

ON THE MARK

THE NEWSLETTER FOR COACHES AND JUNIOR SHOOTERS © SPRING 2018



LEARNING FROM THE BEST

New University Team Attends Small Arms Firing School at CMP's Eastern Games



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ON THE MARK

<http://thecmp.org/communications/on-the-mark/>

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ON THE MARK is published quarterly by the Civilian Marksmanship Program. It is dedicated to disseminating news and information about junior shooting activities to leaders and coaches of junior shooting clubs, teams and camps. Its primary purpose is to help youth shooting leaders teach firearms safety and marksmanship more effectively.

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ON THE MARK Wants Your Input: We want your correspondence and opinions. **ON THE MARK** will dedicate space to publish letters from readers. Though we may not be able to publish them all, we will make every effort to provide comments that will be beneficial to the broadest audience. If there is a story you feel we should cover, notify us. Send your comments or questions to: Letters to the Editor, CMP Headquarters, P.O. Box 576, Port Clinton, OH 43452 or email your letters or comments to abrugnone@TheCMP.org.

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The **Civilian Marksmanship Program** is a non-profit organization chartered by the U. S. Congress to promote marksmanship training and firearm safety, with a primary emphasis on youth. The CMP is authorized to receive and sell surplus government rifles and ammunition that are suitable for marksmanship. Proceeds from these sales are dedicated to CMP programs. CMP enabling legislation requires that its highest priority must be given to "activities that benefit firearms safety, training and competition for youth." **ON THE MARK** is a vital part of CMP efforts to fulfill its mission to serve and develop junior shooting in the United States.

Information about the CMP may be viewed on the CMP web site, www.thecmp.org or on the CMP online newsletter, **The First Shot**, at <http://thecmp.org/communications/the-first-shot/>.

◎ Sighting Shots ◎

◎ **The Talladega High Power CMP Regional Cup Matches, June 21-24.** The Civilian Marksmanship Program Talladega Marksmanship Park invites you to participate in its Talladega Highpower CMP Cup Matches. These matches are open to the public; new or experienced shooters are welcome. This CMP Regional Cup Matches include three 1000 point aggregates, a 2-person team match and an EIC Rifle Match. For more information, visit the CMP website. Register today!

◎ **CMP National Matches at Camp Perry, July 13 - August 8.** The CMP National Matches include the CMP National Trophy Rifle and Pistol Matches, the Pistol and Rifle Small Arms Firing Schools, CMP Games rifle events, Smallbore Rifle and Long Range Rifle Matches and several clinics and classes. For more information or to register, please visit the CMP National Match website.



◎ **TALLADEGA 600, December 4-9.** The Travel Games, which have been a regular part of the CMP schedule for the last decade, are regional competitions created to give competitors the chance to participate in beloved CMP events found at the National Matches, but on a much smaller scale. For more information or to register, please visit the CMP website.



◎ **Monthly Matches, Sept 15th, Oct 13th, Nov 17th.** The Civilian Marksmanship Program invites you and your team to participate in the CMP's Monthly Matches. The competitions will feature a Junior Air Rifle 3x20 and 3x10, a 60 Shots Air Rifle and Air Pistol match. Rental equipment is available for the monthly matches for a small fee. Register at <http://thecmp.org/air/cmp-competition-centers/monthly-air-rifle-and-air-pistol-matches/>.



◎ **GOWIRELESS! Wi-Fi CMP Targets** now available on your home range or on your land. We've taken the work out of long range target shooting while increasing safety. Spend your time focusing on the target instead of walking to the target! Receive effortless feedback as shots appear in real time at your firing point on your Microsoft Windows™-based PC or laptop. For more information visit the CMP Website or contact Bryan Parris at 256-835-8455, Ext. 421 or email bparris@TheCMP.org.

On the Cover: SSG Amanda Eisenboss (right) of the Army Marksmanship Unit and the rest of her AMU teammates were on hand as special guest instructors during the Small Arms Firing School at Eastern Games. Liberty University, a new club collegiate team, attended the course to learn more about marksmanship for their growing program.

CMP Receives Overwhelming Response to Small Arms Firing School Query

The Civilian Marksmanship Program recently announced it was seeking interest from clubs and ranges across the U.S. about hosting a remote version of its Small Arms Firing School (SAFS). The CMP immediately received more than 100 inquiries from across the country about hosting the educational course which combines classroom and firing line training with the option of firing an Excellence-In-Competition match at the conclusion. The following article explains the new venture in greater detail – CMP may already have enough candidates!

The SAFS course is held annually at the National Matches at Camp Perry, Ohio, the CMP Travel Games at Oklahoma City Gun Club, Camp Butner - N.C., CMP Talladega - Ala., New England Games at Camp Ethan Allen - Vt., and the Ben Avery Shooting Facility in Phoenix, Ariz..

Currently the CMP welcomes 400 to 800 attendees each year at the national SAFS at Camp Perry as part of the National Matches and 40 and 100 participants per Travel Games event. The CMP provides rifles and ammunition for all SAFS programs, home and away.

As a part of our firearms safety and marksmanship mission, with an emphasis on youth, the CMP is looking for a few more qualified sites around the U.S. to host the event. The SAFS EIC rifle match is the only match which allows a beginning competitor to earn four leg points toward a Distinguished Rifleman Badge. Firing the match is not a requirement of the class.

The CMP will provide instructional and administrative staffing to conduct the classroom activities, rifle match staging, squadding, firing, awards and record-keeping.

SAFS Remote Location Training Course and Match Criteria

Classroom

- Appropriate seating accommodations for the size of the group your club/range expects to accommodate – minimum 20, maximum 50 participants
- Overhead lighting and electrical outlet(s) to supply laptop PC and projector
- Projection screen and 6' or 8' demonstration table
- Attendee accessibility, parking, restroom(s) in the vicinity
- Participants age 16 and over



Trained CMP instructors work one-on-one with participants on and off the firing line.

Rifle Range

- CMP Affiliated Club preferred, but not mandatory
- Minimum 10 firing points
- Volunteers to assist with range safety, labor, firing line and target line maintenance
- Porta-johns or restrooms, running water in the vicinity, preferred
- Responsible range owner-operator/approved range superintendent, insurance coverage
- Secured, established range fan, safety danger zone identified
- 200-yard highpower range with safety berms, range flags, easily-accessible roads, trails, etc.
- Well-maintained pit-served targets or easily-accessible walk-up targets to accommodate standard NRA SR 200-yard targets and cardboard
- Raised firing line, grass-covered, concrete or other suitable surface for three-position shooting
- Range communication system preferred – loudspeakers, chief range officer tower, (or pickup truck bed). Range to pits communication if pit-equipped (can be provided by CMP if necessary).
- Medical facility, 911-ready, first-aid, medic in close proximity
- Housing, hotel/motel/restaurant accommodations in the area for CMP staff and event attendees from out of town, etc.

To be considered by the CMP to schedule a future SAFS and rifle match, respond via email to CMP special projects coordinator, Amy Cantu, at acantu@thecmp.org, or by phone at 419-635-2141, ext. 602.

Developing Liberty University Rifle Team Attends CMP's Small Arms Firing School

By Ashley Brugnone, CMP Writer

CAMP BUTNER, N.C. – On a beautiful, sunny morning in North Carolina, over 40 bright-eyed students of all ages set foot on the grounds of Camp Butner Training Facility to take part in a century-old tradition that has trained thousands of new marksmen around the country – the Small Arms Firing School (SAFS). The class was held during the Civilian Marksmanship Program's (CMP) Eastern Travel Games at the end of April.

Among the crowd were the eager student-athletes of Liberty University – a private institution located in Lynchburg, Va. The school is in the beginning stages of building a shooting sports tradition for its students, introducing this year a brand new program with 65 members of four different disciplines of club teams: rifle, pistol, shotgun and three-gun.

Competitor experience levels of the current Liberty University Flames and Lady Flames rifle team are all over the board, with some accomplished riflemen, while others were competing in their first M16 rifle competition during the SAFS course.

The course is a combination of classroom education and hands-on fundamental, competition and safety instruction on the firing line. At the conclusion, students fire a true M16 rifle match, with the chance to receive Excellence-in-Competition (EIC) points towards earning a Distinguished Rifleman Badge – a prestigious achievement. All equipment is provided by the CMP, with participants only needing a willingness to learn in order to attend.

This year, the CMP was fortunate enough to have the talented members of the U.S. Army Marksmanship Unit (AMU) train students on the line.

Displaying the type of talent being cultivated at Liberty, Susie Krupp, a sophomore athlete on the Lady Flames team, was the High Non-Distinguished competitor of the event overall, earning her introductory EIC points.

Executive director and head coach of the Liberty



Liberty University's new rifle team attended the CMP's Small Arms Firing School in April.

University shooting sports program, Dave Hartman, was impressed by the SAFS event and grateful for the education his new team was able to receive. The university is already looking forward to next year's Eastern Games and hoping to return with other area scholastic teams to encourage even more young athletes to learn marksmanship fundamentals and safety.

"What's beautiful about this event is that our competitors can come to this event without any prior knowledge, they don't need to have a rifle," he said. "They go through the classroom portion, and they learn a vast amount of information. And having the AMU here was fantastic."

He went on, "They get to come out and learn the process, and I think through the process, they get to become life-long competitors."

As members of the Association of College Unions International (ACUI), the Liberty program began with the shotgun team, which competed the most in its inaugural season and showed promising success.

In just their first year, the shotgun members traveled to Regionals in Maryland and Nationals in San Antonio, where they finished third-high overall

for their classification. They also finished second-high overall for the American-style events for their classification.

Hartman is delighted in the accomplishments of his green team, saying, "For just getting started, it's pretty phenomenal."

Hartman, who helped start a youth shooting team in Spokane, Wash., and coached its members (including his son, Tommy) to a National Title in 2015, is familiar with the shotgun and long-range disciplines. But when it came to rifle, Hartman admitted he needed a little help.

That's when he invited in assistant coach Richard Mast, who has long had a professional relationship with Liberty University and has always been attracted to the marksmanship world.

