
AIRGUNNING ATLANTA

September - October 2001

2001 Field Target Nationals And A Good Time Was Had By All

by Ken Hughes

The days before the match were filled with tension and excitement. Had we forgotten anything? What would/could go wrong? Could we get it all done in time? We were thrilled to see that we had some early out-of-town help from George Gardner and Stan Lapinski. They were a lot of help in setting up the courses on Wednesday. Thanks guys!

Thursday was a busy day at the range with nearly all of the competitors showing up to do some sight-in and practice on the 50m indoor/outdoor range. We had lots of help transforming the Olympic 50m range into a world-class sight-in range with more than 100 paper target holders, so no shortage of target paper would occur. Joel Hansel and David Still handled registration; all competitors received a hospitality bag with lots of sponsor-supplied material and the official match polo shirt. It was great to see all of the familiar faces and to meet the new ones that are destined to be the future of this sport. The array of airguns on the firing line was impressive and beautiful to an airgun junkie like me; it's always neat to see other people's "toys."

Our event vendors set up shop in the upper level mezzanine. Robert Buchanan's Airguns of Arizona/Daystate and Ron Juneau's Cajun Targets both had booth space to "peddle their wares." Thanks to both of them for taking the time and expense to come.

The AAFTA Board of Governors implemented something new at this match, an AAFTA Course Committee. The committee consisted of Brad Troyer, Wade Sutherland, Cliff Smith and Don Vanderwerker, and was charged with inspecting all lanes and targets for proper set up and function. Several things were noticed and suggested by the committee regarding the courses; all issues were addressed and corrected to the committee's satisfaction. I highly recommend that a committee of experts look over your courses, helping to avoid potential problems. I would like to thank the committee for taking the time required to do this inspection and for the suggestions. It helped make the event run smoother.

Friday got started early, people at the range before 7am for a 9:30 start time. The shooters' meeting started at 9am and took a little longer than expected, as there was a lot to cover, but we made it onto the courses more or less on time. The day was overcast but warm, little to no wind, a good day to shoot. I can tell you I was nervous with anticipation and excitement over how the courses would be received by the shooters, worried that I might have forgotten something or a target would malfunction, etc... Well, the lead started flying and targets started falling and

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all was good in the FT universe. The shooters kept up an even pace, thanks to the timers, and were done in good time for lunch!

Lunch was sandwiches from the Atlanta Bread Co. and homemade vegetable beef soup (made by my mom), and lots of stuff to go with them. We finished off with cookies and Deb's homemade brownies for dessert (wish I had gotten one). Amazingly, all the food disappeared!

As scheduled, J.P. O'Connor (Olympic shooting coach) ran a 10m shooting clinic after lunch. He talked and answered questions for nearly an hour, then did some hands-on teaching while the shooters got to shoot on the electronic scoring equipment on the 10m range with loaner match rifles w/ aperture sights. It was a different 10m experience from the usual hushed silence full of concentration; we had lots of loud laughter and rowdy behavior (yes, you Eric Moe, Stylee Edwards, Warren Williamson, Brad Troyer, etc.) and boy, was it fun!! Just what we were hoping would happen; we know how this crowd of airgunners behaves in public.

Saturday morning came with rain falling and all eyes on the weather channel to see if the match schedule would have to be modified. The calls to Deb for Internet weather updates were numerous, but it was decided that the rain had passed for the day and so the match went on as scheduled. The rain stopped around 8:45am and the wind started to pick up and the temperature started to fall rapidly. By late afternoon the temp had fallen to around 50 degrees F., catching several people unprepared for the cold damp day.

The match start was delayed slightly due to several people showing up late, saying they had been told the match schedule had been changed. Apparently the rumor of a delayed start time had started at the hotel and quickly spread among the shooters, which caused several to stay at breakfast a while longer thinking no rush was needed. The delay in starting caused no problems, in fact it gave the courses more time to dry off. As the match started the match nerves surfaced again as I worried about the courses, but all went well, the "other shoe" did not fall on this match and all was still right in the FT universe! The match finished ahead of schedule and everyone ran to get inside out of the cold and have some lunch.

