



### Sniper Team Match - Video and Wrap-Up

Thirty teams came from across the country to compete in Tiger Valley's Sniper Team Match on January 12 and 13. Comprised of a sniper and a carbine-equipped spotter, the teams competed in eight stages over two days.

The first stage had all teams deploy along the 300 yard line, awaiting targets that randomly appeared from the pits. Each target was marked with a team number, requiring each target to be identified by each team. Some targets were 30-second exposure movers and some 30-second stationaries, each requiring 5 t-zone head shots by the sniper and 10 body shots by the spotter. Unknown to the participants at the time, each team would be given eight exposures over a three hour duration.

Further stages required sniper-spotter communication, firing from a full-size helicopter mock-up elevated on F-350 truck springs, rescuing a hostage from the shoothouse, and engaging unknown sized objects at unknown distances, just to name a few of the challenges involved.

Many thanks to all of the match participants, especially those who came from far away to attend this match. A video showing a few highlights from the match can be found [here](#).

### Upcoming 3-Gun Match

Tiger Valley is hosting a three day 3-gun match on April 25 to April 27. The event begins Friday morning and will finish halfway through Sunday, with Calvary Arms sponsoring the match with a generous prize table. Sign up soon, as the match is limited to 80 participants and is filling up quickly. Additional information on the match can be found [here](#).

### USAF Video

USAF Special Tactics is comprised of highly trained Combat Control, Pararescue and Combat Weather personnel. These forces are capable of providing terminal guidance, control of assault zone aircraft, fire support, combat search and rescue, medical support, and weather support. This [video](#) highlights these warriors.



## The Ragged Edge and Beyond

by T.J. Pilling

A few years ago, my son had just purchased his first motorcycle and quickly convinced me that I needed to buy one. He purchased relatively calm 200cc Yamaha; of course I had to opt for an YZ250, which had just come from a pro who raced it in Cross Country. For those of you who know bikes they don't get much wilder then the YZ250. The power to weight ratio is unbelievable, a twist of the wrist and you are doing a wheel stand. Within the first two trips to the woods I had managed to crush a \$300.00 header and bend the front forks. This on a bike designed to take crashes. My ego wouldn't let my 13-year-old son pass me on the trails. Type "A" personalities are like that as everyone knows. I was playing the game way outside my limits. Skills for shit, but an ego as big as a house. I sold the bike after going over a cliff called "rocky ridge" and receiving a standing ovation from the crowd that was gathered at the base. They said that was the best crash that they had seen anyone walk away from.



As a firearms instructor I observe this phenomenon on a regular basis. The first glaring example that comes to mind was a SWAT team that we were putting through their paces in a shoot house. One of the guys who was going through was much older and not in the same physical condition as the younger guys. He entered at the rear of the stack and missed a target as he entered. Looking back he observed it and swung his weapon, lazering the team and shooting past a team member to hit the target. Adrenaline was squirting out his ears and his ego on overload. He wasn't going to be outdone by the younger guys and would do anything not to fail. He was functioning way outside his mental and physical limits.



Go to any match and you will see this happen on a regular basis. Shooters who don't have the ability or training to play at a competitive level, but insist on forcing situations outside their limits. Believe me, just because you don't rank as a Grand Master 3-gunner doesn't mean you can't play, it just means you need to play the game to your level.

This has nothing to do with age or gender and everything with to do with knowing when to pull back. The epiphany for me was when I was seeing ground earth ground earth in rapid succession accompanied by sharp pain. I knew that if I continued with this bike I would probably kill myself or break something I can't fix, like my body.



I would like to say that an instructor and "RO" could have a positive impact on reducing this type of behavior, but I don't think that's possible. You would have to get into the ego state of the person behind the gun and that changes in an instant. Add in oxygen deprivation, adrenaline and you have a real recipe for disaster for someone playing outside their limits. We all need to reinforce to everyone that for all but a few this is just entertainment, not worth injuring yourself or someone else for. The adage "don't let your ego write checks your ass can't cash" will be my cry before shooting begins in the future.

