

August 2010 Trap & Field Article By Ron Noren

Well, our trailer is packed and ready to head off to Owatonna to the MN Southern Zone Shoot. With the State Shoot less than two weeks away, we are right in the middle of Minnesota's trapshooting prime time. June rains and wind have made it a challenge for Minnesota's gun clubs this summer. Hopefully the weather will settle down for the remainder of the shooting year.

One thing nice about shooting in Minnesota is you never have to worry about going hungry. Owatonna Gun Club served pork loins on Saturday evening of their Cabela's shoot. Neil Winston donated a hog that was barbequed and devoured at the Minneapolis Gun Club on the Saturday of their Handicap Championship. Then at our State Shoot we had pork chops on Tuesday, fried walleye on Wednesday and brats on Thursday. Top that off with a treat from the Dairy Queen...yum! No wonder I can't lose weight during the summer.

AROUND THE MTA:

Congratulations to Blane Wirth who recorded his first 100 straight at the Buffalo Gun Club on May 29th.

The Bemidji and Buffalo Gun Clubs had successful shoots the weekend of June 5th & 6th. Bemidji had about 40 entries and at Buffalo, coaches Mark Stevens and Scott Berning fielded about 45 youth shooters at Buffalo's Youth Team Event.

Owatonna dodged a lot of storms during the Cabela's Shoot, June 11-13, but was able to get every event in. Even with the threat of bad weather, almost 25 squads shot every day. Friday's "Windy Singles" lived up to its name again with only four 100's posted. But Sunday's singles had twenty-two perfect scores out of 119 entries. That must have been a record!

The MN State High School Championship was held on June 13th at the Minneapolis Gun Club and was a huge success. There were 243 participants from 13 schools this year (8 schools participated in 2009). Varsity Team Champs were from Wayzata, the Junior Varsity title went to White Bear Lake and winner of the Novice group was Prior Lake. Kaycee Nelson was High Overall with 99X100. Other Category winners were David Plaziak, Madeline Mangan, Kyle Bunkleman, Lizzy Sullivan and Jon Zeirden. A big thank you goes out to the Mpls. Gun Club for hosting the event and to all the workers & shooters. Next year looks even better!

Thirteen shooters earned Tilden custom belt buckles for shooting at least 500 marathon targets at the Buffalo Gun Club on June 12 & 13.

Congratulations to Troy Haverly who's score of 187 X 200 won the Minneapolis Handicap Championship held at the Mpls. Gun Club on June 19th. Dennis Kecker was runner-up with the same score, after losing in a shootoff.

And if they are not sold out, there is still time to purchase rattle tickets for the Blaser F3 Combo. Proceeds go towards the Minnesota Youth Shooting Fund. Tickets are \$25 and can be purchased from directors and officers of the MTA. There will only be 600 tickets sold. The drawing will be held at the Minneapolis Gun Club's National Trapshooting Day shoot on Sept. 25th.

Also, don't forget the requirements to be eligible for State Teams. This criteria is not that hard to attain, but can be easily overlooked. For those of you whose goal is to be selected to a Minnesota State Team, here are the requirements:

1. Shooters must shoot 700 singles, 700 handicap, and 500 doubles at Minnesota clubs with the exception of Senior-Vet and Sub-Junior, categories that are not required to shoot doubles.
2. Shooters must complete the HAA (High All-Around) - 400 targets, at either a Minnesota Zone Shoot or the Minnesota State Shoot.
3. Shooters must compete at a minimum of 4 clubs in Minnesota. The State Shoot counts as 1 club and the zone counts as 1 club. Example, if the Northern Zone shoot is held in Alexandria in June and the individual shoots there and competes at the State shoot, this would qualify as 2 clubs.

Please feel free to call or e-mail me if you have any concerns or questions about trapshooting in our state. I appreciate your responses and suggestions that I've been receiving. Also, let me know of any recognition for shooters accomplishments that should be mentioned in future articles. My phone is 507-381-5908 and e-mail is: ronnoren@embarqmail.com. Visit our new "official" web site at www.minnesotatrap.com

Ron Noren
ATA Delegate