

THE TARGET

THE OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF THE NORTH DAKOTA SHOOTING SPORTS ASSOCIATION

Olympic Rifle Training

The Minot Rifle and Pistol Club was able to set up and sponsor a 3-day Air Rifle and Smallbore Rifle clinic by Olympic Gold Medalist Virginia Thrasher and Abigail Gordon. Ginny, at the age of 19 years, was the 2016 Olympic Gold Medalist in Women's 10m Air Rifle during the Summer Games held at Rio de Janeiro, Brazil. Both Ginny and Abby are currently training to earn the right to compete in the next Olympic Games. They are resident athletes at the Olympic Training Center in Colorado Springs, Colorado. Ginny is a graduate of the West Virginia University shooting program and Abby is a graduate of the Texas Christian University shooting program. They offered a very unique opportunity for our young shooting athletes. Everyone who participated not only learned a lot, they enjoyed themselves while they learned.

Young shooting athletes from around the state participated in the clinic over the weekend of October 21 & 22, 2023. 80 percent of their expenses were covered through fundraising efforts by the Minot Rifle and Pistol Club, and the Minot club range served as the host site for this very outstanding clinic. So, it was not only an exceptional and unique opportunity, it was very affordable.

I know that our five advanced rifle athletes from Devils Lake, Jacob Vaagen, Rachel Vaagen, Isaac Vaagen, Lauren Stiven, and Casia Steinhaus were very impressed with the quality of the instruction and the individual attention that they received throughout the clinic. The parents and coaches who attended were also very impressed with the quality of the information presented and the enjoyable manner in which it was presented.

I have attended two other clinics presented by Olympic medalists, but I have personally never attended a better clinic than this one. Congratulations to the Minot Rifle and Pistol Club, and the other major clinic sponsors, Scheels, Kenmare Vets Gaming, and Minot VFW Club for making such a great opportunity possible.

It takes a lot of work to setup and run a clinic of this quality.

Ginny and Abby will be competing in the second US Olympic Trials Selection Match in December alongside Katie Zaun from Buffalo, North Dakota. We wish them all the best. Results of the trials will be posted here: <https://usashooting.org/get-involved/events/>

Rick Jorgenson

SafeSport Training

It seems to me that most of you are likely only vaguely aware of SafeSport and its impact on the Olympic Shooting Sports. I know that I was not really aware until I had to obtain SafeSport certification in order to run the Junior Olympic Selection Matches here in North Dakota. Even then, I simply grumbled a bit and went to their website and took the video interactive training over the course of roughly a couple of hours to get certified. It seems obvious that any pedophile could take the course and become certified; so the course is really just propaganda rather than any barrier to a pedophile being involved in the Olympic Sports.

In addition to the SafeSport certification, I had to pay for my own background check to document that I have a clear record. I really had a hard time paying for my own background check, but ultimately went ahead and did it just to make it possible for us to run the Junior Olympic Selection Matches. It is a requirement that everyone coaching at an Olympic event must have completed SafeSport training and have a clear background check. I still cannot imagine how this actually protects any of our young athletes from abuse. Further, it puts another barrier in front of those of us who volunteer to coach young athletes.

So, I wanted to know how this came about and found the following which makes it all much clearer.

The [Empowering Olympic, Paralympic, and Amateur Athletes Act](#) requires the U.S. Olympic and Paralympic Committee to contribute \$20 million a year to SafeSport. That covers the bulk of the Center's \$21 million budget. The U.S. Center for SafeSport is an independent body authorized by Congress to handle abuse complaints in the Olympic and Paralympic movement, which covers more than 10 million athletes from recreational leagues up to the Olympic level.

SafeSport only has jurisdiction over athletes in the Olympic movement. If your child plays a sport that doesn't have a national governing body (NGB) certified by the USOPC, they are not covered by SafeSport. If your child participates in sports through an organization that isn't overseen by an NGB -- AAU, for example -- they are not covered.

From the SafeSport Website, I found the following:

SAFE SPORT ACT

The [Protecting Young Victims from Sexual Abuse and Safe Sport Authorization Act of 2017](#) codified the U.S. Center for SafeSport, a 501(c)(3) nonprofit, as the nation's safe sport organization. It gave us the scope and authority to resolve abuse and misconduct reports for more than 11 million individuals throughout the U.S. Olympic and Paralympic Movement—from whom we are fully independent.

