



# MRRRA.org

Minnesota Rifle and Revolver Association - Since 1932

**Fall 2011 Edition:**

## **MEETING GIFT CERTIFICATE DRAWING**

**MRRRA will conduct a drawing for two \$50.00 Gander Mountain gift certificates at the Fall 2011 membership meeting! The meeting is on December 3, 2012, 12:30PM at the Gander Mountain Store in Forest Lake, MN. You must be present at the meeting to win.**

## **MRRRA Fall Membership Meeting**

The fall MRRRA Membership Meeting is scheduled for Saturday, December 03, 2011 at the Gander Mountain Store located in Forest Lake MN. The Membership meeting will start at 12:30PM. The Board meeting is scheduled to start at 10:00AM same date & location. All members are welcome to attend.

## **MRRRA Presidents Message**

Due to all the information submitted for this edition of the MRRRA Newsletter, I will keep my comments brief. This year was a very successful shooting season. There were plenty of well attended high-power, smallbore and pistol matches. International pistol shooting showed nice improvement. In all, Junior shooters were well represented and they set several National Records. Legislatively, we didn't accomplish a lot but we are planning renewed efforts for 2012. I don't have the space to thank all the MRRRA members that contribute to our Association's success, but to all THANK YOU!!!

REMEMBER, it is your association, please attend out meetings and help your Association succeed!

I hope to see you at all the MRRRA meetings and events. I look forward to another great year of shooting in 2012!  
George Minerich, MRRRA President

## **MRRRA Elections for Board of Directors 2012**

It's election time! It's time to vote for MRRRA Executive Board and Board of Director positions at the fall general membership meeting.

Multiple positions are up for election including President, Vice President, Treasurer, and Secretary and 4 Board Members.

If you are interested in any of these positions, please notify me at the email address below or by telephone.

Kevin Bangen, MRRRA Vice President  
651-462-9098 or [kjbangen@frontiernet.net](mailto:kjbangen@frontiernet.net)

## **Northwestern Gun Club Youth Program**

The Northwestern Gun Club (NWGC) is located in the Duluth MN area. Our youth program is run and managed by member volunteers, who provide the program FREE of charge to any interested child ages 8 – 18 years old. The facilities are also handicap accessible so all are welcome. When we started this venture, we had no guns, no ammo, and very big plans. We wanted to introduce as many youth as possible to the sport, and in the process promote the proper use and safe handling of firearms. Classroom instruction as well as hands on shooting experience is provided. With these goals in mind we hope to develop a new generation of people who genuinely like shooting and who will represent to the non-shooting public our finest examples of responsible good shooters. Parents are always encouraged to participate as coaches for the children.

Since that time, we have come a long way. We have acquired donations of much needed equipment and ammunition from a variety of sources, such as the 5 target rifles from the MRRRA, for use by the children in the club. Because of the

difference in size of our kids these rifles have proven very valuable to us since they have removable butt plate spacers and can be adjusted to fit smaller people. Our older 513T Remington's were too long and heavy for the kids. So far we have put almost 2,000 rounds through each rifle. We began offering the club just over three years ago, and have worked with approximately thirty-six children from Duluth and the surrounding communities throughout that time. Although the number of children who participate in our program on a bi-weekly basis varies, we do have a dedicated core group of children that participate regularly and have shown significant skill improvement throughout the duration of the clubs existence.

In addition, we have just recently graduated a small group of five participants that have shown the greatest skill improvement to a second level group of "Competition Shooters" and hope to be able to arrange matches to allow our children to compete with youth from other clubs throughout the area. In the meantime, these five youth have been training to participate in Postal Shooting Matches with other youth throughout the United States on a monthly basis. Our first match begins in December, and runs through March of 2012. We were recently able to purchase shooting jackets, scopes and stands to outfit the team with funds from the MRRA.

As a club we are dedicated to giving young people the opportunity to learn to enjoy and safely use firearms.  
Submitted by NWGC Youth Club Volunteers: Gordy Adams and Ellis Thompson

### **Successful Standing: Your Strategy Decision, by Larry Sawyer**

Back in 2009 I wrote an article for the MRRA Newsletter which detailed the proper sequence for shooting a rifle in the standing position, successfully. Too much time has passed since that first article! I never intended to go this long before presenting a "Part II", but here it is.

In Part I, I talked about the "moment of arrival", when your hold reaches the bull's center. Here is what I wrote:  
*In fact, if you are consistent with all of the parts of the pre-shot routine, you can actually break the shot at the moment of arrival at the bull's center. That's option number one.*  
*Option two is to work the hold for some period of time until you are ready to break the shot.*

I also implied that the first option, which is, breaking the shot when you arrive at the center of the bull, is your best option. I then went on to detail all of the ways in which one's hold deteriorates in the ensuing seconds, and thus, why you might be better off to take the shot on arrival instead of trying to "work the hold".

