

THE LOUISIANA MID-RANGE PRONE & F-CLASS CHAMPIONSHIP

October 3,4, 2009

The 2009 Louisiana Mid-Range Prone Championship is in the record books, and that is very appropriate language; as the winning scores were very near record setting levels for Prone and F-Class. The attendance was our best ever, at thirty nine shooters, and our door prize list was also our best ever, totaling over Thirty Five Hundred Dollars. (And yes, that decimal is in the right place, \$3500.00)

PRONE

Saturday morning arrived with cool October breezes and moderate temperatures, but the range heated up quickly on the first relay when hot scores were fired up. On the prone side, Bob Jenkins, Brandon Green, Carl Jones and Gary Henry tuned in 199's, only to be shown 200's by Rob Westfall, Gary Crayne and Jon Rhynard. By the second relay the winds had picked up and scores dropped a notch with five 198's reported to three 199's, fired by Carl Jones, Jon Rhynard and Tom Cole, only to be bested by a 200 by Brandon Green. Things were getting interesting. The third relay produced 199's by Randy Nash, the Jenkins twins, and Jon Rhynard, followed by another 200 by Brandon Green. Standings in the High Master class at days end had Green in the lead with 599-36x (off the range record only by x-count) followed very closely by Rhynard's 598-40x, then Bob Jenkins, Rob Westfall and Bill Jenkins with 596-31x, 595-35x and 595-27x respectively. The Master class was lead convincingly by Gary Crayne who turned in scores of 200-6, 198-9 and 197-8 for a day end score of 595-23x, still in the overall hunt for the Championship. The Expert class was dominated by the fine shooting of Tom Cole, whose scores were 197-10, 199-10 and 195-12 for an end of day 591-22x. I don't think Tom will be an Expert much longer. In the combined Sharpshooter/Marksman class, our Junior David Higgins led the day with his 565-17x.

F-CLASS

The winds on Saturday made it clear that whoever won the day, and ultimately the match, would have earned it. It was challenging conditions but not unmanageable for the best of the best. Whitney Simoneaux took control on relay one and never let go. His 198-13 led the scores of Chris Coburn, 196-10; and Donald Conner, 195-8. In the TR category, Ted Torres led the way with 197-6, followed closely by Sean McKay's 195-6. Very good shooting for a .308 in those conditions! On relay two, Simoneaux put more pressure on the others when he posted a 199-8, but that was followed with good scores by Geraci, 198-9 and Coburn, 197-9. For the second relay in TR with the winds up, David Aldridge posted a 189-3, as did Sean McKay, 189-2, and Ted Torres, 189-5, only to be turned back by Victor Johnson's 191-5. It was a close race going to the third relay, but Sean McKay posted a smoking 195-5 to lead Ted Torres' 191-3, giving McKay a two point lead at the end of the day; 579-13 to Torres' 577-14. Whitney Simoneaux put a foot to the throat of his competitors when he posted his final score of 200-8 for a blistering 597-29x aggregate. Joe Bougard got it together with a 199-9, followed by Don Geraci's 198-9, but it was too late, Simoneaux carried the day by seven over Coburn's 590-22 and Donald Conner's fine 587-15. Sunday would be an interesting day.

LUNCH

Since we include lunch in the entry fee, I should mention the menu of a great Cajun jambalaya, wonderful venison sausage and burgers, all cooked on the range. At times it was difficult to concentrate on shooting when the aromas from the cooking drifted over the firing line. Following lunch, those not lost in an excessive food stupor were eying the door prizes. This year the shooters were able to go thru the door prize table three times each. The coveted early drawing winners were Ronald Kliebert; **Nightforce 8x32 scope**, Rob Westfall: **Krieger barrel**, Brandon Green; **CED chronograph**.

We were also able to give hard to find primers, match bullets, a Harris bi-pod, front sights, gunsmithing certificates, and lots of other shooting goodies. Randy Nash also contributed a large box of goodies. It *almost* took too long to give it all away. Such a problem.

TEAM MATCH

Nine teams signed up for the two man fun match. Prone shooters were given handicap points based on classifications, i.e., Marksman = 8pts, Master 2pts; F-TR= 8pts, Open= 0 pts. It was our way of encouraging new shooters to try team shooting. It worked, as we had six prone and three f-class teams. The winning prone guys were TWeam-2 (not a mis-print) consisting of twins Ed and Roy Cole. The winning f-class team was Coburn & McKay.

SUNDAY

We knew going in on Sunday that the rain was coming and it was coming big. It was only a matter of when and how much we could get in before it hit. As it turned out, we got but a single 20 shot string from everyone before the heavens opened up. Gary Henry wasn't thinking about the weather, he drove home a strong 200-15, but it was Jon Rhynard who carried the day and the Championship when he posted a strong 200-13 to Brandon Green's 198-16, thus giving Jon an incredible 798-53x to Brandon's 797-52x. In anyone's book, that is just incredibly good shooting in challenging conditions. Heck it is great shooting in any conditions! Bob Jenkins followed with a 199-13 for his 795-43x. Awesome shooting guys, CONGRATULATIONS AND WELL DONE!

