

Achtung!

Boerne Luftgewehr Schützenfest 2024

The Boerne Airgun Schützenfest will be held October 19th and 20th at The Boerne Shooting Club (Boerne Schützenverein) 33 Shooting Club Road Boerne, TX!

THIS EVENT WILL INCLUDE THE BOERNE FIELD TARGET CHAMPIONSHIP (unofficially the Heart of Texas Field Target Championship) for both Rifle and Pistol.

THERE WILL BE SEPERATE PRIZES AND AWARDS FOR THE FIELD TARGET CHAMPIONSHIP AS A STAND ALONE CHAMPIONSHIP.
POINTS WILL BE AWARDED TO FT CHAMPIONSHIP SHOOTERS AND WILL COUNT TOWARDS THE KONIG AWARD IF THE SHOOTER IS ENTERED. FT IS NOT REQUIRED FOR THE KONIG AWARD.



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Sponsored by Diana Airguns and BlueLine Solutions, I humbly announce this first of its kind event in the USA that will be held at what is considered the oldest operating shooting club in the USA, The Boerne Shooting Club in Boerne, Texas.

Established in 1864 as a traditional schutzenverein, the club added airguns 150 years later starting with field target. Ten more years have passed and airguns are now a permanent part of our rich Texas/German history alongside Luftgewehr Schützen, the newest airgun discipline adopted from the oldest shooting discipline. Celebrating both our Texas and German heritages with airguns, the Boerne Shooting Club and Diana Airguns invites all airgun shooters to come and shoot for the honored title of Luftgewehr SchützenKönig , King of Airgun marksmanship!

What Is a Luftgewehr Schützenfest?

Luftgewehr Schutzenfest is an airgun competition and celebration of airgun marksmanship with traditional German foods and side shoots. This particular competition is a multi-discipline airgun only event that can be shot by nearly any airgun shooter but particularly celebrating springer shooters (Konig class). PCP's are represented in their own class (Meister class) with identical competitions and prizes! So whether you are an AAFTA Field Targeteer or a 100fpe FT shooter, an N50 table topper or a prairie springer plinker with old iron sights, you will have a competition! The events and competitions are designed for all airgun shooters from near 12 fpe to 100 fpe. You can choose to shoot AAFTA styled FT (doubling as the FT Championship) , Schutzen FT or Silhouette but you must shoot a Luftgewehr Schützen to be considered for the title.

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The Konig award, an AirKing Pro from our exclusive airgun sponsor, Diana Airguns and the title of Luftgewehr SchützenKönig is reserved for the Konig Class. Schutzen is a test of marksmanship that has lasted centuries and a purist's discipline at heart. With Diana's history and Schutzen's combined, the art of airgun marksmanship with a

traditional airgun still remains to be the king of airgun disciplines. Meister Class celebrates the mastery of airguns with PCP's, and quite deservingly, with the Title of Luftgewehr SchutzenMeister.

What is Schutzen?

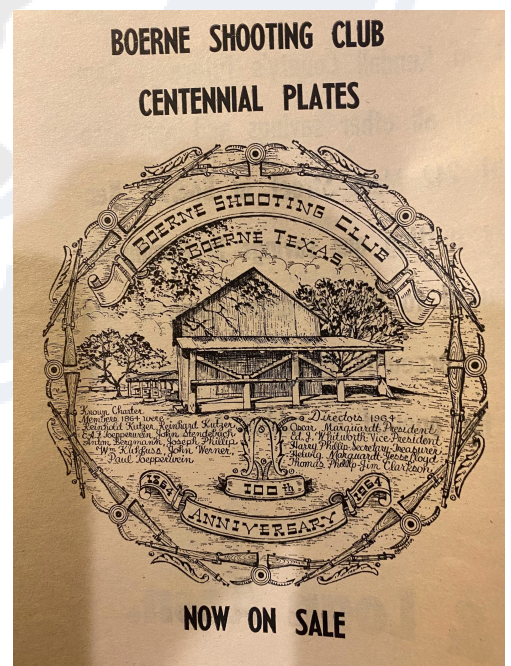
Schutzen is a shooting discipline with its roots reaching back to the early 1500's. As it formalized, the traditional shoot stayed a top powder burner test of marksmanship; the shoot was 200 yds with open sights using a 25 ring, 2 sided target.

The rifles were exceptionally heavy, but incorporated palm rests, butt hooks and more ergonomic stocks, not too much unlike our FT rifles. Shot by mostly men, women in some regions shot early on as well. Schutzen has 'protector' as part of the etymology and in time all were needed to protect. In our region however, women began shooting Schutzen around the 1960's. The rifles' features are seen in this picture of women shooters of an unknown club. Note the curved butthook that shares DNA with some of today's rifles.



However the real distinguishing feature of Schutzen is the use of stair-steps as support. These were used to not only support the rifle but also give the shooter a brace for the recoil and weight of the rifles.