In this follow-up, we're going to examine the transitional period when you must, and do, make that subconscious decision to break the shot, keep holding, or abort.

Human beings are conscious creatures. We are blessed with the ability to analyze our surroundings and adjust our plans and actions based on that analysis. This is all well and good, except in shooting. In our game, one's instinct and sub-conscious skill set is the greatest factor in the success of a very challenging beast like shooting offhand; not conscious thought. Actively trying to make an analysis of your hold, while shooting, burns up precious fractions of a second, and dooms you to the time lag between *when you think the thought*, "*pull the trigger*", and *when your finger actually moves*. This is the .16-.30 seconds that I previously wrote about. You cannot win that game if the rifle is moving. Unless, of course, your hold stays well inside the ten ring even while moving; and the act of squeezing the trigger does not disturb your hold either. That kind of control is only enjoyed by a small number of elite shooters.

So, we want to concentrate here on a very short period of time— again, just a part of a second, normally— when your hold reaches the center of the bull. It is at this moment in time that the desired outcome (the gun going off) often falls prey to the horrible creature, Conscious Thought. During this transitional phase, your hold has descended from above the bull. The ideal way to do this is in slooowwww motion. The slower you can descend to the bull center, the greater the reaction window you'll allow yourself. Simultaneously, your trigger finger should have been moving, steadily increasing pressure. And, at that critical moment of reaching the center of the bull, you would *finish* squeezing the trigger. Not start; not think about it; not jerk it; just *finish* the squeezing process, which should be about 60-80% along at that moment. You just complete it when the sight arrives at center.

Now, back to our arch-enemy, Conscious Thought. Unless and until you train 20-40 hours a week, you will probably find that the sight picture isn't necessarily cooperating when you hit the critical moment. It is moving. It may be kind of centered, or not, but it is moving. Movement makes us nervous. **And that's when a shooter typically decides to hold on the bull, instead of aborting the shot or breaking the shot.**

When you make that strategy decision, you are, consciously or not, making several other decisions as well:

1. You are deciding to abort your previous plan to break the shot on arrival.
2. You assume that your new plan to hold on the bull is smarter than breaking the shot would have been.
3. You assume that your hold will improve in the next several seconds.
4. You assume that you have the ability to recognize when your hold is starting to deteriorate.
5. You trust and assume that you have the discipline to abort the hold in front of you when it goes south, so that you don't completely toast the shot.

Wow. That's a lot of assumptions. Rest assured, some of them will be wrong.

It's the movement that freaks us out. The movement of the front sight makes us think, "Whoa, that looks pretty bad, I'd better hang on until it gets better. I'll just hold *more still* and then break the shot."

The better strategy is to recognize that there will always be movement, but if you can develop a consistent starting (approach) point, a consistent speed, and a consistent direction of descent to the bull by refining your natural point of aim... so that the rifle *wants* to point at your bull... **then** you can trust where it's heading (the center of the bull), and even when it will arrive there. That degree of trust in the "system" that you've built and developed through practice allows you to squeeze the trigger with confidence, **knowing** that it will **just be arriving** when you finish the squeeze. They meet in the middle. Approach, meet Trigger Squeeze. Trigger Squeeze, meet Approach. Approach and Squeeze, meet Center!

The beauty of this method and strategy is that gravity is doing the work, and if you break the shot early, gravity is still moving the sights *toward the center*. You would be amazed at how many shots that you call high, actually end up near center. And, the icing on the cake is how few will go wide. A right-handed shooter should always approach from 11:00 to 12:00, so if you always endeavor to break it as it comes in, you are on a vertical (descending) path, not a horizontal one. *You are always headed toward the center!* It's a very forgiving technique.

If you practice the aforementioned sequence, you will train your body to let the rifle descend slowly, your finger to move smoothly, and the sequence will complete itself at the moment your eye sees a centered bull. In theory, you can develop enough predictability in your approach that you could finish the squeeze based purely on time! In theory. ;-)

This is the thought process that I have used for years in teaching my juniors, and which I use myself most of the time. On occasion, if I have been training with great frequency and extra effort, I switch to that "other method", the one based on holding on the bull. But, that's a story for another time.

## **RIGHT TO KEEP AND BEAR ARMS**

Will YOU help make 2012 Minnesota's most important year ever? Minnesota is one of only six states that does not have Right to Keep and Bear Arms in its State Constitution. In recent years the US Supreme Court just barely managed to figure out that the 2nd Amendment to the US Constitution provides a right to have a gun at home for personal protection.

