STARTING FROM SCRATCH

Young Ohio Group Discusses How To Begin a Fresh Marksmanship Team



ON THE MARK

https://thecmp.org/news-media/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.

Subscriptions: One free *ON THE MARK* subscription is provided to each junior club that is affiliated with the CMP, JROTC unit with a marksmanship program and 4-H Shooting Sports Club. Individual subscriptions to *ON THE MARK* are available at \$8.00 per year. To subscribe to *ON THE MARK*, contact: 419-635-2141, ext. 724 or email onthemark@TheCMP.org.

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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 https://thecmp.org/news-media/the-first-shot/.

Sighting Shots

- Monthly Air Gun Matches in Ohio and Alabama. The CMP's Monthly Matches are set to return in 2022 with a mix of air gun events for all ages and experience levels. Each Monthly Match is held simultaneously at the South CMP Competition Center in Anniston, Alabama, and at the Gary Anderson CMP Competition Center at the Camp Perry National Guard Training Facility in Ohio. The events includes a Junior 3×20, Junior 3×10, 60 Shot Air Rifle Standing and 60 Shot Air Pistol. Read more on the CMP website at https://thecmp.org/ranges/cmp-competition-centers/monthly-air-rifle-and-air-pistol-matches/.
- CMP 2022 Travel Games. CMP is back to its lineup of regional outdoor events in 2022 with the Western Games (March 11-20), Eastern Games (April 22-May 1), New England Games (Sept. 18-25) and Oklahoma Games (Oct. 16-23). Each event includes CMP 800 Aggregate Matches, a 4-Man Team Match and an EIC Service Rifle Match along with Marksmanship 101 Courses, Garand/Springfield/Vintage/Modern Military, Carbine, Rimfire Sporter and Vintage Sniper Team events. There are also several pistol matches for competitors to fire in including the As-Issued 1911 Pistol Match, Military & Police Service Pistol Match, 40 Shot Pistol Match, EIC Service Pistol Match, CMP .22 Rimfire Pistol EIC Match and Pistol 2-Man Team Match. Learn more on the CMP website at https://thecmp.org/competitions/ cmp-travel-games/.



Learn about the MidwayUSA Foundation through CMP Podcasts. The latest installment of CMP Podcasts features a conversation with the MidwayUSA Foundation's executive director, Scott Reynolds, who discusses how the

organization works, how to become involved and their new upcoming events. CMP Podcasts, introduced in 2021, is a digital series of interviews and conversations for listeners to enjoy. The podcast episodes cover a variety of topics, including in-depth looks into CMP departments and upcoming competitions, along with insight directly from the voices of professionals within the marksmanship industry. CMP Podcasts are available on a number of platforms, including Apple Podcasts, Amazon Music, Spotify, Google Podcasts, and more! Discover it all on the CMP website at https://thecmp.org/news-media/cmppodcasts/.

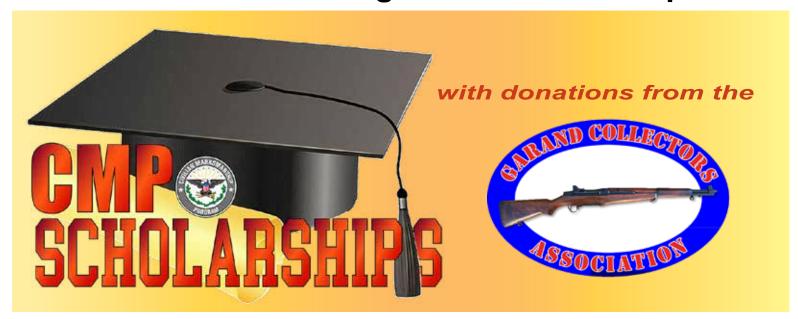


Talladega Marksmanship Park Events. The CMP Talladega Marksmanship Park, the "Home of Marksmanship," is open daily to the public, Wednesday and Thursday 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. and Friday, Saturday and Sunday 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. and accommodates rifle, pistol, shotgun and archery. Along with daily activities, the park holds monthly events and educational clinics as well as annual events like the Talladega D-Day Matches and the Talladega 600. For more information, visit https://thecmp.org/ranges/talladega-marksmanship-park/.



On the Cover: Matt Muzik, with the help of others, formed the American Legion Post 295 Marksmanship Team in June 2020. The American Legion Post 295 Marksmanship Team currently consists of 13 athletes, ages 8 to 15. He talks more of his experiences beginning a new team within the story on page 14 of this issue.

Junior Athletes: Apply Now to Receive Thousands Through CMP Scholarships



High school student-athletes involved in marksmanship programs have the opportunity to gain educational benefits for their commitment to hard work by applying for the Civilian Marksmanship Program (CMP) Scholarships for the 2022-2023 school year. These scholarships may be used to pursue post-secondary education or vocational programs, continuing CMP's mission of supporting youth marksmen.

Since the program's beginning in 2005, the CMP has annually offered \$1,000 one-year scholarships to current high school seniors based on academic merit, humanitarian efforts, extracurricular activities and marksmanship participation. Through its dedication to youth marksmanship and safety programs, the CMP has awarded \$3 million and growing in scholarship money to thousands of outstanding youth marksmanship competitors.

Along with the \$150,000 of awarded scholarships set for the 2022-2023 school year, the CMP will present a \$5,000 Carolyn Hines Memorial Scholarship to the top graduating senior who best embodies the well-rounded values of Dr. Hines, who was instrumental in shaping the CMP Scholarship Program. The overall applicant will be determined by members of the CMP Scholarship Committee.

Additionally, the Garand Collectors Association has donated \$30,000 to be distributed amongst the top scholarship recipients.

RULES:

TO BE CONSIDERED, applicants must present:

 A list of past and present rifle or pistol competition history, awards, involvements, and future expectations for the sport.

- Proof of participation, including match bulletins, photos or CMP Competition Tracker printouts (from the applicant; CMP will not look up Tracker info), which MUST be presented in order to be considered for the scholarship.
- Academic information such as GPA (3.0 or above

 anything below 3.0 will not be accepted), test
 scores and an official transcript.
- A list of extracurricular activities.
- A letter explaining why the applicant is applying and what future plans the money will fund.
- A nomination/recommendation letter from a coach or instructor.

Incomplete applications will not be considered, so please check that all required information is sent. Applicants may call a few weeks after their application is sent in order to confirm all required info is met.

Because the CMP takes great care in personally reading each application, all mandatory information (including forms and other necessary materials) must be sent to the CMP in its entirety. Staff members are eager to recognize praiseworthy student-athletes for their hard work — so please take extra precaution in sending all application requirements.

DEADLINE:

The deadline for application submission is March 20, 2022. Application forms and other scholarship information can be found by visiting https://thecmp.org/youth/cmp-scholarship-program/.

Dorsten Leads Air Pistol in November and Overall in CMP's Monthly Matches

CAMP PERRY, Ohio; ANNISTON, Alabama – After completing the closing Monthly Match of the season on Nov. 13, the Civilian Marksmanship Program (CMP) is now able to release the final results of the culminating 2021 Monthly Match League.

Over the seven Monthly Matches fired in 2021 (February, March, April, May, September, October, November), a total of 1,355 entries flowed through the air gun ranges of the Gary Anderson CMP Competition Center in Ohio and the CMP South Competition Center in Alabama. Monthly Match events include a Junior 3x10 and 3×20 Air Rifle Sporter, Junior 3×20 Air Rifle Precision, 60 Shot Air Rifle Standing and 60 Shot Air Pistol.

The Monthly Match League names the top three outstandingparticipantsfromanaverageofeachindividual's Monthly Match scores from repeat attendance. The first three places receive plaques for their performances, while places one through five collect monetary prizes based on the number of entries. The Most Improved competitor, with the highest margin of score progression, is also recognized.

Leading the 60 Shot Pistol category out of 163 total entries was Johnathan Dorsten, 18, of Bryan, Ohio, with an average score of 547.00. Dorsten was also High Junior. Living only an hour-and-a-half from Camp Perry, Dorsten was able to attend five of the seven Monthly Match events in 2021.

Dorsten initially started competing through his local 4-H Shooting Sports program. In 2018, he was asked to represent his team in air pistol at the 4-H Shooting Sports National Championships in Grand Island, Nebraska. Although he had never touched an air pistol before the match, he still managed to reach second place – trailing first by only four x's over the field of nearly 50 competitors.

"I tried it and realized I kind of had a knack for it, so I stuck with it," he said. "I like seeing myself put in the effort and the success I can achieve from that. It always feels good knowing I went out and did my best in a match and have a score that shows it too."

Though his run with the Monthly Matches is over for now, he's planning to return to Camp Perry in December to compete in the USAShooting WinterAirgun Championships as well as the Camp Perry Open air gun event in May 2022.

"I love this range," he said of the Gary Anderson CMP Competition Center. "It's kind of the first range I started shooting at, with it being so close, and it's definitely world class. Of everywhere I've gone, this has always been my favorite range to shoot at."



For his Monthly Match League win, Dorsten earned \$150.

Reaching second in 60 Shot Pistol was Lawrence Gale, 53, of Copperhill, Tennessee, with an average of 533.25. Gale received \$100 for his performances. Taking home \$75 and the third place spot was David Maryakhin, 50, of West Bloomfield, Michigan, with an average of 532.5. The Most Improved athlete was Evan Beach, 12, of Mason, Michigan, who began firing at the first few Monthly Matches with a Progressive Position Pistol (PPP) stand for added stability and eventually moved on to competing without the device.

