ON THE MARK

THE NEWSLETTER FOR COACHES AND JUNIOR SHOOTERS ◎ SUMMER 2018

LEADING THE FEMALE FUTURE

First All-Girl Rattle Battle Team Takes the Firing Line at 2018 National Matches

Also Inside:

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ON THE MARK

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

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

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

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

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

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

◎ Sighting Shots ◎

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

◎ **Marksmanship Nights at CMP Competition Centers.** Shooters, including aspiring new shooters, who visit or live in the Camp Perry, Port Clinton, Ohio area or Anniston, Alabama area are invited to take advantage of the opportunity to do practice shooting at the Competition Center air gun ranges. Both 80-point, 10-meter air gun range are fully equipped with optical target scoring systems that accommodate air rifle, air pistol or National Match Air Rifle shooting. For more information, please visit http://thecmp.org/air/cmp-competition-centers/open-public-shooting/.

◎ **The 2018-2020 12th Edition of the National Standard Three Position Air Rifle Rules may be downloaded from the CMP website** in October 2018. These Rules incorporate numerous recommendations from junior shooting coaches and competition officials and have been coordinated with International Shooting Sport Federation (ISSF) Rules. When available, the Rules will be available for download at http://thecmp.org/air/national-standard-three-position-air-rifle-rules/.

On the Cover: During the 2018 National Matches, the New Jersey Garden State Gunners fielded the first all-female team to ever compete in the National Trophy Infantry Team Match (often known as the "Rattle Battle"). Photo courtesy of Steven Falk

Three-Position Air Rifle Postals Open in Fall 2018

JROTC Postals:

The 2018-2019 JROTC Three-Position Postal Competition officially opened Sept. 25, 2018, for young cadets in Army, Navy, Marine Corps and Air Force JROTC programs who are interested in competing in a three-position air rifle match with other talented juniors across the nation. The Postal event is the first stage of the JROTC Nationals series of matches, continuing on with the Regional Service Championships before concluding with the National competition for qualifying athletes.

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.

The JROTC and CMP Postals allow student-athletes to compete against each other from areas around the country.

Dates to note for the 2018-2019 JROTC Postals

- Sept. 25, 2018 – **Online Registration Opens**
- Nov. 15, 2018 – **Online Registration Ends**
- Dec. 4, 2018 – **Targets must be received by CMP**
- Dec. 11, 2018 – **Preliminary Results Posted**
- Dec. 13, 2018 – **All scores final**

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 Anniston for all service branches.

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

CMP Postals:

The CMP Postal Championship will officially open for registration on Nov. 1, 2018, for any junior air rifle 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 juniors in the country, while firing from the convenience of their home ranges.

Like the JROTC Postals, registered athletes will receive CMP competition targets by mail to record shots at each of the three positions: prone, standing and kneeling. Targets are then submitted back to CMP headquarters for official scoring by staff members. Final postal scores will be available for viewing through CMP's Competition Tracker system (https://ct.thecmp.org/app/v1/index.php).

The top juniors of the Postal competition will qualify to participate in one of three CMP Regional Championships, held this year at Camp Perry, Ohio, and Anniston, Ala., in March and Sandy, Utah, in April 2019. The National Championship will follow at CMP's Gary Anderson CMP Competition Center at Camp Perry in June.

To reward the hard work of dedicated junior athletes and coaches, the CMP administers monetary awards towards teams who qualify for the Regional and National events. A scholarship check for $1,000 is also available for each of the Top 3 highest-scoring senior athletes in both the sporter and precision classes at the National competition.

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

About 3P Air Rifle Events:

The Postal events conducted by the CMP, utilizing mailed paper targets. As the series continues, Regional and National events are fired on the organization's own electronic targets installed on ranges stationed in Ohio and Alabama, as well as on a mobile electronic range capable of being assembled at locations around the country.

CMP staff members will verify scores using the Orion Visual Image Scoring system. Results will be posted within Competition Tracker (https://ct.thecmp.org/app/v1/index.php) for teams and individuals to check during the postal season.

The CMP is partnered with the MidwayUSA Foundation during the three-position series of events. The MidwayUSA Foundation is a 501c(3) public charity that helps communities and organizations raise funds to support youth shooting teams and activities.

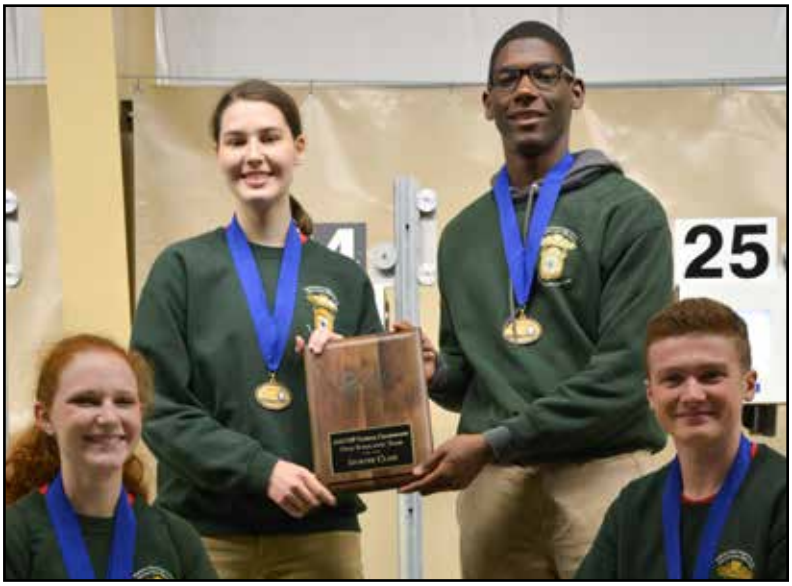
Nation Ford Earns Long-Sought Win at 2018 CMP Three-Position National Championship

By Ashley Brugnone, CMP Writer

CAMP PERRY, Ohio – Patience and hard work paid off during the Civilian Marksmanship Program's (CMP) 2018 National Three-Position Air Rifle Championship, as Nation Ford High School from South Carolina finally earned a win after falling short every year since the competition began back in 2016. The National event, featuring both sporter and precision junior athletes from around the country, was held at the Gary Anderson CMP Competition Center at Camp Perry, June 21-26.

The team has always performed well at Nationals, earning second place in the CMP event in 2016 and 2017 but unable to reach the top of the podium. The team also found the runner-up position in the coinciding Junior Olympic National event in 2016, but went on to win the match in 2017.

Members of this year's winning team, which also won this year's Junior Olympic event, were Kayla Kalenza, Deonte Hayes, Sarah Leininger and Nick Noto. The team is coached by Colonel Sean Mulcahey.



After landing in second place for years at CMP Nationals, Nation Ford High School finally made it to the top of the podium.

"As I thought about this year's National Championships, CMP Nationals and the Junior Olympic Nationals, I was quite aware of the high level of competition they would draw," Colonel Mulcahey said. "I can honestly say that I had no expectation of winning either competition. I believed our team members followed their shot plan and my advice that they would perform well. Our team members competed with confidence and displayed mental toughness that allowed them to stay in control of their rifle and execute their shot plan."

Colonel Mulcahey hasn't changed his training philosophies or practice schedule for the past four years – sticking with what works by focusing on competition performance as if it were just another day on the range.

"If they approach a match as they do practice, the scores, points and titles will take care of themselves, he said. "What I strive to instill in my team members is to focus on being deliberate with each shot, follow their shot plan, expect a bad shot and have a plan to deal with it, and to fight for every shot – don't give up no matter how poorly their performance is."

Mulcahey also admits that outside of the team, there are many who have helped them reach their heights, including the school's Booster Club and, of course, the many dedicated community members.

"As a coach, I have been blessed with many talented young male and female athletes. Their parents have been great supporting our training, practice and competition regimen. My partner-in-crime at Nation Ford, Sergeant Major John Logan, has been a positive force and source of encouragement to me and our team members."

He went on, "Regarding the team members, I find them to be unselfish, dedicated and willing to place the team before their individual goals and desires. They have a great sense of humor. They like to tease each other. I enjoy being around them and feel a sincere sense of contributing to their shooting success."

Following Nation Ford in the sporter team match was Zion Benton from Illinois, last year's winning team, in second and Volunteer High School from Tennessee in third.

Also earning an exciting win in the sporter competition was Simon Krauthamer, 17, of CRPC Junior Program in North Carolina, who topped the individual competition with a score of 652.3 – only one-tenth above second place finisher Halie Creekmore, 14, of Zion Benton High School in Illinois. Linsey Kleckner, 17, of Freeport High School in Illinois, earned the third place spot with a score of 651.1.

Krauthamer had an impressive showing at Nationals, with a third place finish in the Junior Olympic match that he said gave him the opportunity to prepare him for the CMP event. With college in his near future, he spent a lot of his air rifle season filling out applications, wrapping up his high school career and working a job outside of school – leaving little time to compete. But, he still arrived at Camp Perry with the hopes of taking home the championship title.

"Going to Nationals, I had the goal to win, because if you go into a competition with any other goal than winning, you will doom yourself, mentally. This is specifically important in sporter because it is mostly a mental game," he said.

The battle for the sporter win was tight during the Top 8 final that would ultimately determine the winner of the match. Krauthamer gave it his all but didn't lead that entire time – at least, not until the last shot, when the leaders each fired a shot in the 7-ring, boosting him up to the top of the podium.

"Going into the last shot, I was a little nervous, but I thought of it as a job I had to do, and all I needed to do was line up the sights and pull the trigger like I have done countless times before. And this time was no different."

The moment happened so quickly that Krauthamer didn't even know he had won until his name was called during the announcement of the winners. Now crowned with a National title, he is both in awe and humbled by what took place during the unforgettable event.

"It was kind of a weird feeling because I have been friends with people who have won before, but I never won myself, so it was kind of like a, 'Oh, I actually did it this time,' kind of feeling," he said. "Being known as a National Champion is a nice title, but I find it's cooler for people like my parents than it is for me. All I did was my very best, and this time it just happened to land me on top."

In the precision event, Ryan Habeck, 18, of Dakota Sharpshooters in South Dakota, overtook the class with a score of 695.7 – just two-tenths of a point over last year's champion and this year's Junior Olympic winner, Katie Zaun, 15, of Buffalo Sharpshooters in North Dakota, who landed in second. Rounding out the Top 3 was Antonio Gross, 18, of Webster Junior Marksmen in New York, who earned his USA Shooting jacket back in 2016 during the National event as the top male competitor.

