So you want to start Long Gong at your Gun Club. Here is what I did.

My Club is a private one so I had to meet with the Board of Directors and pitch Long Gong. Most gun clubs will be receptive if their charter is to further the knowledge, education and safe sporting use of firearms. I was the Chief Range Officer at my club for many years and started and hosted many different matches there so I had credibility coming in, you might need to speak to your Board members individually first to sell the idea.

When presenting this opportunity make sure you have thought through how you will deliver it consistently and make it easy for the Club management to say yes. My match is the 3rd Sunday of the month except for the rare occasion where we have an annual match that needs my weekend and then I move mine for that one month. Keeping it as consistent as possible will get you a more healthy turnout and make it easier on club staff. Being the MD of any match is a thankless and time consuming job; make sure you have the time, permission from your wife and that you have identified an Assistant MD who is willing and able to be there to help wherever needed. The first year I ran this match I took all the cold months on ranges that took more effort on my part and I stored all the equipment in my garage because all this made it easy for the Board to say yes. I made sure the Club knew that I needed nothing from them up front except a range for one day a month and that I would not burden other club resources with this match until and unless it became successful. The investment to get started in Long Gong is less than $200, be willing to fund it and pay yourself back when it makes sense. Now I have to say that the BoD at my Club has pretty consistently been a good group of guys who are actually shooters and once the venue is “proven” they are more than willing to support it with more range days, storage, and other club resources. They key is don’t show up to pitch this and make it a pain in butt for the Board or Club employees or ask them for money to fund it. After proving my commitment and that there was interest in the venue with 6-7 months of successful matches with more people each month and great press I was able to legitimately ask the club for on site storage and for time on the range that was best for me and Long Gong, a range where every venue wants to run their match. I have no doubt that Long Gong is or will become successful at your club but be prepared to make it happen without drama and burdening club resources that are probably already overworked. Invite the board members to your match, offer to loan them your rifle to shoot the match, show your commitment to making the match and the club successful with Long Gong. OK, enough of the pep talk especially since all of you who are not Millennials already know this stuff because it was common sense when we were kids, onto the details about next steps.

Once I had approval I gathered the parts I needed. I bought my first targets and hangers from Amazon and used 3/4" EMT Conduit from Lowes for the legs and the crossbar. My original targets are 3/8" AR500 but that is overkill for 22 and it is harder to see them move. The audible report can be heard but not as well as thinner targets. I got my 3rd set of targets from Atlas Target Works. Atlas sells 1/4" AR500 single hole and double hole targets, the single hole are better with shooter feedback on left and right hits but the double hole are not going to move as long and will allow for faster follow up shots. The pro of the Amazon targets are that the hanger holes are outside the face of the target while the Atlas hanger hole is within the circumference of the target. I am working with As an Atlas dealer I am working with them to make a proper set of Long Gong Targets.

I originally used Caldwell Flash Bangs to indicate hits on targets but after the first match 4 of the 6 flash bangs had taken hits and were destroyed so I designed a system that I sell on my website (that you do not need out the gate) that allows you to use flashers for hits without damage to the Flash Bang units. These are NOT mandatory but as a shooter and Match Director for decades, and being OCD, I like to make my matches as good and user friendly as I can out of the gate. Occasionally a hit on one target will cause others to flash but because shooters must call their targets before shooting it is not a problem; I have also designed some rubber insulators that help reduce this. And even with the flashers on the targets we have spotters watching for hits, the flasher is just an insurance policy and allows the shooter immediate feedback.

To ensure proper and consistent spacing between targets and to minimize the "False Hits" I use 1" schedule 40 PVC as a separator between target hangers. It fits nicely over the conduit and takes paint well so I paint the PVC on each target rack a different color allowing the shooter to Pick the target array they are going to shoot at and then they wont, or shouldn't get mixed up. If someone hits the bar instead of the target the flashers may flash but PVC flies everywhere which is very evident for the shooter and spotter allowing the spotter to call the cross bar hit instead of a target hit. PVC specifications and lengths are documented below.

Hits and scores are handled by the spotter, all of whom I trust and have complete confidence in but the key is that they also feel confident calling hits. Lots of guys who are capable are not comfortable calling hits so don't ask them to do it. Up front I tell folks who are watching to refrain from calling hits or misses. One area where I have ad-libbed is that I do ask the spotter (usually me and/or my assistant MD) to call the misses too. We do so in target distance on the clock face. For example 1/2 target low at 5 O'clock. This will help new shooters and even seasoned ones get some hits. For reference my match fees are $15 for members and $20 for non-members. I give trophies that I make and only do cash payouts on special occasions or big matches. For 2027 we are also going to do Hot Dogs and sodas during the match because Fellowship should be part of what Gun Clubs offer and your attendance will vastly improve.

