

2019 California State FT Championship September 13-15 Morro Bay CA

What a week / weekend it was. A few of us from the Sacramento Valley FT club who made the commitment to HOST this event made the 325 mile trek from the Sacramento area to Morro Bay on the Tuesday before the weekend match. This being the second Gran Prix to use the San Luis small bore facility, AAFTA rules dictate all new range lanes needed to be established, cut in, measured and put into compliance to AAFTA Gran Prix guidelines. By Thursday we have 21 new lanes established for the 2 days of rifle along with 10 lanes for the pistol shoot to happen late afternoon on Saturday. Lanes and distances were measured making sure the required 40+ yard shots were correct entering all the data to a laptop and set up spread sheet. Figured what kill zones would go where, got our Troyer difficulty sorted and had the Saturday rifle course ready to go by Thursday afternoon, Pistol course too. By late Friday morning most of registered participants were on site willing and wanting to get some practice done. Squads for Saturday were set up, notes made so we could get all the required things done that such a match demands.

Now lets review some of the goings on behind the scenes FOOD Wholly molly what a treat the entire week was! Even before the weekends meals those there shared what they had brought to eat ... Abalone, Venison, smoked salmon and misc game meats along with many other items that really tasted great. Libations were plentiful having each evening relaxed and reflective on the hard work all were doing in pulling this off. THANK GOODNESS we had some food prep help from a non shooter who slaved all week in the kitchen/club house. That special lady was Dawn Schneider who is the wife of the match director. THANK YOU !

Friday night the SVFTC provided a light dinner for all. Once again what a mixed bag of exotic that foods that were generously added to the clubs provided fare making for some great eats!! Saturday night was no different tho highlighted with Smoked Pheasant, Speckle Belly goose breasts, Duck sausages, Venison, Spaghetti, garlic bread & salad. Wine & beer / soda / water too.

Around every table or group of folks in there there comfy lawn chairs the anticipation and chatter about the coming 2 days shooting, course configuration, difficulty and all the stuff we FT shooters fret over ... along with looking forward at what was looking to be a challenging & attention demanding course.

LETS SHOOT

Come Saturday morning we had practice open from @ 7:30 until 9:00 when we started the shooters meeting being vague yet telling of the courses perils and things to watch out for .. new course after all. We're at 29 shooters on 14 lanes of fire Full house with one 3 man squad. Within 3 lanes shot sadly we're down 2 shooters and continue with 27 who finish the mornings match. Troyer value low 29's We had a single target get it's welded on reinforcement ring break off, it was changed out by a SVFTC member and we're moving on once again w/o further lane issues. Match gets started @ 9:20 and by about 1:15 all the squads are coming in for lunch.

Around 3:00 pm we gather up the PISTOL FT shooters, have a quick meeting and converge on the Pistol course which was set up on the fringe of the brush line. It consisted of varied angle & distances out in the full exposure of the afternoons modest Breeze / Wind making for a somewhat difficult to read course.

Sunday we get MORE SERIOUS with the course shot Saturday being changed up, many lanes eliminated with those remaining lanes cut in (used 14 of 21 on Saturday) getting put into play also changing some distances and sizes on reused lanes. The Troyer value also went up to just shy of 33 with the changes, 2 more off hand targets added having everyone needing to shoot a total of 8 off hand shots on Sunday alone ... Just Spreading the love!! Squads were done placing shooters together based on Saturday's scores, trying to stay in the same classes as best we could.

Shooters meeting telling of the changes made and there off and shooting shortly after 9:00. The match director spent the morning walking up and down the course making sure no issues were not left unaddressed, watching shooters enjoying themselves and took photographs. A very pleasant day with much cooler temperatures everyone seemed more relaxed and found it easier to concentrate on the task at hand ... KNOCK DOWN those little steel targets !!

** Speaking of TARGETS Well lets just say many in attendance had no idea what a CRAZY bunch the SVFTC crew is. The sometimes Life Like to Zany Psychedelic paint jobs had some thinking drugs were involved, ya know sort of Alice in Wonderland some of thing ? LOL In some instances the targets were so Life Like they blended into the surroundings giving fits to some who had trouble range finding on them, yet other times IN YOUR FACE bright and loud you can SEE ME!! Some did not like NOT being able to see where there shot were landing on the speckled or natural targets if missed while other others just chuckled over the creative change in what is typical for targets ... White or Black plain Jane.

AWARDS

Thanks to John Berquist and his creative mind and fabrication skills we got some VERY UNIQUE target trophies. Top place finishers were awarded functional California Golden Bear field targets made from Plexiglas on marble bases, lower positions a Plexiglas bear on a marble base ... Very Nice !

Afterwards a few hung around providing assistance in tearing it all back down, loaded all the gear, parts and pieces into the trailer and helped putting it away for another event. There were a few who stayed over Sunday night and helped Monday A.M. cleaning and making sure the facility was in better shape than we had found it.

