

## An Introduction to CMP Programs

The CMP is, in many respects, a grass roots organization that places a high priority on encouraging new shooters and helping them learn gun safety and marksmanship skills to get them off to a good start in target rifle and pistol shooting. Several CMP programs focus on this objective. If you are new to the shooting sports, this brochure describes CMP programs for new shooters and how to take advantage of the opportunities they offer.

## CMP Program Announcements

With so many programs for new shooters being available, a key to taking advantage of the opportunities they offer is finding out when and where program events take place and how to register for them. The first step in doing this is to get on the CMP email distribution list so you will receive *CMP Shooters' News* email updates. The CMP releases these updates two or three times a month and contain announcements of all major CMP programs. CMP email notices also provide links to official event programs and instructions on how to register. Click on the "Join Our Email List" link on the CMP website or visit <http://thecmp.org/email/>. The CMP also provides a printed newsletter for junior coaches and shooters, *On The Mark*. Subscriptions are available for \$8.00/year. Visit <http://thecmp.org/communications/on-the-mark/> to sign up.

The next step in finding out about CMP program opportunities in your area is to become familiar with the upcoming events lists in the *CMP Competition Tracker* website, <http://ct.thecmp.org>. The CMP uses this website to manage information for all of its training and competition activities. For shooters, this page can be the entry point to a wealth of information. It provides lists of CMP-affiliated clubs, upcoming matches and results from completed CMP sanctioned matches.



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[www.thecmp.org](http://www.thecmp.org)

## CMP Ranges

Since the beginning, the CMP has dedicated itself to providing arenas for all to grow in marksmanship. With state-of-the-art technology and some of the most pristine facilities in the world, the CMP has lived up to its mission and continues to raise the bar each and every day.

- **Air Gun:** CMP's air gun ranges are located at the Gary Anderson CMP Competition Center in Camp Perry, Ohio, and the CMP South Competition Center in Anniston, Alabama. Each range contains 80, 10-meter firing points equipped with electronic targets that instantly display shots on monitors located next to each shooter. A Mobile Range harnessing the same technology can also be constructed in virtually any area of the country.



- **Talladega Marksmanship Park:** The 500-acre outdoor marksmanship facility in Talladega, Alabama, is the first of its kind in the country – housing electronic targets similar to those used in the CMP air gun ranges. The facility also contains pistol and shotgun opportunities, including a 5-Stand and Sporting Clays Field.



# CMP

Civilian Marksmanship Program



## Programs for New Shooters

## Resources for New Shooters

The CMP continues to develop resources that new shooters can utilize to learn gun safety and basic marksmanship skills as well as to help them get started in different types of competitions. Some resources are available to download for free on the CMP website, while others are available for purchase from the CMP E-Store at <http://estore.thecmp.org>.

- **A Junior Shooter's Guide to Air Rifle Safety:** A 20-page booklet; written for junior air rifle shooters, but it provides safety rules, procedures and guidelines that can be used by youth or adult shooters in any range firing situation. Send requests to CMP Programs, [programs@thecmp.org](mailto:programs@thecmp.org).

- **CMP Guide to Junior Pistol Shooting:** The Guide seeks to do this by providing information and instruction to inspire and motivate youth, parents and club leaders to become active in junior pistol programs. Send requests to CMP Programs, [programs@thecmp.org](mailto:programs@thecmp.org).

- **CMP Poster Sets for BB Gun, Rimfire Sporter and Air Rifle**

Popular USAMU guides to rifle and pistol marksmanship are available for purchase through the CMP E-Store.

- **USAMU Service Rifle Marksmanship Guide** and **USAMU Advanced Pistol Guide:** Illustrated books, written by the U. S. Army Teams, with detailed instructions on the basic and advanced skills of highpower service rifle shooting and service pistol and bullseye pistol target shooting. \$6.95 each. Order through the CMP E-Store.

A webpage for new shooters is also available for view on the CMP website at <http://thecmp.org/training-tech/coaching-resources/>.





## Rifle Small Arms Firing Schools

One of the oldest and largest CMP programs for teaching effective marksmanship skills to new shooters are the Rifle Small Arms Firing Schools (SAFS) that take place during the National Matches at Camp Perry, Ohio. Small Arms Firing Schools began in 1918. Besides being conducted at the National Matches, SAFS events have been added to the Eastern and Western CMP Games and the Oklahoma CMP Games. More than 1,000 new shooters attend these schools each year to learn basic marksmanship under the direction of some of the country's finest shooting instructors and coaches. The schools start with a half-day classroom session taught by the U. S. Army Rifle Team and/or CMP Master Rifle Instructors, followed by sessions on the range, firing M16/AR15 rifles under the tutelage of Army Reserve and National Guard, Marine Corps, Navy, Air Force and Coast Guard marksmanship team members, as well as CMP Master Rifle Instructors. Attending a Small Arms Firing School is one of the best ways for new shooters to learn real marksmanship skills and to get a good start in competition shooting.