PARTS LIST:

Amazon Targets: https://www.amazon.com/stores/ECCEPOPU/page/53430708-E293-4586-9F02-5B9151FA7D84?lp_asin=B0D56PRGJW&ref_=ast_bln&store_ref=bl_ast_dp_brandlogo_sto

Atlas Target Works:
Complete Set Direct from Atlas - https://www.atlastargetworks.com/collections/ar500-targets/products/rimfire-long-range-gong-target-set
Atlas Set from A3GMunitions.com - https://a3gmunitions.com/product/atlas-target-works-long-gong-target-set/
Individual Targets:
8" - https://www.atlastargetworks.com/products/round-ar400-steel-rimfire-pistol-gongs-1-to-12?variant=28429916504163
6" - https://www.atlastargetworks.com/products/round-ar400-steel-rimfire-pistol-gongs-1-to-12?variant=28429916471395
4" - https://www.atlastargetworks.com/products/round-ar400-steel-rimfire-pistol-gongs-1-to-12?variant=28429916405859

Hanger and leg kit: https://www.amazon.com/ECCEPOPU-Shooting-Targets-Silhouette-Separately/dp/B0BJRJNTWV?ref_=ast_sto_dp&th=1&psc=1

5' EMT Conduit 5 per rack (you can buy 10' sticks and cut them but I find 5' easier): https://www.lowes.com/pd/Common-3-4-in-Actual-75-In-Metallic-Emt-5-ft-Conduit/3130169

EMT Conduit Ends to fit Amazon Leg Kit 2 per rack (you can buy bags of 5 and they are cheaper): https://www.lowes.com/pd/Sigma-Electric-ProConnex-3-4-in-Compression-Coupling-Electrical-Metal-Tubing-Compatible-Conduit-Fitting/1000152635
Or
https://www.lowes.com/pd/Sigma-Electric-ProConnex-1-2-in-Compression-Connector-Electrical-Metal-Tubing-Compatible-Conduit-Fitting/1000152611

Leg Pins 4 per rack: https://www.lowes.com/pd/T-H-Marine-Multi-Ball-x-1-5-in-Channel-Trailer-Coupler/5013526409

5' 1" PVC (also available in 10' lengths): https://www.lowes.com/pd/Charlotte-Pipe-1-in-dia-x-5-ft-L-450-PSI-PVC-Pipe/3133093

Extra Items if you choose to use them from my web site:
Target Flasher kits with or without FlashBangs - https://a3gmunitions.com/product/long-gong-target-flashers/
Target Flasher kit Spare Parts - https://a3gmunitions.com/product/long-gong-target-flashers-spare-parts/

Target Hanger insulators come in the kit but spares are here - https://a3gmunitions.com/product/long-gong-target-hanger-insulator-set/

PVC cutting: if you use 2-hole steel and 2 hangers per target you will need 7 pieces of PVC. I suggest painting the PVC before cutting it. Lengths are:
Section 1 - 13.5" - between the left end and the 8" Plate
Section 2 - 4" - between the 8" plate hangers
Section 3 - 12" - between the 8" and 6"
Section 4- 3" - between the 6" plate hangers
Section 5 - 11" - between the 6" and 4"
Section 6 - 2.5" - between the 4" plate hangers
Section 7 - 9" - between the 4" and right end
If you are using Single hole steel and 1 hanger per target you will only need 4 pieces: 15", 15", 12.5", 10". Using 2 holes on the 8" and 6" and one hole on the 4" would be 6 pieces: 13.5", 4", 12", 3", 12.5" and 10".
I think the best option is 2 holes on 1/4" plates with the holes outside the circumference of the plate.

Most of the rules are covered in the Long Gong introduction on my web site and will be updated by Robert Duhaime (the inventor of the sport) at some point. Here are the general rules:

- Matches are 50 rounds - I run 5 relays of 10 rounds each.
- You may allow sighters, I place much bigger targets at a close but different distance and allow shooters to "Warm up" on them but the official targets are off limits during warm-up.
- Warm up begins 30 minutes before the shooter briefing and ends when I begin the briefing.
- No Sleds! Front bipod or bag only and rear bag only. No rear monopods and bipods must be attached to the rifle before the first shot and stay that way until the last shot.
- Targets are close to 300 but I will laser them and give everyone the actual yardage.
- I put up a few wind flags and there are some permanently mounted on the range.
- I don't time the shooters but we have not had anyone wait on the wind for more than a few seconds. I have timers if it becomes an issue. The 10 rounds must be fired within 3 minutes.
- Scoring - 8" hit=1, 6" hit=2, 4" hit=3. They must hit the 8 to go to 6 and 6 to go to 4 but they do not have to go to the smaller one. They can shoot all 10 rounds on the 8 if they like. They

must say their intentions before shooting. If they miss they have to go back one target, they cannot go back 2.

Please reach out if I can be of any help.
Mark