

TRAC match – March 10, 2026 – Anthony Turchetta, match director

Hmmm....., I am guessing that winter is over for us here in the desert. Although it rained last night, today was very nice. Lotsa cloud cover, which kept the brightness of the sun to a minimum, if not somewhat dull. Temps ranged from 57° up to 63°, but high humidity; 88% dropping to 72%. Light breezes tended to push pellets around imperceptibly for some of us. Wind speed was from zero up to 7 mph, slowly building up and then slowly dying down, but swirling around from ESE, to North, to SW, to West, to SE.....you name it, it came from there.....subtly. The sun came out, brilliantly for a brief moment in the second half before it clouded over again. We mention that only because it was so abrupt, and was quite noticeable.

Terrible Tony, the torturer, Torquemada, Turchetta, was our match Inquisitor today, who got festivities started early.....like at 8:00 (He likes to push) while most of us were still waking up. There were 16 of us today. Someone mentioned why don't we move our monthly matches to Tuesdays. We get more shooters that way... With 16 shooters and only 6 positions, there were 4 shooters in limbo, basically 2 sets of "standby" shooters on lane one, giving the shooters from lane 6 a break before getting back into the swing of things. As it turned out, lane one was the undoing of most of today's shooters, but not all.....

47/48 – Van Tucker / Daystate Air Ranger / Hunter PCP, and accused of shooting 47 fpe! (Damn good shooting!)

46/48 – Carl Forrey / RAW TM1000 / Hunter PCP, and not happy with his springer!

44/48 – Stan Mountford / Daystate Revere / Hunter PCP (He does this everytime he comes back from Mexico. Tequilla, or senioritas? He won't say)

43/48 – Anthony Turchetta / Uragan 3 / Hunter PCP (Grrrrrrrr.....!)

42/48 – Brian Esler / RAW TM1000 / Hunter PCP

41/48 – Scott Hunt / Daystate Redwolf / Hunter PCP

38/48 – Bill Cole / Daystate Revere / Hunter PCP, and tied with...

38/48 – Erick Ajax / Daystate Blackwolf / Hunter PCP, and tied with...

38/48 – Beverly Esler / RAW TM 1000 / Hunter PCP

37/48 – Wayne Mauler / Thomas Air / Hunter PCP

35/48 – Barry Diehl / Daystate Revere / Hunter PCP

29/48 – Mark Kauffman / AA TX200 / Open Piston

25/48 – Loren Braud / BRK Sniper / Hunter PCP, and tied with...

25/48 – Tony Pellegrino / AA TX200 / Hunter Piston

23/48 – Tammy Hunt / Daystate Revere / Hunter PCP

19/48 – Jesse Avery / AA Prosport / Hunter Piston

As you can see by the scores, the course was not very piston friendly. For a number of others, the course was not very friendly to them, either! The previously mentioned lane one was the main culprit. Everyone knows how difficult it is to rangefind between 45 and 55 yards. Tony had 4 targets on lane one, all set (staggered) between 50 and 55 yards. On my scope, they appeared to range between 48 and 51 yards. Somehow, I managed to get 3 of the 4 on the first go-round, but missed all 4 the second time. Only one person got all 8 targets. Only 2 shooters got 4 in a row. Nasty, diabolical match director.....!

Tony had all the targets set at far distances, all with small killzones. Now imagine what that does when the wind causes the pellets to “drift”. We didn’t interrogate him to determine the course Troyer factor, but did check one target on lane 6 that was a 46.67 Troyer! 30 Troyer is considered hard. These were ridiculous! The 3 of us that shot piston today were totally demoralized. Other than that, it was a fun course.

Okay, for the next two weeks, we will be shooting on the small-bore range. Did you hear that, Stanley?? **Small Bore Range!** Not sure what is going on, but we cannot use the pistol silhouette range for the next two weeks. Also, I would appreciate some assistance in hauling targets next week (It is my turn in the barrel) and my little car won’t carry everything at once.

Also, an early reminder, the monthly match, on the third Saturday, will be on the Frank L. DeSomma Memorial range / rifle silhouette range, and for the same reasons. A match reminder will go out the weekend before the match, as I usually do. I am just giving you guys a heads-up.

That just about sums up this week’s festivities. I will endeavor to make next weeks match somewhat normal, not easy, but challenging. Until then.....

Respectfully submitted,
Mark Kauffman

Secretary, Airgunners of Arizona, Inc.

Shenanigans – because life is more fun when you are up to something.....especially at our age!