JROTC Air Rifle Competitors Keep It Cool During Winter Service Championships

Also Inside:
- CMP 3P Nationals
- Summer Air Rifle Camps
- Updated Travel Games Schedule
- National Matches Registration
- Monthly Matches Info
- SAFS Travel Courses

Results On:
- Camp Perry Open Air Gun Event

Featuring:
- Three Generation Story
- Junior Marksman Spotlights
- Ethics, Fair Play and Sportsmanship
ON THE MARK

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

ON THE MARK Staff:
Gary Anderson  DCM Emeritus
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.

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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.

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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

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

Affiliate your club with the CMP. We look forward to working with you to assist your club in reaching its goals and in reaching the mission and vision of the CMP - to promote marksmanship training and firearms safety for all qualified U.S. citizens with a special emphasis on youth. Visit http://thecmp.org/clubs/affiliate/ for more information or contact the CMP Affiliate Relations Department at 419-635-2141, ext. 753 or email clubs@thecmp.org.

CMP Gift Certificates. Not sure what to get that special someone? The Civilian Marksmanship Program Gift Certificates 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. For more information, visit the CMP website at www.thecmp.org.

CMP Establishes Monthly Bench Leagues Designed For All Ages - CAMP PERRY, OH - If you’ve ever thought about trying out marksmanship but were unsure of where to begin, there’s a few new matches tailored especially for you. The Civilian Marksmanship Program (CMP), an organization dedicated to encouraging and practicing marksmanship safety and competition, has prepared a Monthly Airgun Bench League, to be fired only within the indoor airgun range at the Gary Anderson CMP Competition Center at Camp Perry, Ohio. For more information, visit http://thecmp.org/cmp-establishes-monthly-bench-leagues-designed-ages/.

CMP Talladega Marksmanship Park. TALLADEGA D-DAY MATCHES, 7-9 JUNE 2019 – The John C. Garand D-Day Anniversary Match is a series of rifle, pistol and shotgun events, scheduled to commemorate the anniversary of the Allied Forces landing at Normandy Beach in France back in 1944. Garand/ Springfield/Vintage Military Rifle Match, 1911 As-Issued Pistol Match and a Military & Police Pistol Match are just a few of the events featured during the weekend. There will also be a M1 Maintenance Clinic as well as a GSM New Shooter Clinic with live fire. For shotgun enthusiasts, a sporting clay field and 5-stand field is also open for use at Talladega Marksmanship Park. For more information and to register, visit the CMP website at www.thecmp.org.

On the Cover: JROTC Service Championships were held in Ohio, Alabama and Arizona in February. Top teams and individuals move on to the JROTC National Three-Position event.
Sign Up Now for CMP's Summer Junior Air Rifle Camps

Registration for the Civilian Marksmanship Program’s (CMP) 2019 Air Rifle Summer Camp lineup is now officially open. Running from June to August, the vigorous 9-week schedule includes a mix of camps and clinics formatted to train high-school age (9-12 grade) junior athletes on intermediate and advanced air rifle marksmanship skills through various exercises and demonstrations.

The camps are held around the country to allow better accessibility for interested athletes in a variety of areas, using CMP’s own mobile electronic target system.

The fundamentals of the camp curriculum were originally designed by DCM Emeritus, Gary Anderson – a two-time Olympic gold medalist who is still active in developing the skills and knowledge of youth and adults in the world of marksmanship. Mr. Anderson’s teachings have been modified over the years to provide an adaptive course for the evolving generations.

During the week-long camp sessions, juniors learn tips for both the physical and mental aspects of competition shooting. Topics to be discussed include proper positioning, goal setting, anxiety control and how to optimize equipment performance. Campers will also take a look into competition and finals performance, learn leadership roles, how to build self-confidence on the firing line, along with an assortment of skills that can be carried from the range into every day life.

Campers are coached by qualified student athletes from the top NCAA rifle teams in the country – the majority of whom had participated in the camps themselves as juniors. These camp counselors will lead the juniors in discussions and drills during the camp in small groups where they are able to give each participant personal attention.

Other options outside of the week-long curriculum include the Advanced Standing Camps, designed to be a follow-up program for those who have attended one or more of the three-position camps or clinics. These camps elaborate in even more detail each individual’s strengths and weaknesses to better the athletes for future competition.

More condensed Outreach Clinics are also scheduled in 2019, using paper targets instead of the electronic targets. The instruction is nearly identical, with the majority of the week-long curriculum compressed into a three-day format.

Each participating group or athlete must be accompanied by an adult leader (coach, club leader, parent, etc.) for the duration of the camp. Recent high school graduates are not eligible to partake in the air rifle activities but may attend as an adult leader. Chaperones are to provide transportation for the campers each day and are encouraged to attend the coaching sessions in order to gain a sense of the outstanding education their athletes are receiving.

For a list of dates and more detailed camp information, visit the Junior Air Rifle Camps and Clinics page on the CMP website at http://thecmp.org/air/cmp-competition-center-event-matches/junior-air-rifle-camps-and-clinics/.
Winter Weather Cuts Air Gun Matches Short at 2019 Camp Perry Open

By Ashley Brugnone, CMP Writer

CAMP PERRY, Ohio – A series of snow emergencies forced parts of the Civilian Marksmanship Program’s (CMP) 2019 Camp Perry Open to be cancelled during the weekend of Jan. 18-20. The annual event is designed to include 3x20 junior air rifle, 60 Shot air rifle and 60 Shot air pistol competitions over a span of three days, but was cut to just two by the unforgiving weather.

During last year’s competition, Northwest Ohio was hit by a similar winter storm that brought ice, snow and wind gusts up near 30 mph and pushed ice shelves from nearby Lake Erie over the shoreline outside of the facility. Despite the weather, the 2018 event was still held in its entirety.

But, this year’s event wasn’t as lucky.

Friday’s junior 3x20 match went off without interruption, as 155 athletes fired 20 shots from three different positions: prone, standing and kneeling. The mix of sporter and precision class competitors accumulated qualification scores during the day, with the Top 8 over each classification competing in a Finals competition to determine the day’s winners.

In sporter, Cailin Garrett, 18, of Greenbrier East High School in West Virginia, fired an aggregate score of 778.9 to claim the overall win. Garrett earned her title by 30 points over second place finisher Rachael Paddock, 14, of Wyoming County 4-H Shooting Sports in New York, who earned a total score of 748.7. Abigail McCutcheon, 18, also of Greenbrier East High School, landed in third with a score of 729.6.

Katrina Demerle, 14, of Fairfield Sportsman’s Association in Ohio, topped the precision class with a three-point leading score of 834.5. Natalie Perrin, 16, of Demmer Center Jr. Shooters in Michigan, followed in second with a score of 831.5, as Rio Ferguson, 15, of Mass Rifle Rebels in Massachusetts, took third with 811.2.
Top precision teams were TMU Platinum (2344-155x), GTM Gold (2332-131x) and Mass Rifle Rebels (2342-126x). Top sporter teams were Zion Benton Team 1 (2156-61x) and Zion Benton Team 2 (2071-33x) and Western Reserve Academy Team A (2054-39x).

The threat of an upcoming winter storm on Saturday kept the CMP staff members vigilant of local radars as the air rifle and air pistol 60 Shot qualifying matches fired simultaneously. Both juniors and adult competitors competed shoulder-to-shoulder during the matches.