We, in Minnesota have NO state government recognized right to have a gun for personal protection outside of the home, hunting, clay shooting, recreational shooting, competitive shooting, or anything except personal protection at home. Permit to carry, hunting regulations, etc., are NOT a state government recognized right.

The plan is to work with the NRA ILA HQ to seek 2012 legislation to have a November 2012 referendum to, hopefully, amend our state constitution to bring us up to speed with 44 other states that have RKBA in their state constitutions.

The legislature convenes in February 2012. NOW - we need volunteers who can and will follow instructions and stay on message in email and phone contacts with at least 5 to 10 legislators each, as a representative of the MN NRA State Association (MRRRA) Legislative Committee, in January, before the legislature meets, and will email very brief results of their contacts to us.

Our 2011 experience is that we need to effectively communicate to, even “Pro Gun” legislators, that:

- 1.) It is not about guns - It is about Freedom.
- 2.) Our First Freedoms are more important than budgets or social issues.
- 3.) Many of the 500,000 Minnesotans who say they are NRA members, including the 80,000 paying dues, are their constituents and are very interested in their action on legislation to have a 2012 referendum to amend the MN constitution to provide them with the Right to Keep and Bear Arms that 44 other states have.

If YOU are someone who can and will follow instructions and stay on message in contacts with at least 5 to 10 legislators, by email and phone, as a representative of the MN NRA State Association (MRRA) Legislative Committee, we need your help! Please contact us in January, before the legislature meets. Please send me an email:

Cedric Scofield, Phone: 612 418 3270, email: [cscofield@NRAonline.com](mailto:cscofield@NRAonline.com)

Chairman, MRRA Legislative Committee

### **2011 MRRA Pistol Chairman's Report**

It was a year full of conventional pistol competitions. The 2011 Indoor Sectional was held in Wadena and the Gold medal winner was Greg Odakowski with a score of 866-22x.

The 2011 Indoor State Championship was again held in Wadena and the Match Winner was James Ladwig 1715-49x. The Indoor State Champion is George Kasat 1702-29x. The 2011 Outdoor Regional winners were: Gold medal winner Paul Porter 2608-93x, Silver medal winner George Kasat 2576-93x and Bronze medal winner Tom O'donnell 2542-69x. The .22 team match was won by the Iowa team with a score of 1141-36x, the center fire team match was won by the Minnesota team with a score of 1138-42x and the .45 team match was won by the Minnesota team with a score of 1127-37x.

It was nice to see a full line of competitors at the 2011 Outdoor State Championship held at the Oakdale GC in Lake Elmo. The match winner was Paul Porter 2634-102x, Outdoor State Champion is George Kasat 2583-101x, the Hardball State Champion is Tom O'donnell 266-5x. The Revolver State Champion is Wally Erikson with a score of 266-4x. Of special note, Joe Kovach of Ashland Wisconsin legged out in the hardball match and earned Distinguished Pistol Shot Badge Number 1503, congrats Joe!

The youth precision air pistol league is in full swing at the South Side Shooting Sports Center south of Lakeville. Thanks to support from the MRRA, there are 6 indoor shooting lanes there for training and practice throughout the winter. Every Wednesday night you can find Boy Scout Venture Crew leader Wally Erikson training young men and women in the art of pistol. A returning shooter this year is pentathlete Aaron lane. Aaron started shooting in the fall of 2010, trained weekly through the winter and by the spring of 2011, won high junior at the Minnesota State Air Pistol Championship. He then placed 4th in the Youth Nationals this summer at the Olympic Training Center in Colorado. That qualified him to represent the United States in the Youth World Championships in Istanbul Turkey this last August! He traveled there and competed well earning 76th in the world. Congratulations Aaron and we all wish you well on achieving your goal of competing in the 2016 Olympic Summer games.

Respectfully submitted, Wally Erikson, MRRA Pistol Chair

### **CMP Rifle Week at Camp Perry 2011**

2011 saw the Minnesota team represented again at Camp Perry for the National Trophy Rifle Matches. There were eleven directly involved with the team matches and some others who came out for the individual events. Team members were Kurt Borlaug, Tim Boyle, Dean Gillette, Mark Havlik, (Dean and Mark are Perry newbies) Terry MacDonald, Kurt Moline, Mark Schoess, Tom Torborg and Larry Weidell. We had father and son, George and Matt Cwach from South Dakota who were a huge help during the NTT event when they pulled targets all day. Thanks guys!

Other Minnesota attendees were Greg McCarty (who made the President's 100 on his first trip to Perry), James Pennington (who shot well enough to earn his final Leg) and first time Perry attendee John Richardson. The MN Army National Guard was represented by SSGT Al Schneider and CWO Roger Sorben.

