An Introduction to CMP Programs

The CMP is, in many respects, a grassroots organization that places high priority on gun safety and marksmanship skills through competitions and educational events. If you are new to the shooting sports, this brochure describes CMP programs for new marksmen and women and how to take advantage of the opportunities offered by our organization.

CMP Program Announcements

With availability of so many programs for new marksmen, the key to taking advantage of them is learning where and when program events take place and how to register for them. The first step is to get on the CMP email distribution list to receive CMP Shooting News email updates. The CMP releases these updates two or three times per month, with each containing announcements of all major CMP programs. Additionally, CMP email notices provide links to official event programs and instructions on how to register. Click on the “Subscribe Now” link on the CMP website or visit www.thecmp.org/email.

The CMP also distributes a printed newsletter for junior coaches and athletes entitled On The Mark. Subscriptions are available for $8 per year. Visit www.thecmp.org/onthemark/ to sign up.

The next step in learning about CMP program opportunities in your area is to familiarize yourself with our upcoming events list on the CMP Competition Tracker website, http://tracker.thecmp.org. There, the CMP manages information for all its training and competition activities. For competitors, this page can be your entry point to a wealth of information and instruction to raise the bar each and every day.

CMP Competition Centers: CMP’s air gun ranges are located at the Gary Anderson CMP Competition Center at the Ohio National Guard’s Camp Perry Training Site, just west of Port Clinton, Ohio. A twin range, the Judith Legerski CMP Competition Center, is located in Anniston, Alabama, near the CMP’s M1 Rifle processing, fulfillment and sales center. Both 10-meter international airgun ranges are equipped with 80 electronically scored targets. The CMP also provides remote training and competition opportunities using its Mobile Range that travels to virtually any area of the country.

CMP Ranges

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

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CMP Talladega Marksmanship Park: This 500-acre outdoor marksmanship facility in Talladega, Alabama, is the first of its kind in the country – housing a 50-fringe point highpower rifle range with electronically scored targets. The facility also features pistol static and turning targets, shotgun opportunities (S-Stand, Trap and Skeet centers and a one-mile Sporting Clay loop), a 3D Archery Range and Practice Range and an Unknown Distance Range.

Contact Us

www.TheCMP.org

Resources for New Marksmen

The CMP continues to develop resources that individuals new to the sport may utilize to learn gun safety, basic marksmanship skills or to get started in different types of competitions. Some resources are available to download for free on the CMP website, while others are available for purchase from the CMP E-Store at https://estore.thecmp.org or visit https://www.thecmp.org/publications/:

• The CMP Guide to Target Shooting with Vintage Military Rifles: A 284-page, soft-bound, fully-illustrated first edition is likely the most comprehensive manuscript ever written about the methods of training and competing with popular American and foreign vintage military rifles. Authored by Gary Anderson, Director of Civilian Marksmanship; Emeritus and two-time highpower rifle Olympic gold medalist.
• Coaching Young Rifle Shooters: The most comprehensive guide to instructing junior shooting, written by one of the nation’s premier marksmen, Gary Anderson. In the 200-page book, loaded with illustrations, Gary provides coaches with all the tools needed to develop the young competitor and improve the skills of up-and-coming juniors.
• CMP Guide to Rimfire Sporter: A 44-page booklet with information on basic marksmanship skills, instructions on how to shoot the Rimfire Sporter course of fire and guidelines for organizing Rimfire Sporter Matches.
• A Junior Shooter’s Guide to Air Rifle Safety: A 20-page booklet, written for junior air rifle athletes, providing safety rules, procedures and guidelines that can be used by youth or adults in any range firing situation.
• CMP Poster Sets for BB Gun, Rimfire Sporter and Air Rifle: The 11x17 color series highlights the most important teaching points for getting young competitors started in marksmanship. The full-color posters are designed to be used during instruction or be posted on the range.
• USAMU Service Rifle Marksmanship Guide and USAMU Advanced Pistol Guide: Illustrated books, written by the U.S. Army Teams, with detailed instructions on the basic and advanced skills of service rifle, service pistol and bullseye pistol target shooting.
• CMP Guide to Junior Pistol Shooting: The Guide provides information and instruction to inspire and motivate youth, parents and club leaders to become active in junior pistol programs.