Due to the piling snow, the decision was made to move the event’s famous Super Final (typically fired on Saturday), to Sunday in order to allow guests and competitors more time to make it back to their housing, safely. Participants fired only qualifying scores for the day.

The mounting snow and ice outside caused the area around Camp Perry to be moved to a Level 3 Snow Emergency Saturday night, which meant only emergency vehicles were allowed on the roads. The Level 3 carried on through the night and into Sunday, leaving the CMP staff no choice but to cancel the remaining Camp Perry Open activities.

Overall winners for the 60 Shot events were comprised of the top scorers of Saturday’s qualifying match.

In rifle, last year’s Super Final winner CPT Matthew Rawlings, 34, of Colorado Springs, CO, fired a score of 622.5 to lead. Julie Klusmeier, 23, of Cincinnati, OH, and SGT Patrick Sunderman, 24, of the U.S. Army Marksmanship Unit, tallied tight scores – earning 620.6 and 620.0, respectively.

Junior leaders were Claire O’Neel, 18, of Frederick, MD, with a score of 619.0. O’Neel also finished fourth in the overall Open Match. Brandon Mach, 19, of Riley Township, MI, and Sarah Lough, 15, of Morgantown, WV, finished fifth and sixth in the Open event and second and third in the Junior competition with scores of 615.2 (Mach) and 614.2 (Lough).

Adaptive competitors, including the 2018 Shooting Paralympic Athlete of the Year, Taylor Farmer, also competed during the Camp Perry Open.

In pistol, SFC Stuart Burns, 20, of Kilbride, ON, reached a score of 562-15x to lead, as Richard Gray, 47, of Fredericksburg, VA, followed closely with a score of 560-12x. Alec Wilkins, 22, of Ravenna, OH, landed just behind Gray with a score of 558-7x.

Burns was also the top Junior competitor. Logan Quinn, 18, of Upton, MA, fired a score of 547-9x, as Johnathan Dorsten, 15, of Bryan, OH, cleaned up a score of 533-5x.

For a complete list of results, visit the CMP Competition Tracker page at https://ct.thecmp.org/app/v1/index.php?d o=match&task=edit&tab=results&match=17354.

Photos of the event can be found and downloaded for free on the CMP Zenfolio page at https://cmp1.zenfolio.com/f515242946.
Youth sports offer participants life enhancing benefits. Sports improve mental and physical fitness; they offer meaningful friendships and rewarding social relationships. Competing while trying to do one’s best gives meaning and joy to life. Sports participants become better persons when they learn vital life lessons like self-control, self-discipline, emotional control, responsibility, goal-setting, how to achieve goals, the rewards of hard work and self-image enhancement.

Unfortunately, there is also a negative side to youth sports. Those benefits are lost when sports are not played according to the rules. This OTM article examines the critical roles that ethics, fair play and sportsmanship play in youth shooting and how ethical behaviors ensure that youth shooting programs fulfill their awesome potential for good.

**The Ethical Athlete**

The ethical athlete is someone who trains and competes by following the rules and competing in a spirit of fair play, good sportsmanship and honesty. The ethical athlete is someone who rejects taking shortcuts, doing anything to gain an unfair advantage, cheating or using artificial performance aids. The ethical athlete treats teammates, opponents and competition officials with respect.

In the name of all competitors, I promise that we shall take part in these Olympic Games, respecting and abiding by the rules that govern them, committing ourselves to a sport without doping and without drugs, in the true spirit of sportsmanship, for the glory of sport and the honor our our teams.

The Athletes’ Oath declared by an athlete representative during the Opening Ceremony of each Olympic Games provides an ethical model for youth sports participants.
Describing the personal aim of sports competition as striving to achieve a “desired result” helps us understand how ethics impact sports and shooting. An athlete’s desired result could be anything from firing a respectable score to shooting a winning score in a prestigious competition that brings public acclaim or valued prizes. There are two fundamental ways to achieve desired results. One is through training, hard work, following the rules and making excellent competition performances. The other is achieving inflated results by using some method of cheating.

Any discussion of sports ethics must answer a fundamental question: Is any prize worth winning if it is not won by following the rules and competing in a spirit of fair play and honesty?

Indeed, one of the most critical responsibilities of youth sports coaches and parents is to teach young athletes the values of fair play, sportsmanship and honesty and to encourage them to make personal commitments to achieve their desired results only through training, hard work, following the rules and making excellent competition performances.

**Core Values of Sport**

The criteria for competing as an ethical athlete, following the rules while competing with a spirit of fair play, good sportsmanship and honesty, constitutes the “core values of sport.” Everyone in youth shooting must understand these core values and be committed to applying them.

The International Olympic Committee (IOC), which governs the Olympic Games, describes sport as a “school for life.” The IOC focuses its educational programs on three “OlympicValues,” “Excellence,” “Friendship” and “Respect.” IOC descriptions of these values give us a starting point for understanding ethical behavior for athletes, coaches and officials.

- **Excellence** means doing the best we can, on the field of play or in our professional life. The important thing is not winning, but taking part, making progress and enjoying the healthy combination of body, will and mind.

- **Respect** includes respect for yourself and your body, for other people, for rules and regulations, for sport and for the environment.

- **Friendship** is at the heart of the Olympic Movement. It encourages us to see sport as an instrument for mutual understanding between individuals, and between people all over the world.

There are other values that can also broaden our understanding of the core values of sport:

- **Athlete Safety** means all youth shooting participants have a right to train and compete on safe, properly supervised ranges. They also have a right to expect that they will never be subjected to harassment, abuse or bullying.

- **Competition Rules** ensure that competitions are fair and that no competitor gains an unfair advantage. Competition rules “keep the playing field level” for all competitors. A fundamental responsibility of athletes, coaches and officials is to know and follow the rules governing their events.
Ethics, Fair Play and Sportsmanship

• Fair Play means competing by the rules and rejecting any opportunities to cheat or gain an unfair advantage.

• Honesty and Integrity mean being able to conscientiously say “I produced my score by strictly following the rules.”

• Impartiality requires Match Officials who make decisions affecting athletes and their results to treat all athletes the same, in full accord with the rules, and without showing partiality to any athlete or team.

• Sportsmanship is acting with fair and generous behavior towards opponents.

Respect for Fellow Athletes and Officials

The Olympic value of “Respect” addresses how athletes and officials behave towards each other. Respect means seeing other athletes and officials as persons of worth, as good persons and as potential friends. There are several ways athletes, coaches and officials can show respect:

• Be a Good Teammate. Being a good teammate starts with encouraging and supporting other members of the team. A good teammate devotes time to helping newer and younger teammates. A good teammate happily congratulates other team members when they shoot great scores or new PRs. A good teammate is someone who helps other members of his/her team become better.

Competition Etiquette

All competitive shooters should fulfill basic rules of sportsmanship and etiquette while competing. These are good rules to follow:
1. Know and follow the competition rules.
2. Keep your firing positions and equipment within your firing point area.
3. Talking on the firing line may only be done with Range Officers.
4. Avoid actions that might disturb other competitors.
5. Never act out or display anger when bad shots or scores occur.
6. Vow to remain calm, cool and controlled no matter what happens.
7. Cooperate with Match Officials—they are there to help competitors.
8. Do your part to make the competition a great experience for all—teammates, other teams and Match Officials.

