

October 2018 Light Rifle Match Report
Club Championship Match
Simon Bailey

At the end of a summer that won't seem to end, the final match of the NRA Light Rifle season was held on October 6th on the Rimfire Range at RBGC. The match welcomed 16 shooters including four new competitors to the venue. Unfortunately, long time shooter and ARO, Don Coleman was not on hand to call the match which resulted in rearrangement of match duties slightly reducing the number of competitors. As in past years, the October match is fired for Club Championship honors, so competition was expected to be fierce!

With almost no wind and strong sun, temperatures were rising quickly. Shooting started at 9:30 AM with a short sight-in period and by 9:45 record shots were on their way to the targets.

George Wilson came out of the gate with a bang (OK, no more puns) by posting a solid 94-0X followed by a 93-0X to take the lead over returning, and very good shooter, Rick Purcell, who managed a 92-0X and a 93-0X. Intermediate Junior, Ethan Wood was also in good form, only 5 points out of second place after the first two stages.

First time competitor Jeff Jennings held 1st Master with Mark Dorlay in 1st Sharpshooter 10 points out of the lead. Bob Morris, shooting a pair of 85's, was 1st Marksman, one point ahead of Tom Hollingsworth.

Over the next two stages, Wilson extended his lead over the field with a 91-0X and a 90-0X. Purcell bobbled a bit in the third stage posting an 86-0X but held onto second place. Dorlay returned to form, posting a 90-1X and 93-1X to displace Wood in third place.

After the 4th stage, Wood was tied with Morris for first Marksman at 346-1X, while Hollingsworth was tied with Beth Reynolds for 2nd Marksman at 330-0X.

In the final two stages, Wilson sewed up Match Winner honors, and his second Club Championship in a row, by firing a 93-0X and an 89-0X. Purcell finished with a pair of 90-0X's to take second place with Dorlay finishing in third place. Jennings took 1st Master with Ethan Wood solidifying his lead over Morris to take 1st Marksman.

Congratulations to Wilson for his repeat Club Champion victory and to newcomer Caroline Hegwood, who took Junior Club Champion honors. (Wood is not a club member, so is ineligible for the championship).

At the completion of the formal match, two "One Shot" matches were held with the prize being a brick of SK Standard ammo for each match.

The first fun match, dubbed the Barney Fife match, is a true one shot affair, with the shooter who fires his bullet closest to scoring a perfect center shot winning the match. Simon Bailey, with match duties almost over, was able to join in, and shot a nice 10. Mark Dorlay however, shot a slightly nicer 10 and Rick Purcell took Barney Fife honors and the prize with an even better 10.

The second fun match is a single elimination match, with only the best half of the field advancing to the next round. Seventeen shooters fired their first shot with 11 shooters advancing, as several shots were too close to call. The second shot was fired and round three saw 6 shooters left – Simon Bailey, Mark Dorlay, Tom Hollingsworth, Chris Sagar, Ethan Wood, and George Wilson. With only two 10's fired in the third round, only Bailey and Dorlay advanced. Bailey had fired 3 10's in a row but shanked this shot into the 9 ring at 9 O'clock. Dorlay however, also shanked his shot into the 9 ring, but at 10:00 o'clock. Both shooters assumed the other had won! When the targets were scored, Doraly's 9 was better than Bailey's, and Dorlay claimed the second brick of ammo!

After all shooting was complete and results tallied, awards were presented. Congratulations to all match winners and congratulations to Club Champion George Wilson and Club Junior Champion Caroline Hegwood. Please see the match bulletin on the website for the full match results and all medal winners.

And so ends another fun and successful NRA Light Rifle season. I encourage all readers to join us next year. The venue is fun, family friendly, has low equipment requirements, is competitive and builds off-hand shooting skills.