

Not allowed are the following:

Be advised this list is not all inclusive. Remember it must have been available in the Old West in the 1865 to 1899 time period. Manufacturers are coming out with reproductions and variations of them faster than NCOWS can address. Therefore, if you have any questions or are not sure, please contact the NCOWS National Judge for clarification.

Revolvers

Ruger Vaquero Bisley (as of the first Territorial Congress of 2006.)
Ruger .32 H&R
Cimarron Lightning
Cimarron Thunderer
Cimarron Model P Jr.
“P” (Colt Model 1873 and Replicas thereof) frames with Birds-head grip.
“Pinkerton”-grip firearms
Uberti '73 SAA with cap and ball cylinders
Ruger Old Army cap and ball
Navy Arms Scout and similar small framed revolvers
Non-birds head or non-banana gripped Webleys'
Colt Police Positive
455 Webley Service Revolvers: Mark VI
Other Webley Revolvers: W.S. model
Cimarron “Eliminator” series of revolvers (Added July 2015)
For percussion revolvers, the so called “Manhattan Conversion” or other modification or cap guard to a percussion revolver to retain fired caps
Single action Colt 1873 and replicas thereof with octagonal barrels (Added May 2020)
Brass grip framed reproductions of the Colt 1873 Model P
Brass framed reproductions of the Colt 1860 New Army 44 cal. percussion revolver
Brass framed reproductions of the Colt 1851 Navy 36 cal. percussion revolver with a roll engraved cylinder.
Brass framed reproductions of the Colt 1861 Navy 36 cal. percussion revolver
Brass framed reproductions of the 1858 Remington New Army 44 cal. percussion revolver
Brass framed reproductions of the 1858 Remington Navy 36 cal. percussion revolver
Reproductions of the Colt 1860 Army percussion revolver in 36 cal.
Reproductions of the Colt 1851 Navy percussion revolver in 44 cal. (Added March 2024)
Revolvers chambered in 9x19mm Parabellum (9mm Luger), 10mm, and .45 ACP. (Added March 2025) (Amended March 2026)
Barrels with outside threading at muzzle to possibly accept a suppressor or similar device. (Added March 2026)

Rifles

Winchester '94 with angle eject
Henry Big Boy and all other side eject models
Modern lever-action rifles in current production equipped with angle eject, ramped front sight.
H&R Buffalo Classic
Beretta Renegade (an 1873 w/factory installed short stroke)
Winchester 1866 and 1873 rifles and carbines made by Miroku
Henry Repeating Arms Side Gate Lever Action, all calibers (Added May 2020)
Rifles chambered in 9x19mm Parabellum (9mm Luger). (Added March 2025)
Rifles chambered in 9x19mm Parabellum (9mm Luger), 10mm, and .45 ACP. (Added March 2025) (Amended March 2026)
Barrels with outside threading at muzzle to possibly accept a suppressor or similar device. (Added March 2026)

Shotguns

Modern shotguns with vent ribs
Modern recoil pads (no white line spacers).
Barrels with outside threading at muzzle to possibly accept a suppressor or similar device. (Added March 2026)

Derringers

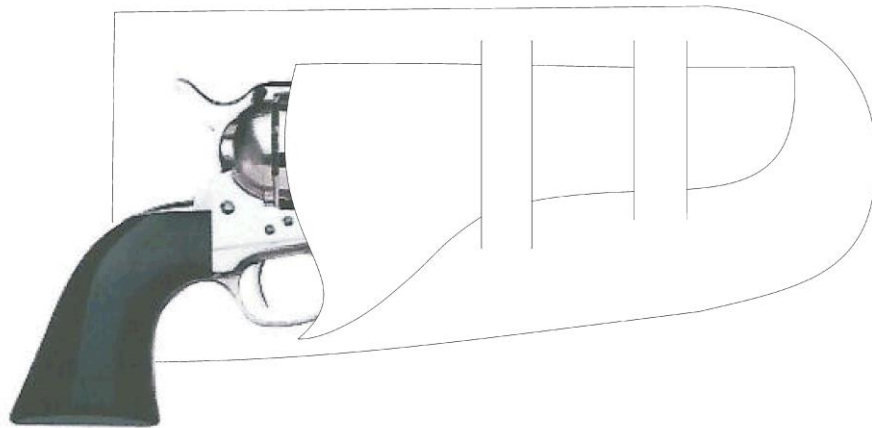
Bond Arms Derringers
Cobra Enterprises Titan
Uberti Maverick large frame 357 Mag and 45 Colt

Gun Modifications:

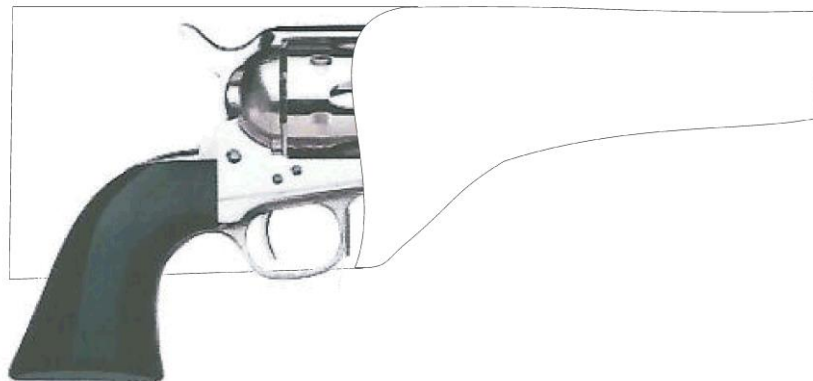
Not allowed are the following:
Short-stroke modifications to lever-action rifles/shotguns.
Short stroke kits for revolvers
Lightning rods or similar devises
Aluminum carriers for toggle link rifles.

Holsters:

No belt holster shall be lined with metal, plastic, or any non-leather material to make it easier to extract or re-holster revolver. Cloth Lining shall be acceptable. No holster shall be lower than the leading, forward edge of the trigger guard in the trigger area and no lower than the midpoint of the trigger guard over the cylinder or at the leading edge of the holster. Holster shall be attached to belt by a loop over the entire belt, i.e., no slotted belt (buscadero rigs). No holster may be tied to the leg.



Minimum Acceptable Holster Coverage



Unacceptable Holster Coverage

Clothing and Accouterments:

A very diverse range of apparel and accouterments existed within the time period of 1865-1899. Much has been written detailing the items worn and used during this time. The individual must research all items to ensure authenticity. Period photographs used to authenticate dress should be dated in order to eliminate confusion as to whether the item is correct.

Not allowed are the following: any modern Western-style boot with stitching on the toe; modern-style vests; snap-button shirts or modern-style Western shirts; modern jeans that have not been altered to conform to historic styling; Buscadero (slotted belt) gun rigs; modern "fast-draw" holsters; slide-on shotgun shell holders (effective as of the first Territorial Congress of 2006); modern-style cowboy hats, unless altered to an authentic style; modern Western trophy-style belt buckles. Loading strips are not allowed on the firing line but may be used at the loading area. Shotgun cartridge belts must have individual loops.