Be a Good Example. Champions have a special responsibility to be good examples for younger athletes and fans. Anna Korakaki, Greece, shown here in the back center, is an Olympic gold and bronze medal winner and a World Champion pistol athlete. The eagerness these young fans at the 2018 World Championship had to be photographed with her demonstrates how important this responsibility is.

Be a Good Teammate. These two Chinese athletes, Junmin LIN and Jian ZHANG, have just finished first and second in the 2018 World Championship rapid-fire pistol event. The obvious joy they share makes it difficult to tell which athlete won the gold medal.
• **Be a Good Example.** Older and more successful athletes have a unique responsibility to be good role models. Younger athletes and fans want heroes; they will look up to athletes who are established winners and follow the examples they set. A true champion recognizes this responsibility and is willing to spend time with younger athletes and fans.

• **Friendship.** One of the great experiences in sports competitions is meeting and enjoying new friends. Athletes who go to competitions expecting to find new friends will almost certainly be well rewarded.

• **Behavior Towards Match Officials.** Ethical behavior standards for athletes and coaches involve showing respect for Range Officers and other Match Officials. Sometimes those officials must make decisions athletes and coaches do not like, but that is not an excuse for attacking them. At the end of a competition, a well-appreciated act of good sportsmanship is when athletes and coaches take time to say “thank you” to the Range Officers and officials who conducted the match.

• **Welcoming Environment.** Ethical behavior standards for Match Officials call for them to do everything they can to provide welcoming environments for competitors at their matches. Informing competitors about what to expect, making registration easy, clearly explaining special range rules, providing equal competition conditions for all and offering genuine hospitality ensure that competing at that range will be a great experience.

**Doping**

Doping by taking performance enhancing drugs during training or competitions is a notorious way to cheat. Virtually all international and national sports organizations are now engaged in battles to keep their competitions clean. In shooting, where anti-doping testing is done, doping violations are extremely rare. In 2018, the ISSF conducted 645 anti-doping tests during 16 international championships and had only one positive test.

Shooting benefits from the fact that there are no known drugs to speed up athlete skill development during training. The one family of drugs that is performance enhancing in shooting is beta blockers taken during competitions. Beta blockers slow heart rates, moderate muscle tremors and reduce anxiety without compromising mental and neural functions. A rigorous testing program has successfully eliminated almost all beta-blocker use from international competitions.

**Manipulating Results, Falsifying Scores**

A few years ago, a competitor in a well-respected national junior postal fired a sporter class 3-position score of 298 x 300. A few months later that same competitor fired in a shoulder-to-shoulder match and did not break 500 out of 600. A few months after that, this young man quit shooting, knowing he had cheated and could never be respected by other shooters. Occasional cases of cheating in shooting involving schemes to manipulate or falsify scores have ended with personal humiliation, disqualifications and even bans from participating.

• **Score and Target Manipulation.** Score manipulations include tricks like not shooting the last shot when there is a tight multi-shot group, fingering the back of a target or using a sharp object to tear the inside edges of shot holes. More egregious cases involve firing postal scores in supported positions or at closer distances, altering or falsifying scorecards or substituting pre-fired targets. Any attempt to manipulate or falsify a score is cheating.
Ethics, Fair Play and Sportsmanship

- **When Competitors Score.** There are temptations to cheat in Highpower Rifle, Pistol and Rimfire Sporter competitions when competitors record scores or score for each other. Helping a friend or shooting buddy get an extra point or two may seem like a charitable thing to do, but it is score falsification and the rules do not allow it. The ethical competitor conscientiously scores and records all shots as accurately as possible.

- **Manual Scoring Ethics.** When manual scoring is done correctly, it can be quite accurate. But official scorers also face ethical challenges. There are temptations to score loosely by scoring shots “in” that are not really in (“it was close”). More dangerous temptations involve scoring loose for the home team and tight for the other teams. The practice of allowing scoring challenges creates a problematic gray area. Challenging scores is at best a protection against poor scoring, but it is also ethically problematic because the only shots that are ever challenged are shots that were scored “just out.” Shots that were scored “just in” are never challenged. Making a challenge when there is an obvious scoring mistake is certainly justified, but the practice of challenging every close shot in an attempt to “buy points” is ethically questionable.

- **VIS and EST Scoring.** Modern electronic targets and electronic scoring systems like Orion overcome the disadvantages of manual scoring by speeding up scoring and accurately scoring all shots according to the same standard. However, VIS and EST Scoring Officers have the capability of making manual interventions, so they also have an ethical responsibility to be well-trained and committed to making score reviews with absolute integrity and impartiality.

**Shooting Equipment and Position Violations**

In a sport like shooting where equipment plays a decisive role in athletes’ performances, using equipment or shooting positions that give an unfair advantage is cheating. Almost all cheating attempts involving equipment or firing positions, however, can be prevented with effective enforcement.

- **Trigger Weight Violations.** In events with minimum trigger pull requirements, a common violation is shooting with a light trigger. Making a trigger lighter after passing a pre-competition check is even more serious. Post-competition checking is the best way to make sure trigger weight violations do not occur.

- **Rifle Clothing.** Rifle shooters know stiffer shooting jackets add stability, especially in standing. The ISSF employs rigorous testing to restrict jacket thickness and stiffness, but the testing equipment is expensive and requires a skilled operator, so testing is almost never done in national, regional or local competitions. Even when testing is not done, junior rifle competitors are advised to avoid using extra stiff shooting clothing because if they advance to higher level competitions where stiffness testing is done, it will be too late to recover from the dependency created by using extra stiff clothing. There have been a few cases where competitors used rifle jackets with rigid back braces inserted in them; this is strictly illegal.

- **When the Rules Don’t Cover It.** Match officials often hear some version of “the rules don’t say I cannot use this,
so this (device, technique, gadget, etc.) must be legal.” In many cases, the rules do not specifically prohibit something, but most rulebooks do have a rule that says something like this: “Any gun, device, equipment, accessory or other item that may give an athlete an unfair advantage over others and that is not specifically mentioned in these Rules, or that is contrary to the spirit of these Rules, is prohibited.” These rules have been used to exclude a lot of questionable equipment. Athletes or coaches should be aware that if the rules don’t cover something, don’t assume it’s OK, ask someone who knows. Questions about three-position air rifle rules, for example, should be addressed to 3PAR@thecmp.org.

Athlete Safety, Preventing Harassment and Abuse

An athlete’s right to train and compete in a safe environment in shooting requires having coaches and Range Officers who are trained and qualified to supervise safe firing procedures. Completing a CMP Range Officer Training Course is a good way to fulfill that requirement (http://thecmp.org/competitions/cmp-rangeofficer-program/).

Employing any form of harassment or abuse with athletes or other officials has no place in sports so protecting athletes from harassment and abuse becomes a high priority responsibility for coaches and Match Officials. There are many forms of harassment and abuse that must not be allowed to occur in youth shooting programs.

- **Emotional Misconduct.** Insults, personal attacks, calling someone names, constant yelling, threats to injure or threatening to deny coaching or practice are all forms of emotional misconduct.

