

TRAC match – January 30, 2024 – Joe Pruzinsky, match director

Yes, you read that correctly. Joe was our match director for the very first time and he did a terrific job! He worked us like a pro, and did not lose composure at all. He seems to be a natural at this job.

So, now we have 5 match directors at BASF; Wayne on the 1st Tuesday of month, Tony Turchetta on 2nd Tuesday, Mark on 3rd Tuesday, Larry on 4th Tuesday, and Joe on the 5th Tuesday, whenever that occurs. As for Mormon Lake, we have Barry, Van, and Kent sharing the MD duties up there. I think we are in pretty good shape. As for course set up and tear down, EVERYBODY that is present, chips in and gets the job done in record time, and with no drama! Imagine that? And with Jesse doing the duties of equipment manager (Quartermaster), maybe we should just start calling him "Q". The targets never looked so good.

Okay, back to this TRAC match.....

Today started out very blustery. The wind was whipping down over the hill from the north and NE with a vengeance during sight in and early match time frame. It would gradually ease up as the match went on. It did its usual directional shifts from North to NE, shifting around to SSE, and just being a regular nuisance at between zero to 9 mph with some gusting here and there just to make its presence known. The temps ranged from a low of 55° up to 66° and the humidity was really playing games between 47% down to 35%. That is quite a shift. Initially, it felt cooler than it really was, with most of us wearing multiple layers to account for that.

We had 12 guys show up to do battle with the steel critters. Four of us were freshly back (yesterday) from the California State FT championship and Grand Prix. We had fun over there. Good bunch of guys.

As for today, we had our usual 6 lanes / 2 targets per / shoot thru twice / 48 shot match. But wait, it gets better.....

Tony Turchetta showed up with his FX Crown Yellow Jacket pellet launcher equipped with a super-duper, whiz-bang, Zulu laser rangefinder scope with illuminated reticle that showed where to hold for the distance. He and Van Tucker shared this beast to shoot in unlimited Star Wars class! Tony missed his very first shot with this newest phenom scope. Van, ever the quick learner, took advantage of this ballistic faux pas and used this knowledge to shoot the course clean! How could you miss? Just put the scope on the target, press the button, the reticle lights up with the correct placement, hold it on the target and jerk the shit out of the trigger and the target falls over. So simple, a cave man can do it! After getting an email advertisement notification today, I am also finding out the Brits also have a thermal imaging scope! Whatever happened to the "spirit of competition"?

Of course, one of our brethren suggested calling them Darth Vader and Luke Skywalker. Hey, it is only fitting....

48/48 – Van Tucker – shooting Tony's Star Wars gun.

47/48 – Tony Turchetta – being bested by young Skywalker with his own gun. How's that for gratitude?

After "shooting" this score, Van went on to wax eloquent about all the wonderful attributes of this amazing Zulu LRF scope.....for about 10 minutes until Joe brought us all back to earth. Like I mentioned before, do something noteworthy and it will get into the match report.....LOL!

.....Ahem, and now back to us mere mortals.....

47/48 – Larry Piercy – shooting his Daystate Tsar and winning Open PCP at the CASA state shoot.

45/48 – Joe Pruzinsky – intrepid new MD, shooting his vintage Huntsman

44/48 – Stan Mountford – shooting his Daystate Revere

43/48 – Mark Kauffman – shooting his TX200 springer and winning Open Piston at the CASA state shoot....and tied with....

43/48 – Bill Cole – shooting his AA S510, and tied with....

43/48 – Wayne Mauler – shooting his Thomas, and also shooting at the CASA state shoot.

42/48 – Jesse Avery – shooting his Daystate Redwolf, and also shooting at the CASA state shoot, and tied with....

42/48 – Barry Diehl – shooting his Daystate Revere

41/48 – Scott Hunt – shooting his Brocock Sniper

33/48 – Loren Braud – shooting his HW77 springer

I would be remiss if I did not mention the other two club members shooting at CASA over the weekend.....

Dave Dagostino shot his TX200 and took 3rd place in WFTF Piston and outscored me by a few points. He was ecstatic about that. But get this; he also shot pistol, which he has never done before, and finished in 2nd place!

Pat Callahan also shot at CASA and supplied his beef stew and lasagna for lunch on Saturday. I know Pat can eat. I have seen him eat! I did not know that he could cook as well!

Needless to say, we put on a pretty good showing at a challenging match with our brothers to the west. Good job, guys!

While there, Larry made the announcement to the group about our "Spring Fling in the desert" state Piston Championship on March 16 of this year. Yeah, 2 months away. We are working out the details and that info will get posted in just a few days. Drag you piston guns out and dust them off. We KNOW you have them. Seems everyone over there thought that was a great idea! Now they are considering doing the same thing. Just think, you can conceivably shoot TWO championships in the same year; one with piston and one with PCP. Such a deal!

Anyway, with nothing more to report, other than a desire to sleep, I will end this dialog and let all of you get back to your regularly scheduled lives.....

Oh, and it is going to be a little while before the new website is operational. Gotta get in touch with my new helper, Barb, and we can learn how to build the website together.

Respectfully submitted

Mark Kauffman

Secretary, Airgunners of Arizona, Inc