The weather was hot as usual, but the week got off to an exciting start during the President's Match when we had to evacuate the range due to a nasty thunderstorm. There was a delay of a few hours but the later relays benefitted from milder winds at 600 yards.

The NTI on Tuesday got off to a frantic start with the threat of rain. We were allowed to fire 200 rapid stage without the usual relay break. Unfortunately the threat of rain lessened and the range officers lost all sense of time and the match dragged on unnecessarily but that's what we LOVE about Perry. What else are you going to do?

Wednesday saw the first inaugural Vintage Sniper Match contested after the completion of the Hearst Doubles. Minnesota was well represented with rifles from the Torborg Armory for the sniper match. This match was the smoothest run match of the week and some excellent scores were posted by MN Shooters. Tim Boyle and Tom Torborg were paired together, as were Larry Weidell and Mark Schoess. This format looks so promising that GRRC has made room in the schedule for three of these events in 2012. These will be fired in conjunction with other CMP Games events. Namely M-1 and Vintage Bolt/ Springfield matches.

The big team events were Thursday and Friday. Our standings remained the same for the NTT and we made some more progress in the Infantry match. Next season will see us drilling a lot more for these events and with a bit of luck making a bit more progress in each. Unfortunately we had to "burn" three shooters in the Infantry match. That means you reading this may be one of the shooters I need as a "new" shooter for 2012. Each team has to have one "new" shooter for each team event every year and we are always on the hunt for "that guy". Is it you?? If you'd like more info my e-mail will be at the bottom of this article.

Results from Camp Perry can be found at the CMP website: [odcmp.com](http://odcmp.com)

As captain of the team I owe all of you folks a big THANK YOU for all the time and effort, as well as financial commitment you put into these matches. Without your dedication I'd be a lonely guy.  
Submitted by, Kurt Borlaug, MRRA Service Rifle Chair -- [kubeborlaug@msn.com](mailto:kubeborlaug@msn.com)

### **Vintage Military Rifle Matches at Gopher Rifle & Revolver Next Year by Tom Torborg**

For 2012 shooting season, the Gopher Rifle & Revolver Club High Power Discipline is pleased to announce that we have scheduled four Vintage Military rifle matches. The dates are April 21<sup>st</sup>, May 5<sup>th</sup>, June 16<sup>th</sup> and July 14<sup>th</sup>. The first one will be held in conjunction with our annual High Power Service Rifle Clinic. This clinic introduces and teaches people the fundamentals of rifle marksmanship. It also introduces people the High Power format of a rifle match. Anyone who takes this clinic would then be able to shot a high power rifle match anywhere in the country including the National Matches held at Camp Perry Ohio because the range commands, pit rotations, firing styles, etc, are always the same.

This year we are trying something new by gearing the clinic to the person interested in shooting vintage military rifles. No longer must someone use a M1, M14/M1A or Ar-15 type rifle to take our clinic. Any as-issued service rifle will suffice. Actually, they don't even have to own a rifle since GRRC owns four M1's and two AR-15 rifles that may be checked out for the day. The only requirement to use a club gun is that you must purchase ammo for it from the club.

The Vintage Military Rifle Match is one of the fastest growing forms of High Power Rifle shooting. More people shoot the vintage matches at the nationals then the more traditional President's 100, National Trophy Individual (Leg), Hearst, National Trophy Team and National trophy Infantry Team matches. Vintage matches have become so popular at the nationals that you need to register for the matches about four months in advance to guarantee a spot.

Now you won't need to register that far in advance for our matches. But we are trying to attract as many people as possible. The match fees are still being decided but we want to keep as affordable as possible. Right now the plan is that the clinic will include one Vintage Military Match and the cost will be \$30. The stand alone Vintage Military Match will cost \$15 and the Vintage Sniper \$20. The sniper match will be more expensive simply because there are two different size targets involved and thus different repair centers to purchase. Again these prices may change slightly as we firm up the cost associated with these matches.

The clinic is only going to be offered at the first date. The other dates will just be rifle matches. You don't have to take

the clinic to shoot the matches on the first date. The clinic will begin at 9:00am and the Vintage Military Matches that day won't start before 11:00am. These are fast past matches and we are planning to do two each day. These matches will

consist of 5 sighting shots and 30 shots for record. The shots are fired as follows:

- A. 5 sighting shots from any position
- B. 10 shots from the prone position
- C. 10 shots rapid fire from the prone position starting from standing
- D. 10 shots from the standing position.