- **Physical Misconduct.** Hitting or slapping are obvious forms of physical misconduct. Providing alcohol or drugs to athletes is another form of misconduct that can have serious adverse consequences.

- **Sexual Misconduct.** This can involve touching or non-touching sexual interaction that is nonconsensual or forced, coerced or manipulated. Sexual misconduct can include sexual-oriented comments or jokes, discussing one’s sexual life or exposure to pornographic material. Sexual interaction between a coach and an athlete is always prohibited. Sexual abuse among youth is also possible.

- **Bullying.** Bullying is any action intended to cause fear, humiliation or physical harm. It includes verbal and emotional actions such as teasing, ridiculing, spreading false rumors or using electronic communications to harass, frighten, intimidate or humiliate (cyber bullying).

- **Harassment.** Harassment involves physical or non-physical actions intended to cause fear, humiliation or intimidation, especially if it targets someone on the basis of race, religion, national origin, sex or sexual orientation. Harassment creates a hostile environment for the athlete and must never be tolerated.

Standards of Conduct for Coaches and Leaders

In order to prevent even a hint of behaviors that could lead to allegations of abuse, there are basic guidelines for coaches and youth program leaders to follow:

- **Meetings.** When individual meetings with an athlete are necessary, have a third person present or make sure another adult is informed about the meeting. If possible, the meeting room should be unlocked and open.

- **Being Alone with Athletes.** Coaches and Match Officials should not be alone with young athletes. If individual training is desired, be sure to have parental approval or invite a parent to attend.

- **Touching.** Coaches and Match Officials should not touch athletes. When teaching a skill, show or demonstrate the skill, but do not touch the athlete.

- **Physical Contact.** Physical contact with athletes should be avoided during coaching, but some physical contact is acceptable. High-fives, fist bumps, celebratory hugs and pats on the back are appropriate when celebrating accomplishments. Similarly, consoling an emotional athlete after a loss or injury with an embrace or side hug is also appropriate. Such physical contact should always take place in public.

- **Travel.** Coaches must take into account the abuse risks that can occur during travel. Opposite sex athletes must always have a same sex chaperone.

- **Social Media.** Program leaders should only use email and texting to communicate information about coaching or team activities. Parents may request to be copied with all messages sent to their children.
Ethics, Fair Play and Sportsmanship

Rifle Clothing Inspections. If pre or post-competition equipment checks involve rifle clothing inspections, those checks must always be done by a same-sex judge.

Duty to Report

One of the most egregious cheating cases in CMP history was exposed when a CMP Match Official was standing in front of a scoreboard and someone reached over his shoulder, pointed to a high-ranking score on the results list, said “that shooter didn’t fire that score” and then quickly disappeared. The CMP Staff’s ensuing investigation proved that this competitor had carried out a scorecard switching scheme that almost won several prestigious National Trophy awards. The cheater was ultimately banned for life from CMP competitions. He may never have been caught, if that anonymous informant had not reported a suspicious score to a Match Official.

Anyone involved in a competition, whether an athlete, coach or Match Official, who knows or reasonably suspects that someone is trying to manipulate results or cheat has an ethical duty to all other competitors to report this. In a competition, reports of alleged cheating should go to the Match Director. In a CMP competition, reports of violations can also be made directly to the CMP Programs Chief.

A Match Director who receives a report of alleged cheating has a duty to investigate and gather as much information as possible. All CMP rulebooks provide procedures for adjudicating and, if warranted, penalizing or disqualifying competitors who are guilty of manipulating results or cheating.

If a team member or parent suspects that harassment, abuse or bullying is occurring in their junior program, they should speak with the team coach. If there is a concern that the coach is an abuser, it may be necessary for two or more parents to meet with him/her to discuss their concerns.

Allegations of sexual abuse involve possible violations of the law and must be reported as soon as possible. If an allegation of sexual abuse is credible, this should immediately be reported to law enforcement authorities.

One of the great movements in today’s world of sports is the monumental effort sports leaders, athletes and coaches are making to keep sports clean, eliminate all forms of cheating and ensure that the athletes who win are really the athletes who make the best performances. It is important for youth shooting leaders to be part of this effort by making sure their young athletes learn how to compete as ethical athletes.

Resources for Ethics in Youth Shooting:


- The IOC Fundamentals of Olympic Values Education Manual can be downloaded at: https://www.olympic.org/-/media/Document%20Library/OlympicOrg/IOC/What-We-Do/Promote-Olympism/Olympic-Values-
• **USOC/USA Shooting Safe Sport Program.** This program offers an on-line course to educate coaches and competition officials about harassment and abuse in sports. Completing the Safe Sport Program course is highly recommended for youth shooting coaches. Enroll in this free course at: [http://www.usashooting-coachacademy.org/safe-sport-policy-for-coaches-staff-volunteers.html](http://www.usashooting-coachacademy.org/safe-sport-policy-for-coaches-staff-volunteers.html).

• **ISSF Anti-Doping Webpage.** Athletes who are committed to staying clean should avail themselves of the excellent education program available from the ISSF. Go to the ISSF Anti-Doping webpage at [https://www.issf-sports.org/theissf/antidoping.ashx](https://www.issf-sports.org/theissf/antidoping.ashx).

• **Medication Checking.** Athletes who need to take drugs for medical conditions who plan to compete at national levels are strongly advised to consult with the drug reference program offered by the U. S. Anti-Doping Agency ([https://www.usada.org/substances/drug-reference-phone-line/](https://www.usada.org/substances/drug-reference-phone-line/)).

• **USA Center for Safe Sport.** The USOC and Olympic sports governing bodies in the USA established this Center where allegations of Sexual Misconduct can be reported ([https://safesport.org/](https://safesport.org/)).

**About the Author**

Gary Anderson, Director of Civilian Marksmanship Emeritus, retired as the full-time CMP Director at the end of 2009. He continues to work with the CMP as the senior marksmanship instructor. During his remarkable career, he won two Olympic gold medals, seven World Championships and 16 National Championships. He served as a Vice President of the International Shooting Sports Federation (ISSF) from 1990 through 2018. He is a former Nebraska State Senator and Past President of USA Shooting. He served as a Technical Delegate for Shooting during the 2012 and 2016 Olympic Games as well as for the 2014 and 2018 World Shooting Championships.

In 2012, the International Olympic Committee awarded Gary Anderson with the Olympic Order, its highest honor “for outstanding services to the Olympic Movement.”

In 2014, the CMP expanded its world-class air gun center at Camp Perry and renamed the facility the Gary Anderson CMP Competition Center, in honor of Anderson’s contributions to the organization and the marksmanship community.
Registration is now open for the Civilian Marksmanship Program’s (CMP) 2019 Travel Games – featuring a variety of rifle and pistol events held around the country throughout the year.

Regulars to Travel Games events should be aware of the new 2019 schedule, which includes major changes to the annual lineup. The Western CMP Travel Games, usually held in Phoenix in October, has been removed from the schedule for 2019 and will resume in March 2020. The Oklahoma CMP Games will move from its typical April timeframe to the open October slot.

Additionally, the Talladega 600 Match has been moved up from its December dates to November. Daily schedule changes have also been made to the Oklahoma and New England Games events, including two extra relays of GSMM rifle matches on Cup Match days.