Lunch on Saturday was fried chicken, coleslaw, potato salad, more homemade brownies (still wish I had gotten one), and 2 kinds of homemade cobbler (Apple/blueberry and peach) with vanilla ice cream (I did get some cobbler, though! It was outstanding!!).

After lunch came the 2001 AAFTA Annual Meeting and Auction. The meeting included many topics especially the "International

Information about our AAFTA Club, Airgunning Atlanta, is now available on the Internet to prospective and current members. The site includes schedules for our local matches as well as dates for national tournaments and airgun shows. Results from our monthly field target matches are immediately posted. Links to many popular airgun sites have been incorporated into our site.

The web site can be found at <http://www.gajobs.com/airguns>. You should visit our web site often to plan ahead on which tournaments you wish to attend. Each tournament and airgun show page provides a convenient link to more information about the upcoming tournament or airgun event. Your comments are welcome and should be directed to airgun@gajobs.com.

Class” which created some heated discussion kept in civil tones. The election of three governor’s positions was decided after several candidates gave short campaign speeches and Wade read a speech on behalf of Mel Bomke, who could not attend. The AAFTA Governors that were elected are Brad Troyer, Ron Carlson, and Cliff Smith, by vote of the AAFTA member clubs—democracy in action! The election was concluded with a short speech by Rodney Boyce who declared “this is the best AAFTA Board of Governors ever!” Thanks, Rodney, for the kind words.

The AAFTA auction was a huge success! Many great items of interest were donated to the auction. Thank you to all who donated items! AAFTA raised more than \$3,500.00!!! I think this is a record (unconfirmed)!!! The auction started off on a good note with John Quiter announcing a donation from “The Richard Shimizu Supper Club” of more than \$500.00!! Thanks, Richard and friends. Then the auction got rollin’, Brad Troyer did his usual great job as auctioneer keeping things moving, with his “shill” Eric Moe to keep the bids rising ever higher, and everyone having a good time. It was good to hear the laughter of many friends filling the building as things got lively.

A special 50m match officiated by JP O’Connor took place after the AAFTA auction. The match was shot using the electronic scoring equipment in the 50m range. The shooters took 15 sight-in shots and then 10 for score, with the 10 for score being scored like finals in an Olympic event going down to the tenth of a point (ex: 10.1 /10.9/etc.). After two relays of 30 shooters, the top 10 shooters were in the final round. The finals were held like an Olympic shooting event finals where the official tells all “load” then after all have loaded, tells all “3-2-1 fire!” and all have one minute to shoot the shot for score. Then JP would go down the line announcing each score to loud applause for 10.0 or higher OR loud laughter and heckling for lower scores, boy was that fun!! I was with JP as he was announcing and he was folding over with hysterical laughter at the jeering and rowdiness of the crowd. He said “I have never been to a finals quite like this one, man is this a fun group of guys?” (my sentiments exactly!). I know everyone thanks JP for donating his time and expertise in running both of the after-match activities. Thank you, JP.

Sunday morning came in crisp clear and cool, but warmed up nicely as the day progressed. This was the “do or die” day, the pressure was on, lets see “who is who” in the US FT ranks. The pre-match anxiety was the worst yet, but I was almost too tired to care. I kept waiting for something to go wrong, some catastrophic failure, but all went well, as planned. The pace of shooting slowed slightly due to the higher concentration levels, but the timers kept the pace moving steadily along. After all of the competitors had finished shooting their respective courses, they dismantled the lanes and this was a BIG help. Thanks, everyone! When the scorecards were all in and tabulated, the shoot-offs took place. The shoot-offs took place in the 50m building so all could watch in comfort. In contrast to the rowdy 50m finals of the previous afternoon, the building was eerily silent during the shoot-offs (as it should be) with polite clapping as each string of shots was completed. The air was thick with the tension of the shoot-offs. Bobby Corcorran and Wade Sutherland had a shoot-off for 8th place that lasted quite a while, with Mr. Corcorran taking 8th place and Mr. Sutherland in 9th place. Mr. Corcorran showed us some impressive off hand shooting in this shoot-off. Tommy Garland, Brad Troyer and Billy Lo had a shoot-off for 5th – 7th places with Mr. Garland 5th, Mr. Troyer 6th, and Mr. Lo 7th. Mr. Garland displayed his shooting skills under pressure in this shoot-off. The final shoot-off was for 2nd place between Brian Johnson and James White,

with Mr. Johnson taking 2nd place and Mr. White in 3rd place. Both gentlemen shot well in the shoot-off with Mr. Johnson just edging out Mr. White.

