

ON THE MARK

THE NEWSLETTER FOR COACHES AND JUNIOR SHOOTERS © WINTER 2017



UNSTOPPABLE

Emma Thompson Repeats Record-Breaking Performances at CMP Events



Also...

- Sisterly Support at Camp Perry Open
- GAI and JROTC Regionals Results
- 2017 Monthly Match Schedule
- State Directors Story

Inside...

- New Junior Pistol Awards at National Matches
- Ways to Improve Youth Programs
- Junior Wins at Talladega 600

ON THE MARK

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

ON THE MARK Staff:

Gary Anderson DCM Emeritus
Steve Cooper North General Manager & Marketing Manager
Christine Elder Communications Manager
Ashley Brugnone CMP Writer/Editor

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.

Back Issues of OTM: To view back issues of **ON THE MARK**, log onto <http://thecmp.org/communications/on-the-mark/>. Address Changes: To submit address changes or corrections, contact: 419-635-2141, ext. 724 or email onthemark@TheCMP.org.

Editorial Submissions: To submit articles, editorial material or photographs for possible inclusion in **ON THE MARK**, contact: Ashley Brugnone, **ON THE MARK** Editor, P. O. Box 576, Port Clinton, OH 43452; fax 419-635-2573 or email abrugnone@TheCMP.org.

Junior Program Resources: To request information about CMP junior shooting programs, contact: CMP Programs, P. O. Box 576, Port Clinton, OH 43452; 419-635-2141 ext. 724 or email programs@TheCMP.org.

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.

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

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

© Sighting Shots ©

- © **Eastern Games and Creedmoor Cup, April 28-May 7.** The 11th Eastern CMP Games and Creedmoor Cup Matches are co-sponsored by the Civilian Marksmanship Program and Creedmoor Sports, Inc. and will be held at Camp Butner, North Carolina. All interested shooters, whether new or experienced, recreation-oriented shooters or national championship contenders are invited to participate in these unique, national-level competitions. For more information, visit, <http://thecmp.org/competitions/cmp-travel-games/eastern-games/>.



- © **Petrarca Range at Camp Perry.** Targets at Petrarca Range, a public gun range, has announced a set schedule for Open Shooting through 2017. During the designated Open slots, visitors are welcome to fire highpower and smallbore rifles as well as pistols on CMP's electronic targets. The range will be open every Monday from 10 a.m. - 6 p.m., beginning March 20, until daylight savings time in November when the time will change to 10 a.m. - 5 p.m. and will remain open until Dec. 4, 2017, when it will close for the season. For more information, visit the Petrarca Range page on the CMP website at <http://thecmp.org/competitions/cmp-targets-at-petrarca-range/>.

- © **Springfield M1A Match at the 2017 National Matches.** Springfield Armory® is set to sponsor the 11th annual Springfield Armory® M1A™ Match during the 2017 National Trophy Rifle Matches on Saturday, July 22, following the John C. Garand Match. Registration for the match will

open April 1, 2017, and is open to all individuals ages 12 and above, with an entry fee of \$50 (junior entry fee of \$25). Competitors of all experience levels are encouraged to sign up for this challenging and enjoyable match. To view other upcoming events of the National Matches, visit <http://thecmp.org/competitions/cmp-national-matches/>.

- © **2017 Dates & Locations posted for the CMP Junior Air Rifle Camps and Clinics.** Registration is now open for the numerous Junior Air Rifle Camps and Clinics for 2017. The ever-expanding camps and clinics train high-school age (9-12 grade) junior shooters on intermediate and advanced air rifle marksmanship skills through various exercises and demonstrations. Visit <http://thecmp.org/air/cmp-competition-center-event-matches/junior-air-rifle-camps-and-clinics/> for more information.



- © **2017 Net Competitor Monthly Matches** - From Net Competitor Shooting Sports, enter a new online "postal" style match every month featuring requested shooting disciplines in rifle, pistol, shotgun and archery. 1st, 2nd and 3rd place, high junior and senior awards are given to the best shooters monthly and quarterly. The top 16 shooters of the year are invited to compete in the League of Champions, our complimentary 2 week annual championship. It's never too late to join in and be one of the "Super 16"! Visit http://www.netcompetitor.com/monthly_matches.html for more info.

On the Cover: Emma Thompson of Freeport High School has set and broken her own records at the last three major CMP air rifle events in which she has competed. Read about her performances throughout this issue!

CMP Adds New Junior Pistol Awards to 2017 National Matches

By Ashley Brugnone, CMP Writer

CAMP PERRY, Ohio – To better recognize its remarkable junior pistol competitors, the Civilian Marksmanship Program (CMP) has added specialized awards to the 2017 National Trophy Pistol Matches, fired at the renowned Camp Perry National Guard Training Facility in Ohio.

The Top 3 juniors in the President's Pistol Match, National Trophy Individual (NTI) Pistol and .22 Pistol EIC matches will be presented individual overall awards. A special aggregate award for the highest combined score in the President's 100, NTI, .22 Pistol EIC and the Pistol Team Match will also be given to the leading junior competitors, and the Top 3 teams in the Junior Team Trophy Match will also be recognized.

All of the junior awards will be presented during the National Trophy Pistol Awards Ceremony on July 2 at 5 p.m. The ceremony will include a reception beforehand, with winning juniors receiving their earned honors on the Hough Theatre stage – walking the same path as other revered marksmen have done throughout the long history of the National Matches.

As an added bonus, all juniors who compete in the CMP National Trophy Pistol Matches will receive an exclusive t-shirt with a design selected especially for 2017.

Last year, junior attendance at the National Trophy Pistol Matches proved to be one of the best ever recorded



– with escalating participation expected in the coming years. The demonstrated dedication of junior competitors and increasing interest in the sport serves as motivation for the CMP to continue its mission of expanding the ways it challenges and commends the marksmanship community.

For more information on the National Trophy Pistol Matches, including an in-depth look at each event, visit the Pistol page on the CMP website at <http://thecmp.org/competitions/cmp-national-matches/national-pistol-matches/>.

About the National Trophy Pistol Matches:

The 2017 CMP National Trophy Pistol Matches are scheduled for July 1-2 at Camp Perry. The Pistol Matches were introduced in 1904 and include service pistol championship competitions for both elite and up-and-coming marksmen. A Small Arms Firing School, taught by current military pistol team members and qualified CMP instructors, is also conducted during the matches for those new to the sport or wanting to improve his/her skills. For over a century, the Matches have served as the premier rifle and pistol championship series fired during the year.



DON'T FORGET!

Registration for the 2017 National Matches opens April 1!

Thompson Repeats Record-Breaking Performance to Win Overall at 2017 Camp Perry Open

By Ashley Brugnone, CMP Writer



Emma Thompson broke her 3x20 qualification records for the third time during the 2017 Camp Perry Open.

CAMP PERRY, Ohio – At the Civilian Marksmanship Program's (CMP) 2017 Camp Perry Open, Emma Thompson, 16, of Freeport High School, astoundingly broke her own 3x20 sporter air rifle qualification National Records (notably, for the third time) that she had previously set only a month ago at the Gary Anderson CMP Competition Center air gun range.

In December, Thompson fired a qualification score of 577-28x on her way to becoming the overall sporter competitor during the Gary Anderson Invitational event – where she incredibly also set nine total sporter National Records, some of which were already hers.

At the Camp Perry Open, fired Jan. 13-15, Thompson recorded a remarkable score of 578-31x to reach the new qualification record as well as a new kneeling record (197-13x) that adjacently resulted in new Navy JROTC, Age Group II and Overall records in another incredible win.

"It's just a normal day at work," she said. "Coming in and shooting with the same mindset, getting in the zone and hoping that I have a good day. I keep following fundamentals and doing the normal stuff."

She says that she aims to do the best she can for her team by shooting her average or above every time she competes. She also has her sights set on a goal that she is quickly approaching with each record-breaking performance.

"There's a dream of 580 (overall 3x20 score) somewhere out there. I think I can do it," she said with a smile.

With her performance, Thompson's team, Freeport High School, rose to the overall win in the 3x20 team competition along with the help of teammates Alyssa Hornung (who finished second overall), Lindsay Strohacker and Makiah Stacy.

Freeport coach, SgtMaj Michael Dechy, is quick to acknowledge Thompson's excellent work ethic that he believes is a result of her involvement in other activities, such as the school play and dressage (English-style horse riding). He says being involved in a variety of interests causes her to be more attentive in air rifle.

"She never misses a practice, and she does a lot of the physical parts other than shooting. She keeps herself in good physical condition. She's really focused on nutrition and all of the other aspects of shooting," he said. "She does a lot of things other than just this (air rifle) which makes her very focused when she comes to shoot."

SgtMaj Dechy looks to Thompson as a natural mentor to her teammates. The drive, respect and generosity etched into her personality are the characteristics that make her a highly appreciated member of the team.

"She's a very nice person, very humble and she is a leader on the team," he said. "She doesn't just come in, shoot and takes off. She helps other kids if they want help, but she doesn't push them, and she's well liked."

Thompson said with a laugh, "This is my third year, so I hope I look like I know what I'm doing and am responsible."

Read how Thompson set NINE records at the Gary Anderson Invitational, on page 16.

But I try to help out the freshman and new kids as much as I can, give them pointers and calm them down at these big meets.”

“I wouldn’t be here without my team,” she added. “These records are the first of many. Freeport’s name will be up in lights for a long time, I’m hoping.”

The Camp Perry Open is an air gun competition that combines both junior and adult competitors in a shoulder-to-shoulder 60 Shot match. Air rifle and air pistol events are fired concurrently, with a 3x20 competition preceding the two-day Open match.

Richard Gray, 45, of Fredericksburg, VA, led overall in the 60 Shot Open Pistol match, as Samuel Gens, 17, of Andover, MA, was the overall high junior of the competition – landing in third place overall amongst the Open competitors.

Also winning during the Camp Perry Open was Karly Potts, 18, of the Palmyra Jr. Rifle Team, who outshot her junior air rifle competitors for the overall win in the match, and Antonio Gates, 17, of RRC Juniors, who led the precision class in the 3x20 competition.

Dempster Christenson, 26, of the USA Shooting team, topped the 60 Shot Rifle Open competition and was also



The Camp Perry Open is one of the CMP's events throughout the year that combines both air rifle and air pistol competition for adults and juniors.

the winner of the wild and rowdy Super Final.

