

# THE TARGET

## THE OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF THE NORTH DAKOTA SHOOTING SPORTS ASSOCIATION

### Katie Zaun's Accomplishments in 2024

The Olympics are complete. Some of you may not know that Katie Zaun almost made the team.

For those of you who read our last issue, you already know that Katie had an outstanding year of competitive shooting. Here is a summary of her shooting accomplishments so far over the past two years since she has been on the TCU rifle team (As you can see, there are many):

#### Career Honors:

- **2024 Olympic Alternate (Smallbore)**
- **2023-24 CRCA Rifle Athlete of the Year**
- **2023-24 1st-team CRCA All-American (Air Rifle)**
- **2023-24 1st-team CRCA All-American (Smallbore)**
- **2023-24 1st-team CRCA All-American (Aggregate)**
- **2022-23 1st-team CRCA All-American (Air Rifle)**
- **2022-23 1st-team CRCA All-American (Smallbore)**
- **2022-23 2nd-team CRCA All-American (Aggregate)**

#### 2023-24 (Sophomore)

- Served as a counter in 13 matches during the season
- Missed two matches while competing at the Meyton Cup in Austria and the H&N Cup in Germany
- Ranked second nationally in air rifle average (597.39) and third nationally in smallbore average (590.77) and aggregate average (1,188.15)
- Eclipsed the 590 plateau in smallbore eight times during the season
- Shot a career-high 596 in smallbore twice – vs. Alaska (Nov. 5) and vs. Ohio State on Jan. 15
- Qualified for the smallbore finals at the Patriot Rifle Championships after shooting a

588 and finished fourth

- Shot a 590 in smallbore at the NCAA Championships and earned a silver medal in the individual finals
- Posted a 595 or better in every air rifle match during the season
- Fired a career-high 599 in air rifle score twice – at Navy (Sept. 23) and vs. Alaska (Nov. 5)
- Shot a 598 in air rifle at the PRC Championships and ultimately finished fourth individually
- Posted an identical 598 in air rifle at the National Championships and finished fourth individually
- Reached the 1,190 plateau in aggregate score five times during the season
- Fired a career-high 1,195 aggregate (596 smallbore, 599 air rifle) vs. Alaska (Nov. 5)

#### 2022-23 (Freshman)

- Served as a counter in both disciplines in all 11 matches shot
- Ranked in the top 10 nationally in both disciplines - 6th in air rifle (596.45) and 8th in smallbore (588.00)
- Was seventh nationally in aggregate average (1,185.00)
- Eclipsed the 590 plateau in smallbore three times
- Fired a 594 or better in air rifle in all 11 matches
- Made collegiate debut at Navy (Sept. 24), shooting a 582 in smallbore and a 596 in air rifle
- Produced an aggregate score of 1,187 at Ohio State (Oct. 29) - 589 smallbore; 595 air rifle
- Fired a career-high 593 in smallbore three times - vs. Ohio State (Jan. 16), PRC Championships (Feb. 4), NCAA Qualifier (Feb. 18)

(Continued on Page 3)

## Editorially Speaking

We celebrate the accomplishments of Katie Zaun again in this issue. Morgen's accomplishments are also here for those of you who might not know. We often fail to realize just how accomplished our North Dakota natives have become. It would be nice if they would brag about these accomplishments or have their parents keep me informed.

A summary of the results of the 2024 Precision Pistol National Championships are available [Results: 2024 NRA National Precision Pistol Championships](#) | [An NRA Shooting Sports Journal \(ssusa.org\)](#)

You will see Travis' in that summary and of course you can also review the results on the NRA and CMP webpages.

Connie and I are running our LRSSA Airgun Postal again this year. We invite you to join us whether you are young or old. 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 still feel that it is a great format for training and competition with air pistol and air rifle for both beginners and accomplished. We have included sporter air rifle again this year to include the 4H athletes. Registration is open for next season, so join us, if you wish.

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.

I hope to see you at an indoor door 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 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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## Katie Zaun (continued from Page 1)

- Posted an aggregate 1,188 against Ohio State (Jan. 16) - 593 smallbore; 595 air rifle
- Top performance of the season came at the PRC Championships, matching a career-high in smallbore (593) and shooting a career-high 599 in air rifle
- Finished third individually in smallbore and seventh individually in air rifle at the PRC Championships
- Shot a 584 in smallbore and a 597 in air rifle in the NCAA Championship match
- Qualified for the air rifle individual finals and finished seventh

We hope that she enjoys continued success in her Junior year at TCU.