Lunch on Sunday was a big event; the menu was BBQ pork and BBQ chicken, corn on the cob, coleslaw, and baked beans with a special dessert to come later at the awards ceremony. Deb and my mom and dad smoked all the meat for the BBQ, now that was some good eating! A special thank you goes out to my wife (Deb) and both of my parents for all of their hard work and doing such a great job with the food! We all know how important good food is at an event like this.

The awards ceremony was a joyous occasion. It started off with a surprise for me, a big birthday cake, balloons, a huge birthday card, and nearly 100 of my friends singing “Happy Birthday” to me! Thanks, everyone. Of course everyone got a slice of cake. Then we got on to the awards. Mr. Bill Isaac graciously donated custom-made license plates for the top 10 shooters in both the Open class and Piston class that read “Top 10 Shooter 2001 US Field Target Nationals.” Thank you, Bill. Your 2001 US Field Target Nationals Champions are David Slade (113/120) in the Open Class and Roz Sumpter (95/120) in the Piston class. David and Roz both did some awesome shooting on tough but fair courses. Good shooting, gentlemen!!

To the many people who stayed to help with teardown and cleanup, to these special people go a big thank you! You saved me countless hours of work.

To Brad Troyer goes a thank you for the loan of your nice targets, without which we couldn’t have done the match.

To Randy DuTeau, the shooting facility manager, a thank you for all of the things you helped us with, too many to list. The Tom Lowe Shooting Grounds is a beautiful world-class facility that we are proud to have been able to use for this event; we hope to shoot there again someday soon.

To all of the Airgunning Atlanta members, what a great bunch of people! You came together as a well-organized team to put on a good well-executed match, bravo! Thank you to all of you.

And finally, THANK YOU! to all of the competitors and attendees of the 2001 US Field Target Nationals. We very much enjoyed having all of you come to the match; without you it would all be for naught. Be safe until we see you again, hopefully in the near future.

Ken Hughes

President of Airgunning Atlanta

2001 US Field Target



National Championships

2001 NATIONALS RESULTS

Open Class

	Name	Red	White	Blue	Total
1	Slade, David	38	36	39	113
2	Johnson, Brian	36	38	37	111
3	White, James	37	37	37	111
4	Williamson, Warren	37	34	35	106
5	Garland, Tommy	35	38	32	105
6	Troyer, Brad	34	36	35	105
7	Lo, Billy	33	37	35	105
8	Corcorran, Bobby	34	36	34	104
9	Sutherland, Wade	35	35	34	104
10	Schulz, Steve	29	36	38	103
11	Winer, Bob	34	33	35	102
12	Moe, Eric	35	31	35	101
13	Zimmerer, Larry	34	34	33	101
14	Vinson, Doug	32	36	33	101
15	Apelles, Ray	31	38	32	101
16	Roller, Walt	35	31	34	100
17	Matos, Pete	33	34	33	100
18	Korick, Joe	30	37	31	98
19	Keiser, Dale	30	37	31	98
20	Glover, Greg	35	31	31	97
21	Isaac, William	32	30	33	95
22	Crocker, Robert	29	31	34	94
23	Simpson, Dave	33	29	31	93
24	Carlson, Ron	33	30	29	92
25	Berchanskiy, Vlad	26	33	32	91
26	Buchanan, Robert	31	28	32	91
27	Hyfield, Don	31	33	27	91
28	Spencer, John	32	33	26	91
29	Zerby, Rick	26	31	33	90
30	Draper, John	33	29	28	90
31	Sutherland, Karin	29	30	31	90
32	Golembieski, Don	33	26	31	90
33	Apelles, Hans	35	31	24	90
34	Belas, Tony	27	31	31	89
35	Slater, William	29	29	31	89
36	Taki, Dennis	27	29	29	85
37	VanDewerker, Don	27	30	28	85
38	Corcorran, Sandy	31	28	26	85
39	Buchanan, Steve	26	29	27	82
40	Miller, Doug	29	28	25	82
41	Boyce, Rodney	25	28	28	81
42	Shimizu, Richard	29	24	28	81
43	O'Connor, JP	11	35	35	81
44	Gatwood, Ike	28	26	26	80
45	Troxell, Mark	31	23	26	80