On the pistol side, Margaret Delnoce, 20, of the University of Akron, withstood the challenging Super Final to secure first place in the fun Camp Perry Open staple.

The Super Finals, which has made the Camp Perry Open unlike any other air event throughout the year and arguably the most widely attended by fans, features costumes, booming music from the overhead speakers, cheering fans, clappers, cow bells and other commotions – all echoing simultaneously throughout the range as the competitors fire their shots. This year, the Top 36 air rifle and pistol overall competitors, respectively, took the firing line in the event.

Thanks to all who competed or attended one of the CMP's most enjoyable events of the year at the Camp Perry Open. We hope to see everyone back again next year – with some new faces too!

For a complete list of results, visit the Camp Perry Open Competition Tracker page at <https://ct.thecmp.org/app/v1/index.php?do=match&tab=results&task=edit&match=14602>.

Photos of the Camp Perry Open are available for free viewing and download on the CMP's Zenfolio page at <http://cmp1.zenfolio.com/f556459568>.



Air rifle competitor Elizabeth Bark, 18, was bringing her cello back to the University of Akron when she decided to break it out and play during the Super Final.

Ways to Improve Youth Shooting Programs

Ways to Improve Youth Shooting Programs: Ideas for making Junior Shooting more effective and appealing

By Gary Anderson, DCM Emeritus

Junior shooting in America faces two daunting challenges, one internal and one external. The internal challenge is to critically and continually examine itself to improve instructional materials, coach training and competition programs. The external challenge is to become more effective in competing against other youth sports to attract the interests and loyalties of youth. Junior shooters compete against each other in the first instance; youth shooting competes against other youth sports in the second instance.

This ***On the Mark*** article offers an action program of ideas and initiatives youth shooting leaders can pursue to make their rifle and pistol training and competition programs more effective in developing young shooting athletes, more appealing to youth and parents and more competitive with other youth sports programs.

Junior shooting in the USA has done a lot in the last two decades to improve itself, but the competition is fierce. School sports programs are among the leading promoters of youth sports in the USA, but most school programs focus on football, basketball and baseball for boys and soccer and volleyball for girls. Their huge numbers help to make the challenge youth shooting faces clear. Football for boys has 1.1 million participants nationwide. Track & Field for both boys and girls has almost 1.1 million youth. Basketball for boys and girls has almost one million. Soccer for boys and girls has about 800,000. Volleyball for girls has just under 500,000 participants. Youth shooting is a

recognized high school sport in Georgia and Hawaii and is accepted as a JROTC school sport in all states, however, definitive national participation statistics are not available. A reasonable estimate is that there are 30,000 to 40,000 participants on school shooting teams in the USA.

The most popular youth club sports for boys are football, basketball, baseball and soccer. For girls, the most popular sports are basketball, volleyball, softball and soccer. Those numbers are also huge. US Youth Soccer, for example, claims over three million registered players from under six to 19 years of age. Membership in traditional junior shooting clubs, in comparison, is also on the order of 30,000 to 40,000. Youth shooting has a long ways to go to compete with the biggest youth sports. This clearly defines a challenge for everyone in national and local leadership positions for youth shooting.

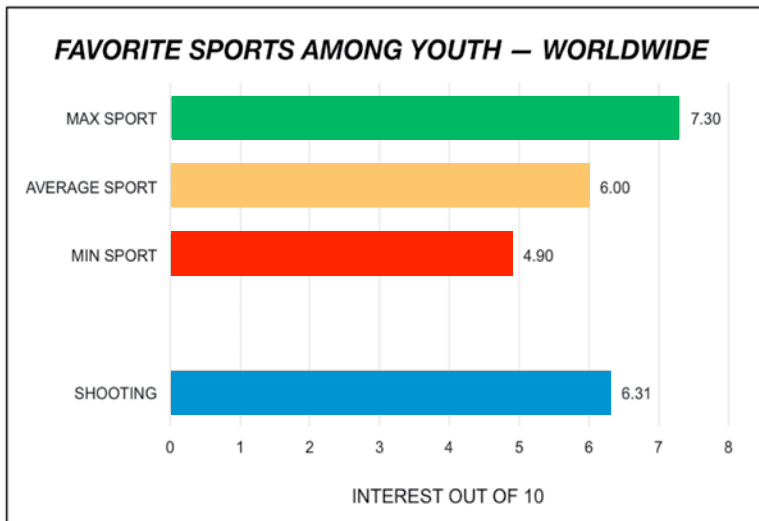
Shooting Really is Popular with Youth

If anyone has any doubts about shooting's ability to attract youth, a worldwide survey conducted by the International Olympic Committee (IOC) after the 2016 Olympic Games should remove those doubts. They asked youth in 20 countries in Europe, Asia, the Americas, Africa and Australia to rate all sports in the summer Olympics. Respondents were shown the list of 28 Olympic sports and asked to rate them on a 10-point scale with 1 meaning they were "not interested at all" and 10 meaning they were "extremely interested."

The Antolik panorama mural (below) on the south wall of the 10m range in the Gary Anderson CMP Competition Center at Camp Perry, Ohio, is one of the shooting world's best examples of the use of art and color to make shooting ranges more appealing.



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The IOC's worldwide survey of youth showed that their personal interest in Shooting was higher than that in the average Olympic Sport.

The good news from this IOC survey is that youth throughout the world rated shooting above the average Olympic sport and in the top half of all Olympic sports. The highest ratings were in India where youth gave shooting an average rating of 7.57 out of 10. The next highest ratings were in China (7.33), Korea (6.63) and the USA (6.33). This professional survey tells us that youth all over the world consider shooting to be a highly appealing and interesting sport.

Youth Shooting Sports leaders should start efforts to improve their programs with the knowledge that youth are interested in shooting, consider it to be a very attractive sport and would like to participate in it. Youth shooting leaders must recognize that it is not difficult to interest youth in shooting. Their challenge, as articulated in the CMP corporate vision, is to offer high quality youth shooting programs in many more American communities.

Topics to Consider in Making Junior Competitions Better

- Shooting Really is Popular with Youth
- Shooting is a Sport for Girls and Boys
- Initiate a Range Improvement Program
- Highlight Shooting Heroes
- Shoot in More Competitions
- Provide Total Athlete Experiences
- Encourage Spectators and Fans
- Start a Local Development Program
- Support Leadership Development



Ways to Improve Youth Shooting Programs

THE VISION OF THE CIVILIAN MARKSMANSHIP PROGRAM IS THAT EVERY YOUTH IN AMERICA HAS THE OPPORTUNITY TO PARTICIPATE IN FIREARMS SAFETY AND MARKSMANSHIP PROGRAMS.

Shooting is a Sport for Girls and Boys

The world standard for sport in the 21st century is gender equality. Both sexes must be equally welcome in all sports; 50 percent of youth sports participants must be female. The leading organization in promoting equality in sports is the International Olympic Committee (IOC), the governing body for the Olympic Games. The IOC's blueprint for the future, **Agenda 2020**, establishes a goal "to achieve 50 percent female participation in the Olympic Games." This goal extends far beyond the Olympic Games and challenges all sports organizations, including youth sports programs, to work towards real gender equality.

Fortunately, many youth shooting programs in the USA are already in full compliance with this equality standard. Most junior school and club teams are not only open to female participation, many are close to the 50-50 standard for girls and boys. In fact, teams that do not include girls are probably at a disadvantage. In 3-position air rifle, where both sexes compete together, females hold more than half of the national records. The few junior clubs that continue with all boys or a few token girls need to take the necessary steps to welcome female participants. These steps should also include developing female leaders as coaches and range officers.

Initiate a Range Improvement Program

One of the best ways to attract more youth and parents to shooting is to make shooting ranges more comfortable and attractive. Too many shooting ranges are still poorly lighted facilities decorated in dreary shades of gray and black. A range improvement program can change that.



IOC President Dr. Thomas Bach (r.), shown here with ISSF President Olegario Vázquez Raña (l.) said: "Olympic Agenda 2020 underscores the IOC's commitment to gender equality by calling for a 50 percent female participation at the Olympic Games."

Using Olympic Games shooting venues as a model may sound unrealistic, but Olympic "Look" examples are not that difficult to emulate. Olympic "Look" schemes make sports facilities more attractive by using color themes and graphics. There are lots of things club and school ranges can do to make their facilities more attractive:

- Provide a clubroom or assembly area next to the range where participants and visitors can relax, enjoy social contacts and prepare for shooting.



These Olympic "Look" examples in the Rio 2016 Olympic shooting venue illustrate several low cost treatments to make ranges more attractive: 1) a color scheme, 2) a clean, painted floor, 3) dynamic graphics, 4) a modern shooting pictogram and a count-down clock.

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- Adopt a color scheme with bright, appealing colors; paint the assembly area and the range.
- Find shooting posters or make banners with shooting graphics for placement on assembly room walls.
- Provide better lighting for both the targets and firing line; 1,500 to 2,000 lux on the targets is recommended; 800 to 1000 lux is needed on the firing line.
- Place a countdown clock on the range; shooting athletes must be able to control their pace and timing.
- Adopt a lead management program that follows recommended hygiene and cleaning practices to protect the health of participants.

Highlight Shooting Heroes

Athletes who become great champions while demonstrating sportsmanship, fair play and extraordinary hard work are an inspiration to almost all youth. Placing photos of shooting champions and brief descriptions of their accomplishments on range assembly room walls is an effective way to make their inspiring personal stories available to young shooters. Photos of shooting champions in firing positions also reinforce coaching instructions.

Young shooters in the USA are especially blessed to have the first gold medalist of the 2016 Olympic Games, Ginny Thrasher, as a role model. Thrasher's path to Olympic gold involved her in programs like 3-position air rifle competitions and CMP junior rifle camps that are now available to junior shooters all over the USA.

A key reason for highlighting young heroes is to build on the "Olympic dream." Most young shooters will not aspire to win medals in the Olympic Games, but the pride they gain by knowing they are part of an Olympic sport can benefit all junior shooting programs. Shooting's status as an Olympic sport makes it more appealing to youth.

