

2021 NORTH DAKOTA AND MINNESOTA JUNIOR OLYMPIC STATE CHAMPIONSHIP – PISTOL

March 13, 2021

Again, the outstanding generosity of many people makes this match the best possible opportunity for our junior shooters to earn an invitation to compete in the 2021 Junior Olympic National Championships. This year, we were again able to offer competition in the disciplines of Air Pistol and Sport Pistol. Eric Pueppke provided management for the Sport Pistol match and we used Bill Langer's light control system to successfully run the match. Eric and Bill are outstanding examples of just how essential and effective individual people are to the success of this Junior Olympic Selection Match and to the shooting sports in North Dakota. Thanks to everyone who helped us set up for the match, brought snacks, worked during the match, and helped with range cleanup. Also, a big thank you to the toilet paper lady.... you know who you are☺

This is the sixth year that we have hosted the Minnesota JOSCA Air Pistol & Sport Pistol Championships in conjunction with the North Dakota JOSCA Air Pistol & Sport Pistol Championships in order to afford every competitor a true match atmosphere. With 14 young men and young women firing the air pistol matches, we were up 2 from last year and ran two relays in order to allow reasonable social distance between competitors. This made for a longer match day, but it seemed to go well.

Our sport pistol matches were fired in two relays by 7 junior men and women. Dalton Gjovik, Bemidji, MN won the Minnesota Men's Sport Pistol Championship this year with a 488-1.

Kaytlin Haiby, Blackduck, MN earned the Gold in the Minnesota Women's Sport Pistol event with her 548-3; another big step up from her score last year and a state qualifying score as well as an open qualifying score.

Emily Yoder took the North Dakota Gold Medal in Sport Pistol with her 545-1 to earn an invitation (this is an automatic qualification score). This is an outstanding 40-point improvement over her score last year. She was followed by Kaitlin Slaubaugh who took the Silver with a score of 489-2. Dylan Markwardt earned the Gold in the Men's Sport Pistol competition.

Dylan Markwardt, West Fargo, ND, is also the North Dakota Men's Air Pistol Champion with a 522-3 and is our state qualifier. He was followed by Brayden Poitra for the Silver Medal and Cooper Monilaws for the Bronze. Emily Yoder fired a 524-5 for the Gold Medal in North Dakota Women's Air Pistol. This is also a state qualifying score. She was followed by Kaitlin Slaubaugh with her score of 503-3 to earn the Silver Medal. Kyla Slaubaugh took the Bronze.

Our Minnesota State Men's Air Pistol Gold Medalist and state qualifier is Dalton Gjovik, Bemidji, MN, with his 541-11. This year, Saige Gjovik, with her automatic qualification score of 532-10, earned Women's Gold. Kaytlin Haiby earned the Minnesota Women's Air Pistol Silver with her 513-5. Evan Langerak, Bemidji, earned the Minnesota Men's Silver with a score of 501-3.

Congratulations to each one of you who competed. Whether or not you fired a great score, we hope that each one of you enjoyed a great experience at the match and learned something which will help you to shoot better in the future. Thank you all for traveling to Devils Lake to compete at these matches.

We challenge you to seize as many opportunities as possible to enjoy some perfect practice and fun over the next year in order to improve your skills in preparation for this match in 2022. We look forward to seeing many of you then.

Connie & Rick Jorgenson

Lake Region Shooting Sports Association
Devils Lake, ND