

ON THE MARK

THE NEWSLETTER FOR COACHES AND JUNIOR SHOOTERS © SUMMER 2017



THE 'GOLDEN' BOY

McKenna Earns Golden Eagle Trophy as High Junior During Record-Setting National Match Showing



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Nepali Juniors Attend CMP Camp
Sporter Competitor Turns to Highpower
Matt Lovre Joins West Point Rifle

And...

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- A Tribute to Maj. Bill Barker

ON THE MARK

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

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

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

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

© Sighting Shots ©

- © **Gary Anderson Invitational, Dec. 1-2, 2017.** The match is a junior three-position air rifle match that is a sanctioned CMP Cup Match and an outstanding competition opportunity for every school or club shooting team. This event is named after the former Director of the Civilian Marksmanship, Gary Anderson, whose influence and guidance has significantly impacted the success of three-position air rifle shooting. The sporter and precision event will fire Dec. 1 at Camp Perry and Dec. 1 and 2 at the South Competition Center in Anniston. For more, visit <http://thecmp.org/air/cmp-competition-center-event-matches/gary-anderson-invitational-air-rifle-championship/>.



- © **The CMP "Aces" Postal** satellite match offers all junior and adult air rifle and air pistol shooters a program designed to encourage participation in the sport and test marksmanship skills nationally with their peers. The program consists of Air Rifle, Air Pistol, and Para-Air Rifle/Air Pistol events. For more information, visit <http://thecmp.org/air/cmp-aces-postal/>.

- © **Talladega 600, Talladega Marksmanship Park, Talladega, AL, 5-10 Dec., 2017.** The Talladega 600 will include popular CMP Games Matches and versions of prestigious National Trophy Matches. A GSM Master Instructor Course and a Small Arms Firing School will also be conducted. A .22 Rimfire Match EIC and As-Issued 1911 and Military & Police Matches are scheduled for pistol shooters. The park's manicured sporting clays course featuring 15 challenging stations and the 5-stand, trap fields will also be open to the public during the matches. For more information on the event, including registration and a complete match schedule, visit <http://thecmp.org/competitions/matches/talladega-600/>.

- © **Dixie Double, Anniston, AL, 3-5 Nov., 2017.** The annual CMP Dixie Double offers 60-shot international air rifle standing and 60-shot air pistol events for open men and women and junior men and women. New this year, the event will include a Super Final. For more, visit <http://thecmp.org/air/cmp-competition-center-event-matches/dixie-double/>.



- © **Open Public Shooting Evenings and Monthly Matches at CMP Marksmanship Centers.** Shooters, including aspiring new shooters, who live in the Camp Perry, Port Clinton, Ohio, or Anniston, Ala., areas are invited to take advantage of the opportunity for practice at the Marksmanship Center air gun ranges' Open Public Evenings. Both 80-point, 10-meter air gun ranges are fully equipped with electronic targets that accommodate air rifle, air pistol or National Match Air Rifle shooting. An exciting Bench Match League is also offered during Marksmanship Nights. Upcoming **Monthly Matches** include:
- Oct. 14, 2017
 - March 10, 2018

For more information, please visit <http://thecmp.org/air/cmp-competition-centers>.

Retraction

In the Spring 2017 Issue of *OTM*, the Gary Anderson article incorrectly named Sam Payne the winner of the T-Class during the 2016 National Rimfire Sporter Championship.

Line reads:

"Sam Payne from Kingston, Georgia, was the Junior Champion in the 2016 National Rimfire Sporter Championship O- and T-Class competitions. Payne was the T-Class National Champion in 2015."

In fact, Sawyer Williams of Lula, GA, beat Sam in x-count to be named the High Junior of the class, with a score of 594-35x.

On the Cover: Liam McKenna set a new National Record in the National Matches NTI event as the High Junior competitor. With his outstanding scores, McKenna was named the overall service rifle junior competitor of the Matches.

Participate in the CMP's Air Rifle Postal Competitions

By Ashley Brugnone, CMP Writer

The 2017-2018 JROTC Postal Competition officially opened on Sept. 25, 2017, for young cadets in Army, Navy, Marine Corps and Air Force JROTC programs who are interested in competing in this three-position air rifle match with other talented juniors across the nation.

To compete, registered participants will each receive three targets and instructions for recording scores. Shooters will fire in each of the three positions (prone, standing, kneeling) at their home ranges – using one target for each position. Once record shots are fired, shooters will return the targets to CMP for scoring.

CMP staff members will verify scores using the Orion Visual Image Scoring system. Results will be posted within Competition Tracker for teams and individuals to check during the postal season.

As in years past, the MidwayUSA Corporation will provide generous fund donations to winning teams of the JROTC Championships. The funds will be placed in each team's endowment account with the MidwayUSA Foundation. The MidwayUSA Foundation is a 501c(3) public charity that helps communities and organizations raise funds to support youth shooting teams and activities. The Foundation is an endowment that helps fund team expenses today and into the future.

Top scorers of the Postal competition will qualify for Regionals, which will be held in February at three locations: Anniston, Ala.; Camp Perry, Ohio; and Phoenix, Ariz. Nationals will follow in March in Camp Perry for all service branches.

For more information, visit <http://thecmp.org/air/jrotc-air-rifle-national-championship/>.



Dates to note for the 2017-2018 JROTC Postal Competition:

- **Sept. 25 – Online Registration Opens**
- **Nov. 15 – Online Registration Closes**
- **Dec. 1 – Targets must be received by CMP for scoring (Late targets will not be scored.)**
- **Dec. 11 – Preliminary Results Posted**
- **Dec. 14 – All scores final (Protests cannot be made after 8 a.m.)**

CMP 3P Postal Competition

The CMP National Postal Championship will officially open for registration on Nov. 1, 2017, for any junior air gun marksman involved in 4-H, Scouts, American Legion, club or JROTC air rifle programs. The competition is designed for those interested in testing their three-position competition skills against some of the top shooters in the country, while firing from the convenience of their home ranges.

Registered shooters will receive CMP competition targets by mail to record shots upon at each of the three positions: prone, standing and kneeling. Targets are then submitted back to CMP headquarters for official scoring by staff members.

Top-scoring athletes of the CMP 3P Postals will qualify for the CMP Regionals event, fired at Camp Perry, Ohio; Anniston, Ala.; and Sandy, Utah.

For registration and more information on the CMP Postal Competition, visit <http://thecmp.org/air/three-position-national-postal-competition/>.

Your 2017 National Match Junior Winners



Sam Kwon was the High Junior in the President's and NTI matches.

Pistol:

- High Junior of the .22 Rimfire Pistol Match was Derek Rodriguez, 19, of Mount Pleasant, SC.

- Samuel Kwon, 17, of New York, NY, was the overall winner of the Junior President's Pistol Match with a score of 330-3x. Kwon also went on to win the Junior Pistol Trophy as the High Junior in the National Trophy Individual competition.

- In the M9 Excellence-In-Competition (EIC) Match, Brannon Sickels, 19, of Frisco, TX, was the winning competitor with a score of 264-2x. Sickels has not yet earned his Distinguished Rifleman's Badge and earned his introductory four of 30 necessary EIC points.

Rifle Individual:

- Liam McKenna, 20, of Warrenville, IL, set a new National Record in the National Trophy Individual match. McKenna was the High Junior of the competition, with a score of 494-21x. He also earned the title as the overall high junior service rifle competitor of the matches – setting an aggregate National Record of 1279-49x.

- Setting a new National Record as High Woman of the President's 100 Rifle Match with a score of 391-10x was Gabrielle Pitre, 20, of Louisville, KY. Pitre was also the High Junior of the event.



Along with High Woman, Pitre also earned the High Junior honor during the President's 100.

- Earning his first of 30 points towards becoming Distinguished was junior Tyler Lane, 18, of Wilton, NH, who fired a score of 389-11x to win the M16 Match that accompanied the Small Arms Firing School.

Rifle Team:

- Making a mark as the Junior National Trophy Infantry Team was the California Grizzlies O'Connell, consisting of Joe Blacksmith, Kenneth Blacksmith, Samuel Blacksmith, Justin George, Miles Grove, Nathaniel Nye, captain Loet Van Hoven and coach Jim O'Connell.

- The High Junior team of the National Trophy Team Match was WI Force Cheddar. Team members Josh Hanrahan, Bryan Melville, Jadon Selsmeyer, Brad Schoenemann, Vincent Norling and Riley Stewart fired a score of 2831-52x. Captain of the team was James Melville, with coach Kaleb Hall leading the way.

- First place in the National Junior Trophy Team match was Wisconsin Force Cheddar. Firing members Josh Hanrahan (captain) and Brad Schoenemann. Coach of the team was Kaleb Hall.

- A National Junior Team is comprised from the top individuals in the Junior Team Match. Making this year's team was Jack Graw, Murrysburg, PA, Miles Grove of Davis, CA, Josh Hanrahan of Green Bay, WI, Alex Vitous

of Martinton, IL, Brad Schoenomann of Lodi, WI, and new National Record holder Liam McKenna of Warrenville, IL, who also fired a junior aggregate score of 1279-49x to be awarded the Col. Bill Deneke Trophy.

CMP Games Events:

- Meghann Beaver, 18, of Indianapolis, IN, earned the spot of High Junior of the Springfield Match with a score of 281-5x.

- Mark Stout II, 19, was the High Junior of the Carbine event for the second time, with a score of 342-3x. His father, Mark Stout, 48, of Waterford, MI, topped the match for the second consecutive year with a National Record total score of 380-7x, while younger brother Connor, 15, finished as the fourth overall junior. Next year, Mark II will compete as an adult against his father, leaving the High Junior spot up for grabs for Connor.

- Earning the High Junior title of the Garand Match was Gabe Rampy, 19, of Bremen, GA, with an overall score of 190-3x. Rampy was also the High Junior of the Vintage Military event.