Shoot in More Competitions

Youth shooting programs should offer more than lessons on gun safety and how to shoot. When youth learn sports skills, most will want to test those skills in competitions. Successful youth sports offer competition opportunities that emphasize participation and skill development and are managed by qualified officials. Here are some ways to do that:

- **Evaluate competition procedures.** The best youth sports competitions are governed by national standard rules and are conducted by trained, certified competition officials. Programs that sponsor competitions must make sure they follow the appropriate National Council, CMP, USA Shooting or NRA rulebook. The CMP is



USA shooting athlete Virginia Thrasher (center) won the first gold medal in the 2016 Olympic Games. Photos like this posted in a shooting range almost certainly can inspire young shooters to take pride in shooting and work harder on their own skills.

developing a comprehensive, new Range Officer Training Program to ensure that trained officials are available to conduct junior competitions.

- **Annual competition plans.** Successful youth shooting programs need annual competition plans so youth and parents know what is available to them. Air rifle, PPP air pistol and BB gun programs now have Orion National League programs that offer internet-based, virtual matches as season-starters. Virtual leagues can be especially useful for teams where there are no other teams within reasonable driving distances. Where there are other teams in nearby communities, shoulder-to-shoulder matches should be scheduled. In addition, every junior team should plan to participate in annual qualifying competitions for CMP, Junior Olympic and JROTC national championships. More advanced programs always include selected major competitions and national championships in their competition plans.

- **Include finals in junior matches.** Finals make competitions more exciting and offer conditions that are more like other youth sports. Competing with the best athletes in front of audiences that cheer when scores are announced after every shot can be just as exciting as scoring a touchdown in football or kicking a goal in soccer. The problem junior clubs face is that finals are designed for electronic targets that very few junior clubs can afford. That, however, does not mean clubs shooting

Ways to Improve Youth Shooting Programs

Links to explore for finding new competition opportunities:

- Orion National Leagues (air rifle and BB gun) <http://www.orionscoringsystem.com/orion/Home.aspx>
- National Three-Position Air Rifle Championships (CMP and Junior Olympic 3-PAR) <http://thecmp.org/air/national-three-position-air-rifle-championships/>
- USA Shooting Junior Olympic Championship (rifle and pistol) <http://www.usashooting.org/7-events/njosc>
- USA Shooting Youth Pistol Program (PPP) <http://www.usashooting.org/membership/youth-programs/youthpistol>

on paper targets cannot conduct finals. Clubs with Orion electronic scoring can use volunteer spotters who estimate the values of each shot for entry into a spreadsheet. This allows “provisional” rankings to be announced after each shot. With Orion, targets can be retrieved immediately after the last shot and scored within a minute or two so final results can be announced.

Provide Total Athlete Experiences

Youth who participate in most sports are expected to follow strict practice schedules with regular training activities every week. Practices in most youth sports begin with stretching and warm-up drills, include skills instruction and end with conditioning exercises. Too often in youth shooting, team members show up when they feel like it, start shooting without any warm-ups and end their training with their last shots. When young shooters compare these kinds of experiences with their friends in other youth sports it's easy to conclude they are not practicing a real sport. Here are some ways to be sure youth shooting participants have “total athlete experiences”:

- Establish team rules where team members are expected to attend all practice sessions, except during real family or study emergencies.
- Start every shooting session with warm-up and stretching exercises.

- Designate a dry fire area in the range assembly area. Have rifle and pistol shooters practice aiming and dry fire exercises to warm-up before shooting.

- End every practice with fitness training. Rifle athletes should emphasize aerobic training. Pistol athletes should emphasize strength training for shoulders, arms and hands.

- Encourage team members who have their own equipment to establish home training programs (air gun or dry firing).

- Build pride by wearing sport-oriented team uniforms during competitions. Have a dress code and encourage team members to dress and act like athletes.

Encourage Spectators and Fans

Boys and girls who participate in most youth sports play in front of audiences. There are bleachers on the sides of the field of play where spectators watch games. Most are parents, relatives and friends, but they are spectators and they cheer enthusiastically. This is an area where youth shooting is not competitive with other youth sports. Most junior shooting ranges barely have enough room for a relay of competitors and one or two Range Officers. Concluding that shooting is not a spectator sport is not acceptable, however. Progressive youth shooting programs must seek ways to encourage spectators and fans.



Including finals in junior matches, especially where spectators can be present, is one of the best ways to make youth shooting competitions more like other youth sports.

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- Start with simple things like keeping the assembly area clean and providing small tables and chairs where visitors can sit down and visit while shooting takes place.

- The rapid scoring of targets and display of results can make the spectator experience much better. Many junior matches now use Orion Scoring Systems (<https://www.orionscoringsystem.com/orion/Home.aspx>) to quickly produce updated electronic scoreboards for display in the assembly room. The Orion system scans and scores targets within a minute or two after they come out of the range so scores, ranked in leader board order, can be displayed on a computer or flat screen TV.

- One of the most innovative and productive ways to bring fans to youth shooting is by promoting Internet fans. The ISSF has been successful in developing a worldwide audience for World Cup competitions (<http://www.issf-sports.org/>) by offering live results display and video live streaming. The Orion Scoring System has pioneered in the posting of near-live results for junior competitions. Each Orion user has its own webpage where match results are posted on the Internet as targets are scored. Coaches and junior shooters promote Internet fans by providing match site links to family and friends. 4-H BB gun matches have been remarkably successful in attracting Internet fans. Orion reported an average of nearly 800 hits per BB gun match in 2016. The Orion system also allows individual competitors to tweet images of their shot groups and scores through their personal Twitter™ accounts, which becomes yet another way to engage Internet fans.

- Match sponsors can make youth shooting more appealing by applying sports presentation techniques during shooting competitions. Modern sports presentation methods include the use of music before and during competitions, athlete introductions, announcer comments in competitions and efforts to celebrate winners as soon as they are known.

Start a Local Development Program

One of the weaknesses in USA junior shooting programs is that the path from starter programs like 4-H BB gun shooting to clubs or schools that sponsor 3-position air rifle or smallbore rifle programs is not integrated. These programs are almost always run by separate organizations. 4-H programs typically start youth at age nine or



International ranges now must provide warm-up or dry fire areas like this. The photo shows pistol athletes in a World Cup warm-up before a training session. The athletes are doing aiming exercises on a blank wall.

ten, but they are finished at age 15. School programs start at age 14 and end at age 17 or 18.

Junior club programs may start at a younger age, but graduation from high school is usually the end for most junior club shooting. Juniors fortunate enough to shoot on a college team face another four-year start and stop experience.

There are advantages to starting youth at younger ages and BB gun programs are a great way to do that. BB gun shooting is generally fun-oriented and does a great job of teaching safe gun handling and basic position skills while introducing youth to the rewards of competition. Where there are both a 4-H Shooting Sports Club and a junior club or school program in the same community, they should form a partnership that allows older BB gun youth to automatically advance to 10m or 50 foot three-position shooting.

2017 Area Five NJROTC Championship					
Team - Sporter					
Rank	Participant	Prone	Standing	Kneeling	Team
1	King George 1	746 - 17	637 - 5	681 - 9	2064 - 31
2	Calvert 1	735 - 24	608 - 4	690 - 14	2033 - 42
3	Patuxent 1	754 - 27	601 - 4	673 - 12	2028 - 43
4	Annapolis 1	741 - 24	583 - 5	683 - 14	2007 - 43
5	Thomas Johnson 1	712 - 15	582 - 7	651 - 5	1945 - 27
6	Hemdon 1	733 - 17	561 - 2	640 - 8	1934 - 27
7	Loudon County 1	689 - 10	558 - 7	613 - 4	1860 - 21
8	Calvert 2	680 - 10	543 - 4	616 - 7	1839 - 21
9	King George 2	172 - 3	123 - 0	163 - 2	458 - 5
10	Thomas Johnson 2	686 - 9	491 - 2	633 - 7	1810 - 18
11	Norview 1	675 - 12	512 - 2	616 - 5	1803 - 19
12	James River	720 - 17	476 - 3	591 - 4	1787 - 24
13	Norview 2	665 - 11	482 - 0	587 - 2	1734 - 13
14	Kennedy 1	686 - 10	443 - 2	579 - 6	1708 - 18
15	Osborn Park 1	665 - 11	464 - 2	573 - 4	1702 - 17
16	Thomas Johnson 3	679 - 13	463 - 1	533 - 2	1675 - 16
17	Huntingtown 1	659 - 7	453 - 1	563 - 2	1675 - 10
18	Annapolis 2	688 - 14	455 - 1	513 - 4	1656 - 10

For complete results visit www.orionresults.com/laplata

An Orion electronic leader board for a 3-position air rifle team competition. Incomplete scores are ranked according to 10-shot series averages. Every Orion user has a webpage link that it can give to Internet fans so they can check results during competitions.

Ways to Improve Youth Shooting Programs

Where there is no established BB gun program, junior clubs should consider offering younger youth in their communities an eight to 12-week BB gun shooting orientation course. It can teach gun safety, the shooting positions, basic shot techniques and offer an introduction to informal inter-club competition. The Daisy Shooting Education Program offers a “Ten Lesson Guide” for use in starting a BB gun course for younger juniors (<https://www.daisy.com/education>). Youth who enjoy this experience and want to continue shooting can then be invited to join the club’s regular shooting program.

Junior clubs that focus on smallbore rifle shooting should consider offering an eight to ten session Rimfire Sporter Rifle orientation course for youth in their communities. The **CMP Guide to Rimfire Sporter Rifle Shooting** offers rules, instruction and competition guidelines (<http://thecmp.org/wp-content/uploads/Rimfire.pdf>). Linking junior air rifle and smallbore programs to state junior highpower rifle programs is also a viable option for a broad-based development program.

Another shooter development option that makes a lot of sense in some communities is for junior rifle clubs to become “junior shooting clubs” that offer both rifle and pistol competition options. Junior pistol shooting is held back because junior shooting organizations are almost all junior rifle clubs. This means that when a young person joins a junior shooting program, they have only one choice, rifle. They will never learn about pistol opportunities or have a chance to try pistol shooting. 4-H Shooting Sports has been an encouraging exception to this. Many 4-H clubs do offer pistol options.

One way junior shooting clubs can expand their program opportunities is to become a true junior shooting club that offers both rifle and pistol competition options. A good way to do this is to require new enrollees to complete a basic rifle safety course where new shooters learn gun safety, safe range procedures and marksmanship basics. The course should end with a presentation on rifle and pistol competition opportunities that regular club members will have. New shooters can then choose which path to follow.