## More Accomplishments by a North Dakota shooting athlete – Morgen Dietrich

The following is from an email by Morgen to Tom Thompson:

Morgen Dietrich hales from Crystal, North Dakota (a small town located near Grafton, ND). He has had some recent success in the sport of Long Range Shooting (just a part of all the shooting sports) at NRA's 2024 Long Range National Championships held at Camp Atterbury, Indiana.

Morgen started his shooting career in the 6<sup>th</sup> grade in 1990 with the Grafton Club, and he hasn't ever stopped. His first coaches with the Grafton Club were Denny Howes and Franz Kile. He attended his first National's at Camp Perry in 1995.

Morgen also competed as a firing member on the 2018 America Team in Canada at the Canadian National Championships, and as a firing member of the United States Palma team at the World Long Range Championships in 2019 in New Zealand.

Including the recent success in Long Range Shooting, Morgen also won the NRA National Smallbore Rifle Prone Championship at Camp Atterbury in 2021 – the Critchfield Trophy. This is a 4-day prone event with competitors firing 160 shots for records each day for a total of 640 shots for record.

Morgen's message to me (Tom Thompson) follows:

I just got back from NRA Long Range Nationals: 4 days of shooting on Camp Atterbury just south of Indianapolis, IN. Many of the trophies awarded at the National Matches are old, but in the case of the Wimbledon Cup, it is from 1875. The Wimbledon match is 20 shots for record, fired from 1000 yards, prone using a sling – no other support. It is an "any rifle, any sight" match so most competitors use a rifle scope. You MUST win your relay in order to qualify to fire in the "shoot off" to win the match. My score of 199-11x placed me in the shoot off.

I won the 2024 Wimbledon with a score of 99-3x in the shoot off. I use the 6mm Dasher for my long range rifle.

The Palma Trophy goes back to 1908. This event is 15 shots for record at 800, 900 and 1000 yards (for a total of 45 record shots) firing a 223 or 308, prone/sling with iron sights, same targets sizes as above. I was able to win Palma match with only missing the 10-ring on my final shot at 1000 yards. My score was 449-25X (of a 450 possible). (Continued on Page 5)

## 2024 – 2025 Fall and Winter Schedule of Opportunities

Sep 28, 29	Mid-Range State Champ (Sat, Sling and F-Class) - Bruce Alexander Memorial High-power (Sun)	Rolla	Coby Dalglish	701-370-0634
Oct 5, 6	Approved F-Class Mid-Range Prone Match	Grand Forks	Fred Martinez	701-212-3383
Oct 12	World War II Memorial Vintage Rifle and Carbine Match	Grand Forks	Tom Reiten	701-739-1988
Nov 17	22 Black Powder Cartridge Rifle Silhouette (Indoor)	Bismarck	John Horner	701-426-9305
Nov 23, 24	Bison Open (air rifle and air pistol)	West Fargo	Eric Pueppke	701-361-8350
Dec 14, 15	Light Rifle Irons Match	Minot	Georgette Bradley	701-240-6227
Dec 14	Open 4-Position Match	Grand Forks	Denny Coulter	701-213-0238
Dec 15	Open Air Rifle/Pistol Match	Devils Lake	Rick Jorgenson	701-662-4760
Dec 15	22 Black Powder Cartridge Rifle Silhouette (Indoor)	Bismarck	John Horner	701-426-9305
Jan 4, 5	Light Rifle Match	Bismarck	Walt Fairbanks	701-400-8421
Jan 4, 5	61st Annual Von Bismarck Pistol Match	Bismarck	Rick Pfenning	701-426-7661
Jan 11	Junior Olympics (Air Pistol, Sport Pistol)	Devils Lake	Rick Jorgenson	701-662-4760
Jan 11, 12	ND Junior 3P State Champ and Jr 3P NRA Sec	Bismarck	Tom Thompson	701-220-4601
Jan 11, 12	Open Air Rifle Sectional and Open 3P Metric Smallbore	Bismarck	Tom Thompson	701-220-4601
Jan 18, 19	Junior Olympics (Air, 3P Smallbore Rifle)	Minot	Rick Jorgenson	701-662-4760
Jan 19	22 Black Powder Cartridge Rifle Silhouette (Indoor)	Bismarck	John Horner	701-426-9305
Jan 25, 2025	NDSSA State Convention	Valley City	Garth Weber	701-330-3284
Feb 1, 2	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
	Check the NDSSA webpage for more shooting opportunities			