- Collin Williams, 19, of Granby, MA, led as High Junior of the Modern Military event, with a score of 285-5x. Collin is the son of Garand and 4-Gun Aggregate winner Brian Williams.

- Past Rimfire Sporter champion Sam Payne, 18, of Kingston, GA, was High Junior of the O-Class, finishing third overall. Payne, who holds the T-Class National Record, was also the High Junior of that class.

- Dylan Zettlemoyer, 18, of Turbotville, PA, finished fifth overall as the High Junior of the Tactical match. Brianna Toikkanen, 19, of Conneaut, OH, made marks in the Tactical Class for the third year in a row – having finished as the High Junior in 2015 and 2016 and this year earning High Woman in the category.



WI Force Cheddar members Josh Hanrahan (center) and Brad Schoenomann (right) topped the National Junior Team event. The team was coached by Kaleb Hall.



Gabe Rampy was the High Junior of the Garand and Vintage Military Games events.



The WI Force Cheddar team earned the High Junior Team title during the NTT.

Junior Shooting Around the World

Junior Shooting Around the World A Look at Worldwide Junior Shooting Activities and How They Impact Junior Shooting in the USA

By Gary Anderson, DCM Emeritus



Here, qualifying competition in the 10m Air Pistol Mixed Team event is taking place during the 1st Junior World Championship for Rifle and Pistol in Suhl, Germany. The USA 1 team of Kellie Foster and Jack Leverett III is on the left.

Junior shooters today have more opportunities to advance and succeed in their sport in more countries around the world than ever before. This **On the Mark** article describes many of those opportunities and how youth in other countries and the USA are benefitting from them.

There is lots of evidence that worldwide junior shooting is advancing. Three junior-aged athletes won four medals in the 2016 Olympic Games--Virginia Thrasher, USA, gold; Anna Korakaki, Greece, gold and bronze, and Vitalina Batsarashkina, Russia, silver. Young rifle and pistol shooters just finished their first Junior World Championship in Suhl, Germany. The International Olympic Committee (IOC) launched the Youth Olympic Games in 2010 and Shooting is on the program. The IOC and Olympic sport governing bodies like the International Shooting Sport Federation (ISSF) are changing their event programs so women and junior girls will have equal opportunities to participate in all countries. The ISSF initiated a Junior World Cup program in 2016. Many countries now provide meaningful financial and coaching support to develop junior athletes in Shooting, mostly through government

funding. Results produced by junior shooters are getting better and better all over the world.

Why is "Junior Shooting Around the World" important to junior shooters and their leaders in the USA? There are three primary answers: 1) Shooting is an Olympic sport and living the Olympic dream by practicing shooting is still the single most powerful reason why youth want to learn how to shoot; 2) the competition scores of the world's best juniors can inspire USA juniors to work harder to achieve higher results and 3) American youth are excited about participating in a sport where they can aspire to not only make their school shooting team and possibly shoot in college, but where they could even qualify for the USA National Shooting Team and compete in the Olympic Games.

Olympic Shooting Program Changes

The IOC governs the Olympic Games and decides which sports and events are on the Olympic Program. When the IOC adopted its Agenda 2020 in 2014, it

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2020 Olympic Games Shooting Program

Men's Events:

- 10m Air Rifle
- 50m Rifle 3-Positions
- 10m Air Pistol
- 25m Rapid-Fire Pistol
- Trap
- Skeet

Women's Events:

- 10m Air Rifle
- 50m Rifle 3-Positions
- 10m Air Pistol
- 25m Pistol
- Trap
- Skeet

Mixed Team Events (1 M & 1 W)

- 10m Air Rifle
- 10m Air Pistol
- Trap

mandated that all Olympic sports, including Shooting, must change *"to achieve 50 percent female participation in the Olympic Games."* One of the most important IOC standards for evaluating proposed event changes is to *"ensure the Olympic program remains relevant to young people by ensuring innovation and adapting to modern taste and new trends."* Gender equality, appeal to youth and modernization are critical criteria for deciding Olympic Shooting events.

The IOC Executive Board made final decisions regarding the 2020 Olympic Shooting Program on 9 June. They approved a program that gives women *"equal participation opportunities,"* is more oriented towards youth and can more readily be practiced in more countries.

The 2020 Olympic Shooting Program has six men's events, six women's events and three mixed team events. The three Mixed Gender Team events that were added are 10m Air Rifle, 10m Air Pistol and Trap. Three previous



Teams from Russia and India battled in the Air Pistol Mixed Team gold medal match at the 2017 Junior World Championship. India won, 7 points to 4. Air Rifle and Air Pistol Mixed Team events will be new events in the 2020 Olympics.

men's events were deleted, 50m Rifle Prone, 50m Pistol and Double Trap, primarily because of low popularity with the public. The prone and pistol events ranked last and next-to-last among the 15 Olympic Shooting events in the IOC event-based analysis of 2016 TV viewers and Internet searches.

Mixed Gender Teams have one male and one female athlete. In the Rifle and Pistol events, they shoot side by side in a 50 shot (2 x 25) qualification. The top eight teams advance to a semifinal to decide two teams to compete in the gold medal match and two teams for the bronze medal match. Scoring in the medal matches will use a point system. Team members each fire a shot and the team with the highest two-shot total receives one point. Seven points are needed to win the medal match.

Mixed Team events were first included in the 2014 Youth Olympic Games. There and in subsequent testing, they proved to be very popular with youth and exciting to spectators. No decisions have been made yet regarding the inclusion of these events in USA junior championships, but the appeal of two team members shooting together in a dynamic competition format promises to be highly attractive to juniors.

Junior Shooting Around the World



Nikola Foistova and Filip Nepejchal from the Czech Republic won gold medals in the 10m Air Rifle Mixed Team event at the 2017 Junior World Championship.

The Youth Olympic Games

The **Youth Olympic Games (YOG)** vision is to inspire young athletes around the world to participate in sport and live by Olympic values. The YOG combine an elite international youth sports competition with cultural and educational programs to encourage participants to play an active, constructive role in their communities. The YOG promote themes like Olympism, skills development, a healthy lifestyle and social responsibility. Detailed information about the YOG can be found at <https://www.olympic.org/factsheets-and-reference-documents/youth-olympic-games>.

YOG athletes must be between the ages of 15 to 18 on 31 December of the year of the Games. Previous YOGs were held in Singapore in 2010 and Nanjing, China in 2014. The 2018 YOG will take place in Buenos Aires where 4,000 athletes are expected to compete in 41 sports. The YOG program includes Shooting, which has six 10-meter events, Air Rifle Men, Air Rifle Women, Air Pistol Men, Air Pistol Women, Air Rifle Mixed Teams and Air Pistol Mixed Teams. Shooting has 80 participation quotas, 20 for each individual event. Qualifying for the 80 quota places is done through continental qualifying competitions.

There will be a YOG qualifying competition for the American Continent next May at Fort Benning, but no USA juniors will be able to qualify because the U. S. Olympic Committee supports YOG participation for only a few sports and Shooting is not one of them. *Note: The USOC did not respond to a request to clarify USA participation in the 2018 YOG.*

Junior Rifle & Pistol World Championship

The biggest and most important junior shooting competition in 2017 was the ISSF's **1st Junior World Championship for Rifle and Pistol**. Until this year, Rifle and Pistol Juniors had only one World Championship opportunity every four years and that was for junior events that were part of the big World Shooting Championship, which takes place every four years.

The ISSF now expects to adopt a Championship program with World Championships in every odd-numbered year and Junior World Championships in every even numbered year. To begin the transition to this new World Championship plan, the **1st Junior World Championship for Rifle and Pistol** took place in Suhl, Germany this year. There will be junior events in the World Championship in Changwon, Korea next year. After that, the new cycle will begin with another Junior World Championship in 2020.



The welcome gate in the main plaza of the Suhl (GER) Shooting Sports Center that hosted the 1st Junior World Championship for Rifle and Pistol on 21-30 June 2017.

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The 2017 Junior World Championship hosted 543 athletes from 65 nations who made 1,164 starts in 15 different rifle and pistol events. Those athletes enjoyed a complete World Championship experience. An Opening Ceremony with full Olympic pageantry took place in Suhl's central plaza where spectator stands and every open area were filled with spectators. The ceremony featured a parade of nations, the customary speeches and Olympic-type oaths taken on behalf of the athletes, coaches and judges.

The competition program included the 10 current Olympic Rifle and Pistol events, three non-Olympic events (50m Rifle Prone Women, 25m Pistol Men and 25m Standard Pistol Men), 3-person team competitions in each individual event and 10m Air Rifle and 10m Air Pistol Mixed Team events. It is interesting to note that average entries in the 10m events were 66 percent higher than average entries in the 25m and 50m events. Female entries in the 10m events were 21 percent higher than male entries. 10m events and equal participation by women are clearly hallmarks of the future in Shooting. All events concluded with post-competition equipment testing, anti-doping tests and Victory Ceremonies.

China's junior athletes dominated by winning 21 total medals compared with second place India's eight medals and six medals each won by Ukraine and Russia. The USA finished 14th in the Medal Standings with two silver and 1 bronze medals, all for team events.

The USA entered a small delegation in the Championship with six pistol and five rifle athletes. Leading the USA team was Olympic gold medalist Virginia Thrasher who was the USA flag bearer in the Opening Ceremony. Thrasher made the final in the 10m Air Rifle Women event with a 419.9 (her qualifying score in the Rio Olympics was 416.3) and finished 5th in the Final. Other USA finalists were Morgan Phillips who led the 50m 3x20 qualifiers with a 589 and finished 4th and Sarah Choe who posted a 383 qualifying score in the 10m Air Pistol event and finished 8th. Jack Leverett III finished 5th in the 25m Pistol Men Junior event with a personal best 581.

Overall scores in Suhl were very high. For example, Thrasher's impressive 419.6 Air Rifle qualifying score was third behind two Chinese athletes who both scored over 421. Several junior gold medal scores were actually higher than gold medal scores in 2017 ISSF World Cups. Almost every event had qualification scores that would have made finals in 2017 World Cups.