To do this successfully, it will be necessary to recruit and train new adult volunteers to lead the club pistol program. Start by studying the **CMP Guide to Junior Pistol Shooting**. Download it from the CMP website at <http://thecmp.org/wp-content/uploads/JrPistolGuide.pdf>. Pistol coach training is available from USA Shooting and the NRA.



Youth shooting programs should consider offering BB gun or Rimfire Sporter Rifle orientation courses as a way to introduce younger juniors to the sport of shooting.



Junior rifle clubs should consider becoming “junior shooting clubs” where youth can choose between rifle or pistol competition opportunities.

continued...

Support Leadership Development

One sure way to make youth shooting programs more effective and competitive is through better leadership training. A club or team must start by encouraging more parents and interested adults in the community to become coaches or range officers. A situation to avoid is a junior program that is dependent upon only one or two adult leaders. When burnout inevitably comes, that program will fold. Continuing to serve community youth with a vibrant shooting program demands a leadership development program. Fortunately, several good training and support options are available.

- The CMP offers a well-established JROTC Marksmanship Instructor Course (JMIC) for JROTC instructors and their assistant instructors (<http://thecmp.org/training-tech/jmic-jrotc-marksmanship-instructor-course/>).
- The CMP GSM Master Instructor Course teaches club instructors how to teach range safety and basic marksmanship teaching methods (<http://thecmp.org/training-tech/gsm-rifle-master-clinics/>).
- The CMP Range Officer Training Course that is being introduced in 2017 will offer comprehensive online training for 3-position air rifle range officers.
- The Safe Sport Program promoted by USA Shooting and the U. S. Olympic Committee is a must for any adult who is working with young athletes (<http://www.usashooting.org/11-resources/safesport>).
- USA Shooting has done a lot of work to provide advanced coach training for rifle and pistol coaches (<http://www.usashooting.org/membership/coaches/coachacademy>).
- The NRA is active in providing a variety of coach training programs that offer entry-level coach training (<https://coach.nra.org/>).

There are many steps the leaders of community youth shooting programs can take to pursue an action plan to improve the work they do with young shooters. The ideas and examples in this article can start this process. Ideas that come from other successful youth sports programs can lead to further improvements. Shooting is popular with youth and has the inherent, positive qualities that give its participants outstanding personal growth experiences. Youth shooting programs are capable of competing with other youth sports to earn the loyalties of youth and parents if youth shooting leaders will actively seek ways to make their programs better.



The CMP is introducing a comprehensive new program to train and certify range officers and match officials in 2017. Training is a fundamental step in developing new leaders in youth shooting programs.

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.



Junior Anthony Kissik Bests Adult Competitors at CMP's Talladega 600 Event

By Ashley Brugnone, CMP Writer



Anthony "Dawson" Kissik was the overall winner, beating out his adult competitors, in the M16 Match during the 2016 Talladega 600.

TALLADEGA, Ala. – Anthony Kissik, 15, of Matthews, Ala., one of only two junior competitors in the Talladega 600 M16 Match, rose to become the overall winner as he topped the entire field of competitors with a score of 383-16x. The event was conducted by the Civilian Marksmanship Program (CMP) at the organization's multi-million dollar Talladega Marksmanship Park in December.

With his win, Kissik received his first EIC (Excellence-In-Competition) leg points on his journey towards earning his Distinguished Rifleman Badge – a pursued honor for competitive marksmen.

"I knew I had a good score, but I figured there were a lot of other good people out there," Kissik explained. "I said to myself, 'Okay, I'm the junior here, there's other people that are probably better than me, so I'm not going to get my hopes up.'"

After the match was over, he went right to the results board to see where he landed amongst the mixed line of novice and skilled competitors. He started from the bottom of the results list and worked his way up. As he got closer and closer to the top and still didn't see his name, he realized he must've finished even better than he thought.

Then he saw it – "Kissik, Anthony" – with no names above it.

"I get to the top, and I thought 'There we go!'" he said with a laugh as he cheered with a fist pump, reliving the moment.

Last year, Kissik, who usually goes by his middle name, Dawson, missed the EIC cut mark by only a few points, slipping in his prone rapid stage. It was a mistake he was determined to avoid at the 2016 event.

"The whole match, I was just like, 'Don't screw up. Don't screw up,'" he said. After cleaning the prone slow-fire portion, he felt comfortable with his performance. "And it was good from then on out."

The M16 EIC Match is fired at the conclusion of the CMP's Small Arms Firing School – an introductory clinic designed to instruct new and veteran marksmen on rifle safety, fundamentals and technique.

The EIC match gives competitors the chance to earn their first four leg points towards the 30 points needed to earn a revered Distinguished Badge.

"I've been told that the first points are always the easiest, so now I have a long road ahead of me. It's a little bit intimidating, but I'm looking forward to it," Kissik said with confidence. "That's four under the belt, just 26 more to go."

A state-level champion, Kissik began his marksmanship career on his sporter 3P air rifle team. He became active in highpower rifle after his coach informed him of a high school that was starting a junior team called the Virginia Junior Marksmanship Program.

He was eager to try his hand at highpower and quickly showed interest in joining the team. Soon after, he attended his first match at Fairfax before heading to Quantico in the summertime. Fresh off the air rifle firing line and propelled into highpower, it didn't take long for Kissik to discover the importance of proper equipment in his new discipline.

"I got the what-for on carrying your gear because then I didn't have a cart," he joked. "When you win in air rifle, it's fun – highpower, I still have a lot to learn. In order to win in highpower, you have to be very precise."



Kissik has made a home at the CMP Talladega Marksmanship Park and even knows the staff on a first-name basis.

He attended his first National Matches at Camp Perry that same year as the youngest member of the team at just 13. There, the charismatic young man learned even more from his own encounters as well as from the more experienced marksmen surrounding him.

"I love hearing the stories and getting all the information

from everybody, and, this is going to sound a little selfish, I love getting those 'He beat me, but he's 14? What?'" he said with a laugh.

"But I enjoy getting the information and learning what everyone else has to say. Through highpower, I know people all over the country, from Virginia, to Alabama, to Iowa, and I even know some kids in California, so I love meeting people too. I love it," he added.

With a new appreciation for highpower, Kissik has worked to hone his skills further by making himself at home at CMP's Talladega Marksmanship Park.

"We come here so much I know all of the staff by first name. It's great," Kissik said with a smile.

"The facility is great. No pits, you don't have to walk," he said. "In the long run, I like the facility – it's one of the most advanced in the country, and I get to call it my home range."

Today, he and Jackson Umlauf, the second junior who fired alongside Kissik at the Talladega 600, are trying to recruit more local juniors in Alabama to get their own team started. Additionally, Kissik is sticking to air rifle – attempting to reach the National level this year and eventually join a collegiate team.

As another personal goal, Kissik hopes to someday outshoot his coach, Sam Richardson.

"He's one of the best highpower shooters I know," he said. "And he's going to constantly get better, so I know I need to constantly get better."

"Ultimately I want to get to High Master classification, and Distinguished, of course," he added. "Anything else will be just peachy."



With his win in the M16 Match, Kissik earned his first EIC leg points towards earning his Distinguished Badge.

Tyssen, Thompson Set Over 10 National Records at 2016 Gary Anderson Invitational

By Ashley Brugnone, CMP Writer

CAMP PERRY, Ohio; ANNISTON, Ala. – Shannon Tyssen of Upson Lee High School JROTC in Georgia and Emma Thompson of Freeport High School in Illinois captured the essence of the Gary Anderson Invitational's namesake (a two-time gold medalist and multi-world record holder) as they shattered 12 collective National Records during their performances at the 2016 annual event. The match is conducted by the Civilian Marksmanship Program (CMP) and is open to precision and sporter junior air rifle competitors from around the country.

On Dec. 3, Tyssen, 18, set three new precision Navy JROTC records with a 3x20 score of 594-44x, a 3x20 plus Final score of 694.3 and an unbelievable 20 Shots Kneeling score of 200-19x. With her outstanding performance, Tyssen bested a field of 147 opponents to become the overall precision champion while competing at the CMP's South Competition Center in Anniston, AL.

That same day, 750 miles north at Camp Perry, Thompson incredibly set nine—yes, NINE—new sporter National Records with her performance, starting with her 20 Shots Standing score of 187-7x, which served as a new Navy JROTC record, and her 20 Shots Kneeling score of 195-9x, which prompted a new Navy JROTC record and a new Age Group II record. Additionally, her 3x20 score of 577-28x set new Navy JROTC, Age Group II and Overall records, as did her 3x20 plus Final score of 672.4.

Astoundingly, Thompson, 16, broke three National Records she had previously set before the Gary Anderson Invite – adding her name to six more along the way.

The Gary Anderson Invitational is a three-position air rifle tournament that follows the 3x20 course of fire. Each shooter fires 20 record shots from prone, standing and kneeling positions, with the Top 8 shooters advancing to the final. Winners are determined overall of scores comprised from competitors at the CMP Gary Anderson Competition Center located at Camp Perry, OH, and CMP South competitors in Anniston (3x20 plus final scores). Both schools and junior clubs are welcome to participate in the annual competition.

This year's match saw 385 total competitors and was the first to be fired on CMP's newly updated electronic air gun targets.

Coming in second in the precision class was Richard Clark, 16, of Riverside Shooting Club in Michigan, with a score of 687.6, followed by Annabelle Stanec, 16, of Ashland Eagles JRC in Ohio, with a score of 686.9.



Shannon Tyssen of Lee High School JROTC set three new Navy JROTC records while competing in the precision class.

In sporter, Hailey Smith, 18, of Zion Benton High School in Illinois, fired a score of 650.4 to earn second, while Jason Migliori, 18, of Middletown Post 151 in New York, recorded 649.8 to land in third.

The top competitors in the sporter and precision classes at each competition center received individual gold, silver and bronze medallions. The Top 3 are recognized with championship medallions and plaques.

Along with the individual competition, a team match was also held concurrently with the individual competition for any scholastic or club teams wishing to participate. Each individual's score of the four-member team was combined to determine overall sporter and precision teams.

Winning Teams:

Precision:

Riverside Shooting Club, MI – 2317-139x

Sporter:

Carroll County 4-H Air Rifle, GA – 1982-39x

For a complete list of results, visit <https://ct.thecmp.org/app/v1/index.php?do=match&task=edit&match=14679=results>.

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.