**Dates for the 2019 Travel Games include:**
- **26 April-5 May** – Eastern CMP Cup & Games Matches, Camp Butner, NC
- **6-9 June** – Talladega D-Day Matches, Talladega, AL
- **16-22 September** – New England CMP Cup & Games Matches, Jericho, VT
- **7-13 October** – Oklahoma CMP Cup & Games Matches
- **19-24 November** – Talladega 600, Talladega, AL
- **WESTERN CMP GAMES WILL RETURN MARCH 13-22, 2020 in Phoenix**

Events fired at the Travel Games include a mix of modern and vintage military rifle competitions like the John C. Garand, Springfield, Rimfire Sporter, Carbine and Vintage Sniper Matches. The Travel Games also feature a growing field of pistol opportunities, to provide guests with even more competitive avenues, as well as a Small Arms Firing School for new and experienced marksmen. Other informative clinics are conducted throughout the Games Matches by qualified CMP staff members.

CMP’s Cup Matches, formerly known as the Creedmoor Cup Matches, will now be a fixture at Travel Games events. Cup Matches include a 4-Man Team Match, an EIC Rifle Match and three days of 80-Shot events.

**Changes to the 2019 Travel Games:**
- **Oklahoma CMP Cup & CMP Games Matches** – The Oklahoma Games were moved from April to October in place of the Western CMP Games &
CMP Cup Matches, which will return March 13-22, 2020.

- **Eastern CMP Cup & CMP Games Matches** – The Eastern CMP Games & CMP Cup will be reverting back to a schedule used in the past, with CMP Games matches fired first, followed by Cup Matches to conclude the event.
- **NOTE:** The Oklahoma and New England schedules are similar to last year but will now begin on a Monday and end on a Sunday.

As in previous years, rifle competitions will be fired on CMP Targets, a user-friendly electronic target system that instantaneously produces shot placement and eliminates the need for pit duty – allowing quicker matches and less physical strain, absolutely suited for new or experienced competitors of virtually all ages and sizes.

For more information on each Travel Games event and a link to registration, visit [http://thecmp.org/competitions/cmp-travel-games/](http://thecmp.org/competitions/cmp-travel-games/).

If you are sharing equipment or wish to fire with another competitor(s), you will need to type in the competitors name in the special squadding request box upon registration on CMP’s Competition Tracker page. If there are any other special requests, they will need to be indicated upon registration or you may email competitions@thecmp.org. The EIC Rifle Match will be random squad.

Upon registration, competitors will choose match date, relay, relay time and rifle for the Garand/Springfield/Vintage/Modern Military Rifle Matches only. There will be different relays and relay time choices available for competitors to fire Garand (GAR), Springfield (SF), Vintage Military (VM) or Modern Military (MM) rifles. Competitors may only choose a maximum of FOUR relays per day to allow the opportunity to fire the GSM 3-Gun and 4-Gun Aggregates.

**About the CMP Travel Games:**

The Travel Games are regional competitions held throughout the year, featuring CMP’s own rifle and pistol outdoor events. A common part of the CMP schedule for the last decade, the Games are centered around recreation-oriented competition and educational activities that are designed to accommodate experienced marksmen as well as those hoping to learn more.

Competitor scores in the 80 Shot or EIC Rifle matches will count towards CMP’s Classification System. Competitor classifications are based on a competitor’s average scores fired in his or her most recent competitions. The CMP maintains a national database of competitors and scores that are used to establish competitor classifications. Competitors can view his/her current CMP Classification by logging into CMP Competition Tacker and clicking in his/her personal “Competitions” and “EIC Results” files.

A Club Pay Back Program will also be honored in 2019, where $5.00 per competitor will be awarded to any CMP Affiliated Club that has 5 or more of their members attending and participating in the marksmanship competitions held at the event. The club members will need to present his or her club ID card at any of our Travel Games.
Registration for 2019 National Matches Now Open
By Ashley Brugnone, CMP Writer

The National Matches is the perfect place to make memories with old friends and to meet new people interested in the world of marksmanship.

Registration for the Civilian Marksmanship Program’s (CMP) 2019 National Trophy Pistol and Rifle Matches officially opened March 1, 2019. The annual event, held at the Camp Perry National Guard Training Base since 1907, will be entering its second year of enhanced events, featuring original CMP matches and traditional events that bring a fresh generation of competition to the National Matches platform.

Whether competing for the first time, a seasoned athlete or simply coming to see what’s happening, the National Matches has something for everyone.

CMP’s Smallbore rifle lineup will return to the National Matches in 2019 after a successful first run at last year’s event. The schedule includes a 3x40 with iron sights and an any sights match, a 3x20 team match and prone events. Scoring will be administered in collaboration with Shooters Technology, using a mobile application that will transmit target images via cell phone to the Orion scoring system and allows scores to be compiled before competitors even return from hanging targets down range.

A six-day CMP National Matches Junior Camp, Smallbore & Air Rifle, will also take place and is open to junior athletes who shoot both three-position smallbore and standing or international precision air rifle. Participants must be between the ages of 12 to 20 and must currently be shooting in three-position smallbore competition matches and international air rifle.

Also returning to the CMP schedule is a series of Long Range events for teams and individuals. Long range matches will be fired at 1,000 yards and are open to match rifles, service rifles or Palma rifles.

Additionally, CMP’s own Cup Matches like the 4-man team event and the 2000-Point Aggregate event, which bases winners on his/her two-day average scores, will be mixed into the schedule. The CMP will continue to offer an assortment of vintage and modern military rifle events, including the John C. Garand, President’s Rifle, Hearst Doubles, Vintage Sniper, Rimfire...
Sporter, as well as a collection of prestigious pistol events. Adult and junior competitors, both the well-seasoned and novice individuals, are all invited to participate during this year’s National events.

On top of competitive opportunities, a Small Arms Firing School (SAFS) will be held for rifle and pistol enthusiasts, where participants will be instructed by some of the top military shooters in the country on firearm safety and competition technique. The SAFS courses have been a staple in the National Matches at Camp Perry since 1918.

Many other clinics and learning opportunities, taught by CMP staff members and qualified professionals, will be available throughout the National Matches. Whether an experienced shooter or firing a shot for the first time, those wanting to enhance their rifle or pistol abilities can register for a number of clinics conducted during the Matches.

Don’t forget that outside of the action on the firing line, Commercial Row offers a variety of items for both spectators and shooters – with an array of manufacturers selling used firearms, ammunition, competition gear, accessories, apparel and much more. The CMP Store allows even more buying opportunities at the Matches with our line of military surplus rifles.

All events are free and open to the public. Spectators are welcome to observe firing on the Camp Perry ranges at any time, with ample parking on-site. Guests are encouraged to participate in the many exciting activities and visual attractions offered during the Match season.

The Gary Anderson CMP Competition Center is also open throughout the National Matches and offers a full line up of Air Gun events and Open Practice. The Competition Center is air conditioned, providing a cool environment to practice your marksmanship skills. Rental air guns and pellets are available for visitors to use during their visit for a small fee. Our certified Range staff members are happy to help assist new competitors on and off of the firing line.