"Shooting has been something that I have always enjoyed and have enjoyed passing on to kids," said Mast. "I always wanted to do it as a kid and didn't have opportunities until I got older, so I'm helping to give back by helping kids, young adults with something that's a good sport. And, it's good competition and good clean fun."

Mast suggested to Hartman that it would be good for the rifle team to be able to shoot both smallbore and highpower, since the two classifications work well together. After having traveled to Eastern Games for the first time last year to take the SAFS course himself, and even going on to win the M16 match, Mast liked the close location of the event and suggested the team take the course as well. Hartman agreed.

"I'm very thankful to the CMP to be able to do this. It helps our team long-term, absolutely," Hartman said.

Mast went on to say the training was not only beneficial to the members of the rifle team, but to the leaders as well, with some of the best marksmen in the country passing on their experience.

"Having the Army Marksmanship Unit here was just fantastic.



The Liberty University flag flew high behind the line – letting everyone know they were there and ready to work. The school recently built a full firearm range near campus that will be open to both students and the public.

I personally learned, taking notes, and the kids were taking notes," he said. "You have the best of the best here facilitating and coaching on the line, and they can immediately put into practice what they learn in a classroom environment. So this is definitely something that the students will say, that this was fantastic."

Hartman added, "I was also very, very impressed by the level of professionalism and also how well organized this event has been by the CMP. I can't say enough good things about coming here and what a good event it is."

STORY CONTINUED ON PAGE 14



Susie Krupp, a sophomore, was the overall High Non-Distinguished competitor of the M16 match.

Developing Great Shot Technique

Developing Great Shot Technique, Part II

By Gary Anderson, DCM Emeritus



The newest Olympic Rifle event is 10m Air Rifle Mixed Teams. In this photo, two-person male and female athlete teams from Korea, Italy, Russia, India and China are starting the Mixed Team Final in the 2018 Changwon, Korea World Cup. ISSF Mixed Team Rules require the athlete on the left to always fire first followed by the athlete on the right. Time limits for 5-shot series (300 sec.) and single shots (60 sec.) are short so shot technique is more important than ever. The athlete who is waiting to fire must complete his/her Position Preparation while the other athlete is firing.

This article is Part II of a two-part **OTM** series that examines the five phases of shot technique. Part I, which appeared in the Winter 2018 edition, began with a diagram, “Five Phases of Rifle Shot Technique.” This diagram shows how shot technique functions fit together in a dynamic sequence of five phases that are performed while firing shots (for quick reference, the diagram is reprinted in this article).

The diagram shows how the five phases of shot technique flow from one to the other and identifies the basic functions that must be performed in each phase. If everything is done correctly, the result will be an accurate shot.

Part I of this series on “Developing Great Shot Technique” examined the first two phases of shot technique, **Firing**

Position Preparation and **Position Alignment**. Part II examines the remaining three phases, **Shot Start**, **Shot Execution** and **Shot Follow-Up**.

III - SHOT START

The third phase of shot technique, **Shot Start**, occurs as a brief moment when **Position Preparation** and **Alignment** are finished and the sights are aligning on the target to start the shot. This moment only lasts for about a second, but doing **Shot Start** correctly greatly increases the possibilities for firing good shots. In this brief moment, shot technique changes to two functions involved in the actual firing of the shot, breath control and the initial phase of trigger control. Both functions continue through the release of the shot and follow-through.

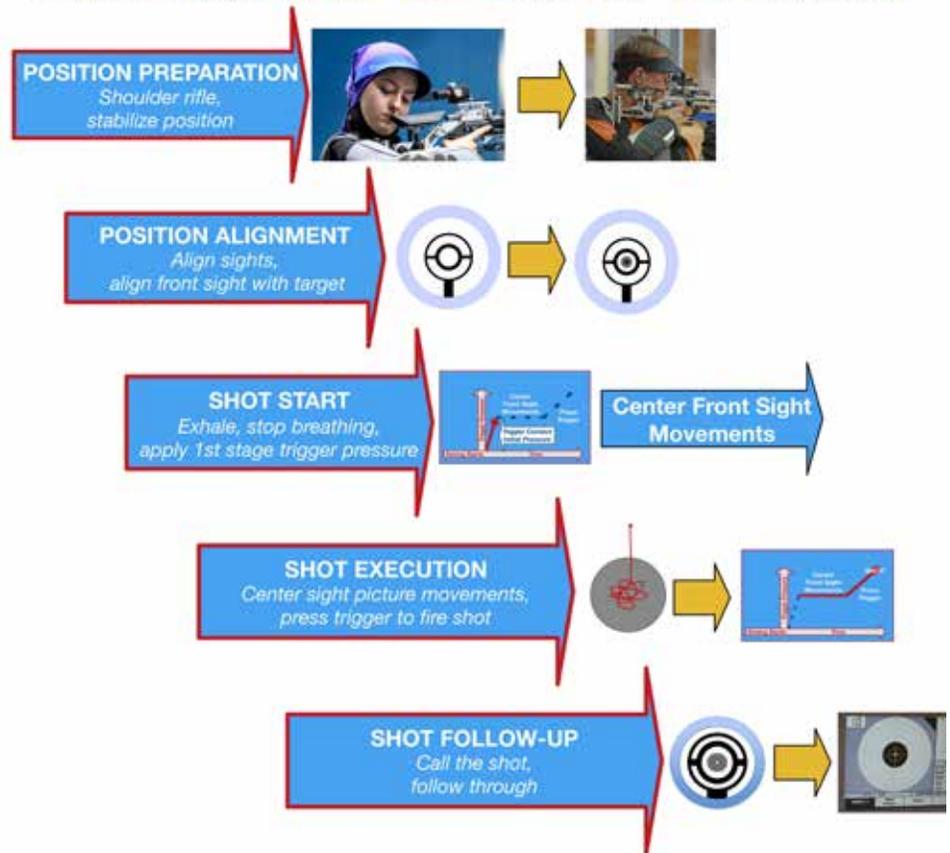
Exhale and Stop Breathing.

Proper breath control is an indispensable part of shot technique. An athlete must stop breathing while centering sight picture movements and attempting to fire the shot so that chest and diaphragm movements during inhaling and exhaling do not move the rifle. In proper breath control, the athlete inhales and exhales normally while shouldering the rifle, preparing the position and aligning the sights on the target. When the aligned sights settle on the target and the athlete is ready to start the actual firing of the shot, he/she inhales and exhales one more time and then stops breathing until after the shot is fired.

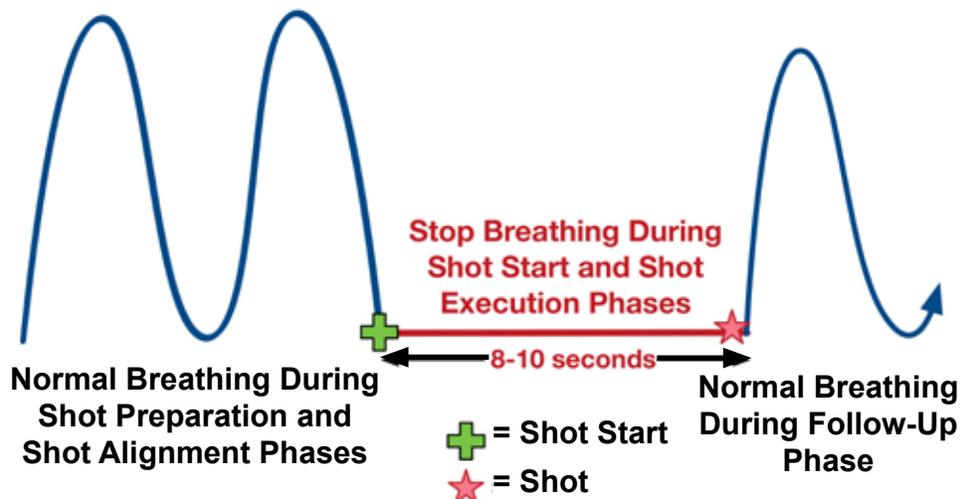
There have been many discussions about when the best point to stop breathing is. Some coaches advocate stopping on partially filled lungs as a means of adjusting the NPA or ensuring an adequate oxygen supply. The consensus best advice, nevertheless, is to stop breathing at the end of the exhale cycle when there is a natural respiratory pause and the lungs and diaphragm are most relaxed. Be assured, there is enough residual oxygen in the lungs to sustain all essential body functions for the 8-12 seconds needed to fire the shot.

Target Number Check. In 10-meter rifle shooting, the angles between the targets are great enough that cross-firing, that is shooting on the wrong target, is nearly impossible. However, a crossfire is a rare possibility at 50 feet and a definite possibility at 50 yards or 50 meters. For shooting at those longer distances, an essential aspect of shot technique is making sure every shot is fired on the correct target. Cross-fires are scored as misses so they must be prevented. That is not difficult, but a specific technique is required. During the last breath cycle before the **Shot Start**, the movement of the sights to the target must enable a visual check of the target number. This must be done before every shot (See the "most famous shot" for what can happen when a check is not made.).

FIVE PHASES OF RIFLE SHOT TECHNIQUE



BREATH CONTROL DIAGRAM



Developing Great Shot Technique

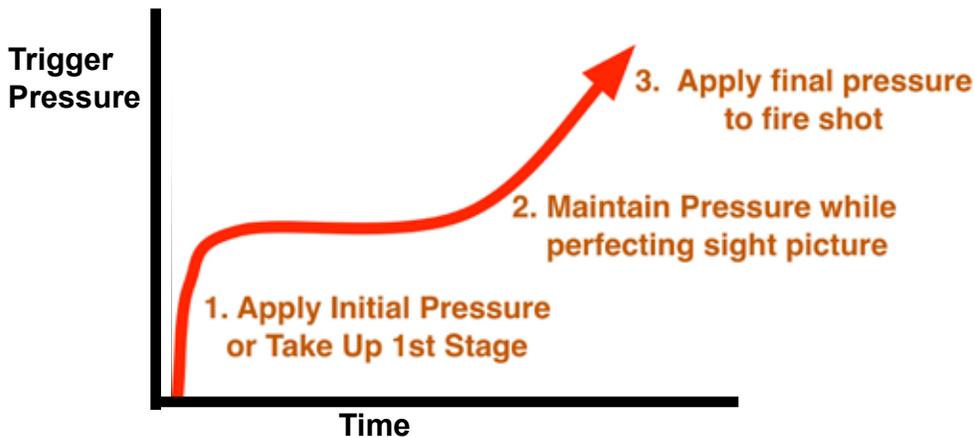
THE MOST FAMOUS SHOT IN SHOOTING HISTORY?