Katie Zaun and Kellen McAferty were the highest scoring female and male competitors of the events.

Winning precision teams were the Arlington Optimist Acorns CJRC Ice from Virginia, with a score of 2350-161x, Patriot Shooting Club, also of Virginia, trailed by only one point with 2349-155x for second, as the Ole Mill Rangers from GA took third with a score of 2346-157x.

Another notable presence during the week was Moira Antal, 14, of Bealeton, VA, who made her debut at the CMP National event as the first Paralympic competitor.

In addition to the thousands of dollars in monetary endowment awards provided to winning teams from MidwayUSA, the CMP provides $1,000 scholarships to the Top 3 highest scoring graduated seniors of the event. This year's scholarship recipients were Kellen McAferty, Antonio Gross and Ryan Habeck for precision and Kaitlin Irvin, Simon Krauthamer and Emma Thompson for sporter. CMP also awarded the top eight individuals and top three teams cash awards.

The National Air Rifle Championship is a three-position event, where sporter and precision competitors fire two days of competition – the Junior Olympic Nationals, followed by the CMP Nationals. Competitors fire qualifying scores each day, with the Top 8 competing in a final on the line to determine winners. The top male and female competitor over the two days also receive places on the USA Shooting junior team. Earning spots this year were Katie Zaun and Kellen McAferty, 18, of Capitol City Junior Rifle Club in Washington.

Junior Olympic Nationals Results:
National Junior Olympic Precision Individuals:
Katie Zaun, Buffalo Sharpshooters, ND – 697.2
Cassidy Wilson, Spokane JRC Gold, WA – 695.3
Sarah Lough, Mason Dixon Gold, WV – 694.2
National Junior Olympic Precision Teams:
Patriot Shooting Club, VA – 2345-162x
Ontelaunee Jr Rifle, PA – 2335-135x
Ware County #1, GA – 2333-138x
National Junior Olympic Sporter Individuals:
Jaden-Ann Fraser, Volunteer High, TN – 658.2
Kylie Henninger, Canon City High JROTC – 648.8
Simon Krauthamer, CRPC Juniors, NC – 647.5
National Junior Olympic Sporter Teams:
Nation Ford High School, SC – 2189-75x
Zion Benton Team 1, IL – 2184-65x
Hays Rebels, TX – 2172-73x

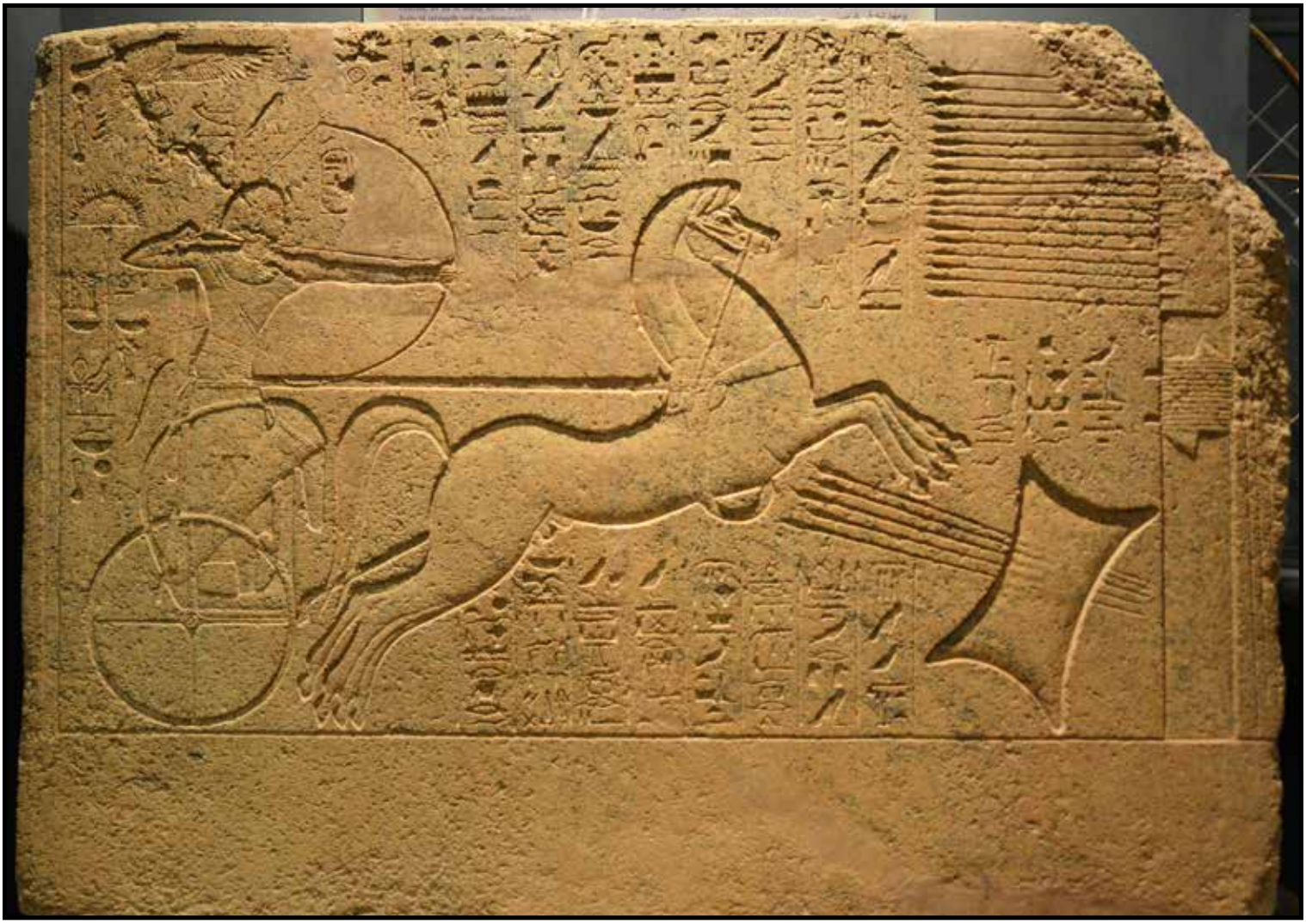
For a complete list of results of the CMP National Three-Position Championship and the National Junior Olympic Championship, visit https://ct.thecmp.org/app/v1/index.php?do=match&task=edit&tab=results&match=17067&tab=results.

Modern Scoring Systems and Deciding Scoring Issues

By Gary Anderson, DCM Emeritus

Author Disclosure Statement

In this article I make several favorable references to the Orion Scoring System and the Orion match management system. The developer and distributor of Orion products is my son Dr. Erik Anderson. Since Orion is the only system of this type that is adapted for use in USA competitions, there are no competing systems, but I nevertheless want to make sure our family relationship is disclosed to any readers who are not aware of this.



This 5' x 7' stone stele now displayed in the Luxor Museum in Luxor, Egypt depicts what may be one of the world's first targets. Pharaoh Amenhotep II, who ruled Egypt from 1427 to 1401 BCE, is shown shooting arrows at a copper cylinder with an impressive group in the center of his target (lower right).

The history of target shooting with archery and firearms can be traced in part through the evolution of shooting targets and scoring systems. Ancient Egyptians used copper cylinders. Ancient Greeks shot at pigeons tied to tall poles. In the Middle Ages and early modern times, rifles were fired at round wooden targets, some beautifully painted with celebratory scenes. American frontiersmen used a slab of wood with a "mark" painted on it.* Long range rifle shooting in the 19th century used iron targets that gave audible clangs when hit. Paper targets became common in the 19th century and continue to be used today. Electronic target (EST) development began in the 1970s and became mandatory for Olympic and international competitions by 1990. (*The name of this magazine, ***On the Mark***, comes from the American frontiersmen's practice of "shooting at the mark.")

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Scoring used in today's rifle and pistol competitions must be extremely accurate and scoring issues must be decided correctly to be sure all athletes receive the scores they actually fire. Shooting as a sport is also in competition with other sports so how fast and attractively scores are presented to competitors, coaches, spectators and internet audiences helps shooting compete favorably with other sports.

This ***On the Mark*** article is aimed at helping junior leaders and competition officials, as well as athletes, coaches and parents, understand modern scoring methods and how scoring issues are decided and to help them gain insight into how the presentation of competition results can make shooting more interesting and attractive. The article examines three components of scoring, 1) scoring methods, 2) match management systems and 3) the scoring process.

SCORING METHODS

Rifle and pistol shooting competitions use one of three methods of scoring, 1) manual scoring, 2) electronic or virtual image scoring (VIS) and electronic scoring targets (EST).

Manual Scoring

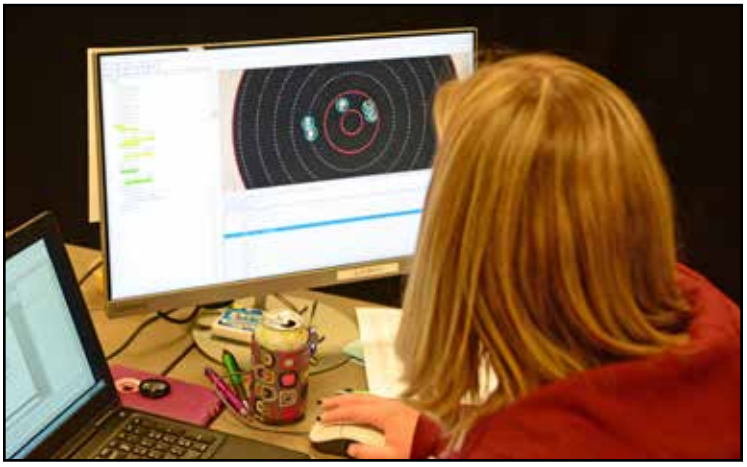
Manual scoring has been done for centuries by people using human vision and simple scoring aids such as templates, scoring gauges and magnifying scoring templates (Eagle Eye™). In manual scoring, competitors exchange scorecards and score each other's targets or a team of official scorers (usually volunteers) score all targets. Human scoring has the advantage of being cheap and simple, but it has the disadvantages of being slow and inconsistent.

