

THE TARGET

THE OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF THE NORTH DAKOTA SHOOTING SPORTS ASSOCIATION

Volume 15, Number 3

ISSN: 1086-4172

July, August, September 2008

The Price of Fuel and The Shooting Sports

Steve Garbe wrote a very insightful editorial in the latest issue of the Black Powder Cartridge Rifle News. He pointed out that the high cost of transportation and the time to get from one place to another are not new issues in the competitive shooting sports. Many years ago the postal and telegraph matches were very popular. These matches allowed many competitors who were geographically far apart to enjoy competition with their sporting arms without incurring the high cost of transportation and time in transit.

We in rural America are used to traveling long distances, but maybe we should give some serious thought to holding some of the postal and telegraph (telephone & computer) matches that were so popular back in the heyday of competitive shooting in the late 1800s and early 1900s.

Steve pointed out that today's communication devices make these matches much easier to run now than they were a hundred years ago. We have been doing this for many years now with our North Dakota Air Gun Postal match that we hold during the winter months. The following are some more examples of these types of matches that we could consider:

1. A match where two or more clubs run a challenge match on the same day to fire targets at their own ranges and combine the scores for club teams and individuals to determine the winners. We might even be able to try this with clubs outside the state of North Dakota.
2. A postal match where individuals fire targets within a given time period (30 days) and the scores sent to the match director who then compiles them individually as well as into randomly chosen teams based on shooter classification to determine the winners.
3. Individual shooters and teams could fire match scores witnessed by other shooters over a period of two or three months to determine the highest of these scores in any shooter's classification. An individual or team might fire as many match scores as they like in an effort to improve their standing during the two or three month period. Only the highest score would be recorded in the final results, but the individual and team scores could be posted regularly at a website as the match progressed to add a competitive flavor to the competition.
4. Our air gun postal match is a great example of how much benefit shooters can realize by participating in this type of competition. If you do not already shoot

with us in this series of air gun postal matches over the winter months, I invite those of you who do not currently own an air gun to purchase a match air pistol or rifle and join us. With your match air gun, you will be firing the very best firearm available. The initial cost of the firearm is easily amortized by the very low cost of ammunition and the opportunity to fire safely and conveniently in your own home or garage without incurring the high cost of transportation.

No doubt there are many more of these types of matches that we might like to try. While I do not think that we should try to replace the shoulder to shoulder matches, I do believe that these postal and "telegraph" matches may be very useful in broadening our opportunities for competitive shooting in North Dakota.

Talk the idea over with other shooters at the next shoulder to shoulder match that you attend and see how you all feel about the idea. If you agree and would like to take part in a match like any one of these that I have described above, send me an email or give me a call. Maybe we can set one up yet this year. Certainly, we can arrange to make one or more of these competitions a part of our competitive shooting schedule next year.

Our North Dakota clubs offer a very full slate of shoulder to shoulder shooting events in 2008. I hope you will take time to plan your participation by reviewing the event schedule on page 5. Again, the clubs that sponsor these events don't do it for the money. They and the match directors put their time and effort into running these matches to benefit the shooters. So, grab your guns and ammo and head out to these matches. Enjoy yourself. Your participation and enjoyment are really the payment that the clubs and match directors need in order to continue their efforts.

Remember how fortunate we are to have the opportunity to take part in the shooting sports here in North Dakota. Again, I am reminded of the great article in USA Shooting's Newsletter about 3 months ago that made it clear that our volunteers make the shooting sports what they are today. That is true at all levels of our shooting sports.

Exercise your privilege to participate in the shooting sports. Failure to exercise a privilege often results in its loss.

Rick Jorgenson

Editorially Speaking

First of all, thanks again to everyone who contributed articles for this edition of our newsletter. It is really important that we have a wider viewpoint than mine in this newsletter. I particularly enjoyed Eric's President's message which you will find on Page 3. We are now shooting outdoors and as I write this, I am in the middle of getting ready to head to Camp Perry for the Pistol Championships.