International Junior Championships

One of the most important changes in junior shooting opportunities in the 110-year history of the ISSF occurred in 2016 when the first **ISSF Junior World Cups** were staged. Junior World Cups are now a permanent part of the ISSF Championship program and the ISSF plans to authorize two or three Junior World Cups every year.

The list of international shooting championships with junior events is growing. Continental Shooting Championships in Europe, Asia and America include junior championship events. There are several other international shooting competitions that are either exclusively for juniors or that include junior events. USA teams occasionally participate in some annual international junior competitions like the Meeting of the Shooting Hopes in Plzen, Czech Republic, and the International Season Start for Juniors in Dortmund, Germany.

How Other Countries Develop Juniors

Any discussion of junior development opportunities around the world raises questions about how different countries develop junior shooters. The most effective national junior development programs are sports schools, shooting in the schools programs, shooting club junior programs and family support.



Virginia Thrasher and Will Shaner shot together as USA Team #1 in the Junior World Championship Air Rifle Mixed Team event.

Junior Shooting Around the World

International Junior Championships in 2018

- **14-18 March. World University Games; Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia.**
- **20-29 March. Junior World Cup in Rifle, Pistol & Shotgun; Sydney, Australia.**
- **7-15 May. Youth Olympic Games Qualifying for the Americans; Fort Benning, USA.**
- **23-29 June. Junior World Cup in Rifle, Pistol & Shotgun; Suhl, Germany.**
- **31 August – 14 September. World Shooting Championship with Junior Events; Changwon, Korea.**
- **6-18 October. Youth Olympic Games; Buenos Aires, Argentina.**
- **27 October – 5 November. Championship of the Americas with Junior Events; Guadalajara, Mexico. (Europe and Asia also have continental championships with junior events)**

Here are brief summaries of junior development programs in leading shooting nations.

China. No country produces more outstanding junior shooters than China. Their most recent junior heroes included YANG Haoran who won the 10m Air Rifle Men World Championship as an 18-year-old and eight World Cup gold and silver medals while he was still a junior. The foundation of the Chinese development program is its sports schools. There are 3,000 sports schools in China and many of them offer shooting programs for youth starting at around age 12. Funding for these schools comes from the government; selected youth have to supply the motivation and will to work exceptionally hard. Gaining admission to a school sports program, nevertheless, is selective and often requires the young athlete to live away from home in a boarding school. Training in shooting is intense. A typical routine involves four or five hours of shooting each day for five or six days a week plus two hours of physical training plus school work. Chinese junior shooters are better because they work harder—it's that simple.

Russia. The Russian Shooting Union reports that if a young person in Russia wants to become a shooting athlete, they and their parents must also apply for admission to a

sports school. The sports school system was founded in the Soviet Union to develop medal contenders in international sports who could bolster the prestige of the communist system. The new state in Russia kept the sport school system active even during difficult economic times after the fall of communism in the 1990s. It also continues to be possible to earn a college degree as a shooting coach so well trained shooting coaches are available for Russian sports schools. The schools receive sufficient government funding so young athletes can have suitable guns and equipment as well as travel opportunities for competitions.

Germany. With 15,000 shooting clubs, Germany has the most highly developed shooting infrastructure of any country in the world. Juniors in Germany are trained through shooting club youth programs. Club programs start with light beam guns for youth as young as six or eight. There are legal restrictions; juniors can only start air gun shooting at age 12 and smallbore rifle or pistol shooting at age 14. The German Shooting Federation has a comprehensive coach training program that offers government-authorized training and licensing for club youth trainers. Every shooting club must have a licensed youth trainer before they can offer junior shooting training. The German Federation builds on the work of club youth trainers with a national network of coaches who work at the national, state and regional levels.

Korea. Korea is another international shooting power that relies on a strong junior development program. Korea topped the Shooting medal count in the 2012 Olympic Games with three gold medals and two silver medals, including a gold medal won by 18-year-old KIM Yangmi in the 25m Pistol Women event. The Korean system is more accurately described as a shooting in the schools program. Schools that offer shooting as a school sport receive government support to obtain air rifles and pistols as well as necessary rifle clothing. Korean school shooting programs have paid coaches and there is a national competition program for school shooting teams.

India. Perhaps unexpectedly, India is on its way to becoming a world shooting power. This is partly because youth in India are wild about shooting. The IOC event-based analysis that was completed during and after the 2016 Olympic Games showed that Shooting generated nearly three times more Internet searches in India than it did in the next closest countries, the UK, USA and France. When the IOC asked youth all over the world what their favorite Olympic sports were, Shooting ranked higher in India than in any other country. Junior shooter development in India takes place mostly in shooting clubs, but also in an expanding schools program. Substantial government

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stipends are available for juniors who attain high performance levels in club competitions. Pooja Ghatkar, the bronze medal winner in the 10m Air Rifle Women event in the 2017 New Delhi World Cup, demonstrates the impact of this funding. She is the daughter of a rickshaw driver who could not afford to support his daughter in a sport as expensive as shooting.

United States. The development of USA juniors who can compete successfully in international competitions faces daunting challenges created by insufficient funding, competition from other shooting sports activities and non-supportive arms industry priorities. The most productive junior programs for preparing athletes who can follow the Olympic path are junior shooting clubs, JROTC units and 4-H Shooting Sports clubs. There have been successes, the most noteworthy being Virginia Thrasher, who won the 10m Olympic Games gold medal in the 2016 Olympic Games at the age of 19. Thrasher followed a development path that included membership in an excellent junior shooting club, lots of 3-position air rifle and junior smallbore position competitions, attendance at CMP Junior Rifle Camps and shooting on the NCAA Champion West Virginia University Rifle Team. Indeed, the NCAA College Rifle program is a very important athlete development program for the USA, but it unfortunately only supports rifle.

Family Support. Family support plays an important role in the development of almost all world-class athletes, but there is a unique version of family support that stands out. This is where the father or mother of a young athlete becomes their coach and personally guides their development. The leading example of family support as a means of athlete development is Greek shooter Anna Korakaki who won gold and bronze medals in pistol events at the 2016 Olympics as a 20-year-old. She was named the 2016 Female Shooter of the Year by vote of a panel of international coaches, athletes and media representatives. Korakaki's coach is her father Anastasios Korakakis who taught her pistol shooting at their local shooting club, acts as her technical coach and accompanies her to international competitions, often at their own expense.

Government funding and support is a decisive factor in developing outstanding young shooting athletes like the ones we see emerging from the Chinese, Korean and Russian systems, but all of these methods of development have the potential to produce World and Olympic Shooting champions.



The German Shooting Federation employs trained shooting coaches who visit shooting clubs to assist club youth trainers in working with talented junior shooters.



The Junior World Championship offered team competitions in each event. The winning teams in the 25m Pistol Women Junior event were 1) China (center), 2) Thailand (on left) and 3) India (on right).

Junior Shooting Around the World



Rifle and Pistol Finals in the 2017 New Delhi, India World Cup took place in this breath-taking shooting theater that features a huge image of India's iconic Taj Mahal. Young shooting athletes can look forward to training and competing in facilities like this that are making Shooting more dynamic and attractive.

Using the ISSF Website as a Coaching Resource

One of the best ways junior shooters, coaches and parents can benefit from international senior and junior championships is to study the scores, photographs and video images that are available for each championship. Olympic, World Championship and World Cup competitions as well as Junior World Championships and Junior World Cups are governed and supervised by the ISSF. To support them, the ISSF sends a five-person television crew to each Championship to Livestream all event finals through the ISSF website. The ISSF TV Crew also produces videos that are posted on the website and in YouTube where they are available for viewing on demand. The ISSF provides a professional photographer who makes hundreds of photos of the top athletes. These photos are posted on the ISSF website where anyone can download them. The ISSF also provides a communications specialist who writes press releases for distribution to international media and a professional announcer who gives public commentary during event finals.

The products of this team of professionals are available through the ISSF website for use by any interested athlete, coach or fan. The scores, photos, videos, social media posts and the latest news releases are available at <http://www.issf-sports.org/>. To obtain content produced for past Championships, it is necessary to click on "Calendar" on the website home page. Then identify the year and open the calendar for that year. Next find the listing for the Championship. The top row of calendar listings is for ISSF Championships. Click on the arrow for the first day of the Championship.

That will open a complete posting of results, stories, videos and photographs for that Championship.

There is a treasure trove of information available in these archives that can be used to study shooting positions and techniques as well as to allow the excellence of the world's best Shooting athletes to inspire young athletes to work hard and excel.

About the Author

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

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

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



November Rifle Matches Scheduled at Camp Perry Featuring Electronic Targets

By Ashley Brugnone, CMP Writer

CAMP PERRY, Ohio – The Civilian Marksmanship Program (CMP) will be hosting an 800 Aggregate (80 shot) Rifle Match on Viale Range of Camp Perry on Sunday, November 12, and an EIC Service Rifle Match immediately following the same day. The 800 Agg. will begin at 8:00 a.m. Both matches are scheduled to be fired upon CMP's traveling highpower electronic targets, which were successfully used at Camp Perry back in June throughout an entire week of CMP Cup events. The November weekend will serve as an excellent opportunity for curious marksmen and guests to really see the targets in action.

Entry fee for the 800 Aggregate is \$35 for Adults and \$25 for Juniors, while the EIC Match is \$30 for Adults and \$15 for Juniors. Competitors may fire Match Rifles or Service Rifles. The matches are governed by current CMP Competition Rules, available for viewing and download at <http://thecmp.org/competitions/cmp-competitions-rulebooks/>.

Along with the matches on Viale, a GSMM Rifle Match will be held on Nov. 11 and 12 at 9:00 a.m. on Camp Perry's Petrarca Range, which also features CMP Electronic Targets with KTS technology. The GSM Match combines prone slow fire, prone from standing rapid fire and standing slow fire positions at 100 yards on 200 yd reduced targets. Competitors may compete with an As-Issued M1 Garand, Springfield, Vintage Military or a Modern Military rifle and may fire more than once through the duration of the event.

