

THE TARGET

THE OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF THE NORTH DAKOTA SHOOTING SPORTS ASSOCIATION

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Thanks to Heidi and John

"The Mayors Against Illegal Guns" have sure done their best to condemn Senator Heitkamp for her vote earlier this year on the national gun control legislation. They have used expensive and misleading television and newspaper advertisements. They would have us believe that Senators Heitkamp and Hoeven are sympathetic toward those who commit violence with firearms. We all know that is so far from the truth as to be laughable. The Gun Bill under consideration in the Senate would not produce any measurable limitation on those who commit evil in our society, and our North Dakota Senators voted accordingly. I congratulate them for their representation of our North Dakota citizens and our values. North Dakota law is clear in stating that we do not hold firearms to be evil objects any more than anhydrous fertilizer and diesel fuel are evil.

Those who advocate gun control continue to condemn the gun and anyone who owns a firearm as imminently capable of an evil act. They do this in face of the clear fact that they are wrong. They continue to state that the many millions of us who own firearms are somehow responsible for the actions of that infinitesimally small number of mentally ill people who commit evil with a firearm. If the ownership and use of a firearm is evil, these acts of "gun violence" would be common in every place in our nation. They are certainly not common here in North Dakota where we respect our neighbors and even allow strangers like "The Mayors" to voice their opinions.

Why are these evil acts not most prevalent in those sections of our nation where firearms ownership is most common? It is obvious that the many millions of us who enjoy the legal ownership and use of firearms do not condone or promote the use of these firearms in any of the evil acts perpetrated by those mentally ill.

The vast majority of North Dakota's citizens own and use firearms, and North Dakotans have a clear history of responsible use of those firearms. It is the responsibility of our Senators to vote in support of the freedom of firearms ownership that we enjoy here in North Dakota. In no case should they in any way attribute the cause of "gun violence" fatalities to the millions of responsible gun owners in the USA. Certainly, we do not need Washington deciding that the citizens of North Dakota should suffer further pointless restrictions on the purchase or ownership and use of firearms.

So, why do "The Mayors Against Illegal Guns" insist that Senators Heitkamp and Hoeven were wrong to vote "No" on the senate bill that would place additional restrictions on the responsible firearms owners in North Dakota? They performed as they promised us that they would throughout their

campaigns for election to represent the citizens of North Dakota in the U S Senate. Again, I congratulate Senators Heitkamp and Hoeven for their votes.

We here in North Dakota and the other millions of responsible gun owners across the USA do not need the US Senate and House and our President to legislate our responsibility. We exercise that responsible behavior every day.

I believe that it is a significant waste of time and resources to continually attempt condemnation of those who legally own and use firearms in our nation. I am glad to see that our North Dakota Senators agree and voted accordingly.

Maybe "The Mayors Against Illegal Guns" could wake up to the facts and spend their time and resource to identify and treat those who are mentally ill or deficient. Those who are dangerously mentally ill are nearly always identified long before they commit an atrocity with a gun, knife or vehicle. Unfortunately, that identification is not followed by action to prevent that mentally ill individual from committing the atrocity that also commonly includes suicide.

If we chose to restrict ownership and use of firearms in our nation, the only restriction should be based on the physical/mental health or the criminal background of the prospective purchaser. Any other restriction is ideological rather than practical in nature. The background check system now in place for the purchase of a firearm is not the problem. The check simply has to include information about the mental status of the prospective purchaser. That mental tendency toward evil is almost never disclosed by those professionals or parents or teachers who discover it, and it is always considered private. It is certainly not included in the federal data base except in the case of known felons. Background checks dig for gold in Arkansas where there is none, and where those who have said otherwise have been continually proven to be con artists.

Ownership of any firearm is no more inherently evil than ownership of an automobile. Neither the bullets nor the guns are the source of atrocity. It is always the individual who misuses any object who is responsible for its misuse.

Those who advocate gun control need to grow up and recognize that assigning evil to an object does not accomplish any reasonable result. It's the perpetrator not the projectile that is evil.

