

Match Report- Western States Championships- AAFTA Grand Prix..

[Wayne Burns](#)
(Login [Wackywayne](#))

AAFTA 2012 Western States Championships- Match Report 7-2-12

The weather was a big question mark as we finished up the preparation work for the matches, but my sun dance did its work and we had partly cloudy to clear skies while we were shooting. A little light rain came as we finished lunch after the Saturday match, just to remind us of our blessings. Temps were a very pleasant upper 70s for highs and mid 50s for morning lows. We had NO rain while we were shooting the match!

The extra wet and cool spring and early summer, allowed the little tree mosquitos to hang around a month after they usually are gone. As soon as we get a few days over 85 degrees, they will be gone. We dont see them through the summer and fall, so the Nationals will be perfect conditions in the upper 80's with NO humidity.

We had attendees from as far as Texas, with many making the journey from California and Washington States too. We had 31 shooters for the rifle matches and an additional 4 who only shot the pistol match.

The rifle courses averaged 35 to 40 troyer, depending on how you allowed for the multipliers on long shots, uphill, dark targets and wind conditions. How dark, or uphill or windy before you add the multiplier? .. Anyway, it was a pretty tough course overall, with about 20% of the targets in the 20ish troyer, 60% in the upper 30s, and another 20% close to 50 troyer to sort out the top shooters, which it seemed to do in the end.

The Lake course is also a challenge in that its a pretty long walk with some uphill to traverse, especially if one has to start on the end lanes, and then have to walk back to the start, only to work your way back almost to the end again! I tried to give those lane assignments to the younger shooters. Or... those who Santa told me might deserve a lump of coal in there stocking. I'm just kidding folks, but yall better be good between now and the Nationals, cause Santa is watching ya and telling me everything he sees!

I had Doug and David tell me that they had NEVER shot at a more beautiful lane, than the ones at the lake. With all the different courses they have shot at, I took that as a BIG compliment! Mark, Kevin and Lonnie set up two lanes there that just take your breath away.. I think we can get one more lane there for the Nationals. Pictures will come soon, but Im going to post this without them to get it up faster.

We had a shoot off for second place between Riz Marquez and David Alsup... and what a show it turned out to be!

I set out a 3/8 inch kill zone at about 20 yards and Riz went first.. he missed.. then David missed as well. Ok, lets make it best out of three shots. Riz settles in and knocks it down.. and again... and then, incredibly, AGAIN! Now, no pressure on David or anything.. he gets ready, and down it goes.. and again.. and then.. AGAIN! The crowd went wild!

I moved the target back about 3 more yards... and more in the shadows too:-).. Riz gets ready. He shoots, and it drops! And the next shot drops it once more! This is just amazing! But, on his last shot Riz leaves it standing. Now, it's David's turn...

Not a sign of worry on David's face.. well none showed:-). He takes his position, ranges.. and the target falls. Ohhs from the crowd.. then quiet. The second shot drops the target again and the on lookers explode again. WHAT A SHOW! again, we calm down and David prepares for his last shot... He breaks the shot.. AND...it falls!

Its hard to believe anyone could hit that 3/8 inch kill zone past 20 yards, 6 times in a row! but thats exactly what happened. Riz with his 5 for 6, will have to wait another 3 months for the re-match! Anyway,

the irony would have been toooo great if Riz had beaten David with the gun David had just sold him!

Doug Miller has so many shooters close on his heels.. What a year this is turning out to be for tight competition. The show continues.

Here is the breakdown on the scores:

OPEN PCP RIFLE

- 1st. Doug Miller- FWB P70FT DM, CPH 10.5, Nikko 10-50, score- 120/120
- 2nd. David Alsup- Alsup FT, H&N 10.65, March 8-80,(2nd by shoot off) score- 116/120
- 3rd. Riz Marquez-Styer LG110, JSB 10.3, Sightron 10-50, - score- 116/120
- 4th. Tim McMurray- USFT #7 HPA, .22 cal SS. - Luepold Comp 35- score- 111/120
- 5th. Hector Alfaro- USFT #?, CPH 10.5, Prime IR, 20-50, - score- 107/120
- 6th. tie Vipha Miller- FWB P70FT DM, CPH 10.5, Luepold Comp 35- score- 105/120
- 6th. tie Matt Kellerman- USFT #22 HPA, .22 cal SS.- Hakko 10-50- score- 105/120
- 8th. Wayne Burns- USFT #57, H&N 10.65, Nikko 10-50- score- 99/120
- 9th. Chris Lovitt- FWB P 70 FT, H&N 10.65, Nikko 10-50- score- 97/120
- 10th. Bob Pont- Marauder FT, JSB 7.9, Tasco 8-40 Customshop- score- 95/120
- 11th. Jim Whittlesey- USFT# 158, JSB 10.3, Nikko 10-50- score- 93/120
- 12th. Chris Merritt- USFT# ?, CPH 10.5, Accushout 8-32- score- 79/120

HUNTER PCP RIFLE

- 1st. Larry Durham- USFT LD Hunter- CPH 10.5, Vortex 4-12- score- 98/120
 - 2nd. Jim Cyran- Styer LG110, JSB 10.3, Hawke 4.5-14 Tac 30- score- 96/120
 - 3rd. Jim Rubiales- Daystate MK4, JSB 10.2, Hawke 4-16x50- score- 95/120
 - 4th. Matt Lababedy- Styer 502, JSB 10.3, Hawke score- 89/120
 - 5th. Mike Aber- AAS 500, JSB 10.3, UTG 3-12x44- score- 75/120
 - 6th. Gordon Stipe- Evanix Rainstorm, CPH 10.5, Hawke 6.5-20 score- 73/120
- Jon Brooks had an equipment malfunction and did not finish