Our North Dakota clubs offer a very full slate of shooting events in 2008. I hope you will take time to plan your participation by reviewing the event schedule on page 5. Again, the clubs that sponsor these events don't do it for the money. They and the match directors put their time and effort into running these matches to benefit the shooters. So, grab your guns and ammo and head out to these matches, and enjoy yourself. Your participation and enjoyment are really the payment that the clubs and match directors need in order to continue their efforts. Remember how fortunate we are to have the opportunity to take part in the shooting sports here in North Dakota. There is a great article in the latest edition of USA Shooting's Newsletter about the volunteers who make the shooting sports what they are today.

Remember to exercise your privilege to participate in the shooting sports. Failure to exercise a privilege often results in its loss.

I also remind you again that if you have an article you would like to share with our membership, you should email it to me ASAP. I appreciate all of your help, and your input does a lot to make this newsletter informative and worthwhile.

Please take note of our association's new directors and officers shown on the right side of this page. They have all made a substantial commitment to support and improve the shooting sports in North Dakota and I look forward to working with them to the continued benefit of North Dakota's competitive and recreational shooters. Ours 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**.

New Life Members

John has informed me that we have two new life members in our association. Thanks Curtis L. Hahn of Bottineau and Brian Kiefert of Valley City for your confidence in our organization. We appreciate your support.

For Sale

Our Association still has a few used M-14 parts for sale on a first come first served basis:

M-14 Magazines --- \$35.00 and M-14 Barrels --- \$80.00

Please contact High Power Rifle Chairman Denny Coulter to arrange purchase.

NDSSA Officers and Chair people

Web site <http://www.ndssa.org>

President: Eric Pueppke, 14926 25th St. SE, Amenia, ND 58004
<mailto:cpueppke@polarcomm.com> Home & Bus 967-8450
 Vice Pres: James Ladwig, 17321 27th St SE, Argusville, ND 58005
<mailto:james@curtslock.com> Home 701-484-5236.
 Exec Off: Rick Jorgenson, 4931-81st Ave NE, Devils Lake, ND 58301
 Email: <rcjorgenson@dvl.midco.net>. Home 662-4760 Bus 662-5301
 Sec/Treas: Steve Faught, 2581 149th Ave SE, Amenia, ND 58004
 Email: rushridge2@anyconnect.com Home & Bus: 347-5903.
 Mbr Sec: John Hoffen, 2921 Winnipeg Dr, Bismarck, ND, 58503
 Email: jthsh73@bis.midco.net Home 701-224-6841
 Newsletter Editor: Rick Jorgenson, 4931 81st Ave NE, Devils Lake, ND 58301
 Email: <rcjorgenson@dvl.midco.net>. Home: 662-4760 Bus 662-5301.
 Director 1/10: Jimmy W. Barner, 1713 22nd St. NE, Emerado, ND 58228
<mailto:barner@gfwireless.com> Home & Bus 967-8450
 Director 1/12: Tom Thompson, 2708 Stevens St, Bismarck, ND 58503-1051
<mailto:tnt@bis.midco.net> Home 255-4601, Bus 250-4242, Ext-3620
 Director 1/08: Mitchell Godbout, 401 9th Ave. N, Casselton, ND 58012
 Email: <mdgodbout@hotmail.com>. Home & Bus 701-347-5593.
 Past Pres: Walt Fairbanks, 5515 6th Ave. SW, Bismarck, ND 58504-9000
 Email: upnorth@bis.midco.net Home 673-3321 Bus 250-4242 ext 3605
 Light Rifle: Terry Moe, RR 2, Box 70., Bottineau, ND 58318.
 Home & Bus: 228-3882.
 Web Mgr: James Ladwig, 17321 27th St SE, Argusville, ND 58005
<mailto:james@curtslock.com> Home 701-484-5236
 HG Silhouette: Cathy Logosz, 9211 62 Ave NE., Dickinson, ND 58601-8534
<mailto:dclgosz@ctctel.com> Home & Bus: 225-9461
 Junior Programs:
 Tom Thompson, 2708 Stevens St, Bismarck, ND 58503-1051
<mailto:tnt@bis.midco.net> Home 255-4601, Bus 701-221-1220
 Highpower Rifle:
 Dennis Coulter, 3306 Walnut St. Grand Forks, ND 58201-7667
 Email: <dennyc@lunsest.com> H 746-6959, Bus. 772-6631, Fax 772-7932.
 Pistol: Steve Faught, 2581-149th Ave SE, Amenia, ND 58004
 Email: rushridge2@anyconnect.com. Home & Bus: 347-5903.
 SB Rifle Programs: See Junior Program Chair. Tom Thompson above.
 Rifle Silhouette: Tim Frank, 10 Div. St., Mandan, ND 58554-1925
 Home: 663-3856
 NRA Field Rep: Clay Pederson, P. O. Box 8, Morristown, SD 57645
 Email: cpederson@nrahq.org Home & Bus: (701) 522-9622.

