The Civilian Marksmanship Program traces its origin to 1903 when Congress and the President established the National Matches and National Board for the Promotion of Rifle Practice. The program gave life to a concept advanced by President Theodore Roosevelt and several other national leaders that marksmanship skills developed through regular practice and competition contribute to the nation’s defense.

After WWII, the program mission increasingly focused on fostering youth development through marksmanship. When the program expanded to make its competitions and military support available to civilians, it became known as the “Civilian Marksmanship Program, or CMP.” In 1996, Congress privatized the program by creating a federally chartered, not-for-profit corporation known as the Corporation for the Promotion of Rifle Practice and Firearm Safety, Inc.

Our Mission:
To Promote Firearm Safety and Marksmanship Training with an Emphasis on Youth

The CMP is a national organization dedicated to firearms safety, education and marksmanship competition with an emphasis on youth.

The CMP offers qualified customers the opportunity to personally inspect and purchase U.S. government surplus rifles like the M1 Garand at our stores in Anniston, Alabama, Port Clinton, Ohio, and at the CMP Talladega Marksmanship Park. Buyers can download applications and instructions on our website, where rifle types and pricing are detailed.

The CMP offers one-year scholarship assistance to qualified juniors in order to encourage and reward their outstanding efforts. Based on merit, selected individuals are high school seniors who are currently enrolled in a team or club that is participating in rifle or pistol marksmanship competitions. The CMP seeks applications from high school seniors who currently compete in marksmanship competitions. CMP also awards additional assistance to the top applicant. With the Garand Collector’s Association donation, extra assistance is also awarded to the top scholarship recipients.

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Small Arms Firing Schools (SAFS) and Marksmanship 101

The pistol and rifle SAFS are conducted by the U.S. Army Marksmanship Unit (USAMU) and sponsored by the CMP. Schools are open to all U.S. citizens who wish to learn or improve their rifle or pistol skills at the outset of the National Matches. Beginner and Advanced groups receive instruction appropriate to their skill levels. Basic instruction covers firearm safety, function, positions and firing techniques, while Advanced covers topics like the effects of weather and mental conditioning. After classroom time and practice firing on the range, all students will have the opportunity to shoot in an actual EIC match. Ammunition and firearms are provided for the schools. CMP also offers Marksmanship 101 classes at various locations throughout the U.S. to reach more individuals.

https://thecmp.org/training-tech/

National Trophy Matches

The National Matches trace their history to 1903 when created by Congress. The “National Trophy” matches continue to be some of the most prestigious events in U.S. shooting sports world-wide.

Today, the National Trophy Rifle and Pistol Matches provide national championship competitions in service rifle and service pistol events that preserve the finest traditions of military and civilian marksmanship in the U.S. More than 60 trophies are awarded at the conclusion of the matches. CMP has expanded the rifle matches to include Smallbore, CMP Cup and Long Range matches. For additional information about the National Matches, visit our website at http://thecmp.org/nationals/.

National Rimfire Sporter Match

The CMP Rimfire Sporter Match offers shooters a recreation-oriented competition with .22 caliber sporter rifles, commonly owned by most gun enthusiasts. The match is open to a wide range of age groups, from children to seniors. The match is broken into six 100-point stages, half of which are slow fire and rapid fire, in three positions of prone, sitting or kneeling and standing. Classifications are open sights, telescopic/aperture sights and tactical unlimited rimfire.

It’s a great match for beginners and veterans alike. CMP encourages adults to enter the match with their junior children, grandchildren, nieces and nephews. It’s great family fun and serves as an excellent introduction to competitive shooting. CMP has added a Rimfire Sporter Small Arms Firing School to the schedule.

Rimfire Sporter matches are held during the National Matches at Camp Perry, the CMP Travel Games and Talladega Matches.

Clinics

Many clinics are held during the National Matches at Camp Perry, the CMP Travel Games and at the CMP Talladega Marksmanship Park. These clinics are taught by CMP Staff Members and Master Instructors. Visit our website for more information.

https://thecmp.org/travel-games/

CMP Travel Games

In addition to events at Camp Perry, CMP matches are also held at various locations throughout the year. These CMP events are more comfortably-paced versions of the matches fired at Camp Perry and feature CMP Targets, providing electronic scoring. Pistol, Highpower Rifle and Vintage Rifle events along with clinics are offered.

http://thecmp.org/talladega/