Electronic Scoring (VIS)

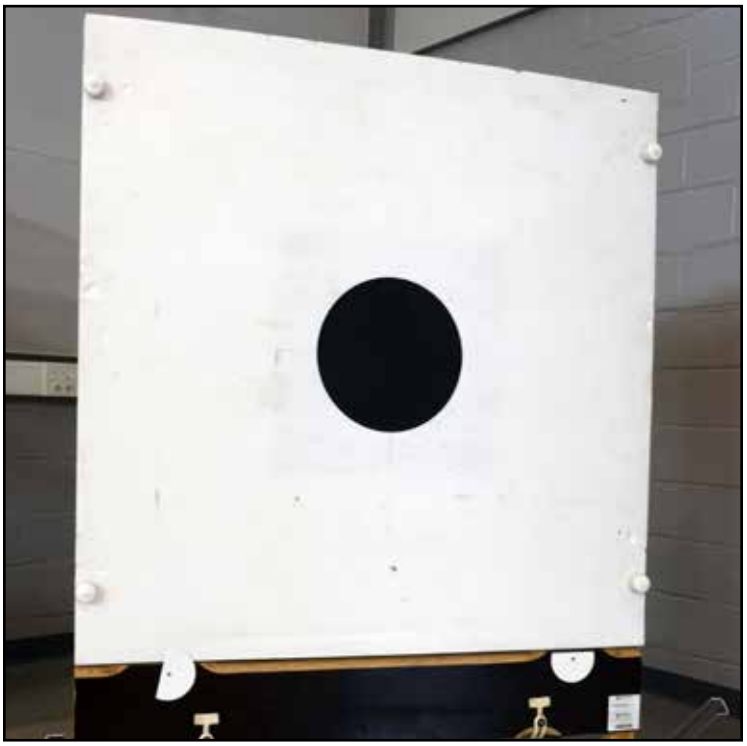
Electronic or Virtual Image Scoring (VIS) scoring uses a complex computer algorithm to score digital or virtual images of fired paper targets obtained from scanning or photographs. Orion Scoring Systems (http://www.orionscoringsystem.com/orion/Home.aspx) is the only firm producing VIS scoring that works on USA targets.

The Orion system is now in widespread use in schools and clubs and recently was used to score targets during the CMP's first Smallbore Rifle Championships at Camp Perry.

Competitors in a Rimfire Sporter Match have exchanged scorecards and are scoring each other's targets.



A Scoring Officer is using Orion VIS software to resolve scoring issues during the scoring of a target in the 2018 CMP Smallbore Rifle Championship.



A CMP KTS electronic highpower rifle target. Microphones in the four corners use sounds from projectiles passing through the target to locate and score shots.

Modern Scoring Systems

A COMPARISON OF SCORING METHODS						
SYSTEM	**SCORING ACCURACY**	**SCORING SPEED**	**PERSONNEL REQUIRED**	**PRESENTATION**	**ONLINE RESULTS**	**COST**
Manual Scoring	+/- 0.100 to 0.200 mm w/ trained scorers	30 min. to 2 hours after a relay ends	One or two trained scorers per 10 firing points	Score posting is possible only after scoring	Possible with hand entry after scoring	$75-150 for gauges, etc.
Orion/VIS	<+/- 0.100 mm	Scanning targets and scoring takes 1-2 minutes	One or two Statistical Officers familiar with Orion software	Scores and ranked results are on the internet as targets are scored	Online results integrated into software	$1000 - $1500 for a 30-40 point range
EST	<+/- 0.100 at 10m and 50'	Scores are displayed within milliseconds	One EST trained scoring officer plus one target officer	Realtime score viewing and ranked results.	Limited online results posting	$3,000 - $6,000 per firing point

CONCLUSIONS:
Scoring Accuracy: VIS and EST scoring is more accurate; manual scoring can be good or bad according to scorer skill, experience and concentration.
Speed: EST with instant score display has a clear advantage; VIS scoring is significantly faster than manual scoring.
Personnel Requirements. Manual scoring requires the most scoring officers; VIS requires someone familiar with Orion software; EST requires Technical Officers with special training.
Presentation. EST are clearly the best; VIS with integrated online posting supports results presentation immediately after scoring.
Online Results. Orion VIS is the best; EST online posting capabilities vary (CMP/KTS and Megalink EST systems generate HTML pages, but no hosting service; Sius EST generate online results when operated by factory technicians).
Note: The Orion MMS also provides coaching tools such as shot group analysis and individual athlete progress tracking.

Electronic Scoring Targets (EST)

EST use acoustical, laser or light beam systems and computer computations to precisely locate where a projectile passes through a target. EST scores are displayed within milliseconds to facilitate real-time spectator viewing. EST are installed in many leading U. S. shooting ranges including the CMP Competition Centers at Camp Perry and Anniston, the CMP Marksmanship Park at Talladega, Alabama and in CMP travel ranges.

The impact of the modern computer age with EST and VIS scoring has dramatically changed target scoring. With three different scoring methods to choose from, match sponsors must decide which scoring method best fits their needs and budget. Factors to be considered are scoring accuracy, scoring speed, personnel requirements, presentation possibilities, online results posting and costs. The chart above compares the three scoring methods.

MATCH MANAGEMENT SYSTEMS

A foundation for scoring competitions is a Match Management System (MMS). A match sponsor's MMS must provide a means of recording competitor entries and scores and producing ranked results lists. The simplest MMS usually is a computer spreadsheet that records competitor names, contact information and scores and has a sorting capability to rank scores.

At the other end of the MMS spectrum are sophisticated MMS software systems that come with Orion Scoring Systems and some electronic targets. The Competition Tracker system that the CMP uses to manage its competitions falls in this category. These systems record

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competitors, squad competitors, record competitors scores as they are scored or fired, break ties to rank competitors, provide on-line leaderboards during competitions and produce results lists that are automatically posted on internet websites.

THE SCORING PROCESS

Rifle and pistol competitions must follow a multi-step "scoring process" that begins with registering competitors (Preparation) and ends with the presentation of results (Final Results List). Steps in the scoring process are described below:

Preparation

The preparation phase of the scoring process involves creating a list or database of competitors. This phase also involves squadding competitors to specific relays and firing points. The match management system that records this information should be capable of producing printed or electronic Start Lists that link competitors' scores to their data records.

Scoring

When a competitor fires competition shots, they must be scored according to how far each shot is from the target center. Manual scoring uses printed scoring rings on paper targets to determine scores according to which scoring ring was hit or touched. VIS and EST score shots according to how far the center of the shot hole is from the center of the target.

Score Memory. After a shot is scored, its value must be recorded in a score memory. Manual scoring uses scorecards on which scores are recorded or the target itself may become a scorecard when scores are written on it. With VIS and EST scoring, scores with precise x/y coordinates are automatically stored in a computer memory.

Score Display. One of the best ways to enhance shooting's value as a spectator sport is to display scores when they are fired. EST does this, but instant display is not possible with paper targets. Highpower rifle comes close when scored shot values are signaled from the pits. When paper targets are used, spotting scopes can be used to see most scores, but final decisions on doubtful shots can only be made later.

Scoring in Tenths. Some modern shooting events where scores are high and there are many ties now use tenth-ring scoring instead of whole number scoring.

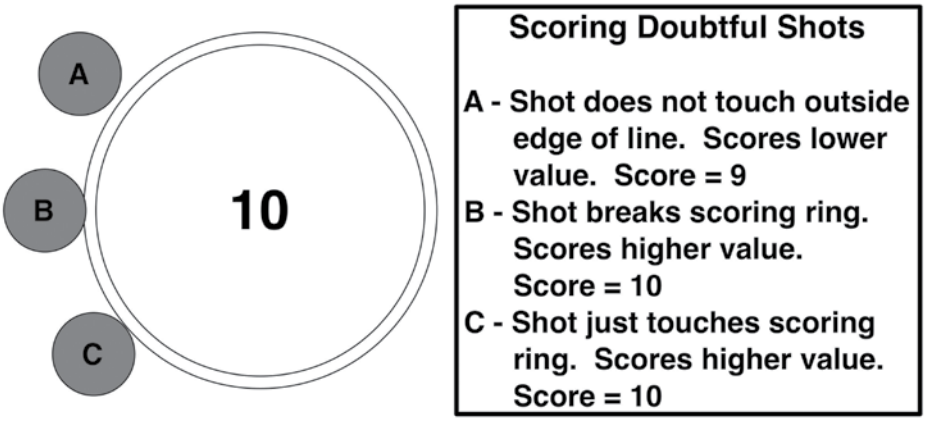
A pistol competitor records the values of all shot fired on the target on a scorecard that is turned in to the Statistical Office after the match.

This can be a much fairer way to score shots. Tenth ring scoring reduces the luck factor by ensuring that a shot that is just out (9.9) is not a match ending occurrence. The ISSF now requires 10m air rifle and 50m rifle prone events to be scored in tenths; finals have been scored in tenths for more than 30 years.

The problem with tenth ring scoring is that attempts to devise gauges to manually score shots in tenths were not successful. Only VIS and EST are capable of accurately scoring shots in tenth ring values.

Deciding Doubtful Shots

Doubtful shots are shots that are so close to scoring a higher value that the scoring method must make an "in-out" decision. Those decisions must be as precise as possible and be decided according to a uniform standard.



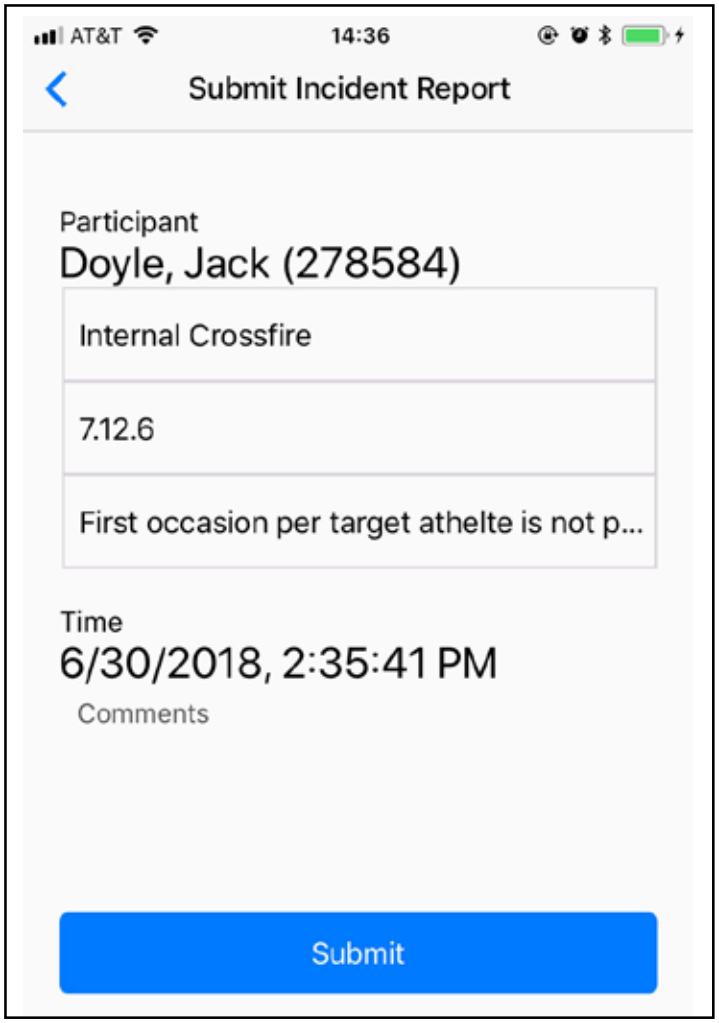
Scorer training is a necessary factor in obtaining accurate manual scoring. Scoring diagrams like this one are useful for teaching scorers what to look for.