JUNIOR HUNTER PCP RIFLE

- 1st. Natasha Brinkley- age 9, AAS200, JSB 10.3, Hawke Eclipse- score- 60/120
- 2nd. Nicky Brinkley- age 11, AAS200, JSB 10.3, Hawke Eclipse- score- 58/120
- 3rd. Alex Brinkley- age 12, AAS200, JSB 10.3, Hawke Eclipse- score- 42/120

WFTF PCP RIFLE

- 1st. Brent Saunders- Beeman Mako, CPL 7.9, Bushnell 8-32- score- 101/120
- 2nd. Allan Heggem- USFT # 44, JSB 7.9, BSA Platinum 10-50x60- score- 86/120
- 3rd. Mark Gravelle- AAS 400SL, JSB 7.9, Hawke 8.5-25- score- 79/120

OPEN PISTON RIFLE

- 1st. Kevin Yee- TX200, AA 7.34, Leupold MK4- score- 102/120
- 2nd. Eric Ko- Crosman Nitro Venom, CPL 7.9, Hawke 8-32- score- 61/120
- 3rd. Terry Cooke- Diana 54, JSB 10.3, Falcon 10-50- score- 40/120

HUNTER PISTON RIFLE

- 1st. James Brinkley- JW60, JSB 10.3, Hawke Eclipse- score- 93/120
- 2nd. Lonnie Smith- Beeman R-9, JSB 8.4, Simmons Whitetail- score- 81/120
- 3rd. Scott Hull- TF 58, JSB 7.9, Leapers 3-12x44- score- 76/120

AAFTA 12FPE PISTOL OPEN CLASS

- 1st. Riz Marquez- LP1 Rizzynator, JSB 7.9, Bushnell 4-12- score-37/38
- 2nd. Wayne Burns- Falcon .22 cal, AA 13.4, Leapers 3-12- score- 36/38
- 3rd. tie Mark Gravelle- Falcon .177 cal, AA 7.3, Centerpoint 3-12- score-31/38
- 3rd. tie, Bob Pont- Falcon .177 cal, AA 7.3, Centerpoint 3-12- score-31/38
- 5th. tie, Matt Kellerman- .22 cal USFT pistol prototype- Bushnell 4-12- score-26/38
- 5th. Tie, Scott Hull-Custom Scott Hull, leapers 3-9x32- score-26/38
- 7th. Tim McMurray- LD pistol, AA 13.4, leapers 3-12 score 21/38

AAFTA 12FPE PISTOL HUNTER CLASS

- 1st. Mike Aber- Crosman 1701P, FTT 8.7, UTG 3-12x44- score- 35/38
- 2nd. Jim Cyran- Marauder, AA 13.4, Bushnell 3-12- score- 34/38
- 3rd. Steve Ware- Marauder, AA13.4, Leapers 3-12- score -32/38
- 4th. Larry Durham- Air Arms Alpha, JSB 7.9, Leapers 3-12 score- 31/38
- 5th. Jon Brooks- Marauder, JSB 13.4, Hawke 3-12- score- 30/38
- 6th. tie, Eric Ko- Crosman 1701 P, FTF 8.7, UTG 3-12x44- score- 27/38
- 6th. tie, Jim Rubiales- FX Ranchero, JSB 7.9, Hawke 3-12x50- score- 27/38

8FPE SPORTER PISTOL CLASS

- 1st. Lonnie Smith- Marauder/1701P, JSB 7.9, Burris compact score- 35/38
- 2nd. Wayne Burns- - Air Arms Alpha, JSB 7.9, Leapers 3-12 score- 33/38
- 3rd. Larry Durham- - Air Arms Alpha, JSB 7.9, Leapers 3-12 score- 31/38
- 4th. Gordon Stipe- Alecto break barrel, CPL 7.9, Centerpoint 3-12x44 score- 18/38

IRON SIGHTS & UN-MAGNIFIED RED DOT PISTOL CLASS

- 1st. Bob Pont- Falcon FN 8- AA 7.3, Red Dot- score- 16/30
- 2nd. Warren Hockenson- didnt list pistol, AA7.3, Red Dot score- 13/30
- 3rd. Mark Gravelle- Marauder, JSB 7.9, Red Dot- score- 11/30
- 4th. Ronnie Easton- didnt list pistol, AA 7.3, open sights score- 9/30
- 5th. Larry Durham- FWB 100, JSB 7.9, iron sights score- 7/30
- 6th. Tie, Terry Cooke- FWB P40, JSB 7.9, iron sights score- 5/30
- 6th . tie, Eric Ko- IZH 46M, JSB 8.4, open sights score- 5/30
- 8th. Scott Steenhoek- Marksman, AA 7.3, open sights- score- 4/30
- 9th. tie, Mike Aber- IZH 46M, JSB 8.4, iron sights- score- 3/30
- 9th. Tie, Lonnie Smith- didnt list pistol or pellets, iron sights- score- 3/30

Thanks again to my crew of helpers and range officers.. Mark Gravelle, Bob Pont, Kevin Yee, Lonnie Smith, Chris Lovitt, Allan Heggmen and Tim McMurray.... Mark especially put out super human effort to pull off this event!

Respectfully submitted,
Wayne Burns,
Match Director,
Western States Championships