Claiming the overall win and \$300 of prize money in the 60 Shot Rifle category was High Junior Emme Walrath, 15, of Kenosha, Wisconsin, with an average score of 626.78. Walrath also cleared second overall in 3x20 Precision (for \$200) behind Katrina Demerle, 16, of Hamilton, Ohio, who was the second highest competitor in the 60 Shot Match. Demerle earned \$250 each for her 3x20 win and 60 Shot second place finish along with the High Junior honor in the 3x20 match. Attaining third in both the 60 Shot and 3x20 Precision events was Bremen Butler, 17, of Fort Wayne, Indiana. Butler received \$150 for 60 Shot and \$125 for the 3x20.

MostImproved of 60 Shot Rifle was Katelyn Leibengood, 8, of Green Springs, Ohio. Zach Bishop, 14, of Tiffin, Ohio, was the Most Improved title holder in 3x20 Precision.

Devyn Chapman, 15, of Piedmont, Alabama, produced the highest average and the High Junior title in the 3x20 Sporter competition with 529.25. The overall finish netted Chapman \$200. Bethany Shirley, 14, of Monroe, Georgia, landed in second for \$150, as Brandon Edwards, 17, of Millbrook, Alabama, took third for \$100. Most Improved 3x20 Sporter athlete was Adalynn Anstead, 9, of Green Springs, Ohio.

View a complete list of the CMP's Monthly Match League Results here: https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1ldlv1yaM8XXwZS hilhObOOP7sGmUJoLDg2S87qd0c IU/edit#gid=0.

For a complete list of results of the 2021 November Monthly Matches, visit the CMP's Competition Tracker page at https://ct.thecmp.org/21MMNovAAresults for Anniston

and https://ct.thecmp.org/21MMNovCPresults for Camp Perry.

Photos of the matches can be viewed and downloaded for free on the CMP's online photo album, Zenfolio, at https://cmp1.zenfolio.com/f666765635.

About CMP Competition Centers:

The CMP's air gun facilities are open to the public, year-round, and feature 80-point ranges filled with CMP's own electronic targets. Schedule your appointment on the



Johnathan Dorsten was the overall winner and High Junior of the 60 Shot Pistol event of the Monthly Match League.

firing line by calling (419) 635-2141, ext. 704.

The South Competition Center in Alabama includes the CMP South Store that is fully stocked with equipment and memorabilia needs. The Gary Anderson CMP Competition Center in Ohio features authentic Olympic and other memorabilia from the career of celebrated American marksman, Gary Anderson. The facility also includes a retail center for equipment and memorabilia needs. Learn more about the CMP Competition Centers by visiting the CMP website at https://thecmp.org/ranges/cmp-competition-centers/.



Katrina Demerle (center) led the 3x20 match in the Monthly Match League and the November Monthly Match. Emme Walrath (left) was second in both, as Bremen Butler (right) was third.

NEW DEVELOPMENTS IN THREE-POSITION

NEW DEVELOPMENTS IN THREE-POSITION AIR RIFLE COMPETITIONS

By Gary Anderson, DCM Emeritus



Junior Three-Position Air Rifle Competitions are changing—for the better. This photo shows eight finalists being introduced before the start of the 2021 CMP National Championship final. For the first time, finals in this year's championships were three-position, start-from-zero finals. The finals were filled with suspense, had dramatic endings and athletes, coaches and spectators loved them.

The Winter 2020 edition of *On the Mark* published my article titled "*Participating in Competitions: A How-To for Coaches and Junior Athletes.*" That article explained why youth who participate in shooting programs should be introduced to competitions and what young athletes should do to make their competition experiences positive. This *On the Mark* article examines another aspect of competitions, how Junior Three-Position Air Rifle competitions are changing and how these changes promise to make Three-PositionAir Rifle (3PAR)* competitions and the experiences young shooting athletes have in them even better.

In 2021, the junior shooting community began to emerge from the covid pandemic restrictions that shut

down so many competition opportunities in 2020. But instead of just returning to what was taking place before covid, there are several new developments in 3PAR and junior shooting competitions that promise to bring new opportunities to youth who participate in them. These new developments include: 1) the emergence of new junior shooting stars from the USA, 2) the publication of a new *Three-Position Match Officials Manual*, 3) the release of an updated 2020-2022 Rulebook, 4) new developments for showcasing athlete performances including an affordable electronic target and the successful use of Olympic-style start-from-zero finals, and 5) new CMP programs that offer youth opportunities to broaden their horizons.

^{*} The junior shooting sports discipline Three-Position Air Rifle will be abbreviated as "3PAR" throughout this article.

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America's New Junior Shooting Heroes

Positive change begins with inspiration and hope. The successes USA juniors enjoyed in the 2021 Tokyo Olympic Games and the 2021 ISSF Junior World Championship should inspire junior athletes and program leaders to excel and give them confidence in the quality of our country's junior shooting programs.

In the Tokyo Olympic Games that took place this past summer, two American athletes who are still juniors, emerged as new shooting heroes. William Shaner from Colorado and Mary Tucker from Florida won Olympic gold and silver medals. Both are current student-athletes at the University of Kentucky. In the early stages of their development, both competed in 3PAR competitions. Mary Tucker earned Junior Distinguished Badge #1206 in 2017.

In the Olympic 10m Air Rifle Men event, Shaner shot the third best qualification score with a 630.8. In the final, he was third after the first five shots and then took the lead with a phenomenal 53.7 in the second series. He never relinquished that lead en route to a gold medal score of 251.6 and a new Olympic record. His worst shot was a 10.1 and he had only one of those. It is interesting to note that the silver medal winner in this event, Lihao Sheng of China, who finished 0.7 points behind Shaner, was just 16 years old. The gold and silver medal winners in this event were both juniors!

The 10m Air Rifle Women event was the first gold medal event in the entire Olympic Games. Mary Tucker shot the third best qualification score in that event with a 631.4 and finished sixth in the final. Her medal win came in a new Olympic event, the 10m Air Rifle Mixed Team event. She teamed with Lucas Kozeniesky, who had placed 6th in the 10m Air Rifle Men event. Their qualification score of 628.0 ranked 7th but that got them into the semi-final where their 418.0 score ranked second and qualified them for the gold medal match against Qian Yang (she won the Games first gold medal in the 10m Air Rifle Women event and celebrated her 21st birthday just before the Games opened) and Haoran Yang of China. The medal matches are decided by points. Both athletes fire single shots and the team with the highest two-person score receives two points. 16 points are needed to win. The Chinese team won the gold medal 17 to 13, giving Tucker and Kozeniesky the silver medal.

In the Junior World Championship in October, in Lima, Peru, Shaner won the 10m Air Rifle Men Junior gold medal in that Championship as well, while Tucker won two silver medals and one bronze in individual women junior rifle events. Overall USA juniors won four individual Junior World Championships and 21 total medals. Most young athletes in shooting already know about Shaner and Tucker, but junior





The two most successful junior rifle shooters in the world in 2021 were USA juniors. William Shaner (top photo) won an Olympic gold medal in the 10m Air Rifle Men event. Mary Tucker (directly above) won an Olympic silver medal with her USA teammate Lucas Kozeniesky in the 10m Air Rifle Mixed Team event.

program leaders must now ensure that their successes are known by everyone who encounters their programs. Their 2021 Olympic and Junior World Championship performances were inspiring. They demonstrated how the best juniors in the USA can compete with the best athletes anywhere in the world.

New Three-Position Match Officials Manual

With so many JROTC units, schools and junior clubs conducting 3PAR Matches, the CMP and National Three-Position Air Rifle Council decided that a guidebook or manual on how to conduct 3PAR Matches was needed. Its objective was to help junior program leaders apply best

NEW DEVELOPMENTS IN THREE-POSITION

practice procedures while conducting their competitions. The result of this effort is a new *Three-Position Air Rifle Match Officials Manual*. The 76 page, spiral-bound, 5.5" x 8.5" manual was designed so match officials could carry it with them and consult it whenever questions come up. Here is a partial list of topics covered in the manual:

- 3PAR Values and Principles
- · How to use the 3PAR Rulebook
- Guidelines for serving as a Match Official
- Requirements for operating safe air rifle ranges
- Procedures for conducting 3PAR competition firing
- Range Officer scripts and standard range commands
- How to resolve issues that arise during match firing
- Electronic target operations
- Procedures for resolving EST complaints and protests
- How to conduct finals
- Scoring and results operations (for Orion and manual scoring)
- Rule violations and protests
- Awards and award ceremonies
- How to plan and organize 3PAR competitions
 - THREE-POSITION
 AIR RIFLE
 MATCH OFFICIALS
 MANUAL

 Published by the National Three-Position Air Rifle
 Council and the Civilian Marksmanship Program
 as a Guide for Three-Position Air Rifle Match Officials
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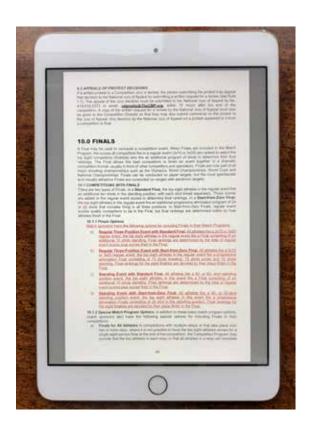
This new 76-page manual contains detailed instructions, procedures, and tips for running Three-Position Air Rifle Matches. Copies are available on request from the CMP at no cost. Send requests to 3PAR@thecmp.org.

- Equipment control testing
- Model forms for match operations

Anyone who serves as a 3PAR Match Official should obtain and study the sections of the manual that are relevant to match functions which they fulfill. Copies are available from the CMP at no cost. Send requests for the *Three-Position Air Rifle Match Officials Manual* to 3PAR@thecmp.org.