Modern Scoring Systems

Manual Scoring. The first step in scoring shots manually is educating scorers. Rulebooks have diagrams to illustrate visual differences between shots that are "just out" and shots that touch or break the next scoring ring. Scoring gauges are a big aid for doing this during 10m and 50 ft. shooting if high quality target paper is used. When poor quality target paper is used or when targets are pasted on backer boards, scoring templates are usually more accurate. Scoring gauges should never be used to score torn shot holes or possible doubles.

VIS. Scoring virtual images of fired targets is done with a computer algorithm that scores clean shot holes to a precision of +/- 0.1 mm or less. Periodic improvements are made to the algorithm to get it to read irregularly torn shot holes correctly, but occasionally an irregular paper tear will be misread by the computer. Computer images of those shots are evaluated by a Scoring Officer who can, if warranted, make manual corrections.

EST. To ensure that scoring decisions are precise and uniform, EST are required by international rules to score shots to a precision of +/- ½ of one decimal ring (0.125 at 10m). Targets are tested to confirm that they fulfill this standard. Proper target maintenance is also necessary to confirm that they continue to meet this standard.



One of the new innovations used in the 2018 CMP Smallbore Rifle Championships were electronic Incident Reports. Range Officers had special iPod apps that they used to document incidents and irregular shots and upload from the range to the Orion computer that recorded scores

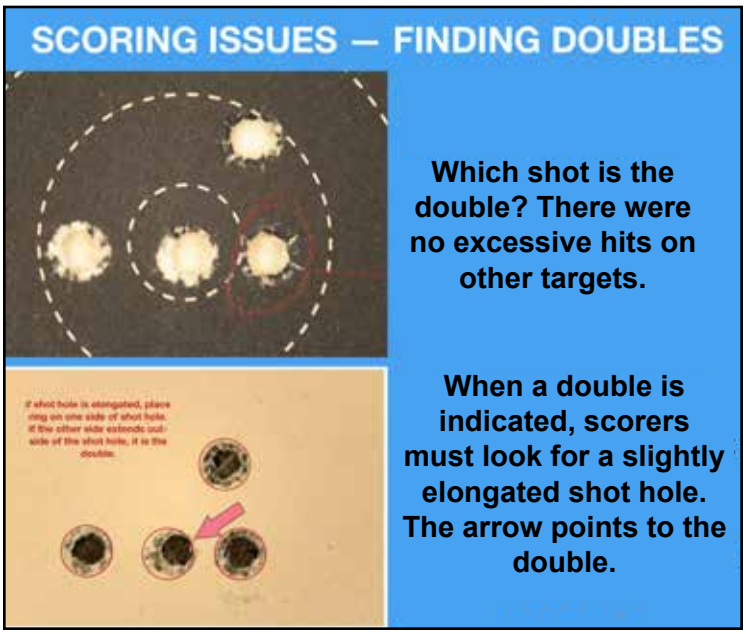
Score Transfer

Shot scores and/or series totals must be recorded in the MMS. When manual scoring is used, scorecards must be transferred to the statistical office where someone manually enters scores in the MMS. VIS and EST automatically record all scores in their computer memories so no score transfers are necessary. Hand entering scores from scorecards is a potential source of errors that require subsequent correction.

Scoring Issues and Decisions

As scores are recorded in the MMS database, scoring issues or penalties that may change those scores must be decided and any necessary adjustments must be made. Score adjustments could come from penalties that were decided by Range Officers or adjustments required for irregular shots such as crossfires, possible doubles or multi-shot clusters as well as early, late, extra or missing shots.

Irregular Shot Documentation. A key to resolving scoring issues is documentation. The ISSF and CMP, for



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Highpower rifle shooting uses shot spotters and shot value signals to display individual shot results within seconds after firing.

example, require match officials who encounter these issues to complete Range Incident Forms (RIFs) that identify the competitor and describe the issue or incident. Completed RIFs go to the statistical office so they can be used to resolve the issue or make score adjustments.

External Crossfires. An external crossfire is a shot fired by a competitor on someone else's target. Crossfires are extremely rare in 10m shooting, but are more common as distances increase. Crossfires in most competitions are scored as misses. The challenge in scoring crossfires is identifying them. When targets reach the statistical office, an RIF alerting them to a crossfire helps immensely. Some competitors will notify a Range Officer if they think they crossfired and some competitors who receive a crossfire will complain, but often a crossfire will not become apparent until the stage of fire is finished and a target has an extra shot. Techniques for resolving crossfires include:

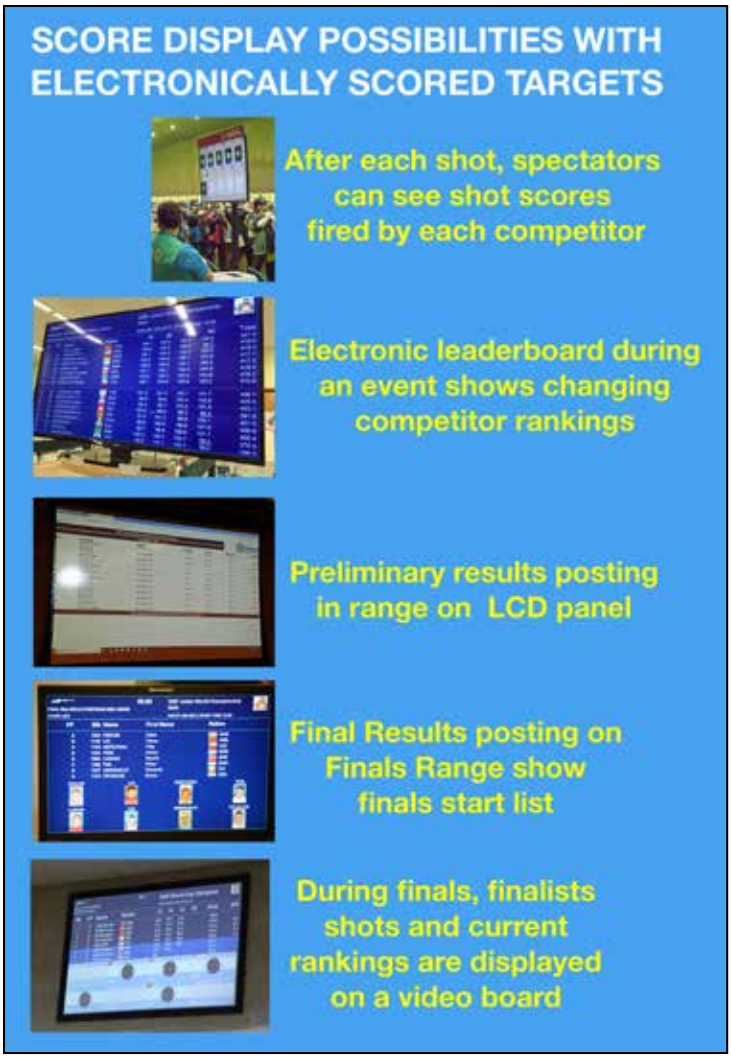
- When EST are used for 50m or highpower rifle competitions, the exact times when shots are fired are analyzed by a trained official, who uses shot times to identify a crossfire shot and who fired it.
- In highpower rifle, rules for excessive and insufficient hits are used to resolve crossfires. Since these rules differ according to whether they apply to traditional highpower rifle or CMP Games events, it is best to consult the proper rulebook.
- When backing targets are used for 25m pistol or outdoor smallbore rifle shooting, crossfire shots and the competitors who fired them are identified by comparing shots on the target with shots on the backer. Crossfire shots are always offset a pre-determined distance to the left or right from the original shot hole.

Internal Crossfires. An internal crossfire occurs when competitors fire on targets with multiple bulls and place too many shots on one bull and too few on another. If a competitor does this on an indoor 10-bull target, there is no penalty for the first two occurrences. If a competitor in a CMP Smallbore Rifle event fires an extra shot on one bull and one less shot on another bull, there is no penalty, but if the competitor does this two or more times there are 2-point penalties. The penalty for internal crossfires in Rimfire Sporter is more severe; the high ten are scored on targets with excessive hits, but targets with insufficient hits are scored according to how many shots are on the target.

Doubles and Shots Clustered Together. When multiple shots (usually 5 or 10) are fired on the same target bull, it is common for good shooters to shoot doubles (two shots going through the same shot hole) or groups of three or more shots where additional shots could have gone through the same enlarged shot hole. Since there is almost never a perfect double, doubles are easy to find if the scorer knows what to look for (see illustration). Competition rules provide for giving a competitor the benefit of doubt for a missing shot that may have gone through an enlarged shot hole formed by three or more shots when there are no excessive shots on adjacent targets (possible crossfires).

Missing Shots. When paper targets are used, missing shots usually turn out to be crossfires or, when inexperienced shooters are involved, off-target misses. When EST are used, a missing shot can also result from a target malfunction. 25m pistol targets should have backers on which missing shots can be located and 10m targets with witness strips must always have a missing shot on the paper strip. However, missing shots on 10m targets without witness strips (KTS) or 50m and highpower rifle targets without backers cannot be definitively proven. In those cases, match officials must decide what caused the missing shot and, based on available evidence, whether a provisional shot should be counted.

