

# 60 *The 2008 Nevada State*



**Above:** The new, high-speed, lightweight, long-range S&W Model 686 SSR revolver "Two Gun" used in the Nevada State IDPA Championships. You can never overlook the "cool" factor.

**Left:** "Two Gun" works on his custom kneeling technique while earning a Tactical Priority procedural penalty around the left side of the barrel.

**By Col. Mark "Two Gun" Lisi USA (Ret.)**

We shoot right through the winter here in Washington. It rains a lot during the winter here, and last year was a very wet one. All the shooters in the Evergreen State were weary of slogging from bay to bay, using wet tape and soggy targets. One month I swear I had to backstroke between the bays at Renton. It was so wet that I gave up on recovering my brass – and I'm normally a world-class brass grubber. When I saw that the 2008 Nevada State IDPA shoot was in mid April, I signed up. A chance to shoot in warm sunshine was simply too much temptation to ignore. A weekend trip to Las Vegas was easy to sell to my wife and the arrangements were made.

My unofficial coach (Scott Hawken of R&R Racing) had been pushing me hard and 2007-2008 was the year that I'd taken up "practice" as part of my shooting routine. I'd been shooting revolver in IDPA, my 1911 in USPSA, and both in an evening PPC indoor league over the winter. I was doing the right amount of shooting, my new knee was working, and I was feeling like I was on a roll.

I had been shooting my simple S&W Model 10, and it was driving tacks for me. Then, in an effort to stop the ejection rod from backing out, I applied some Loc-tite to the threads. If one drop of Loc-Tite is good, then four is better, right? I locked the cylinder into the frame. YIKES! After a stern talking to by the gunsmith, the Model 10 was taken into the shop for repair. After the loss of the old standby revolver, I did what any committed shooter would do while gripped by panic – purchased a new gun. I bought a new S&W Model 686 SSR. Oh YEAH! This baby almost shoots by itself! It took a bit of work to transition from the Miculek stocks on the Model 10 to the new ones on the 686 SSR, but this

L-Frame round butt will get with the program.

Re-armed and at the peak of my training, my wife and I departed for "Sin City" and the 2008 Nevada State IDPA Championship. The boys of the Las Vegas IDPA Club and the Desert Sportsman Rifle and Pistol Club put on a first-class event. The DSRP is a big complex and it looked to me to have enough bays and ranges to shoot anything a shooter could carry to the range. There was a group of shooters wringing out military surplus rifles while the IDPA shooters were in the action pistol bays (I had to stop on my way back from lunch and check out all the guns).

The Match consisted of 14 stages (179 rounds) shot in one day with "man on man" steel side matches on Sunday morning to provide time for the Staff to finish the stat work and to set up the prize table. Saturday dawned clear and cool as 140 shooters converged on the DSRP range in search of glory. The shooters were free to self-squad and most of the squads were full when I got to the sign up. Most of the shooters were from Nevada and California and already knew one another. Squad 1 had only three names when I signed up and all of us seemed to be a little lost. After the shooters meeting, we set out of the pistol bays and began to bond. We gained three shooters as the first stage was shot and we got to know each other. This squad lacked any excess-ego problems and ran like a sewing machine.

Like most big matches, all the stage names had a Desert Southwest or Las Vegas flavor: Nevada Standards; Home on the Range Invasion; All Stars, Seven Wolves; Rock 'Em Sock 'Em Retention; On the Mend; Rock a Bye Baby; Saturday in the Park; ATM; Coyote REAL Ugly; Pipe Dream, aka How Lucky Are You; New York Reload (BUG);