New Updated 3PAR Rulebook

The National Standard Three Position Air Rifle Rules are the governing document for 3PAR competitions. Every 3PAR Match Official should become intimately familiar with this rulebook and carry a copy with them whenever they work a competition. A new edition of this rulebook was released in August 2021 so be sure to obtain this latest edition. Download the 13th Edition 2020-2022 National Standard Three-Position Air Rifle Rules at https://thecmp.org/youth/air/national-standard-three-position-air-rifle-rules/. Printed copies can also be ordered from CMP, or you can download and print your own rulebook.



One of the best ways for Match Officials to carry a rulebook is to save the rulebook on a tablet or cell phone. Electronic search features are usually faster and easier to use than printed indexes.

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There are some changes in the latest edition that Match Officials will want to note:

- Automated Range Commands. New Orion Athena electronic targets have red/green START/ STOP signal lights on top of each target and display current range commands on each athlete's monitor. Rule changes permit the use of these visible signals to conduct range firing. A Range Officer script for conducting firing with automated range procedure signals is included.
- New Crosman CH2021 Sporter Air Rifle. Crosman's latest model competition rifle was added to the list of approved sporter class air rifles. Crosman Challengers already dominate sporter class competitions, and this new version provides further improvements. The maximum allowable cost for approved sporter air rifles was increased from \$600 to \$650; that price ceiling had not changed in five years (2016). Since the CH2021 has a detachable fore-end riser, a maximum fore-end depth of 100 mm was added for sporter air rifles.



The new Crosman CH2021 sporter class air rifle

- Decimal Scoring. Match sponsors that use either Orion (VIS) scoring or electronic targets now have the option of using decimal scoring (tenth ring scoring) in their competitions. Decimal scoring has a strong appeal to many juniors and their coaches because this is how Olympic and international air rifle events are scored.
- Virtual CMP Cup Matches Authorized. Covidrelated travel restrictions impacting many 3PAR teams led the National Council to authorize virtual CMP Cup Matches. Virtual matches allow participating teams to shoot on their home ranges or on designated, decentralized ranges as a means of reducing or eliminating travel requirements. The use of Orion (VIS) scoring or electronic targets is necessary to ensure uniform scoring. Virtual CMP Cup Matches continue to be authorized because they fulfill an important need in areas where greater travel distances make them a practical option for offering accessible matches.

- EST Protest and Complaint Procedures. Previous rules for resolving electronic target scoring issues were based on ISSF rules developed for older acoustical-sensing targets. Newer electronic targets offersimplerissue resolution procedures. For example, the shot validation procedure on Athena targets makes it unnecessary to direct athletes who protest a score value or claim a missing shot to fire an additional shot. The updated rules also include procedures for adjudicating missing shots on KTS targets that do not have witness strips. If your range has electronic targets, check these new rules carefully to be sure you are applying rules applicable for your EST system.
- Options for Conducting Finals. The options for scheduling and conducting either standard finals (Ten additional shots for the top eight finalists) or start-from-zero three-position finals were expanded. Detailed rules and Range Officer scripts for conducting start-from-zero three-position finals are now included.
- Technical Rule Changes. The updated rules also include numerous, mostly minor, technical clarifications. Match Officials need to look for changes (marked in <u>underlined red type</u>) in the rulebook to be sure they are aware of any rule changes that impact their duties as a Match Official.

Start-from-Zero Finals and Showcasing Athlete Performances

Everyone who was present for the individual final for the 2021 National 3PAR Junior Olympic Championship surely remembers its dramatic ending. For the first time, the 2021 National 3PAR Championships used start-fromzero finals. The top eight athletes in the 60-shot three-position events advanced to 45-shot three-position finals where the top eight places were decided solely by how athletes finished in the final (60-shot scores do not carry forward in start-from-zero finals). In this final, finalists shoot three 5-shot series kneeling, three 5-shot series prone, two 5-shot series standing, and then progressively eliminate the lowest ranking athletes as the last five shots standing are fired one shot at a time. Only two athletes remain for the last shot which decides the gold and silver medals.

In the Junior Olympic final, two outstanding young athletes, Katie Zaun from North Dakota and Emme Walrath from Wisconsin remained to contend for the gold and silver medals with one shot remaining. Zaun had a 1.2-point lead, but her 9.6 and Walrath's spectacular 10.8 left the

^{*} The Orion Scoring System, Athena electronic targets were designed, produced and marketed by Dr. Erik Anderson, the author's son.

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THE LAST SHOT IN A START-FROM-ZERO FINAL





Rylie Passmore (on left) and Emme Walrath (on right) battled it out during the National CMP 3PAR Final at Camp Perry. The photos show them firing their last shots and sharing an embrace after Walrath prevailed.

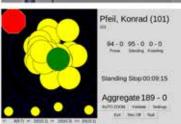
two athletes tied. Ties are broken by a sudden death shootoff, where Walrath prevailed 10.4 to 10.1, to take the gold medal. No youth sport offers drama and excitement that is any better than that, and it took place in a 3PAR National Championship competition.

The memorable finish in this final occurred because 1) the match sponsor (CMP) had a range equipped with **electronic targets**, 2) the range accommodated lots of spectators, 3) a **start-from-zero final** was used to decide final place finishes, 4) two **highly skilled athletes** performed exceptionally well under tremendous pressure, 5) the range had a **visual display system** where spectators could instantly see every score and athlete rankings after every shot and 6) the Chief Range Officer and Announcer kept the final running smoothly and the audience informed. These are all things match sponsors can build on to better showcase the drama and excitement inherent in youth shooting.

Electronic Targets (EST). The future in shooting is electronic targets. Everyone is familiar with EST advantages, with instant scores visible to competitors, spectators, and online audiences. However, until now, high costs have prevented almost all 3PAR ranges from installing EST. EST have been mandatory in Olympic and World Championships for 30 years and they are

now standard for NCAA college rifle competitions in the U.S. Major junior championships conducted on CMP, USAShooting and USAMU ranges have used EST for the past 20 years. A few junior programs were able to raise the funds needed to purchase EST but for most junior clubs and schools, EST were simply too expensive. A new development within the last year is changing that--the introduction of Orion Athena electronic targets (http://www. orionscoringsystem. com/orion/Home.aspx), which sell for \$1,500 per firing point. This target is already making it possible for many more school and club teams to enjoy EST





The Athena electronic target (above) and an image from the Athena athlete monitor.

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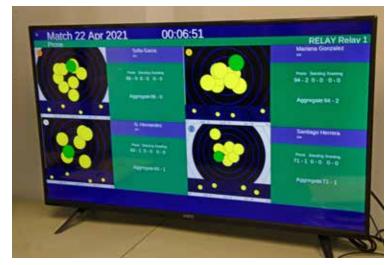
benefits. Several hundred of these new targets have now been installed in ranges all over the country and are being used to conduct many 3PAR Matches.

Accommodating Spectators and Score Display Technology. Anyone who says shooting is not a spectator sport doesn't know shooting. The problem is not that shooting lacks spectator appeal but that we haven't been very good at accommodating spectators or displaying athlete performances and scores. The first step in changing this is for 3PAR match sponsors to take steps to acquire score display technology and simultaneously make room for spectators on their ranges.

Score Display Technology. Modern EST installations have software that supports the public display of scores, usually with graphic displays of shots. The Orion VIS Scoring System for paper targets also supports the display of ranked results and a leaderboard. To display scores for spectators, the range's main computer needs to be connected to an OLED, LCD or plasma display panel that is large enough for spectators in the range to read scores and rankings.

Accommodating Spectators. Most shooting ranges were not designed to accommodate spectators, but even ranges with limited space behind the firing line or with an adjacent assembly room have some space for spectators. Match sponsors should make conscious efforts to include spectators in their planning. By installing a visual display panel and providing a few chairs, it is possible to start a spectator program. At first, spectators may only be family members and school friends but if you give them a good experience more will come.

Start-From-Zero Finals. The so-called standard final in 3PAR shooting with ten additional shots in standing for the top eight competitors has been used for 3PAR championships for more than 20 years, but that format has not been used in international competitions since 2012. The new international norm for finals is the startfrom-zero format, with progressive eliminations, 24 shots in a standing final or 45 shots in a three-position final. The problem with progressive elimination finals is that they require electronic targets. With major electronic target installations at Camp Perry, Anniston, Fort Benning, Colorado Springs, and the CMP mobile range, and with several hundred electronic targets now being installed on junior program ranges, the possibilities for conducting start-from-zero final are expanding. The CMP's use of start-from-zero finals during last summer's National Junior Olympic and CMP 3PAR Championships was well received and will continue. As more ranges acquire electronic targets, their competition plans should include



Electronic display panels like this Spectator Display Module for Athena EST can keep coaches and spectators fully informed about match progress.

conducting start-from-zero Olympic format finals. These finals are one of the best ways to present the true drama of target competitions and make shooting a better spectator sport.

New Opportunities for Growth — CMP Smallbore and Air Gun Programs

New developments in other CMP programs also offer many 3PAR athletes opportunities to broaden their horizons by participating in air rifle standing and smallbore rifle position competitions. These opportunities are especially important to junior athletes who hope to shoot in college



An ideal range configuration to accommodate spectators: Bleachers or chairs for spectators and an LCD panel (top center) showing results. This Sporter Class Final took place at the CMP Competition Center at Camp Perry.

