

# Notice to MSA and CSA members:

## Notice to MSA and CSA members

We wish to apologize for any confusion created by the fact that letters were sent out from both Rick Pihl and Robby Moudy regarding our new direction. The letters were very similar, as they were planned to be merged into one, but through some internal miscommunication, were sent separately.

Now that Robby Moudy has been introduced as the new President of the MSA, we would like to explain how the New MSA plans to continue to lead the sport of mounted shooting through its partnership and merger with the CSA. We have taken the best of both associations and we are confident that our CSA members will be pleased with the result.

As Rick Pihl explained earlier this year, the MSA club system will now be based on the CSA system. We will implement the CSA dress code at club shoots that has been so popular. We will be merging the two rulebooks and they will be updated before the end of the MSA season, using mostly CSA rules. CSA members and clubs will become dual affiliated at the end of the MSA season at no additional charge and may compete with either association until the CSA season concludes at year-end, when all members and Clubs will be brought under the MSA shield. CSA members will be welcome at MSA Worlds again this year, so long as they compete in at least two CSA qualified events prior to the World Championship.

We have also decided to eliminate the level system and replace it with the D jackpot system currently used by the CSA. We will release time splits once we combine the course books based on fast and slower courses. The level system has been corrupted by years of move downs within the CMSA and the MSA has been asked to keep up by adjusting their levels by adding additional levels to accommodate those who felt they did not have a fair playing field, while the CMSA never acknowledged our system, placing us at a strong disadvantage. This class system will likely take years to become fair, if ever, based on the damage already done. While we attempted to keep our system fair for our members, we could not fix another associations system that had allowed sandbaggers and ringers to take advantage of lesser competition and we have seen the effect within the MSA, of mounted shooters who no longer gave it their all, but took advantage of a system that over time had made it almost impossible for new and lower level shooters to be competitive. As most of our members are not pros, the frustration has been felt by the majority of our membership.

A D jackpot system has been used in barrel racing since its inception and barrel racing has become one of the most popular rodeo events in the country. This system has been very popular because all competitors run at their best and there is a chance for everyone to win money, regardless of their experience level. Faster competitors will qualify for more money, which gives them the incentive to give it their best and slower competitors are not thrown in with a predetermined group of people who have maneuvered into a lower level to take advantage. The end result will be very similar to how the current system generally falls, but the splits will be determined before the competition, rather than after. The splits will be determined by how courses have historically fallen, with years of data available.

Just like every other competitive western discipline, we will no longer have a gender split, while national championship events will have a men's and a lady's overall champion. We will also not have an age split. This will allow for higher payouts than the current system without the need for added money that has dwindled, as cash sponsors have lost interest in our small sport after being lied to about membership numbers by our competition. This has hurt the reputation of our entire sport and MSA prefers honesty to deception. Any added money that is acquired for our events will no longer be split between so many gimmick events like the CMSA

Double Down. The popular Sharpshooter event will also continue with 100% payback, unlike our competition, which takes 20% for themselves, including donated sponsor money. MSA National Championship events will pay after each stage, while clubs will have the option and will likely pay based on overall results after a minimum of three stages to qualify for points. We encourage one-day events, rather than taking advantage of members through stall, camping and arena fees. We will continue to have a national points race based on overall results as we currently provide, with divisions split at the end of the year.

More details will be explained as the new rulebook is released after MSA Worlds. Members will have a chance to see how the system works at Worlds if they sign up for the Run For the Bucks Jackpot. Entries are now open on the MSA website. Western Horse & Gun is our proud title sponsor and has generously donated \$20,000 in added money and we will also be giving away great prizes. We will be announcing our 2015 entries into the MSA Hall of Fame and our Club Cup winner at our Saturday night social and acknowledging our scholarship winner. World Points Race winners will be awarded cash and prizes at the awards ceremony when Worlds is completed, since Worlds is a 7X points event.

We will soon be releasing our annual investments since 2012 to show our members that we are indeed the most transparent and fair mounted shooting association. We will also be announcing our current total for rebates paid to clubs participating in our new member program, which will be updated periodically. Our clubs will have much more freedom to run their events as they wish and our association will rely on our clubs to determine our success by attracting new members at the local level, rather than being an association which expects our members to travel great distances and expense for our own financial benefit through inflated fees, without legitimate payouts. We hope you are as excited as we are about our association going forward as we continue to separate ourselves from our competition and take our sport to the next level. Remember our creed: *Life, Liberty and the Pursuit of Victory!*