The Friends of Camp Perry (FoCP) will also be holding a Combat Rifle Shoot (a.k.a. Snowflake Shoot) on Nov. 11 at the Modified Record Rifle Range on base. The event will begin at 9:00 a.m. Competitors will fire 40 rounds at 40 targets, using no larger than .308 caliber ammunition (no full auto firearms). Food and beverages will be available, with registration opening at 8:00 a.m. Members may



pay a \$10 donation entry fee per relay, while non-members may pay \$15. A \$30 first relay donation fee is also available and includes an FoCP membership. Contact Ralph Reichman at (330) 468-1287 or ralph@friendsofcamperry.org for more.

To register and learn more about the 800 Agg. and the EIC Service Rifle Match, visit the CMP Competition Tracker page at <https://ct.thecmp.org/app/v1/index.php?do=match&task=edit&match=16001>.

To register for the GSM Rifle Match, visit the following link: <https://ct.thecmp.org/app/v1/index.php?do=match&task=edit&match=15667&tab=registered>.

For questions on either match, please email Christina Roguski at croguski@thecmp.org. We hope to see you there!

About CMP Electronic Targets:

The traveling electronic targets are powered by Kongsberg Electronic Target (KTS) technology, where the targets determine shot location acoustically and immediately provide the shot value on monitors located beside each shooter on the firing line. The use of KTS technology not only provides fast and accurate response times, but also allows for quicker matches by eliminating the need for pit duty – a convenient way for young, elderly or physically weary competitors to continue to enjoy the sport. For info on rules pertaining to electronic targets, visit <http://thecmp.org/wp-content/uploads/ESTScoringRules.pdf>.

Summer Air Rifle Camp at Camp Perry Hosts Group of Nepali Junior Marksmen

By Ashley Brugnone, CMP Writer

CAMP PERRY, Ohio – The 2017 Civilian Marksmanship Program (CMP) Junior Rifle Camps wrapped up its season at the beginning of August – again filling to capacity each of the 16 camps and clinics held around the country over the last few months.

Back in June, the Camp Perry session hosted a group of distinct campers who are not only new to the sport, but who are also adjusting to life in the United States. Joining their high school sporter team were four freshman students from Nepal, a small country in Asia tucked between India and China. Having left their native land when they were young, they all now attend Fern Creek High School in Louisville, Ky. – an established English as a Second Language (ESL) center.

Each speaking English rather fluently, the juniors have been living in the U.S. for more than a few years. Rajani Limbu, 15, has been here for six years, Barsha Limbu, 15, for seven, Manoj Chapagai (the only male), 16, for four and Bimla Subba, 15, for nearly 10. They all came to live in this country with family members already established here, with specific goals in mind for their futures.



Left to right: Nepali air rifle athletes Manoj, Bimla, Barsha and Rajani

“We wanted to get into ROTC because I wanted to go into the military, so I thought I could get some experience in ROTC,” said Rajani. “I found out about rifle and drill team. I was about to join the drill team, but then I was asked to join the rifle team, so all of us ended up joining.”

The kids also explained, with their rich Nepali accents shining through, how they had never seen a gun while living in Nepal. Their first glimpse of one here, an air rifle, left them in awe.



During camp, the juniors were led by current NCAA rifle athletes Meike Drewell and Ariana Grabowski (left).

"We were really excited. We kept taking pictures holding it," Rajani said, giving a hearty laugh.

"The first time we [shot with it], we did it from the bench, and I thought it was nothing," said Bimla. "And then when we carried it, it was kind of heavy. I couldn't get into position. But later on, it got easy."

"Except kneeling. Kneeling hurts everything," she teased.

During the week of their Junior Rifle camp, the kids said they got better each day – most securing personal best scores, including Barsha, who fired her best on the last day. Manoj even earned second place in the camp's Super Final competition. As he competed, his teammates were there yelling and cheering him on.

"It was pretty cool," he said, simply, with a smile.

The group said they learned from their counselors, Meike Drewell of the Murray State rifle team and Ariana Grabowski of the Texas Christian University team, about follow-through, breathing control and relaxing their shoulders while on the line. Manoj was also excited to fire on the electronic targets, a first for all of the young marksmen, saying, "I like it way better than the paper targets."

Fern Creek rifle coach of nine years, Lt. Col. Roger Angel, brought nine kids to the Camp Perry Summer Camp. He says all of his shooters have embraced his Nepali kids and do their best to help them out on the line. Lt. Col. Angel added that the week-long camp was helpful, not only to translate fundamental rifle points, but also in unifying his team members.

"We've tried this week to integrate everyone," he said. "It's easier for strangers to coach them, like any other kid. They get used to you saying the same thing. You can say 'natural point of aim' over and over again, but having a different coach to say it, they listen."

Lt. Col. Angel has had a lot of experience working with kids from other countries. Fern Creek, as an ESL school, has hosted students from Rwanda, the Ivory Coast and even from the Congo – each with specific cultural needs, such as Hindu meal restrictions and strict parental guidelines, among a variety of unique requests.

With all of the international kids showing interest in shooting, Lt. Col. Angel, who was used to only coaching precision rifle, has had to add multiple sporter teams to his roster. So far, the team has been successful with the discipline, taking second in the freshman division at the state level and taking third at the Junior Olympics.

"They're great kids. I get frustrated with them like any other kids," he said jokingly of his Nepali shooters. "I don't know what 'ney' means, but it ends about every sentence."

Rajani, Barsha, Bimla and Manoj try to speak English while around their American teammates, though all still speak Nepali while together. The four have even started



While in Ohio, the Fern Creek team took a trip to nearby Put-in-Bay for some fun. Photo courtesy of Fern Creek High School JROTC

to teach their coach some of their language, beginning with numbers.

The lieutenant colonel says his Nepali kids are serious about shooting – taking every opportunity they can to learn more about the sport. Returning the admiration, the students all praised their coach, complimenting his ability to get them to train harder to become better shooters.

"We're his favorite people," Bimla said as she laughed.

Rajani added, "At first, Colonel thought we were joking about joining the team, but then we're the ones that ended up staying more than the other freshman."

"And our grades were good. For you to stay on the rifle team, you have to have good grades in school," Bimla said.

Though excellent students, Lt. Col. Angel admits that the kids can become distracted when they're behind the line, wanting to know how each little element applies to them. He says they ask as many questions as possible, then get on the line to apply what they've learned.

"They've made big, big jumps," he said. "The most important one is understanding why they do well or not do well. Being able to look at that shot and determine what they did wrong."

The students have also grown behind the firing line – each learning more about his or herself and the American culture. Before coming to America, Rajani and Barsha grew up together and already knew they were related, but they later found out that they are also related to Bimla. All of the students, even Manoj, have found many extended family members in the surrounding areas of Kentucky, Ohio and even Canada.

“We have a lot of relatives. A lot of people have the same name as us, so we don’t know how many people we have,” Rajani explained. “Sometimes you just don’t know your relatives because you have too many of them.”

Though they all enjoyed their time living in their native country, they are all glad to now be living in the United States. Each moved from Nepal as a young child, but they all have memories of living there – including the hardships they had to endure, like waiting in line with a bucket for hours in order to receive a daily ration of fresh water and living in leaky, cold homes made of bamboo.

Rajani also remembers the gender difficulties – the trials of being a female in the Nepali culture.

“The schools were really hard,” said Rajani, who spoke of the discipline teachers would administer. “And as a girl, you couldn’t do as much as a guy can. You had to stay home and cook and look after your brother and sister. Your mom would just tell you what to do.”

“It was a struggle – a real struggle,” said Bimla.

Lt. Col. Angel said, “They’ve come a long way. I try to encourage them. Shoot the best you can. You don’t have to worry about anyone saying you’re a girl.”

“It really translates into teaching them not to be afraid to be successful. They don’t have to do bad so the guy next to them can feel good. Do your best, and don’t be afraid to do your best,” he added.

When they aren’t in school or shooting, Bimla and Manoj enjoy playing soccer, Rajani likes to read “Manga” Japanese comic books and Barsha, like many others love to do, often takes naps to pass the time.

While in Port Clinton, the group checked out a few local attractions, like the world-famous amusement park, Cedar Point. The kids also went to the beach, splashing in the waves, and visited the popular island of Put-in-Bay in nearby Lake Erie. Bimla is allergic to fish, so she tried to stay away from them, and Manoj, who is scared of deep water, stayed close to shore.

“The beach is so pretty,” said Bimla. “I sent pictures of it to my cousin.”

Bimla admits that she’s currently trying to convince her cousin and others to also join the rifle team. She’s been grateful for the experiences being a part of the team has provided and is anxious to see where they will lead her.

“My family thinks it’s awesome,” said Bimla. “They want me to join the military, but I’m thinking of maybe just shooting when I go to college. But I’ll know that later on.”

They all plan on staying in the U.S. for the rest of their lives, most wanting to switch to precision and attend college to possibly shoot for a rifle team. Someday, they’d like to return to Nepal to visit the family members they left behind, including Rajani, who had to leave her biological mother.

With the students now entering their sophomore year, Rajani, always working to improve their skills, has goals in mind for her team for the future.

“We’re going to have to practice a lot. We’re going to train a lot, and then next year or the year after, we’re going to get into the Top 8 (individuals at state and national levels),” said Rajani.

And Lt. Col. Angel, who was thrilled with their performances at camp and is delighted to be there for them along their marksmanship journeys, is ready to help them reach their dreams.

“They’re why I keep coming to work. They keep you motivated, keep you moving, but when you spend a week with them on the road . . . they can physically and mentally drain you,” he joked about spending time with the kids at camp. “But they’re a blast.”



Lt. Col. Angel is very dedicated to all of his team members, saying, “They’re why I keep coming to work.”