On May 5<sup>th</sup>, June 16<sup>th</sup> and July 14<sup>th</sup> we will also have a third match, the Vintage Sniper Match. This is a team event where people pair up in two man teams. One person is the spotter and the other is the shooter. This match starts at the 300 yard line. The shooter for each team will fire 10 shots for record. Then the roles are switched and the spotter becomes the shooter and vice versa. The new shooter the fires 10 shots for record. We then move back to the 600 yard line and repeat. I shot this match for the first time last year at the nationals. I had more fun at this match than any other match I shot during the entire week.

I'm willing to guess everyone right now is thinking: "What rifles can I use in these matches?" Please see what the CMP Rules say at: <http://www.odcmp.com/Competitions/Rulebook.pdf>

If you have any questions or you would like to reserve your spot in these exciting matches you can contact me Tom Torborg at: [tjtorborg@aol.com](mailto:tjtorborg@aol.com).

### **Great Prairie Pentathlon finished off a great 2011 season and prepares for 2012, by Todd J. McIntyre**

To many, the word Pentathlon is very unfamiliar, hard to pronounce and even harder to spell. In fact, an occasional response is, 'It has something to do about sports, I think.' While the sport of Pentathlon is well recognized in Europe, it has been slow to catch on in the United States despite its contribution to the Modern Olympics since the 1906 Athens Games.

The only Olympic Sport designed for the Olympics, each discipline of Pentathlon: Fencing, Swimming, Equestrian Jumping, Running/Shooting reflects each of the five interlocking rings of the Olympic Symbol. When Pierre de Coubertin revitalized the Modern Olympics in the late 1800s, he chose these five disciplines because he believed they were the skills that Napoleon's officers needed to have in order to survive on the battlefield. Today, as those five skills reflect the Olympic Symbol, the Gold Medalist at the Olympic Games is considered the best athlete of those Games.

As the Regional Director for USA Pentathlon, Todd J. McIntyre of Great Prairie Sports has quickly developed a successful program. In two years, athletes from seven states and two countries have traveled to participate in the Great Prairie Pentathlon. In 2011, two youth from the Great Prairie Pentathlon club qualified for the UIPM World Youth Championships and another finished 2<sup>nd</sup> at the USA Pentathlon Youth Nationals in her age division.

As training is currently ramping up for the 2012 season, a new stable of fresh recruits are focused on reaching the podium at the USA Pentathlon Nationals as well as qualify for the World Championships.

"We had two youth (Aaron Lane, Farmington, MN and Alice Knaeble, Stillwater, MN) qualify for Worlds this past summer; for 2012, I hope to take 3-4 to Budapest, Hungary for the UIPM World Youth Championships," said coach and founder Todd McIntyre of Great Prairie Sports.

"We have some very talented young athletes in our region. This is displayed throughout a variety of sports including ice hockey, volleyball and baseball. Pentathlon is not one sport, it is six sports: all five disciplines individually and all five collectively. If someone is a good all-around athlete who swims and likes to run, there is no easier way to qualify for the Olympics from the United States than through Pentathlon. Yes, it takes a lot of time to train for multiple events, but the rewards sure are sweet."

"I am very pleased with how our athletes have competed thus far and in such a short period of time. We have had great assistance from MRRA and various Air Pistol Shooters in the area including Mike Marzitelli, Steve Studt, Brian Shiffman, Dean Sime, Wally Erikson and Tim Cagney. We are also using the SCATT training system to improve our

shooting precision. This training aid should help us distinguish ourselves from the other shooters in the country.” “We will always be adding and refining our training techniques, but we are certainly off to a good start and eagerly look forward to future events and results.”

Upcoming Great Prairie Sports events include:

Saturday, February 11, 2012 – Great Prairie 10m Air Pistol Championships presented by Great Prairie Foods at Bill’s Gun Range in Robbinsdale, MN.

Saturday, May 19, 2012 – Great Prairie Pentathlon presented by Pizza Hut in River Falls, WI.

Saturday, July 7, 2012 – USA Pentathlon Youth Nationals at the US Olympic Training Center, Colorado Springs, CO.  
For more information see: [www.greatprairiesports.com](http://www.greatprairiesports.com)

### **Northwest Gun Club Report, Elliot Zunich**

This fall has been fairly busy at the Northwestern Gun Club. Completion of the fourth pistol range was completed (at great expense) to satisfy the issue of possible ricochets from bullets off of the steel targets in the first pistol range. All metal targets are now in that fourth range which is the range farthest to the north and most distant from the plinkers range and the road to the pits.