April

1 Apr
EIC and .22 EIC Pistol
Talladega, AL

1-2 Apr
1000 Aggregate & EIC Rifle
Talladega, AL

2 Apr
Steel Challenge
Talladega, AL

5-9 Apr
CMP Oklahoma Games
Oklahoma City, OK

6-8 Apr
CMP Regional Championships
Layton, UT

9 Apr
Bullseye Pistol
Talladega, AL

15 Apr
**International Rifle/Pistol
Monthly Sporting Clays
USPSA**
Talladega, AL

15 Apr
CMP Monthly Match
Camp Perry, OH
Anniston, AL

22 Apr
**IDPA
GSM
Carbine
3-Gun**
Talladega, AL

23 Apr
Steel Challenge Practice
Talladega, AL

28 Apr- 07 May
**CMP Eastern Games and
Creedmoor (5/3-5/7)**
Camp Butner, NC

May

7 May
Steel Challenge
Talladega, AL

13 May
**F-Class
Bullseye Pistol**
Talladega, AL

17-21 May
Area 6 Steel Challenge
Talladega, AL

20-21 May
International Rifle/Pistol
Talladega, AL

20 May
USPSA
Talladega, AL

20 May
CMP Monthly Match
Camp Perry, OH
Anniston, AL

27 May
Monthly Sporting Clays
Talladega, AL

25-28 May
**Highpower Regional, 2-Man
Team, 1000 Aggregate &
800 Aggregate**
Talladega, AL

June

1 Jun
Range Officer Class
Talladega, AL

2-4 Jun
Talladega D-Day Match
Talladega, AL

2-4 Jun
Regional 3-Gun
Talladega, AL

5-9 Jun
Summer Air Rifle Camps Begin
CMP South, Anniston, AL



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

State Directors Continue Efforts to Enhance Marksmanship Programs in 2017

By Ashley Brugnone, CMP Writer



Illinois State Directors Raymond and Tina Odle (left) and Missouri State Director John Leinberger (right) received 15 Year jackets for their service to the CMP.

Constructive leadership is vital to any organization. For the past 20 years, the Civilian Marksmanship Program (CMP) has prided itself as a leader in the marksmanship world, much to the thanks of the many leaders within the organization that are scattered throughout the country in the form of its valuable State Directors.

The State Directors of each of the 50 states are appointed to provide leadership, coordination, networking, motivation and publicity for shooting sports in their geographic areas. They are the ones who work directly with coaches and individuals to provide enjoyable, informative and fun opportunities for competitors across their states and help lead them in positive directions.

In December 2016, all of the current CMP State Directors met at CMP's Talladega Marksmanship Park in Alabama to attend the traditional bi-annual meeting. There, the directors were able to hear the inner happenings of the CMP and were given the opportunity to meet their colleagues – some for the first time.

LTC Chris Miller is fresh to the State Director family. Serving his first year as the director for Alabama, he's looking forward to what he can bring to shooting sports in the state.

"There are so many kids who don't know how to properly handle a firearm, and adults too. If we can get them at an

early age and teach them proper safety and handling, then they'll teach their kids, and they'll teach their kids and it can become a generational thing," he said. "I just want to be as involved as possible with youth shooting sports and to help the Civilian Marksmanship Program grow."

For him, youth shooting sports are essential – approaching as many juniors as he can to show how to handle firearms safely through improved programs is the key. On top of that, LTC Miller would like to help coaches by creating training programs and sustainable revenue so that they may afford travel and other expenses needed to provide the best possible opportunities for the kids involved.

"I'd like to see a true state championship that involves all of the sanctioning bodies, especially with the programs, so they can say, 'I am the state champion,'" he said. "And I'd like to see the coaches have more training, have more availability to more training, because if they know it well then they'll be able to train more kids."

Other faces at the State Director Meeting in Talladega were more recognizable, including Tina Odle who, along with her husband Raymond, has been the Illinois State Director for the past 15 years. For their dedication to the CMP and youth shooting sports, the pair, along with Missouri State Director John Leinberger, received custom State Director jackets during the meeting. Outgoing Wisconsin State Director Alan Pribnow and Iowa State Director Wayne Marker also marked 15 Years of service as well.

Along with recognizing a CMP milestone, the Odles also spent their time in Talladega celebrating another significant achievement in their lives.

"Today is our 40th wedding anniversary, and this is how we're spending it," Tina joked as she stood within the marksmanship park clubhouse.

Odle and her husband have spent many years cultivating junior programs in Illinois. When the CMP began looking for motivated State Directors long ago, joining the cause seemed like a natural fit for the two.

"Things have changed over the years, and it's actually become easier to get new programs started, so I feel like I've done that," she said. "And I'm proud to say Illinois usually brings 10 or 12 teams to a national championship match and we're on the podium a lot."

To stay successful, Odle constantly gives herself goals as a State Director and finds joy in the challenges. Like LTC Miller, she believes that educated leadership is what is needed to create fulfilling junior programs and that building a strong relationship with them is of the utmost importance.

"One of my goals is to develop the coaches because they're then going to develop the kids. I can't personally deal with all of the kids – they need to be good coaches," she said.

She went on to say that an important role of a State Director is maintaining the cohesiveness between each coach by being their go-to person for funding ideas, guidance, support – whatever they may need.

"Everything from helping them coach an individual, to teaching them how to run their own match, helping with equipment – everything that you can do, there are so many aspects. But someone needs to have that oversight to keep everybody moving in the right direction," she said.

The challenge of coaches moving in and out of programs leaves the State Directors having to constantly rebuild new relationships, but the unparalleled encouragement those individuals continuously bring to the athletes is something Olde says makes her feel truly accomplished.

She said, "Give me a jacket, I'm fine with that, but when I see my coaches up there with their kids, that's the payoff. Absolutely."

She also addressed fundraising concerns that are often heavy on the minds of many within the sport. Tricks she has learned, such as running multiple matches at one time, have kept her programs effective over the years.

"Instead of just running a 3P match, overlay matches on top of matches. Run a three-position match, run an international match, run a pistol match, and run them simultaneously," she explained. "They're all at 10 meters. You can put a mixed line on any firing line, and they can bring in whoever wants to do what."

She added, "Your precision shooters might want to do international, your sporters, 3P, some pistol people thrown in there – and then they may stay for another relay because they want to do another discipline and fire both."

"Push the envelope. I'm all about pushing these kids beyond their comfort zones too," she said.

"That's why we're here and that's what makes it fun."

Even after 15 years, she still enjoys being a State Director. And, she says, the relationship she has built with the CMP has been unmatched.

"I love that responsiveness from the CMP – I wasn't getting that anywhere else. CMP does it. They listen to us – they make it happen," she said. "They give us what they can. That's been the best side of the experience for me as a director interacting with CMP. That responsive nature, and it still exists today. Even if it isn't a part of your program, they'll make it a part of your program."

As for the future, Odle says she and her husband will continue on – in their marriage and with the CMP.

"We are still in this for the long haul," she said. "We don't see retirement in our future anytime soon. As long as our health holds up and we can do it, we're going to be here. It's been fun."

A complete list of CMP State Directors, including their individual bios and contact information, can be found by visiting <http://thecmp.org/training-tech/state-director/>. They are always happy and willing to answer any questions about shooting sports or marksmanship opportunities available in your area.



The State Directors are appointed to provide leadership and coordination for marksmanship programs in their respective areas.

Junior Girls Break Same Record During Same Relay at JROTC Regional Match

By Ashley Brugnone, CMP Writer

ANNISTON, Ala. – Emma Thompson, who has repeatedly set and broke over nine of her own Navy Sporter JROTC National Records during the last few Civilian Marksmanship Program (CMP) 3x20 air rifle events, did so again on Day 2 of the JROTC Regional Service Championship, held in February. But, much like her other records, it didn't stand for long – in fact, it lasted less than 20 minutes.

Thompson recorded a new Navy JROTC Sporter Standing National Record score, but on the same relay, Jesseca Montcrieff outshot Thompson's new score by one point – setting the record for herself with a score of 189-4x.

Both junior girls gave incredible performances during the Regional Championships, finishing first and second, respectively, overall in the Navy Championship as well as amongst all of the JROTC Services. The exceedingly talented Thompson remarkably finished with an aggregate score 30 points above Montcrieff – completely securing her place at the top of the sporter class.

With Regionals completed, the final step in the JROTC Service Championship competition series is the National Championship, waiting to be held at the CMP's South Competition Center in Anniston, Ala., March 23-25.

Like the Postal and Regional events, the National match is a 3x20 air rifle competition, where competitors fire 20 record shots from three positions: prone, standing and kneeling. Visitors are welcome into the range to observe the National Championships at any time during the match, with free admission. Guests will also be able to personally see CMP's new air gun targets, recently installed in November 2016.

The South Competition Center now includes the CMP South Store that is stocked to fulfill equipment and memorabilia needs. Marksmanship Nights, held year-round at the range for the public, allow visitors of virtually any age and experience levels to try their hands at air rifle or air pistol shooting. For more on the South Competition Center, visit <http://thecmp.org/air/cmp-competition-centers/>.

For more information on the JROTC Service Championships, visit <http://thecmp.org/air/jrotc-air-rifle-national-championship/>.

Below is a list of the overall Top 3 Individual and Team competitors of the JROTC Regional Championships. For a complete list of results, visit <https://ct.thecmp.org/app/v1/index.php?do=match&tab=results&task=edit&match=14884>.



INDIVIDUAL RESULTS:

Navy JROTC:

Sporter:

Emma Thompson, Freeport High School, IL – 1241.9

Jesseca Montcrieff, Oviedo High School, FL – 1204.1

Jaycie Hoenig, Zion Benton High School, IL – 1204



Spectators are welcome to watch the National Championships at the South Competition Center in Anniston – free of charge!