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

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

October 2017

13-22 Oct
CMP Western Games and Creedmoor (10/18-10/22)
Phoenix, AZ

14 Oct
F-Class
Talladega, AL

14 Oct
CMP Monthly Match
Camp Perry, OH
Anniston, AL

15 Oct
2 Gun, Range 5, Randall O'Rear
Talladega, AL

19 Oct
Steel Challenge Practice
Talladega, AL

21 Oct
USPSA
Talladega, AL

21-22 Oct
Project Appleseed
Talladega, AL

28 Oct
IDPA
3-gun
Talladega, AL

3-5 Nov
Dixie Double
Anniston, AL

4 Nov
F-Class
Action Pistol Practice
Monthly Sporting Clays
Talladega, AL

5 Nov
Steel Challenge
Talladega, AL

12 Nov
800 Aggregate Match
EIC Service Rifle Match
GSM Match- Petrarca Range
Camp Perry, OH



12 Nov
Bullseye Pistol (Range 3)
Talladega, AL

15-19 Nov
Glock GSSF
Gunny Challenge
Talladega, AL

18 Nov
Boy Scout Troop 428 Powell
ASM Event
Camp Perry, OH

25 Nov
IDPA
Talladega, AL

25 Nov
3-gun
Talladega, AL

26 Nov
Steel Challenge Practice
Talladega, AL

1-3 Dec
Area 6 Steel Challenge
Talladega, AL

1-2 Dec
Gary Anderson Invitational
(Camp Perry 2 Dec only)
Anniston, AL
Camp Perry, OH

5 Dec
GSM Master Instructor Course
Talladega, AL

5-10 Dec
Talladega 600, GSM (Range 1)
Talladega, AL

16 Dec
USPSA
Talladega, AL

17 Dec
2 Gun, Range 5, Randall O'Rear
Talladega, AL

23 Dec
IDPA
Talladega, AL

23 Dec
3-gun
Talladega, AL

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

CMP Competitor Matt Lovre Joins 2017 West Point Rifle Team

By Ashley Brugnone, CMP Writer



As a member of the Riflery team, Matt Lovre earned Western Reserve's Gold Medal in March, the school's highest honor.

Talented Civilian Marksmanship Program (CMP) junior competitor Matt Lovre, 20, of Jeannette, PA, fulfilled a long-time goal this year. After years of waiting, he finally packed his bags and made the journey in early July to West Point Academy, where he'll begin his first year as a member of the military school's rifle team.

A recent graduate of Western Reserve Academy in Hudson, Ohio, near Cleveland, he was a member of the Riflery team and also competed in a variety of additional competitive shooting events on his own over his already extensive marksmanship career.

"I'm really looking forward to getting up to the academy. It's going to give me the opportunity to get a college degree and be an officer in the military, and it allows me to shoot on the rifle team as well," he said before he left. "It kind of hit all of the bases I wanted to cover."

Currently undecided on his major at West Point, Lovre will be joining a slew of other past CMP competitors already on the rifle team. He'll also be given the opportunity to train with Olympian, National Champion and member of the U.S. Army Marksmanship Unit, Lt. Col. Web Wright, who sits as the 25th coach in the rifle program's 87-year history.

"He has quite a list of accomplishments. I can't wait

to work with him," said Lovre.

Lovre was admitted into West Point after being reviewed by an entry team that included former CMP Board Member, Mr. Bill Willoughby, who serves as the academy's state admissions coordinator for Ohio. Mr. Willoughby is a 1960 graduate of West Point, along with current CMP Vice Chairman, Mr. Cris Stone, who is also an alumnus.

"Taking on West Point is choosing the harder choice, and it's a significant challenge. You sort of put yourself on the line," said Willoughby. "As a cadet, you're not only dealing with your academics, but you also have to play sports, you have to be active in athletics and you have to maintain physical fitness. The discipline that's required – there are time pressures."

"It's a big deal – it's a lot of work," he added.

Mr. Willoughby went on to describe the extra efforts it takes to make it into West Point, compared to a traditional college, such as lettering in a sport and being medically qualified through a physical exam. Though a challenging choice for any young man or woman right from the start, Willoughby believes Lovre is more than prepared for the encounters ahead.

"Matthew is an optimist, and he also knows how to work hard and win," Willoughby said. "He knows how to win and is willing to extend himself further. In that way, he's better mentally prepared for that experience. I'm very impressed with his positive attitude."

In March, as a graduating senior at Western Reserve, Lovre and his rifle team co-captain were given the Gold Medal Award – the highest athletic honor offered by the academy. The two were only the third and fourth Riflery athletes to receive the award in the school's history and the first in the last seven years.

"I'm really looking forward to the leadership opportunities I'll gain from going to such a prestigious school as the (West Point) academy. And I'm really looking forward to basically all of the opportunities the

school has to offer as a military academy,” he said. “I’m definitely looking forward to being an officer. That’s probably what I’m excited about the most – being an officer in the greatest military in the world.”

Distinguished in both Air Rifle (2014) and Service Rifle (2015), Lovre began competitive shooting back in 2011 when a friend invited him to an open house at a local gun club. At first, he decided to stick to marksmanship for the enjoyment of the sport, but eventually, it transitioned from a hobby to a lifestyle.

He soon decided to leave traditional high school to attend the PA Cyber Charter School online in order to gain more time to practice his competitive shooting. He became accustomed to strengthening his fundamentals all year long – sometimes shooting up to 300 rounds a week during the winter months.

Starting out in smallbore, Lovre has been active in highpower and air rifle as well throughout his career – a leading member of the Frazier Simplex Center Shots air rifle team. Other notable air gun triumphs include his 2014 Maryland State Service Rifle Championship performance, where he earned second place overall. He went on to win the event in 2015. Lovre also competed twice in the Junior Olympics for air rifle.

In highpower, Lovre competed in his first CMP National Matches at Camp Perry in 2011 when he attended the rifle Small Arms Firing School – firing in the accompanying M16 Match. He took the course along with his father, also Matthew, who told his son that if he beat the person next to him on the firing line, he’d buy young Matt his own rifle. Matt did just that – and so, he got a new AR.

Having a rifle of his own really allowed him to improve his skills, returning to SAFS the following year and improving his score by more than 50 points along with finishing 75 out of 657 competitors. Through his growing, he also connected with the Pennsylvania Rifle & Pistol Association to compete in team events.

In 2013, he attended the CMP-U.S. Marine Corps Highpower Clinic to learn even more about how to better his competitive game. He also fired in the President’s 100 and National Trophy Individual matches for the first time.

His big year came in 2015 when he landed in eighth place

overall during the President’s 100 Match – earning the title as the High Junior of the competition and a place in the honorary President’s Hundred after missing it by just one point the year before. During his performance, he set a new National Record during the match’s Shoot Off by earning an aggregate score of 391-14x.

“It was the largest match that I had ever won, and it gave me a title,” he said. “I could say, ‘I’m the National Champion.’ There are 50 state champions, but there’s only one National Champion.”

The win helped lead Lovre to earning the Col. Bill Deneke Trophy as the highest-scoring overall junior of the 2015 Matches, along with the scores from his top showings in the National Trophy Individual Match and the National Trophy Junior Team Match.

Also that year, he and his teammate Joseph Hendricks won the Freedom’s Fire Trophy Match as the winning team in the National Trophy Junior Team Match, and he and his Pennsylvania team also scored the Minuteman Trophy as the highest juniors in the National Trophy Team event.

Now on his own, Lovre will be expanding his marksmanship career even further as he attends the school he’s had his sights set on since he began high school. He will be the first in his family to attend West Point, and they are all cheering him on as he achieves his goals. Though he won’t be able to compete at Camp Perry in the near future, he guarantees that he’ll be back.

“I won’t put the gun down after West Point. I’ll definitely be going back to Nationals,” he said.

Congratulations, Matt, and good luck in the future!



In 2015, Matt was the High Junior of the prestigious President’s Rifle Match during the National Matches at Camp Perry.

State Director Stories

Coaching Techniques I learned from 'The Major'

By Michele Makucevich, former CMP State Director



In great works of literature and classic movies there are scenes that permeate the memory; moments of catharsis or deep emotion which have the power to move us, change us, mold or reflect us.

When I think of Major Barker, it's a lot like that. With a flair for the dramatic, the timing of a great comedian and the wisdom of a sage, my recollections of the man so many referred to as "the Major" replay in Technicolor in my mind's eye.

I met Major Barker about 15 years ago. Our junior teams were competing at Wolf Creek in Georgia. A couple things stood out; they were good shooters, and they knew how to have fun. I was a little more judgmental back then and my initial impression was that he needed to watch his shooters more closely. I had my athletes on a virtual lock down when they weren't on the range. But what I saw as supervision, he saw as stifling the spirit and preventing growth. So, while his shooters were surfing hotel room stairs on ironing boards, mine were penned into their rooms, presumably getting their eight hours of pre-competition sleep. Both our teams were successful, but Barker's teams had more colorful stories. They also produced adults of his own ilk – free-spirited, untamed, sometimes brash, but always confident. Many went on to academies (80+ at last count) and others enlisted. But, he'd be the first to tell you that he wasn't recruiting – he was building good citizens. He didn't judge others by his standards – he helped them form their

own. While it is no wonder that a large number chose to follow his footsteps into the military, he was just as proud of the students who forged their own paths.

His confidence was apparent in all he did. When asked the salutary, "How are you today?" His response was generally, "Better than anybody." Early on, I found this somewhat enigmatic. I asked for clarification. "What do you mean when you say that? Do you mean you feel good? You feel better than anyone else could? Or, do you mean, more egotistically, that you literally feel yourself to be BETTER than anybody?" In the way that only Major Barker could, his immediate, terse and still enigmatic response was, "Yes." And with that "yes" came that smug, self-assured and simultaneously amused smile complimented by a twinkle of those blue eyes.