As many of you will remember, we had a tremendous turn out for the 9-11 Memorial Match/MN State Mid-Range Prone Championship. A lot of confusion resulted because of having to go from 3 relays to 4 and have all shooters complete the 300 yard stage before moving to the 500 yard line. Thanks to Brian Mrnak of Ashland, who got in touch with Earl Liebetau from Lodi, WI Saturday evening and obtained a rotation that had Sunday running a lot smoother than Saturday. As a result of this dilemma, we had a tree service come out and cut back and widen both sides of the range so that, when necessary, we can shoot all 15 targets from the 500 yard line.

Next summer, when you come to visit the NWGC, you will be able to see Hunters Lake a lot better from the cabin. While the tree service was there, we had them thin out the smaller Norway's and trim off some of the lower hanging branches. New ceiling tiles were installed in the cabin to match those in the Education and Shooting Center class room and the ceiling in the 16 Yard Shack. The attic was also re-insulated. The cabin looks pretty sharp now. Now, to get water and toilet facilities in the cabin. Maybe next year.

NWGC Winter 200 yard Off Hand League will begin most probably right after the Thanksgiving holidays. With respect to the indoor range, I've been told that 36 pistol shooters are signed up for the winter bulls-eye league that is to begin early December. Submitted by, Elliot Zunich

### **MRRA Match Programs and Guidelines, by Captain Bob Peasley**

Over the years the various clubs in Minnesota have been left to their own devices to create programs for the various types of NRA competition. For the most part these program variations have sufficed nicely. However there is always room for improvement. MRRA has their own rules, policies, guidelines & good ideas on how to create a program and run a match. A “situation” this summer at a rifle club led to a discussion on how to eliminate problems and improve the way matches are run and programs are written. Thus I was tasked with creating a document to help clubs avoid problems and communicate better with their customers, the shooters. So, in no particular order of importance here are some items I believe should be in each program. Also in no particular order things your club **MUST** do in a timely manner to complete the event. Keep in mind this is being written in October 2011 and numerous things can change over the years. Things like NRA and MRRA rules, entry fees etc. Also note that NRA refers to what we do as “TOURNAMENTS” whereas most of us use the term “MATCH”.

**RULE 1.** Keep in mind when reading the below brilliant ideas that about 90 % of the shooters read about 90% of the program. However I still believe it is important to include these items to avoid problems. If they don't read your refund policy they can't complain if they don't like it.

1. You can eliminate much typing and save a lot of paper if your program says NRA or CMP RULES will be used. There is no need to describe what constitutes a legitimate team, or what cartridges are suitable for an EIC match etc. It's all in the rule books. And make sure someone at the event has the proper rulebook!
  - a. You should however list special award categories. There are a bunch of them but most of our match programs list high woman, senior, grand senior & junior. Be sure to specify the number of entries required for this award.
  - b. You can also create your own bright idea for a special award. For example high M1 Garand in the service rifle match. Or high Palma rifle in a MRP match. Or high lefty!
2. Your program should say something about when the challenge period ends. I generally say it ends when we start the reward ceremony.
3. Be sure to include ALL fees so there is no surprise when the competitor shows up at the stat office. Currently your club must collect the following fees.
  - a. MRRA fee \$4.00 at state championships only. By tradition state championships have been REGISTERED matches.
  - b. NRA fees are \$4.50 at APPROVED matches, \$5.50 at REGISTERED matches, and \$9.00 at REGIONALS.
  - c. It's up to your club to decide how much more above and beyond the above you want to charge so that you have a reasonable award schedule and a small profit for the club. Generally \$20.00 to \$25.00 is acceptable for a 1 day event and \$30.00 to \$40.00 for 2 days.
4. When you do NRA & MRRA paperwork you need send only the proper fee for the total number of names not total number of events. This assumes that you submitted the program for both days on 1 application. For example, you shoot MRP on Saturday and OTC on Sunday. You have 30 on Saturday & 20 of them shoot Sunday also. On Sunday you have 15 attend just for OTC. Thus you have 30 names from Saturday & 15 more from Sunday. So you send NRA or MRRA the proper fee X 35 names. If you have the same attendance with 2 separate programs for 2 different courses of fire you would pay for 45 names.
5. Have the NRA medals & certificates on hand to distribute to the winners.
6. At state championships you need to make arrangements for distribution of class winner certificates. Your discipline chairman should have those. If not, I do. I send them to you and you do the work! I also have a template prepared so all you need to do is clear out the data on each line and enter new data.
7. Your stat person is also responsible to advise the discipline chairperson of possible new Minnesota state records.
8. If you have a 2 day state championship with team one day & individual another day don't forget to put in the program that those shooting team only must still pay MRRA & NRA fees as well as their team fee.
9. In the unlikely event of a blizzard or rain out your program for any match should clearly state a refund policy, if any. Keep in mind that if you send any scores to NRA you must pay the fees whether you shoot ¼ of the match or all. My programs state that if we are unable to finish at least half the match a full refund will be made and no scores will be sent in. If we finish half or more, a \$5.00 or \$10.00 refund will apply and scores will be sent in. There should also be a no show policy for someone who paid but didn't show up. How about a late arrival? I would accept them only if you had a target with only 2 shooters. I'm not going to re-squad for 1 more shooter.
10. Are you having a problem with some jerk complaining that your outhouse smells bad? Or the gravel road is too dusty? Or doesn't like your relay rotation? Simple solution. Call your event the "**ANNUAL CORN FEED & SHOOTIN' CONTEST INVITATIONAL**" and don't invite them! My programs state clearly that my club reserves the right to refuse entry to anyone, but we can't imagine why we would!
11. OK, here is the biggie. How to squad the various classes of shooters. Ideally the shooters of relatively equal ability should be on the same relay. Unfortunately for this plan, we have far more HIGH MASTERS (at least in the various high power events) than the lower classes. There is no correct way around this problem but here is what I have in my programs. I state that HIGH MASTERS will be on the same relay to the extent that attendance allows by advance entries WITH payment given priority. Or better yet, your program can say random squadding will be used in the order you reach the stat officer to enter! Or best of all, you can REQUIRE advance entry WITH payment and a \$10.00 post entry fee. This is the only way to avoid an embarrassing situation where you have more shooters standing in line than you can accommodate.
12. Be sure your state championship program clearly states that the state champion **MUST BE** a Minnesota resident but **anyone** can win the match. Also state they **MUST** be MRRA members or members of their home state association. If the match winner is a non resident they will receive a memento similar to the state champion to recognize their achievement.