On the other side of the range, Joe Bougard fired a 199-10 to show everyone he will return strong next time. At the same time though, Whitney Simoneaux refused to loosen his strangle hold by posting a 'no-mercy' 200-13 to capture the 2009 Louisiana F-Class Championship with his 797-41x domination. Chris Coburn was next with 785-30, followed by Donald Conner with 783-20. David Aldridge posted a strong TR string of 196-7, but Sean McKay drove home a 192-3 to capture the 2009 Louisiana F-Class TR Championship with 771-16x. Ted Torres followed with 766-17x and David Aldridge was next with 759-16x. CONGRATULATIONS AND WELL DONE!

THANKS

First, thanks to everyone who attended our Championship. We hope you enjoyed it and return next year. We are trying to make it into something special. Next year we hope to make it bigger and better.

Thanks also to our monthly shooters for their support, and their generous contributions of winnings towards our door prize fund. It made up a good part of the pot. Thanks also to Don Geraci, Kenny Porter, Randy Nash, Norman Bennett, Joe Mistretta, Joe Bougard, Steve and Marie Estopinal and SportOptics for contributions. Thanks also to the Palo Alto Board of Directors and its members for their work in preparing the range and targets. Finally, to the ladies in the stat house, Dorothy Simoneaux and Carolyn Russell, thank you. There were others not mentioned, mostly because of my CRS, but thank you too!

Look for word of a Spring Regional next year, followed by another State Championship in October, 2010.

Lanny Russell & Gary Henry

**PRONE
HIGH MASTER**

Jon Rhynard	200	15	199	12	199	13	598	40	200	13	798	53	X
Brandon Green	199	16	200	9	200	11	599	36	198	16	797	52	X
Bob Jenkins	199	12	198	9	199	10	596	31	199	13	795	44	X
Rob Westfall	200	12	198	11	197	12	595	35	199	16	794	51	X
Bill Jenkins	198	9	198	9	199	9	595	27	197	9	792	36	X
Gary Henry	199	8	196	13	196	5	591	26	200	15	791	41	X
Bill Walter	198	6	194	6	192	7	584	19	199	12	783	31	X
Roy Cole	192	5	193	8	195	9	580	22	197	5	777	27	X

**PRONE
CHAMPION
1st High Master
2nd High Master**

MASTER

Gary Crayne	200	6	198	9	197	8	595	23	194	4	789	27	X
Carl Jones	199	8	199	6	195	9	593	23	195	6	788	29	X
Randy Nash	192	7	198	13	199	10	589	30	196	13	785	43	X
Buck Kliebert	192	7	197	8	197	5	586	20	193	6	779	26	X
Mark Altazin	191	5	197	10	191	2	579	17	192	8	771	25	X
Joe Mistretta	193	8	192	8	192	4	577	20	188	6	765	26	X

1st Master

EXPERT

Tom Cole	197	10	199	10	195	12	591	32	200	5	791	37	X
Ronald Kliebert	197	10	189	6	192	6	578	22	191	3	769	25	X
Angelo Spagnolo	177	5	196	11	193	6	566	22	187	7	753	29	X
Richard Bordelon	189	5	182	4	187	6	558	15	189	8	747	23	X

1st Expert

SS / MK

David Higgins	191	7	186	2	188	8	565	17	189	5	754	22	X
Charles Freeman	179	3	191	3	183	2	553	8	180	5	733	13	X
Norman Bennett	184	3	184	3	182	1	550	7	183	5	733	12	X
George Fournet	175	3	183	4	174	2	532	9			532	9	X

1st SS/MK

PALMA RIFLE CHAMPION
MATCH RIFLE CHAMPION

JOHN RHYNARD 798-53X
BRANDON GREEN 797-52X

F CLASS

F-OPEN

Whitney Simoneaux	198	13	199	8	200	8	597	29	200	12	797	41	X
Chris Coburn	196	10	197	9	197	3	590	22	195	8	785	30	X
Donald Conner	195	8	195	4	197	3	587	15	196	5	783	20	X
Joe Bougard	188	4	191	7	199	9	578	20	199	10	777	30	X
Jay Pritchard	191	6	189	5	184	1	564	12	198	5	762	17	X
William Wittman	183	4	193	2	194	5	570	11	185	2	755	13	X
Don Geraci	187	6	198	9	198	9	583	24			583	24	X
Kenny Porter	189	3	190	2	182	3	561	8			561	8	X

F CLASS

CHAMPION

1st F Class Open

2nd F Class Open

F-TR

Sean McKay	195	6	189	2	195	5	579	13	192	3	771	16	X
Ted Torres	197	6	189	5	191	3	577	14	189	3	766	17	X
David Aldridge	188	3	189	3	186	3	563	9	196	7	759	16	X
Victor Johnson	188	4	191	5	179	0	558	9	191	4	749	13	X
Jim Street	189	4	184	2	184	2	557	8	187	5	744	13	X
Bill Lackey	186	1	187	4	184	4	557	9	186	3	743	12	X
Shawn Sanford	177	1	183	5	194	7	554	13	188	4	742	17	X
Rick Stewart	183	3	180	2	177	0	540	5	177	2	717	7	X
Bobby Guidry	173	2	170	1	175	2	518	5	163	0	681	5	X

F-TR CHAMPION

1st F-TR

2nd F-TR