

**OFFICIAL BULLETIN**  
**2017 NRA OPEN 3-POSITION METRIC and AIR RIFLE INTERNATIONAL SECTIONAL MATCHES**  
**SPONSORED BY:**  
**BISMARCK/MANDAN RIFLE AND PISTOL ASSOCIATION**  
**and the**  
**NATIONAL RIFLE ASSOCIATION**  
**FIRE JANUARY 14 and 15, 2017**

Thanks to everyone who participated in our 2017 Open NRA Air Sectional and our Open 3-Position Metric Matches. Once again we had a great match turnout this year. We had 41 air rifle competitors and 28 smallbore rifle competitors compared to 34 air rifle and 25 smallbore competitors last year. Our best year for this event was 2015 when we had 41 air rifle and 29 smallbore competitors. Attendance continues to be excellent for our air rifle and smallbore rifle events in North Dakota.

**A BIG thanks goes out to Rand McLeod.** Rand lent us his Orion Scoring Machine for the weekend. Rand drove out Friday afternoon from Erie and helped Tina set up the match and print bar codes for every target. Bar codes were then placed on every target so everything could be ready Saturday morning. The Orion system was EXTREMELY helpful scoring the 4,140 bullseyes fired at this event. Thanks to our scoring and data entry team including Rand, Tina, Mary Kay Tokach, Scott Tichy, Melody Schiwal and Cindy Sorensen. I also had help running line, setting up targets and overall set up with Dave Hintz, Tom Headrick, Dallas Quamme, Tom Schiwal and Dave Bruschein. Dave Hintz made a great pulled pork lunch with buns and chips. We also had our favorite cookies from Rapid City donated by Sally Fairbanks (this was on Saturday – the Sunday folks kinda missed out on this). And finally thanks to all the parents that helped changing targets and moving all the action shooting props back across the range at the end of the event.

Congratulations to our Air Rifle Sectional winners – Gold – Katie Zaun 580, Silver - Mari Butler 580, and our Bronze Medalist was Brandon Alexander with a 576. Katie wins by the last 10 shot NRA tie breaker rule. The Buffalo Sharpshooters Gold team of Katie, Mari, Brett Christianson and Emily Tichy fired a 2259/2400 for the team win. Congratulations to the Smallbore winner – Katie Zaun with a 572. This is another excellent score. Overall, there were several very good scores posted in the matches again this year and the scores continue to improve. As usual, the tough competition in this northern country brings up everyone's scores.

The smallbore (and air) season is upon us. Mark your calendar for the Junior Olympic Shooting Championship matches **scheduled for this weekend (Jan 21 and 22) in Minot. Call Rick Jorgenson (701-662-4760) NOW to reserve your shooting time! Relays are filling up fast!**

**We have 3 more events at our range this year including a 50 yard NRA Open Regional Smallbore Rifle Championship on February 25 and 26. This is a 120 shot any sight match. The match can be fired on either day. This is a great event – put it on your schedule.**

The North Dakota Junior 4-Position Smallbore Rifle State Championship and NRA Junior Sectional matches will be the weekend of March 11 and 12, 2017. Anyone can fire in our State Championship, however, the high North Dakota resident will be recognized as the State Champion. Finally, we will have our Junior Club championship on Saturday, March 19. This will be a conventional 4-Position 40-shot event. Awards will be provided to the top shooter, and class winners from the Bismarck/Mandan R&P Association. Juniors from other clubs are invited. Winners from other clubs will be recognized with certificates.

**The North Dakota Shooting Sports Association (NDSSA) annual convention is in Bismarck the weekend of January 27, 28 and 29, 2017, at the Eagles Club and at our range. We will recognize 2016 state champions and 2016 state records (including Junior competitors) at the Saturday night banquet. We will also induct long time High Power Rifle Competitor - Norm Weber – into the North Dakota Shooting Sports Hall of Fame. Our keynote speaker will be 3 time Olympian – Jason Turner. Jason should have a great message – especially for the younger competitors. The NDSSA annual membership meeting will be Saturday afternoon. Contact me – Tom Thompson - for further information and tickets for the Saturday night banquet. Tickets are \$35 adult, and \$20 for juniors. Tickets are \$40 at the door.**