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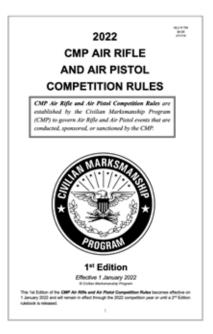
Many 3PAR athletes who come to the National Matches at Camp Perry now are also able to compete in 50m position championships like this National Smallbore Rifle Position Championship.

because in college rifle competitions, team members shoot two events, 60-shot air rifle and 60-shot 3-position smallbore rifle. As a result, most college rifle coaches prefer to recruit athletes with records of success in both air rifle and smallbore position. Juniors who have the skills to shoot in college, and who have access to smallbore equipment, will be able to expand their competitive resumes by including these CMP program opportunities in their 2022 competition plans:

• The Camp Perry Open, which previously was a popular January air gun only competition, with three-position and standing events, was moved to May in 2021. By holding this competition in May, it was possible to also offer a 50m 3-position smallbore rifle event, in addition to traditional 10m 3PAR and 60-shot standing events. For juniors who have access to smallbore rifle equipment, that gave them another opportunity for a high quality smallbore position match. And with more high level smallbore position matches being offered, more juniors will be encouraged to also try smallbore competition. The 2022 Camp Perry Open will take place on May 13-15 and will include a 50m smallbore rifle position event.

• New CMP Air Rifle/Air Pistol Competition Rules. The CMP Rules Committee recently approved a new

rulebook. **CMP** Air Rifle and Air Pistol Competition Rules. The new rulebook will go into effect in 2022 and allow the CMP to sanction 60shot air rifle and 60-shot air pistol competitions. These rules are closely modeled after ISSF rules. They require, for example, air rifle events sanctioned under these rules to use decimal scoring. Either electronic targets or paper targets with Orion VIS scoring are needed to do that. However, the Orion system now dominates the scoring of 3PAR



The CMP will have a new air gun rulebook in 2022.

continued...

AIR & SMALLBORE RIFLE OPPORTUNITIES IN THE 2022 NATIONAL MATCHES			
Championship	Date	Comments	
National Junior Olympic and CMP 3PAR Championships	13-15 July	Precision Air Rifle 3PAR competition for athletes who qualify in state or CMP postal competitions	
National Matches Air Gun Championship	16-18 July	Air Rifle and Air Pistol National Championship events for juniors and seniors	
National Matches Smallbore Rifle Position Championship	19-22 July	Smallbore Rifle 50m 3-Position Championship for juniors and seniors (2 x 120 shots)	
National Matches Smallbore Rifle Prone Championship	22-27 July	Smallbore Rifle Prone Championship for juniors and seniors (4 x 160 shots at 50 yds, 50m, 100 yds)	
CMP National Junior Rifle Camp	23-28 July	Smallbore rifle and air rifle instructional camp for beginning and intermediate juniors	
National Rimfire Sporter Rifle Championship	23-24 July	Open Rimfire Sporter Rifle (7.5x weight limit) juniors and seniors	

Detailed program announcements for these championships will be released through the CMP Shooters' News electronic newsletters and posted on the CMP website.

competitions to the extent that scoring paper targets by hand is becoming a relic of the past. This and more EST installations in 3PAR ranges will allow the conduct of 60-shot air rifle events that are scored in decimals.

 More Junior Opportunities in the National Matches. In 2021, the Precision Air Rifle CMP and Junior Olympic National Championships took place in July, just before the National Matches Smallbore Rifle Position Championship. This made it possible for many juniors to compete in the National 3PAR Championships and then remain at Camp Perry for the Smallbore Rifle Position Championship. This schedule change was a big success. 88% of the 137 competitors in the National Smallbore Position Championship event were juniors. In 2022, this scheduling combination is being expanded with another new program, a new National Matches Air Gun Championship that will offer National Trophy Match competitions in both air rifle and air pistol (see chart). Juniors who come to next summer's National Matches will have an unprecedented ten days or more of national championship competition opportunities.

• Smallbore and Air Rifle Distinguished Badges. Gold Distinguished Badges are the highest individual awardsauthorized by the U.S. Government for excellence in marksmanship competitions. Distinguished Badges

are awarded by the CMP and the respective military commands in accordance with federal law. One of the most coveted awards in marksmanship is for a person to "go Distinguished" and be presented with one of these badges. The first Distinguished badges were awarded by the Army 1884. For decades, Distinguished Badges were restricted to Service Rifle, Service Pistol. International competitions, and the Junior Distinguished program, which recognizes excellence 3PAR competitions. Recent CMP decisions to expand the Distinguished Badge program will now



CMP changes in the Distinguished Badge program will now give smallbore rifle and air gun competitors opportunities to earn prestigious gold Distinguished Badges.

award Badges for Smallbore Rifle Position, Smallbore Rifle Prone, Air Rifle and Air Pistol. Sanctioned matches where EIC (excellence-in-competition) credit points can be earned with top ten percent finishes will be available in the coming year to give junior and senior athletes new opportunities to work towards earning one of these prestigious badges.

It's a great time to be a young athlete who is active in 3PAR and junior shooting competitions. These programs are changing, and for the better, by giving juniors more opportunities to participate in high quality national and local competitions. Now juniors and their program leaders just need to act to take advantage of these new opportunities.

About the Author

Gary Anderson is the Director of Civilian Marksmanship, Emeritus, and is the holder of two Olympic gold medals, seven World Championships and 16 National Championships. Mr.

Anderson served as a Technical Delegate for Shooting during the 2012 and 2016 Olympic Games as well as for the 2014 and 2018 World Shooting Championships.

In 2012, the International Olympic Committee awarded Gary Anderson with the Olympic Order, its highest honor "for outstanding services to the Olympic Movement."



How To Form a Marksmanship Team, From Someone Who's Done It



Matt Muzik, with the help of others, formed the American Legion Post 295 Marksmanship Team in June 2020.

As part of its mission, the Civilian Marksmanship Program (CMP) has been dedicated to the development and longevity of youth shooting sports around the country. With several junior programs currently established in each state, aspiring young marksmen are fortunate to have a number of venues available to continue their growth – yet, there's always room for more.

The thought of starting a team can be daunting, but one new coach local to Camp Perry, where the CMP Headquarters is located, knows what it's like to form a fresh group of athletes from the ground up and gives his own advice on how others may do the same.

Matt Muzik of Green Springs, Ohio, is the head coach of the American Legion Post 295 Marksmanship Team – newly created in June 2020. Currently, the team is comprised of 13 athletes, ages 8 to 15, an assistant coach and five board members. The group competes in 60 shot and three-position air rifle, 60 shot pistol and smallbore.

"I love helping kids, and the reward you get is something

money can't buy," Muzik said. "One of the biggest reasons I started a team was because of my daughter, Claudia Muzik, and her passion for this sport."

Muzik has been working hard at being a marksmanship leader for nearly a decade now. Over the last eight years, he has been certified as a Level 2 NRA coach and has a background check for both USA Shooting Safe Sport and American Legion Safe Sport. He was also involved with the Ottawa County Shooting Stars, a local Camp Perry team, for about five years.

"I enjoy watching these kids grow and mature as athletes and as young adults," he said.

His green American Legion program has been, to say the least, thriving in the area – so much so that he even has a waiting list of kids, with 40 individuals trying out for the single open spot available this year.

"Starting this program from scratch was very difficult," Muzik admitted.

Challenges along the way for Muzik included setting up

bi-laws, something he wish he had an understanding of prior to setting up the team, and instituting a training plan to ensure an effective program – along with the usual trials and tribulations brought on with anything new.

"I've been able to keep the team growing by growing myself and challenging myself and the athletes each and every day," he admitted.

A piece of advice Muzik has is to make a cost sheet on all the required equipment needed to be productive and to have a strategic plan to obtain it. He also says it's important to learn where matches are located and to come up with a program that can put interested athletes on a positive path toward college.

Muzik went on to say he owes a lot of thanks to Diane and Gregg Rice, CMP's Indiana State Directors, who have their own marksmanship program, The X Count. The duo, who

met Muzik through a match at The X Count and at several other events since, were instrumental in assisting the American Legion Post 295 team with finding gear and funding to get off the ground and even donated their used equipment.

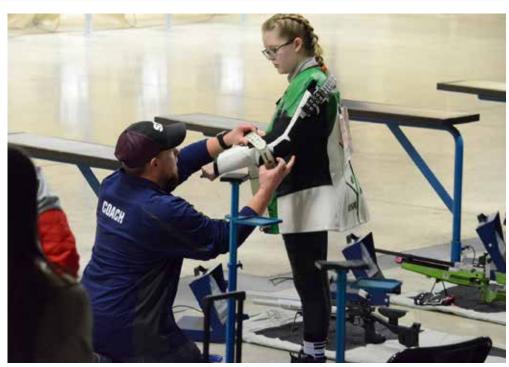
"I sat down with them (Diane and Gregg) multiple times to discuss starting a team and the things needed to be successful," Muzik said. "Any team looking to start

up, there is a lot of experienced teams that will help you be successful to grow this sport."

With a reputation of aiding teams from all over the country in getting their programs started, Diane Rice and The X Count know the tips and tools that work – and sharing her knowledge with others has become a great gratification in her coaching career.

"It is one of the very rewarding things that we do and one of the best ways we can grow the sport," she said.

In the past, Rice has stressed the importance of fundraising for starter teams, saying it is critically important to their progress. She says it's important to know your market – that is, realize what goes best with your target patrons.



Muzik's interest began through watching his daughter, Claudia (pictured here), in her own marksmanship journey.

"Funding is one of the biggest things people struggle with," Rice said. "There are some fundamental principles that can be followed, but, more importantly, know that every community is different. You have to know the characteristics of your audience to be successful at raising funds."

She added, "Your mindset is critical as well. Adopt an abundance rather than a scarcity mindset."

Muzik has been able to effectively incorporate fundraising efforts like beach matches, selling decals and



Muzik says having a strategic plan in place will greatly help the success of a start-up.



Muzik was able to incorporate fundraising efforts that equipped his team with gear, rifles and electronic targets.

t-shirts and asking local business for help — all of which have raised enough to outfit the entire team with gear and rifles. In fact, he did so well with business donations that he was able to buy six electronic targets for his team's use.

