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## **Straight Shooters with Cowboy Mounted Shooting Association World Championships Return to Amarillo**

From chasing outlaws out of town to the legendary Showdown at the OK Corral, cowboy shoot-outs always get our adrenalin pumping. The modern version, the Cowboy Mounted Shooting Association (CMSA) Wrangler World Championships are in Amarillo October 12-15, 2016.



Competition is at the Amarillo National Center and early days start at 8 a.m.  
Friday night's Starline Showcase (October 14) at 7 p.m. brings the world's top ten

cowboys and cowgirls in each of six divisions together to determine the CMSA's best horseback competitors.

Roughly put, the sport of mounted shooting focuses on a cowboy or cowgirl, dressed in traditional western garb, riding a specified course in the arena as fast as possible while shooting balloon targets with either an 1873-style single-action revolver or a lever-action rifle. The fastest, most accurate competitor wins.

“This is an equine event, because you'll see handsome, athletic horses. And it is a Western event, because it celebrates the heritage and traditions of the American cowboy. But mainly, it is a spectator event because this action-packed sport is fast paced and very exciting,” Phil Spangenberg, CMSA Director and co-founder, explains.

Mounted shooting is a timed-event with each competitor firing 10 shots at 10 balloon targets arranged in a specific pattern. Based on a competitor's experience and the pattern, a single run will vary between 10-25 seconds. Special CMSA-certified black powder blank ammunition is used by all CMSA competitors for safety. As the competition advances through the higher level riders, leading to the finals, the runs get faster and the action heats up.

The Cowboy Mounted Shooting Association is the governing organization of the sport and promulgates the rules and tracks more than 17,000 members in over 100 affiliated clubs worldwide.

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*Visit the Amarillo CVC website at [www.visitamarillo.com](http://www.visitamarillo.com)*

*Visit the CMSA website at [www.cowboymountedshooting.com](http://www.cowboymountedshooting.com)*