Confidence was something that Major Barker gave to others as well. His sometimes-harsh standards, which if administered by a lesser leader may have resulted in resentment, was, instead, demanded in such a way as to instill a sense of confidence in the recipient. He demanded because he believed, and that belief bolstered all those he had contact with into believing in themselves. Major Barker did not ask for the impossible, he demanded best efforts. A savvy coach, he knew that process leads to outcome, and while he made the one routine, he made the other possible.

Balancing his demands was compassion. And he had an abundance. With a sixth sense for the emotional tsunamis that were often hidden beneath the stoicism of adolescence, Major Barker had a knack for saying just the right thing at the right time. Whether it was a movie quote or one of his own "Barkerisms," he walked the line of acknowledging challenges with neither maudlin emotion nor a diminishing paternalism. He was simply "there," and that solidness lent strength. One of his favorite sayings was, "Unsolicited advice is criticism," which was a quote he credited to one of his daughters. And he avoided that, offering, instead, a shoulder and an ear over as much time as was necessary.

A Marine through and through, Major Barker spent fifty years in uniform; 25 in the Corps and an additional 25 as a military science instructor and the head military instructor for the ABQ public schools. While most people are fortunate to have one successful career, he achieved two, successfully melding the passion and ideals of the



Corps into his teaching career. It was a calling he embraced with enthusiasm that was matched only by the thousands of lives he touched.

A large part of his teaching was dedicated to marksmanship training and coaching. He viewed shooting as a vehicle for instilling lessons that would propel his students to success beyond the range. And as a coach, he was masterful, setting a bar few will ever match. I learned a lot from him that I have tried to incorporate into my own coaching.

Anyone who spent any time around Major Barker knows he was fond of stories to illustrate his points. He told them like PG-13 parables that would stick with the listener and come back in times of need. Sometimes these stories would undergo some modifications in the retelling, "It's my story, and I'm sticking to it," but they were always both entertaining and somehow instructive.

Here is my story of just a few of the things I learned from the Major; things that can strengthen any program and help mold another generation of "great Americans."

Adult coaching may win individual matches, but peer coaching builds a dynasty.

During his tenure at La Cueva High School, Major Barker's teams accrued near legendary success. He sent numerous athletes on to the American Legion National Championships, several winning the National title. In the National Junior Olympic Three-position Air Championships, his teams topped the podium year after year, even achieving an unprecedented double National team title in both sporter and precision the same year! One would assume that with such successes, he must have spent every minute on the line. But, he didn't. He used his experienced athletes to mold the beginning shooters. He allowed those more experienced cadets to practice leadership and garner respect while simultaneously allowing the novices to identify role models and set goals. Believing that "we won't get better until we all get better," he used peer coaching to foster a sense of teamwork. But, such a philosophy demands a lot from a coach. It forces one to divest himself from the ego of indispensability. And this is the fulcrum of another lesson.

A coach is there to guide and support, not to think for the athlete or to use his team's success as a trophy of his own.

Barker was not a "humble" man, but he was assured enough of who he was that he didn't need external recognition. His self-evaluation was enough, and he easily credited others for success. "I've always been fortunate," he'd say with a smile. And, it was that belief in his own fortune, his recognition of those good things that others may overlook, that made him such an optimist. He expected the best. He believed that the best was achievable, and his positivity was contagious. But, while expecting a good outcome, he prepared for that outcome. Part of that preparation was observation.

Learn from those who are most successful and emulate what makes them so.

Several years ago, during the National Coach Conference at the Olympic Training Center, the attending coaches were treated to a breakout session in which the most recent Olympians gave a Finals demonstration, followed by a Q&A session. A study in concentration, Major Barker could be seen evaluating each position and taking in every variation in pre-shot routines. When the time came for questions, he raised his hand and said to the bronze medalist, "I noticed you were chewing gum during the final. Do you always? Why?" The athlete responded that he felt more relaxed while chewing gum and didn't get as nervous. Many of the coaches either shook their head in disagreement or simply laughed. Certainly, with an Olympic medal, the case could be made for gum chewing. Barker's follow up question brought the house down. "What flavor?"

Major Barker was a student as much as a coach. He observed, he learned and he passed it on. He believed that competition is the greatest preparation for competition.

"Shooting for record is like getting a report card." Athletes cannot be allowed to avoid being graded.

Recognizing that our sport is much less subjective than others, Barker prepared his athletes for competition by forcing them to shoot for score frequently and become comfortable with handling results. Though he separated process from outcome, he forced his charges to confront both. It was more than about launching lead, however, it was about deliberate and focused attention and repetition. "Practice doesn't make perfect; PERFECT practice makes perfect." Major Barker taught his students and athletes to strive for perfection, whether it be in presenting a perfect uniform or firing a perfect shot.

***To achieve perfection,
"all he wanted was a fair advantage."
Achieving an advantage requires one to be a
student of the game, and an integral part of that
is to know the rules of the game.***

When teaching the Level 1 Coach School, Major Barker would frequently appall his audience by declaring that his success was due to cheating. "If you ain't cheatin', you ain't tryin'." Having heard this several times, I would inwardly groan. But, it was effective. He had their attention. And then he explained. "If the rules allow two sweatshirts under your jacket then three would be even better, but since three is against the rules and two is allowed, why would you only use one?" Barker never cheated, but he examined the parameters of fair play and took advantage of every opportunity to gain what he called "a fair advantage."

***Know the strengths of your people
and let them shine.***

Not every athlete is destined for greatness. But Major Barker did not judge his students based solely on score. He found ways for all to contribute to the team. Maybe an athlete was a great student who could tutor a higher scoring individual or maybe she was highly organized or a great fundraiser. Valuing the individual strengths of team members leads to more balanced and happier teams. It recognizes individual strengths and builds character by teaching that the whole is greater than the sum of the parts. And doing this re-emphasizes the importance of team. It always came back to that. Team. He taught independence through a recognition of dependence. Again, that sense of "we won't get better until we all get better."

We all got better from knowing the Major.

Among the litany of quotes he used, Yoda's, "Do or do not. There is no try," was a favorite.

Major Barker DID. He ran programs, raised funds, elevated psyches and acted as both rudder and anchor for those he led and cared for—a trying was not enough. He was mission oriented and all about team. And he made everyone around him feel that sense of belonging that leads to success.

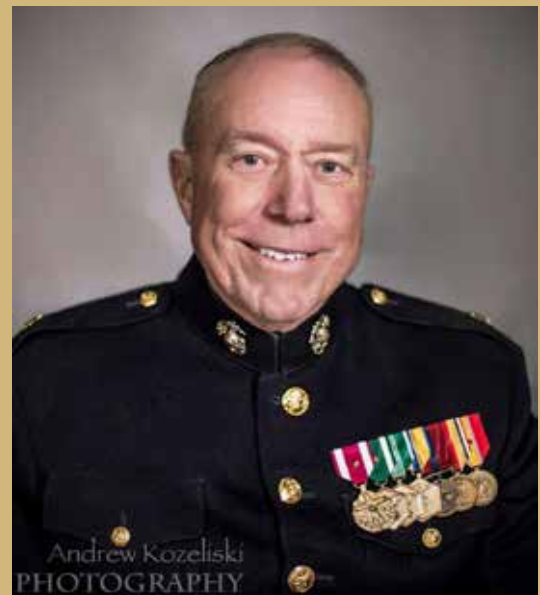
As I think of the loss I feel, I can hear him in my head, "It is what it is, darlin'." He meant this saying not as an excuse or cop out, but as a factual commentary that pushed one to move forward. "It is what it is" was a recognition that some things are beyond our control and a challenge to know that difference between the acceptance of what cannot be changed and the courage to find solutions for what could.

I know that the Major would not want any of us to "just stand there with our teeth in our mouths." He would

expect us to continue to practice perfectly, to see the world positively, to observe keenly and find a fair advantage. He'd want us to build a generation of confident and compassionate individuals who can lead our nation and to enjoy a good Bloody Mary on a Friday night, shared among friends.

While we all strive to contribute to this world and to make it better for our having been here, Major Barker touched an unfathomable number of lives and was, truly, "better than anybody."

In Memoriam...



Maj. Bill Barker
Sept. 29, 1943 - July 11, 2017

Maj. Bill Barker, 73, who served 15 years as the Civilian Marksmanship Program's New Mexico State Director, lived the last page of his incredible life story on July 11, 2017, after a brief health episode. He spent his final days surrounded by his family and loved ones in Albuquerque, where he resided.

A notorious face at JROTC air rifle events across the country, Maj. Barker was a prominent force in the junior marksmanship community. Those around him knew him well for his quick wit and charmingly sly demeanor, as well as for the communicative skill, leadership, resilience and dedication he exuded towards helping guide the youth of New Mexico and around the country on competitive shooting.

An instructor, colleague and friend, Maj. Barker will always be remembered as a respected figure and will truly be missed at CMP events.

