

How To Find Information, Products & Join Cowboy Fast Draw Association

1. Since this Spectator's Guide is designed to be handed out at an actual CFDA event, just strike up a conversation with one of our Gunslingers. They tend to be very helpful and informative. They're hoping that you might want to join in on the fun!
2. Go to our website at: www.cowboyfastdraw.com, there you will find a wealth of information on the sport including some "How To" videos. You can download our rules or join CFDA online. Make sure to visit the CFDA Mercantile, which is a "clearing house" for just about any product you need to get started in Cowboy Fast Draw.

The Cowboy Fast Draw Association, LLC

Is the largest Fast Draw organization to ever exist with thousands of members across the U.S., Canada, Europe, Australia, and Japan. There are over 80 CFDA Affiliated Clubs coast to coast in the U.S.. The sport continues to grow at a fast pace. The rules are kept very simple and to the point. Guns must remain stock except for action jobs and must be faithful reproductions of the 1800s time period. One of our founding principles is that a new member can purchase a reproduction six-gun from their local dealer and have a gun they can win a world championship with. No Race Guns worth thousands of dollars are required.

JOIN CFDA TODAY!

Cowboy Fast Draw Association

P.O. Box 5 - Fernley, NV

775-575-1802

Website:

WWW.COWBOYFASTDRAW.COM

Email Contact:

INFO@COWBOYFASTDRAW.COM

Dedicated To:

*The Romance & Legend of the Old West
&
The Cowboy Way*



COWBOY FAST DRAW ASSOCIATION

Presents

HOW TO WATCH COWBOY FAST DRAW SPECTATOR'S GUIDE

OUR MOTTO:

***SAFETY FIRST, FUN SECOND
AND COMPETITION THIRD***

Howdy Partner!

If you're looking for some fast-paced action to watch, you've come to the right place. Welcome to Cowboy Fast Draw!

History & Hollywood

The Sport of Fast Draw has been around since the 1950's. Hollywood has been making western movies since 1903, in fact the first ever movie was a western called The Great Train Robbery, which was actually current history in 1903, as it told the story of the Hole in the Wall Gang robbing a train just 18 months earlier. With the invention of television, it was no wonder that Western Series ruled the airwaves during the 1950s and 60s.

The sport of Fast Draw was born at Knott's Berry Farm in Southern California, when a stunt man invented the first Fast Draw Timer; his name was Dee Woolem. The first Fast Draw contest held was the National Fast Draw Championship with just over a dozen competitors. Some of the top Hollywood celebrities were paying attention and some of the biggest names got involved. Hugh O'Brien who was playing Wyatt Earp issued a challenge to any other leading man to attempt to beat his draw. The sport caught on and soon there were Fast Draw Clubs formed all over America. Colt reintroduced the Colt Peacemaker and several companies followed. Holster makers such as Arvo Ojala, Andy Anderson and Alfonso Pineda soon had thriving businesses, with many established celebrities and Fast Draw Shooters across the U.S. as customers. By 1960, it was estimated that there were about 100,000 Fast Draw competitors in the U.S.

The Sport of Fast Draw survived the initial fad stage and a number of state and regional associations evolved into just a few. However, an equipment race dominated the sport, the targets and distances became closer and faster with an ultimate quest for speed.

Cowboy Fast Draw

In 2002, the Cowboy Fast Draw Association was founded by Brad Hemmah; and through discussions and input with several key advisors, the Sport of Cowboy Fast Draw was formed.

Time Period Guns & Holsters

The Sport of Cowboy Fast Draw is based on equipment that was commonly found in the period of the late 1800s. Six-guns must be faithful reproductions and holsters must be designed around patterns that were common of that time period. Six-guns cannot be altered externally, only the actions can be tuned. Holsters also must pass an inspection of a rigid set of rules.

Ammunition (Wax Pellets/Bullets)

Wax pellets or bullets are the only projectile used. Live ammunition is not allowed in the contest area.

NEVER ATTEMPT FAST DRAW WITH LIVE AMMUNITION!

A Wax pellet is only propelled by a shotgun primer in most cases (no gunpowder). In Championship Matches, like the one you may be watching here, Cowboy Fast Draw Cartridges are used which have a small charge of black powder substitute to provide an entertaining effect of smoke and a little more noise. Wax pellets move as fast as live ammunition, at about 700 fps, so full firearm safety rules are in effect. Archery netting captures them very effectively, so this allows CFDA championship matches to be held almost in any location.

CFDA Motto:

Safety First, Fun Second & Competition Third

Safety First, Last & Always

CFDA administrates nationally recognized programs such as, the CFDA Range Officer Safety Course and CFDA Youth Safety Training Program. One of CFDA's primary goals is to educate as many people as possible in the safe and proper use of firearms.

Targets & Timers

Targets are 24" and are placed at 21' in Titled Championship. This creates a very difficult target to hit at competitive speeds. If the barrel of a fired gun is off just 1 degree the competitor will miss the target.

Timers are digital and very precise to 1/1000th of a second. After the announcer gives the command, "Shooters on the line, shooters set." The start light will come on in the center of the target between 2 and 5 seconds. If the shooter's pellet hits the target a sensor on the back of the target records the time, which is shown on the audience display above the target. If a shooter has a winning time, their light starts blinking.

How a Cowboy Fast Draw Contest Works

When competitors enter a contest, their name is placed into the random drawing by the scoring system, which will determine by "luck of the draw" who they will face each round of the contest. You may be watching up to 3 bouts going on simultaneously. Lane 1&2, 3&4, and 5&6 are 3 separate bouts. Each bout is a best 3 out of 5 match between those two competitors. The shooter who wins 3 shots first, wins the bout and the loser of the bout gets 1-X. When a shooter receives 4-X's in most Titled Championships, they are eliminated from the tournament. In many major Titled Championships, there is a very dramatic shoot-off scenario called the "Magnificent 7 Finals".

Shooter's Abilities & Strategies

Hitting the target at the speeds used in CFDA events is very difficult. Because of this you will see a number of different tactics. Some competitors will focus on hitting the target, still well under a second. While others focus on ultimate speed and push the envelope of human reflex and innate pointing ability, you will see times less than 1/2 of a second (.500) and even under .400. There are some individuals that can hit the target in what is called the 3's, that is any shot .399 or faster. Over the past few years we have even had competitors record winning shots in under 1/3 of a second (.333)!

The Folks

Part of the enjoyment is getting to know our members. They are about the most friendly bunch of folks you will ever encounter. Even though this is a semi-professional sport and there is prize money and titles at stake, it is one of the few professional sports in which the competitors serve double duty and serve as judges for their fellow competitors. We are very proud of the fact that often competitors tend to call their own penalties or question their own hits on the targets. We call it "The Cowboy Way", it is the spirit with which we play our game. So strike up a conversation with one of our gunslingers, but be careful, they just might get you to try it!

Aliases

You'll notice the colorful aliases that our gunslingers choose as their handles. That's just even more part of the fun. They get to know one another, become great friends and often don't know one another's real name. The goal is to make your alias a Legend in the Sport of Cowboy Fast Draw.