Come be a part of a century-old tradition! For registration and more information on the National Trophy Pistol and Rifle Matches, including a complete schedule of events, log on to http://thecmp.org/competitions/cmp-national-matches/. We hope to see you there!

Camp Perry is located six miles west of Port Clinton. For those looking for lodging, housing is available on base on a first-come, first-serve basis, and a campground is also located onsite. Other area accommodations are only a short drive away and only minutes to beautiful Lake Erie.

Adults and juniors are welcome to sign up for a variety of fun and challenging events.
CAMP PERRY, Ohio – Zachary Wehner, 11, of Valparaiso, Ind., took his first trip to the historic National Matches at Camp Perry last July, 2018.

“It’s amazing,” he said of his experience. “It’s just nice to walk around and tour the place, and it has an air range.”

During his self-tour of the grounds of the Camp Perry National Guard Training Base, which has been home to the National Matches since 1907, Zachary found his way to the Gary Anderson CMP Competition Center. The facility, maintained by the Civilian Marksmanship Program (CMP), contains many fascinating findings within, but most visitors come for its 80-point electronic indoor air gun range.

The range is open to the public all year long and hosts numerous events. The National Matches season gives guests the opportunity to not only try their hand at air rifle or air pistol at their own pace, but also grants anyone the chance to compete in national-level competition.

That’s exactly what Zachary did, competing in the 30-shot sporter Bench League, where individuals fire upon the electronic targets from a fixed, seated position. It was his first time trying air guns, having only fired BB guns in Cub Scouts before getting to Camp Perry.

Zachary didn’t come alone on his National Matches adventure. He brought along with him two other generations of the Wehner family, his dad, Jeffrey, and his grandpa, Gerald.

The idea of a three generation trip originally started with Gerald, a regular to the National Matches since 1967.

“It’s kind of like a disease,” he joked, about the National Matches itch. “My wife says, ‘Before Perry, you get all grumpy, and then you go to Perry and you come back happy.’”
Gerald fired in the 2018 National Matches pistol events using a National Match .45 he had bought at the event years ago. It’s one of many firearms he has accumulated over the years.

“I’ve been interested in shooting all of my life,” explained Gerald, 80, an avid pistol marksman.

Growing up, his brother was the one who got him interested in shooting. Gerald’s first gun came in the third grade – a BB gun his brother gave him after he upgraded to a .22 rifle. A few years later, his brother upgraded again, this time to a shotgun, and Gerald quickly saw an opportunity.

He explained, recalling the story, “I said, ‘So what are you going to do with your .22?’ He said, ‘Well, it’s not mine – it’s yours!’

He added, as he smiled, “And I’ve still got that gun.”

When Gerald was a senior in high school, he bought a single-action revolver for $49 from Colt Frontier Scout. In a moment of shear happenstance, as he was telling his dentist about the new revolver that summer, the dentist asked Gerald if he would like to shoot on a real marksmanship team.

Apprehensive at first about what he was getting into, Gerald decided to give the team a try and bought a High Standard target pistol for $35 later that summer.

“I had to aim it sub-six because of the sights,” he recalled.

That first summer of 1956, he fired in a park league and earned a medal that was, as he described, “a little bit bigger than his thumb nail.”

“I was very proud of that,” he chuckled.

Later on, he moved on to a Ruger Mark I, which he shot for several years before getting the National Match .45 at Camp Perry and a Clark Ruger in 1967.

Along the way, Gerald gained a family, which made it harder to make the trip back to Ohio in the summer. But, eventually, he returned with new shooting buddy – his son, Jeffrey, Zachary’s dad.

Jeffrey didn’t get interested until later in life, into his 30’s, when he started asking Gerald questions about the sport. The two started going out to the local range in Valparaiso and also visited Bristol and regional events before eventually making it to Camp Perry.

“We were just talking about it one day, and he wanted to know if I wanted to come, so we made an agreement,” Jeffrey said of the 2018 trip.

Making a weekend out of the arrangement, young Zachary wanted to come along as well. And, with his first successful air gun competition under his belt, they were almost unable to get him to leave.

Jeffrey Wehner also competed at the 2018 National Pistol Matches.
“We could hardly pry him away,” Jeffrey said as he laughed. “He became a competitor this year.”

Now hooked, Zachary is looking forward to coming back out to shoot with his dad and grandpa at this year’s National Matches.

Gerald is in for round two, saying, “Good Lord willing, I’ll keep coming back.”

Jeffrey is also onboard with the idea, hoping to make a tradition out of the trip.

“This is because of my dad. And I would like to continue it for years to come,” he said. “It’s a fun place to be. You get a little tired of it after a week, but as soon as you get home, you want to come back.”

He added, “It was a good experience, having three generations here.”
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

13 April
CMP Monthly Match
Camp Perry, OH
Anniston, AL

26 April-5 May
Eastern CMP Travel Games and Cup Matches
Camp Butner, NC

May

1 May
Basic Rifle Class
Talladega, AL

2 May
Ladies Day, Basic Pistol Class, Basic Shotgun Class
Talladega, AL

4 May
TDS IDPA Monthly Club Match – Scott Gianze MD, NSCA Monthly Sporting Clay Tournament
Talladega, AL

5 May
US Arms Tactical Rifle Monthly Match- Mike Travis MD, Basic Pistol Class, Basic Shotgun Class, Basic Rifle
Talladega, AL

8 May
Basic Rifle Class
Talladega, AL

9 May
Public Service Workers, Basic Pistol Class, Basic Shotgun Class
Talladega, AL

11 May
V3G Steel Challenge- Jon Wallace MD, Backwoods Monthly Club Match
Talladega, AL

12 May
Basic Pistol Class, Basic Shotgun Class, Basic Rifle Class
Talladega, AL

13 – 19 May
USPSA – World Speed Shooting Championship
Talladega, AL

15 May
Basic Rifle Class
Talladega, AL

16 May
Military Day, Basic Pistol Class, Basic Shotgun Class
Talladega, AL

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

18 May
F Class Monthly Match, USPA, Shooters For Hooters Charity, 3 x 600 High Power Rifle Match
Talladega, AL

19 May
Pizza & Pew With V3G Team
1100, Basic Pistol Class- Jon Wallace MD, Basic Shotgun Class, Basic Rifle Class
Talladega, AL

22 May
Basic Rifle Class
Talladega, AL

23 May
College Student Day, Basic Pistol Class, Basic Shotgun Class
Talladega, AL

25 May
800 Pt. Agg. High Power Rifle Match, T3G 3 –Gun Monthly
Talladega, AL

26 May
Steel Challenge Practice, Basic Pistol Class, Basic Shotgun Class, Basic Rifle Class
Talladega, AL

Visit our Competition Tracker – ct.thecmp.org – for ALL upcoming clinics and competitions!
National Air Rifle Athletes Travel to Camp Perry to Compete in June

By Ashley Brugnone, CMP Writer

CAMP PERRY, Ohio – The 2019 CMP National Three-Position Air Rifle Championships will be held June 27-29 and July 13-15 at the Civilian Marksmanship Program’s (CMP) Gary Anderson CMP Competition Center in Ohio. After months of intense competition, over 350 hopeful junior marksmen, families and friends will gather to witness who will reach the podium on the National stage in both sporter (June) and precision (July) classification matches.

