

NORTH DAKOTA AIR RIFLE
JUNIOR SECTIONAL & OPEN STATE CHAMPIONSHIP

March 3 & 4, 2012

We hope that each of you found these matches worthwhile and enjoyable. Connie and I enjoyed having you here, and even enjoyed scoring your 3,540 record shots.

State Results: Last year we had 27 competitors firing the State Championship match. This year, 39 of you fired the match, and 24 competed in Marksman class alone. I recall when we could hardly find enough air rifle shooters to fire the State Championship match. In fact, the first time that I competed in an air rifle match was at the request of Tom Thompson and Tom Reiten back in 1994. The match was in Bismarck at the old War Memorial building indoor range, and it was the North Dakota State Championship. Only 6 of us were brave enough to step up to the line. Tom Thompson was the only person with a match air rifle and felt that he would have too much of an advantage, if he used it to compete against the rest of us. So we all used Club owned Daisy 853 air rifles to fire the match.

Most of us fired under what are the current Sporter Air Rifle rules with no shooting clothing of any sort. Tom Thompson still has the match results from this match and was kind enough to scan them and email them to me. I have attached the scanned copy of the match results. You will see that the Junior Olympic Air Rifle, Junior Air Rifle Sectional and Air Pistol results are shown on the same page with our 1994 Air Rifle State Championship results.

We have come a long way. The competitive shooting atmosphere in North Dakota is alive and well in the Air Rifle program thanks to our junior air rifle coaches, our clubs and the North Dakota Shooting Sports Association. We hope that you and your families will all be actively involved in the air gun shooting sports 20 years from now.

This year, 7 juniors managed to finish in front of our first place adult who is again Tom Thompson, and Tom fired a good match. Soren Butler is our 2012 North Dakota State Champion with his 583, 8 points better than last year. Our second place finisher is Dacotah Faught with a fine score of 572.

Sectional Results: Soren's Gold Medal score of 384 in the Jr. Sectional is just 1 point better than his sister Mari's 383. Congratulations to the Buffalo Sharpshooters team who fired a Gold medal score of 1128 as a J1 team this year to place first in our team matches. We were pleased to have 8 teams, twice as many as last year. The Buffalo Sharpshooters Red should be quite competitive in the J3 national results with their score of 1092.

For the last few years we have seen the average scores improve in every age group and every classification. This year, our top eleven shooters each fired scores of 350 or better. Last year, only ten fired scores of 350 or better. Again, our coaches are doing a great job and our shooters are getting the message and applying themselves to put forth their best effort for each shot.

Connie and I were again really pleased to see each of you maintain a positive attitude throughout the match. I remain convinced that positive attitude works to improve your performance.

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We really appreciate each of you who helped us during the match and with teardown after the match. Your efforts make hosting the match much more fun for us. Thanks to Jose , Mark Stein and Doug Baker for your help with setting the match up on Friday evening and for your help throughout the match.

We challenge you to bring a positive attitude to every match that you attend and to every task that you undertake. Continue to Schedule some time for perfect practice with your air gun as often as possible. Follow your shot plan and enjoy the sport of shooting air gun.

Of those who fired the match with us, the following have been invited to compete in the Junior Olympic National Championships in Colorado Springs:

Men

Soren Butler AR/SBR

Joe Martin AR/SBR

Women

Dacotah Faught AR/SBR

Mari Butler AR/SBR

Lana Fairbanks AR/SBR

Megan Tichy AR

Becky Martin - Air Pistol

We wish them good luck and a great experience.

Connie and I will be at the Pistol Sectional in West Fargo this next weekend. Note the match schedule below:

Mar 10, 11	Junior 4P State and Sectional	Bismarck	Tom Thompson	701-255-4601
Mar 12, 13	Pistol Sectional (Conv, Air, Std)	West Fargo	James Ladwig	701-484-5236
Mar 16, 17	Open 4P State and Sectional	Grand Forks	Denny Coulter	701-746-6959
Mar 24, 25	ND Indoor Pistol State	Valley City	Garth Weber	701-330-3284
April 1	Ayr Rifles Air Rifle & Air Pistol	Faught Farm	Rand McLeod	701-219-3657
Apr 2, 3	Light Rifle State Championship	Bottineau	Gary Siverston	701-243-6413

Connie & Rick Jorgenson