Modern Scoring Systems

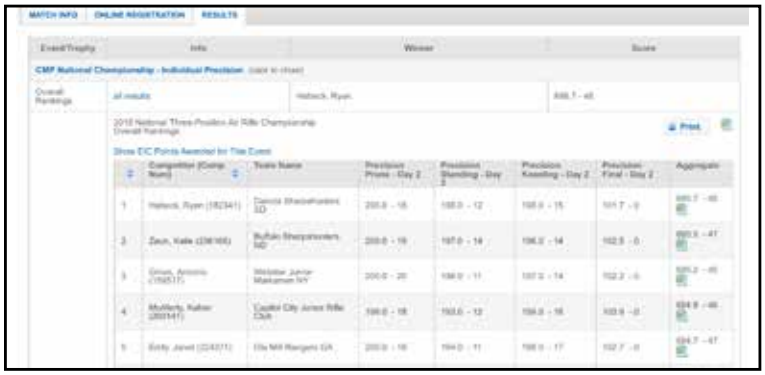


The advent of modern electronic scoring and match management systems gives match sponsors many new opportunities to use creative results displays to present the real excitement and drama of shooting competitions.

Other Irregular Shots. Competition rules for each discipline list other irregular shots and how to resolve them. There are early shots (before **START**), late shots (after **STOP**) and extra shots (competitor fires too many shots). The CMP offers Range Officer Training Courses for Bulls-eye Pistol, Highpower Rifle and Rimfire Sporter (http://thecmp.org/training-tech/range-officer-training-course/). Course students are taught how to resolve these and many other scoring issues.

Tie-Breaking

The next function that must be done after recording scores is to break ties and rank competitors. Each shooting discipline has specific tie-breaking rules. Tie-breaking rules are, in principle, similar and generally follow this sequence:



Final Results Lists for CMP competitions are posted in the CMP Competition Tracker. CMP Rules regard electronic results lists as official results.

1. The highest total score.
2. The highest number of Xs or inner tens.
3. The highest score on the last 10-shot series, then the next to the last 10-shot series, etc.
4. In finals, ties are broken with shot-by-shot sudden death shoot-offs.

Orion or EST software are programmed to automatically break ties according to the applicable rulebook.

Preliminary Result List Production

Once all scoring issues are resolved and ties are broken, a Preliminary Result List (PRL) must be produced. If manual scoring and recording is used, the PRL must be printed and posted on a range bulletin board. If Orion scoring is used, a PRL is automatically posted on the internet as soon as scoring issues are resolved. This PRL can be displayed on the range or it can be printed and posted. EST software also produces PRLs that can be displayed on the range or printed for posting. PRLs usually are posted with a “protest time” so competitors who do not feel a score is correct can submit a score protest or challenge.

Score Protests or Challenges

Score protests or challenges are like the instant replay reviews that are used in some sports to reconsider referee calls. In shooting, scoring challenges are used to review scoring decisions.

Manual Scoring. Challenges are decided by having a Scoring Officer who was not involved in the original scoring decision recheck a challenged shot.

VIS Protests. The correct way to decide VIS protests is for the Scoring Officer(s) to examine the original target image in the computer and decide whether the computer placed the scoring ring precisely over the actual shot hole.

continued...

Original targets are not used for rechecks because they can be altered during handling or even by manipulation. Scoring gauges should never be used to check a questioned shot hole because VIS scoring measures the distance of the shot from the target center, not its proximity to a scoring ring. When an irregularly torn shot hole caused the computer to misread the shot location, a Scoring Officer will make the necessary correction.

Point Buying. Giving competitors an opportunity to protest or challenge what they feel is an incorrect scoring decision is a fundamental protection against bad scoring. The score challenge system, however, can also be unethical because in practice only shots that were just out (9.9, 8.9, etc.) are challenged while the shots that were just in (10.0, 9.0, etc.) are never challenged. Score challenges unfortunately can become attempts at buying points. For this reason, many competitors make it a personal practice to never challenge close calls unless there is an obvious scoring error. They regard those calls as being like a baseball umpire's ball/strike calls. When scoring decisions are made by competent officials they are part of the game and should not be subject to rescoring.

EST. The rules do not permit protesting close shots scored with EST. Protests, of course, are possible when a target fails to register a shot, scores an unexpected zero or gives a completely erroneous score. Competition officials are trained to apply special rules to deal with these situations.

Final Results Lists

After any possible score protests or challenges are decided, the PRL becomes a Final Results List (FRL). If there is no final for the event, the FRL becomes the basis for presenting awards and letting everyone see how competitors finished. If there is a final, the FRL becomes a finals start list that identifies competitors who qualified for the final.

Finals Presentation

Finals conclude all Olympic and many 3-Position Air Rifle events. The CMP uses a final to conclude the President's Rifle National Trophy Match. The CMP also conducted finals as special interest events in its National Smallbore Rifle Championship. One of the great opportunities in conducting finals is to create a shooting theater where spectators, a finals CRO and script, target and results display systems, music and announcer commentary combine to present a "show." Then in-person and on-line spectators can enjoy the true excitement of shooting competitions.

The Rifle-Pistol Finals Range that will be used during the 2018 World Shooting Championship in Changwon, Korea. Finalists, coaches, Jury Members and Range Officers, pool photographers and TV cameramen are strategically located to focus attention on the athletes. An announcer and results display technology keep in-person, internet and TV livestreaming spectators informed about the competition. This becomes "sports presentation" for shooting at its best.

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.

Your 2018 National Matches Junior Winners

Pistol:

• Dillon Carr, 17, of San Diego, CA, was the High Junior of the Small Arms Firing School M9 match and finished fourth place overall.

• Sam Kwon, 19, of New York, NY, was the High Junior in the .22 Rimfire Pistol EIC Match and received the G.P. Perry DeFino Trophy for his win in the Junior Individual Match for the second consecutive year and for the third time over his career. He and New York Rifle & Pistol Junior teammate, Heather Powers, joined forces to earn the top spot in the Junior Team event.

• Powers, 18, of West Falls, NY, outshot Kwon in the Junior President's Pistol Match by nearly 10 points to claim the win.

"She (Powers) is phenomenal. She was definitely carrying me in the NRA matches," Kwon said with a laugh. "She's a great teammate and we both work really well together."

Kwon, a National Matches competitor since 2014 and often at the top of the podium at the national level, says he tries to ignore his past performances and avoids thinking about scores while on the line – focusing only on the fundamentals each time he pulls the trigger.

"In my mind, score is a reflection of technique, and I also get nervous if I check scores, so I try not to do that," he said.

Still, Kwon admits that he can't help but be just a little intimated by the talents of his New York teammate.

"She definitely scares me," he joked. "We're both shooting really well, and I'm happy that we're both shooting really well."

Kwon went on to be named the Overall Junior Pistol marksman by a 50-point margin.

Junior .22 Rimfire Pistol leaders (left to right) Sam Kwon, Devin LaCross and Heather Powers.

Smallbore:

• PVT Emily Stith, of the Army Marksmanship Unit, topped the 3-P Juniors Aggregate with a score of 2188-55x. Stith also led the Juniors in the Iron Sight Championship and won the Junior Final event.

• Antonio Gross led the Junior class in the Any Sight Open 3-P Championship.

PVT Emily Stith, of the Army Marksmanship Unit, topped the 3-P Juniors Aggregate.

Left: High Junior of the Roosevelt Commemorative Match was Meghann Beaver of Indianapolis, IN.
Right: Dustin Carr of San Diego, CA, set a new junior record in the Vintage Military event.

• Palmyra Green, consisting of Erin Diehl, Michael Flucke, Mica Harr and Josh Potts, earned the win in the 3-P Junior team event. The New York State Rifle & Pistol Association (NYSRPA) led both the Open and Junior State categories.

• Tobin Sanctuary was the top Junior of the Prone 3200 Aggregate event. Sanctuary also led the Junior class in the Iron Sight Championship as well as the Any Sight Championship.

Rimfire Sporter:

• Sam Payne, 19, of Kingston, GA, earned the High Junior title for the fourth straight year in the O-Class and earned second place overall. Marissa Bensch, 18, of Stillwater, OK, was the High 4-H competitor of the class and fired a score of 572 to earn the fourth place spot overall.

• In the T-Class, Larry Kindell, 58, of Tawas City, MI, and Sam Payne were both named the overall winners after firing tie scores of 593. Payne is the current National Record holder in the class with his score of 599-46x. Corissa Cornkite, 16, of Clyde, NC, earned the High Junior distinction. Rachel Slizewski, 17, of Commerce, GA, was named the High 4-H Junior competitor.

• High Junior of the Tactical class was Davis Sodders, 19, of Baltimore, OH.

• Corissa Cornkite, 16, of Clyde, NC, earned the High Junior distinction in the T-Class, while Davis Sodders, 19, of Baltimore, OH, earned High Junior of the Tactical Class.

Games:

• Mark Stout II, 20, of Waterford, MI, fired multiple record scores during the Games event. He was named the High Junior of the John C. Garand Match (where he earned third place overall) and fired a new National Record score of 292-10x while also setting a new National Record score of 368-6x in the Carbine Match. He was also the High Junior of the Springfield Match.

• Making the record board in the Vintage Military event was Dustin Carr, 17, of San Diego, CA, with High Junior score of 283-7x.

• High Junior of the Modern Military match was Collin Williams, 20, of Granby, MA.

Mark Stout II set several records and High Junior honors.

Marksmen Student-athletes Apply Now for 2019-2020 CMP Scholarships

By Ashley Brugnone, CMP Writer

The CMP awards $1,000 scholarships each year to student-athletes who prove to be well-rounded individuals.

CAMP PERRY, OH – The Civilian Marksmanship Program (CMP) is delighted to again award exemplary student-athletes for the 2019-2020 school year in their future endeavors through its annual scholarship program. The CMP offers $1,000 one-year scholarships based on merit and rifle or pistol marksmanship participation to current high school seniors only.

Since 2005, CMP has awarded over $1 million in scholarship prizes. Last year, the CMP awarded over $150,000 in scholarship money. Winning recipients came from a mix of JROTC schools, 4-H groups and other shooting clubs.

TO BE CONSIDERED, applicants must turn in a list of past and present rifle or pistol competition history, awards, involvements and future expectations for the sport. **Proof of participation**, including match bulletins, photos or CMP Competition Tracker printouts (for example), **MUST** be presented in order to be considered for the scholarship. **Applications without this will be discarded.**

Those interested must also provide **academic information** such as GPA (3.0 or above – anything below 3.0 will not be accepted), test scores and a list of extracurricular activities. Additionally, an **official transcript** must be provided, along with a **letter** explaining why the applicant is applying and what future plans the money will fund. A **nomination/recommendation letter** from a coach or instructor is also required.