Rice has also suggested getting creative and taking advantage of the knowledge that can be gained from talking to existing programs. Being open to learning from others who were once in the same position can be advantageous to both teams and the marksmanship community as a whole.

"There are many people out there who want to help," Rice said. "There is a great deal of wealth in the world, and it is available to even your little new program. Most people think that if someone gives to another cause, it means they won't give to them. On the contrary, the greatest predictor of future giving is past giving."

Muzik and Rice have both suggested looking into larger organizations dedicated to supporting youth shooting sports through funding, endowments and programs like Friends of the NRA, the MidwayUSA Foundation and, of course, the CMP.

The CMP's State Director program in particular was

designed to enhance youth marksmanship around the country and exists to give others a place to start when forming a new team. There are many others like Rice open to discussion on how to begin the conversation and are happy to aid those ready to make the commitment. Contact and other information on each state's director can be found on the CMP website at https://thecmp.org/training-tech/state-director/.

"Talk to everyone – think long term and short term," Rice said. "Always strive to be better. Never stop learning."

CMP Guide to Forming a CMP Marksmanship Club Visit the CMP's website at https://thecmp.org/clubs/a-guide-on-forming-a-cmp-marksmanship-club/ to view step-by-step directions to form a marksmanship club. The CMP Guide is also available in a printed booklet and you can request a copy by emailing clubs@thecmp.org. If you have additional questions, please contact the CMP Club Affiliations Department at (419) 635-2141, ext. 753.

By Ashley Brugnone, CMP Writer

Second Place Athletes Return to Win at the 2021 Dixie Doubles Air Gun Event



Emme Walrath (center) led the junior rifle competitors, followed by Katie Zaun (left) and Camryn Camp (right). They were awarded by the Army Marksmanship Unit's SFC Hank Gray (far left).

ANNISTON, Ala. – Motivated runners-up from last year's Civilian Marksmanship Program (CMP) Dixie Doubles air rifle and air pistol competition came back in 2021 to emerge victorious, reaching the top of the podium in both categories. The two-day Dixie Doubles air gun event was held Nov. 5-6, at the CMP's South Competition Center in Anniston, Alabama.

Over 100 competitors fired in the 2021 Dixie Doubles match, which attracts athletes of a variety of experience levels – from beginners to military members to Olympians. The annual event includes two days of 60 Shot international air rifle and air pistol matches for Open and Junior athletes, with qualification scores and finals fired each day. Overall competitors are awarded at the conclusion of Day 1 and Day 2 as well as from the combined, two-day aggregate scores.

Recent Tokyo Olympian and past Dixie Doubles winner James Hall, 37, of Columbia, Missouri, overtook the Open Pistol portion with a score of 1149-31X – nearly 10 points above fellow Olympian SSG Sandra Uptagrafft, 50, of Phenix City, Alabama, who earned second with a score of 1137-29X. In 2020, Hall fell just short of the win behind another Tokyo Team USA athlete, SGT Nick Mowrer.

Hall and Uptagrafft swapped places on the leaderboard each day as Hall led Day 1 and Uptagrafft came out on top of Day 2. Timothy Schmeltzer, 24, of Greenville, Michigan, stayed close to the pack and claimed third overall behind Hall and Uptagrafft with a score of 1122-22X. High pistol junior of the match was Chandler Livingston, 17, of Chula, Georgia.

After two days of competition in air rifle, 1LT Sarah

Beard, 30, of the Army Marksmanship Unit, rose above the rest by only three-tenths of a point with a score of 1260.6. Last year, Beard was just shy of the overall win after earning second behind yet another Tokyo Olympian SPC Sagen Maddalena. Beard's Army teammate SP4 Ivan Roe, 25, earned an aggregate score of 1260.3 for this year's second place position, followed closely by Olympian and gold medalist Virginia (Ginny) Thrasher, 24, with a score of 1259.4.

Roe led Day 1 of the match, while SGT Brandon Muske, 27, also of the Army Marksmanship Unit, was the high competitor of Day 2. Muske landed in fourth behind Thrasher overall.

In just her second showing at the Dixie Doubles, Emme Walrath, 15, of Kenosha, Wisconsin, claimed the overall win in the Junior Rifle event. Following Walrath was Katie Zaun, 18, of Buffalo, North Dakota, and Camryn Camp, 15, of Hillsboro, Texas, who landed in second and third, respectively.

Coinciding with the Open and Junior competitions is the two-person team match that combines the scores of an adult and youth athlete in both air rifle and air pistol. Leading the rifle side was last year's team champions SGT Brandon Muske and Katie Zaun (North & South), while Thing 1 & Thing 2 (James Hall and Chandler Livingston) overtook pistol.

A complete list of results for the 2021 Dixie Doubles air gun match can be found on the CMP's Competition Tracker page at https://ct.thecmp.org/2021DDresults. Find free downloadable photos of the event at https://cmp1.zenfolio.com/p511054655.

CMP Hosts Ohio Civil Air Patrol Cadets at Camp Perry in October



Ohio holds 25 cadet Civilian Air Patrol components, with almost half of that number attending the event at Camp Perry in October.

CAMP PERRY, OH - On Oct. 9, 2021, the Civilian Marksmanship Program (CMP) welcomed cadets from 12 Ohio Civil Air Patrol squadrons at the Camp Perry National Guard Training Site's Petrarca Range and the Gary Anderson CMP Marksmanship Center, where the group participated in a day of learning.

Led by CMP Highpower team member, Danny Arnold, CMP smallbore manager, Brad Donoho and CMP education and training manager, Steve Cooper, the instruction focused on safety and basic rifle shooting fundamentals. The young cadets participated in classroom instruction and live practice using .22 caliber rifles at 50 yards, firing on sandbags for stability. The event concluded with a 40-shot qualification match.

"I thought the event went well," said Arnold, who is an adult member of Oklahoma's Civil Air Patrol Wing. "As usual, there were a few cadets who had never touched a firearm before, but they learned a lot."

The Civil Air Patrol (CAP) is a civilian auxiliary of the U.S. Air Force that was established in 1938, in the years preceding World War II. The core missions of CAP are emergency response services, such as search and rescue/disaster relief, aerospace education and youth cadet programs. CAP also conducts 90 percent of inland search and rescue in the U.S. – equipped with the largest fleet of single-engine planes in the world at over 500. The program is congressionally chartered and operates as a 501(c)(3) nonprofit corporation. Currently, there are 25 squadrons in the Ohio Wing, with a cadet component and over 66,000 youth and adult members nationwide.

"I think CMP's mission dovetails with CAP in that we are reaching out to youth in a way that exposes them to the shooting sports in a responsible way. Responsible marksmanship focuses on self-control, improvement and learning new things," Arnold said.

Arnold has been involved with CAP since 2009 and holds the rank of Major in the Oklahoma Wing. There, he ran a marksmanship program for about five years while also helping out with the Kansas Wing.

"I had college friends who had been members when they were younger and wished I had known about it," he said. "When my son was old enough to join, he became interested and I followed along."

Recently, the CMP Board of Directors learned of CAP's cadet program and reached out to CAP National, located at Maxwell Air Force Base in Alabama. Arnold briefed CMP Board members about CAP's mission, history and what his experiences have been with the program. They were impressed and instructed him to reach out to the Ohio and Alabama Wings to see

if he could coordinate a youth training session.

"We, CMP, should be seeking out opportunities like this," said Arnold. "CMP already has partnerships with other youth organizations, and CAP is a large one to partner with."

Covering all 50 states, District of Columbia, Puerto Rico and the U.S. Virgin Islands, CAP is composed of eight geographic regions consisting of 52 wings. Its cadet program attracts youth ages 12 through 20, which makes up around 10 percent of the U.S. Air Force Academy's classes. Members of CAP also have the opportunity to earn college scholarships in several different disciplines and may even enter the Air Force at a higher pay grade.

"CAP is a well-kept secret, kind of like CMP," Arnold explained. "The program is different for adults, but still quite rewarding. I've been part of an aircrew, helped out with the Moore, Oklahoma, tornado



Steve Cooper, CMP's education and training manager, guided cadets on the range as they participated in live-fire practice.

relief efforts, been involved in cadet programs and have been able to teach marksmanship – so it's been a good experience."

Learn even more by visiting CAP's official website at https://www.gocivilairpatrol.com/.



CMP's smallbore manager, Brad Donoho, also helped lead fundamental instruction during the day.

CMP Introduces New Service for Aspiring Junior Athletes, College Coaches

If you are a junior or senior high school marksmanship athlete and are interested in moving on to the collegiate level, the Civilian Marksmanship Program (CMP) has created a new online service with you in mind.

College Connect, an addition to the CMP's Competition Tracker software, is a venue for athletes to indirectly connect with NCAA coaches. Similar to recruiting for college football or basketball, the versatile program allows users to regularly update online profiles with current educational and competitive info for college coaches to observe. Likewise, the service provides a central location for coaches to maintain awareness of potential team prospects.

"It's a resume, basically," said CMP's smallbore manager, Brad Donoho, who helped create the program. "It's meant to be a passive connection between prospective athletes and coach."

The service is currently live and available to junior and senior student-athletes, with free use. Though there is no actual contact between athletes and coaches through College Connect, the service will allow for athletes to provide their contact information for coaches to contact them during permitted recruiting periods.

"If my name is on a page like this, and all of a sudden I'm shooting some decent scores – a coach might look at that and go, 'Wait a second. This kid's pretty good. Maybe I should contact them,'" Donoho explained.

The idea for College Connect came to Donoho after being frequently contacted by a number of coaches asking about specific athletes. He wanted to find an easier way to bridge the gap while, in turn, promoting the NCAA



opportunities offered within the sport of marksmanship.

