

South Eastern Air Rifle Conference Brings Collegiate Events to CMP South

By Sommer Wood, CMP Program Coordinator



The CMP Air Gun Ranges host numerous junior events from the JROTC Championships to the Three-Position Summer Camps; and for the 2009-2010 competition season collegiate shooting events were also added to the list. CMP was excited to host several events for the South Eastern Air Rifle Conference at the South Competition Center in Anniston, Alabama.

The South Eastern Air Rifle Conference (SEARC) is an air rifle only conference, which consist of both NCAA and collegiate club rifle teams from the southeastern United States. Schools from North Carolina, South Carolina, Georgia and Alabama are represented, with 9-10 schools participating each season.

During the 2009-2010 school year, CMP hosted the SEARC Clinic in September to kick-off the leagues season, and then wrapped-up the year by hosting the SEARC Championship in February. The clinic is an annual tradition of the conference, and has been hosted at Wolf Creek, Fort Benning, the Citadel and now CMP South.

Outside of conference matches hosted at the Citadel, the facility at CMP South provides the only other electronic target venue that SEARC shooters participate on during the season. For CMP it is a rare opportunity to work with college shooters. Most collegiate rifle programs compete in both air rifle and smallbore, and CMP does not have an indoor smallbore range. This limits the support CMP can provide to collegiate rifle events, particularly NCAA programs.



The top eight precision finalists compete in the Final to decide the champion.



The CMP Marksmanship Center in Anniston, Alabama, hosted the South Eastern Air Rifle Conference. The Air Gun Center is open every Tuesday and Thursday evening for Open Public Shooting. Visit <http://www.odcmp.com/MarksmanshipCenters.htm> for more information.

Taking the top honors at the SEARC Championship in February was North Carolina State University. The school is one of several NCAA programs that compete in the conference. The Citadel and North Georgia State College and University, also both NCAA programs, rounded out second and third place respectively.

On a SEARC side note, Clemson University was the only club team in the conference to qualify for the Inaugural Collegiate Club National Championship that was hosted at Purdue University in April. The Tigers won the 2010 Club Air Rifle National Championship, and finished second overall. To compete for the overall title required that the team shoot in the smallbore portion of the competition, and Clemson is an air rifle only program. The team borrowed rifles for the event and still managed to finish third in smallbore. The University of Michigan finished first in smallbore and first overall.

To find out more about the South Eastern Air Rifle Conference contact John Cummings at cumminj@clemson.edu.