

## 2022 West Coast AAFTA Grand Prix



The 2022 West coast AAFTA GP match was held on August 19th, 20th, and 21<sup>st</sup>. This was the 10<sup>th</sup> year of AAFTA GP matches at the Morro Bay/San Luis Obispo shooting complex. Last year included the AAFTA National match as well. Changes at the range this year saw the old FT course gone and a flatter more open layout in it's place for last weekends gathering.

With the manpower limitations that we have, I wanted to keep participation to under 30 competitors. With minimal advertising, we had a good showing of 27 individuals, and 11 of them also competing in the Friday pistol match. We also had two individuals shooting break barrels, offhand for fun. Weather was as pleasant as ever. The morning fog typically burned off by noon, with match temperatures mostly in the mid 70's. Wind was moderate, but the open course provided no wind protection. Knowing this in advance, I planned all courses to be near the lowest allowed difficulty ratings.

The Friday afternoon 40 shot pistol course used all auto-reset field targets, so we had no target strings to use as wind indicators. We had a combined pistol match with everyone competing against each other for awards. The course difficulty rating was 30.16 average. There were no cold lines, as the auto-reset targets worked flawlessly. They have sound effects when they fall, but were sometimes hard to hear over the winds. I (Scott Hull) managed the high score in the pistol match with a 32/40 score. Wayne

Burns and Randy Ebersole, both from Ashland, Oregon tied for 2<sup>nd</sup> with 31/40. A gentleman's agreement gave Wayne 2<sup>nd</sup> place, and Randy 3<sup>rd</sup> place. Soon after the match, we had the BBQ going and we ended the evening with a Tri-tip dinner for all the early arrivals.

Saturday morning was the first day of the rifle shoot, which had conventional string field targets on a 60 shot course, with a 28.89 difficulty factor (before adding in wind). The match ran smoothly with only one cold line. Randy Ebersole in Hunter-PCP shot a 55/60 to outshine everyone. Kelly Hawe led the Open-PCP division with a 52/60. Lonnie Smith as the one WFTF-PCP shooter, got a 42/50. Cameron Kerndt, fresh off a 3<sup>rd</sup> place finish from the World WFTF match in Italy, shot a fantastic piston score with 52/60. Larry Durham was the high Freestyle shooter with 50/60.

Day two was a little cooler, the course difficulty rating was 28.81, and with a little less wind, so scores were a little higher (at least on average). Wayne Burns shot the day's high score of 56/60. It was a valiant effort to catch Randy. But Randy repeated his solid 55/60 to make himself untouchable in Hunter-Division ending with overall match high score of 110/120. Kelly Hawe and Chris Merritt both shot a respectable 51/60 in Open-Division to finish 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup>. Lonnie improved with a 52/60 for 1<sup>st</sup> in WFTF, and Cameron repeated his 52 for a final score of 104/120 in the Piston class. Adam Brookshire was 2<sup>nd</sup> ending with 81/120 total. Larry Durham ended with a 96/120 total for 1<sup>st</sup> in Freestyle.

<b>PISTOL - (combined)</b>	<b>Score</b>
Hull, Scott (Limited)	32
Burns, Wayne (Hunter)	31
Ebersole, Randy (Hunter)	31
Kerndt, Cameron (Limited)	28
Taylor, Darren (Hunter)	23
Hoppe, Bud (Hunter)	21
Ebersole, Scott (Hunter)	19
Knapp, John (Hunter)	17
Merritt, Chris (Hunter)	16
Pacheco, Vince (Hunter)	16
LaPoint, John (Hunter)	14
Poh, Jim (Break Barrel/standing)	8
Kotval, AJ (Break Barrel/standing)	4

<b>FREESTYLE</b>	<b>Day 1</b>	<b>Day 2</b>	<b>Total</b>
Durham, Larry	50	46	96
Hull, Scott	28	46	74

<b>WFTF-PCP</b>	<b>Day 1</b>	<b>Day 2</b>	<b>Total</b>
Smith, Lonnie	42	52	94

<b>HUNTER-PCP</b>	<b>Day 1</b>	<b>Day 2</b>	<b>Total</b>
Ebersole, Randy	55	55	110
Burns, Wayne	49	56	105
Knapp, John	47	53	100
Biergiel, Fred	47	49	96
LaPointe, John	44	45	89
Hayward, Joe	34	50	84
Ebersole, Scott	41	42	83
Hoppe, Bud	34	47	81
Waldner, William	33	38	71
Hirsch, Kevin	30	39	69
Pacheco, Vince	25	41	66
Taylor, Darren	37	29	66
Thayer, Thayne	30	35	65

<b>OPEN-PCP</b>	<b>Day 1</b>	<b>Day 2</b>	<b>Total</b>
Hawe, Kelly	52	51	103
Merritt, Chris	47	51	98
Whittlesey, Jim	47	50	97
Edmondson, Tim	47	39	86
Banez, Dennis	41	41	82

<b>PISTON - (combined)</b>	<b>Day 1</b>	<b>Day 2</b>	<b>Total</b>
Kerndt, Cameron (WFTF)	52	52	104
Brookshire, Adam (WFTF)	37	44	81
Poh, Jim (WFTF)	34	30	64
Jobbes, Ron (Open)	25	27	52
Laan, Willem (Hunter)	21	17	38
Kotval, AJ (WFTF)	13	DNS	13