2026 Hellgate Civilian Shooters Black Powder Cartridge Rifle Silhouette Championship

Sponsored by Hellgate Civilian Shooters Association.

Location: Deep Creek Range, 17770 Deep Creek Rd., Missoula, MT (46*55'31"N , 114*44'49"W)

Dates: **Wednesday Sept 16th:** Range open for setup and practice.

Thursday, September 17th through Sunday, September 20th: Four 40 Shot BPCR Matches with a 160 shot four day Aggregate. Shooters are encouraged to choose one sight platform (iron or scope) and stay with it for all four days.

AWARDS: There will be awards in the form of engraved items similar to the previous year, presented in the following manner:

Thursday: Iron sight match winner and scope match winner.
Friday: Iron sight match winner and scope match winner.
Saturday: Iron sight match winner and scope match winner.
Sunday: Iron sight match winner and scope match winner.
Also Sunday, Four day aggregate awards for Iron sight and for Scope separately: Overall Champion, 1st through 3rd in Master, AAA, and AA/A/B.
Special awards: High Super Senior aggregate and High Woman aggregate.

Target Setting: ***Shooters will be responsible for resetting their own targets for all four days. If a shooter is unable to accomplish this, please let the match director know and an effort will be made to find someone to help with that shooter's target setting.***

RULES: These will NOT be NRA Registered matches, however, NRA Silhouette rules will generally apply. The main exception to this is anyone with the physical inability to shoot from a prone or seated position may shoot from a bench (if available) using bench cross sticks, provided there is no "squeeze bag" or other device used to "ground" the butt of the rifle on the bench.

ELIGIBILITY: Participation in this championship is open to all peaceable persons who practice the safe handling of guns.

ENTRY INFORMATION: There is no pre-registration**.** Just as in our monthly club matches, each morning is a new day for registration. Squads will draw from the jar daily to learn from what position they will be shooting. Each squad will work it out for themselves the order in which they shoot. Once that order is established, no changes shall be made during that day of shooting. Entries are limited to 38 shooters, but we can bump that up to 48 on the fly if need be. Based on the past few years, that probably won't be necessary. The entry fee is $30.00 a day. The match director would be grateful if shooters brought exact change each day, but a single check for the full amount will be acceptable. Make checks payable to Hellgate Civilian Shooters Association, or HCSA.

CLASSIFICATIONS: The NRA Silhouette classification system will be used. Individuals who do not have a classification by the beginning of the first match day in which they plan to compete, will set their classification at the end of that first match day.

SQUADDING: These are squadded events. A shooter and a spotter make up one squad. Requests for special squadding of competitors sharing equipment, etc., will be accommodated as far as it is possible.

CERTIFICATION OF ARMS AND EQUIPMENT: Rifles MAY be weighed and certified for configuration before the match. All rifles and equipment requiring certification may be re-inspected at random by the Official Protest Committee at any time.

EMPTY CHAMBER INDICATOR: An ECI is required to indicate the action is open and the chamber is empty. The Indicator must keep the action open, be inserted into the chamber, and extend from the firearm's receiver. A blow tube will suffice.

EYE AND EAR PROTECTION: Eye and ear protection is required for all persons on the firing line.

SAFETY

All rules for safety will be strictly enforced. Failure to conform will be basis for disqualification.

A. **There will be absolutely no handling of firearms on the firing line while target setting is in progress. In the event where target setters are required to return to reset targets due to blow-overs, competitors will be required to remove their firearms from the firing line with the actions open, empty chambers, and ECIs inserted. Any maintenance of black powder cartridge rifles on the firing line must be done during the 30 second "READY" period or during the sighting/record shot period.**

B. **"Dry firing" or aiming firearms behind the firing line is prohibited. "Dry Firing" or aiming of firearms may only take place in the Dry Firing area immediately adjacent to the north edge of the firing line and can only be accomplished while observing firing line commands.**

C. **A shot fired before "READY" will result in disqualification for the day's match. Two such violations in any one match will result in disqualification for the entire event. A shot fired after "READY" but before "FIRE" will count as a lost first animal.**

D. **The Match Director has the authority to ban any competitor, firearm, or ammunition at any time for reasons of safety.**

E. **Consumption of any alcohol or controlled substance, either on the range or in the spectator areas adjacent to the range while the match is in progress, is prohibited.**

F. **As a courtesy to other competitors, smoking on the firing line is prohibited while the range is in use.**

Please direct all questions via email to Jim Brannon

mlobber@aol.com

Please reference "September 2026 HCSA BPCRS" in subject box.

Final Note: There are plenty of dry camping spots available at no charge next to the silhouette range on a first come, first served basis. For a small fee, there are a limited number of camping spots with electrical hook ups available near the Range Master's home. See the Range Master for more info. There is no motel closer than 30 minutes from the range. If such lodging is desired, reserving a room well in advance is advised.