### Report from the SHOT Show

For the first time Tiger Valley had a booth presence at the industry SHOT Show, held February 2 to 5 at the Las Vegas Convention Center. With over 58,000 people and 1,900 plus exhibitors the event is absolutely massive. An attendee could easily spend all four days and not cover the entire show.



The event was a great success for Tiger Valley and gave us an opportunity to check out some excellent gear as well.

The great folks at [LaRue Tactical](#) were showing off their new line of AR-15 upper receivers. In a market that's generally racing to the bottom in search of the lowest possible price points (and quality), LaRue's product stands apart. Starting with their CNC-machined Stealth Billet Upper, a precision medium-weight barrel, LaRue handguard, and other premium components are added to make an unquestionably fantastic product.



Of great interest to both the tactical and hunting crowd, [US Optics](#) had their new SN-4 1.5-6 scope on hand.

At 1.5 power, the scope's generous eye relief makes it an excellent CQB optic in addition to its great potential for accurate medium to long range shots at higher magnifications. This SN-4 can be had is a dizzying array of reticle, knob, and illumination options. For those of us looking for an optic that can perform across a wide range of engagement distances, this looks to be a great option.



### Nighttime Classes at Elm Fork

Tiger Valley's new location at the Elm Fork shooting range in Dallas saw the first in a series of "mini-classes", running weeknights from 6:30 PM to 9 PM.

Low-light pistol was on the agenda for this first class, which took place on January 30th. Students were provided with the fundamental skills and knowledge required to operate handguns in the environment where criminals tend to operate - the dark.



On a related note, if you are looking for Surefire gear, be sure to talk to Calvin at [www.brightflashlights.net](http://www.brightflashlights.net). Calvin is a first-class guy who runs a first-class business. He can be reached at 352-732-2156.

Coming up is "Carbine Dynamics" on March 5. The class will cover moving and shooting, engaging moving targets, and transition drills. Bring any carbine (with a sling), sidearm, holster, safety gear, 200 rounds of carbine ammo, and 50 rounds of pistol. There is no need to preregister, just arrive at [Elm Fork](#) at 6:30 PM. Course fee is \$65.



Next on the schedule is "Under Cover Carry" on March 19.

Bring your daily carry pistol (snub-nose revolver or small framed automatic) utilizing whatever practical carry method, or methods, you currently use. The course will cover the fundamentals of drawing and deploying these

weapons at "in the hole" distances. Pistol, 200 rounds, holster(s), and safety gear is all that is required. Course fee is \$65.

### Previous Newsletters Available Online!

Check out our previous newsletters for fantastic training videos, equipment reviews, and special articles. Find them [here](#).

### Upcoming Events

#### Feburary

- 13 [Subgun Match \(Elm Fork\)](#)
- 16-17 [Level 2 Precision Rifle \(Waco\)](#)
- 23-24 Tactical Convergence (Memphis, TN)

#### March

- 1 [Women's Pistol \(Elm Fork\)](#)
- 5 Carbine Dynamics Night Class (Elm Fork)
- 7-9 [FCSA Regional Match \(Waco\)](#)
- 12 [Subgun Match \(Elm Fork\)](#)
- 15-16 [Banned of Brothers \(Waco\)](#)
- 19 Under Cover Carry Night Class (Elm Fork)
- 22 [F-Class Match \(Waco\)](#)
- 24-28 TTPOA Rifle Instructor

#### April

- 5-6 [Level 1 Pistol \(Elm Fork\)](#)
- 12-13 [Level 1 Carbine \(Waco\)](#)
- 12 [Open Shoot \(Waco\)](#)
- 16 [Subgun Match \(Elm Fork\)](#)
- 19 [CHL Class \(Elm Fork\)](#)
- 25-27 [3-Gun Match, Sponsored \(Waco\)](#)

#### May

- 3-4 [Level 1 Precision Rifle \(Waco\)](#)
- 10-11 [Level 1 Pistol \(Elm Fork\)](#)

#### June

- 2-6 [5-Day Combat Arms \(Waco\)](#)



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