During the 2004 Olympic Games 50m rifle final, USA shooter Matt Emmons had a 5-point lead with one shot to go. He needed only a 6.0 or better to win his second gold medal of the Games, at least \$50,000 in prize money and a place in shooting history as only the second shooter in Olympic history to win two gold medals in one Olympics. When Emmons fired his last shot, his target did not register a shot. In the pandemonium that ensued, it was discovered the Emmons had done the unthinkable; he cross-fired his last shot.

EVERY SHOOTER MUST CHECK HIS/HER TARGET NUMBER BEFORE EVERY SHOT!

Triggers and Trigger Control. To understand the second part of the **Shot Start**, applying initial pressure on the trigger, it is necessary to understand triggers and basic trigger control. There are two types of triggers, two-stage and single stage or direct triggers. When the first stage on a two-stage trigger is pressed, the trigger moves several millimeters until it comes to a stop or second stage. Additional pressure is then applied to the second stage, which releases with little or no perceptible movement. Precision air rifle and smallbore two-stage triggers can be adjusted to provide for optimal first stage pressure and movement distance.

BASIC TRIGGER CONTROL



FINGER POSITION ON TRIGGER



A single-stage trigger is designed to require little or no perceptible movement from the first application of pressure until the trigger releases the shot. There have been many debates concerning which trigger is best and what the ideal trigger pull weight is. Approximately 70 to 75 percent the world's best rifle precision air and smallbore rifle athletes prefer two-stage triggers while 25 to 30 percent use direct triggers. Trigger pull weights used by these athletes vary from 30 grams (1 ounce) to a maximum of 80 to 120 grams (3 to 4 ounces). Less experienced athletes are definitely encouraged to use heavier 80 to 120 gram trigger pull weights.

Triggers on Sporter Class air rifles must have a minimum one and one-half pound trigger pull. The popular Sporter Class air rifle, the Crosman Challenger, has a two-stage trigger so trigger control technique with it and similar Sporter Class air rifles must also start with taking up the first stage and applying initial pressure on the trigger.

Basic trigger control technique involves three steps (see diagram). The first step, which must be done at the beginning of the shot sequence, is to apply initial pressure on the trigger or take up the first stage on a two-stage trigger. The second step is to maintain that pressure on the trigger while centering and perfecting the sight picture. The third step is to apply additional pressure on the trigger to fire the shot while the sight picture is centered.

continued...

Hand and Finger Placement. Performing good trigger control also requires paying attention to hand placement on the pistol grip and finger placement on the trigger. Start by fixing the finger location on the trigger. The index finger should contact the trigger just ahead of the first joint. The finger contact point and movement must be worked out so that the contact point presses directly to the rear, never to the side, when the finger is flexed. The right hand must approach the pistol grip so that it enables index finger movement directly to the rear. The wrist must be straight as the hand grasps the pistol grip and the index finger must not press against the pistol grip.

Applying Initial Pressure on Trigger. After checking the placement of the index finger on the trigger and the hand position on the pistol grip, the athlete can turn his/her attention to the second **Shot Start** function, applying initial pressure on the trigger. During the last breath cycle before the **Shot Start**, the index finger must move from outside the trigger guard to the trigger and apply initial pressure on the trigger. For newer shooters, the amount of initial pressure on the trigger should be about half of the total pressure required to fire the shot. A lot of practice is required to develop a precise feel for how much initial pressure to apply, but a highly trained rifle athlete should be able to apply as much as two-thirds of the necessary trigger release pressure.

The two functions that must be done in the **Shot Start** phase are both critical to firing accurate shots. You cannot hold the rifle steady if you do not stop breathing. By applying initial pressure on the trigger you engage the muscles that flex the trigger finger so they are ready to apply final trigger pressure when the sight picture is perfected. Applying initial pressure also significantly reduces the amount of pressure that must be applied to fire the shot when the sight picture is correct. Beginners must consciously remind themselves that when they begin to aim at the target, they must exhale, stop breathing and take up the trigger's first stage. Advanced shooters will automate these functions so conscious thought is not necessary to do these two functions.

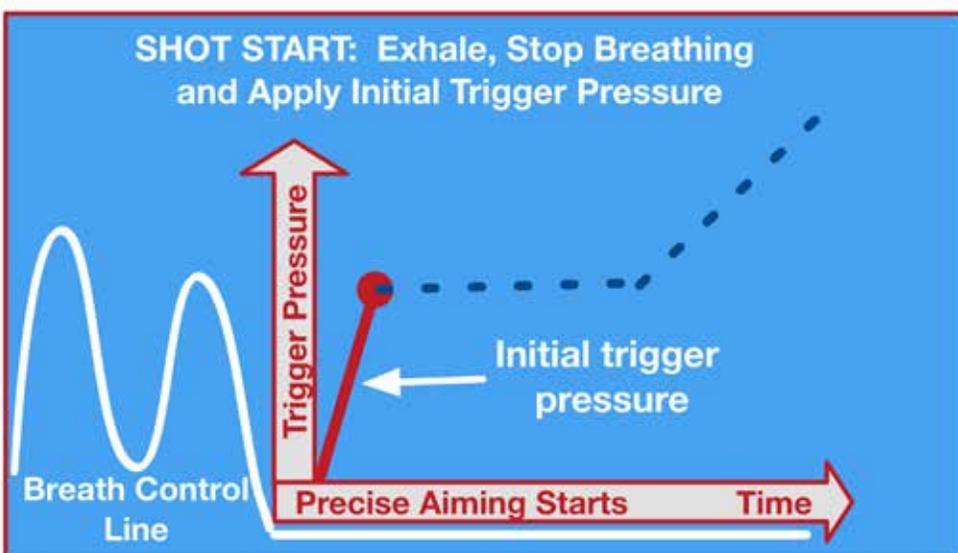
SHOT EXECUTION

The fourth phase of shot technique, **Shot Execution**, is when the shot is actually fired. This phase involves 1) continuing to hold the breath, 2) conscious focus on the sight picture (visual focus) to center sight picture movements and



This photo illustrates an ideal hand and wrist position to facilitate good trigger control. The wrist must be straight, not bent.

3) when sight picture movements are centered, smoothly pressing the trigger to fire the shot.

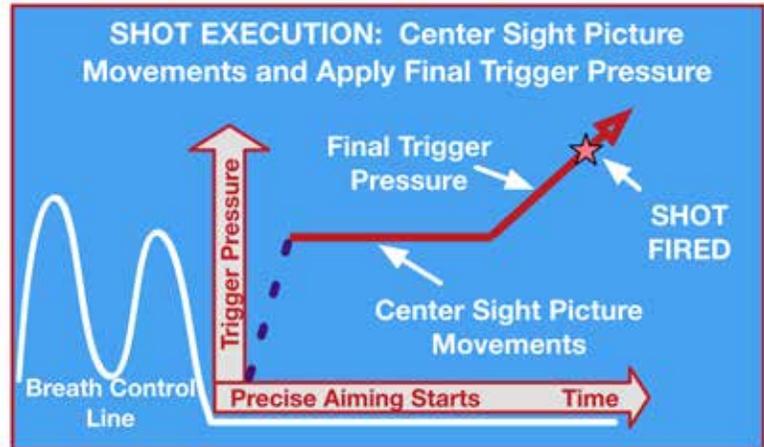


Developing Great Shot Technique

Holding the Breath. Holding the breath is a passive function that begins when the **Shot Start** occurs and continues until after the shot is fired. The period when the breath is held to fire the shot normally lasts about 8-10 seconds (see Breath Control Diagram). A well-trained athlete can take holds lasting 10-12 seconds without compromising shot quality.

Center Front Sight Movements. In the second phase of **Shot Execution**, sight picture or hold movements are centered and minimized while maintaining pressure on the trigger. New shooters naturally will see a lot of sight picture movement. They should not be alarmed if their sight picture movements are large; this is normal. Regardless of the magnitude of the sight picture movements, the key is to concentrate on centering them over the target. Another way to put this is, “learn to rely on your hold, not on trying to grab tens when they go flying by.”

The “laser trace” diagram illustrates typical standing position hold movement areas for a new shooter, an intermediate shooter and an advanced athlete. In each



case, if the trigger is pressed smoothly while sight picture movements are centered, all shots should fall within that area if the sights are zeroed. The new shooter (top diagram) who fires every shot within that arc of movement will score shots that are well within the scoring rings on the BMC target. An intermediate athlete who has several months of practice (middle diagram) will be able to produce standing holds on the more difficult competition target that will keep all shots in the five or six rings, with a fair share of eights, nines and tens. The third example (lower diagram) shows a typical standing hold for an advanced athlete. In that case, smooth trigger releases should keep all shots within the nine ring, with more than half of the shots scoring tens.

Concentration and Visual Control. For new shooters, it is enough just to concentrate on sight picture movements and keeping them centered on the target. Advanced shooters will find that intense concentration or visual control on centering front sight movements actually stimulates the brain and nervous system to find ways to further control or deactivate muscles that impact stability to make the hold steadier. Intense visual focus on keeping the front sight centered will lead to better holds.

Where concentration is focused depends upon the position. In prone, where hold movements are minimal, the greatest attention should be focused on precisely centering the sight picture. In standing, where hold movements are greater, the athlete's attention should focus on calming and relaxing the body to minimize hold movements. In kneeling, if the position is well-developed with a good hold, the focus can also be on precisely centering the sight picture. Newer rifle athletes whose kneeling holds are not as stable must start by focusing on controlling their bodies to achieve steadier holds.

