

**NORTH DAKOTA AIR RIFLE**  
**JUNIOR SECTIONAL, OPEN STATE CHAMPIONSHIP**  
&  
**STATE JUNIOR OLYMPIC 3PAR CHAMPIONSHIP**  
February 29 & March 1, 2020

We have a lot of great match results to report now that these three championship matches are complete. 75 air rifle entries resulted in roughly 5,345 pellets for score and in sighters over the two days of competition.

We enjoyed having such a fine group of people compete here in Devils Lake, and we hope that you all had fun. We were not sure how well it would work to hold these three matches over one weekend, but it went well from our perspective. We hope that you all feel the same.

**State Results:** This year, 25 of you fired the State Championship match (down 4 from last year). We had a total of 3 adults, Tom Thompson, Walt Fairbanks and Megan Hardy Vandall, compete with the other 22 juniors. Megan again fired a fine score of 585 (up 4 points over her last year's score of 581), but Katie was able to produce a 586 to earn the State Championship Trophy. It is tough to be an adult in this match, but Megan more than held her own. There were 5 master scores fired in the match and 8 expert, so over half of the competitors fired expert or above with some very strong sharpshooter scores following closely. Many of you fired personal bests, and I saw quite a few smiles among the shooters and the gallery. How cool is that!!

Again this year, it took an outstanding score to win each class in the State match. Take a look at all of the results. If you fired this match last year, check those results to see how much you improved.

**Sectional Results:** Out of our 28 competitors in the Junior Sectional, Katie Zaun is our Gold Medal winner with a fine score of 391. Our Silver Medalist is Jordyn Ewine with a 385 and Casia Steinhaus followed with a 382 for the Bronze.

One point made quite a difference in all of the matches this weekend. As you look over the scores, you will see many ties.

It really takes a fine score to win in each age category. So... Congratulations to each of our category winners!

Congratulations to the Buffalo Sharpshooters 1 team of Katie Zaun, Jordyn Ewine, Molly Anderson and Kemper Pearson, who fired a Gold Medal score of 1505 to place first in our team matches. We were pleased to have five teams of 4 this year, and hope to have this many compete again next year.

**State Junior Olympic 3PAR Results:** This is the first time that we have run this match here in Devils Lake, and we were pleased at how well it went. With 21 competitors, there was some real strong competition and outstanding results. Three individual ties and many places separated by only one or two points.

Congratulations to Katie Zaun, our Gold Medalist, with a fine score of 595 with 50 center tens. She was followed by Casia Steinhaus with her 586 (a strong personal best) for the Silver Medal and Hannah Vaagen earned the Bronze in a tie breaker with Jordyn Ewine at 581.

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Katie and Casia earned automatic invitations to the National CMP 3PAR Championships with their scores above the 582 set by the CMP for individuals.

The team competition was very close with Girl Power ... and Jacob just barely earning the Gold Medal over Buffalo Sharpshooters 1 by two points. Both of these teams fired automatic qualification team scores to earn the opportunity to compete in the National CMP 3PAR Championships held in Camp Perry, Ohio, July 11-13, 2020. Only 27 teams will be invited, and North Dakota will have 2 of them.

I know that many of you improved your scores greatly over last year in these matches. Quite a few fired personal bests. Some did not. Congratulations to each of you for your personal development and the effort that you have made to improve your skill and discipline. Often, it takes time to integrate a change in your shot plan to produce growth. During that time, your scores may fall a bit, but there is very little growth that does not involve some painful moments. I hope that you can all find your way through the valley to the peak. Positive results require a positive attitude. Smile☺

Many of you will move up into another age group next year. We hope to see many new SJs next year. It is always fun to see just how tough it is to win in the SJ class. We hope that you all look forward to another great match here in Devils Lake next year.

We enjoyed everyone who helped us with running the matches. Last year, we were a bit understaffed, but that was not the case this weekend. We really thank and appreciate each of you who chipped in to help us during the match. Your efforts make hosting the match much more fun for us. Special thanks to Jacob Vaagen for his help on the firing line on Saturday and Sunday. Thanks also to the adults who stepped in to help change targets.

We renew our challenge that each of you bring a **positive (can do) attitude** to every match that you attend and to every task that you undertake. Believe in yourself. I hope that each of you learned something during these matches that you can use to continue improving yourselves.

I keep asking and looking for smiles on the firing line, and I saw quite a few this year. You will certainly have more fun by mixing a few smiles into your match efforts, and some of you need to remember that air rifle competition is fun.