### -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: \_\_\_\_\_

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  - \_\_\_ 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)

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**Morgen continued from Page 3**

I was close in the other matches but had one train wreck of a match that took me out of the aggregate for the 2024 Overall Long Range Championship. Still, a great couple of days amongst great competitors and friends. I was a firing member on the winning Palma team match as well. Getting to put my name on these trophies is a really cool thing. Lots of history.

**Trophies and photos of Morgen on Page 7 & 8**

Rick Jorgenson

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

“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

**Old Guys**

When you get to the point in life when you qualify for senior discounts and an NRA classification as Grand Senior, you realize that you have been involved in the competitive shooting sports for more years than you ever expected. Your skills have begun to decline and many of you have taken up golf.

Some of us really don't have any interest in golf or pickleball. We still enjoy the shooting sports. We run matches and compete to the best of our ability. But those of us who feel this way are getting old and may not be able to continue as match directors for as long as we might like.

So, where are the younger folks who we hope will take our place. It seems that many or those who share our passion for the shooting sports have left the state to pursue a career elsewhere. Or they don't like to do the paperwork associated with running matches (and there certainly is some paperwork involved).

Some choose to get involved in training young people and are confronted with the reality that most of our young people today are looking for instant gratification. Instant gratification is not to be found in the competitive shooting sports.

Advancing skill in the shooting sports for a young person requires the sincere involvement and encouragement of their parents as well as a considerable dedication to discipline and incremental effort over time.

This is not something new. But it used to be a bit easier than it is today. I get depressed when I consider California law and the disservice that law is to the youth in California. We are very fortunate to live in the State of North Dakota. Many opportunities exist in our state that do not exist anymore in California and some other of our more populated states around the nation.

The one thing that we need is more coaches who are willing to work with our young people and their parents to advance the skills of our youth who find a passion for the shooting sports. Coaching is not easy, and the pay is essentially nonexistent. Often coaches are confronted with parents and young people who are ill-suited for the competitive shooting sports. Or they find that their coaching style conflicts with others. When these things happen, the coach often quits. Few of us are dedicated and confident enough to continue to work through these problems.

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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](#)

Still, a few of us are passionate and dedicated and confident enough to keep coaching and running matches. We could use help, and there is where interested parents and other competitive shooters could really make a positive impact on the coaches' efforts to train youth and run good matches. I got involved in North Dakota's 4H Shooting Sports programs quite a few years ago, and I believe that the 4H Shooting Sports offer the best vehicle to train youth and to develop coaches. It would be nice if our 4H Volunteer coaches would take it upon themselves to take part in the coaching schools that are offered by USA Shooting and the Civilian Marksmanship Program every year. It would also be nice to see those 4H coaches take part in the shooting sports that they are attempting to teach. For the most part, they do in the sports of archery and shotgun, but only on a very limited basis in the rifle and pistol shooting sports. This is very evident when you attend the 4H National Championships. So, if you have an interest in the shooting sports, get involved. Help a current coach or match director. Develop your skills in coaching. Read the rule book for the sport you enjoy. Don't take up golf. Give a young person or new shooter of any age help in their effort to gain skill in the competitive shooting sports

Rick Jorgenson

Success doesn't make me happy, being happy is what allows me to be successful.

## WIMBLEDON CUP



The Wimbledon Cup is a silver tankard wrought by British silversmiths of the Victorian period. The trophy was presented in 1875 to the American rifle team attending the British matches at Wimbledon by Princess Louise, on behalf of the riflemen of Great Britain. Members of the American team competed among themselves for the trophy at Wimbledon; this match was won by Major Henry Fulton. The Wimbledon Cup was returned to the United States and placed in annual competition at Creedmoor as the trophy for a long range match open to any rifle.



## PALMA INDIVIDUAL TROPHY



The Palma Individual Trophy is a large, long-stemmed silver cup. Detailed miniature silver replicas of the 1903 Service Rifle are stacked around the stem. The cup is mounted on a circular wooden base which has silver medallions affixed around its perimeter. The trophy was presented in 1908 by the National Guard Association of the United States.

