

Match Report

Oregon State 2018 Field Target Championships July 20th thru 22nd.

The weather was amazingly 15 degrees cooler than predicted and 10 degrees cooler than that in the Oak Alley Forest we held the match in. Highs outside the oak forest were in the low 90s, but it felt like 75 – 80 on the course. The skies were a mix of light clouds and smoke from the nearby fires. Fortunately, the irrigated pastures that were cooling us off were also clearing up the air we were breathing. Those cooler winds were 2-4 mph when we started, but had climbed to 6 – 10 by the time we finished. They were coming from the NW, but switching 10 to 20 degrees toward due north on short occasions to the dismay of many shooters.

Saturday's Blue course was had 26 targets, 11 were past 40 yards, avg kz was 1.11 inches, and 30.96 in distance. The course dev was 5.62 and avg diff of 31.12 T. The hardest target was a 41.25T. The Yellow course for Sunday's event 26 targets also greeted the competitors, 12 were past 40 yds, 1.18 inches was the avg kz, the avg dist was 31.65 yds, std dev was 6.29 and the course troyer was 30.90 Hardest target on the Yellow course was a 44T.

The Pistol course had 20 targets in 10 lanes with and avg kz of 1.16 inches, avg dist of 19.6 yds, std dev of 5.69 and course Troyer of 33T. Hardest target on the pistol course was a 48T.

4 would be steel critter killers came from as far as S. Ca., but most came for central and north Ca. We really thank all who took the time and spent the treasure to make the journey.

21 competitors challenged the winds, and 52 steel critters on the rifle courses, with two shots each Sat. & Sun. Friday, the 20th, we held a 40 shot pistol match, followed by a Basic Break Barrel match on the same course after a late lunch. 10 shooters competed in the pistol match with 7 in the Hunter class and 3 in the Limited Pistol class. The match was a tight contest with 5 shooters within 2 points of the victory. Limited shot the highest score with Scott Hull and Riz Marquez in a tie both with 36/40. Scott won the shoot off. Cameron was right behind with a 34/40. On the Hunter Class side, Randy Ebersole squeaked out the win over Scott Schneider by one point with 35/40 and 34/40. I straggled in for a third place with 31/40.

The BBB match was a last minute thought for many of the 8 competitors with many borrowing a break barrel they never shot before to join in the evening fun. Three shooters made a race out of it with the rest of us in their dust. Mark Widert shared his HW 95 with Scott Schneider and they ended up as part of a three way tie with our local Jacob Sumner... all with a super score of 32/40. Note, That's Almost as good as the PCP pistols and piffles shot the course☺.

Saturday morning was a little rough for those of us who joined in the beer and whiskey Friday night... or maybe I'm only speaking for myself☺ I was wandering in my sitting shots like I normally do in my kneeling shots☺ But, most shooters were having a great day. The targets preformed real well, with the only cold line from a string coming loose. All the hard work Randy Ebersole and Chris Lovitt put in the weeks before paid off! Jim Whittlesey, shot the high overall score of the day with a 48/52, Son Lu the

second highest from WFTF 12fpe PCP, with a 47/52 and sweet little Jessica Kerndt kicking the rest of us guys butts with a 46/52 in open class nipping at the heels of JW.

Scott Schneider in Hunter Class and Gabe Lucero in 12fpe WFTF PCP were close behind with a 45/52. Then John Knapp in Hunter class again, with a 44/52, and an amazing performance in Hunter Piston by Mark Weidert with a 43/52, which was also shot by Riz M in WFTF PCP.... (He might have joined in the Friday nite whiskey fest come to think of it☺). All these shooters had a good chance for the overall victory, and the prized 100% AAFTA Grand Prix points, depending on their Sunday's results.

Saturday afternoon, we enjoyed a fantastic wild hog rib dinner. Randy got a friend from Georgia to send him 45 lbs of fresh frozen wild pork ribs. What a treat! They were so tender and lean. Randy E is a great cook! We all stuffed ourselves, but we still had lots left over.