The Target

ISSN: 1086-4172

PUBLISHED quarterly (four issues a year) by the North Dakota Shooting Sports Association, Inc., P. O. Box 228, Bismarck, ND 58502-0228., a non-profit organization affiliated with the National Rifle Association of America, for the purpose of promoting safety and education in the sport of shooting. The Target is provided to all members of the NDSSA. Individual subscriptions are \$10.00 a year and club subscriptions are \$20.00 a year. The editorials and articles appearing in the publication reflect the differing views present among sportsmen and gun owners, and do not necessarily reflect the views of the publisher.

POSTMASTER: Send address changes to The Target, P. O. Box 228, Bismarck, ND 58502-0228.

DEADLINES: Closing date for material for each issue is the first day of the month proceeding the month of publication. Publication dates are: January, April, July, and October. All materials are to be provided to the following address:

Rick Jorgenson
 Editor, The Target
 4931 81st Ave. NE
 Devils Lake, ND 58301
 Email: <rcjorgenson@dvl.midco.net>

The publication of material will be subject to the discretion of the editor. Due to limitations, the NDSSA can not verify, nor be responsible for accuracy of statements made in articles or advertisements submitted.

REPRINTS: Reprints are permitted; however, if the article is identified as "Copyright" material, you must obtain the permission of the author. Further, reprints must provide written credit to "The Target, North Dakota Shooting Sports Assoc., Inc., and by-line author, if any." Entire contents copyrighted, all rights reserved.

CAUTION: All technical data in this publication, especially for hand loading, reflect the limited experience of individuals using specific tools, products, equipment and components under specific conditions and circumstances not necessarily reported in the article, over which the North Dakota Shooting Sports Association has no control. Reloading data has not been tested or verified by the responsibility for the results obtained by persons using such data and we disclaim all liability for any consequential injuries or damages.

President's Message

The train whistle has blown, and once again I find myself at the helm of your State Association! Well, it wasn't quite like that, but it sounded like a good opening line!

Now you may think that this is an easy job; not much going on with shooting anymore, just a few old guys out there plinking away. If you are of that opinion, I'm going to have to disagree, and set you straight right now! I'm going to go out on a limb here and tell you that there's a lot of activity and growth in the shooting sports here in North Dakota, and I see no sign of it slowing down.

"Well, there's really no place to shoot," you say. That one's not going to work this time! Minot has a new range. Grand Forks has a new range. Bismarck's new 16pt 50-meter indoor range will be opening any day. The folks in Bottineau have done work on their light rifle range. Valley City is going strong. Fargo is well along in their new range plans. And this isn't a complete list.

"Yeah, but there's really no matches to go to, and I like to compete!" Wrong again! Actually, it is exactly the opposite. In fact, we have more matches than there are weekends on the calendar! The only problem you're going to have is deciding which match to go to. Now if you shoot and your son or daughter shoots, and one of you is a rifle shooter, and the other is a pistol shooter, you might just have a problem.

"Gas is expensive." Rick and Connie Jorgenson run a postal league so you can shoot at home! (Thought you had me, didn't you!)