"The most important part is, first off, there's a lot of shooters out there who have no clue that shooting is a college sport. I was one of them," said Donoho, who is an alumnus of the University of Kentucky rifle team.

"The cool part is that, before, coaches had no central way of viewing a shooter's results. They'd have to comb through match after match . . . keep their own notes," Donoho explained." This (College Connect) takes the hard work out of it."

Since July 2021, Donoho and CMP software developer, Jared Kail, have worked together to generate the College Connect online medium that will now allow coaches to stay current on an individual's achievements while also allowing individuals to showcase his or her accomplishments in an easily accessible forum. The pair also worked openly with NCAA coaches to ensure their personal athlete criteria was displayed through the service.

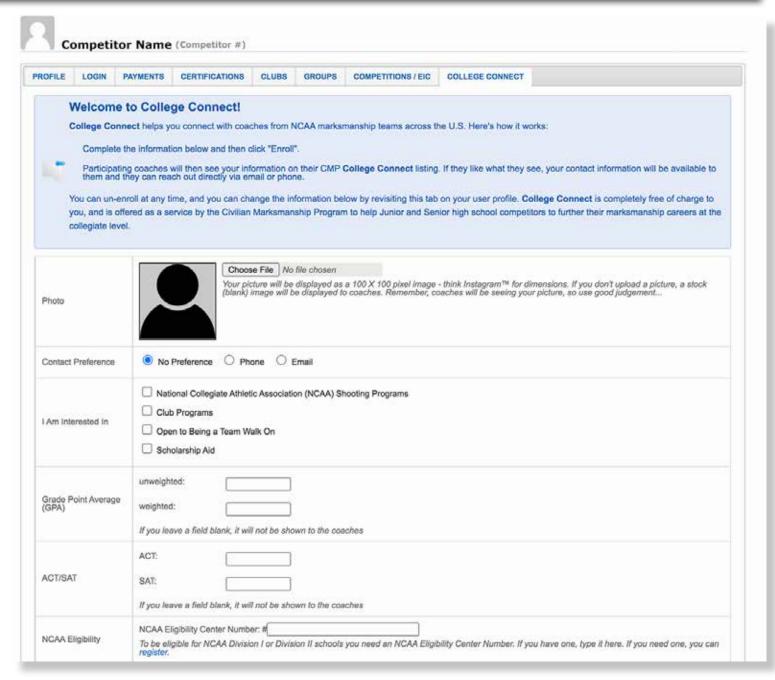
COLLEGE CONNECT FOR HIGH SCHOOL COMPETITIVE SHOOTERS

Looking ahead to your future? Wondering what role competitive shooting will play in your college experience? We can help!

College Connect is connecting shooters like you to NCAA team coaches. Whether you are interested in a full-ride to a highly-competitive shooting program or just hoping to join a team, College Connect can help you gain the exposure to college marksmanship recruiters critical for landing a spot on a squad.

Join now. It's super easy. Just click **Join** below and tell us what you'd like to share with coaches. You'll then be included the next time NCAA competitive shooting coaches are looking to fill their team rosters. It's that simple.

Join Now!



"We've done pretty much everything for the coach and shooter," Donoho added.

Juniors are eligible to sign up for College Connect if:

- Their graduation is the current year and the current month is July or earlier,
- Their graduation is the current year + 1 (e.g. 2022), or
- Their graduation is the current year + 2 (e.g. 2023) and the current month is May or greater.

Enrolling in the service is simple. Users on CMP's Competition Tracker will find the "College Connect" prompt on the Dashboard welcome page. Once signed up, students may enter a variety of valuable information that college coaches see as priority, such as bio details, GPA, test scores, colleges an individual is interested in

and competition scores. On the other end, NCAA coaches will be able to access the pages of all registered athletes. There, they will be able to make personal notes and even create their own watch lists.

The service is meant to act as an aid to athletes attempting to gain the attention of colleges while also making the recruitment process a little less complicated for coaches. It's a growing program with the unique and useful ability to change along with the budding sport.

"I think we can really expand on it and really make it an even better program," Donoho said of College Connect. "It'll hopefully be pretty popular. I think it will be."

If you have questions on the College Connect service or have suggestions for improvement, contact Brad Donoho at bdonoho@thecmp.org or 419-635-2141, ext. 730.

Junior Marksmen Stories...

Abbie Leverett Expands in Pistol World in 2021





Left: Back in 2010, Abbie and her family made a cameo in a CMP story about the South Competition Center in Anniston. Right: Junior Abbie Leverett has grown her pistol resume with several successes in 2021. Photo courtesy of USA Shooting.

Abbie Leverett, 18, of Bainbridge, Georgia, has created her own name within the marksmanship community.

During the summer's 2021 National Matches alone, she was the High Junior of the Warm-Up, .22 Rimfire EIC, .22 Rimfire (where she was also the overall High Civilian), EIC Service Pistol and National Trophy Individual pistol matches. She was also the .22 Rimfire Pistol Junior Aggregate champion. Not bad, considering it was only her second showing ever at the National Matches.

"My brothers and I started shooting when I was five," Abbie said. "I scarcely remember a time without it and have enjoyed it ever since."

Her first Progressive Position Pistol (PPP) match, a program designed to introduce junior shooters to the sport

of competitive pistol shooting, came in 2009 at just six years old. She competed alongside her two older brothers at the event, held at CMP's air gun range at Camp Perry – now known as the Gary Anderson CMP Competition Center.

Twelve years later in 2021, Abbie and her family made the trip back to Camp Perry where, this time, she was motivated to excel on the firing line.

"I had a great time, met new people and experienced new things," she said of the trip. "The wonderful staff and fellowship of the other competitors made Camp Perry one of my favorite matches this summer."

She admitted that she especially enjoyed shooting alongside the Army Marksmanship Unit, National Guard, Marines and other service pistol teams. Although, Mother

Nature tested her abilities in ways she had never faced before.

"The National Matches itself is challenging due to changing weather conditions," she said. "I shot without cover in the rain for the first time and also experienced shooting in gusty winds."

Despite the difficult climate encounters, Camp Perry provides a great opportunity to connect with others who share the common interest of competitive shooting – something Abbie has been grateful to encounter.

"The hospitality of the CMP staff and organization of the match draws people back year after year to compete," she said. "A junior shooter and first time competitor might be squadded between anyone, young or old, active duty or reserve military personnel, beginner or experienced competitor. I'm thankful to be involved in a sport that is accessible to competitors of all ages and backgrounds."

She went on, "Everyone was kind, supportive, and through their individual experiences were able to offer great advice."

In October, Abbie earned Distinguished .22 Rimfire Pistol Badge #171 – the highest honor received in the discipline. That same month, she joined her fellow National Junior Sport Pistol Team members Katelyn Abeln and Ada Korkhin and used her Pardini Sport Pistol to earn silver in the 25m Precision and Rapid-Fire Pistol Women's team event at the Junior World Champion-ships in Lima, Peru – finishing 11th overall in the event as an individual.

Abbie says competing overseas is really no different than competing stateside, with the only differences being distance, target size and the overall surroundings. Taking part in international matches allows her to experience what she loves most about marksmanship, meeting fellow competitors and traveling, while also finding common ground in the most unique places.

"Through the years, I've discovered that nearly everyone you meet, regardless of where they are from or what language they speak, knows how to play the card game UNO," she joked. "Once a game is started, strangers passing by will stop and join in, making it the ideal pastime between matches."

Over the years, Abbie has competed in the ISSF Junior World Cup in 2018 as a member of the 10m Air Pistol Women's Team, 25m Sport Pistol and the 25m Standard Pistol Team (where she placed fifth overall) – returning to the event in 2019 to again compete in the latter two matches. After earning third at the National Junior Olympic Shooting Championship in Women's Sport Pistol in 2018, she claimed the overall title in 2019 by a margin of 23



Abbie Leverett has been involved in marksmanship since she was five years old.

points.

"I have really enjoyed the camaraderie of the bullseye community and look forward to the 2022 National Matches," she said.

Outside of shooting, Abbie enjoys spending time with her grandad, baking (having recently learned to bake macarons) and taking care of her three-year-old lab mix, Samson.

By Ashley Brugnone, CMP Writer



In her career, Abbie has been involved in a number of local-, national- and international-level competitions.

Marines and Army Leaders Make Historic Showing at 2021 Camp Perry Event



Teaming up for the first time was LTC Erik Andreasen, left, the Commanding Officer the U.S. Army Marksmanship Unit, and Maj Martinez, right, the Officer in Charge of the Marine Corps marksmanship team.

It's been a few months since the 2021 National Matches took place, yet the individuals who crossed the thresholds of the famous Camp Perry ranges continue to teach us lessons that can be remembered throughout the year and for generations to come.

Back in August, LTC Erik Andreasen, 42, and Maj Richard Martinez, 37, competed together in the famous Hearst Doubles event on Camp Perry's Viale Range. The men are leaders for their respective service marksmanship teams: Andreasen the Commanding Officer for the United States Army Marksmanship Unit (AMU) and Martinez the OIC (Officer in Charge) for the Marine Corps.

"There is a sense of spirited competition between the U.S. Army and the Marine Corps that has been there for many years," Andreasen explained. "The U.S. AMU and Marine Corps Shooting teams do a lot of training and competing with one another, and most folks do not realize that a rivalry that exists between the teams is one of friendly competition."

The Hearst Doubles is a two-person team competition that has been fired at the National Matches for over 15 years. Its popularity has allowed it to grow into one of the staple events on the National Matches schedule with a respected reputation – boasting some of the country's most talented marksmen and women as winners through

its existence. According to Andreasen and Martinez, the pairing of two military marksmanship team leaders has never happened in the match's history, until now.

