



The special events at this year's 2023 Grand American consisted of the 28-Gauge, 20-Gauge, White Flyer Handicap Doubles, and the John Hiter Memorial International. As was the case in previous years, a portion of each entry fee was donated to the Kids & Clays Foundation, a charity that organizes shooting sports fundraisers to benefit Ronald McDonald House Charity Chapters. The organization was founded in 1999 and, in its 24 year existence, has raised over 20 million dollars for its mission.

28-GAUGE

The 28-Gauge event was held on Sunday, August 6, and Monday, August 7. All competitors shot from the 22 yard line and were provided with two boxes of 28-gauge shells as part of their entry fee. Patrick Murphy posted the lone high score of 45 and was the event Champion. Bill Yost was the event runner-up with the lone second-high score of 43, and Tim Lewis was the event 3rd place

winner with a score of 41. John Evick and Donald Chrapla were the Sub Veteran and Class A winners, each with scores of 41. Gavin Kuenstler was the Sub Junior winner with a 40, and John Upcraft the Veteran Champion with the same score.

20-GAUGE

The 20-Gauge event was held on Tuesday, August 8, and Wednesday,

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August 9. The format for this event was 50 targets from the competitors ATA Handicap yardage with no shells exceeding 2 ¾ inch, 2 ½ dram, 1 oz., 7 ½ shot. Patrick Jarnagain was the

event Champion with a score of 46 after besting John Upcraft in reverse long run. Upcraft fell back to take the Veteran category trophy for his score. Dana Edwards was the Sub Veteran Champion with the only score of 45 in the event. Jennifer Upcraft, Angie Cavett, Hidalgo Rangel, and Jerry Brown were the Lady I, Lady II, Junior Gold, and Senior Veteran Champions, all following scores of 44.



WHITE FLYER HANDICAP DOUBLES

The White Flyer Handicap Doubles event was held on Tuesday, August 8, and Wednesday, August 9. The format for this event was quite simple, 25 pairs of Doubles targets were shot



from the shooter's ATA Handicap yardage. Scores of 47 were high in the event and after the ties were decided by reverse long run, Jonathan Baker was the event Champion, Quint Sudbury the event runner-up, and Jacob Diller the Junior Gold Champion. Ryan Denes was the event 3rd place winner, Russell Nuti the 21-22 yard winner, and Marcus Draves the 27 yard winner, all with second-high scores of 46. Garrett Woosley was the Junior winner with a 45, and Stephan Terzo the 19-20 yard Champion with the same score.

INTERNATIONAL EVENT

The John Hiter Memorial International event was held on Thursday, August 10, and Friday, August 11. All shooters competed in

this event from the 22 yard line, and two shots were allowed on each target. Some impressive scores were posted in this event, and it was the only one of the four special events that required a perfect score to win. Jordyn Smedra posted the lone 50 straight and was the event Champion. Scott MacKenzie was the event runner-up with the only score of 49 in the event, and Cole Henning was the Junior Champion with a 48. Craig Schmitt was the event 3rd place winner with a score of 47 and a reverse long run win over Jeremy Hess, who took Class AA Champion. Kelan Kinion, Brian Sullivan, and Michael Dickey were the Junior Gold, Sub Veteran, and Veteran winners, all following scores of 47.

The special events at the Grand American offer a nice change of pace from the program events and give shooters the chance to participate in



disciplines that they might not otherwise have an opportunity to try. If you have some down time at the

Grand American in 2024, give the special events a shot! ■