(Continued on Page 3)

Editorially Speaking

The second Olympic qualification matches begin December 11 thru 13 at the Olympic Training Center. So, they will likely be over by the time you receive this. I invite you all to celebrate the accomplishments of Katie Zaun. She has competed in the first trials and finished 7th in air rifle and 3rd in Smallbore 3-position. She serves as an outstanding example of someone who has attained her skill through dedicated effort over many years. Even at her current skill level, she experiences both victory and defeat often separated by only an hour or so. Her continued dedicated effort to excellence is a joy to watch.

These match results can be found at: - [Events | USA Shooting](#)

I am writing this edition today because winter is back here again after a very nice fall.

As most of you know, we have been running our LRSSA Airgun Postal over the past few years, and we are doing so again this winter. Take a look at the results for air rifle and air pistol as they are completed on the Orion Results page: <http://www.orionresults.com/lrссa>. We developed and introduced this postal competition over 25 years ago, and we initially had more pistol competitors than rifle. That is not the case today, but we feel that it is a great format for training and competition with air pistol and air rifle for both beginners and accomplished. Registration for this season is complete.

Remember that our North Dakota clubs and their match directors are essential to the strong competitive shooting programs that we enjoy here in North Dakota. Support them any way that you are able. Support by registering and competing at a match. So, get out your rifle or pistol and do that. Also, consider offering to help with the match setup and operation.

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year. I hope to see you at an outdoor match soon.

"Firearms stand next in importance to the constitution itself. They are the American people's liberty teeth and keystone under independence ... from the hour the Pilgrims landed to the present day, events, occurrences and tendencies prove that to ensure peace, security and happiness, the rifle and pistol are equally indispensable ... the very atmosphere of firearms anywhere restrains evil interference — they deserve a place of honor with all that's good."
George Washington
First President of the United States

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 4 and send it in to **P O Box 228, BISMARCK ND 58502-0228**.

"The Constitution shall never be construed to prevent the people of the United States who are peaceable citizens from keeping their own arms." Samuel Adams, Massachusetts Ratifying Convention, 1788

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Rick Jorgenson
4931 81st Ave. NE
Devils Lake, ND 58301

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SafeSport (continued from page 1)

The Act also charged us with developing and enforcing policies, procedures, and training to prevent abuse and misconduct. The Center's [SafeSport Code](#) governs all participants in the Movement, and our oversight authority helps us ensure all Olympic & Paralympic national governing bodies (NGBs) adhere to [Minor Athlete Abuse Prevention Policies \(MAAPP\)](#) that support athlete safety.

Then, I found the real roots of the origin of SafeSport.

Senator Dianne Feinstein (I assume that you are all familiar with Senator Feinstein) introduced S. 534, the Protecting Young Victims from Sexual Abuse Act on March 6, 2017. Senator Thune introduced S. 1426, the United States Center for Safe Sport Authorization Act, on June 29, 2017.^[4] Following negotiations, the two bills were merged and ultimately signed into law on February 14, 2018.

It seems to me that our congress has again created another black hole into which we can pour money to little or no effect under the premise that we are saving children from abuse.

No one would argue against the premise and sentiment of protecting children from abuse. I just don't see how SafeSport is really doing anything to stop abuse by having coaches and other adults take a SafeSport training and then funding their own background check.

It seems to me that this is another example of our government failing to accomplish a worthwhile purpose.

Of course, this is just my take on this and you may feel differently.
Rick Jorgenson



I included this in the last issue of the Target, but feel it is worth repeating it here:

Hubert H. Humphrey, one of our more liberal politicians (a native of Minnesota) wrote that: The right of citizens to bear arms is just one more guarantee against arbitrary government, one more safeguard against the tyranny which now appears

remote in America, but which historically has proved to be always possible.

William O. Douglas, U.S. Supreme Court Justice (He holds the record for the longest continuous service on the nation's most powerful Court at 36 years) wrote: Since when have we Americans been expected to bow submissively to authority and speak with awe and reverence to those who represent us?