Precision:

Veronica Stanley, Stockbridge High School, GA – 1273.1

Samantha Miller, Los Alamos High School, NM – 1271.9
Shannon Tyssen, Upson Lee High School, GA – 1267

Air Force JROTC:

Sporter:

Brianna Fish, Clover High School, SC – 1177.7
Kade Jackovich, Desert Ridge High School, AZ – 1171.6
Kristopher Dauble, Clover High School, SC – 1159.5

Precision:

Rayven Fincher, Monroe Area High School, GA – 1269.5
Ashley Stacy, Monroe Area High School, GA – 1244.1
Kaci McCrary, Prairie High School, WA – 1242.8

Army JROTC:

Sporter:

Erin Young, Pueblo County High School, CO – 1196.3
Angel Nunez, Trevor G. Browne High School, AZ – 1193.1

Aireonna Gonzales, Fountain Fort Carson High School, CO – 1191.9

Precision:

Adriana Hickerson, Creek Wood High School, TN – 1281.6
Taylor Gibson, North Salem High School, OR – 1279.8
Daniel Enger, Walla Walla High School JROTC, WA – 1278.7

Marine Corps JROTC:

Sporter:

Levi Carlson, Nation Ford High School, SC – 1211.4
Kaylene Castillo, Eldorado High School, NM – 1200.4
Gabrielle Phelps, Gulfport High School, MS – 1191.1

Precision:

Mark Amdahl, Eldorado High School, NM – 1280.7
Tanner Whitehead, East Coweta High School, GA – 1273.3
Haley Castillo, Eldorado High School, NM – 1270.5

TEAM RESULTS:

Navy JROTC:

Sporter:

Zion Benton High School, IL – 4377-136x
Freeport High School, IL – 4366-133x
Volunteer High School, TN – 4316-114x

Precision:

John Marshall High School, TX – 4600-253x
Los Alamos High School, NM – 4594-245x
Upson Lee High School, GA – 4563-224x



The JROTC Regional Championships were held at Camp Perry, Ohio; Anniston, Ala.; and Las Vegas, Nev. – all on CMP's new electronic targets.

Air Force JROTC:

Sporter:

Clover High School, SC – 4239-99x
Sickles High School, FL – 4183-87x
South Panola High School, MS – 4150-101x

Precision:

Cherokee High School, GA – 4514-188x
Monroe Area High School, GA – 4512-212x
Kaiserslautern High School, Germany – 4473-175x

Army JROTC:

Sporter:

Fountain Fort Carson High School, CO – 4325-126x
Lebanon High School, OR – 4310-126x
Abraham Lincoln High School, CO – 4299-129x

Precision:

Sarasota Military Academy, FL – 4615-254x
Enterprise High School, AL – 4597-250x
Stuttgart High School, AE – 4594-239x

Marine Corps JROTC:

Sporter:

Nation Ford High School, SC – 4377-133x
Rio Rancho High School, NM – 4338-130x
Gulfport High School, MS – 4322-130x

Precision:

Eldorado High School, NM – 4669-293x
East Coweta High School, GA – 4618-272x
La Cueva High School, NM – 4612-252x

Sign Up Now for the CMP's Monthly Air Rifle and Air Pistol Matches

By Ashley Brugnone, CMP Writer

CAMP PERRY, Ohio; ANNISTON, Ala. – The Civilian Marksmanship Program's (CMP) Monthly Matches, featuring a series of air rifle and air pistol events for all ages and experience levels, are set to return in March for another season of safe, fun and thrilling competition. New this season is CMP's updated air gun electronic targets that provide a fresh, sleek look to its South CMP Competition Center in Anniston, Ala., and its north Gary Anderson CMP Competition Center at Camp Perry, Ohio.

Monthly Matches for 2017 are scheduled for the following dates:

April 15, 2017

May 20, 2017

Sept. 16, 2017

Oct. 14, 2017

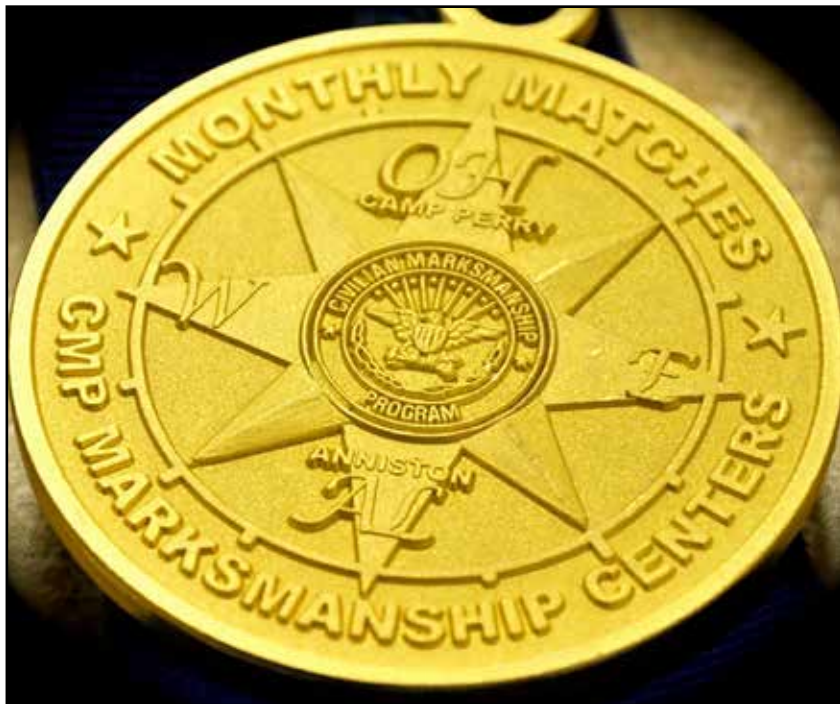
During the Monthly Matches, competitors have the opportunity to be ranked amongst other match participants from across the country as competitions are held simultaneously at our ranges in Alabama and Ohio. Staple events fired include a Junior 3x20, Junior 3x10, Novice Prone, 60 Shot Air Rifle Standing and 60 Shot Air Pistol.

A Monthly Match League that combines the scores of frequent competitors for an overall aggregate competition adds even more fun to the mix. Prizes are awarded to the overall winners from both North and South during the 2017 season. Eligible events for the Monthly Match League include: Pistol 60 Shots (No PPP), Rifle 60 Shots, Sporter 3x20 and Precision 3x20.

Along with cash prizes based on League participation (meaning the more, the merrier), the first three places in each category will receive a CMP plaque. Additional prizes will be given to fourth and fifth place overall winners. Awards will also be presented to the High Junior in Pistol and Rifle and the Most Improved competitor.

For more on the Monthly Matches and registration info, visit <http://thecmp.org/air/cmp-competition-center-event-matches/monthly-air-rifle-and-air-pistol-matches/>. ****Alabama competitors, please note recent time changes for match events in the program (Visit the Monthly Matches website and click on "Monthly Match Program").**

ALABAMA PARTICIPANTS! Additional Rifle and Pistol Events: CMP's Talladega Marksmanship Park in



Alabama (just a short drive from the South Competition Center) will be holding events in conjunction with the Monthly Matches for rifle and pistol shooters. These outdoor matches will include a 60 Shot Prone plus 3x40, Sport Pistol and Free Pistol events. The \$25 entry cost will include the USA Shooting fee for the PTO. For more information on Talladega Marksmanship Park, visit <http://thecmp.org/competitions/talladega-marksmanship-park/>.

About CMP Competition Centers:

After months of renovation, the South Competition Center now includes the CMP South Store that is stocked to fulfill equipment and memorabilia needs. Marksmanship Nights, held year-round at the range for the public, allow visitors of virtually any age and experience levels to try their hands at air rifle or air pistol shooting. For more on the South Competition Center, visit <http://thecmp.org/air/cmp-competition-centers/>.

The Gary Anderson CMP Competition Center features authentic Olympic and other memorabilia from the career of celebrated American marksman, Gary Anderson. Marksmanship Nights, held year-round at the range for the public, allow visitors of virtually any age and experience levels to try their hands at air rifle or air pistol shooting. For more about the Gary Anderson CMP Competition Center, visit <http://thecmp.org/air/cmp-competition-centers/>.

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
#1072	Elizabeth McGee	Rio Rancho, NM
#1073	Yolanda Vigil	Rio Rancho, NM
#1074	Matt Cress	Zion, IL
#1075	Noah Martin	Gray, TN
#1076	Kimberlee Nettles	Waycross, GA
#1077	Natalie Katsuyama	Rocklin, CA
#1078	Stephanie Nielsen	Los Alamos, NM
#1079	Mason Mooneyham	Albuquerque, NM
#1080	Kristen Hemphill	Lohn, TX
#1081	Jessica Montcrieff	Oviedo, FL
#1082	Angel Nunez	Phoenix, AZ
#1083	Rebecca Lamb	Centreville, VA
#1084	Samuel Payne	Kingston, GA
#1085	Noelle Christensen	Fredericksburg, TX
#1086	Montse Corona	Denver, CO
#1087	Richard Clark	Jackson, MI
#1088	Shannon Tyssen	Thomaston, GA
#1089	Rayven Fincher	Monroe, GA
#1090	Jeremy Angel	Beach Park, IL
#1091	Mackayla Bourgeois	Gulfport, MS
#1092	Brandon Mach	Riley Township, MI
#1093	Kaylee Morales	Goshen, NY
#1094	Angie Johnson	Graniteville, SC
#1095	Ivan Garcia	Parlier, CA
#1096	Elizabeth Lorentz	Seeley Lake, MT
#1097	Felicity Spray	Turlock, CA
#1098	Veronica Del Mar	Roseville, CA

#1099 Nicholas Stolarow Folsom, CA
 #1100 Adriana Hickerson White Bluff, TN
 #1101 Caden Gamblin Tucson, AZ
 #1102 Maya Boyle Anchorage, AK



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.

Sisters Become Epitome of Love and Support During 2017 Camp Perry Open

By Ashley Brugnone, CMP Writer



Sister Emma (left) and Aliya (right) both competed at the 2017 Camp Perry Open – Emma's first real competition.

The bond between sisters is powerful. Songs, movies and even real-life narratives of sisterly strength have been told time and time again. And at a small air gun match in Ohio, another story played out that proved the undeniable and deep connection between siblings can show up anywhere – no ifs or ands...although, there were a few “Butts.”

Emma Butt, 10, was one of the youngest competitors at the 2017 Camp Perry Open – her very first competition. Having only been involved in competitive shooting for a little over two months at the time of the Civilian Marksmanship Program match, Emma chose to compete in air pistol after a, well, small detail kept her from the rifling side of the range.

“I wanted to do rifle, but they said I was too tiny to do it, so Dad said I could do pistol,” Emma said. “I was like ‘Okay, I’ll try it out!’ And I actually really like doing pistol.”

A smile came to her face as she explained one reason why she likes pistol over rifle, saying, “There’s not as much to carry. A tiny case – that’s it.”