Incomplete applications will not be considered, so please check that all required information is sent. Because the CMP takes great care in personally reading each application, all mandatory information (including forms and other necessary materials) must be sent to the CMP in its entirety. **We are eager to recognize praiseworthy student-athletes for their hard work – so please take extra precaution in sending all application requirements.**

The deadline for application submission is **March 20, 2019**. Scholarships may be used to pursue post-secondary education or vocational programs for the upcoming school year.

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

Application forms and other scholarship information can be found by visiting http://thecmp.org/communications/cmp-scholarship-program/. For specific questions, please contact Kathy Williams at 419-635-2141, ext. 709 or email kwilliams@thecmp.org.

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.

2018

2-3 Nov
Area 3 NJROTC Championship
Camp Perry, OH

3-4 Nov
Appleseed KD
Talladega, AL

3-4 Nov
SAFS On the Road – Camp Blanding
Starke, FL

3-5 Nov
Dixie Double
Anniston, AL

4 Nov
Steel Challenge
Talladega, AL

10 Nov
US Arms Tactical Rifle
Talladega, AL

17 Nov
November F-Class USPSA
Talladega, AL

17 Nov
CMP Monthly Match
Camp Perry, OH
Anniston, AL

18 Nov
Speed South 2 Gun
Talladega, AL

24 Nov
1000 Pt. Aggregate Match 3-Gun
Talladega, AL

25 Nov
Steel Challenge Practice
Talladega, AL

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

1 Dec
IDPA
Steel Challenge
Talladega, AL

4 Dec
GSM Master Instructor Class
Talladega, AL

4-9 Dec
Talladega 600
Talladega, AL

7-8 Dec
Best Of the Best – Mobile Range
Lexington, NC

8 Dec
US Arms Tactical Rifle
Talladega, AL

15 Dec
USPSA
Talladega, AL

16 Dec
Speed South 2Gn
Talladega, AL

22 Dec
1000 Pt. Aggregate Match
Talladega, AL

22 Dec
3-Gun
Talladega, AL

30 Dec
Steel Challenge Practice
Talladega, AL

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

Iron Women Compete in 2018 National Matches Rattle Battle

By Serena Juchnowski, CMP Guest Writer

Photo courtesy of Steven Falk

"I thought it would be a good promotion for the shooting sports to put together an all-girls team," said New Jersey Garden State Gunners Coach Walter Bachmann. "This was the first year that we were able to do that while we were out at Camp Perry."

During the 2018 National Matches, New Jersey fielded what, to everyone's knowledge, was the first all-female team to ever compete in the National Trophy Infantry Team match, more commonly known as the Rattle Battle.

Bachmann first became involved in the shooting sports when his sons wanted to learn how to shoot. He took them to the Central Jersey Rifle and Pistol Club and asked if they offered a junior program. Two months later, Bachmann was informed he had been made chairman of the new junior program, much to his surprise, and subsequently, he went about earning all of his coaching certifications and credentials.

The Garden State Gunners junior team started off with smallbore, but in 2008, the team started into highpower when they were approached by another New Jersey club asking if their juniors would be interested in trying the discipline. That was the first year the team traveled to Camp Perry with two girls and four guys. A decade later, the Garden State Gunners traveled to the Camp Perry National Matches with enough junior shooters to fill two teams, six girls and six boys.

While the teams for the National Trophy Team (NTT) match were determined based on skill, Bachmann split the team according to gender for the Rattle Battle. This was not a singular decision, but one that had been discussed and decided upon by the girls themselves.

Bachmann had been trying to get an all-girls team together for several years. In 2017, he finally had six female juniors on the team, but one was unable to attend Nationals, so 2018 was the year for them to do it, with six females able to attend and one aging out of the junior program.

Firing members on the 2018 Garden State Gunners Girls Rattle Battle Team included Shelby Falk, Amy Flood, Sierra Loutraris, Jessica Peoples, Dorothy Speers and Victoria Wheatley. Jessica and Sierra were the two swing shooters, each firing upon two of the eight Rattle Battle targets. Each of the girls shot iron sights in the match. Several commented on how they started into highpower and on their thoughts of being part of what one member called "an awesome moment."

Shelby Falk is the one member of the New Jersey Garden State Gunners Junior Team that does not live in New Jersey. Falk, from Pennsylvania, joined the team since it is closer to her residence than the Pennsylvania based junior highpower teams.

She has always had an interest in shooting, starting with .22's and graduating to the .223 when she decided she wanted to become more serious about marksmanship. Shelby attended her first team practice, a reloading and dry-fire session, on her 15th birthday. In 2018, with two years remaining a junior, Shelby "actually really, really loved the idea" of an all-girls junior team, she remarked.

Shelby viewed it as making a statement, taking the equality side as opposed to the novelty perspective. Shelby noted, "Everyone's opinion coming to the subject was very different from each other. One was worried about what it would look like and to set an example for other teams and other shooters. I just thought overall it was just a really good thing to do."

Shelby's fervor for an all-girls team stemmed from a desire to inspire females who want to be on a team but are uncomfortable shooting with males. While Shelby herself has many male friends, she tried to see highpower from the perspective of girls who are more shy around boys.

Concerning the match, her rifle zeroes were accurate, and though they had a few malfunctions, the girls still managed to beat the New Jersey boys team (Garden State Gunners Red). Garden State Gunners Girls concluded the Rattle Battle with a score of 592. Garden State Gunners Red finished with a score of 265.

Regardless of score, and all jesting aside, Shelby was certain to point out that "everyone's always really supportive of one another."

Team member Amy Flood elaborated on the closeness of the entire New Jersey team, saying, "We all work so well together and we love each other."

Flood started shooting pistol at age 13 before starting smallbore after she found herself connecting more to rifle than to pistol. She still desired something different, finding her niche in 2015.

Amy said of highpower service rifle, "I couldn't have asked for something better, I love it."

The team arrangements for Rattle Battle began early in the year with a vote. Coach Walter Bachmann had consistently had three girls on the team for the past few years, and the team really wanted to help fulfill his dream when the opportunity arose this year. It was decided that to accommodate everyone's goals, the teams for the NTT match were determined by skill level, while the team split across gender lines for the National Trophy Infantry Team Match.

Amy said of this arrangement, "We want to win. We don't care if it's all guys, all girls or mixed in. We did it the way we did it. and I am glad we did."

Dorothy Speers truly agreed with the way the teams were divided, acknowledging that she loves it, but as a casual shooter, she thought an "A" team was necessary for the NTT.

As she is aging out of the junior program this year, this was Dorothy's first and last chance to shoot on an all-girls junior team. Having spent most of 2017 teaching English at a Tibetan Buddhist monastery in India where she was unable to practice, Speers says she was "shocked to be welcomed back and was thrilled to support her team again."

She thought it was fun having an all-girls team but did not think that it warranted any extra publicity, saying, "If we start making a giant big deal out of it, it is almost like going backwards because we aren't looking to be put on a pedestal for being girls with guns."

Still, she does not regret the experience, as "it was fun to shoot with my friends. That's what it was."

Speers took a few moments to reflect on her highpower career thus far, noting that she started by attending a local venturing crew meeting and, "in a matter of one week I went from never shooting a gun to being on the highpower team."

Sierra Loutraris has been shooting highpower on the Garden State Gunners team for about two years. She noted that she has always casually gone to the range with her dad but had never shot highpower until she joined the team. Her dad saw an advertisement in the local club newsletter that the junior highpower team was looking for another girl to make an all-girls junior team possible.

Sierra thought it was a great idea as she "just wanted to be a part of something that could show other girls that you can do anything you want as long as you just go for it."

Sierra has proved this in her own accomplishments, earning her Expert classification over the course of three months and is rapidly approaching Master classification.

Though the newest girl on the team, Sierra has earned her spot as one of the top shooters on the Garden State Gunners. Her strongest position is prone, with her greatest scores shot at the 600-yard line. Her teammates attest to her skill and ability as well as her tenacity as she stuck with the team and proved herself over the past two years.

Jessica Peoples has been shooting highpower since March 2016, and after a "lot of time and a lot of effort," has earned her Master classification through the National Rifle Association and a "hard" 10-point leg in the 2018 National Trophy Individual Rifle Match.

She was most surprised that an all-girls team had not happened sooner with the larger numbers of juniors some states bring. Though she prefers a co-ed team, with "all personalities merging," Jessica acknowledged that the "dynamic [was] different…we were significantly more organized, and the guys were a little more 'tactical' in their methods."

Even with some magazine issues, the team was "pretty proud of how [they] did." Some of their Rattle Battle magazines do not feed well or lock in well, leading to annual magazine issues, but the team is not currently in a position to get fresh ones.

The Garden State Gunners team hopes to make an all-girls Rattle Battle team a tradition, but it may be difficult with some girls aging out. Team members not only indicated an appreciation for the support of their families and club, but also for their coach, Walter Bachmann.

Dorothy Speers noted that "he deserves credit for a lot of things. He works really, really hard for us. I think it's been a dream of his to have an all-girls team. [Bachmann is a] really big supporter of juniors shooting and a really big supporter of females shooting. Having an all-girls junior team has been a milestone for him, to put that together."

Coach Bachmann recounted that "Dick Whiting, the head coach from West Virginia, came to me and he said he was very upset with me because he's been trying to do this for four years, and I beat him to it."

Even with the differing opinions surrounding the all-girls team, it was not only a milestone for Bachmann but also for the sport itself, completing a dream that many others had but were still working on completing.

If you are interested in joining a junior shooting team, search CMP affiliated clubs at https://ct.thecmp.org/app/v1/index.php?do=clubSearch or reach out to your CMP State Director at http://thecmp.org/training-tech/state-director/.

Target Sprint Returns to 2018 Dixie Double Air Gun Event

By Ashley Brugnone, CMP Writer

Anniston's Annual DIXIE DOUBLE RIFLE AND PISTOL EVENT

ANNISTON, Ala. – Registration is now open for the Civilian Marksmanship Program's (CMP) annual Dixie Double Air Rifle and Air Pistol Competition, set to fire Nov. 3-4, 2018 in Alabama.

Hosting some of the best men, women and junior competitors from around the country, including members of the Army Marksmanship Unit and other national-level athletes, the Dixie Double serves as a learning opportunity for upcoming shooters as well as a worthwhile challenge for experienced marksmen.