13. Whoever does the stat work should also send a copy of that document to the MRRA web master for posting on the web. Or send it to the discipline chairman or MRRA president if you don't know the web master. Your program should state how results will be distributed. Via slow mail, email, on the web site or personal phone call, whatever. I believe NRA rules still say a competitor list with their addresses must be included with the results. I haven't sent a competitor list since about 1982 and have had zero complaints.
14. When the match is over the work is not. You need to get scores, money & reports to NRA or CMP within a week. It is far easier if you have a data base or spread sheet that allows you to pick the fields you need to send to NRA vs. filling out SR1 cards. You can use this same sheet to email scores to the shooters & web master.
  - a. If it's NRA registered there are a few more forms to be filled out.
  - b. If it's a registered state championship there is a form to fill out for the state champion, both team & individual. NRA will send them certificates.
  - c. If it's a CMP match you must send the actual score cards & fees.

Most likely there are other items I missed. If you think of something let me know. CB

### **2012 Minnesota State Service Rifle Championship Match by Denny Bertrand**

The Northwestern Gun Club wishes to thank the Minnesota Rifle and Revolver Association and its members for awarding the us right to host the 2012 Minnesota State Service Rifle Championship Match.

All Minnesota State Championship Matches are important to the continuation of the shooting tradition of Minnesota. However, it is my opinion that of all the various State Championship Matches, the Service Rifle Championship is the true test of a person's skill as a rifleman. This match requires the competitor to master standing, sitting and prone firing position, as well as both slow fire and rapid fire stages. The match consists of firing at ranges of 200, 300 and either 500 or 600 yards using only iron sights. The course of fire consists of 20 shots for record at four stages. Many chances for errors or equipment failures.

Incorporated as an additional event there is an Excellence In Competition match. This is a fifty shot match, shot "over the course" and consists of the three firing positions mentioned above and incorporates both slow and rapid fire stages. This match does not allow for sighting shots. Each competitor must know his equipment and ammunition in advance or risk losing points. This EIC match, sometimes referred to as a "leg" match pits all competitors against each other with no handicap system. Success, sometimes over many years, leads to a competitor being recognized as a "Distinguished Rifleman". The reward is membership in a group that over the past 135 years numbers only a little more than twice as many as are in the Medal Of Honor club.

Also included as part of the Minnesota Service Rifle Championship Match is a team match that consists of four shooting team members, and may include a team captain and a coach. The course of fire is the same as the EIC match, but in this match shooters receive coaching.

It has been suggested by a few service rifle shooters that the match program be reviewed with the possibility of modernizing one or more of the events. One suggestion is to substitute CMP rules for the NRA rules. The aim seems to be to eliminate all sighting shots and to require competitors to begin each rapid fire string from the standing position. This would also do away with the NRA Classification system. All competitors would compete on a straight away footing. Instead of awards based on the NRA classification, awards could be based on a Lewis system, for instance.

Since the EIC match is already under the CMP rules, no changes to this match is suggested or contemplated.