Because of her petite stature, Emma uses a weighted sling to help her reach the proper height to fire safely onto the target. Although she was uneasy about competing in her first competition, she brought something along with her that helped calm her nerves – her sister, Aliya.

During the match, Aliya, 15, quietly stood behind Emma – far enough back to stay out of her vision, but close enough to keep a vigilant eye on her. From time to time, Emma would come off of the line, always looking right to Aliya for guidance and a little confidence boost.

Aliya said, “I know that coaches can be tough on her, so I’ll just tell her, ‘Emma, you’re 10 years old. Girl, nobody’s going to be looking at you. You don’t have to be nervous about the whole competition.’”

She added, “It’s kind of just support for her. I’m not a pistol shooter, so I can’t tell her what to work on, but I can just say, ‘You’re doing great to me! I could never do something like that!’”

Though Emma loves having her sister’s support, she admits she doesn’t really like when her family watches her compete – it only adds to the anxiety. As it turns out, she’s not the only Butt athlete who feels that way.

“I don’t let her watch me, so she doesn’t let me watch her,” said Aliya, who is an air rifle competitor. “I don’t let my father watch me either.

I don’t want them seeing any bad shots!”

Their dad, Basit Butt (who, accordingly, doesn’t like when his daughters watch him compete), was shooting pistol at the same time as Emma at his first Camp Perry Open. A competitor at the girls’ Maspenock Rod and Gun Club in Milford, Mass., Aliya says her father is the one she credits for getting her so involved in competitive shooting.

“He’s the one who was more excited when I first started, wanting to go to the club. I wasn’t even as excited as he was,” she said. “He was like, ‘One of my girls is shooting! This is great!’ He kind of had to coax my mom into it, but he’s always with me on all of my trips.”

There are four girls in the Butt family, and each has her own nickname. The girls’ older sister has been branded “Big Butt,” while Aliya has earned the name “Middle Butt” and Emma is deemed “Little Butt.” Their baby sister has appropriately been coined “Baby Butt.”

“If your last name is ‘Butt,’ you’ve got to put it to good use, you know?” Aliya said with a laugh.

In fact, she embraces her name and doesn’t mind being the “Butt” of jokes. She even tried to get her last name stitched in the, uh, corresponding spot of her precision pants. BUT, unfortunately, it didn’t happen.

“Such a wasted opportunity!” she joked.

Aliya has been to Camp Perry five times, her most recent visit marked by her third Camp Perry Open, where she finished the highest out of her Maspenock teammates and a respectable 26th overall amongst a field of over 160 adult and junior rifle competitors.

When it comes to marksmanship, Emma has a lot to look up to in her sister. Aliya began her career in 7th grade after taking a safety course and falling in love with firearms. Wanting to get more involved in shooting sports, she found a local junior team and quickly joined.

"Nobody else knew that rifle shooting was a sport," she said. "People always think, 'Oh, you're a girl. You can't do that.' But I prove everyone wrong, and that's really fun to do."

Actually, being a female competitor in a coed sport fuels Aliya to work even harder. She feels that standing as an independent young woman with her rifle makes her more resilient – and, of course, it's just cool.

"I feel like it kind of makes you [look tougher]" she joked. "The guys in my class will ask, 'Do you want to go air softing with us?' And then another kid will go, 'No, she'll beat us all!'"

She added, "It's really good because almost everyone I know is really supportive of it, so it's really cool."

In 2015 and 2016, Aliya and a few of her Maspenock Rod and Gun Club teammates traveled to USA Shooting's National Junior Olympics in Colorado. She has emerged as a natural leader on the team, which was easily seen at Camp Perry as she anxiously kept her attention on Emma, who stood firmly on the firing line knowing her sister was nearby.

Once Emma took her final shot at the Camp Perry Open, she came off of the line with palpable relief to be finished with her first match. She was quickly snatched up by Aliya who tightly wind her arms around her sister and held her close – a touching embrace that sparked others in the crowd to smile right along with them.

"It was so much fun," Emma said. "I definitely want to come back."

Looking to the future, Aliya aspires to shoot in college, potentially for a school like Ohio State that has a top medical program to propel her other ambition of a career in anesthesiology.

"But I really want to make the 2020 Olympics. That's the goal."



Because of her size, Emma used a weighted sling to fire her air pistol during the match.

As for Emma, she plans to keep on competing – looking up to receive tips from her dad and the continued encouragement of her older sister.

"I just like shooting the pistol, in general," Emma said. "I just really like it. It's fun."

And, of course, Aliya will be behind her, helping her out every step of the way.

"She's my little one," Aliya said. "We've got each other's back."



After Emma completed firing, she ran to her sister and gave her a heart-warming hug.

CMP Now Offering Gift Certificates for Purchase

By Ashley Brugnone, CMP Writer



The Civilian Marksmanship Program (CMP) is now selling Gift Certificates that may be used towards any – yes, ANY – purchase within the CMP. Whether an entry fee, a sweatshirt or even the full price of one of the CMP's refurbished rifles, certificates can be a cost-effective and worthwhile gift for firearm enthusiasts.

CMP Gift Certificates, printed on quality, full color paper, can be loaded with any amount, with a minimum of \$20 and a maximum of \$1,500. Purchase certificates by mail order or at any of the CMP ranges, including the air gun ranges in Ohio (Gary Anderson CMP Competition Center at Camp Perry) and Alabama (South Competition Center in Anniston), as well as at the CMP's Talladega Marksmanship Park in Talladega, Ala.

"Through the years, we have had many customers request gift certificates for Father's Day, Christmas and Birthdays. Until now, we have not been able to offer them," said Gina Johnson, general manager of CMP South. "We hope our customers take full advantage of their availability."

With learning and development opportunities available at all of the CMP's facilities, a gift certificate could also be applied towards open public Marksmanship Night fees at the air rifle ranges, daily activities at the CMP Talladega Marksmanship Park or towards events and memorabilia at the National Matches at Camp Perry.

With no exclusions, the possibilities are endless!

Certificates are to be treated same as cash and are non-refundable and non-replaceable if lost or stolen and are valid for one year from the issue date. Gift certificates are only redeemable for goods and services not exceeding the remaining credit balance.

The CMP has so much to offer for all ages and experience levels. Now, with CMP gift certificates, supporting American shooting sports for current and future generations has never been easier. Pick up yours and share the gift of marksmanship today!

To order a CMP gift certificate by mail, visit <http://thecmp.org/wp-content/uploads/1orderform.pdf> and mail in form 3A with payment.



CMP Celebrates Decade of Support with Over 85 Affiliated Clubs in 2016

By Ashley Brugnone, CMP Writer

In 2016, the Civilian Marksmanship Program (CMP) celebrated 20 years of successfully implementing its mission of promoting marksmanship competition and safety. During the last two decades, the CMP has remained dedicated to education through its permanent facilities in Ohio and Alabama as well as its mobile air gun and highpower ranges. Helping in its efforts are the devoted clubs affiliated with the CMP that graciously carry on its teachings by hosting clinics and events at their own local ranges across the country and the world.

Each year, those celebrating a decade of affiliation are presented with the CMP's 10 Year banner. For 2016, 87 affiliated clubs will receive a banner for their constant commitment to the CMP and its mission. This year's awarded clubs represented a span of 30 states, including Alaska, along with Puerto Rico and Australia. Since 2012, over 850 clubs have been presented with a 10 Year banner.

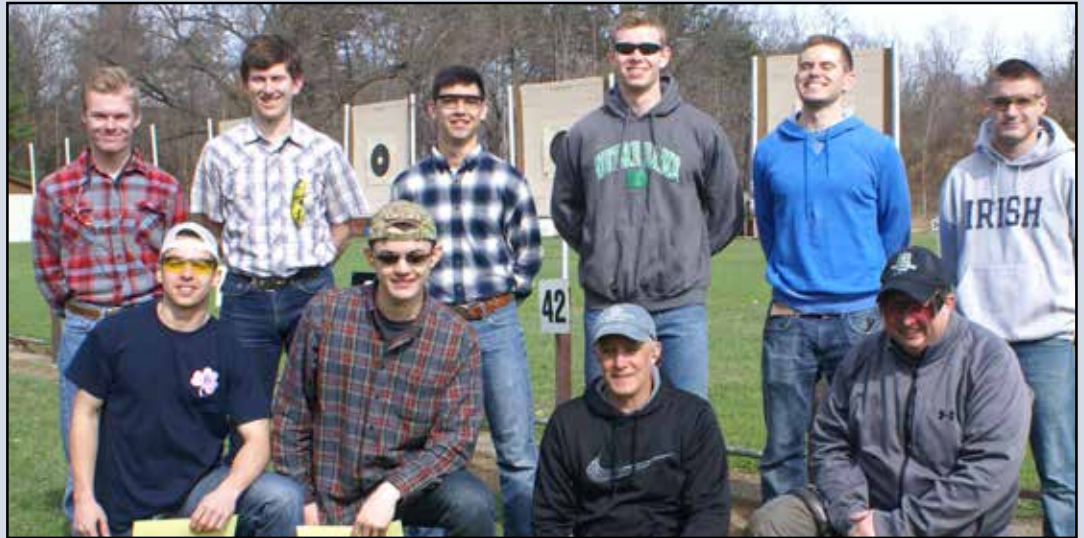
Visit our website at http://thecmp.org/wp-content/uploads/2016_10YearClubs.pdf to view a list of 10 Year clubs for 2016.

Congratulations to all, and thank you for your lasting support!

About CMP Affiliated Clubs:

CMP Affiliated Clubs are the best way to stay connected to the organization and marksmanship community. Members of affiliated clubs receive exclusive entry to our programs and stores and access to a faction of knowledgeable marksmen and the top available facilities. With over 2,000 pistol, rifle, air gun, smallbore and other marksmanship clubs, the CMP family is always expanding as we work towards spreading the kinship, discipline and joy that come with being a part of the competitive shooting world.

Interested clubs can affiliate for a small fee of \$30/year. The affiliation application can be found by visiting <http://thecmp.org/wp-content/uploads/AFFILIATE-Application.pdf>.



Automatic Affiliation:

Along with affiliated private and public clubs, the CMP has an established Memoranda of Understanding (MOU) with the JROTC commands from each military branch, 4-H and Boy Scouts which automatically affiliate those entities at no cost. Though automatic, clubs must enroll with the CMP in order to become officially associated. To review an affiliation packet, visit <http://thecmp.org/wp-content/uploads/AFFILIATE-Application.pdf>.