The event features two days of 60 shot international rifle and pistol competitions for adults and juniors, fired simultaneously, along with a final to end each day. A two-person aggregate team event is also held concurrently with the open shooting competition. Overall competitors are awarded each individual day as well as from the combined, two-day aggregate scores.

Returning to the Dixie Double in 2018 is the Target Sprint competition – open to all competitors and non-competitors, ages 10 and up, who have completed a basic rifle safety class. During the event, participants run along a path, occasionally stopping to fire air rifles at five 10-meter falling targets, knocking all over before continuing on. The first to cross the finish line wins!

Sign up now for one of the South's most popular air gun competitions, held within the CMP South Competition Center. The facility is home to the CMP Store and 80, 10-meter air gun firing points. Each point is equipped with state-of-the-art electronic targets, which allow instant shot displays to both competitors and spectators.

For more information about the Dixie Double, visit http://thecmp.org/air/cmp-competition-center-event-matches/dixie-double/.

Inaugural National Smallbore Matches Fire at Camp Perry in July

By Ashley Brugnone, CMP Writer

CAMP PERRY, Ohio – Just like the blustering winds off of Lake Erie, the 2018 National Matches smallbore rifle series returned as a powerful force across the ranges of Camp Perry. Drenching rainstorms and consistent heavy gales tested the abilities of the competitors on the line – appropriately welcoming the events back to the venue notorious for its unpredictable outdoor conditions.

Over 44,640 shots were recorded during the new line of smallbore matches, fired July 16-22. After being removed from the National Matches in 2014 by the National Rifle Association, high demand from competitors for smallbore's return motivated the Civilian Marksmanship Program (CMP) to begin work on reestablishing it into the Camp Perry schedule.

In 2017, the CMP organized a team of staff members and some of the country's most experienced smallbore marksmen and markswomen to compile a fresh lineup of events to unveil at the National Matches in the summer of 2018.

Not only did the events return, but they returned with a renewed spirit and a modernized core – sustained by the latest technological advancements in competitive shooting sports that established a higher stage for national-level smallbore.

With the help of Orion Scoring System, an innovative scoring software app was designed to read shot scores simply by snapping a photo. After firing concluded for each stage, CMP personnel walked downrange with a handheld device to take photos of each target. The photos within the app linked directly to the Orion scoring system, which then identified shots on the targets and scored accordingly – all before the next stage of fire even began.

Along with an advanced scoring system, the CMP also implemented its electronic targets during the smallbore finals events – the first time such a system has been used during a National Matches smallbore match.

The reintroduction of smallbore at Camp Perry brought back veteran competitors, like SFC Eric Uptagrafft, who has had a successful marksmanship career as an Olympian, a multiple World Cup gold medalist and a current member of the Army Marksmanship Unit (AMU), among other accolades. When he heard smallbore would be making a comeback at Camp Perry, he became intrigued by the idea.

"I thought it was interesting. There's so much tradition at Camp Perry, it's so nice to come back here and be able to see improvements," he said. "We got the whole Camp Perry experience here with the weather the last couple of days, so that's always entertaining. Hopefully there will be more next year."

The AMU cleaned up during the smallbore series – overtaking the top spot in nearly every category, including the team events. SSF Hank Gray, a past smallbore competitor himself and now coach of the team, was looking forward to seeing what his athletes could do this year at the National Matches.

With a number of new members, including their most recent addition, PVT Emily Stith (who went on to win several 3-P Junior honors at the National Matches), Grey was anxious to show them the ropes of the historic facility.

"I was really excited to bring them back to Camp Perry," he said. "We have a really young team this year, so it was some of their first times to Camp Perry, and some haven't been since the last time the events were here – so they were all excited to be here."

Scott Rockett won a number of Intermediate Age titles during the smallbore matches.

The addition of smallbore to the schedule also attracted new faces to the National Matches, like junior Scott Rockett of Cary, NC. He's been shooting smallbore for the last five years, starting with a junior club near his hometown, but has really shown improvement in the last two years after buying his own smallbore rifle.

At this year's National Matches, Rockett took home the Intermediate Junior Age Group award in the 3-P Aggregate Championship, the 3-P Iron Sights, 3-P Any Sights, as well as in the Prone 3200 Aggregate Championship, Iron Sights and Any Sights categories – leading the next generation of talent at the National Matches.

"I've heard so many great things about smallbore at Camp Perry, and this was my opportunity to go experience it," he said. "I really enjoyed it. It was fun, and the windy conditions made for a good challenge."

Also giving a noteworthy performance was Tobin Sanctuary, originally of Alstead, NH, who overtook nearly each Junior title during the Prone smallbore series. He has been shooting the discipline for the past six years, beginning on a Cheshire County Junior Club team in New Hampshire. Currently studying Business Management at the University of North Georgia as a scholastic athlete, he now shoots for their rifle team and was looking forward to his chance to finally compete at the Camp Perry National Matches.

"You get to be outdoors, you get to come to Camp Perry and shoot in the conditions. I was really excited about it, and I thought it was great," he said.

"The conditions were tough for 3-P, but it ran really smooth. I was a little skeptical about the scoring, but that worked out really great too. And, I really liked the finals," he went on. "The facilities here are great. I thought it went really well."

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
#1259	Diana Roman	Zion, IL
#1260	Allison Henry	Granbury, TX
#1261	Elijah Kalinski	Albuquerque, NM
#1262	Macy Kimball	APO, AE
#1263	Xavier Nelson	Union, SC
#1264	Marvin Pell	Augusta, GA
#1265	Arnoldo Ayala	Parlier, CA
#1266	Chelsea Brown	Rio Rancho, NM
#1267	Gabe Gonzales	Santa Fe, NM
#1268	Audrey Melchor	Enterprise, AL
#1269	Kevin Nguyen	Des Moines, IA
#1270	Austin Barber	Newnan, GA
#1271	Hailey Clevenger	Lebanon, OR
#1272	Collin DiOrio	Canon City, CO
#1273	Heidi Kwock	Honolulu, HI
#1274	Grace Sharp	Joshua, TX
#1275	Catherine Taylor	Nokomis, FL
#1276	Zachary Zapata	Buda, TX
#1278	Max Mooneyham	Albuquerque, NM
#1279	Marcus Fernandez	Santa Fe, NM
#1280	Zoe Lum	Rio Rancho, NM
#1281	Ileane Molina	Santa Fe, NM
#1282	Angelica Segovia	Santa Fe, NM
#1283	Logan Snell	Yakima, WA
#1284	Jared Strickland	Tucson, AZ
#1285	Sydney Krejci	Des Moines, IA

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.

CA Grizzlies Fire New Record Score in Junior Competition at 2018 National Rifle Matches

By Ashley Brugnone, CMP Writer

The California Grizzlies Shilen set a new National Record in the NTT event.

CAMP PERRY, Ohio – Junior athletes raised the competitive bar during the 2018 National Trophy Rifle Matches, as one team's members collectively registered a new National Record score with their noteworthy performances.

California Grizzlies Shilen earned the coveted Minuteman Trophy as the High Junior Team during the National Trophy Team (NTT) Match, with an overall aggregate score of 2894-86x and a Top 10 finish. Team members Koa Van Hoven, Miles Grove, Loet Van Hoven, Justin George, Amber Kingshill and Nathaniel Nye surpassed the old high score of 2889-80x, which was set back in 2016 by another California Grizzlies team. Team coach of CA Shilen was Kaitlyn Bispo, and Jim O'Connell served as team captain.

In individual competition, winning the Col. Bill Deneke Trophy as the top overall junior of the President's 100, National Trophy Individual (NTI) and the National Trophy Junior Team events was Luke Rettmer, 19, of Ferndale, WA, with a score of 1270-39. Rettmer was only nine points shy of the National Record score, set by Liam McKenna at last year's National Matches.

The Top 6 junior competitors of the aggregate are named to the honorary National Junior Highpower Team. The 2018 members, along with Rettmer, were Loet Van Hoven of San Rafael, CA, Thomas McGowan of Hortonville, WI, Justin George of Corcoran, CA, Alex Vitous of Martinton, IL, and High Junior winner Kade Jackovich of Mesa, AZ.

Kade Jackovich was the High Junior of the NTI and received the Golden Eagle Trophy.

Rettmer used his completed White Oak upper, barrel and a White Oak Leupold scope to nab the High Junior title of the President's 100 Match – the only junior to make the accompanying Top 20 Shootoff – with a score of 380-9x.

"It's always my goal to go up on stage (at National Matches), every year, and I've done that every year except my first year," Rettmer said, with confidence.

Last year, he was the overall NRA Junior National Match winner. He returned to Camp Atterbury in Indiana to compete in the NRA National Matches in 2018 before heading to Camp Perry and won the High Junior honor for Long Range and Across the Course.

"But this was the one that I wanted," he said, referring to his CMP success. "This was the only major junior award that I haven't accomplished yet, so I definitely wanted that one the most."

He spoke favorably of the unanticipated conditions this year at Camp Perry, known for its challenging weather, saying, "This is actually, as far as I can remember, the calmest wind I've seen here in a long time."

In the National Trophy Junior Team Match, Rettmer joined forces with Washington Warriors teammate Jordan Freed to claim the overall win, with a score of 966-25x.

Born and raised in Washington, Rettmer began smallbore shooting at age 11 and became distinguished in the discipline just a few years later. He then moved onto highpower shooting, Across the Course and Long Range for the national "Young Eagles" Under-21 team.

He's been to the National Matches six times and won the silver medal in the U21 Long Range World Championship, held at Camp Perry in 2015. He has also competed in Canada. From here, he plans on attending the Long Range World Championships in New Zealand in January/February 2019 as a coach and competitor.

"Unfortunately, the service rifle is going to have to take a little bit of a break," he said. "But, service rifle will always be there."

National Junior Team member Kade Jackovich, 19, earned the Golden Eagle Trophy as the highest junior competitor of the National Matches, collecting a score of 1269-40x in the President's 100, National Trophy Team and NTI aggregate. He was named High Junior in the NTI Match with an outstanding score of 492-15x.

Luke Rettmer was the only junior to make the President's 100 Shootoff.

A talented competitor himself, Jackovich has earned Distinguished Badges in both Service Rifle and Junior Three Position Air Rifle. He is currently attending Northern Arizona University where he is a member of the Army ROTC and the color guard.

In air rifle, Jackovich took first place in the Air Force sporter JROTC Regional Service Championships in 2017. That same year, he went on to earn second at the CMP Three-Position Regionals.