"There's no one my age to compete with." I won't buy it! There are some very young lads and lasses that are just starting in the game. There are also several of our senior shooters out there that cut their eyeteeth with flintlocks....well....ok, percussion caps. Some of them even think that this whole smokeless powder thing is just a passing fad! Rest assured that if you go to a match there will be someone there about your age.

"There's no one at my skill level to shoot against!" I think we've got that one covered as well! We have new shooters in this state that are just over waist high, and we also have new shooters (one in particular) whom I look up at when we are talking! We also have some very high nationally ranked shooters both old and young as well as lots in between. I know some of you out there are a bit timid about going to a match, but rest assured, there will be others there at your present skill level, as well as lots of folks to help you to improve!

"My wife says we have to do 'Family' activities, so I can't shoot." Now that's really a lame excuse! Just last weekend, I shot in a 2700 outdoor bulls-eye match and stood beside a family of shooters. That's right, the whole family; Mom, Dad, sister and 3 brothers. Youngest was 10. They all shot the whole 2700, though the younger ones used just a .22 across the course. How many sports can that happen in? Last winter I personally witnessed a very accomplished rifle shooter get beaten...no...creamed by his wife in an air rifle match! This is a true "family" activity.

Our sport, no matter what discipline you are involved with, is one of the most fun as well as the most rewarding you will

ever be involved with. Get involved. Bring a friend; bring a new shooter, young or old. You'll never regret it!

Eric Pueppke, President

Palma & X course High Power Rifle

Twenty-eight shooters enjoyed the June 14 & 15, 2008 weekend shooting Palma and F-class matches on Saturday, and an eighty-shot across the course match on Sunday. The Palma match consisted of fifteen record shots at each of 800, 900, and 1000 yards for a possible aggregate score of 450. This match is fired prone with a sling, using iron sights, and shooting the .308 Winchester cartridge. The F-class match is any rifle, any sight, and any reasonable support; but is also fired prone. Sunday's match was twenty shots at each of 200 yards slowfire offhand, sitting rapidfire, also at 200 yards; prone rapid fire at 300 yards, and slow prone at 600 yards for a possible aggregate score of 800.

Thomas A. Thompson of Bismarck was the match winner of the Palma, with an aggregate of 425 and 14 x's, or center shots. X's are used to break ties. Thompson helped his effort by winning the 800-yard match with a perfect score of 150-7x, and the 900-yard match with 139-6x. He also came within one point of Thomas C. Reiten's winning score of 137-4x in the 1000-yard match. Reiten, of Grand Forks, trailed Thompson in the aggregate with 405-10x.

Top F-class honors went to Toby Hauk of Bismarck with an aggregate of 418-8x. He also won the 800-yard and 900-yard matches with 148-3x and 141-3x, respectively. Bryce Loehrke of New Salem won the 1000-yard F-class match scoring 138-3x.

High Master class shooter Thomas Thompson continued his winning ways in Sunday's 80-shot match by scoring an aggregate of 759-18x. Thompson was also match winner in the 300-yard prone rapidfire match, and the 600-yard slow prone match with 198-5x, and 195-7x respectively. Master class shooter, Coby Dalgleish of Sarles, N.D., won the 200-yard slowfire offhand match with 180-3x; and also the 200-yard sitting rapidfire match with 195-6x.

In the Master Unclassified field first place went to Brendan Headrick of Bismarck with 689-14x. Competitors that haven't shot enough to establish a classification must shoot as Master Unclassified. Junior shooter Ethan Headrick of Bismarck took first in the class in the 200-yard slowfire offhand match with 168-2x. Another Junior, Peter Thingelstad of Grand Forks placed first in the class in the 200-yard sitting rapidfire match with 193-4x. Thingelstad also took top honors in the class in the 600-yard slowfire prone match by posting a 180-1x. Ethan Headrick's father, Brendan Headrick won the 300-yard prone rapid fire match with 188-3x.

Top aggregate score in the combined Expert, Sharpshooter, Marksman class was a 712-6x fired by James Kringlie of Fargo. Junior shooter Jennifer Garbina of Bismarck won the 200-yard slowfire offhand match in the class, firing a 169-1x. The 200-yard rapidfire sitting in the class went to Travis Carico of Valley City with 192-3x. James Kringlie won the 300-yard prone rapid match with a 188-2x. Travis Carico came back to win the 600-yard slow prone by posting a 176-3x.