It seems that Charles Austin Beard (1874-1948) was correct, when he stated that: You need only reflect that one of the best ways to get yourself a reputation as a dangerous citizen these days is to go about repeating the very phrases which our founding fathers used in the great struggle for independence.

California has passed AB 2571 which prohibits "a firearm industry member, as defined, from advertising or marketing any firearm-related product, as defined, in a manner that is designed, intended, or reasonably appears to be attractive to minors." If anyone is found in violation of the statute, the civil penalty is \$25,000 for each violation.

You will notice that this has created a requirement that we verify that we are 18 years old or older in order to access many of the websites that market shooting sports products. Some other states have passed similar legislation. So far, North Dakota is not one of them.

Rick Jorgenson

"The most dangerous myth is the demagoguery that business can be made to pay a larger share, thus relieving the individual. Politicians preaching this are either deliberately dishonest, or economically illiterate, and either one should scare us. Business doesn't pay taxes, and who better than business to make this message known? Only people pay taxes, and people pay as consumers every tax that is assessed against a business. Begin with the food and fiber raised in the farm, to the ore drilled in a mine, to the oil and gas from out of the ground, whatever it may be -- through the processing, through the manufacturing, on out to the retailer's license. If the tax cannot be included in the price of the product, no one along that line can stay in business."
– **Ronald Reagan**

2024 Winter Schedule of Opportunities

| | | | | |
|------------|--|-------------|-------------------|--------------|
| Jan 6, 7 | Light Rifle Match | Bismarck | Walt Fairbanks | 701-400-8421 |
| Jan 6, 7 | 60th Annual Von Bismarck Pistol Match | Bismarck | Rick Pfenning | 701-426-7661 |
| Jan 13 | Junior Olympics (Air Pistol, Sport Pistol) | Devils Lake | Rick Jorgenson | 701-662-4760 |
| Jan 13, 14 | ND Junior 3P State Champ and Jr 3P NRA Sec | Bismarck | Tom Thompson | 701-220-4601 |
| Jan 13, 14 | Open Air Rifle & 3P Metric Smallbore Sectionals | Bismarck | Tom Thompson | 701-220-4601 |
| Jan 20 | Indoor Cowboy Action Shooting | Bismarck | Mike Ripplinger | 701-223-3085 |
| Jan 20, 21 | Junior Olympics (Air, 3P Smallbore Rifle) | Minot | Rick Jorgenson | 701-662-4760 |
| Jan 21 | 22 Blackpowder Cartridge Silhouette (Indoor) | Bismarck | John Horner | 701-426-9305 |
| Jan 21 | Indoor Varmint Match | Bismarck | Tom Liebel | 701-226-3620 |
| Jan 27 | NDSSA State Convention | Valley City | Garth Weber | 701-330-3284 |
| Jan 27 | USPSA Pistol Match | Bismarck | Brian Stonecipher | 218-779-7802 |
| Feb 3 | Indoor Cowboy Action Shooting | Bismarck | Mike Ripplinger | 701-223-3085 |
| Feb 3, 4 | Intercollegiate Pistol Qualifier | West Fargo | Eric Pueppke | 701-361-8350 |
| Feb 3, 4 | Light Rifle Sectional Match | Grand Forks | Denny Coulter | 701-213-0238 |
| Feb 4 | Precision Pistol Match - 1800 | Bismarck | Rick Pfenning | 701-426-7661 |
| Feb 10 | Military/Lever Action Paper Silhouette Indoor (rimfire and pistol caliber) | Bismarck | John Horner | 701-426-9305 |
| Feb 17 | USPSA Match | Bismarck | Brian Stonecipher | 218-779-7802 |
| Feb 18 | 22 Blackpowder Cartridge Silhouette (Indoor) | Bismarck | John Horner | 701-426-9305 |
| Feb 18 | Indoor Varmint Match | Bismarck | Tom Liebel | 701-226-3620 |
| Feb 17, 18 | Open 3P Smallbore State Champ and Sectional | Grand Forks | Denny Coulter | 701-213-0238 |
| Feb 24, 25 | 50 Yard Light Rifle Standing Match (NRA approved) and NRA 50 Yard Smallbore Regional Champ, Indoor | Bismarck | Tom Thompson | 701-220-4601 |

-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 May 1, 2015)