Rick Jorgenson

Editorially Speaking

Again, in this issue, you will find an article that should get you thinking about the media's continually inaccurate portrayal of those of us who own what they like to term "assault weapons". I am tired of them saying and writing that we are in some way responsible for the evil use of firearms by the criminally insane. Let your representative know what you think about gun control. Thank Heidi and John for their vote recognizing that additional restrictions on the ownership or transfer of firearms by law abiding citizens of North Dakota are not going to produce a safer society.

Happily, you will also find that articles about competitive shooting dominate this edition of our newsletter. Last issue, I received a nice article from Tom Reiten. I can sure use contributions from others who have information to report about the shooting sports. I appreciate those who make the effort to send an article or bit of information that our members might enjoy. I'll edit as necessary; so write what you can and get it to me sooner rather than later.

I am sorry that this issue of our newsletter is fashionably late. They say that time flies, when we are having fun. I must be having a lot of fun, as time is certainly flying. As I write this, James Ladwig, my son, Travis, and I just returned from the Camp Perry pistol championships. The three of us then got out our rifles and traveled to Grand Forks for the North Dakota State High Power Rifle matches. All three of us fired in the Service Rifle match on Saturday. James also fired the Garand match and Travis stated over to compete in the "cross the course" matches on Sunday with his Service Rifle. By winning the Service Rifle match, Travis earned his final 8 point leg and is now a Distinguished Rifle Marksman. Travis earned his Distinguished Pistol Marksmanship badge #1106 back in 1996. He is now one of the very few Double Distinguished Marksmen born in North Dakota. I can identify less than 10 North Dakotans who have attained this distinction since the inception of the Distinguished Marksman program over 100 years ago.

So, get your guns and equipment ready and attend the matches held at our North Dakota ranges as often as possible. I look forward to seeing you there. Encourage your friends to join their local clubs and offer your services in support of your club's efforts. Many of you have a skill that they need, and they will greatly appreciate your involvement.

NDSSA is a small organization that gets a lot of good things done. We are always searching for people to join us as members or officers. If any of you have a prospective member, share your copy of our newsletter or help them fill out the membership application that is on page 5 and send it in to **P O Box 228, BISMARCK ND 58502-0228.**

"The very atmosphere of firearms anywhere and everywhere restrains evil interference - they deserve a place of honor with all that's good." **George Washington**

"If you could kick the person in the pants responsible for most of your trouble, you wouldn't sit for a month."
— **Theodore Roosevelt**

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The Target

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Rifle Competition in North Dakota

So far this year, I am aware of and have even taken part in some noteworthy accomplishments in the rifle shooting matches held here in North Dakota. The following articles outline some of these accomplishments. I am sure that I am missing some others and invite those of you who are better informed to put together a short (or long) article to inform the rest of us about those I have overlooked.

Rick Jorgenson

2013 North Dakota Junior 4-Position State Championship And NRA Junior 4-Position Sectional SPONSORED BY: BISMARCK/MANDAN RIFLE AND PISTOL ASSOCIATION And NATIONAL RIFLE ASSOCIATION FIRED March 9 and 10, 2013

Thanks to everyone who participated in the 2013 North Dakota Junior 4-Position State Championship and the NRA Junior 4-Position Sectional match and thanks to all that helped me put on this event again this year. Tim Klein and Tom Schiwal put together the targets carriers Thursday night. Tina Thompson, and Mary Kay Tokach scored targets and Walt Fairbanks helped post scores. Thanks to all the parents that helped me set and retrieve targets, and thanks to everyone that helped me break down the range at the end of the match on Sunday. It sure helps me get things done, when everyone pitches in.

Congratulations to our 2013 Junior State Champion – Dacotah Faught. Dacotah fired an excellent score of 398/400 which is a new state record. However, take a moment to check the State Championship scores – there are **5 competitors** with scores of **390 or better**. I've been coaching our junior program in Bismarck going on 22 years now – and I can say that I have **NEVER seen 5 - 390 plus scores fired on the same day in any of our tournaments. THIS IS EXCELLENT!** And by the way there were also scores of 388, 387 and 385. Joe Martin tied the existing State Prone score of 100-10x (again – he also did this last year). Dacotah Faught tied the existing State Kneeling score of 100-8x. Looked like Tyler Linneman also shot a State Record in the Sectional with his 100-10x.