The event is free and open to the public, meaning anyone is welcome to visit and encounter some of the most talented junior marksmen in the country. Guests will also be able to personally see CMP’s electronic air gun targets, which are scored optically by internal LED lights. The range also features monitors at each firing point and large overhead monitors for spectators to keep track of scores.

The National Air Rifle Championship is a 3x20 match where competitors fire 20 record shots from three positions: prone, standing and kneeling. Junior JROTC, 4-H and club team precision and sporter marksmen involved in the competition began their journey with the CMP Postal Competition in November, with the top athletes moving on to the Regional Championships in March and April. Overall high individuals and teams of Regionals then qualified for the National Championship.

To reward the hard work of dedicated junior athletes and coaches, the CMP administers thousands of dollars in monetary funds towards teams who qualify for the Regional events, with additional funds presented to qualifiers reaching the CMP National Championship. A scholarship check for $1,000 is also available for the top three highest-scoring senior athletes in both the sporter and precision classes at the National competition as a symbol of CMP’s continued support of junior marksmanship for the current generation and into the future.

Junior marksmen participating in the CMP National Championship will automatically be entered in the USA Shooting National 3P Junior Olympics – fired at the Gary Anderson CMP Competition Center. Sporter competitors will compete on June 28, while precision competitors will follow on July 14.


About the Gary Anderson CMP Competition Center:
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. Large LED screens placed throughout the range space display each competitor’s target, making the match spectator-friendly. CMP staff members are also on hand to answer questions for those wanting to learn more about the safe, fun and growing sport.
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/](http://thecmp.org/air/junior-distinguished-badge/) or email CMP Competitions at 3PAR@TheCMP.org.

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**Want to Earn YOUR Junior Distinguished Air Rifle Badge?**

Visit [http://thecmp.org/air/junior-distinguished-badge/](http://thecmp.org/air/junior-distinguished-badge/) or contact the CMP by calling (419) 635-2141, ext. 702.
CMP Releases Regional SAFS Course Schedule for 2019

By Ashley Brugnone, CMP Writer

Over the last year, the Civilian Marksmanship Program (CMP) has been working on developing even more opportunities for those wanting to learn rifle marksmanship safety and fundamentals by now offering remote, regional rifle Small Arms Firing Schools (SAFS) around the country throughout the year. The regional SAFS program began in August 2018 and has expanded its schedule for 2019.

A staple event at the Camp Perry National Matches since 1918, SAFS is designed to train beginners on rifle essentials and competition basics in a closely monitored setting, utilizing the talents of qualified CMP staff, trainers and members of the U.S. Army Marksmanship Unit. Participants learn through classroom discussion and hands-on training. To finish out the school, students apply all they have learned in a true M16 rifle match, fired under close supervision of trainers on the line.

No previous knowledge in marksmanship is required for the course, with all experience levels welcome to attend. Rifles and ammo are provided. Personal shooting jackets and gloves permitted. Hearing protection is also required, and eye protection is strongly encouraged during live firing.

Courses on the 2019 schedule include:

- **Saturday, June 8 – Sunday, June 9, 2019**: Douglas Ridge Rifle Club, Eagle Creek, Oregon (Also includes a range officer training course on Friday, June 8, taught by DCM Emeritus, Gary Anderson)
- **Saturday, June 22 – Sunday, June 23, 2019**: Fairfax Rod & Gun Club, Manassas, Virginia
- **Saturday, August 24 – Sunday, August 25, 2019**: Oak Ridge Shooting Assoc., Oak Ridge, Tennessee
- **Saturday, September 28 – Sunday, September 29, 2019**: Fort Hill Rifle & Pistol, Keyser West, Virginia

Registration for all SAFS locations will open March 1, 2019. Classes are limited, so please sign up in advance! No walk-ins will be permitted.

Participants in all of the remote SAFS locations will have the chance fire on the CMP’s outdoor electronic highpower target system. The targets, used successfully at multiple CMP events, are programmed with precision software and are equipped with an LED monitor beside each competitor on the firing line. The well-lit screens have been extensively tested in the field by an assortment of competitors for readability and ease of use – able to be operated by just a press of a button.

For more information on Small Arms Firing Schools, visit the CMP website at http://thecmp.org/training-tech/small-arms-firing-school-training/. Questions may be directed to Amy Cantu at 419-635-2141 ext. 602 or acantu@thecmp.org.

Students in SAFS are trained by qualified CMP staff members and certified instructors.

At the conclusion of the course, participants fire in a real match, under the supervision of instructors.
Local Boy Scout Troop Aims for the Bullseye...
Submitted by Scott Hurley, Scoutmaster Boy Scout Troop 922

Boy Scout Troop 922, chartered by Bermuda Hundred United Methodist Church in Enon (Chester) recently participated in the American Legion Junior Shooting Sports Postal Competition for 2018-2019. Six Scouts and four Leaders attended the event on 12 January at the Old Dominion Junior Rifle League air rifle range in Yorktown. With the help of Virginia CMP State Director, Lynn Wheeless, the troop’s Marksmanship Team was started in 2015 to foster a respect for gun safety, teach rifle marksmanship and facilitate Scouts to earn the Rifle and Shotgun Shooting Merit Badges. The Marksmanship Team is graciously sponsored by the American Legion Post 284 of Colonial Heights.
Kade Jackovich Joins Army Marksmanship Unit

At 19 years old, Kade Jackovich, long-time member of the Arizona Scorpions Junior High Power team, has already won multiple national awards and has even earned his Distinguished Rifleman’s Badge. Come the 2019 National Matches at Camp Perry, Ohio, Kade will be on a different team, representing the United States as the newest member of the Army Marksmanship Unit’s (AMU) service rifle team.

Jackovich started shooting at a young age, finding a passion in it that he did not share for more traditional sports. “When I was 10, I was playing tackle football at the time, and I wasn’t enjoying it,” he said. “I decided that I didn’t want to play football anymore, but my parents still wanted me to be involved in a sport. My mom found a smallbore program at our local range, and I fell in love [with it] as soon as I started.”

Discipline – that is what Jackovich asserts is the biggest thing he has learned from marksmanship, as well as attention to detail. He began to realize that even small factors had an influence on his shooting, and when he understood this and learned how to minimize things that would cause a bad shot, he began to excel.

Kade’s accomplishments have certainly attested to his development as a shooter. He earned his Distinguished Rifleman’s Badge in 2015 as well as made the President’s 100, went distinguished in air rifle, and he set a National record in the Whistler Boy Match with his teammate Zac Clark.

For Jackovich, one of his most accomplished years was in 2018. Firing an impressive 1269-40x out of 1300 possible points between the President’s 100 Rifle Match, National Trophy Individual Match and National Trophy Junior Team Match, his aggregate score earned him one of six spots on the National Junior Rifle Team and the accompanying Deneke Trophy. He was also the 2018 high junior in the National Trophy Individual Rifle Match, earning him the Golden Eagle Trophy. Additionally, he made the 2018 President’s 100 and won the Junior Mountain Man Award for his performance at the 2018 Camp Perry National Matches.

Kade describes his aspirations beyond the AMU, saying, “My goals are to keep improving my marksmanship skills and help others improve their marksmanship skills.”