Final Trigger Pressure. In this phase of **Shot Execution**, final trigger pressure is applied when sight picture movements are centered. A steady hold with

Laser Trace Examples of Standing Position Holds



Laser trace of a typical standing hold of a new shooter on the BMC target



Laser trace of a typical standing hold of a shooter on the competition target after several months of practice



Laser trace of a typical standing hold of an advanced athlete on the competition target

continued...

a centered sight picture will stimulate the trigger finger to apply more pressure on the trigger. Adding pressure to the trigger to fire the shot may be a semi-conscious function or, for many rifle athletes, concentration shifts from sight picture to consciously adding pressure to the trigger. Then, as long as the sight picture movements remain centered, increasing pressure is applied until the shot fires.

Trigger control methods vary according to the athlete's experience, hold stability and the position. There are three basic methods of applying final pressure (see the diagram).

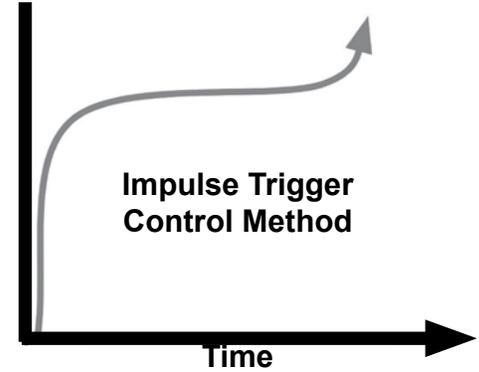
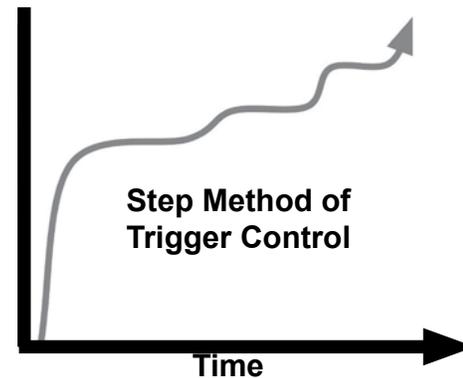
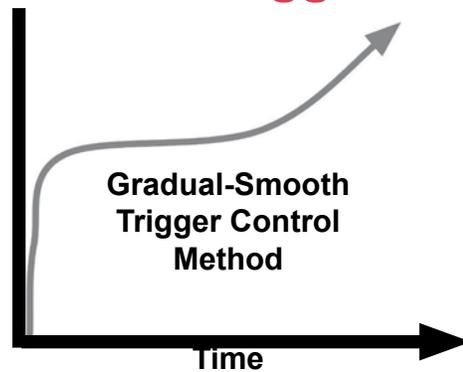
Gradual-Smooth Method. When sight picture movements are centered and perfected, increasing, smooth pressure is applied until the shot breaks. This method is best for new shooters, and for steadier positions like prone and perhaps kneeling.

Step Method. In this method, small steps of increased pressure are applied during times when the sight picture is optimal. Variations of this method are used by many experienced athletes in standing.

Impulse Method. This is also a method for experienced, highly trained athletes. This method starts by applying as much initial pressure as the athlete can reliably sense. Then when the sight picture is optimal, a quick "impulse" of trigger pressure fires the shot. This method can be used with precision rifles where trigger pull weights are relatively light, but it should not be used with sporter air rifles that have heavier trigger pull weights.

Athletes must work out the methods of trigger control that they use. In a steady position like prone, the gradual-smooth method is almost always best. In kneeling and standing, new rifle athletes should also use the gradual-smooth method as they learn to center sight pictures and rely on their holds. More advanced rifle athletes will develop the skills needed to take advantage of the step or impulse methods where shots are fired at precise moments when sight pictures are at their very best.

Trigger Control Methods



Gradual-Smooth Method:
Apply gradually increasing final pressure after sight picture is centered.

Step Method:
Apply trigger pressure in steps when sight picture is centered.

Impulse Method:
Increase initial trigger pressure and quickly apply final pressure when sight picture is perfected.

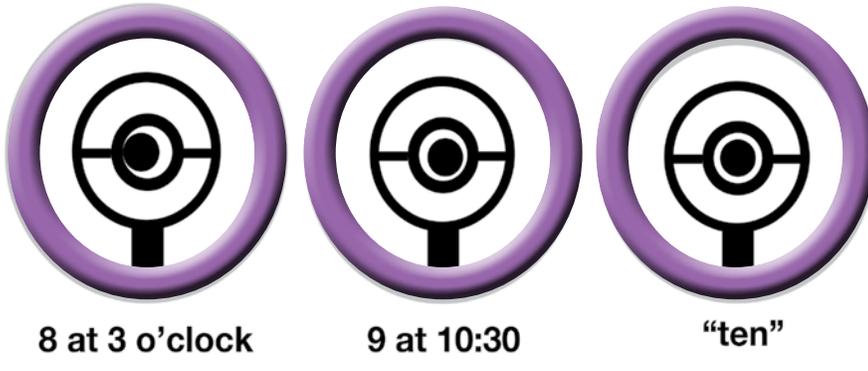
SHOT FOLLOW-UP

The fifth phase of shot technique, **Shot Follow-Up**, occurs during and after the shot. **Shot Follow-Up** comprises calling the shot, recoil control and follow-through. Correct follow-up is necessary to ensure that the precise alignment of the firing position and rifle is not disturbed during the time between when the trigger is released and when the bullet or pellet exits the muzzle. By moving the head away from the stock too quickly or changing the way the rifle recoils it is possible to divert the shot from its point of aim.

Calling the Shot. A rifle athlete "calls" shots by forming mental snapshots or images of sight pictures at the precise moments when the shots fire and recoil starts. To call a shot, he/she must describe where the front sight was when the hammer fell. A new shooter should be able to say whether the front sight ring was high, low, left, right or centered. An advanced athlete will be able to "call" where in a particular scoring ring a shot should be by using a clock system. For example, a shot that was slightly to the left might be called a "9 at 9 o'clock."

Developing Great Shot Technique

SHOT CALL EXAMPLES



ADVANCED SHOT TECHNIQUES TO PRACTICE AND MASTER

- Visually check butt-plate location in the shoulder before every shot.
- Use breathing to stimulate support arm relaxation before every shot.
- Do a conscious balance check before starting to aim for each shot.
- Change rear sight aperture and front sight ring sizes to more optimum sizes.
- Outdoor Shooting: Check the target number before bringing the front sight onto the aiming point, before every shot.
- Apply intense visual focus (concentration) to minimize front sight movements.
- Check and align the NPA precisely on the target before each shot.
- Apply interrupted pressure on the 3rd trigger stage.
- Call shots precisely; make sight adjustments based on shot calls.
- Follow through after each shot.

Developing the ability to accurately call shots fulfills several purposes. First, continuing to focus attention on the sight picture until recoil starts ensures that errors like starting to move the head from the stock before the shot is finished do not occur. A second reason for calling shots is to confirm that the rifle is zeroed. If shots are not going where they are called, the rifle is probably not zeroed and sight adjustments are needed. Calling shots is also a way to evaluate shot performance. If shots are going on call, this usually means the athlete is performing shot technique correctly. Conversely, shots going off call is often a sign that some aspect of shot technique is being done wrong.

It will take lots of practice before young athletes can call their shots accurately, but when they develop the ability to do this, shot calls become a great tool for making sure they are performing shot technique well and keeping their rifles zeroed.

Recoil Control. .22 rimfire rifles have some recoil movement (jump) after shots are fired. Even air rifles have a very slight recoil movement. Since this recoil movement begins when the bullet or pellet starts to move down the barrel, it is possible to influence where the bullet impacts by how the firing position allows the rifle to recoil. If sling tension on the fore-end, shoulder or cheek pressure changes, the rifle will recoil differently and the bullet's impact will change. Effective recoil control for a rifle athlete means being absolutely consistent in how the rifle is held. Shoulder and cheek pressure and sling tension must be the same for every shot.

Follow-Through. Follow-through is required in performing virtually all sports skills. In shooting, there is a time-lag between when the trigger is released and when the shot leaves the barrel. If the rifle is moved in any way while the shot is developing it can change the point of impact of the shot. With adequate follow-through, the shooter continues to aim and hold the rifle on the aiming point until the bullet or pellet is well out of the barrel and can no longer be diverted from where it was aimed when the trigger was released. Air rifles have a longer shot development time than .22 rimfire rifles so follow-through is especially important in air rifle shooting.

continued...

PRACTICING SHOT TECHNIQUE

Shot Technique for New Rifle Athletes. These two **OTM** articles on shot technique (Part I and Part II) examined the five sequential phases of shot technique from the viewpoints of both new and advanced shooters. Even new shooters must perform each of the five shot technique phases, but there are core functions within those phases. New shooters should not try to learn all of the complex details within each shot technique phase. When they begin their first dry fire practices and make their first trips to the range, they must instead focus on doing the following core functions that are the priority functions within each phase:

a) **SHOULDER.** Place the rifle in the shoulder and place the cheek on the stock to see through the rear sight aperture;

b) **AIM.** Align the sights and bring them onto the aiming point;

c) **START THE SHOT.** Exhale and stop breathing; apply initial pressure to the trigger (take up the first stage with 2-stage triggers);

d) **CENTER & PRESS.** Center the sight picture movements over the target and smoothly press the trigger to fire the shot; and

e) **CALL** the shot.

As the new shooter gains experience and becomes comfortable following this basic shot technique sequence, there are many additional details involved in advanced shot technique that will be learned and practiced.

Shot Technique for Advanced Rifle Athletes.

Becoming an advanced shooter with the skills to shoot scores high enough to earn Junior Distinguished Badge points and ultimately attain high rankings in competitions is a slow, gradual process. Advanced shot technique details must be mastered one at a time. Each new technique must be studied, worked out in home dry fire practice, tried on the range, tested in competition and finally evaluated. For example, an athlete who wants to start trying to use a breathing technique to relax the support arm in the prone position must give priority attention to developing the ability to perform that one technique before trying others. Only after perfecting that new technique and using it successfully in competition, can he/she move on to the next step in technique improvement. The chart lists advanced shot techniques that rifle athletes will want to try, but when they do, they must work on just one new technique at a time.