As a member of the Arizona Scorpions Junior High Power team, he has earned a spot in the President's 100 as one of the Top 100 competitors overall in 2015 and 2018. Also in 2015, he and teammates Zac Clark and Sarah Nguyen overtook the NRA's Whistler Boy honor and set a new National Record in the match that had stood since 1999.

This year, Jackovich and teammate Donnie Smith earned second in the Junior Team Match, just five points behind the Washington Warriors.

For a complete list of results, visit the CMP Competition Tracker page at https://ct.thecmp.org/app/v1/index.php?do=match&task=edit&match=16353&tab=results.

Photos of the National Matches can be found on the CMP Zenfolio page for viewing and free download at https://cmp1.zenfolio.com/f817385512.

Getting Started in the World of Adaptive Shooting

By Thomas Ciarula, Assistant National Paralympic Shooting Coach

ADAPTIVE SHOOTING IS FOR EVERYONE.

In 2018, for the first time, a junior adaptive shooter competed shoulder to shoulder at the CMP Junior Olympic Championship and the CMP National 3PAR Precision Championship at Camp Perry. She qualified to shoot in the Championship, just like everyone else.

Adaptive shooting is the art of adapting or designing and building equipment to accommodate an athlete with physical disabilities. If you have a competitive shooting program, and especially if you have a juniors' program, reach out to the disabled. It doesn't matter if they are people with physical challenges or active duty/retired wounded warriors. All you need to get started is a table and a chair. I will bet that you start all your new shooters in prone on sandbags. Start your new adaptive shooters on sandbags just like you would with everyone else, only on a table and chair.

International Paralympic Shooting is governed by World Shooting Para Sports. For shooters they currently have two classifications (https://www.paralympic.org/shooting/rules-and-regulations/technical-rules).

SH1: Pistol and rifle competitors that must sit, but do not require a shooting stand

SH2: Rifle competitors who have no ability to support the weight of the firearm with their arms and therefore require a shooting stand to assist

Further classifications are based on their existing limitations (degree of body trunk functionality, balance while seating, muscle strength, mobility of both upper and lower limbs) but don't worry about that for now. SH-1 just means you can sit down to shoot. SH2 just means that you get to sit down and are also allowed a "spring stand" to support the weight of the air rifle. You started them on sandbags on a table, as they get better, move them to standing (no elbows on the table) or prone (with both elbows on the table) while still sitting in a chair. For SH1 add coat, glove and sling when they are ready, just like any beginning shooter. If they need a spring stand (SH2), get them started on a standard tripod rifle rest. SH2 cannot use a sling or glove.

For SH1 you need a table and chair. You don't need anything fancy to start, any chair and table will do. You can use a fold up table with adjustable legs, or bed risers on the legs or a simple length of plastic pipe to adjust the height.

Any chair will do. Medal fold up chairs or I like plastic shower chairs, inexpensive (from a thrift store) and adjustable.

You can build a fairly good table from a medical Walker. They are inexpensive if you get them from a from a thrift shop (usually about $5). All you need to do is cut the foam rubber off the tops and bolt on a plywood top with 4 wing nuts. Once the shooter gets settled, they are surprisingly sturdy.

Another easy one to build is a table made with Rugged Buddy (http://www.ruggedbuddy.com/) saw horse legs.

Rugged Buddy saw horse legs are low-cost and very sturdy. They come in two heights. By using a 2X4 or 2x6 spacer under the shorter legs you get to 30 inches and at that, the top is the perfect height for most. Two 2X4 or 2x6 spacers combine for about 32 inches high and Rugged Buddy has taller legs for about 35-inch height (perfect for motorized wheel chairs). Legs are about $40 and a plywood top. The legs are cheaper from Amazon.

Table tops can be made from ½ or thicker plywood or anything else. Think, weight, cost, durability and rigidity. You will need to have a way to raise the top and/or adjust seat height. About 30 inches from floor is a good place to start, I have seen table tops as large as 32 X 24 and as small as 20 X 10. 26 X 16 seems to be a good compromise (and it fits in a suitcase). You can leave the top bare, use non-skid or foam yoga mat on top. SH1 shooters generally like padding and SH2 generally like it bare.

There are fancier tables out there (that dissemble into a suitcase) and when your shooter gets to the point where they are looking at airplane travel I can help you.

But don't let any of this discussion of equipment scare you. We started with very basic equipment; fold up tables and metal folding chairs. Wounded Warriors we have trained have taken medals at almost every Warrior Games since 2011.

With a simple easy to get waiver, potential shooters with physical challenges can compete in CMP matches with everybody else on an equal basis. You have to contact Vicki Donoho <vdonoho@thecmp.org> Civilian Marksmanship Program, Program Coordinator, 419-635-2141 ext 702, Fax 419-635-2573.

Send her pictures of your shooter in each of the three positions from both sides to get a CMP waiver.

For a person with disabilities, this might be the first time in their life they can do so; and the shooting sports may be the only avenue in which they can. The NCAA is encouraging adaptive college shooters. Military veterans can go on the Warrior Games, National Veterans' Wheelchair Games, Golden Age Games and Valor Games, with competitions held all over the USA. For any of your shooters that get good enough they can go all the way to the Olympic Center in Colorado Springs as resident athletes and represent the USA in the Paralympics and international competition.

The important thing is to simply get started. You can figure out the details as you go along and I'll be happy to help (Tom Ciarula, CiarulaT@Cox.net, 702-250-0947).

Helping disabled or handicapped shooters get started in the shooting sports is an incredibly rewarding experience. It's also a fantastic way to say "thank you" to a Wounded Warrior, and it's easier than you might think. Remember, help in getting set up and running is available any time you need it, just call or email.

So, what's holding you back?

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.

Burrell Township Rod & Gun Club Hosts Youth Days

Local *Youth Hunter Education Challenge (*YHEC) teams brought home individual awards at the Western YHEC Regional event, held at Burrell Township Rod and Gun Club in Blacklick, Pa., in June. Southern Clinton County Junior Team winners included: Kaedin Kramer, second place Wildlife I.D.; Denny Dolan, third place .22 Rifle; Tyler Weaver, first place muzzleloader and second place archery; Emery Gunsallus, first place .22 Rifle, second place Muzzleloader, third place Archery and third place overall Individual Junior; Skylar Nikon, first place Shotgun and second place Overall Individual Junior.

Youth Hunter Education Challenge (YHEC)

Youth Day

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/.

The Shelby Shooters, Shelbyville, IL
Bridger Trail Light Infantry Rangers, Worland, WY
Waldwick Pistol & Rifle Club, Waldwick, NJ
Dutchess County Pistol Association, Wappingers Falls, NY
Weeping Water Gun Club, Omaha, NE
Connecticut State Rifle & Revolver Association, North Haven, CT
The Proctor Fish & Game Club, Proctor, VT
DuBois Rifle & Pistol Club, Inc., DuBois, PA
Everett Sportsman Junior Rifle Club, Everett, PA
Lewis and Clark Shooters Association, Jefferson City, MO
Amarillo Rifle & Pistol Club, Amarillo, TX
Tuckers Creek Rimfire Rifle Club, Inc., Davisville, WV
Nenameseck Sportsmens Club, Palmer, MA
Aurora Gun Club, Parker, CO
River Bend Gun Club, Marblehill, GA
Santa Margarita Gun Club, Cornoa, CA
Oklahoma City Gun Club & Jr Div, Norman, OK
Cooper Landing Gun Club, Cooper Landing, AK
Mississippi Valley Gun Club, Chester, IL
Shooters Ten Rifle and Pistol Club, Mt. Holly, NJ
Blue Ridge Cherry Valley Rod & Gun Club, Sciota, PA
Pleasantville Rifle & Pistol Club, Inc., Pleasantville, IA

Registration Open for CMP's 2018 Talladega 600 Marksmanship Event

By Ashley Brugnone, CMP Writer

Last year's Talladega 600 brought an unexpected blanket of thick snow to the hills of Alabama.

TALLADEGA, Ala. – The Civilian Marksmanship Program's (CMP) Talladega 600, a marksmanship retreat, is set to begin Tuesday, Dec. 4, 2018, and will offer a variety of competitive and learning events through Sunday, Dec. 9, at CMP's own Talladega Marksmanship Park in Alabama.

Known as "A Southern Classic," matches to be fired at the Talladega 600 will include a mix of rifle and pistol competitions for enthusiasts of all ages, disciplines and experience levels. Shotgun opportunities are also available outside of the competition schedule, with a Sporting Clays Field and 5-Stand Shoot on the park's own manicured shotgun areas.

During the 600, popular recreation-oriented rifle CMP Games matches, such as the Garand, Springfield and Vintage rifle events, will mingle with versions of prestigious National Trophy Rifle Matches, including a rifle Excellence In Competition (EIC) match and the retitled Congressional 30 and Dixie Double competitions, among other rifle matches. Additionally, Carbine, .22 Rimfire Sporter and Vintage Sniper events will add more nostalgic feel to the match schedule.

For an educational experience, a Small Arms Firing School (which features an M16 EIC Match) is also open to both new and advanced individuals looking to enhance their marksmanship knowledge.

Those eager for pistol events will be able to look forward to .22 Rimfire EIC and Service Pistol EIC matches, along with As-Issued 1911 and Military & Police matches.

For more information on the event, including registration and a complete match schedule, visit http://thecmp.org/competitions/matches/talladega-600/.

About Talladega Marksmanship Park:

The CMP Talladega Marksmanship Park is a destination for firearm supporters and those intrigued by the sport, featuring exclusive CMP electronic targets and scoring monitors that can only be found at the 500-acre facility. The park is open to the public every week and regularly hosts rifle, pistol and shotgun events all year long.

The event welcomes both adult and junior competitors.

Parting Shots: Photos from Recent CMP Events & Competitions

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

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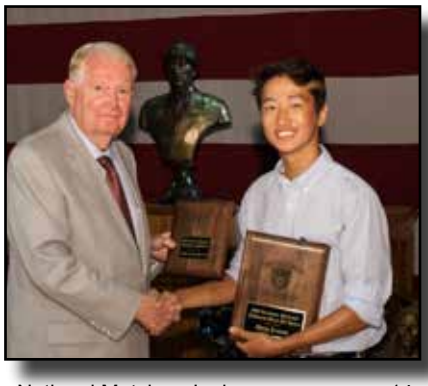

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