

TRAC match – July 1, 2025 – Wayne Mauler, match director

Well, this is different. We had a dust storm this morning prior to leaving for the range. I think half of Pinal County is floating in the air in the form of dust particulate that partially blocked out the sun. Usually at this time of year, we get them in the afternoon/evening. Not today. The air seemed heavy enough that you could cut it with a knife and leave residue on the blade. You could not see the immediate mountains around the range; it was so heavy. Larry told me he could almost chew on it and spit out a mud ball. That descriptive enough for you?

Today is the first of July. Not sure when the weather-heads claim that monsoon season is/was supposed to start, but we could use some rain to settle the dust. Even BASF is helping with that by dragging the parking lots and range decks to scrape out the weeds, and as a result, turning the deck into a dust bowl. Isn't that convenient? We shoot air guns. Airguns use air, which is loaded with dust particulate today. Result? We gotta perform maintenance more often. Oh, well..... somebody out there seems to be smarter than us. At one point during the match, there was either a cloud of dust being blown across the range, or smoke from the adjacent ranges. Nobody was having a BBQ and the only ones sizzling were us!

The Temps today were nice and warm; 97° up to 99° with humidity right at 21%. Need a bit more humidity for rain. The winds gave us some challenges.....and a whole lotta fun. East winds swinging down towards the south and shifting inside that compass quadrant.....frequently.....anywhere from 9 mph to 20 mph with gusts up to 25 mph. At one point, during a "stable" wind, Bill Cole pulled his Kestrel to measure between 9 and 13 mph and shifting as fast as you can blink your eyes. So, you know what the 11 of us did to counter these conditions? We shot the match! Here are the results:

46/48 – Van Tucker / Herr Ranger / Hunter PCP  
44/48 – Bill Cole / Daystate Revere / Hunter PCP  
42/48 – Barry Diehl / Daystate Revere / Hunter PCP  
41/48 – Wayne Mauler / Daystate Wolverine (new toy) / Hunter PCP  
40/48 – Scott Hunt / BRK Sniper / Hunter PCP  
38/48 – Mark Kauffman / AA TX200 / Open Piston, and tied with....  
38/48 – Larry Piercy / Daystate CR-X / Open PCP  
37/48 – Loren Braud / Daystate Wolverine / Hunter PCP, and tied with....

37/48 – Stanley Mountford / FX Dreamline / Hunter PCP  
35/48 – Anthony Turchetta / Leshis 2 (?) / Hunter PCP  
24/48 – Jesse Avery / AA Prosport / Hunter Piston

Look like the wind created some challenges? Let me share a personal tidbit.... I missed my last two shots at a 55-yard trout. I was holding 2 to 2.5 mildots into the wind earlier in the match and got it both times. These last two shots were misses. Hmmmm..... So, I took a 3<sup>rd</sup> shot and held 3.5 mildots – Miss! (dammit!). Took a 4<sup>th</sup> shot and held 4.5 mildots and nailed it! My crosshairs were off of the tail of the fish. That is how hard the wind was blowing. Talk about a curve ball! Just gotta chuckle at the stuff that is thrown at you. Of course you can't count those extra shots, but I had to see just how far off it was.

The only other noteworthy items involved resident critters at the range. During course set up, a 4-to-5-foot bull snake was seen slithering to get off the course, back by the firing line. Probably took up residence in one of the holes behind the firing line. They are welcome critters. Someone mentioned to me that Barry had taken a walk to the west end of the firing line where there is a single bush, and noted a small rattler coiled in the shade. Probably waiting for something to drink. Other than the usual lizards, these were the first sightings of the crawly critters this year, so far.

Just a quick note that in 6 weeks is the AZ state PCP championships/Grand Prix at Mormon Lake. Wouldn't hurt to take a few minutes and register online via the club website. All the information you need is right there at your fingertips thanks to our intrepid webmaster Barbara. What would we do without her?

So, with nothing more to report, and no one doing anything "noteworthy", I shall bid you adieu.....

Respectfully submitted,  
Mark Kauffman,  
Secretary, Airgunners of Arizona, Inc.