STEPS TO MASTER NEW SHOOTING TECHNIQUES

1. **Learn—study the technique.**
2. **Dry Fire Practice—learn to do the technique in dry fire practice.**
3. **Range Practice—rehearse the technique during live fire practice at the range.**
4. **Competition—test the technique in competition.**
5. **Evaluate—decide whether to continue the technique and whether fine-tuning is necessary.**

About the Author

Gary Anderson, Director of Civilian Marksmanship Emeritus, retired as the full-time CMP Director at the close of 2009. He continues to work with CMP as the senior marksmanship instructor. During his remarkable career, he won two Olympic gold medals, seven World Championships and 16 National Championships. He is a Vice President of the International Shooting Sports Federation, the President of USA Shooting, a former Nebraska State Senator and was one of the two Olympic Games Technical Delegates for Shooting during the 2012 Olympic Games in London.

In June, 2012, the International Olympic Committee awarded Gary Anderson the IOC's highest honor, the Olympic Order, "for outstanding services to the Olympic Movement."

In 2014, the CMP expanded their world-class air gun center at Camp Perry and renamed the facility the Gary Anderson CMP Competition Center, in honor of Anderson's contribution to the organization and the marksmanship community.





Assistant coach Richard Mast (in red), who won the event over the field of all competitors, was on the line to help his team.

STORY CONTINUED FROM PAGE 5

The coinciding M16 match was the first real competition for the rifle team, though Mast said several have shot some CMP air rifle postal matches that the team will continue in the future. The staff even purchased an Orion scoring system for the school so they can compete virtually and send in results to the CMP for quarterly postal matches.

For the future, Hartman said, “Who knows? Right now, the emphasis is strictly on club level, with a long-term



Head coach David Hartman (in red) is excited for the future of his team, saying, “We’re enjoying what we’re doing.”

goal of fielding league teams and getting competitors on the podiums at competitions.”

“We’re enjoying what we’re doing and we’re working very hard to excel at these type of matches,” he added.

Liberty University’s Marksmanship Program Journey:

The transformation of the idea of shooting sports at Liberty University into reality has much to do with the efforts of Dave Hartman, executive director and head coach of the Liberty University shooting sports program, and his ambition to help the school achieve its goal of marksmanship opportunities for students and the surrounding community.

According to Brad Butler, the Liberty University planning coordinator, students have long been asking for a place to hone their firearm skills. The school has already offered a free firearms safety training that over 3,000 students have taken advantage of, further showing the high interest.

The university’s president has also been highly committed to supporting the Second Amendment, allowing faculty, staff and students to carry guns on the private campus as long as they possess the proper permits.

“The university has been whole-heartedly supportive of this endeavor,” said Hartman.

Before embarking upon Liberty University, Hartman and his wife founded the Spokane Area Youth Shooting Team back near their home in Spokane, Wash. – a team talented enough that it went on to win the USA Youth Education in Shooting Sports National Title in 2015 with help from his son, Tommy, who was a member.

When it came time for Tommy to head off to college, he chose Liberty University, but soon realized there was no place on campus where he could practice his skeet shooting.

After hearing rumors that the school was interested in building a team and a range, Hartman contacted administrators, asking if they were going to get a team together in the near future and also



The team also had the opportunity to fire on CMP's electronic targets.

offering his expertise if the school needed any guidance.

"My thought process was, since I already had a team that had done well in Spokane, I would try to give any of my information or knowledge gained over the years to whoever was building a program at Liberty," he said.

As it turned out, the university was already looking into building a range and even had an extensive plan in the works. Hartman stayed in touch during the process and, eventually, they offered him the position as head coach of the program.

"My wife and I talked about it, we prayed about it, and I accepted," he said, with a smile.

His duties began last January 2017 when he attended SHOT Show, an annual tradeshow for the outdoor and firearms industries. From there, he has spent his time re-establishing old contacts within the shooting community to recruit students for the program – a daunting task considering he was doing so without a range to offer or even a real program in place.

"I was recruiting basically like a wing and a prayer, with a promise that we could put this together and that the kids could come and get a first-class education but also continue the sport that they love," Hartman said. "We're offering opportunities."

When it came time for a range to be built, the university

spared no expense. Initially, after the plan was submitted to the university president for \$1.5 million to get started on the large endeavor, he turned them down – astoundingly proposing \$3 million for the project instead.

Construction on the range, which was actually projected for a total cost of \$3.2 million, began last summer. Spreading across nearly 600 yards near Liberty's main campus, the new Liberty Mountain Gun Club covers all of the bases for marksmanship enthusiasts.

With 100-, 200-, and 300-yard rifle components, a pistol/three-gun range that measures 80-yards wide and 50-yards deep, as well as a shotgun range that has an International bunker trap with an International skeet field overlay, American trap with an American skeet field overlay, 5-stand, wobble trap set and the beginning stages of two sporting clays ranges – there's a little something for everyone.

The shotgun range opened to the university team at the end of October and to the students in Spring 2018. The rifle and pistol range is currently open to the student body, with a June soft-opening for the sporting clay range and a June soft-opening for the public to use all of the ranges.

Be sure to keep an eye on the Liberty University shooting teams as well as the progress of their range as they continue to develop into the future!

More Info Now Available on CMP's New National Matches Smallbore Events

By Ashley Brugnone, CMP Writer

A complete schedule for the Civilian Marksmanship Program's (CMP) fresh lineup of smallbore rifle events at the 2018 National Matches is now accessible through the CMP website. In addition to an event schedule, the 2018 CMP Smallbore Rifle Competition Rules is also available for viewing online.

Smallbore competitions have been slotted into the Camp Perry National Matches schedule July 16-22 and include:

- a 3x40 two-day event;
- a 3P Team Match;
- a two-day Prone event;
- an elimination Prone event;
- a Prone Team Match;
- and an AMU Clinic.

All smallbore matches will be fired on Rodriguez Range at Camp Perry under a covered firing line. A partnership with Shooters Technology will make scoring easier than ever, with the use of an app that allows instant scoring for quick and efficient results. Finals will be conducted on CMP Targets at Petrarca Range, also on the grounds of Camp Perry, which will utilize the accuracy of CMP's own electronic target system.

To learn more about CMP's Smallbore events, register for entry and to take a look at the 2018 Rulebook, visit <http://thecmp.org/competitions/cmp-national-matches/smallbore-matches/>.



Sign up now for the inaugural year of a new tradition of Smallbore at the National Matches!

About the National Matches:

The National Trophy Pistol and Rifle Matches have been a continued tradition of marksmanship excellence every summer since 1903. Moved to Camp Perry, Ohio, in 1907, the event has grown into a festival of marksmanship competition, vending and fellowship, with well over 6,000 annual visitors. Participants range from beginners to many of the world's best. Outside of the mix of prestigious and recreational-style matches and clinics, an array of retailers is onsite for the duration of the Matches to offer the latest in firearm merchandise and equipment.



CALENDAR OF EVENTS

The Calendar of Events is featured in every issue of *On The Mark*. If you would like your match or clinic listed, please contact the CMP at onthemark@thecmp.org. Please include the name of the event, date, whom the event is open to and contact information and website (if available). The CMP will do its best to accommodate each request to be included in the Calendar of Events.

July 2018

27 Jul
CMP-USAMU SAFS Rifle
CMP/USMC Jr. HP Rifle Clinic
CMP Adv. HP Clinic
 Camp Perry, OH

28 Jul
CMP/USMC Jr. HP Rifle Clinic
CMP Adv. HP Clinic
CMP-USAMU Rifle SAFS
M-16 EIC Match
Oliver Hazard Perry Match
 Camp Perry, OH

29 Jul
President's 100 Rifle
Match
 Camp Perry, OH

30 Jul
National Trophy Individual
Rifle Match
 Camp Perry, OH

31 Jul
National Junior Team Match
Hearst Doubles Match
 Camp Perry, OH

August 2018

1 Aug
National Trophy Team Match
National Carbine Match
 Camp Perry, OH

2 Aug
National Trophy Infantry Team
Match
Modern Military Match
CMP Shooter's Reception
CMP National Rifle Awards
Ceremony
 Camp Perry, OH

3 Aug
CMP Roosevelt Commemorative
Match
CMP Vintage Sniper Match
 Camp Perry, OH



4 Aug
John C. Garand Match
Springfield/Vintage Bolt Rifle
Match
 Camp Perry, OH

5 Aug
Springfield/Vintage Bolt Rifle
Match
Springfield M1A Match
CMP Shooter's Reception
CMP Games Closing Ceremony
 Camp Perry, OH

6-8 Aug
CMP Long Range
 Camp Perry, OH

September 2018

15 Sep
CMP Monthly Match
 Camp Perry, OH
 Anniston, AL

18-24 Sep
New England Games
RO Level II Seated Course
(HP & Pistol)
 Jericho, VT

22-23 Sep
Appleseed 25m
 Talladega, AL

22-23 Sep
GSSF/ Gunny Challenge
 Talladega, AL

22 Sep
1000 Pt Aggregate
 Talladega, AL

22 Sep
3 Gun
 Talladega, AL

28-30 Sep
GCA Convention
 Talladega, AL

30 Sep
Steel Challenge Practice
 Talladega, AL

Visit our Competition Tracker
 – ct.thecmp.org –
for ALL upcoming clinics and
competitions!

Taylor Gibson: The Future in Front of Her and the Support Behind Her

By Ashley Brugnone, CMP Writer



Taylor Gibson claimed the overall precision title at the 2018 JROTC National Championship in March and is hoping to repeat her performance at the 2018 CMP 3P Nationals in June.

All eyes will be on Taylor Gibson at the upcoming National Civilian Marksmanship Program (CMP) Three-Position Air Rifle Championship as she attempts to do something she's never done – claim the overall title. This year's event, set to be fired June 21-26 at the Gary Anderson CMP Competition Center in Ohio, will be the 17-year-old's third go-round at Nationals and would cap off an already incredible year for the junior precision air rifle competitor.

Taylor has accomplished a lot for only being involved in competition shooting for a little over four years. Though she has never won the CMP 3P Nationals, she's proven to be a tough competitor in many realms.