There will also be a Precision Pistol Mini-Clinic Friday night (Jan 27, 6:30pm – 9:00PM) at the Johnson Family Marksmanship Center (our indoor range). The presenters at the clinic will be Jason Turner and Eric Pueppke. As stated, Jason is a 3-time Olympian and he has competed in various World Cup shooting events over the past 17 years (or so). Eric (from Amenia, North Dakota) is a USAS Assistant National Pistol Coach. There is no cost for the clinic. Contact me (Tom Thompson) if you would like to attend the clinic. I've been involved in the shooting sports for many years and anytime you get an opportunity to attend a clinic such as this, even if it is not in your shooting sports discipline – I strongly encourage you to attend – these guys have traveled the world in the shooting sports and they always have a great message in addition to the technical aspects of the sport. I strongly encourage all competitors (young and old) and anyone involved in the shooting sports to attend.

We wrap up the NDSSA Annual weekend with a Light Rifle (Sporter 22 rifle with scope) match on Sunday, Jan 29. Contact Walt Fairbanks (701-400-8421) if you would like to shoot the Light Rifle match.

A short list of shooting events for smallbore, and air rifle follows. For a complete listing of all shooting events on the NDSSA schedule, please visit our web site at [ndssa.org](http://ndssa.org). Thanks again to everyone who attended our events this weekend – I hope to see everyone at our 50 Yard Indoor Regional on February 25 and 26.

Finally, since this event was scored using the Orion system – you can go online to view all scores and shot groups on the Orion web site. The results from this event can be found at <http://www.orionresults.com/ayrrifles>. Scores for this event are listed under the Ayr (North Dakota) team home page since we were using Rand's Orion system. This is a nice scoring system - it is accurate and fast. Most scores were posted on the web before the shooters left the range. Scores can be viewed on most electronic devices including your smart phone – and yes – I finally broke down and got one – and even I can run it (most of the time).

Tom Thompson

### NDSSA Winter Shooting Sports Schedule for 2017

|            |   |             |                |              |
|------------|---|-------------|----------------|--------------|
| Jan 21, 22 | Junior Olympics (Air, 3P Smallbore Rifle)   | Minot       | Rick Jorgenson | 701-662-4760 |
| Jan 27     | Precision Pistol Clinic – Conducted by Olympian, Jason Turner and Eric Pueppke                    | Bismarck    | Tom Thompson   | 701-255-4601 |
| Jan 28     | NDSSA State Convention  | Bismarck    | Tom Thompson   | 701-255-4601 |
| Jan 29     | Light Rifle Match   | Bismarck    | Walt Fairbanks | 701-400-8421 |
| Feb 4, 5   | Collegiate Sectional, Rifle and Pistol  | West Fargo  | Eric Pueppke   | 701-967-8450 |
| Feb 11, 12 | Junior 3P State and Sectional   | Minot       | Paul Oster     | 701 240-2815 |
| Feb 18, 19 | Open 3P State and Sectional   | Grand Forks | Denny Coulter  | 701-746-6959 |
| Feb 25, 26 | Open 50 Yard Regional SB Match, 3-Position (any sight)  | Bismarck    | Tom Thompson   | 701-255-4601 |
| Mar 4, 5   | Junior Air Sectional (Standing)   | Devils Lake | Rick Jorgenson | 701-662-4760 |
| Mar 4, 5   | Open Air Rifle State Championship   | Devils Lake | Rick Jorgenson | 701-662-4760 |
| Mar 11, 12 | Junior 4P State and Sectional   | Bismarck    | Tom Thompson   | 701-255-4601 |
| Mar 19     | Bismarck/Mandan Junior Club Championship  | Bismarck    | Tom Thompson   | 701-255-4601 |
| Mar 25, 26 | Open 4P State and Sectional   | Grand Forks | Denny Coulter  | 701-746-6959 |
| Apr 1, 2   | Light Rifle State Championship  | Bottineau   | Gary Siverston | 701-243-6413 |
| Apr 2      | CMP/USA Junior Olympic 3P Air Rifle Qualifier Match   | Buffalo     | Dan Geurts     | 701-633-5553 |
| Apr 8      | Red River Valley Championship   | Grand Forks | Denny Coulter  | 701-756-6959 |
| Jun 3, 4   | North Dakota Outdoor Smallbore State Championships, Position, Prone, 200 yard, (Junior and Adult) | Grand Forks | Denny Coulter  | 701-756-6959 |