These steps were typically permanent fixtures at Schutzenverins, as seen in our centennial plate design from 1964 between the vertical support beams. A similar braced starstep will be used again for airguns. A deep dive into Schutzenverin history is coming. Dating back to the 1500's it's quite a research project and



much is not translated into English. Schuetzenfest is arguably more popular in Germany than Oktoberfest too, so even more there to delve into.. Gut Schuss!

What is Luftgewehr Schützen as a discipline?

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Airgun Schützen uses the traditional 25 ring target, but ones scaled from 200 yds to 100yds. (see above) The target is 2 sided and the scoring rings are colored. One side has 3 scoring rings for the stair step shoot. The second side has seven and is shot off hand. The bullseye is $\frac{3}{4}$ ". Three cards will be shot in total with a maximum score of 250 per card. 10 shots are taken per card. 2 from steps and 1 offhand. 20min per card. The same target style will be used for 25, 50 and 100 yds. Luftgewehr Schutzen as an individual discipline will also be shot monthly at Boerne starting in June, giving ample time for shooters to become a 'Schutze' prior to the Schutzenfest. Please note a typical monthly shoot will consist of 5 cards, 4 from the steps and 1 off-hand.

What is Schutzen FT?

Schutzen FT takes the tradition of Schutzen and combines it with Ultimate Field Target's framework. It can be shot with any pellet rifle under 20 fpe, but especially meant for springers and open or dot sights. Distances and KZ's are given, range finders allowed. KZ's can range up to 3" depending on sights. PCP shooters and AAFTA shooters will be pleasantly challenged with some alternate targets. All shots are taken Schutzen-style, standing using a "braced" bipod and some lanes will even have stair steps. Look for it during the monthly Schutzen series from now on!

How is it all scored with many different types of shoots?

Each event holds a point value of 1.250, equivalent to a Schutzen 5 card shoot. Field Target (all styles) and Schutzen Silhouette will calculate the hit rate and apply the percentage to 1250. Winners of each shoot will be eligible for the Konig shoot. Shooter with the most overall points is also included.

Konig Bird

The Konig Bird is at the heart of Schutzenfest and the final shoot of Luftgewehr Schützenfest. The legend dates to the early 1500's and is that a child was spared from an attacking eagle by a Schutze, who made the shot, sacrificing the eagle but saving the child and titled the Konig (king) of the town for a year. Traditionally a wooden and ornately decorated bird, the shooter who either removed all of the designated area, typically the vitals, wins the carved bird as a trophy but other areas shot out may be awarded alternate prizes as well. Regionally the shoot would differ some, but the tradition remained relatively the same. Seen here is an antique round trophy ornately painted.



For airguns the Konig Bird will be a wooden bird overlay faceplate on a field target with an unknown KZ at a known distance. PCP's will shoot their own Konig bird for Meister class. Top shooters in both classes will compete for the trophy in the same manner. Alternating shots taken starting with the lowest points. First shooter to knock over the target

wins the faceplate as the Konig shoot Trophy. Winner of the Konig Bird shoot will be awarded 750 additional points towards the Konig Title and win an Air King Pro!

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PRIZES, AWARDS AND SIDE SHOTS

The Konig award will be an AirKing Pro provided by the exclusive airgun sponsor of Luftgewehr Schützenfest, Diana Airguns! The Meister Class (PCP) winner will receive an equivalent prize package TBA! Cash prizes, gift certificates and more all TBA for individual shoots

Traditionally ribbons and medals are presented and Boerne follows suit with a set of lapel pins and medals to recognize the accomplishments and achievements to celebrate all airgunners who participated. Seen here are some antique medals and ribbons of other Schutzenvereins.



Imaged by Heritage Auctions, HA.com



BlueLine Solutions is proudly providing the traditional clay stars as part of the event too! Using the official Diana Oktoberfestgewehr BB gun, this festive side shoot is fun for all shooters to win Diana swag and much more!

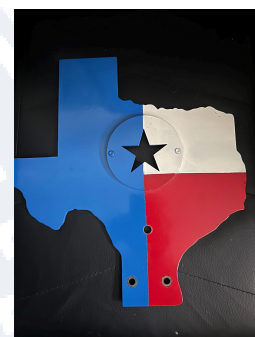
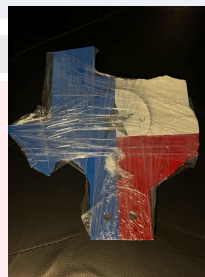
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MIKE SMITH PERPETUAL TROPHIES

In honor of the late Mike Smith, winners of the Field Target Rifle and Pistol Championship will have their names hand painted on a one of a kind Texas Field Target, hand made and original paint by Mike. The

Luftgewehr König and Meister names will be hand painted on the matching large target. Targets will be kept on display at the Boerne Shooting Club.



Complete info such as entry fees, registration, schedules and final prizes will be announced in the coming weeks. Official Rules and such will be posted simultaneously!

So save the date and maybe you can be named Luftgewehr Schützenkönig!

October 19th and 20th, 2024 33 Shooting Club Road, Boerne, TX USA

Thanks for reading and hope to see you there!

Please Contact: matchdirector@boernefieldtarget.com

Volunteers will be waived all entry fees!

Gut Schuss!