Outside of National competition, the North Salem High School (Salem, Ore.) student-athlete won the 2018 Cascade Mountains League March Cup Match Championship after overtaking the event leading up to the championship in November and December of 2017, as

well as in January and February of 2018. Additionally, she earned second place in the 2017-2018 American Legion Postals after trailing by only one point.

In 2018 alone (so far), Taylor was the highest scorer overall in the JROTC Postal Competition, she won the Army JROTC Regional Service Championship (where she not only fired the highest Army score, but the highest score of all of the Services), earned the championship title at JROTC Nationals and she was also the overall competitor at CMP 3P Regionals in Sandy, Utah – naturally giving herself the reputation as an intimidating force to other competitors hoping to grab the championship title.

As if that weren't impressive enough, Taylor also currently holds the Army JROTC Individual 3x20 National Record, the Army JROTC Individual 3x20 Plus Final record, the Army JROTC 20 Shots Kneeling record (set during the 2015 JROTC National Championship and tied again at the 2017 National Championship), the Junior Club

Precision Final Score record and the American Legion Precision Final Score record.

Behind the firing line through all of Taylor's wins and insatiable talent is her support – her North Salem teammates, her coach and her family. And they will be there to cheer her on as she goes for the win in June.

"All I can say is, it's been unimaginable – what has happened in the last four years," gushed her proud dad, Rob, following her second JROTC Nationals win in March.

According to Rob, Taylor has worked hard for what she has earned, practicing six days a week between her high school JROTC team and her club team. From the beginning, her family has been all-in, completely involved in Taylor's interest. Rob and Taylor's mom, Sarah, have been fully supportive of their daughter (their oldest of three), with one or the other traveling to each event – some held across the country.

"I'm really happy for everything it's done for her, confidence-wise, and what it's done for her as a person," he said. "And she's gotten exposure to some really great things that I never got while I was in high school. Number one, I've never traveled in my life as much as when she got involved in this."

Through Taylor's competitions, the family has been able to trek the country and stumble across so many interesting things, like Thomas Edison's birthplace in Milan, Ohio, that they found accidentally while driving around.

"I think it's really good for a kid to get that sort of exposure – getting to see different parts of the country and just being involved in something like this. It's pretty awesome," he added.

The Gibson family knew nothing about the air rifle world until Taylor became involved. She started on a club team at a local gun club before she unexpectedly got involved scholastically.

Her cousin, who is the head cheerleading coach at Taylor's high school, mentioned Taylor's noticeable talents to the head rifle coach, 1SG Jim Wagner, during casual conversation one day. It didn't take long for Wagner to say, "I've got to meet her."

He soon did, and shortly after, she began shooting with the high school team, as an eighth grader. Wagner was quickly captivated by Taylor's skills as well as her sensible personality.

"She's just a phenomenal kid," said Wagner. "Three words to describe her: cool, calm and collected. Pressure doesn't get to her. She doesn't get too excited – she doesn't get too upset. She's able to go with the flow, and I like watching her interaction with other people."

After seeing her operate in practice, he knew he needed to get her out into some real-life competition. When it came time for his team to travel to the JROTC Regional Service Championship in Phoenix, he was eager to take Taylor with him. He took a glance at the rulebooks and didn't see anything about an eighth grader not being able to compete, so he brought her along.

When Rob and his wife learned about their daughter traveling more than a few states away, they looked at each other and jokingly said, "I don't know if I want my eighth grader going to Phoenix with this guy I just met a month ago..."

But, they let her go anyway, and Taylor finished high enough to qualify her for the JROTC National event at CMP's South Range in Anniston, Ala. Her scores climbed and climbed during the time between Regionals and Anniston, and when it came to perform on the National stage, Taylor excelled under the pressure – earning second place by only 0.12 of a point to the winner.

Rob recalled the moment, saying, "That's unbelievable. She's been shooting less than a year and she almost won a National Championship? That's insane!"

He went on, "I never in a million years dreamed that any of my kids could go to a National Championship in anything one time and even place, much less go as an eighth grader to a high school competition and take silver.



Her coach, 1SG Jim Wagner, says Taylor makes his job easy.



Taylor on the line at the 2017 JROTC Nationals in Anniston, when she won her first National Championship

Then take silver as a freshman, take gold as a sophomore and take gold as a junior.”

Rob is enamored with his daughter’s abilities, saying to her following her JROTC Nationals win this year, “As far as I can tell, I think you’re the JROTC GOAT (Greatest Of

All Time). And that just blows my mind.”

According to Wagner, Taylor has become a sort of celebrity on the range from her incredible successes in a short period of time. At the JROTC National event, a sporter competitor stood behind Taylor as she competed in the finals – taking notes and even snapping a few quick photos.

“Everybody comes on to the range, points and says, ‘That’s Taylor Gibson,’” said Wagner as a grin grew on his face. “She doesn’t see it, but we see it.”

He added, “If she was a pre-Madonna and didn’t take the time to talk to the kids who look up to her and shake her hand, I’d have an issue with that. She’s such a good person with everybody – she’s just got a perfect personality for this.”

Rob agrees, saying, “There are a lot of things about her personality that suit her to this sport. She’s so calm and collected, not just shooting – that’s just her, all day, every day. She doesn’t get rattled. Most of the time, she’s very stoic. She doesn’t



Taylor also won the 2018 CMP 3P Regional competition for the precision class.

get excited very easily, she doesn't get upset very easily. She's just such an even-keel kid all the time. That's just a trait she was born with that has really helped her out a lot."

From the time he took on Taylor as a competitor, Wagner says that he doesn't actually coach her, but more steers her in the right direction. He said she knows the technical aspects of the sport and is equipped with the mental preparation for the game – all he has to do is sit back and watch.

"She stays right on line and maintains her discipline. She also has good focus. She really wants to be in Tokyo (for the 2020 Olympics)."

But before Tokyo, Taylor will have her sights set on the CMP 3P Nationals and three-peating her JROTC Nationals title during her senior year in 2019. It's been a whirlwind journey for Taylor and the Gibson family, who have been there with her from the beginning and plan to be right by her side,



Along with talent, Taylor has been granted a strong support team that always stands behind her.

or, rather, watching her behind the firing line, through it all.

"I'm very, very, very proud of her," Rob said with a smile.



Taylor is congratulated by CMP Chairman, Judy Legerski, after her second JROTC National win in 2018.

Public Schedule Now Available for CMP's Electronic Target Range at Camp Perry

By Ashley Brugnone, CMP Writer

CAMP PERRY, Ohio – The Civilian Marksmanship Program (CMP) has released its 2018 schedule for Petrarca Range on the grounds of Camp Perry – a public gun range which features electronic targets designed to withstand both rifle and pistol firing.

The range will be open Mondays from 10 a.m. - 6 p.m. until October when the time will change to 10 a.m. – 5 p.m. The range will remain open until Nov. 19, 2018, when it will close for the season.

View a complete Petrarca Range schedule here: <http://thecmp.org/wp-content/uploads/Petrarca-Range-Schedule.pdf>.

Petrarca will also remain open almost daily during the duration of the National Matches at Camp Perry in July. A more specific schedule will be released around National Match time.

The range will be CLOSED the following days within the year:

July 9

- Aug. 27
- Sept. 3 – Labor Day
- Oct. 8 – Columbus Day
- Nov. 12 – Veterans Day

Petrarca is home to 10 rifle targets set up at 100 yards and 5 pistol targets set up at either 25 or 50 yards. For those interested in short-range zeroing, the targets can also accurately simulate 200, 300 and 600 yards. Benches are available for those wishing to have extra support while firing.

Guests must provide his/her own equipment and ammo (no larger than .30-06 and no 300 Win Mag ammo or armor piercing ammo). Ammo will also be available for purchase at the range. A small fee of \$10/hour (or \$25 for 3 hours) is all it costs to fire on Petrarca Range. CMP staff will be present at all times during the Open slots to ensure safety procedures are followed and to answer any questions about the electronic target system.

More About Petrarca Range:

CMP Targets at Petrarca Range is powered by the Kongsberg Target Systems (KTS) of Norway. With the use of electronic targets, marksmen no longer need to walk downrange to change paper or use a scope to score – simply approach the firing line and watch shots instantly

score and appear on monitors located at each firing point. For more information, visit the Petrarca Range page on the CMP website at <http://thecmp.org/competitions/cmp-targets-at-petrarca-range/>.

Where is Petrarca Range?

Petrarca Range is located at the Camp Perry Training Facility near the shores of Lake Erie, only six miles west of Port Clinton on State Route 2.

About KTS Electronic Targets:

KTS Electronic Targets work through the power of acoustics – “hearing” the shot and accurately determining its location. With extensive use by ranges in 30 nations for over 20 years by KTS and additional experience received in-house by the CMP, the accuracy and ease of these electronic targets make marksmanship even more enjoyable for every age and experience level.

Highpower Matches will also be held at Camp Perry June 23-24 on Viale Range! See <http://thecmp.org/cmp-orpa-host-highpower-rifle-matches-at-camp-perry-in-june/> for more info.



Junior Distinguished Badge Program

The National Three-Position Air Rifle Council established the Junior Excellence-In-Competition Award Program to provide incentives for junior three-position air rifle competitors to improve and excel.

This program awards prestigious badges of distinction to the most outstanding junior shooters. Junior shooters earn EIC credit points by placing in designated competitions in accordance with the requirements of this program.

The Junior Distinguished Badge is awarded to school-age junior three-position air rifle shooters who attain a series of high rankings in designated major junior air rifle championships that include the State Junior Olympic Qualifiers, CMP Cup Matches, National Junior Olympic Championships and other National Council Three-Position Air Rifle Championships.

Congratulations to the juniors listed here who recently earned their badges. **ON THE MARK** will recognize all juniors who achieve this outstanding goal in each issue.

For more program info, log onto <http://thecmp.org/air/junior-distinguished-badge/> or email CMP Competitions at 3PAR@TheCMP.org.