Special awards went to High Senior Thomas Reiten, with 735-14x, and High Junior Jennifer Garbina with 704-9x.

Leon Nesja
Match Director

Black Powder Cartridge Rifle in North Dakota

This spring, thanks to Tom Reiten and Ray Hanson, those of us who enjoy shooting black powder cartridge rifle have been given more opportunity to improve and practice our skills. Tom and the Forks Rifle Club arranged with Ray to put on a clinic on April 12th and then hosted a prone match for Midrange Target BPCR on June 7, 2008.

June 7th was a great day in North Dakota, but the weather conditions for the match included a full value wind as most matches held in North Dakota do in the spring time. However, this match was the first one where the value of the wind required that I aim at my upwind competitor's target in order to get my shots to strike on my own. Even with my sights at maximum windage, the 410 grain bullets from my 40-65 wouldn't strike my target at the 600 yard distance. Even by aiming at my neighbor's target, I had to add some more windage before I could fire scoring shots onto my own target.

Ray's April clinic provided a lot of valuable information. By incorporating many of the techniques that Ray presented in his April clinic, the competitors in the June match enjoyed more success than they had in the past even though they were shooting under very tough wind conditions. To fire a respectable score in tough conditions is truly enjoyable. This game is challenging in the best weather conditions, but I sure enjoy it and believe that many of you will agree.

The top 3 finishers were:

Curt Grorud with a score of 271-3x

Ray Hansen with a 270-3x

Rick Jorgenson with a 269-5x

As you can see, any one of these top 3 finishers still had an opportunity to win the match, as they fired their last shot down range at 600 yards.

We had only 9 competitors fire the June 7th match, and we would sure like to see more of you join us. You have some time before the next scheduled match, so take some time this summer to get that BPC rifle out to the range. Plan to join us in the fun at one or both of these scheduled matches: BPCR –Midrange Target State Championship on August 23 at Grand Forks

BPCR - Silhouette State Championship on September 20 & 21 at Bismarck

Maybe you will begin to understand why many of us feel that smokeless powder may be only a passing fad for many of the old rifle and pistol cartridges. (Although, I still have not found that black will work well in my .45 ACP)

Rick Jorgenson

Dakota Marksmanship Foundation, Inc.

P O Box 518

Bismarck, ND 58502-0518

501 © 3 Public Charity

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 Foundations effort to benefit shooting marksmanship and safety programs within North Dakota, please send us a note or contact:

Thomas Thompson – 701-255-4601

Eric Puepke – 701-967-8450

Black Powder Cartridge Rifle Silhouette

Bismarck/Mandan Rifle & Pistol Assn Spring BPCR Silhouette Match was held May 17, 2008 under very tough and exasperating conditions, with 15 participants braving the nasty wind. Winds were wicked (I'm getting tired of saying that!) gusting to 47 mph in the afternoon. Otherwise, it was a moderate sunny day, with only the high winds to make things irksome. Even "sta-put" mats were blowing across the range.

We could not even keep any of the targets up except the chickens, and had to immediately, before even beginning the match, resort to using duct tape to secure them to the rails.

Trying to hold a full-length scoped rifle in that wind felt like you were holding a 2 x 6 out there. Some amazingly good scores were fired under the circumstances. The chickens were mighty hard to come by, but Bismarck's Steve Allen managed to nail three for high chicken count. Charlie Young and Ray Hanson each got all 10 pigs. My partner Gregg Simon knocked down 8 turkeys for the high on those, and also managed to take high rams, in a tie with Charlie Young with 6 apiece.

Winners (in open classes) were:

Match Winner-scope--Charlie Young, Froid, Mt-22/40

2nd-scope--Ray Hanson, Twin Valley, Mn-20/40

Match Winner-iron sights--Steve Allen, Bismarck, ND-17/40

2nd-iron sights--Curt Grorud, Thief River Falls, Mn-17/40

3rd-iron sights--Dave Logosz, Dickinson, ND-15/40

Ken Heier

Match Director

Hall of Fame Nominations should be presented to our Association's Board in writing with the basic credentials (shooting accomplishments and service to the shooting sports) of the nominee included for the Board's consideration no later than **August 31, 2008**.