At dinner Saturday night with the Martin's – the subject came up concerning scores fired over the years. Steve mentioned the Matt Martin (Steve's nephew) won the State Championship years ago (actually, I think it might have been the 1993 Sectional Championship). Anyhow, Matt won the Sectional with a score of 379-17x. This is a good score, but today you might not place in the Sub-Junior Category with that score. Bottom line - some years we may not have the numbers of competitors – but the competitors that attend are putting up some great scores.

Congratulations to all the juniors out there – keep up the hard work and your great efforts will pay you back.

We had 20 competitors at this year's event compared to 22 competitors in 2012. Just a few years ago we had a hard time getting 14 or 15 competitors to a junior event. We have some great clubs located in our state - not a lot of them – but definitely enough to fill up several relays of shooters. However, the thing we need most is more coaches to get more junior competitors to the firing line. Let's try and get a few more coaches involved in the shooting sports, so they can bring along a few more juniors to the matches next year.

Tom Thompson

Editor's note: Dacotah placed 19th in the 2013 NRA National Junior Sectional and Joseph Martin followed in 21st place with fewer x's.

2013 NRA Conventional Position Smallbore Open Sectional

We have a North Dakota National Women's Champion in this tournament. Her name is Dacotah Faught of Amenia, ND. She fired a 794/60x followed again by Joseph Martin with a fine score of 793/62x and William O'Connell with a 791/49x. These are some great scores in an open championship where the competitors are from all over the nation and of any age.

The NRA National Open Sectional – indoor conventional position smallbore rifle champion, John Husk of PA, won the match with a 796/68x.

For those of you who are reading this newsletter electronically, here is the NRA website where you can look over the results of the 2013 Indoor Rifle and Pistol championships in more detail:

<http://competitions.nra.org/championship-results/nra-national-indoor-rifle-pistol-championships-results.aspx>

Rick Jorgenson

2013 NRA Light Rifle Standing Open Sectional Championship

The NRA held an Open Sectional Championship for Light Rifle competitors for the first time in 2013. The Forks Rifle and Pistol Club held the North Dakota segment of this national tournament. Our North Dakota shooters earned national distinction as follows:

1. Third place – Bronze medal – David Bruner – 571
2. Senior champion - Daniel Schumacher – 556
3. Veteran champion - Donald Granley – 551
4. Civilian champion - James Ladwig – 570
5. 1st master class - James Ladwig – 570
6. 1st expert class - Thomas Reiten – 563
7. 1st sharpshooter - Michael Knain – 552
8. 1st marksman - Garth Weber – 554

The national champion, Jennifer Canfield fired a 573, so our North Dakota Shooters were real close behind, and Tom Reiten only beat me by one point.

Rick Jorgenson

High Power Rifle Shooting

By
Rick Jorgenson

In our last issue, Tom Reiten sent me an article about vintage rifle matches. This got me thinking about high-power rifle matches in North Dakota and how I got involved in shooting a couple of service rifle matches each year.

The first Service Rifle match I attended was in Grand Forks, North Dakota. I fired an M1 Garand graciously provided by Leon Nesja. He even provided me with ammunition even though I had brought my own. I enjoyed the match, and made a plan to add service rifle competition to my otherwise busy match schedule.

A year or so later, I purchased a service rifle of my own; a .223 in the form of an AR 15 built by Rock River arms. Prior to that, we found a .223 service rifle for my son, Travis, in the form of an AR 15 built by ArmaLite, Inc. Each of these service rifles has performed very well, and they are reasonably available to anyone interested in joining us in the service rifle competition.