Visit the CMP website for additional resources at https://www.thecmp.org/coaching-resources/ or email info@thecmp.org.
Rimfire Sporter Match and Training Opportunity
The CMP developed the Rimfire Sporter match specifically to appeal to the large population of potential new competitors who own smallbore rifle, hunting or plinking rifles and who are interested in an accessible, yet challenging shooting game that can be fired with those commonly owned .22 caliber rifles. Many folks who have not been involved in traditional target shooting will have an opportunity to participate in a National Match of competition in a low-stress environment. All that’s required for Rimfire Sporter shooting is a smallbore (.22 caliber) sporter-type rifle weighing 7.5 pounds or less. Except for a sling, no other special gear is required or permitted. There are divisions for telescopic sights, open sights and tactical/unlimited rifles. Firing is conducted at 25 and 50 yards in prone, sitting or kneeling and standing positions. Both slow-fire and rapid-fire stages are included in the match.

Those looking for training leading up to the Rimfire Sporter Match are welcome to participate in the CMP Rimfire Sporter Match Clinic the day prior to the match. The training is designed to give first timers the basic knowledge of range procedures, competition rules and shooting techniques that they need to successfully compete in the Rimfire Sporter Match. The Rimfire Sporter match is also conducted at CMP Travel Games and at the CMP Talladega Marksmanship Park in Alabama. A number of CMP Affiliated Clubs across the country also sponsor Rimfire Sporter matches for competitors in their areas. Find more information on the Rimfire Sporter match at https://thecmp.org/rimfiresporter/.

CMPS Games Matches and Clinics
Another great way to get started in the challenging sport of target shooting is to compete in the National CMP Games Events or in sanctioned club matches. CMP Games Events are great for new competitors because the courses of fire can be completed without extensive prior experience. The as-issued M1 Garand, M1903 Springfield or other manually operated military rifles used in these matches are available just about anywhere, and coaching is allowed during the match.

Most of these matches are squadded so there is an experienced competitor on every firing point who is there not only to compete, but also to help the other competitor on their firing point. Many Garand, Springfield and Military Rifle matches also begin with clinics. Two-hour clinics are offered during the National Matches at Camp Perry for those competing in CMP Games events. Many CMP-affiliated clubs sponsor local Games events sanctioned by the CMP.

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

Check out https://thecmp.org/clubs/clinics/ for more information on these events.

CMP Travel Games Matches and Clinics
The CMP recognizes that not everyone can get to Camp Perry, Ohio, where its headquarters is located. For this reason, the CMP inaugurated the CMP Travel Games to offer rifle and pistol matches to competitors throughout the U.S. The CMP Travel Games are currently offered at the Ben Avery Shooting Facility in North Phoenix, Arizona, the Eastern CMP Games at Camp Butler, North Carolina, and the New England CMP Games at Camp Ethan Allen in Jericho, Vermont. All of these Games matches feature clinics for new competitors and an environment that strives to be “new-competitor” friendly. Visit the CMP website at https://thecmp.org/competitions/cmp-travel-games/ for more information.

Competitors have many opportunities to fire in several matches at these events throughout the U.S. and at its CMP Talladega Marksmanship Park in Alabama.

CMP Sanctioned Clinics
Many CMP Affiliated Clubs conduct special clinics for new competitors. These clinics are taught at local ranges by club instructors, offering excellent opportunities to learn gun safety and basic target shooting skills. To find clubs in your area offering sanctioned clinics, check the Upcoming Events listings at https://ct.thecmp.org.

The CMP Talladega Marksmanship Park also offers rifle, pistol, archery and shotgun clinics. Contact the Park to schedule your next training class at (256) 474-4408.

Contact us for more on these and other CMP Programs at (419) 635-2141 or email info@thecmp.org.