As a member of the Rio Salado Sportsman’s Club and Arizona Rifle and Pistol Association, and now member of the AMU, Kade serves as a role model to younger shooters. He advises new junior shooters “to always keep an open mind to new ideas.” He stresses that there are many different ways to set up gear and build positions.

“Try new things, and maybe something will work better for you,” he suggests.

Outside of shooting, Jackovich loves the outdoors, enjoying camping, hiking, hunting and off-roading.

With such an impressive list of accomplishments at such a young age, Jackovich is one to watch, especially as he continues in his training with some of our nation’s best marksmen and women.
Spotlight on Arizona Junior: Madison Rovelli

Every high power competitor discovers the sport in a different way. Some get their first exposure through the Civilian Marksmanship Program’s Small Arms Firing School. Others hear about it from a friend or family member or find it though social media, internet articles and general exploration. Madison Rovelli, a 17-year old member of the Arizona State Junior High Power Rifle Team, discovered one of her passions by asking.

Madison explained how she started, noting that, “When I was 13, I begged my parents to take me to Ben Avery Shooting Facility since I had never been, and it looked so cool. While we were there, my mother asked the Range Safety Officers ("RSO") if they had [any] junior shooter programs.”

After attending an open house hosted by Arizona Scorpions Junior High Power, Rovelli received an invitation to join the team. This surprised Rovelli, who “had no clue that [Arizona] had [a state] ‘association,’ let alone a junior high power rifle team.”

Fast forward three years and Rovelli is still “very grateful to [her] coaches for seeing potential in [her].”

Though she did not join the Arizona Scorpions until she was 13, she enjoyed casual shooting with family and friends since the age of nine, finding time on the range calming.

Madison outlines the tenants of what marksmanship has taught her: safety, responsibility, patience, and confidence. Firearm safety is always of utmost importance, but Rovelli indicated that shooting has made her more aware than she was previously.

She has taken on increased responsibilities as she has been with the Scorpions team, “loading [her] own ammo, cleaning and taking care of [her] rifle and equipment,” all the while accompanied by her plush scorpion, Wilson, who “resides on [her] shooting cart.”

She admits that she is not, by nature, a patient individual, and comments, “I learned the hard way, but the wind isn’t always your friend so you need to slow down and roll with it,” referring to spending the time to read the wind and conditions rather than just shooting through it.

Rovelli cites confidence as the primary thing she has learned from marksmanship. She states that, “believing in yourself is [most] important when you’re on the firing… Shooting is a mental game that often challenges self-confidence, and it has only [made] me a stronger person.”

Madison, a home-school high school student, keeps herself busy playing volleyball for her local public high school and as a Brown Belt and Student Instructor in Krav Maga self-defense, working towards her Black Belt. She also is studying for her private pilot’s license.

Even with so many ambitions, Rovelli notes that “I can’t think of anything else that I want to do more than shoot.”

Rovelli loves meeting and learning from new people – which is one reason she is so passionate about the shooting sports.

“Each [person] has a fascinating story to tell, and I look forward to hearing those stories from all the different shooters during the matches I compete in,” she said. “Competitive shooters are the friendliest, tight[est] knit group of people that I have ever met…shooting is the only sport, that I know of, where your competition will come to your aid when needed and help you to become a stronger, better shooter.”

In return for all of the help she has received, Rovelli hopes to give back in the future by returning to the Arizona Scorpions team to coach, to “carry on this great legacy.” First, though, she plans to become a pilot and attend a military academy.

Madison Rovelli offers great advice to new shooters, saying, “Do not join [the] shooting sports thinking that you do not have what it takes to be like the top shooters that you’ve seen or heard about. Every top shooter started at the bottom; you are no different. As long as you take good advice from other competitors, try different positions (when you need to), practice quite often, and believe in yourself; you can become a top shooter.”
 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.

Take Your Daughters and Sons to the Range Day!
Submitted by Kathy Konek, Bonner County Sportsmen Board Member

Eight years ago, the Bonner County Sportsmen in Sandpoint, Idaho, began a program to introduce the local youth to target shooting with a .22 rifle. The first year, 30 girls from 5 to 18 years old were given the opportunity. Now, we have expanded to a two-day program for 8- to 18-year-old girls and boys, with over 100 youth participating.

Each of the eight classes start with a safety talk by Brad Kruger, the Western Region NRA rep. The kids, 14 at a time, then move to the outdoor range for one-on-one instruction with a qualified range person. First, sight alignment and trigger control are taught, then targets are changed for a fun bingo-type shooting game, followed by free shoot time to practice their new skills by shooting at spinning targets and gongs.

Parents keep a watchful eye but are encouraged to just watch. This day of fun is all free to the youth. The rifles, ammunition, safety glasses and ear protection are donated. Thank you to Brownell’s, the NRA, Women on Target, Idaho Fish and Game, Sandpoint Park & Rec and other local businesses who make this day possible.

For more information visit: https://www.bonnercountysportsmen.org/projects.
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/.
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 scheduled to return in March for another season of safe, fun and thrilling competition. Each match will be held at the South CMP Competition Center in Anniston, Ala., and at the Gary Anderson CMP Competition Center at Camp Perry, Ohio, which both feature 80-point ranges filled with CMP’s own electronic targets.

Monthly Matches for 2019 are scheduled for the following dates:
- April 13, 2019
- May 18, 2019
- Sept. 14, 2019
- Oct. 12, 2019
- Nov. 16, 2019

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, 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 2019 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, 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/.

About CMP’s Electronic Targets:
The high-tech Kongsberg Target System (KTS) targets used in CMP’s air gun ranges are powered by OpticScore technology, which are scored optically by internal LED lights. Monitors at each firing point instantly display scores, and button functions with an LED lighted screen allow ease of use for individuals of all ages and experience levels.

Large LED screens placed throughout the range space display each competitor’s target, making the match spectator-friendly. CMP staff members are also on hand to answer questions for those wanting to learn more about the growing sport.

About CMP Competition Centers:
The CMP Competition Centers are equipped with 80 electronic targets.

For competitors of a variety of disciplines, the South Competition Center 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. The facility also holds Marksmanship Nights regularly each week for the public to enjoy. For more about the Gary Anderson CMP Competition Center, visit http://thecmp.org/air/cmp-competition-centers/.
Parting Shots: Photos from Recent CMP Events & Competitions

Junior shooters left their mark on several recent CMP events including the Camp Perry Open and the Regional JROTC Air Rifle Matches.
IN THIS ISSUE

Sighting Shots ........................................ 2
Summer Camp Registration Open ........ 3
Camp Perry Open Results...................... 4
Ethics, Fair Play and Sportsmanship......... 6
New Travel Games Schedule............... 14
National Matches Info....................... 16
Three Generation Story...................... 18
Calendar of Events.......................... 21
CMP 3P Nationals Coming in June ...... 22
Junior Distinguished Badges.............. 23
Travel SAFS Schedule....................... 24
VA Boy Scouts Story......................... 25
Kade Jackovich Feature..................... 26
Spotlight on Madison Rovelli............. 27
Clubs Corner................................. 28
Newly Affiliated Clubs..................... 29
Air Gun Monthly Matches Info............ 30
Parting Shots................................. 31

ON THE MARK
Corporation for the Promotion of Rifle Practice and Firearms Safety
PO Box 576
Port Clinton, OH 43452