

2025 CMP National Match Recap

STORY BY JUSTIN BURNS, TSRA HIGH POWER RIFLE

The CMP held the annual **National Rifle Matches** last year from July 21st through August 3rd in Port Clinton, OH, at Camp Perry. These matches have been held there annually since 1907. The traditional week of trophy matches is known as “**Board Week**,” which is made up of the **President’s 100**, **National Trophy Individual Match (NTI)**, **Hearst Doubles**, **National Trophy Team Match (NTT)**, and **National Trophy Infantry Team (NTIT or Rattle Battle**, as it is commonly known). **TSRA was represented by over 50 members of all ages and from all parts of the state.**

Last year marked the first time that all matches except NTIT were shot on electronic targets, and the results could be viewed in real time online using the Kongsberg Target Systems (KTS). Shooters also have each target for all matches automatically saved and readily reviewable on their personal devices. Note that while the value is shown in decimal format, the score is still based on the integer value (i.e., 10.6 equals 10).

Monday started Board Week with the **President’s 100 Rifle Match**. This is a 30-shot match with no sighters. The top twenty competitors get an additional 10 shots at 600-yards in what is called the P100 shoot-off. New to these matches, the shoot-off was done on the electronic targets with the results shown on a big screen and the standings announced after each round. **This shoot-off was one of the most memorable of all time.** **Conrad Young** entered the shoot-off in second place. He very quickly moved up the ranking to be tied for first and held the position until all ten shots were fired, **leaving him tied with Jared Desrosiers SSG for first.** They then entered a **sudden-death shoot-off**. On the first shot, Jared quickly shot a X, while Conrad’s shot was a tight 10, **resulting in the tie-breaking shot going to Jared.** (Read the CMP article [here](#)).

Four other TSRA Members, **Justin Utley, James Huetteman, Danny Arnold,** and **Gary Troxell** all made the top 100 shooters. There was a total of 874 competitors, which is up from previous years.



TSRA Gold from Left: John Ilzhofer, Conrad Young, Kyle Hoelsher, Justin Burns, Gary Troxell, Justin Utley, Greg Troxell and Randy Scheibel

TSRA Silver from Left: Arianna Perry, Brent Halamik, Daryl Melkert, Clay Maugans, Paul Lenhart and Bruce Finley



Tuesday was the National Trophy Individual Match (NTI), which is a 50-shot match with no sighters. **This is considered the most important individual match of the week**, as in addition to earning points for the Distinguished Rifleman Badge, there are numerous trophies and awards associated with it. **Conrad Young** placed 9th highest civilian, while **Wyatt Dunbar** (junior) placed 7th junior overall. **Daryl Melkert** placed 2nd Senior and 2nd Veteran. There were 818 competitors, including the military teams. CMP awards gold, silver, and bronze medals based on score. This year, **TSRA Members were awarded nine gold, four silver, and four bronze Daniel Boone medals.**

On Wednesday morning, the **Hearst Doubles Match** was held, which is a two-person team thirty-shot match. This kicks off the team events. **One TSRA team placed high enough to earn a Hearst Doubles Medallion: 7th: Justin Utley and Conrad Young.**

Wednesday afternoon was the **Freedom Fire two-man junior team match**. There were an impressive nine junior teams representing Texas, **the most of any state in attendance.**

Thursday brought torrential rain and high winds, so the **National Trophy Team Match (NTT)** was postponed to Friday, which still had challenging winds and soggy conditions. This match is a 50 shot, six-man team match, with Coach, Captain, and Scorekeeper. TSRA fielded two adult teams (**Gold and Silver**), while the Texas Juniors fielded three junior teams (**TSRA Gold, Silver, and Bronze**). Additionally, **Team Giraud** (named in memory of Doug Giraud) fielded another adult Texan team. **Loni Barry** made the **Elihu Root team**, which is composed of the top six civilian (adult and junior) competitors.



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The awards ceremony begins with recognition of the newest **Distinguished Riflemen**. Three TSRA Members earned their Distinguished Rifleman's Badge over the past year:

1. **Sarah Morton**
2. **Robert Brown**
3. **Joshua Brown**

Many competitors have already started preparations for this year. The nationals are open to anyone to enter. The best way to prepare is to get out to your local club matches and state championships.



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