Life.....\$500.00 One Year\$25.00 Clubs One Yr.....\$25.00
 5 Year....\$100.00 Junior - Under 21...\$10.00 Club 5 Yr..... \$100.00

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

(May 1, 2015)

A good shot must necessarily be a good man since the essence of good marksmanship is self-control and self-control is the essential quality of a good man. Theodore Roosevelt

“Then came the gadgeteer, otherwise known as the sporting-goods dealer. He has draped the American outdoorsman with an infinity of contraptions, all offered as aids to self-reliance, hardihood, woodcraft, or marksmanship, but too often functioning as substitutes for them. Gadgets fill the pockets, they dangle from neck and belt. The overflow fills the auto-trunk and also the trailer. Each item of outdoor equipment grows lighter and often better, but the aggregate poundage becomes tonnage.” ~ Aldo Leopold

2023 Dixie Double

This match was held in Anniston, Alabama at the CMP Range, and this year, the NDSU Rifle team was able to make the trip to compete November 2-5, 2023. Jacob Vaagen, Clay Sell, Michele Weigel, Garrett Langerud and Casia Steinhaus made the trip and competed in all of the events.

Anniston’s Annual Dixie Double Rifle and Pistol Event has been held annually at the Judith Legerski CMP Competition Center in Anniston, Alabama. This match offers 60-shot international air rifle standing and 60-shot air pistol events for open men and women and junior men and women. The match is a two-day event where competitors fire one 60-shot event each day. There is a Final at the conclusion of the matches on Friday and Saturday.

A Smallbore Match was held Sunday, November 3 at the CMP Talladega Marksmanship Park.

A Target Sprint event was also held as a side event.

All of these young athletes shot well. It is really a great opportunity to compete with some of the best shooting athletes from around the United States. There are very few sports where registration is open to all who can make the trip.

Clay Sell won the junior division of the Target Sprint event, and Casia Steinhaus took 3rd place in this event as well.

Casia also managed to qualify for the Junior Finals on the second day.

The full results are available here:

<https://ct.thecmp.org/app/v1/index.php?do=match&task=edit&tab=results&match=24960>

In fact, you can download their target results, if you wish.

Some of you followed the matches on the internet live targets, and that was fun.

I have attached a few pictures to the last pages of the target.

Rick Jorgenson

OUR NDSSA ANNUAL MEETING AND AWARDS BANQUET FLYER MAKES UP THE FINAL PAGES OF THIS EDITION OF THE NEWSLETTER. TAKE A GOOD LOOK AT IT, MARK YOUR CALENDAR AND PLAN TO ATTEND. I HOPE TO SEE YOU ALL THERE.

North Dakota Shooting Sports Association, Inc.
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The Official NRA State Association Newsletter



The secret of getting ahead is getting started. The secret of getting started is breaking your complex overwhelming tasks into small manageable tasks, and starting on the first one."

— [Mark Twain](#)

Gun Cleaning for Air and Smallbore

During the Clinic that Ginny Thrasher put on at the Minot Rifle and Pistol Club, she offered her recommendations for cleaning Air Rifles and Smallbore Rifles.

For air rifle, she simply recommended the use of good pellets and cleaning with patches and pull through every 500 rounds. I have been using TSI 301 for over 25 years now with no ill effect, but she does not use any chemical cleaners. The simple pull through 5 or 6 times with a clean quality cotton patch each time seems to work for her.

She was emphatic that the smallbore rifle should be cleaned after every use. A quality bore guide is essential. She recommends a Tipton rod and Hoppes #9 with Boretech cotton patches of 1 1/8 inch and 3 inch in diameter along with the appropriate jag and bronze brush for 22 rimfire in the bore and 12 gauge shotgun brush for the sight extension tube. Disposable gloves.

I doubt that many of you have been following such a strict cleaning schedule and procedure.

Ginny recommends removal of the sight extension tube after every use and to make sure that the muzzle of the rifle is cleaned thoroughly along with the tube interior.

Run as many as five 1 1/8 inch solvent-coated patches through the bore on the appropriate 22 rimfire jag and follow that with five or more trips through the bore with a bronze brush. Then five clean and dry patches to dry the bore.