47	Edwards, Stylee	22	26	29	77
48	Allen, Kevin	22	28	27	77
49	Shults, Terry	23	28	26	77
50	Wicha, Werner	30	22	23	75
51	Clelland, Jill	28	22	24	74
52	Modic, Alex	22	24	26	72
53	Keiser, Debbie	19	19	31	69
54	Quiter, John	24	13	22	59
55	Sanders, Gary	14	11	11	36
56	Sanders, Holly	10	4	15	29
57	Shimizu, Robert	10	3	11	24
58	Sharp, Van	0	2	4	DNF

Piston Class

	Name	Red	White	Blue	Total
1	Sumpter, Roz	33	34	28	95
2	Hamilton, George	23	28	24	75
3	Bradley, Rod	26	24	19	69
4	Hernandez, Andrew	21	23	23	67
5	Greene, William	32	16	17	65
6	Matticks, Dave	25	22	16	63
7	Juneau, Ron	21	19	23	63
8	Smith, Cliff	12	27	19	58
9	Whittaker, Joe	19	18	18	55
10	Lipinski, Stan	19	15	20	54
11	Tinsley, Michael	13	19	18	50
12	Lykins, Tom	12	19	17	48
13	Warhorse, James	15	17	13	45
14	Frederick, Robert	19	16	6	41
15	Cox, Steve	8	17	15	40
16	Zeman, Ron	20	7	11	38
17	Otten, Richard	12	13	11	36
18	Gardner, George	13	6	17	36
19	Olson-Goude, Jay	11	14	10	35
20	Weston, Wendell	6	8	13	27
21	Keith, Everett	0	8	0	DNF

Class Awards

Class	Name
Open Class	Slade, David
Piston Class	Sumpter, Roz
Standard Piston	Juneau, Ron
High Daystate	Bobby Corcorran
High Lady	Karin Sutherland
High Senior	Bob Winer
High Junior	Sanders, Holly
High Club	Northern Miss. Airgun Club

UPCOMING AIRGUNNING EVENTS

Date		Event	Location	Level
October	27	Airgunning Atlanta Practice Match	Covington, GA	Local
November	2-3	International Airgun Exposition Contact: Fred Liady 540-344-1677	Roanoke, VA	Show
November	10	Airgunning Atlanta Match	Covington, GA	Local
November	24	Airgunning Atlanta Practice Match	Covington, GA	Local
December	8	Airgunning Atlanta Match	Covington, GA	Local
December	22	Airgunning Atlanta Practice Match	Covington, GA	Local
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January	5	Airgunning Atlanta Practice Match	Covington, GA	Local
January	12	Airgunning Atlanta Match	Covington, GA	Local
January	19	Airgunning Atlanta Practice Match	Covington, GA	Local
February	2	Airgunning Atlanta Practice Match	Covington, GA	Local
February	9	Airgunning Atlanta Match	Covington, GA	Local
February	16	Airgunning Atlanta Practice Match	Covington, GA	Local
March	2	Airgunning Atlanta Practice Match	Covington, GA	Local
March	9	Airgunning Atlanta Match	Covington, GA	Local
March	16	Airgunning Atlanta Practice Match	Covington, GA	Local
March	30	Airgunning Atlanta Practice Match	Covington, GA	Local
April	13	Airgunning Atlanta Match	Covington, GA	Local

NEXT AA MATCHES - SATURDAY NOVEMBER 10th
Next Practice Matches – Saturday November 24th
Practice Matches every two weeks unless a monthly AA Match

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