Sunday, we started early to let the travelers get a good start on their drive home. The extra hour in very light wind, albeit varying, produced mostly higher scores for Sunday. Scott Schneider shot the high score on Sunday with an impressive 49/52 in Hunter Class. Riz and Son Lu were right behind with 48/52 in WFTF PCP, while another WFTF PCP shooter, Gabe and Open class competitor, JW shot a 47/52. That meant that Son Lu and Jim Whittlesey were tied for overall high score with a 95/104. Both will get a 100% in the AAFTA Grand Prix. Scott Schneider added another metal with a win in Hunter Class and a second high overall score of 94/104. Gabe earned second in WFTF PCP with his 92/104 and Riz was close behind in 3rd WFTF PCP, with a 91/104.

Hunter class PCP was dominated by Scott Schneider, but a tight race developed for second between Jim Cyran and John Knapp. John shot a great score of 44 on Sat. but had a tougher day with a 38 on Sunday. Jim shot consistent both days with a 42 and 41 to edge out a 2nd over John by one point, so the MD from N. CA just beat out our elder match director from CASA in S. CA, who got 3rd. (John, as the elder statesman he is, should get two extra points for driving from S. CA by himself☺) but alas the rules☺.

The Combined Piston Class was a pretty close match, but Hunter class shooter, Mark Weidertaced out Cameron in WFTF 12fpe Piston class with a 76/104 and 72/104 respectively. Our own Jacob Sumner took 3rd with a 68/104 shooting in Hunter Piston class.

In Open class PCP, Jim Whittlesey won by a good margin with his tie for over high score of 95/104 and Jessica falling off a bit on Sunday, but still holding on for a solid 2nd in Open PCP with an 87/104. Chris Merritt took 3rd with a 78.

After Sunday's match, my sister Laurie served us up a great pasta dinner, we gave out the awards, took a group photo, and most folks got started home before 2pm.

Here are the details of the scores and equipment: (If the competitors provided the info).

Hunter Pistol:

Randy Ebersole – 1720T – 3-12x44 UTG – AA 10.34 @ 11.6fpe – 35/40

Scott Schneider – BSA Scorpion Carbine – MTC Connect 4-12 x – H&N 8.6 FT @11fpe – 34/40

Wayne Burns – 1720T – 3-12x44 UTG – H&N 8.5 sniper med @ 11fpe – 31/40

Jessica Kerndt – 1720T – Hawke 3-12 x – AA 10.34 @ 11fpe – 29/40

Darren Taylor – 1720T – 3-12 x44 UTG – AA 10.34 @10.5 fpe – 27/40

John Knapp – 1720T – Hawke 8-12x50 – CPL 7.9 @ 8.8fpe – 27/40

Lonnie Smith – Crosman 1700P – Aeon 3-12x50 – JSB 8.4 @ 10.5 fpe – 26/40

Limited Pistol :

Scott Hull – Marauder Pistol – UTG 3-12x44 – AA 10.34 @12fpe – 36/40 won shoot off

Riz Marquez – Thomas Air Pistol – 10x42 SS – JSB 8.4 @ 11.5fpe – 36/40 tie first

Cameron Kerndt – Beeman AR 2079 – AirMax 3-12 – AA 10.34 @ 11fpe – 34/40

Basic Break Barrel

Scott Schneider – HW 50 – Clearridge 4.5-14x40 – JSB 8.4 @ 11.5 fpe – 32/40 won shoot off

Mark Weidert – HW 50 – Clearridge 4.5-14x40 – JSB 8.4 @ 11.5 fpe – 32/40 second in shoot off

Jacob Sumner – Benjamin Trail – UTG 4-16x56 – AA 8.4 @ 14fpe – 32/40 third in shoot off

Cameron Kerndt – Remington Express – UTG 3-12x44 – H&N 8.64 @ 12fpe – 21/40

Darren Taylor – Remington Express – UTG 3-12x44 – H&N 8.64 @ 12fpe – 21/40

Riz Marquez - Remington Express – UTG 3-12x44 – H&N 8.64 @ 12fpe – 11/40

Wayne Burns – Diana 36 – UTG 3- 9 -32 – H&N Sniper med 8.5 @ 10fpe – 11/40

Combined Piston Class:

Hunter Piston – Mark Weidert – TX 200 – Hawke 8-32x56 – JSB 8.4 @11.25 – 76/104

WFTF Piston – Cameron Kerndt – HW97 – TAC Vector – H&N 8.64 @ 11fpe – 72/104

Hunter Piston - Jacob Sumner – HW 97 – Viper 4-12 x44 – AA Express 7.9 @ 11.7 fpe – 68/104

WFTF Piston - Lonnie Smith – HW 97 – BSA 10 -50 x60 – JSB 8.4 @ 11.8 fpe – 66/104

Hunter Piston - Darren Taylor – B 40 – Hawke 4-12 x50 – H&N 8.64 @ 13fpe – 61/104

Open Piston – Alan Hull – QB 58 – Monstrum 6-24x50 – H&N 8.5 @ 11.5 fpe – 53/104

WFTF Piston – Jim Poh – TX 200 – Sightron 10-50x60 JSB 8.4 @ 11fpe – 34/104

Hunter PCP :

Scott Schneider – Raw TM- 1000 – Optisan 4-16 – JSB . 20 cal. 13.4 @ 19.8 fpe - 94/104

Jim Cyran – Theoben MFR – S&B 5 – 25 x56 – JSB . 20 cal. 13.4 @ 19.2 fpe - 83/104

John Knapp – Raw TM 1000 – Hawke 8-32x56 – JSB 10.34 @ 18.3 fpe – 82/104

Al Padilla – Air Arms S500 – Aeon 4-12 x50 – JSB 10.34 @ 18fpe – 79/104

Chris Lovitt – Marauder – Sightron III – JSB 13.4 @ 19.5 fpe – 64/104

Open PCP :

Jim Whittlesey – USFT – Nikko 10 – 50 x 60 – AA 10.34 @ 19.8fpe – 95/104 tie for overall high score

Jessica Kerndt – Steyr LG110 – Tac Vektor 10-40 x – JSB 13.4 @ 19.8fpe – 87/104

Chris Merritt – USFT # 27 – Nikko 10-50x60 – AA 10.34 @ 19.9 fpe – 78/104

Scott Hull – Umarex Gauntlet – Monstrum 6-24x50 – CPH 10.5 @ 18.9fpe – 77/104

WFTF PCP ;

Son Lu – Steyr LG110 – Sightron 10-50x60 – JSB 8.4 @ 11.3fpe – 95/104 tie for overall high score

Gabriel Lecero – Steyr LG110 – Sightron 10-50x60 – JSB 8.4 @ 11.3fpe – 92/104

Riz Marquez – Thomas – March 8-80 – JSB 8.4 @ 11.5fpe – 91/104

Wayne Burns – USFT 144 – Nikko 10-50x60 – H&N sniper med. @ 11.8fpe - 80/104

Randy Ebersole – Thomas – Nikko 10-50x60 – AA 8.4 @ 11.6fpe – 74/104

THANK YOU!

My first thank you goes out to our range master Randy Ebersole. He committed himself to clearing the 26 lanes of branches and briars which is no small task by itself, but then back with the weed eater to make sure no grass was in the way. Then the walking paths were raked and groomed with the weed eater too. Then, fresh paint and target testing for 3 days solid. Then he insists on cooking a fantastic wild pork rib dinner for us... no wonder he was so wiped out by match time! Squad mate, Chris Lovitt was right there helping Randy most of the time too. To help out each day, He has a one hour drive each way coming down from the home of National Bench Rest champions in Grants Pass, Or. He is still finding out how much harder Field Target is than Bench Rest. He's the only one on the Bench Rest team that comes down to give FT a try in Ashland☺ Also, a big thankyou goes out to Jacob Sumner for helping out on the courses and covering the registration for me.

My sister Laurie and wife Christine also get love and appreciation for preparing meals Friday and Sunday. Only those who host these three day Grand Prix events can know how many unpaid woman & man hours go into preparing and hosting an event. But, that's not all it takes. It takes all the competitors who travel so many miles for so many hours taking time off work and away from their family. It's so important that we all do the best we can to attend these Grand Prix events the clubs work so hard to offer. Thanks so much to all those who attend and do the hosting!

Be safe, shoot straight, have fun.. Who knows, you might win too😊

Blessings,

Wayne Burns,

Match Director,

2018 Oregon State Field Target Championships

Hosted by Ashland Air Rifle Range

Ashland, Oregon