Club Stories & Articles:

ATTENTION CLUBS: We'd love to hear from you! Here at the CMP, we are always looking for interesting stories about our clubs and club members that we can publish online and in our printed publications. Whether holding an event, introducing a new facility or bragging about one of your own, we are anxious to know about it.

Afraid of your writing skills? Don't worry! If you have noteworthy events you'd like to share, email any information you'd like us to announce to our writer, Ashley Brugnone, at abrugnone@thecmp.org, and we'll take care of the rest.

We want the world to know the strides taking place at all levels of the marksmanship community, so we hope to hear from you soon!

For more info:

To learn more about CMP Affiliated Clubs, MOUs and other club opportunities, including how to become involved as a group or individual, visit our "Clubs" webpage at <http://thecmp.org/clubs/> or contact our CMP Affiliate Relations Department at 419-635-2141 ext. 782 or email clubs@thecmp.org.



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.

Century High School Students Compete in National Air Rifle Championship

From Forest Lake Area Schools Communications Office



FOREST LAKE, MINN. - The Minnesota Centershots air rifle team, made up of Century Junior High eighth grader Allison Buessler, Forest Lake High School seniors Abby and Dana Buessler, Osseo High's Kamilla Kisch and Lakeville North High's Elizabeth Ewert, recently attended the U.S. Army National Junior Air Rifle Championship in Fort Benning, Ga on Jan. 27-29.

The team qualified to attend the championship match in December of 2016 at St. Thomas Academy in Minnesota. There were 18 other matches going on throughout the United States and overall, 70 teams and more than 380 individuals were competing for a coveted spot at this year's championship. Ten teams and 20 individuals were selected to compete at Fort Benning, and the Centershots qualified by capturing eighth place.

Before starting the two-day match, competitors had to undergo a full uniform inspection making sure they were in full compliance with the rules, which includes boots, pants, jacket and rifle. Once the competition began, competitors had to follow the ISSF rules - the same rules the Olympics use - and take 60 shots from the standing position in an hour and 15 minutes each day. Each competitor shot as an individual and then the team's score was comprised of the individual scores.

Four competitors must compete, but a fifth teammate is allowed to compete as an alternate. The scores from both days were added to create an overall combined score. The top three individuals and teams won a trophy and a medal. The Centershots walked away with sixth place.

The goal of the competition was to take an air rifle that uses compressed air to fire a .177-inch diameter pellet downrange at a target 10 meters away into a round bullseye, which is 1.5 inches in diameter. The target is divided equally into 10 rings with the very center ring being a half-millimeter dot. Each ring is worth a number of points with the outside ring being one point and increasing until you hit the center dot worth 10 points.

Most competitors train on 10 bull paper targets, but at the national level, competitors use an electronic scoring target that is the same size as the bull paper. However, sound is used to triangulate the exact point where the pellet hits the target allowing each shot to be scored to the tenth of a point. A perfect shot would then be 10.9 on the electronic target system versus the 10 points you receive on a normal paper target.

A unique aspect to this year's match was the inclusion of the small-bore competition where competitors used a .22 target rifle to shoot 60 shots divided equally among three different positions: kneeling, prone and standing. This competition is shot at 50 meters outdoors, with wind and weather conditions having a great impact. Dana Buessler snagged second place in this event with a silver medal and a score of 568 out of 600 points. Allison Buessler walked away with a personal best of 544 out of 600 points.

During the two days of competition, athletes were given the opportunity to meet the 2016 Air Rifle Olympian Dan Lowe and sit in on a marksmanship clinic hosted by members of the Army Marksmanship Unit.

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/>.

Washburn Rural HS AFJROTC, Topeka, KS

Camp Chippewa Foundation/Camp

Chippewa for Boys, Maple Grove, MN

BSA Puerto Rico Council, Troop 39,

Mayaguez, PR

Brest Bay Sportsmans Gun Club,

Newport, MI

Birchwood Recreation And Shooting Park,

Chugiak, AK

Georgia Southern University Sports

Education Center, Statesboro, GA

Team Loco Motion, Charles Town, WV

Collins Hill HS Rifle Team - Strike Eagles,

Suwanee, GA

Delta County Gun Owners Association,

Escanaba, MI

Fraternal Order of Police Associates Lodge

#5, St Albans, WV

Roundup Sportsmen's Association,

Roundup, MT

Amana Sportsman's Club, Amana, IA

American Marksman Training Group,

Diamond Bar, CA

Cass Cnty IL-4-H Shooting Sports Club,

Beardstown, IL

Boca Raton Composite Squadron USAF

Auxiliary Civil Air Patrol, Coconut Creek, FL

Long Island Gun Club, Massapequa, NY

Bullets Under Broadway, New York, NY

East Range Sportsmen's and Conservation Club,

Hoyt Lakes, MN

Erath 4-H Shooting Sports Club, Stephenville, TX

York County Fish and Game Association, Lyman, ME

Miami Valley Young Marines, Huber Heights, OH

San Saba County Shooting Sports, San Saba, TX

Itasca County Federation of 4-H Clubs,

Grand Rapids, MN

Izaak Walton League of America

Birmingham Chapter, Birmingham, AL



Central Ohio Coonhunters Association, Carroll, OH

Alabama American Legion Post 133 Jr. Shooting Club, Mathews, AL

South Suburban Sportsman's Club, Chicago Heights, IL

Heritage Classical Christian Academy, Chesterfield, MS

Olympic Heights MCJROTC, Boca Raton, FL

Boyscout Troop 27, New Carlisle, OH

Venture Crew 524, Coon Rapids, MN

Greenville High School NJROTC, Greenville, TX

St. Charles HS USMC JROTC, Waldorf, MD

Rosamond High School AFJROTC, Rosamond, CA

South Suburban Sportsman's Club, Chicago Heights, IL

Lenz Boys Overtake Talladega Marksmanship Park 800 Aggregate Match

TALLADEGA, Ala. – John Lenz, 54, of Freeport, FL, was the overall winner of the 800 Aggregate Match at the Civilian Marksmanship Program's (CMP) Talladega Marksmanship Park, with a score of 753-13x. His son, Jacob Lenz, 19, followed his father's noteworthy performance by becoming the High Junior of the match as he fired a score of 721-8x.

A 1,000 Aggregate Match was also held at the park, with Brian McElhaney, 47, of Pembroke Pines, FL, topping the Match Rifle competition with an overall score of 972-36x. Jonathan O'Neal, 43, of Marietta, GA, led the Service Rifle division with a score of 970-29x.

Both matches were held Sunday, Feb. 5, 2017, on the 600-yard range of CMP's Talladega Marksmanship Park, which is fully equipped with electronic scoring targets. The aggregate matches are challenging tests of shooting endurance that are open to competitors of all ages and experience levels.

Aggregate events are held monthly, with the next 1,000 Agg. matches scheduled to be fired March 4 and April 1-2. Future 1,000 Agg. matches are set for Aug. 26 and Oct. 7-8, with some also featuring a coinciding EIC Rifle event.

For more about Talladega Marksmanship Park events, including registration info, visit <http://thecmp.org/competitions/matches/>.



About Talladega Marksmanship Park:

The CMP Talladega Marksmanship Park is one of the most advanced outdoor facilities in the country. Boasting the latest technological advances in the realm of marksmanship, including electronic targets and scoring monitors, it is a must-see destination for firearm supporters across the country. The park is open to the public, year round.

Turlock High Tops Crosman Challenge Cup

Submitted by Mark DeBoard

LAS VEGAS, Nev. – The Crosman Challenge Cup was held again on Dec. 27 -29, 2016, at the Plaza Hotel in Las Vegas, Nev. Over 70 sporter class air rifle competitors from across the country came together to compete for the title of Best Shooter and Top Team.

The Crosman Challenge Cup is a two-day 60 Shot match where competitors shoot 20 shots each in the prone, standing and kneeling positions. Scoring was calculated by the MegaLink electronic target scoring system.

There were several returning teams from last year's event that wanted to take away the title of Top Team from last year's champion, Turlock High School – coached by Major Cross. It didn't take long for Turlock High to rise to the top, and after day one, they had a double-digit lead.

Match Director Michele Makucevich volunteered her time to teach a shooters clinic, which was attended by most, if not all, of the competitors. The clinic was a great

success, and several of the students walked away with a better understanding of the sport and renewed spirit of competition.

Day two was much like day one, with the exception of better scores from the competitors thanks to the clinic. At the end of the day, it was still Turlock at the top of the leader board with a score of 4319. Congratulation to Major Cross and the Turlock High cadets for earning Top Team and to Nicolas McKeon for scoring a 1195.6 for first place overall. The top 10 teams were awarded room reimbursement for up to nine nights stay each at the Plaza Hotel from Crosman.

The Crosman Challenge Cup got its name from the Crosman Challenger air rifle that was born in 2009 at the Crosman factory in Bloomfield, N.Y. The Challenger quickly dominated the sport, and there have been over 20,000 sold to competitive programs.

ASK THE EXPERT. Do you have a CMP or training-related question? Let us answer it for you! Ask any question, whether about technique, mental preparation or just about anything else you can think of, and we'll print it with our expert's answer! Please send your questions to Ashley at abrugnone@thecmp.org today!

Parting Shots: Photos from Recent CMP Events & Competitions

Junior shooters left their mark on several recent CMP events including the Gary Anderson Invitational, Camp Perry Open and JROTC Regional Service Championships.



Gary Anderson Invitational



Camp Perry Open



JROTC Regional Service Championships

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Thompson Repeats Record Breaking 4



Junior Wins Overall at Talladega 600... 14

IN THIS ISSUE

Sighting Shots	2
New Junior Pistol Awards at Camp Perry...	3
Thompson Repeats Record Breaking	4
Ways to Improve Youth Programs	6
Junior Wins Overall at Talladega 600	14
Gary Anderson Invitational Results	16
Calendar of Events	17
State Directors Look to Lead in 2017	18
JROTC Regionals Results.....	20
Monthly Match Schedule for 2017	22
Junior Distinguished Badges	23
Sisterly Support at Camp Perry Open	24
CMP Gift Certificates Now Available.....	26
10 Year Clubs: A Decade of Support	27
Clubs Corner	28
Newly Affiliated Clubs	29
Junior Marksmen Highlights	30
Parting Shots.....	31



Air Rifle Event Results 16, 20



Sisterly Support at Camp Perry 24