

BUILDING A RACE GUN - 2 week class

\$800 or 4 credit hours

Students are required to take both weeks of this class

PLEASE NOTE, IF YOU HAVE CONSIDERED THIS CLASS IN THE PAST, BUT DIDN'T TAKE IT DUE TO COST, THE TOOL/SUPPLY LIST HAS BEEN REVISED TO MAKE IT MORE AFFORDABLE

This will be a two-week course covering the techniques and methods used to build a race gun utilizing the STI/SVI 2011 high capacity pistol. These guns are the “Ferraris” of the Practical Shooting sports and are the platform of choice for the top IPSC/USPSA competitors.

Students can choose to build either an Open (with optics and compensator) or Limited (no scope or compensator) gun as both will be covered. Open guns are typically chambered in 38Super/38Supercomp or 9mm. Limited guns are typically chambered in 40 S&W. **It is HIGHLY recommended that students order the frame/slide and barrel ahead of time. Do not wait until close to class time as these parts can sometimes be on backorder.** Previous experience with the 1911 platform is highly recommended, but not required. **Advanced machining or equivalent experience is required. Students should have the following skills: Lathe- Turning/boring/facing to .001” tolerance. External threading. Mill- Tram mill, edge finding, mill part to .001” tolerance.**

The course will cover lightening slides, fitting barrels to slide, barrel porting, mounting optics, fitting grip safeties, triggers, compensator design and fitting, magazine tuning, fitting of internals and reloading tips for race guns. Also covered are tuning the gun (spring weights, firing pin stop radius are examples).

There is a myriad of choices in building a race gun, many will be based on the shooter’s choice. Range time will be provided so students can shoot several different configurations to understand how gun configuration affects recoil control, dot/sight tracking, recoil feel and target transitions. Ammunition and firearms will be provided for this range session. Time permitting, there will be range time the last day of class for students to fire the guns they built and run through an IPSC practical stage.

Steve Pitt is the owner of Yukon Arms, Ltd. and has been a competitive shooter since 1995. He holds a Master class rating in USPSA Open, Limited and Limited10 divisions.

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Recommended parts list-

- Frame/slide- It is highly recommended to get an unramped frame. CKARMS and SVI are good choices for slides and frames. A prefit slide/barrel kit is ok, but not preferred. Generally for an Open gun- a classic slide with standard dust cover is preferred. For Limited- a “Unique” slide and full dust cover are the most common.
- Barrel - Barsto, Kart and KKM are all good barrels. Barsto’s in particular take long time to order. If you have a different brand you like that is fine. A Bull barrel is preferred, but not required, depending on the compensator.
- Compensator- Compensator options will be covered in class.
- Internal parts- These can be ordered during class as there are a lot of options to discuss. STI, Harrison Designs, EGW and Wilson (not their value line) are quality parts.
- Optics- There are lots of scopes available, options will be covered in class.

(The brands listed are only examples and are not required. There are definitely a lot of other good choices).

Required tools list-

Students should bring general gunsmithing tools such as:

- Gunsmith Screwdriver Set
- Armorer’s Bench Block
- Hammer

Punch Set

6" stones (medium, fine, and ceramic)

Dremel Tool w/Cratex wheels

Needle File set

Assorted files

Rolls of sand paper- 180-400 grit

Dial calipers

Endmills- misc. carbide endmills- 5/8", 3/8", 1/4", 1/8" are common sizes.

Specialty tools will be supplied, but please bring anything you might have that you think will be useful. Feel free to contact Steve Pitt for any questions on tools or parts.