Nominations should be made by affiliated clubs or by individual members of our Association. Every nominee will be recognized at our Association's annual meeting. Merely being nominated is a great honor. If a nominee is not voted to the Hall by the board the first time his/her nomination is presented, they may simply have to be nominated again in another year when their accomplishments have grown to the point where they have met the criteria under which the board must judge them.

It is not too early to submit a nomination for the Board to consider in 2008.

Winter Air Gun Postal Results

Our postal match winners earned their way to the winners circle by firing 6 individual monthly matches as well as a finals match over the months of November thru April. Here they are with their scores:

Air Rifle	Aggregate	Average	Finals
Matt Puepke	3449	574.8	99.2
Soren Butler	3446	574.3	98.2
Jennifer Garbina	3382	663.8	100.1
Air Pistol			
Rand McCleod	3405	567.5	97
Bill Brackin	3354	559	97.5
Steve Faught	3295	549.2	95

We plan to run the match again this winter. If you have not shot with us in the past, you are sure welcome to join in the fun and great practice this postal match offers.

Summer and Fall Schedule of Opportunities 2008 North Dakota Shooting Sports Association Schedule

Date	Event	Location	Contact	Phone
Jul 6	Cowboy Lever Action & Military Rifle Silhouette	Bismarck	Dave Tokach	701-663-8626
Jul 12	Silhouette Rifle Match	Bismarck	Tim Frank	701-663-3856
Jul 12, 13	High Power, twice X-course & Garand Match	Rolla	Andy Johnson	701-477-6687
Jul 13	IHMSA	Williston	Ray Utter	701-770-0546
Jul 19, 20	ND Highpower State Champ w/Leg & Team	Grand Forks	Denny Coulter	701-746-6959
Jul 27	ND Outdoor Pistol State Championship	Valley City	Bill Brackin	701-282-7158
Aug 2	Cowboy Lever Action & Military Rifle Silhouette	Bismarck	Dave Tokach	701-663-8626
Aug 3	Cowboy Action	Bismarck	Vern Hoggarth	701-663-2454
Aug 9 & 10	North Dakota State IHMSA Championship	Williston	Ray Utter	701-770-0546
Aug 16, 17	ND Silhouette State Champs	Bismarck	Tim Frank	701-6633856
Aug 23	BPCR – Midrange Target State Champ	Grand Forks	Tom Reiten	701-775-0008
Aug 30, 31	Palma (Sat)	Bismarck	Leon Nesja	701-663-8818
Aug 30, 31	ND Long Range State Champ (Sun)	Bismarck	Leon Nesja	701-663-8818
Sep 6	Cowboy Lever Action & Military Rifle Silhouette	Bismarck	Dave Tokach	701-663-8626
Sep 7	Cowboy Action	Bismarck	Vern Hoggarth	701-663-2454
Sep 13, 14	Highpower Long Range Regional	Bismarck	Leon Nesja	701-663-8818
Sep 20, 21	BPCR - Silhouette State Champ	Bismarck	Ken Heier	701-255-0675
Sep 27, 28	Bruce Alexander Memorial Highpower Match	Rolla	Andy Johnson	701-477-6687
Oct 4	Cowboy Action	Bismarck	Vern Hoggarth	701-663-2454

-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: _____	Interests
		<input type="checkbox"/> Legislation <input type="checkbox"/> Jr. Program <input type="checkbox"/> Hunting <input type="checkbox"/> Conservation <input type="checkbox"/> Collecting <input type="checkbox"/> Bullseye Pistol
Address: _____	E-Mail Address _____	
City: _____	State: _____ ZIP: _____	<input type="checkbox"/> Air Rifle <input type="checkbox"/> Hi-Power Rifle <input type="checkbox"/> Air Pistol <input type="checkbox"/> Smallbore <input type="checkbox"/> Police PPC <input type="checkbox"/> Other
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
		<input type="checkbox"/> Rifle Silhouette <input type="checkbox"/> Pistol Silhouette <input type="checkbox"/> Hunter Safety