To learn more about the annual Small Arms Firing Schools, check the program that is posted at <http://thecmp.org/competitions/cmp-national-matches/small-arms-firing-schools/>.



New shooters at the annual Rifle Small Arms Firing Schools at Camp Perry, Ohio, receive instruction and then fire on the famous Camp Perry ranges while being instructed by the country's top coaches and military marksmen.

## Rimfire Sporter Matches and Clinics

The CMP developed Rimfire Sporter specifically to appeal to the large population of potential new shooters who own smallbore sporter, hunting or plinking rifles and who are interested in an accessible, yet challenging shooting game that can be fired with commonly owned rimfire rifles. Most of these people have not been involved in



Rimfire Sporter matches offer parent-child pairs a perfect venue for working together to introduce junior shooters to the target sports.

traditional target shooting. All that is required for Rimfire Sporter shooting is to have a smallbore sporter-type rifle weighing 7.5 pounds or less. Except for a sling, no other special gear is required or permitted. There are divisions for telescope sights, open sights and tactical rifles. Firing is done at 50 and 25 yards in prone, sitting/kneeling and standing positions. There's both a slow-fire series and a rapid-fire series.

The CMP hosts a National Rimfire Sporter match at Camp Perry. The CMP Rimfire Sporter event is preceded by a clinic that is especially designed to give first timers the basic knowledge of range procedures, competition rules and shooting techniques that they need to successfully complete the Rimfire Sporter course of fire. Matches are also conducted at the Eastern and Western CMP Games.

A number of CMP-affiliated clubs around the country also sponsor Rimfire Sporter Matches for shooters in their areas. Find more information on the Rimfire Sporter match at <http://thecmp.org/competitions/club-sanctioned-events/rimfire-sporter/>.

## CMP Games Events and Clinics

Another great way to get started in the challenging sport of target shooting is to shoot in the National CMP Games Events or in sanctioned club matches. CMP Games Events are great events for new shooters because the course of fire can be completed without extensive prior experience. The as-issued M1 Garand, M1903 Springfield or other manually-operated military rifles used in these matches are available just about anywhere and coaching is allowed during the match. Indeed, most of these matches are squadded so that there is an experienced shooter on every firing point who is there not only to compete, but also to help the other shooters on his/her firing point. Many Garand, Springfield

and Military Rifle Matches also start out with clinics. Three different two-hour clinics are offered during the National Matches at Camp Perry for shooters who compete in the CMP Games Events that take place there. Many CMP-affiliated clubs also sponsor local CMP Games Events that are sanctioned by the CMP.

The Vintage Sniper Rifle Team Match is conducted as a dual match, where two riflemen work as a team to reproduce long-range military sniper operations. With growing numbers, the match has quickly become a favorite in the CMP Games community.

Check out <http://thecmp.org/competitions/club-sanctioned-events/matches/> for more information on these events.

## Eastern, Western and State CMP Games Matches and Clinics

The CMP recognizes that not everyone can get to Camp Perry, Ohio, where its headquarters is located. For this reason, the CMP inaugurated the Western CMP Games in 2005 to offer Garand, Springfield and Military Rifle Matches to shooters in the Western USA, while the Eastern Games (which began in 2006) accommodates shooters to the East. Western Games has been held at Camp Pendleton, California, in the past and most recently Phoenix, Arizona. Eastern Games are held at Camp Butner, North Carolina. Giving shooters even more competitive opportunities are the State CMP Games – conducted at the Oklahoma City Gun Club in Oklahoma City, Oklahoma, and Camp Ethan Allen in Jericho, Vermont. All of these matches feature clinics for new shooters and a match organization that strives to be “new-shooter-friendly.” Visit <http://thecmp.org/competitions/> for more information on the Eastern, Western and State CMP Games.



All competitors in the Garand, Springfield and Vintage Military Rifle Matches must shoot with commonly-available “as-issued” service rifles.

## CMP Sanctioned Clinics

Many CMP-affiliated clubs also conduct special clinics for new shooters. These clinics are taught on local ranges by club instructors; many offer excellent opportunities to learn gun safety and basic target shooting skills. To find out if any clubs in your area offer sanctioned clinics, check the Upcoming Events listings at <http://ct.thecmp.org>.



Those wanting to learn more about pistol shooting and competition can sign up for the CMP Pistol Small Arms Firing School, held annually at the National Trophy Pistol Matches at Camp Perry, Ohio.

## CMP Pistol Opportunities

The CMP offers growing opportunities for pistol shooters to compete in local, regional and national competitions. A Pistol Small Arms Firing School is held each year at the National Trophy Pistol Matches at Camp Perry, where students may attend in-class training as well as hands-on time on the range. Shooters with little or no previous pistol experience handle M9 Pistols, while being coached by members of the Army Service Pistol Team. A M9 EIC Pistol Match is also conducted during the school.

More information on pistol opportunities can be found at <http://thecmp.org/competitions/cmp-pistol-program/>.

Contact us for more on these and other CMP Programs at [info@thecmp.org](mailto:info@thecmp.org)