhouse Saturday and Sunday morning along with lunch at the range, and a pasta dinner Saturday night.
**FYI**:  There is no cover, so in case of inclement weather, plan accordingly.  The facility is 64 acres with 11 different range disciplines and will be open to club members, no-one else will be on the black powder range but us.  It is all the way on the south west end of the property therefore no one will be walking through our camping area.  There will also be a novelty individual target with a prize.  There will be no overnight sleeping in either clubhouse.

Schedule
Friday, August 21, 2020
1:00 pm                Range open for camping set up, use the west entrance “A”.

Saturday, August 22, 2020
6:30-7:30 am        Breakfast.  Coffee, sausage gravy, eggs, biscuits, juice.
8:00-11:00 am       Range open for individuals.
11:30 am              Carbine team commander meeting at the tower.
12:00 pm              Carbine team.
2:00 pm                Smoothbore team (or 15 minutes following carbine team).
5:30 pm                All you can eat pasta, garlic bread, salad. Individuals and carbine/smoothbore team awards.

Sunday, August 23, 2020
6:15-7:00 am        Breakfast at the clubhouse.
7:30 am                Breechloader, Musket team commanders meeting.
8:00 am                Breechloader team (if no breechloader teams present everything will move ahead one hour).
9:00 am                Opening ceremonies.
9:15 am                Musket team.

Musket team awards and range clean up.

Team Targeting
Carbine/Musket (5 person)                                  Breechloader (3 person)

50 yd-   20 pigeons on a backer                            50 yd- 12 pigeons on a backer
50 yd-   10 hanging 4” tile                                   50 yd- 6 hanging 4” tile
50 yd-   10 hanging pigeons                                 50 yd- 6 hanging pigeons
50 yd-   red/white/blue hanging blocks               All firearms are single load only
100 yd- 7 hanging 6” tile

Smoothbore (4 person)
25 yd- 12 pigeons on a backer 25 yd- 8 hanging 4” tile 50 yd- 6 hanging 6” tile

Breechloader 50yd 3 - man team
4 - clays on a backer 2- 4” tiles 2- hanging pigeons

Musket 5-man team
50 & 100yd
20- clays on backer
10- 4” tiles
10- hanging clays
10- water filled cups
7- 6” tiles @ 100yd