

August 2012 Trap & Field Article By Ron Noren

Grand time is here and if you haven't recovered your two yard reduction yet, now would be a good time post a great score and take home some serious cash. Not only do we have the generous donation of \$350,000 by Bill and Lee Ann Martin, the ATA has kicked in \$100,000 for Friday, Saturday and Sunday events of Preliminary week. Hopefully this will draw more people to enjoy this beautiful shooting venue. Good luck to all the Minnesota shooters who attend this year!

Just returned from the MN Southern Zone Shoot in Worthington and was disappointed that only 27 shooters shot Saturdays 200 singles event. We didn't have a Class C shooter to fill the Zone Team. There wasn't a Junior shooter and there was only one Sub-Junior and Sr. Veteran. The \$500 added by the host club this year to help bolster attendance didn't seem to attract shooters, at least in the Southern Zone. The Central Zone had close to 60 shooters and the Northern Zone drew in the 90's, I was told. At the meeting we discussed several options to try and attract more shooters. These include finding sponsors to add money to the program, making attendance mandatory for being on the State Team or changing to a one day shoot and shoot 300 targets. We took a show of hands on making it a one day shoot and it was unanimous. This will be discussed at our State Shoot and our December meeting.

The 2012 MN State Shoot Program looked great! I would like to thank Sally Stevens for the many hours of work she put into converting the old program into the new format. This will save the MTA time and money year after year. Nice job!!!

Make sure you thank the major sponsors of the 102nd Annual Minnesota State Trapshoot when you see them. Included are: Shamrock Leathers, MN Youth Shotgun Assn., Decot Sporting Glasses, Cabela's, Federal Ammunition and Alex Power Equipment & Kubota Tractor Corp. Bob Schultz sponsored the "Miss and Out" competition on Thursday evening, offering free brats and polish sausage for all.

Owatonna had about 150 shooters in attendance at the 15th Annual Cabela's Shoot held June 8-10. Again, the pork loin feed put on by Mike and crew was a hit on Saturday evening and the deserts that Gayle and company provided were fantastic as usual. Scores were amazingly good despite the high winds. Looked at my iphone between 50's in Sunday's Handicap and it showed wind gusts up to 46 mph! It was a tail wind though.

The weather sort of cooperated at the Minneapolis Gun Club for their Handicap Championship, held on June 15th thru the 17th. On Saturday, occasional rains didn't stop shooters from completing the 200 Handicap Championship targets. Neil Winston's pig roast was excellent as usual. Thanks Neil! Tom Suter of Austin shot a 192 to bring home the coveted Championship belt buckle.

The Youth Shoot at Buffalo Gun Club on June 2nd had 34 shooters with Kurt Potters, Cole Haeska and Luke Zilverberg leading in the Junior Division with 93's. Sub-Juniors

were led by Joseph Hebeisen with 94 and Hunter Hedtke with 92. The teams of Ken & Megan Norman and Sam Hedtke & Mark Stevens tied for the Youth/Adult title with 95.

The Bemidji Gun Club attracted 58 shooters the weekend of June 2nd & 3rd. Ted Lundrigan and Dean Walker topped the Singles, Mike Werner, Burt Fosse and Kyle Hanson led the Handicap, and Doubles were won by Darrel Terning, Fosse & Walker.

The MN State High School Championship was held on June 9-10th at the Alexandria Shooting Park and was a huge success. There were over 900 participants from 57 schools this year (29 schools participated in 2011). A big thank you goes out to the Alexandria Shooting Park for hosting the event and to all the workers & shooters. Next year looks even better with 25-30 more schools projected to start programs!

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:

	<u>Men's Team</u>	<u>Lady's Team</u>	<u>Veteran's & Junior's</u>	<u>Sr. Vets & Sub-Jrs.</u>
16's	*2000	1500	1000	1000
Handicap	1500	1000	1000	1000
Doubles	1000	500	500	0

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. ***Junior and Sub-Junior categories are exempt from this requirement. Sr. Vets don't have to shoot Doubles.**

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. If you would shoot in Alex and any of their other ATA shoots, that would count also, for a total of 3 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 web site at www.minnesotatrap.com

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