

WYOMING RIFLE SILHOUETTE CHAMPIONSHIP

JULY 22-23, 2017

David Bonner, Aurora, CO set a new national record with his high power hunting rifle by toppling 18 rams. He earned the Match Winner/ State Champion title in each of the 4 rifle divisions. Out of the 320 possible Bonner fired 250. That make him the Wyoming entry in the 'Dakota territory' championship.

Shooters from 5 states made the championship match another enjoyable, successful event. Temperatures ranged from 55 at the 7:30AM start to 95 under a cloudless sky. Mirage gave more trouble than did the 1-3MPH air movement. Several sudden death shoot-offs were needed to determine winners.

The Lander Valley Sportsmen's program called for 2X40 for each rifle division. Out of the 320 possible, Bonner scored 250.

Twenty-four smallbore shooters started Saturday just as sunshine reached into the valley floor. White targets were used at the proper metric distances. The aggregate winners are as follows based on 1 award per 4 in each class. Match winner Dave Bonner @ 63. 1st Master Scott Larson, Pierre, SD @ 59. 1st AAA Clint Habeck, Fort Pierre, SD @ 54. 2nd AAA Mark Sorensen, Deadwood, SD @ 54. 3rd AAA Ryan Habeck, Ft Pierre, SD @ 53. 1st AA Anthony Fuller, Wheatland, WY @ 43. 2nd AA Dan Bonner, Aurora, CO @ 42. 1st A Sheldon Bradley, Berthold, ND @ 35. 1st B Georgette Bradley, Berthold, ND @ 28.

Next on the line were the HP fifteen HP rifles shooting black targets. After the 2x40 the winners are: Dave Bonner @ 62. 1st AAA Scott Larson @ 50. 1st AA Mark Sorensen @ 52. 2nd AA Clint Habeck @ 50. 1st A Sheldon Bradley @ 40. 1st B Jerry Basquette, Grand Jct, CO @ 22.

A picnic with fried chicken and trimmings, the awards and door prize drawings concluded the day.

Sunday the SB hunting rifles came to the line at 7:30 while all the targets were still in the shadows. Winners are: Match winner Dave Bonner @ 66. 1st M Steve Hawks, Loveland, CO @ 60. 2nd M Clint Habeck @ 60. 1st AAA Scott Larson @ 54. 2nd AAA Kelly Landis, Mobridge, SD @ 54. 3rd AAA Mark Sorensen @ 52. 1st AA Dan Bonner @ 43. 2nd AA Anthony Fuller @ 41. 1st A Sheldon Bradley @ 38.

The final 2x40 was for the HP hunting rifles. Sixteen shooters filled the 4 relays. Winners are: Match winner Dave Bonner @ 59. 1st AAA Kelly Landis @ 50. 2nd AAA Scott Larson @ 49. 1st AA Kent Geffre, Lead, SD @ 46. 1st A Mark Sorensen @ 41.

High senior in each was Steve Hawks and high lady in the smallbore matches was Geri Snyder, Littleton, CO.

Many thanks to: Dave Bonner & Bob Snyder for calling the SB line; Dave Tokach for calling the HP line; Scott Hemmingway & Ron Reemts for suppling ATV's; Flint, Joe, Ryan, Mark, John, Carl for resetting targets; Tony Cross & Tom Spriggs for erecting the shade cloth, cutting weeds, use of the generator for the computer; Charlie Piette for computer scoring and printing results promptly to hand out; the great bunch of friends and shooters that came.

Check the NRA Shooting Sports calendar for North Dakota, South Dakota and Montana for dates as those event complete the Dakota Territory Championship.

Best wishes until we shoot together again. Roger Sebesta Match director



David Bonner in the center.