Junior Distinguished Badge Program

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

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

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

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

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



Badge #	Name	Hometown
#1143	Joseph La Vigne	Albuquerque, NM
#1144	Shashawna Ross	Clarksville, TN
#1145	Ashlie Searles	Oviedo, FL
#1146	Tyler Still	Lebanon, OR
#1147	Brianna Citrigno	San Jose, CA
#1148	Mari Butler	Casselton, ND
#1149	Amelia Dell	Fort Gratiot, MI
#1150	Mica Harr	Harrisburg, PA
#1151	Jenna Maglaughlin	Clarksville, TN
#1152	Victoria Wiles	Rutherfordton, NC
#1153	Michael Dietz	Peralta, NM
#1154	Logan Hibbert	Lebanon, OR

Badge #	Name	Hometown
#1155	Patience Roquemore	Erwin, TN
#1156	Amber Witherell	Lebanon, OR
#1157	Shauntiya Johnson	Batesville, MS
#1158	Thomas Loring	Gardendale, AL
#1160	Julia Smith	Murrayville, GA
#1161	Veronica Stanley	Stockbridge, GA
#1162	Maliya Hillman	Spokane, WA
#1163	Casper Schadler	Vancouver, WA
#1164	Jordyn Brooks	Fort Mill, SC
#1165	Julia East	Oxford, MS
#1166	Niya Burney	Annandale, VA
#1167	Rachel Sprague	Falls Creek, PA
#1168	Katie Zaun	Buffalo, ND
#1169	Jared Eddy	Midland, GA
#1170	Nathan Pincus	Yorktown, VA
#1171	Megan Taylor	Coleman, TX
#1172	Cassidy Wilson	Deer Park, WA
#1173	Taylor Haffner	Comfort, TX
#1174	Allison Kleman	Circleville, OH
#1175	Hannah Wilson	Albuquerque, NM
#1176	Rio Ferguson	Northborough, MA
#1177	Justin Thomas	Seeley Lake, MT
#1178	Malori Brown	China Spring, TX
#1179	Jessica Boyce	Cedar Valley, UT
#1180	Alexandra Weisenburger	Florence, MT
#1181	Samatha Deherrera	Albuquerque, NM
#1182	Ben Wassynger	Nashville, TN
#1183	Brianna Espericueta	Albuquerque, NM



Want to Earn YOUR Junior Distinguished Air Rifle Badge?

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

Eighth Grade Competitor Wins Overall During CMP National Three-Position Air Rifle Event

By Ashley Brugnone, CMP Writer



Katie Zaun, at just 14 years old, became the winner of the USA Shooting precision aggregate competition and also earned her Distinguished Badge.

CAMP PERRY, Ohio – Though only in the eighth grade, Katie Zaun, 14, of the Buffalo Sharpshooters from North Dakota, showed exceptional marksmanship maturity as she became the aggregate winner of the National Three-Position Championships after earning third place in the National Junior Olympic match and first over her fellow competitors in the National Civilian Marksmanship Program event.

She was full of smiles as she posed for photos in a USA Shooting jacket as the newest member of its junior team, which was the honor she received for winning the two-day precision aggregate. She was also humble standing next to her family, grateful for her win and still unable to comprehend beating each competitor around her – most much more developed in years.

“It doesn’t really click in my mind,” she said of her win. “It’s crazy, shooting against really good people who are actually older than me – it really is. I’m still in shock.”

Zaun has been shooting since she was eight years old, beginning with BB gun before moving on to air rifle and smallbore, where she’s been practicing precision style shooting for almost five years now. This was her third trip to the Air Rifle Nationals event – and this time, she had goals in mind.

“All I wanted was to get into the finals because I was really close last year. I wasn’t expecting to place or



Graduated senior Jaycie Hoenig finished out her career with the overall win in the sporter CMP Championship match.

anything,” she explained. “The previous years I’d get like seventh or eight in the finals, and I’d been really excited about that because it’s the finals – it’s important. This year I just kind of stayed in my zone and kept putting [the shots] down.”

Her strategy paid off as she earned qualifying rankings in the finals both days of the grueling three-position junior competitions.

The National Air Rifle Championships for junior precision and sporter air rifle competitors was held June 21-23 and June 24-26 at the Gary Anderson CMP Competition Center, located on the grounds of Camp Perry in Ohio. The event combines the National Junior Olympic (JO) match with the Civilian Marksmanship Program (CMP) competition. Individual and team awards are presented to each day’s winners, along with an award for the overall precision competitor of the two-day aggregate, who receives an honorary place on the USA Shooting junior team.

Unable to settle for just a regular win, Zaun set the bar even higher as she fired a new Age Group 3 National Record for a 3x20 plus Final during her CMP Nationals win, with a score of 697.9 – passing the previous record by 0.6 points. She had also received her Distinguished Air Rifle Badge, needing only one final point coming into the weekend.

"I was pretty excited. I know it means a lot – I worked really hard to get it," she said.

With an entire high school career ahead of her, Zaun plans to keep on shooting. She doesn't quite have any set plans, but she knows she'll enjoy every second of her journey.

"I just want to have fun right now and see where it takes me," she said.

In the CMP precision match, Rebecca Lamb, 15, of the Arlington Optimist Acorns CJRC from Virginia followed Zaun in second place with a score of 694.4, as individual competitor Jared Eddy, 16, of Midland, GA, finished with an overall score of 692.7.

In sporter, the ladies of the Zion Benton team from Illinois claimed the top two places in the CMP event as Jaycie Hoenig, 18, passed her teammate, Hailey Smith, 18, with a score of 668.3 for the win.

A graduated senior, Hoenig embraced every bit she could of her final air rifle competition – ending on a clear high note.

"It was definitely one of the most stressful and emotional matches. I don't think there was a time that I wasn't crying over the fact that I'm leaving," Hoenig joked. "But it was definitely one of the most memorable."

On firing beside one of her teammates during the finals, as she did each day with Smith, Hoenig said, "I always feel confident when I'm with my other teammates. No matter what we place, I'm always proud of them for what they do. It's never really a race with me."

She went on to say, "I feel extremely proud to have been a part of this (Zion Benton) program for the last four years. And hopefully later on I can show other family members and other friends around me what the Civilian Marksmanship Program is and have them get involved because it's such a great program."

A regular at CMP Monthly Matches and major air rifle competitions, she made a point to give credit to the organization for the experiences she gained from her marksmanship career.

"You guys (the CMP) have given me so many great opportunities every time I've come here. So it's truly been an honor," she said. "I love it. You guys are the greatest."

Hoenig will be heading to Carthage College in Kenosha, WI, in the fall to study nursing with plans to hopefully one day become a nurse practitioner.

Behind Hoenig, Zion Benton teammate Hailey Smith fired an aggregate score of 663.8, as last year's sporter JO Champion, Levi Carlson, 18, of Nation Ford HS MCJROTC from South Carolina, secured the third place spot with a score of 653.6.

Though Smith just missed out on the CMP Championship title, she had earlier made her mark when she fired an astonishing 10.9 on her last finals shot to

become the overall winner of the JO competition with a commanding score of 666.8. She beat out last year's CMP National Champ Emma Thompson, who squeaked by Hoenig by 0.3 points. The girls recorded scores of 656.5 and 656.2, respectively.

During her JO finals performance, Thompson also set a new Navy JROTC finals record with a score of 98.5, impressively jumping from sixth place to second. She even fired a difficult 10.9 shot and finished with a 10.7 on her final pellet during her astounding comeback.

In precision JO action, Sarah Osborn, 18, of Patriot Shooting Club from Virginia, outshot her closest competitor by 0.2 points to become the overall champion – recording a score of 691.9.

Also a graduated senior, Osborn left a lasting legacy at the National Three-Position matches over her career. Back in 2013, at just 14, she became the first overall precision winner of the CMP 3P National Championship. She returned the following year to earn second in the event and first overall in the JO championship, earning herself a place on the USA Shooting junior team and setting multiple National Records. After a break from the event in 2015, she restored her place on the podium in 2016 – winning both the CMP and JO National matches.

Next year, Osborn will join the five-time reigning NCAA National Championship rifle team, West Virginia University.

Trailing behind Osborn in second with a score of 691.7 was Justin Kleinhans, 17, of Black Swamp Jr. Rifle from Ohio, followed by Zaun who stuck close with a score of 690.8.

In addition to performance awards, the CMP presents three \$1,000 Scholarships to the high scoring seniors of the CMP match. Congratulations to graduated seniors Haley Castillo, Sarah Osborn, Mica Harr, Jaycie Hoenig, Hailey Smith and Levi Carlson in the precision and sporter classes who earned scholarships to use towards their furthering education.

Thank You, MidwayUSA Foundation:

As in the past, the MidwayUSA Foundation provided an unparalleled amount of generous endowments to leading teams throughout the Three-Position competition series. The mission of the Midway USA Foundation is to help communities and organizations raise funds to support youth shooting teams and activities, beginning with the generosity of MidwayUSA Foundation president Larry Potterfield and his wife, Brenda. Those within the CMP send sincerest gratitude for all that the foundation has done for youth marksmanship and for the success of the sport for generations to come.

For a complete list of results, including winning teams, visit <https://ct.thecmp.org/app/v1/index.php?do=match&tab=results&task=edit&match=15618&tab=results>.

National Air Rifle Champ Gains Unanticipated Highpower Experience at 2017 National Matches

By Ashley Brugnone, CMP Writer

CAMP PERRY, Ohio – Jaycie Hoenig, 18, had an incredible week back in July. It was her first trip to the National Matches, where she had planned on only attending the Small Arms Firing School, just for a little taste of highpower shooting. Unbeknownst to her, the small taste would turn into a smorgasbord – and she would end up learning more than she could have ever dreamed.

“This is a game-changer,” she said.

A talented competitor, Jaycie was named the 2017 CMP Three-Position Air Rifle Sporter National Champion in June. Having graduated high school in the spring, she was a four-year member of the Zion Benton JROTC air rifle team, but had never given highpower a try. The 2017 Small Arms Firing School (SAFS) was the first time in her life that she had ever fired a highpower rifle, and it was the beginning of a whirlwind adventure.

“(After air rifle Nationals) I realized I wasn’t done shooting yet – that I didn’t want to leave it. So I figured, why not try highpower to see if I like it?” she said. “I just needed to go to the National Matches. I wanted to get an idea of what I could do, and it was probably one of the best decisions I’ve made.”

Jaycie was brought to Camp Perry by her mother, Shanda. Her supportive father, Jason, also wanted to come along but had to stay behind after heavy rainfall at their homestead held him back – creating the perfect opportunity for a few new mother-daughter memories for Shanda and Jaycie.

Though it was a long ride from the family’s home in Winthrop Harbor, Ill., Shanda was more than willing to make the drive to give her daughter a chance to take part in something new.

“It was a no-brainer,” Shanda said. “For me, as a parent, I’ve always encouraged and supported my kids in whatever they decided to do. It was really more on Jaycie’s end – if that’s what she wanted to do.”