We congratulate the following North Dakota Juniors who have been invited to compete in the 2020 Junior Olympic National Rifle Championships in Colorado Springs:

Women's Air Rifle: Katie Zaun, Jordyn Ewine, Amanda Hintz, and Casia Steinhaus

Women's Smallbore: Katie

Men's Air Rifle: Kemper Pearson, Dylan Zaun, Alex Flores and Jacob Vaagen

Men's Smallbore: Jacob

We wish them all the best of luck and a great experience at the 2020 Junior Olympic National Championships.

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Over the last 25 years, the North Dakota Shooting Sports Association and some few individuals have provided support funding to those who have earned invitations to the Junior Olympic National Championships. This year, the NDSSA has again committed to provide support to those North Dakota Junior competitors who will shoot in National Championship events. The criteria summary for that support is quite simple and follows:

**NDSSA Junior Match Support Policy**

One of the major objectives of the North Dakota Shooting Sports Association is to promote and foster junior shooting programs and junior shooters across the state. Many of our junior shooters excel and reach the next level to compete nationally in their discipline. Some of you may not be aware, but for many years now, our North Dakota Shooting Sports Association has provided monetary support to North Dakota junior competitive shooters attending major matches outside of our state. In an effort to make this support as uniform as possible, we have established the criteria that we will use to provide such support in the future. In a nutshell, the three important points follow:

- Juniors, their parents, or coaches must inform the NDSSA Board of Directors should they receive an invitation to, or intend to attend, one of the qualifying National Championships.
- Upon approval, the NDSSA treasurer will send payment to the parent of the qualifying junior in a timely manner before the travel date to the match.
- Recipients of funding will agree to refund NDSSA in full in the event that match attendance was cancelled.
- These funds are to be used for match entry fees and travel expenses.

The full text of the NDSSA junior support policy is available for your review at: <http://www.ndssa.org>. Please check it out. We have a raffle in progress to raise support money. If you wish to support our efforts in this regard, tickets are available from our board members and most often available at one of the following matches. If you would like to purchase one or help sell them, contact one of our officers. Thanks.

It's never too late to join a great organization, and NDSSA would be glad to have you join today. Membership applications are available for juniors and adults at the Association website and at our range.

**NDSSA Winter Shooting Sports Schedule for 2020**

<b>DATE</b>	<b>EVENT</b>	<b>LOCATION</b>	<b>CONTACT</b>	<b>PHONE</b>
Mar 14, 15	Junior 4P State and Sectional	Bismarck	Tom Thompson	701-255-4601
Mar 21	Bismarck/Mandan Junior Club Championship	Bismarck	Tom Thompson	701-255-4601
Mar 27, 28, 29	Open 4P North Dakota State and Sectional	Grand Forks	Denny Coulter	701-746-6959
Apr 4, 5	Light Rifle State Championship	Bottineau	Gary Sivertson	701-243-6413
Apr 11	Red River Valley Championship	Grand Forks	Denny Coulter	701-746-6959
April!!!		National Junior Olympic Shooting Championships	Olympic Training Center, Colorado Springs, Colorado	
May 30, 31	ND Outdoor Smallbore State Champs, Position and Prone, Open and Junior events	Grand Forks	Denny Coulter	701-746-6959

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Earlier, I detailed the winners of the matches and celebrated their accomplishments.

You are all winners. Most of you can compare your scores to those that you fired a year ago at these matches to find substantial improvement. Even if you did not improve your score, by committing your efforts to improving your skill, you “win”. A little adversity should not deter you. So, get out there and “win”.

I am confident that we are all quite capable of substantial improvement in our performance through a commitment to regular good training. So, those of you who would really like to perform better than you did at this match should commit to a schedule of regular training within a durable shot plan. Shoot some 10s more than one day each week and exercise that durable shot plan that will allow you to excel not only in practice but in competition.

Give yourselves some time to progress though. Do not expect to improve overnight. This is a sport that requires disciplined effort over more than just a few sporadic training sessions spread across months or even years. At some point, you will need to embrace a consistent training effort more than once a week for quite a few months in order to develop your skill beyond its present level. You may even have to incorporate some physical training (some push-ups and sit-ups at the very least). The best part of all of this is that training to perform well with your airgun is fun. With some accommodation, many of you can do a great deal of your training in your own home.

Again, we look forward to seeing you at our matches next year, and we challenge you to enjoy some perfect practice over the next few months.

Smile,

Connie & Rick Jorgenson