Many of you are familiar with what defines a service rifle and even understand the service rifle competition. However, for those of you who do not, the following is a very brief description of the high-power rifle categories:

Service rifles must retain the external appearance of their issued military counterparts, namely, the M-1, M-14, or M-16. In addition, they must be chambered for one of the standard military cartridges used in that rifle. Some matches, especially those sanctioned by the CMP, allow only service rifles to compete for awards. Match rifles do not have these restrictions and give the shooter freedom to customize and personalize the rifle. There is no need to get worked up over which type of rifle you shoot. At the majority of NRA High-power tournaments the differentiation between rifles is made only for award purposes and does not affect the score that you shoot. Use whatever rifle you're comfortable with. Again though, I believe the service rifle is the easiest rifle for a new shooter to get acquainted with and use to get involved in High-power matches.

The high-power rifle course of fire requires that the competitor shoot from different positions at various distances from the target. Here is a summary:

Positions

The common positions used in High-power are Standing (or Offhand), Sitting, and Prone.

Distances

A typical "across the course" High-power match will have the competitors firing at 200, 300, and 600 yard distances from the targets. If a match is being fired at a range where the distances are reduced, the targets are smaller to simulate the greater range.

Time Limits

Different strings of shots are fired at different speeds depending on the time limit.

Slow fire stages at 200 and 600 require competitors to fire one shot at a time. They must load each round individually. Each shot is also scored individually. Usually shooters have as many minutes to fire that stage as there are shots to fire. For example, a ten shot slow fire string will have a time limit of ten minutes.

Rapid fire means that competitors must get into position and fire the requisite number of rounds from their magazine within the specified time limit. At the start of the phase, shooters are in a standing position. When the targets are exposed, competitors go into a sitting or prone position (depending on the phase being fired), fire the rounds in their magazines, change magazines or reload, and finish shooting the string. The time limit for the rapid fire stages is 60 seconds per string for sitting and 70 seconds for prone.

Find your way to a match by yourself or with a friend. Bring a service rifle and 50 or 100 rounds of ammo to get started. There will be some people at the match who will be happy to familiarize you with the match process and answer any of your questions. Shoot the match. As Tom Reiten says, "It is guaranteed to put a smile on your face!" Keep in mind, I am a pistol shooter, but I enjoy the Service Rifle competition here in North Dakota almost as much as Service Pistol competition.

Rick Jorgenson

The U.S. Treasury hit its \$16.4 trillion debt ceiling, the legal amount it is allowed to borrow, on Dec. 31, 2012. That debt ceiling was reconsidered (revised) this spring. During Obama's first term our debt increased by \$6 trillion. Of course, Congress helped.

It took us over 200 years to deficit spend our way to our first trillion dollars in Federal debt. We now add another trillion dollars debt about every nine months. How successful would you be, if you went to ask your banker for a loan, with this as your business plan???

Dakota Marksmanship Foundation, Inc.

P O Box 518
Bismarck, ND 58502-0518
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Provides support for North Dakota shooting programs through distribution of donated funds entirely within North Dakota.

If you or someone you know would like to be a part of the Foundation's effort to benefit our marksmanship and safety programs within North Dakota, please send us a note or contact:

Thomas Thompson – 701-255-4601
Eric Pueppke – 701-967-8450

Summer 2013 Schedule of Opportunities

Aug 3	ND Outdoor Pistol State Championship	Valley City	James Ladwig	701-484-5236
Aug 3	Cowboy Action	Bismarck	Vern Hoggarth	701-220-8131
Aug 10 and 11	North Dakota Smallbore & Bigbore Silhouette State Champs	Bismarck	Dave Tokach	701-663-8626
Aug 17	Action Pistol Match	Bismarck	Bruce Magstadt	701-426-5927
Aug 17	Vintage Rifle Match and Vintage Sniper Match	Grand Forks	Tom Reiten	701-775-0008
Aug 18	Lever Action and Military Rifle Silhouette	Bismarck	Jim Volmer	701-226-4156
Aug 24	Varmint Rifle March	Bismarck	Gary Vinnie	701-516-3427
Aug 24, 25	Mid-Range Prone Regional, Conv and F-Class	Grand Forks	Denny Coulter	701-749-6959
Aug 24	BPCR – Mid-Range Target State Champ	Grand Forks	Tom Reiten	701-775-0008
Aug 31	3-Gun Match	Bismarck	Travis Ktytor	701-426-3811
Sep 7, 8	Highpower Long Range Regional	Bismarck	Leon Nesja	701-663-8818
Sep 14	Varmint Rifle March	Bismarck	Gary Vinnie	701-516-3427
Sep 21, 22	BPCR - Silhouette State Champ	Bismarck	Ken Heier	701-255-0675
Sep 21	Cowboy Action	Bismarck	Vern Hoggarth	701-220-8131
Sep 28	3-Gun Match	Bismarck	Bruce Magstadt	701-426-5927
Sep 28	Mid-Range State Champ (Conv & F-Class)	Rolla	Andy Johnson	701-477-6687
Sep 29	Action Pistol Match	Bismarck	Bruce Magstadt	701-426-5927
Sep 29	Lever Action and Military Rifle Silhouette	Bismarck	Jim Volmer	701-226-4156
Sep 29	Bruce Alexander Memorial Highpower	Rolla	Andy Johnson	701-477-6687
Oct 5	Cowboy Action	Bismarck	Vern Hoggarth	701-220-8131
Oct 5, 6	Bismarck 14th Annual Sighting Inn Days	Bismarck	Sam May	701-258-2360
Oct 15	Sign up for the LRSSA Airgun Postal Match	Devils Lake	Rick Jorgenson	701-662-4760
Check your	local club website for more information about	more local	club matches	
	Check our NDSSA website for events not yet listed and more details- http://ndssa.org/			

-Application-

North Dakota Shooting Sports Association

P O Box 228, BISMARCK ND 58502-0228

Also join via the web: <http://www.ndssa.org>

Yes, to protect my right to keep and bear arms; I would like to join the NDSSA and support the legislative efforts of the NDSSA. My dues for a membership as noted are enclosed.

Please return this form. Print name and address as you wish it to appear in our records.

Name: _____ Phone: _____

Address: _____ E-Mail Address _____

City: _____ State: _____ ZIP: _____

Interests

- Legislation Jr. Program
 Hunting Conservation
 Collecting
 Bullseye Pistol
 Air Rifle Hi-Power Rifle
 Air Pistol Smallbore
 Police PPC Other
 Rifle Silhouette
 Pistol Silhouette
 Hunter Safety

Membership Dues Schedule-(Effective July 1, 2006)

Life.....\$200.00 One Year\$15.00 Clubs One Yr.....\$15.00
 5 Year.....\$60.00 Junior.....\$5.00 Club 5 Yr..... \$60.00

Make check payable to: North Dakota Shooting Sports Association and mail to above address.

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**The Official NRA State
 Association Newsletter**



High-Power Rifle Matches

The most common High-power rifle match courses fired in North Dakota are:

	Position	# of Shots	Distance
National Match Course	Standing slow fire	10	200 yards
	Sitting rapid fire from standing	10	200 yards
	Prone rapid fire from standing	10	300 yards
	Prone slow fire	20	600 yards

	Position	# of Shots	Distance
80 Round State and Regional Courses	Standing slow fire	20	200 yards
	Sitting rapid fire from standing	20	200 yards
	Prone rapid fire from standing	20	300 yards
	Prone slow fire	20	600 yards

We are fortunate to have excellent ranges in Grand Forks, Bismarck and Rolla (recently expanded and renovated by the hard labor of Coby Dalgliesh over many weeks and with gallons of sweat. Thank you, Coby.).

Who is a distinguished rifle or pistol marksman?

A distinguished rifle or pistol marksman has earned a distinguished badge from the Civilian Marksmanship Program or their respective branch of military service. Civilians earn points toward the distinguished badge at special matches called Excellence In Competition (E.I.C.) matches. These tournaments are commonly called "Leg" matches and the points earned toward the distinguished badge are referred to as "Leg" points. E.I.C. matches are shot with service rifles or pistols only. Riflemen utilize the full-distance 50 shot National Match Course with no sighting shots. Pistol E. I. C. matches consist of the 30 shot National Match Pistol Course. The top ten percent of non-distinguished shooters can earn up to ten points credit toward the distinguished badge, depending on how many non-distinguished shooters fire that match. To earn the badge a competitor must get 30 or more points with at least one eight or ten point award.