The four man Championship Team Match has traditionally started at long range shortly after the conclusion of the Individual Championship match on Saturday. This has been done in an attempt to finish all shooting on Sunday by 5 or 6 PM. But this leads to a long day of shooting on Saturday. There has been some discussion that this is one of the reasons that the team match has not been highly attended in recent years.

As an alternative to a Minnesota Service Rifle Team Match, there has been some discussion of substituting a 30 shot (10 shots slow fire standing at 200 yards, 10 shots rapid fire prone at 300 yards and 10 shots slow fire at 500 yards) match which would be named The Governor's Twenty. Awards and recognition would go to the top 10% of the competitors.

The idea here is that this match could be fired on Sunday prior to the EIC match. Competitors who did not or could not compete in the Individual Championship Match on Saturday would still be able to check their sight settings and equipment prior to the EIC match. And this format would shorten the time on the range on Saturday.

Finally, I no longer compete in Service Rifle Matches. Seems the old eyes no longer see a post front sight. So I do not feel comfortable with making changes to the format of the Minnesota State Service Rifle Championship Match. Rather, any changes should be the result of careful consideration by those competitors who do participate in this match.

It has been suggested that this matter be included on the agenda of the MRRR fall meeting for discussion. I ask all interested parties to consider this topic and plan to present your views at the meeting. If you are unable to attend the meeting, please let your ideas and wishes be known.

The Northwestern Gun Club plans to host an event that is enjoyed by the competitors. But we do not want to make changes for changes sake. The match format should not be approached as a work in progress, nor should it be changed to suit the whims of the host club or a small number of shooters. Your comments are solicited. Speak, or hold your piece (pun intended).

Denny Bertrand, (214) 995-2622 Or [dbertrand38@verizon.net](mailto:dbertrand38@verizon.net)  
NWGC 2012 Service Rifle Championship Match Director

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# Minnesota Rifle & Revolver Association (MRRA)

## Application For Adult Membership

(Juniors use the Application for Juniors form at [mrra.org](http://mrra.org))

New Application

Renewal

Change of Information

Last Name:

First:

Middle:

Date of Birth \_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_

Minnesota Resident Yes  No

Street Address:

City:

State:

Zip Code:

Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_ NRA Member #: \_\_\_\_\_

E-Mail: \_\_\_\_\_ Please send my newsletter by e-mail  Yes!

*Sending newsletters by e-mail saves the MRRA printing & postage costs. I agree to notify the MRRA of changes to my e-mail address.*

### Please Check Areas Of Interest

Hunting (Big game) <input type="checkbox"/>	<u>Competition</u>	<u>Competition</u>	<u>Competition</u>
Hunting (Upland game) <input type="checkbox"/>	Rifle (Smallbore) <input type="checkbox"/>	Pistol (Conventional) <input type="checkbox"/>	Cowboy Action <input type="checkbox"/>
Hunting (Waterfowl) <input type="checkbox"/>	Rifle (Highpower) <input type="checkbox"/>	Pistol (IDPA/USPSA) <input type="checkbox"/>	3-Gun <input type="checkbox"/>
I would like more	Rifle (Long-range/Palma) <input type="checkbox"/>	Pistol (International) <input type="checkbox"/>	BPCR <input type="checkbox"/>
information about MRRA	Rifle (International) <input type="checkbox"/>	Trap <input type="checkbox"/>	Muzzleloading <input type="checkbox"/>
activities for Juniors <input type="checkbox"/>	F-Class <input type="checkbox"/>	Skeet <input type="checkbox"/>	Silhouette <input type="checkbox"/>
		Sporting Clays <input type="checkbox"/>	Air Rifle/Air Pistol <input type="checkbox"/>

### **MEMBERSHIP FEES:**

One Year \$15.00       5 Years \$60.00       Life Membership \$350.00

Memberships expire on December 31st. Memberships started late in the year will expire on Dec 31st of the following year.

I authorize the MRRA to provide my contact information to MRRA affiliated clubs. I certify that I am not now, nor have I ever been a member of any organization which advocates the overthrow of the government of the United States by force or violence. I further certify that I have never been convicted of a felony, crime of violence or misdemeanor domestic violence, and that I am not otherwise prohibited from owning firearms. If accepted as a member of the Minnesota Rifle and Revolver Association, I pledge to practice good sportsmanship, support the MRRA, and uphold the Constitution of the United States and the Second Amendment.

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

**Mail Completed Form to:**  
Mark Rohmann – MRRA Membership Secretary  
4737 Co Rd 101 – Box 114  
Minnetonka, MN 55345-2634



**MRRA.org**

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4737 HWY 10, # 114  
MINNETONKA MN 55345**

Your Membership Expires on this date:

**TO:**