Badge #	Name	Hometown	Badge #	Name	Hometown
#1233	Eion Barrett	Shallotte, NC	#1246	Emily Fisher	Fairfax, VA
#1234	James Smith	Gulfport, FL	#1247	Bryce Sturtz	Fairfax Station, VA
#1235	Brianne Staton	Deatsville, AL	#1248	Aron Tinter	Arlington, VA
#1236	Issiah-Michael White	Buda, TX	#1249	Abigail Uterhardt	Tombstone, AZ
#1237	Callum Funk	APO, AE	#1250	Hailey Hahn	Harvest, AL
#1238	Trinity Hathaway	Granbury, TX	#1251	Carl Greene	Hudson, NC
#1239	Cheyenne Downey	Rutherfordton, NC	#1252	Emily Williams	Rutherfordton, NC
#1240	Nicole Masteller	Des Moines, IA	#1253	Maya Misra	Nashville, TN
#1241	Benjamin Spiegel	Tucson, AZ	#1254	Nicki Rowe	Augusta, GA
#1242	Clarissa Layland	Granbury, TX	#1255	Nick Noto	Fort Mill, SC
#1243	Estefanie Lopez	Selma, CA	#1256	Lilly Polakovic	Roseville, CA
#1244	Meagan Seese	Covington, LA	#1257	Kayla Kalenza	Fort Mill, SC
#1245	Georgia Wise	Gulfport, FL	#1258	Bianey Nunez	Santa Fe, NM



**Want to Earn
YOUR Junior
Distinguished Air
Rifle Badge?**

Visit <http://thecmp.org/air/junior-distinguished-badge/> or contact the CMP by calling (419) 635-2141, ext. 702.

Camp Perry Sees Major Improvements to Historical Buildings in 2018

By Ashley Brugnone, CMP Writer



The old lakeside cottages are being replaced with new structures that all allow a view of the lake.

CAMP PERRY, Ohio – The Camp Perry National Guard Training Base, home of the National Trophy Pistol and Rifle Matches since 1907, has undergone significant upgrades to some of the most celebrated areas of the grounds.

“There will be a different feel when people come onto post,” said MAJ Michael Yates, base operations manager of the Camp Perry facility since 2014.

Since his time at Camp Perry, MAJ Yates has overseen a considerable amount of projects totaling multi-millions of dollars, which have included structural, functional, aesthetic and historical developments. He admitted the renovations being conducted in 2018 have been years in the making – featuring major additions to base facilities and a substantial restoration in the historical theatre.

“We’re doing so much to continually improve the post and make it better,” he said. “Our predecessors have made it better, and we want to take it from there and continue

to make it that much better for everyone to use.”

He added, “It’s been a century-plus of things going on here – people training up for World War I, to a POW camp for Italian and German prisoners during World War II, to all the different schools and people, soldiers, shooters coming through here. We want to ensure that they understand that we always keep an eye to this and want to show our legacy. Not only holding to it, but improving on it. That’s what we strive for.”

Even with the significant construction going on this year at Camp Perry, there is still plenty of improvements in store as MAJ Yates and his crew continue to plan for the future.

“There will be more to come,” he said.

Below is a summary of the major projects going on at Camp Perry in 2018.



The berms at 300 and 600 yards were redone to allow more comfort for competitors.

300 and 600 Yard Shooting Berms on Rodriguez Range

Completed in November 2017, improvements were made on all of the berms by adding more room on top, to help those who train and hold competitions. MAJ Yates and his team partnered with the 200th Red Horse, Air National Guard Unit within the Ohio National Guard on the project – setting a solid 10-foot shooting platform to ensure everyone will be more comfortable.

“The Point Project”

The old lakeside cottages, located behind the beach on base, are being phased out. The nearby tennis courts have been removed, and roads and walkways have also been repaved. Five new cottages are being built – totaling \$2.25 million from the capital budgets.

All new infrastructure has been put into the area, including brand new sewer, water, electric and gas lines. The cottages will sleep eight, with three bedrooms, two full baths and angled positioning of the buildings to give every one a view of the lake from the porch to the kitchen.

“They are absolutely fantastic. Everyone gets a great view,” said MAJ Yates.

The modular style homes were built in a warehouse and brought in two parts, then set up and put together. The homes are designed with insulated style siding, plus insulation within to make them comfortable during the winter months.

Offering competitive pricing that is more affordable than the surrounding areas, the new cottages will be available to rent at Camp Perry 365 days out of the year.

“This is the best kept secret in all of Ohio,” said MAJ Yates. “People will get to see what a great stay Camp Perry is. It’s going to be a great upgrade to the facilities.”

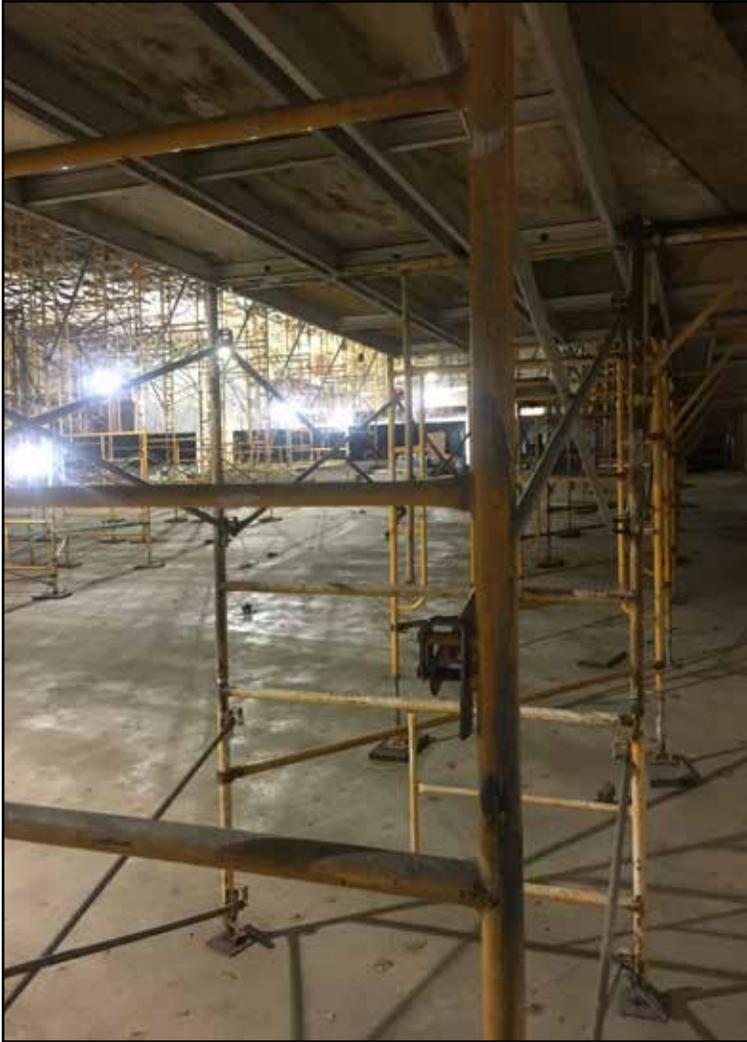
MAJ Yates will be requesting for fiscal year 2019-2020 capital budgets to finish the rest of the cottages and replace existing buildings – demoing the rest and adding in 10 more houses.

The new cottages are planned to be finished some time in the spring.

The last cottages were built in the 1950s, based around tent pads that used to be on the grounds in the early days of Camp Perry. According to MAJ Yates, they were not energy-efficient and needed winterized – it was just time for an upgrade.

“We have done the best we possibly can with those facilities, and they have been great to us in the past, but it was time to make a step forward and to give everyone a great place to go to enjoy all of the local surrounding areas,” he said. “This is going to benefit everyone.”

The Club House next door can hold 350 people for parties and events. Located on the water, with a chapel on post and the cottages right next door, Camp Perry has become a sought-after destination for weddings.



The old auditorium seats of Hough Theatre were torn out and will be replaced with more up-to-date seating. Construction on the Hough Theatre will not only improve the auditorium interior, but will also enhance classrooms and other areas of the building.

The Hough Theatre

Considered one of the most exciting projects on base, the Hough Theatre has received upgrades to entranceways, restrooms, seating, lighting and the interior as a whole – totaling

\$1.3 million. Some of the stage is being improved upon as well, including the orchestra pit, and existing offices and classrooms backstage will be updated, with the hopes of being utilized in the future.

“We have worked heavily with the state historical and preservation society to ensure that we have the historical feel to the auditorium itself, but with modern comforts,” said MAJ Yates.

The original theatre seats were completely gutted from the building. The new seating will have the effect of the historical seating, but with more padding and comfort – designed for the modern world. The famous mural cascading across the walls around the theatre will remain intact, with much of the interior upgraded or kept as-is.

“It’s an amazing facility, and to bring it up to where it deserves to be is fantastic,” said MAJ Yates.