"There wasn't a lot of hype to it," said Maj Martinez. "It was a good day. It was a fun day. I learned a lot about myself through this whole process."

"We thought that it would be an interesting accomplishment," Andreasen said. "We also wanted to be good role models for all the junior shooters at Camp Perry. Junior Shooters and new adult shooter integration is a passion of both of ours, and our goal at this specific match was to compete, place high, be a good role model and, finally, enjoy some personal rivalry between the two of us."

Depending on the source, the rivalry between the U.S. Marine Corps and U.S. Army either dates back to the beginning of the National Matches or the first post-World War II match that was held at Marine Corps Base Camp Matthews in California and can be traced to the beginning of the Inter-Service matches, back in the 1960s.

"In a lot of ways, it's like two major sports teams that consistently rival each other and push one another to be better," Andreasen said. "It also gives a lot of shooters a military team to get behind and cheer for."

Both services, with their competitive natures, strive to be the best with small arms and prove to the world that they have the best marksmen. The constant reach toward greatness is a reflection of the legacy imprinted by the branches throughout history.

"That rivalry isn't a bad thing or a negative thing – it pushes us," said Martinez. "It makes us want to be better versions of ourselves for our country and our service."

"We collaborate a lot with each other during the year," Andreasen added. "Having worked closely with the Marine Corps Team, I feel their goals are similar."

The idea of teaming up for the 2021 Hearst Doubles began when Martinez and Andreasen crossed paths at the Eastern CMP Games at Camp Butner, North Carolina, in April. Martinez had driven down from Quantico, Virginia, and Andreasen had driven up from Fort Benning, Georgia, to attend the match. Martinez suggested the two team up for the Hearst Doubles when they attend the National Matches just a few months later.

"I thought it would be a very interesting take on two competing services having their leaders deciding that it would be more beneficial to them to come together as a team and compete to show the benefits of working together – of cooperation," Martinez explained.

Andreasen had already planned to fire the Hearst with a family member but accepted Martinez's offer instead. The next several weeks leading up to the National Matches, Martinez trained for the Hearst.

"A lot of preparation, a lot of time and a lot of discipline is needed in order to achieve your goals," Martinez explained. "I think the goal of us competing as senior leaders, communicating, having a dialogue about where we wanted to take our teams in the directions they needed to go for the benefit of marksmanship instruction – for the benefit of the shooting sports in competition and for the benefit of the American people, that they see that the Army and the Marine Corps work well together – that they complement each other, and that this rivalry is just healthy competition in order to better one's self."

Andreasen was able to get on the range about once a week prior to Nationals and was lucky enough to receive one-on-one instruction from members of the U.S. AMU Service Rifle Team. Since range access was limited, he spent a lot of time dry firing at his house and using an air



The Army/Marine Corps rivalry, "makes us want to be better versions of ourselves for our country and our service," said Martinez.

rifle to work on positioning. He also did a fair amount of mental work and physical fitness training in the lead up to the matches.

Soon, August rolled around, and the two met up on Viale in the early morning of the Hearst Doubles to be squadded together, just as they had discussed. The unique pairing quickly caught the attention of others on the range, with some playfully commenting out loud, "Who's going to win?" and "Who's going to outshoot the other?"

"It was fun to see the competitor's reactions when they saw us on the line shooting together," said Andreasen. "And, as always, interacting with the great competitors and match staff at Camp Perry was great – especially as they offered us words of encouragement and advice."

Though both competitive, the men decided the scores weren't the only thing that mattered that day – the way they behaved as leaders on the firing line was the most important thing.

"I can tell you with all certainty that LTC Erik Andreasen was a consummate professional and outstanding performer," Martinez said. "He carried our team, and even when mistakes were made, he lifted the team back up and he reminded me that it is a team effort in everything that we do. I certainly learned some things from him."

Martinez went on, "He's a great long range shooter and can read the wind. The mental strength that that man has is extremely high and that challenges me to increase my mental strength – to work that muscle so I can be just as strong and just as capable."

With their combined talents, the pair found themselves 13th out of 220 teams overall.

"The match was extremely well run, and there was good competition across all the teams," Andreasen said. "Maj Martinez shot well, and I enjoyed the camaraderie and opportunity to share with him some of the techniques that we use at U.S. AMU. It goes without saying that he is a good competitor and teammate. I enjoyed his humor while shooting as well as his ability to relate

to the shooters on our point and around us on the line."

"I reinforced how much I love the National Matches," Andreasen added. "It's my favorite time of year. It is the best of America."

"I'm really just filled with admiration and gratitude," said Martinez. "And pride that we had done this. It's an honor to shoot next to [Andreasen]."

About LTC Erik Andreasen:

LTC Andreasen's career in the Army has spanned more than 20 years, beginning competitive rifle competition the 1990s. He was involved in international smallbore and air rifle through his high school's JROTC program before moving on to the Norwich University NCAA Division I rifle team in college. He picked up highpower and long range competition in 2008, which has taken him across the United States and to Camp Perry through multiple years. He places focus on taking his experiences – a sense of discipline, maturity and responsibility – to pass on to the next generation of marksmen.

"Good sportsmanship is the first quality that I want everyone to see," said Andreasen. "That, followed by being a fierce competitor."

He went on, "I want to stretch those around me to do their best and set personal records every time they step up to the line. I want each individual we train to learn to use their firearms in a safe, efficient and effective manner. I want everyone to be proud of the United States Army



"I reinforced how much I love the National Matches," Andreasen said of competing with Martinez in the Hearst.

and look up to us as role models, not just in shooting, but in life. Most of all I want to instill a love of Highpower and Long Range shooting in every person I meet."

"Life lessons can be learned while on the firing line, while on the range," he said, speaking of junior participation in the sport. "They're becoming informed, and I think that that is going to make our country better. The entire purpose of marksmanship was designed for the American people to become better prepared. I still think that that holds true today. Everything we're doing here, life lessons that are better learned here than anywhere else."

About Maj Richard Martinez:

Maj Martinez is originally from Houston, Texas, and graduated from the Citadel in 2006 before being commissioned directly into the Marine Corps. He's been a Marine Officer for 15 years and is currently stationed in Quantico, Virginia – assigned to the Weapons Training Battalion, the Marine Corps Shooting Team, serving as the Officer in Charge for the last year.

"'What are my personal and professional goals?' is a question I ask myself every single day," he said. "What are my objectives? How do I achieve my end state in the correct manner? Cheating is not to be tolerated or condoned, and hard work and discipline is necessary in order to achieve my objectives. What I have gained from competing are the tools, the pro tips, the techniques needed in order to be a better person, a better man of character, a better Marine officer."

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 https://thecmp.org/youth/junior-distinguished-badge/ or email CMP Competitions at 3PAR@TheCMP.org.



Hometown
Burke, VA
Stacy, MN
Oak Harbor, WA
Maplewood, MN
Ozark, MO
Clover, SC
Kingwood, TX
Conroe, TX
Alliance, NE
Lebanon, OR
Albuquerque, NM
Granbury, TX
Kenosha, WI
Buda TX
Buda, TX Sugar Hill, GA
Burke, VA
Fort Mill, SC
Granbury, TX
Farmington, NM
Rutherfordton, NC
Kennerdell, PA
Brady, TX
Nashville, TN
Pueblo, CO
Morgan, UT
Chaska, MN
Granbury, TX
Winthrop Harbor, IL
Chesapeake, VA
Anniston, AL
Ozark, MO
Pueblo, CO
Newnan, GA
THO WITCHI, O/ 1

Badge # Name
#1533 Lois Hartley
#1534 Rachael Hartzell
#1535 Kyle Orr
#1535 Kyle Orr #1536 Isaac Reichsfeld
#1537 Taylor Thom
#1538 Amia Demuth
#1539 Gatlin James
#1540 Kristen Kanaskie
#1541 Ashley Mendez
#1542 Cecilia Zaragoza
#1543 A.J. Fedora
#1544 Jacob Day
#1545 Bremen Butler
#1546 Mallory Hite
#1547 Nathan Wehrlen
#1548 Saylet Hernandez
#1549 Tha Dah
#1550 Savannah Eastler
#1551 Justin Merriman
#1552 Christian Derenzis
#1553 Isaac Joback
#1554 Hanna McConnell
#1555 Bianca Monteith
#1556 LeeAnna Crudgingtor
#1557 Dylan Gregory
#1558 Ryan Kim
#1559 Marcus Klemp
#1560 Samantha Lippolis
#1561 Lily Cicatella + 1562 Gracie Dinh
#1563 Anthony Hotko #1564 Alexis Kunze
#1565 Gwenevere
1303 GWEHEVELE

Hometown Gray, TN Ozark, MO Fort Mill, SC Albuquerque, NM Newnan, GA Freeport, IL Waterflow, NM Newnan, GA Middletown, NY Des Moines, IA Yuba City, CA Columbus, GA Fort Wayne, IN Delaware, OH Annandale, VA Zion, IL Des Moines, IA Simpsonville, SC Pierre, SD Fort Mill, SC Ballwin, MO Ozark, MO Walhalla, SC n Midland, TX Naperville, IL Burke, VA Missoula, MT San Antonio, TX Oil City, PA Starkville, MS Batavia, IL Oak Harbor, WA Nott Conroe, TX

CMP Hosts Inaugural 3D Archery Tournament, Plans New Archery Events at Talladega

On Sept. 11, 2021, the Civilian Marksmanship Program (CMP) hosted its inaugural Talladega 3D Archery Tournament on the newly constructed Archery Range at the Talladega Marksmanship Park in Alabama. A total of 20 guests, ages 10 and up, participated in the tournament in three separate classes: Fix Pin, Bare Bow and Open.