The sight extension tube should be cleaned with Hoppes #9 and the shotgun brush covered with the 3-inch cotton patch. She did not bring this up, but you should be aware that most of the 22 caliber rods that you purchase are actually a bit too big for the 22 rimfire barrel and the same is true of the brushes. I use a 20 caliber rod and jag with appropriate sized patches. Here is a link to Dewey's recommended kit: <https://deweyrods.com/product/complete-bolt-action-rifle-cleaning-kit-22-rimfire/>.

Cleaning the bolt, etc. with a toothbrush and soft pick, is really all that is necessary with a regular cleaning schedule like she recommends. A light gun oil on the bolt and outer surfaces of the rifle is all that is necessary. She recommends the Rimfire Blend.

So, get out that dirty smallbore rifle and clean it.

Rick Jorgenson

Some Photos from the Clinic in Minot:





Some Photos from the Dixie Double



These are the Junior Sprint winners.



Smallbore at the Dixie Double



Jacob is 3rd from the left during the Air Rifle competition

**Our NDSSA ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING
&
AWARDS BANQUET
Saturday, January 27, 2024
Eagles, Valley City, ND**

Please attend the annual membership meeting at 2:00 pm. Topics of discussion will include our junior shooting sports programs and other shooting sports programs around North Dakota and the USA.

In addition, the MidwayUSA Foundation will have a DONATION INCENTIVE PROVIDED 10 MIDWAYUSA FOUNDATION TEAM REPRESENTATIVES ATTEND THE EVENT.

The Eagles is located at 345 12th AVE NE, Valley City, ND.

Schedule of Events Saturday, January 27, 2024

| | |
|--|-------------------|
| Annual Membership Meeting (Eagles)..... | 2:00 pm - 4:00 pm |
| Social Hour (Eagles) – cash bar..... | 5:30 pm |
| Dinner (Roast Beef & chicken breast, mashed potatoes, salad, & ice cream)..... | 6:30 pm |
| Annual Awards Presentations and Guest Speaker..... | 7:30 pm |

Guest Speaker – Yim Szeto, MidwayUSA Foundation

Rooms: AmericInn at 280 Winter Show Road SW in Valley City, ND. AmericInn has a small block of rooms available for NDSSA Banquet attendants. The block reservation is good thru January 1st, 2024. The rate is \$150+ tax for a 2-queen bed room. The AmericInn offers free breakfast, indoor pool, fitness center and they are pet friendly.

Call 701-845-5551 for room reservation. Rooms are listed under NDSSA.

Contacts: For additional details on the membership meeting, dinner, awards banquet, contact Garth Weber 701-330-3284 or garth.weber@gmail.com

TICKET ORDER FORM - NDSSA BANQUET AND AWARDS CEREMONY

Adult(s) \$30 each ____ (\$35 at the door) Junior (s) \$20 each ____

Please order tickets in advance before January 13th.

Make checks payable to NDSSA

Mail to: **Garth Weber 714 11th Street NW #6, Valley City ND 58072**

Guest Speaker – Yim Szeto, Program Manager MidwayUSA Foundation



Yim works with teams in the Southwest, United States. She comes to the organization from the firearms industry with a strong background in sales and marketing, working for many years with names such as Mossberg and Blaser USA. She has extensive experience in event and show production as well as successful fundraising campaigns. An avid shooter and hunter, Yim is well-versed and invested in all aspects of shooting sports from team development through competition. Residing in Texas, Yim is fortunate to be able to shoot year-round and be in proximity to some of the greatest concentrations of Foundation teams.

MidwayUSA Foundation 2024 NDSSA Conference Attendance and Donation Incentive

Donate to your Team Endowment at the January 27th NDSSA conference for a chance to win a \$500 endowment award.

- Teams must be in attendance to qualify, and minimum 10 teams must donate.
- Donate a minimum of \$20 to your team endowment Saturday, January 27th through midnight Sunday, January 28th via credit/debit card (team page on MUSAF website).
- Qualifying teams will receive one entry for the incentive drawing, regardless of the number of donations received.
- A list of the qualifying donations will be compiled and verified the following week. The winner will be drawn randomly via Facebook live.

**WE MUST HAVE REPRESENTATIVES OF 10 TEAMS ATTEND (AND DONATE) AT THE
EVENT IN ORDER TO BE ELEGIBLE FOR THE DONATION INCENTIVE!**