Shanda added, “She was very good at air rifle, and I really wanted to keep her in that competitive streak. Even though she didn’t want to shoot competitively in college, she wanted to focus on her academics, I still wanted her to keep in the loop of shooting because she’s a natural.”



Left to right: Shanda Hoenig, Jaycie Hoenig, Brad Donoho of the CMP

At first, Jaycie was nervous about holding a much larger rifle than she was used to handling. She was also concerned about the recoil she might feel after firing the powerful firearm as well as about matching the talents of other competitors on the line. But with each shot she fired, the more confidence she gained. She dropped her anxiousness and began to feel the thrill of the rifle – and then, she was hooked.

“It really wasn’t too bad, and the more I shot it, the bigger the thrill was. I just loved it,” she said as a smile beamed across her face.

She admitted one of her biggest challenges was the rapid fire portion, along with the sitting position – areas she says she initially stressed over. Wind reading was another tough transition, since she was used to the stable indoor conditions always promised by air rifle competition.

But, Jaycie said her SAFS coach, Larry Stonecipher, helped her load her magazine and showed her the best ways of holding the rifle in each position. She credits him with helping her to feel more at ease about the unfamiliar territory.

“He was amazing. He definitely made it a comfortable experience,” Jaycie said. “I was so nervous when I walked up . . . he was just an overall excellent coach and a great mentor for my first time, and I’m so blessed to have had him as my coach.”

She enjoyed her time in the two-day SAFS course so much that she decided to stay an additional day to fire in the prestigious President’s 100 Match – then she stayed

another day, and another – and another. Her trip that began as just a weekend getaway turned into a week-long excursion of learning and rifle fun.

“Yeah, I’m hooked,” Jaycie said.

Each day, her skills improved. In only her third highpower competition ever, Jaycie started off her National Trophy Individual match with a standing score of 95-2x out of a possible 100 – an incredible standing score for any competitor, let alone a beginner.

Brad Donoho, a CMP program coordinator who had previously shot air rifle including as an NCAA competitor at the University of Kentucky, says it’s actually surprising how quickly an air rifle marksman can become competitive in highpower. Besides having to learn the outdoor elements, such as mirage and wind, the fundamentals of sight alignment and trigger control are already present in a seasoned athlete.

“We’ve always said that the transition from sporter to highpower is pretty easy, and many sporter shooters have proven to do that,” said Brad, who was the one who convinced Jaycie to give highpower a try when she thought her shooting days were over.

Brad went on to say the transition from air gun to highpower is a breeze because the target in air gun is half of a millimeter wide – a much more difficult target than service rifle. He says it requires more skill to hit such a small area, giving air gun shooters more precise training in the fundamentals.

“Transitioning to service rifle, the 10-ring opens up for them and there’s a lot more leeway for error. Typically, if



Jaycie instantly fell in love with the challenge and joy of highpower shooting.

they shoot a shot they think is a 7, it’s usually a 10,” he said. “There’s a big gap we have to bridge between air rifle and service rifle in trying to transition those shooters over because a lot of those kids don’t even know it exists.”

Even Jaycie admits she had absolutely no clue.



A talented markswoman, Jaycie quickly caught on to highpower competition techniques.



Shanda Hoenig also joined in on the fun during the SAFS course.

"It's something that we have to work on at CMP, to provide those opportunities to those kids, get them out here to try it out and maybe spark an interest in transitioning to service rifle and continue shooting throughout their lives," he said. "It's part of the mission of the CMP – to grow the sport. And we're going to work on that."

Now that Jaycie has had a taste of highpower, she's ready to jump right in, full force, even with team events. During the matches, members of the CMP helped connect her with out-of-competition teams so that she could fire in the National Trophy Junior Team Match, National Trophy Team Match and the National Trophy Infantry Match towards the end of the National Match week.

Jaycie, in only her fourth competition, and her teammate for the National Trophy Junior Team Match, Richard (RJ) Bohn, of Metamora, MI, scored high enough to be named the winning At-Large team, which earned her a spot onstage during the esteemed rifle awards ceremony.

Of course, playing one of the biggest roles in Jaycie's highpower journey was her mother, Shanda. Like Jaycie, SAFS served as Shanda's first time with a highpower rifle.

"I didn't really want to shoot," she admitted. "But I was encouraged by certain individuals that it would be a fun event with no stress. I decided that even though I was here to support her, I could have a little fun"

Shanda was also extremely nervous. She said she didn't even know if she was going to be able to man the gun because of its weight, or if she was going to make errors. But, after she sent her first shot downrange, Shanda, like Jaycie, said to herself, "This isn't so bad at all."

And, her first shot was in the 10-ring.

Shanda said she attended SAFS to support Jaycie, but she also wanted to learn something new for herself as well.

Being so uneasy, not knowing what to expect, she was afraid she couldn't be the rock that Jaycie may need in her first attempt at a new endeavor. But when she met their coach, Larry, and began to dry-fire, getting more acclimated to the rifle, her worry began to fade.

"It was hundreds of pounds lifted off my shoulders knowing that he was watching every move that I did and that he would correct me when I needed to be corrected and provide words of reassurance when I did something right. So it was just an overall very comfortable and positive experience with him," Shanda said. "He was fantastic."

"And now there might be a little mom/daughter competition!" Shanda added as she and Jaycie laughed together.

With an unbelievable first National Match trip, Jaycie's taste of highpower has now become an unquenchable thirst. She's ready to learn more and more about the sport and is enthusiastic for new experiences to come in the future.

"I knew I was going to like it, because, I mean, it's highpower," Jaycie said. "But actually getting to come out here and shoot it was like, 'OH MY GOSH this is AMAZING. THIS IS AWESOME!'"

"It was so much fun, and I'm just so excited to keep shooting more."

Next year, she plans on bringing her dad to SAFS to allow him to give it a try as well.

"I think he'd really enjoy it. Because, I mean, who doesn't enjoy this?" she added.

And, of course, Shanda will be right there, along for the ride.

"I'm her biggest fan," Shanda said.

Jaycie also wanted to thank everyone who made her first highpower experience possible, including the Army Marksmanship Unit, especially Brandon Green, for teaching her how to properly shoot a rifle, as well as the CMP for providing some guidance towards realizing her new ambition.

"I'm extremely humbled and blessed to have been afforded this opportunity by members here of the CMP. Four years shooting air rifle, I just couldn't thank the CMP enough for providing this opportunity for us. We would not have been here if it hadn't been for them," she said. "I couldn't have done it without everyone's support, so I'm eternally grateful for that."

****SAVE THE DATE****

Join Jaycie and her family at Camp Perry next year for the Rifle Small Arms Firing School – Check-in takes place on Thursday, July 26th and the school takes place Friday and Saturday, July 27-28th. Registration opens April 1st on the CMP website – see <http://thecmp.org/competitions/cmp-national-matches/> for more details.

CMP Welcomes Our Newly-Affiliated Clubs

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

Buxton & Hollis Rod & Gun Club,
Bar Mills, ME
Michigan Coalition for Responsible
Gun, Lansing, MI
Western Wayne County Conservation,
Plymouth, MI
Sand & Sage Rifle & Pistol Club Inc.,
Garden City, KS
River City Rifle & Pistol Club Junior
Division, Mason City, IA
Sackets Harbor Sportsman's Club Inc.,
Sackets Harbor, NY
University of Nevada Rifle Club,
Reno, NV
Valley Stream P.A.L. J.R.C., Seaford, NY
Big Otter Junior Shooters, Bedford, VA
Galway Junior Rifle Club, Galway, NY
Manitowoc Rec Dept JRC, Manitowoc, WI
Buffalo Wildlife's Junior Sharpshooters, Buffalo, ND
Genesee Conservation League Inc & Jr Div,
Rochester, NY
Thurmont Conservation & Sportsman's Club,
Thurmont, MD
Maryland Arms Collectors
Association, Silver Spring, MD
Paradise Rod & Gun Club &
Jr Div, Paradise, CA
Stoney Creek Fishing & Hunting
Club, Pasadena, MD
Kalamazoo Rod & Gun Club,
Kalamazoo, MI
Chinese Gun Club of HI,
Waipahu, HI
Tonto Rim Sports Club Inc.,
Payson, AZ
The Auburn Rifle Club Inc.,
Litchfield, ME



Bucksnort Shooting Club, Jefferson City, MO
West Seattle Sportsmen's Club & Jr Div, Seattle, WA
Meadowbrook Rifle & Pistol Club, West Milford, NJ
Wilkes Barre Rifle & Pistol Club, Wilkes Barre, PA
Izaak Walton League of Lynchburg R&P Club,
Lynchburg, VA





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.

CMP Maine State Director Brings Marksmanship Practice to Cabela's Outdoor Sports Store

In late July, I was asked if I would be interested in running the BB Gun Range at the Cabela's Scarborough store, and seeing a win-win situation in which I could promote junior programs in Maine, I readily agreed.

The dates for the event were 19 and 20 August from 11:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. On the morning of the 19th, I put some CMP BB Gun instruction posters on cardboard, got some CMP air rifle instruction brochures for display and my business cards and headed to Cabela's.

My fellow two instructors, Sue Hamilton (Scarborough Fish and Game Association Public Relations person) and Don Leonard (retired Marine Gunnery Sergeant and a leading instructor at SFAG) and I set up shop. The range was only open for two hours each day, but in that time, 42 youngsters signed up and had the opportunity to shoot a Daisy BB Gun, many shooting for the first time.

I received some inquiries about our junior programs at SFAG, and so it looks as if that was a good investment of time for CMP, Cabela's and Scarborough Fish and Game Association's junior program.

Roy Gorman, State Director
Maine



Parting Shots: Photos from Recent CMP Events & Competitions

Junior shooters left their mark on several recent CMP events including the CMP 3P Nationals event and the National Pistol and Rifle Matches.



CMP 3P Nationals



National Matches



National Matches

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