"It was a positive turnout," said Billy Chapman, CMP Talladega's archery range manager. "It was all new people to us, to the park and to archery."

Plaques were awarded to top individuals, which included:

- Adult Female Open: Michele Stacy, Detroit, Alabama
- Adult Male Open: Joey Tomlinson, Sterrett. Alabama
- Adult Male Pins: Joey Walker, Boaz, Alabama
- Youth Junior Female Pins: Kylie Glenn, Tallapoosa, Georgia
- Youth Junior Male Pins: Aidan Lindblad, Albertville, Alabama
- Youth Senior Female Open: Danielle Chapman, Piedmont, Alabama
- Youth Senior Female Pins: Shelby Boland, Springville, Alabama
- Youth Senior Male Pins: Cole Walker, Boaz, Alabama

Along with regular competition, those curious about archery or the Talladega Archery Range itself were able to sign up for a Fun Round on the 20-lane course. The Fun Round followed the exact target setup as the tournament, though participants competed purely out of enjoyment rather than competition points.

Chapman himself, an experienced archery competitor, shot the Fun Round as well as a parent who wanted to see if he could outshoot his son. Some fired in the Fun Round for other reasons – feeling they weren't quite ready to be a part of the serious competition or, simply, to try something new. Whatever the reason, the Fun Round allowed guests to see the fresh Archery Range and experience it first-hand.



The Talladega 3D Archery Tournament welcomed competitors ages 10 and up.

With the success of Talladega's first 3D tournament, Chapman is already looking at dates for next year, hoping to make the event an annual tradition as the CMP Archery program continues to grow.

"Word of mouth has been one of the major things that's helped us – that's how we got participation for the tournament," Chapman said.

The Talladega Marksmanship Park Archery Range opened in July 2021. Since that time, the park has seen general use of the addition on a weekly basis, with some curious individuals traveling to the park specifically to check out the Archery Range, while others wander over after firing elsewhere on the grounds.

"Essentially, anybody can shoot archery," Chapman encouraged. "We want to reach out and be able to facilitate pretty much anybody and everybody."

The CMP would like to thank everyone who was able to come out and shoot the first 3D Archery Tournament and looks forward to seeing everyone again at future tournaments.

CMP Archery Developments:

Chapman is currently brainstorming a variety of projects to help boost opportunities within the CMP Archery division, including a 3D Archery League for the winter months at Talladega – something not typically found at other facilities due to shifting weather conditions and overlapping hunting seasons. Also unlike other marksmanship facilities, CMP's Talladega will have 3D targets up year-round for guests to enjoy.

"Here in Alabama, weather's not really a big issue until you get later into the year or early into the next year, so we're able to continue 3D tournament season a little bit longer," Chapman explained. "There's not many places that do that."

Talladega staff members are working hard to maintain current competitive archery regulations and expectations of professional organizations—ensuring everything will

be familiar to experienced archery competitors. Members of the ASA (Archery Shooter's Association) are welcome to visit Talladega for practice, with the park utilizing the targets used in nationally-ranked competition.

"It's got the exact same targets that they'll have to be shooting on," Chapman said of the Talladega Archery range. "We'll just keep making sure everything looks good for them and accessible for them to get to – make it look better and better as they come in."

Chapman will be traveling to Virginia in October to earn national certification for 4-H archery and will be able to train others on how to become 4-H leaders in the discipline. After the training, Chapman will be one of only two in the state of Alabama with the certification.

"We're really lucky to have some one like Billy (Chapman) here at CMP, with his vast knowledge of 4-H and archery and the background he has . . . he adds a great benefit," said Greg Raines, CMP's assistant chief operating officer. "With his experience and expertise in archery, this is going to be a great success to CMP and add something to the park that we've needed for quite a while."

Progress for CMP Archery at Talladega Marksmanship Park will continue to move forward as participation and interest rises amongst visitors. With the park's expansive resources, the program has plenty of room to broaden its event schedule as well as its footprint within the property in the future



Along with the 20-lane 3D setup, Talladega's archery area holds a 30x60 practice range.

"We've got the land if we need to," said Raines. "Everything is positive. We're going to see a great uptick in the Archery program."

About the Talladega 3D Archery Range:

The new Archery Range at Talladega Marksmanship Park is located on the shotgun side of the grounds and outfitted with 20 lanes of life-size 3-D targets, specially painted to look like live animals in their natural habitat. The foam Delta-McKenzie targets are designed to fit along pathways tucked between the trees of Talladega's terrain and can be arranged from 15 to 50 yards. The archery area also contains a 30x60-yard practice range.

About Talladega Marksmanship Park:

CMP's Talladega Marksmanship Park, known as "The Home of Marksmanship," hosts daily, monthly and annual firearm opportunities for guests to enjoy. The 500-acre facility features an Unknown Distance Range, 600-yard highpower rifle range (equipped with CMP electronic targets and scoring monitors), action pistol bays and shotgun fields. The Park's Club House holds 13,000 square feet of useable space and CMP's Pro Shop, which is filled with ammunition, shooting accessories, CMP memorabilia and much more. Learn all about CMP's Talladega Marksmanship Park by visiting the CMP website at https://thecmp.org/ranges/talladega-marksmanship-park/.



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.

Girl Scout Troop Visits CMP South Competition Center For Learning and Fun

In September, the Civilian Marksmanship Program (CMP) hosted the Trailblazer Girl Scout Troop from Hoover, Alabama, at the South Competition Center in Anniston, Alabama. The group of 25 Girl Scouts and parents arrived at the facility to take part in a day of fun on the range where they learned more about the sport of marksmanship and everything necessary to compete.

"They scheduled the range for two hours to get the girls on a different adventure than their normal realm," said Renay Woodruff, CMP South Competition Center supervisor.

The Girl Scout Troop leaders had first heard about the CMP from someone who had visited the South Competition Center and suggested it could be a unique and worthwhile

opportunity for the group. Interested, they contacted Woodruff and made arrangements for a personal tour of the range.

"They were very pleased with their visit and stated that they would be attending again," said Woodruff. "Troop leader, Kristina Theall, also brought another troop leader, and we discussed the opportunity for her to bring her troop as well."

The CMP South Competition Center is furnished with a state-of-the-art indoor air gun range that holds 80, 10-meter firing points – all equipped with electronic targets. The range hosts a number of local-, state- and national-level events all year long and is open weekly for public use.

Outside of the air gun range, the South Competition Center is home to the CMP South Store, where guests may browse a variety of marksmanship equipment, learning



materials and CMP memorabilia. Please note: The CMP South Store is currently closed at this time. Classrooms are also available within the building that are capable of accommodating meetings and other gatherings.

Want to try Air Gun Marksmanship? The CMP South Competition Center in Alabama offers Open Public Marksmanship (where individuals of all ages are welcome to try their hand at air gun) Tuesdays and Thursdays from 4 p.m. to 7 p.m. CST in Anniston. Guests may also visit the range by appointment Monday through Thursday. Additionally, the facilities may be rented for team building, conferences or other engagements.

Learn more about the CMP Competition Centers, including rental information, at https://thecmp.org/ranges/cmp-competition-centers/. Contact Renay Woodruff at 256-835-8455 ext. 415 or rwoodruff@thecmp.org for additional information.

Registration Still Open for CMP Three-Position Air Rifle Postal Competitions



CMP Three-Position Championships:

There's still time to register for the Civilian Marksmanship Program's Three-Position Postal Competition! The annual, national-level competition is designed for junior air rifle marksmen involved in 4-H, Scouts, American Legion, club or JROTC sporter and precision air rifle programs.

Firing in the CMP's Postal Competition not only allows the opportunity for growth and experience in competition at a national level, it allows the chance to make valuable connections with like-minded individuals that may last a lifetime.

Participating athletes may choose to fire in the CMP Postal Competition and/or their local CMP State Championship. During the Postal match, competitors receive targets by mail to record shots at their home ranges in each of the three positions: prone, standing and kneeling. Targets are then submitted back to CMP headquarters for official scoring by staff members. State Championships are conducted by CMP State Directors or specially appointed Match Directors.

This year's Postal Competition is open Oct. 1, 2021, through Feb. 1, 2022.

State CMP Championships are open during the same timeframe.

As in past years, top scoring athletes will move on to the Regional Championships during the spring, with the culminating National Championships set to be held at the Gary Anderson CMP Competition Center in Camp Perry, Ohio, June 23-25, 2022 (sporter) and July 16-18, 2022 (precision).

For registration and more information on the CMP Postal Competition or the CMP State Championships, visit https://thecmp.org/youth/three-position-national-postal-competition/.



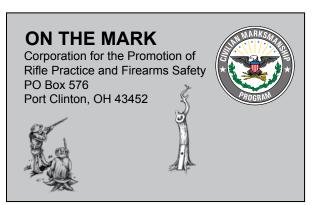
JROTC Three-Position Championships:

Registration for the 2021-2022 JROTC Three-Position Postal Championships closed in November, but the results are available for viewing online! This national event is open for all young cadets in Army, Navy, Marine Corps and Air Force JROTC programs who are interested in competing with other high school junior athletes from around the country. The U.S. Army Cadet Command, TECOM (Training & Education Command), the Naval Service Training Command and AFOATS (Air Force Officer Accession and Training Schools) jointly conduct the JROTC Air Rifle event.

Top scoring athletes and teams of the JROTC Postal competition will now move on to the Service Championships in early 2022, with the National JROTC Championship set to fire March 17-19, 2022, at the Gary Anderson CMP Competition Center in Camp Perry, Ohio.

For more on the JROTC Three-Position Postal competition, including registration info, visit https://thecmp.org/youth/jrotc-air-rifle-national-championship/.





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