

Mission District Rod and Gun Club: Benchrest Match October 5, 2014: by Jim Latham

Let's call this one 50-50 and boy did we have fun. It was another spectacular "Endless Summer day". It was warm with light but very tricky switching winds. We shot Four Varmint for Score (VFS) Targets at 100 yards, followed by four 5 shot formal Group Targets at 100 yards; 40 score rounds as usual.

Those hundreds of you who are following us on Benchrest.ca have watched our slow but steady progress in rebuilding Centre Fire Benchrest in the Fraser Valley know that we have been shooting Varmint for Score almost exclusively, thinking that we were not ready for the challenge of Group and it would discourage folks. But over the past year Master Mentor Joe Mendham has continued to shoot Group in Calgary and this year was joined by Sam Parrotta and Bob Hampton who spoke of how interesting and challenging it was. They are going back next year for sure Sam said.

At the same time more and more of our members have moved to full bench guns; sporters are almost gone now (but still most welcome!!) so it was beginning to make sense shooting Group.

And as we were working on next year's Calendar we decided to consider a full Group Benchrest Match May 3rd to compliment our Third Annual Fraser Valley Varmint for Score Championship (July 6, 2015) which had 22 shooters for each of the last 2 years. Since we can only handle 24 shooters for a one day match, the Championship has reached success already. What about Group? But we thought; let's see how folks react to the 50-50 split before we go whole hog to the ultra elite of Group for some matches.

Well three things happened in the last few days. Folks liked the Group part and Rick Pollock and the great gang from Calgary said they would help big time and Greg Yeoman said the Campbell River gang would surely participate.....so we are thinking an HV Match at 100 and 200- that we can manage in a one day event (getting 2 days of full range closure with a Club of about 3000 members is a lot to ask for (that # is correct, BTW), so exciting times ahead.

Oh yeah we had the match didn't we. Well below are the results. Guess who won both VFS and Group? Joe somehow managed but just look how close Frank Oblak was in VFS and Art Harder was in Group, and this was Art's first head to head with Joe. Wally and Mark also did exceptionally well and several folks got a best target. We had a few struggles. Sam is working on a new barrel and load for his Remington, saving his BAT match gun. Mike's gun would not shoot at all so he quit before we started Group, and Len and Bill were not as consistent as usual, and me, well for the second time I found my scope loose when I got home and it had moved 1/4". Yes I know, I should have torqued the screws again, but maybe light single screws are not enough for a 30BR. Yes double screws are on order already. Next Match is November 2nd. If you want to find out more about us, go to the Website under Rifle <http://www.missionrodandgun.com/>. My contact information is there.

MDRGC Center Fire Benchrest Score Sheet

Date 5-Oct-14

Bench #	BR or SP	Name	100 Yard VFS						100 Yard Group					
			1	2	3	4	Total	Place	#1	#2	#3	#4	AGG.	Place
		Dreamer	55	55	55	55	220		0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	
3	BR	Jim Latham	51	48	51	53	203	6	0.4520	0.6190	0.7140	0.3680	0.5383	7
4	BR	Mark Dumont	52	52	50	52	206	3	0.3070	0.3310	0.4240	0.3250	0.3468	3
5	BR	Wally McDonald	51	50	53	51	205	5	0.3500	0.4150	0.6200	0.3230	0.4270	5
6	BR	Art Harder	52	50	52	51	205	4	0.2020	0.2220	0.2450	0.2090	0.2195	2
7	BR	Bill Crosby	49	50	48	49	196	9	0.6070	0.3170	0.6020	0.6120	0.5345	6
8	BR	Frank Oblak	50	53	53	52	208	2	0.3100	0.3820	0.4700	0.5330	0.4238	4
9	BR	Len Grinnell	51	43	53	47	194	8	0.5940	0.3710	0.7930	0.8520	0.6525	8
10	BR	Sam Parrotta	51	49	48	48	196	7	0.4070	0.6760	1.0580	0.5930	0.6835	9
11	BR	Joe Mendham	54	52	51	52	209	1	0.2350	0.1950	0.1910	0.2380	0.2148	1
12	SP	Mike Boyce	40	45	38	42	165	1 SP	WD					