

Greetings to all Black Powder Shooters:

THE BIG FIVE.....may sound a bit braggadocios..... but for the Iowa Black Powder Federation (I.B.P.F.) these are the BIG FIVE. The events we sponsor/orchestrate annually are the State Chunk gun shoot, State Muzzleloading Shoot, State Black Powder Cartridge Shoot, State Black Powder Shotgun Shoot and the State Hawk and Knife throw.

All of these events are behind us for this year. The intention of this synopsis is to provide a clearer picture of these events in an attempt to encourage 2012 participation. In these days of numerous uncertain economic times we hear of U.S. Post Offices that exist today which will not be here in 2012; schools that are open today will close in 2012; businesses that we patronize today will not be there in 2012. However, each of the I.B.P.F. events listed above has been successful in it's own right in 2011 and the I.B.P.F. is ready willing and able to carry on. The "BIG FIVE" will happen again in 2012!

Each year we start in June with the Chunk Gun Shoot. Probably the most historically correct event we sponsor. Equipment necessary to participate in no more than any traditional muzzleloading rifle (and the necessary ingredients to make it shoot). This event is conducted in the time honored fashion of 10 (ten) shots fired from the prone position at 60 yards at a mark (a simple X on a sheet of paper). The best shot in each of the 10 matches is awarded a I.B.P.F. gold medal and the best over all 3 (three) are also awarded medals. Some participants dress quite traditionally (i.e., bib over-alls, white shirts w/ties and straw hats) for this event while others wear shorts and t-shirts. If you've been here before we want you to come again and bring a friend. If you haven't, please give it a try and see for yourself how much fun it can be.

The second week of August is time for the State Muzzleloading Shoot. Recently we have been alternating locations between the Beaver Creek Plainsmen at Collins, Iowa (2011 and 2013 hosts) and at the Southeastern Sportsman Society at Douds, Iowa (2010 and 2012 hosts). The intention of these locations is to make access to shooters in all parts of the state a little more convenient. This too, for the most part, has been working. Each shoot has had approximately the same number of participants with something over 50% of the competitors attending at both locations. There has been some friendly rivalry between these two clubs in regards to this and that is great as the I.B.P.F. endorses the "more the merrier" philosophy. If it's a muzzleloader there is an event for

it in the program. Flint, percussion, in-line, smoothbore, military musket or hand gun...they're all there. If you shoot a muzzleloader there is an event for you too! Youth or senior; man or woman; experienced shooter or first timer, there are specific matches for **YOU!** By the way, camping is free at both locations for registered shooters.

The weekend following this event is the State Black Powder Cartridge Shoot. Now, if you have a cartridge gun (rifle or pistol) capable of firing ammunition developed during the black powder era (approximately pre-1896) there'll be something here for you. Beside having a state championship match which can be fired with nearly any rifle fitting the above description (which consists of both rested and off-hand matches at ranges from 50 to 200 yards) we offer special events for bench rest, cross-stick, off-hand, big bore lever guns, pistol caliber lever guns, single shots, pistols and revolvers. This event is unique in that it actually has no host club. The I.B.P.F. approached the Pine Ridge Rifle and Pistol Club along with the Hardin County Conservation Board and thus received permission to conduct this shoot on the county range at Steamboat Rock, Iowa. This event is now 5 (five) years old and actually had over a 10% increase on competitors this year over last. Please join us in 2012 to make it an even bigger success. Here, camping is available for a very reasonable fee at the adjacent county park.

Labor Day brings about the State Hawk and Knife Throw. The Smokey Ridge Muzzleloaders of Steamboat Rock, Iowa have most graciously agreed to help conduct this event at their annual rendezvous. Anyone present can participate in the hawk and knife throwing competition. At the end of the event medals are distributed to the top scorers; then, a drawing made up of only the competitors is held to select the winner of a commemorating I.B.P.F. tomahawk. The I.B.P.F. and the Smokey Ridge Muzzleloaders hope to see you there in 2012.

Our season comes to a close around the 3<sup>rd</sup> weekend of September with the State Shotgun Shoot held at Marshalltown, Iowa and is hosted by the great crew at the Marshall County Gun Club. Competition include traditional and modern muzzleloading shotgun, black powder cartridge shotgun (shooting all day and under the lights) with skeet also available to both muzzleloader and cartridge shot gun alike. Again, camping is free, to all registered competitors and lunches are available right at the range. It don't get much better than this but you gotta show up!

Whew! that friends is just a "synopsis"! In closing if you've been to any or all of these events you know what I'm talkin' about and I again encourage you to bring out a new

shooter, a friend or 2 or 3...you get it. If you haven't been there please consider givin' us a try. Should you need more information before marking your calendar, feel free to contact myself or any of the I.B.P.F. board members. Additional information and all shoot dates and details are available on our web site:

[www.iowablackpowderfederation.net](http://www.iowablackpowderfederation.net)

Flyers for each event are also available via email by contacting:

[norma.holcomb@q.com](mailto:norma.holcomb@q.com)

Best regards to all and look forward to seeing you on the firing line, Pevine

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