A special thanks to Scott Hull director of the SLSBA Airgun Club who coordinated the use of the facility, and obtained the permission of the the other shooting clubs to use their ranges and the camping area for the match. Scott was also out in the field working with us every day during course set up and his club provided all the brick bases and lane markers needed for the match. Finally a big THANK YOU to those SVFTC members who also helped make this a successful match. Those shooters who contributed their time and efforts to help, though not required, was very much appreciated!

Best regards,

Scott Schneider
Match Director

A wonderful collection of match photos can be found here:

<https://www.conrads-photography.com/AIRGUNNERS/CA-STATE-FIELD-TARGET-CHAMPIONSHIPS-GRAND-PRIX/>

2019 California State Field Target Championship Final Scores - 112 Shot Match									
Full Name	Class	Division	Day 1	Day 2	Total	Rifle	Scope	Pellet	Velocity
Scott Hull	PCP	Hunter	54	51	105	Diana Skyhawk	Athlon Helos 6-24x50	JSB 10.3	930
John Bagakis	PCP	Hunter	51	44	95	Daystate Redwolf	Hawke Airmax	JSB 10.3	
Jim Cyran	PCP	Hunter	45	46	91	Steyr LG 100 .20 cal	S&B PMII 5-25x56	JSB 13.7	805
Fred Biergiel	PCP	Hunter	40	48	88	Daystate MK 4	Hawke Airmax	JSB 10.3	850
Tony Starr	PCP	Hunter	46	41	87	FX Dreamline	Athlon Midas	JSB 10.3	
Lonnie Smith	PCP	Hunter	43	41	84	Marauder	Hawke		
John Knapp	PCP	Hunter	41	41	82	USFT .20 cal	Hawke 8-32x56	JSB 13.7	790
Marty Gettleman	PCP	Hunter	44	38	82	Daystate Huntsman	Hawke Airmax	JSB 10.3	
Conrad Rowling	PCP	Hunter	32	26	58	Air Arms S500	Hawke 4.5-14x42	JSB 13.4	780
John Berquist	PCP	Hunter	0	34	34	Thomas	Sightron 10-50x60	JSB 13.4	
Nick Star	PCP	Hunter	20	DNF	20	HW 100	Athlon Helos	JSB 10.3	
Jim Whittlesey	PCP	Open	52	49	101	Thomas Carbine #1	Nikko 10-50x60	JSB 13.4	818
Dana Wyse	PCP	Open	50	50	100	Thomas Carbine	March 10-60x56	JSB 13.4	815
Kelly Hawe	PCP	Open	49	48	97	Daystate CR97		JSB 10.3	880
Bob Kidd	PCP	Open	50	41	91	Steyr LG 110 .20 cal	Sightron 10-50x60	JSB 13.7	806
Chris Merritt	PCP	Open	44	43	87	USFT #27	Nikko 10-50x60	AA 10.3	
Vince Pacheco	PCP	Open	40	42	82	USFT #93	Nikko 10-50x60	JSB 10.3	900
Terry Ennetta	PCP	Open	21	38	59	Marauder	Sightron 10-50x60	JSB 13.4	779
Mike Niksch	PCP	WTF	53	52	105	Thomas Carbine	Leuplod Comp 40x	JSB 8.4	780
Riz Marquez	PCP	WTF	48	46	94	Thomas Carbine	Kahles 10-50x52	JSB 8.4	790
Randy Ebersole	PCP	WTF	45	40	85	USFT #44	Sightron 10-50x60	JSB 8.4	790
Wayne Burns	PCP	WTF	38	42	80	USFT #1	Sightron 10-50x60	JSB 8.4	790
Darren Taylor	PCP	WTF	34	34	68	Walther LG300	Falcon T50	JSB 8.44	778
Larry Durham	PCP	Freestyle	40	35	75	USFT	S&B FT 10-50x56	JSB 10.3	
Jim Ziegler	PCP	Freestyle	32	36	68	USFT	Hawke Airmax	Cros 10.5	860
Rick Rogers	Rston	Open	24	21	45	TX 200SR	Hawke 8-32x56	JSB 8.4	776
Ron Jobes	Rston	Open	24	18	42	Wiscombe 50	Bushnell	JSB 8.4	777
Cameron Kerndt	Rston	WTF	46	45	91	TX 200HC	Falcon X50	JSB 7.9	805
Jacob Sumner	Rston	Hunter	44	35	79	HW97K	Hawke 8-32x56	JSB 7.9	800

2019 California State FT Championship – Pistol		
Full Name	Class	Score of 40 Possible
Scott Hull	Hunter	37
Mike Niksch	Hunter	33
Randy Ebersole	Hunter	31
Wayne Burns	Hunter	28
Scott Schneider	Hunter	27
Lonnie Smith	Hunter	24
John Bagakis	Hunter	20
Darren Taylor	Hunter	16
John Knapp	Hunter	13
Cameron Kerndt	Limited	37
Dana Wyse	Limited	35
Riz Marquez	Limited	35
Ron Jobes	Limited	7