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

(July 2006)

Bismarck/Mandan Rifle and Pistol Association Spring Warm-up Match

Twenty-four rifle shooters from North Dakota, Minnesota, and Nebraska enjoyed a break in the breezy spring weather to compete in long range and across-the-course matches over the weekend of May 3 and 4, 2008. The matches were sponsored by the Bismarck-Mandan Rifle & Pistol Association, and held on their ranges southeast of Bismarck.

Three, twenty-shot matches were fired at 1,000 yards on Saturday for a possible 600 point aggregate score. Thomas Reiten of Grand Forks took top honors in the conventional rifle division with a score of 553 and 10 x's, (center shots), for the aggregate. He was match winner in the first of the three matches with a 185 and 5x's, as well as posting a 185 with 1 x in match two, and a 183 with 4 x's in the third match. Thomas Thompson of Bismarck got off to a slow start in match one with a score of 169 and 2 x's, but came back with match winners in both the second and third matches with 186 and 4 x's and 186 and 6 x's, respectively. Thompson finished with an aggregate of 541 and 12 x's for second place.

An "F"-Class division, (any rifle, any sight, any reasonable support), was shot concurrently with the conventional rifle division. Nathan Dagley of Center had the high aggregate with a score of 539 and 2 x's. He was followed by Donovan Moran of LaMoure, and Toby Hauck of Bismarck with scores of 518 and 4x's, and 506 and 4 x's, respectively. In match one, Dagley's winning score of 182 and 1x was closely followed by Neal Emery of Grand Island, Nebraska, and Donovan Moran with scores of 179 and 2 x's, and 168 and 1x, respectively. Dagley was again the winner in match two, scoring 180 and 1x. Donovan Moran and Toby Hauck of Bismarck followed with scores of 175, no x, and 165, no x. Toby Hauck was the winner of match three with 183 and two x's. He was followed by Jeremy Duckwitz of Hazelton with 179 and 2 x's, and Nathan Dagley with 177, no x.

On Sunday, an 80-shot "across the course" match was fired at 200, 300, and 600 yards. In the combined High Master - Master Class, Thomas Thompson of Bismarck took home first place with an aggregate score of 759 and 23 x's out of the possible 800. His effort was aided by match winners at 200 yards offhand slowfire, 200 yard sitting rapidfire, and 300 yard prone rapidfire with scores of 183 and 3 x's; 197 and 10 x's; and 197 and 4 x's, respectively. Thomas Reiten of Grand Forks held top honors in the 600 yard slow prone match with a score of 185 and 3 x's. Reiten's aggregate of 738 and 14 x's took second place.

In the combined Unclassified - Expert - Sharpshooter - Marksman Class, Travis Carico of Valley City posted the winning aggregate score of 708 and 3 x's. Walter Fairbanks of Bismarck was tops in the 200 yard offhand slowfire match with 178 and 2 x's; junior shooter Ethan Headrick, from Bismarck, fired a 190 with 4 x's in the 200 yard rapidfire event; and Aaron Carico of Valley City scored a 190 and 4 x's in the 300 yard prone rapidfire event. Brendan Headrick of Bismarck took the 600 slow prone match with 177 and 3 x's. Ethan Headrick's aggregate score of 641 and 5 x's won the Junior title for the match.

A total of eleven new shooters over the two days were welcomed by the "old-timers" to the sport of High Power Rifle. With some coaching on positions and wind-doping, they caught on quite well, and all seemed to have a good time.

Leon Nesja

**North Dakota Shooting Sports Association, Inc.
PO BOX 228
BISMARCK ND 58502-0228**

CHANGE SERVICE REQUESTED.

PRSR STD
U. S. POSTAGE

PAID

Bismarck, ND 58501
Permit No. 419

**The Official NRA State
Association Newsletter**