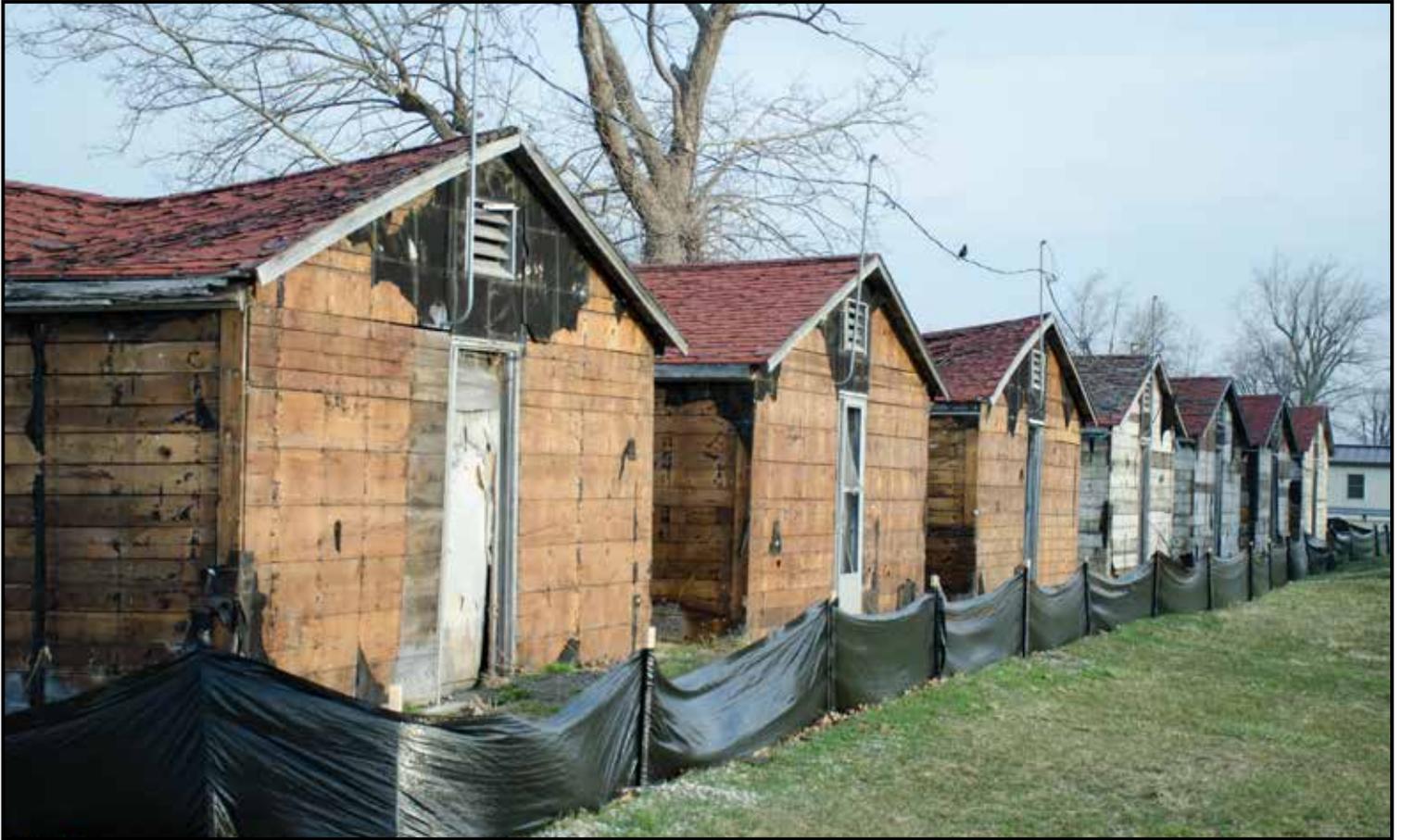
The Hough Theatre is an important landmark in the history of Camp Perry. Originally the second brick facility built on the post, the inside has seen many distinguished guests during its century-old reign, including countless military and civilian heroes like General John Pershing after World War I and Bob Hope.

The new entranceway of the theatre will throw homage to its incredible history, displaying true photos and artifacts for guests to enjoy. With a projected completion date slotted for the spring, the building will be ready in time for the National Matches ceremonies.

“This has been many years in the coming, and I’m really excited to see what this is going to look like,” said MAJ Yates.

Reconstruction to Bldg 2009

Camp Perry’s Bldg 2009, the long, large building before



Demolition of the old Prisoner of War (POW) huts continued in 2018.

the historical park when entering base to the north, has undergone an exterior renovation for \$640,000.

First constructed in 1903, a new roof, exterior doors and windows have all been installed on the building. MAJ Yates worked with a historical society to again ensure the facility was restored to the times, with modern upgrades, but still within the guidelines of historical restoration.

“Keeping with our history is a big part of what we do here at Camp Perry. We work with our environmental department and state historical society. Everything that we do here, we ensure that we hold to our historical section,” he said.

Demolition Across the Post

Demolition of the rest of the old POW huts by existing two-story barracks on the west side of post will continue until

completion. Eight other facilities will also be coming down to clean up post, ridding those that are not used or are passed where they are able to be reutilized. The project should be completed in June 2018.





Throughout its history, the CMP has prepared an ever-growing number of shooters with firearm safety and marksmanship skills through its programs, clinics and other events. With the hope to spread the promotion of marksmanship and shooting sports, other organizations have joined CMP in its efforts by creating their own hometown clubs. Whenever possible, we recognize these clubs and their achievements in our publications. If you would like your club recognized, please email photos, captions and a short article to abrugnone@thecmp.org.

Former California Grizzlie Earns All-American Selections

Congratulations to Sagen Maddalena who earned two NRA All-American selections on Saturday, as the Groveland, Cali., native was selected to the air rifle and smallbore First Teams. Maddalena also earned a CRCA All-American First Team honor for her eighth All-American nod throughout her career with the Nooks.

Sagen was a member of the California Grizzlie Highpower Rifle Team and competed at Camp Perry during the CMP National Matches, winning several National Trophies. She earned her Distinguished Rifleman Badge in 2011 and won the Freedom's Fire Team Trophy and Junior Infantry Team Trophy in 2013, the Nathan Hale Trophy and Golden Eagle Trophy in 2012 and the Col. William "Bill" Deneke Trophy in 2011 and 2012. She was also the High Junior in the President's Rifle Match in 2010. Congratulations, Sagen!

See more here: <http://alaskanook.com/news/2018/3/15/mens-and-womens-rifle-three-form-nanooksrifle-named-all-americans.aspx>.



Sagen Maddalena (center)

Newark Air Force JROTC Air Rifle Team



Last Fall, members of the Newark Air Force JROTC from Newark High School in Ohio visited Camp Perry for a shooting competition and decided to have a photo session on the beach. The team plans to return this Fall as well!

Submitted by:
Christopher Soto, MSgt, USAF
(Ret.)

CMP Welcomes Our Newly-Affiliated Clubs

The CMP welcomes clubs and associations to affiliate with us to help develop firearm safety and marksmanship skills. See our clubs page on the Web for more information about the benefits of club affiliation at <http://thecmp.org/clubs/>.

Monroe Township Conservation Club,
Oakville, IN
Aurora Sportsmen's Club,
Glen Ellyn, IL
Monroe Township Conservation Club,
Oakville, IN
Unified Sportsmens Club,
Idaho Falls, ID
Utah Precision Marksmanship Society,
Salt Lake City, UT
Custer Sportsmen's Club Inc.,
Custer, WA
Tanana Valley Sportsmans Association,
Fairbanks, AK
Hampden Rifle & Pistol Club Inc,
Hampden, ME
Cumberland Rifleman, Millville, NJ
1st Division Living History Association
(Alabama), Daleville, AL
Old Fort Gun Club & Jr. Div., Alma, AZ
Capitol City Rifle Club & Junior Division,
Haslett, MI
Hibbing Rifle & Pistol Club, Hibbing, MN
Niantic Sportsmens Club Inc, Niantic, CT
Flagler Sports and Conservation
Association, Bunnell, FL
Delaware State Pistol Club Inc,
Newark, DE
Monroe Township Conservation Club,
Oakville, IN
Renville Rangers Shooting Club,
Bind Island, MN
Marysville Rifle Club & Jr Division,
Arlington, WA
York Riflemen & Jr. Division, York, PA
Gateway Rifle & Pistol Club Inc.,
Jacksonville, FL



South Louisiana High Power Club (42039) April 29, 2018
Left to right: (rear) Brooke Williams, Bryce Miguez, Gage Battaglio,
Elise Overton (front) John Uze, Riley Jenkins, Oliver Casey



South Louisiana High Power Club (42039) February 25, 2018
Left to right: (rear) Dalton Clevenger (1st Jr.)-Elise Overton (2nd Jr)
(front) Oliver Casey (3rd Jr)-Riley Jenkins

CMP Awards 151 Scholarships to Student Athletes for 2018-2019 School Year

By Ashley Brugnone, CMP Writer

CAMP PERRY, OH – The Civilian Marksmanship Program (CMP) has awarded \$151,000 towards outstanding junior marksmen through its CMP Scholarship Program to be used for the 2018-2019 term. A total of 279 applications were received, with 151 awarded to both junior males and females.

The \$1,000 CMP Scholarships are available to graduating high school JROTC, 4-H and other junior shooting club members. Scholarship applications are only accepted if they are received completed and if the applicant is a U.S. citizen, shows good moral character, is a contributing member to society and is a scholar marksman.

In April, CMP board members and staff carefully sorted through piles of applications to determine which young marksmen would receive scholarships for the coming academic year.

Of the 239 fully-completed applications reviewed for consideration, 106 were submitted by female juniors and 133 by male. Students from Florida submitted the most, with 23, followed by Virginia (19) and Georgia (15). Hawaii, Alaska and overseas military posts were also represented in the process, with a total of 21 combined submissions.

In addition to the scholarships awarded to talented marksmen across the country, local scholarships were awarded to athletes near the CMP offices in the Port Clinton, Ohio, and Talladega, Ala. Seven were awarded in Alabama and nine were awarded in Ohio.

The CMP is dedicated to its commitment to youth programs and furthering the education of the successful young adults involved within them. Through these scholarships, the CMP is able to uphold its goal of awarding those who present exceptional talent, determination and citizenship within the field of marksmanship.

All junior marksmen are encouraged to stay focused on their academic careers as well as in becoming involved with their communities and other positive extra-curricular activities. The CMP is proud to provide support to junior marksmen in their continuing education and helping to shape their fulfilling futures.

To review all of the selected applicants, click on the 2018 Scholarship Recipients link at <http://thecmp.org/communications/cmp-scholarship-program/>.



Scholarships

Dear Civilian Marksmanship Program,

Thank you for your endless support for young adults. The future is important, and your efforts to help educate young adults should be recognized.

Additionally, your support of marksmanship is outstanding. I have hunted and shot games my entire life, but competing in your youth competitions have been a significant part of my life.

Next year, I will attend Western State Colorado University in a community where the outdoors are heavily emphasized to earn a Bachelor's degree. Thank you for helping me achieve my goals by selecting me as a scholarship recipient.

Sincerely,
Kylie Jennings

Don't forget to apply for next year's scholarships! Deadline will occur in March 2019.

Parting Shots: Photos from Recent CMP Events & Competitions

Junior shooters left their mark on several recent CMP events including the CMP 3P Regionals and the Oklahoma and Eastern Travel Games.



Oklahoma Games



CMP Regionals



Eastern Games

ON THE MARK

Corporation for the Promotion of
Rifle Practice and Firearms Safety
PO Box 576
Port Clinton, OH 43452



NON-PROFIT ORG.
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BERNE, IN 46711



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