

NEVADA STATE SHOOT

BY KARLA HARRISON



What happens in Vegas... doesn't always stay in Vegas. Trapshooters from 35 states made their way to the Clark County Shooting Complex for the 75th Nevada State Shoot, held Oct 20-29. Nine days and thousands of targets later, many were packing up their guns, cars and campers to travel on to the next tournament, with many headed on to the Autumn Grand in Tucson, AZ.

Over 2000 entries shot for 75 pounds of pure silver in the High Over All events. Silver coins and bars, plus solid silver shotgun shells were an added option offered in nine other events. The hospitality of the Nevada

State Trapshooting Association (NSTA) was as plentiful as the silver. Trophies filled tables which stretched the length of the clubhouse. Free dinners were served to shooters and their guests each evening Tuesday

through Saturday. Shooting games and silver shootouts were enjoyed after the program events. A poker tournament was held after Thursday's and Friday's dinners with silver, ammo and other prizes going to the winners. A special event was auctioned Saturday evening prior to Sunday's handicap.

Warm-up events were shot on Friday-Saturday-Sunday in advance of Championship Week. On Friday, singles, handicap and doubles events

offered a total of 300 targets. Saturday's program called for 200 "grand slam" singles. "Grand Slam" handicap and doubles targets were thrown on Sunday.

MONDAY

Championship week began with a Marathon Day of handicap, singles and doubles for anyone needing extra targets.



TUESDAY



JON AND LETICIA SLINKER

Competition got serious on Tuesday, beginning with the Get Ready Singles. Starting the week off without a miss were non-residents Jason Nieman (AAA), Tony Shuyler (A), and Scott Abo (Veteran). Wife of NSTA Vice President Jon Slinker (AA/95) and upcoming ATA alternate delegate, Leticia Slinker, showed everyone how it was done with the top score of 99 in the Lady 1 resident category award. Eventual HOA resident champion, Richard Bullard posted a 98 for Sub Veteran honors.

Carson Schlimmer (27 yd champ) began adding to his eventual Super 1850 High Over All championship and Thomas Fester (Veteran champ) set the pace with 97s in the event #8 Handicap Tune-up. Senior Veteran Dan Davies won his category with 96. In-state, Richard Bullard was the Sub Veteran champ with 93.

Richard Marshall made his presence known in the Dial-In Doubles with his 99 over the field. Non-resident Chris Kinder was high in class AA with 98. Among Nevada residents, Joe Hanley topped the list of scores with 94 to win Sub Veteran.

WEDNESDAY

Two scores of 97 led the leaderboard in the Vice President's Doubles. James Peery was declared out-of-state champion after carry-over with Louis Goodwin (Senior Veteran champ). Scott Obenshain (AAA), Justin Debrie (AA), and James Larson (B) all claimed N/R trophies for their respective classes. In-state Lucci Kern out-last-ed Grant Smith (Junior champ) for event champion with a score of 91.

Rick Marshall carded the lone 200 in the Singles Class Championship. Nevada shooter Joe Hanley was the resident champion (195) while Jon Slinker won the carry-over for runner-up over Orion Cooper.

THURSDAY

Beginning with the early morning Delegate's Handicap Yardage Challenge, shooters saw "sporty" winds begin to move in. Richard Bullard was top resident with his Sub Veteran score of 84. Mid-yardage Lady 1 champ, Lucci Kern was high among



the residents with 81. For the out-of-staters, Weston Andersen (Sub-Junior) and Joe Sudbury (Senior Veteran) were each high in their category with 91.

The Directors Handicap saw Mark Dagher (91) turn in the best score in-state to take home the long yardage award. Nebraska resident Rick Marshall demonstrated to everyone how to become an ATA All American by handling the wind to turn in a 97 in the handicap. He also broke the only 100 straight in the Doubles Class Championship.

Kenneth James broke 96 over all other Nevada shooters for champion of the Doubles Class Championship. Lucci Kerns was Lady 1 champ (94) and Jon Slinker (90) was in-state event runner-up. Gary Rusch posted a 90 for the Sub Veteran trophy.

FRIDAY

DOUBLES CHAMPIONSHIP

CH	MARK DAGHER	94
RU	JACK WANG	93
AA	ELI WALKER	87
A	WILLIAM DANIELS	93
B	JEFFERY GEORGE	92
C	GARY RUSCH	90
D	AUSTIN SANTELLAN	89
LD1	LUCCI KERN	88
LD2	TINA SHIGEMURA	84
SUB JR	MITCHELL DAGHER	83
JR	GRANT SMITH	93
JR GOLD	ALEXANDER OPPENHEIM	84
SUB VET	RICH BULLARD	92
VET	KENNETH JAMES	90
SR VET	SAMUEL FORD	86



JACK WANG AND MARK DAGHER

High All Around scores began with the State Doubles Championship under sunny skies. Mark Dagher, of Reno, NV, was the event champ (94) and Jack Wang was runner-up (93). Mark's son, Mitchell Dagher was the Sub Junior champ (83). It's hard to say if it was the "Indian or the arrow" that earned Mitchell so many 2023 state Sub Junior trophies, he was shooting an MX8 that had previously been owned and shot by legendary trapshooter Dan Orlich.



CARSON SCHLIMMER



MITCHELL DAGHER

Non-residents, Rick Marshall (champ/98); Brian Cornehl (AA champ/98) and Danny Thomason (B champ/94) all collected championship doubles trophies following shoot offs.

Kenneth James (Veteran champ) and Richard Bullard (Sub Veteran champ) each turned in a score of 92 in the President's Handicap. Alexander Oppenheim (Junior Gold champ); Jerry Harms and Corky Peters all followed with scores of 90.

Redlands, CA resident, Mia Van Diest was the only shooter with 100 straight. She won the Sub Junior non resident trophy. Having just turned 14, she was shooting from the 22-yard line and this was her first perfect score, ever!



MIAVAN DIEST

SATURDAY

SINGLES CHAMPIONSHIP

CH	GRANT SMITH	191
RU	JACK WANG	187
AAA	ELI WALKER	181
AA	CLAYTON PHILIPP	181
A	JOE HANLEY	185
B	MURRAY DOMINQUEZ	182
C	LETICIA SLINKER	186
D	HARRY TERZIAN	176
LD1	LUCCI KERN	189
LD2	TINA SHIGEMURA	188
SUB-JR	JORDAN GROVES	173
JR	ORION COOPER	183
JR GOLD	TANNER WILKIN	186
SUB VET	RICH BULLARD	189
VET	KENNETH JAMES	188
SR VET	DANNY TALBOT	189



GRANT SMITH

The Nevada State Singles Championship dominated the program with 290 entries taking the line in the 200-bird event. A drop in temperature also accounted for a drop in scores. Nevada Junior shooter Grant Smith broke 191 for in-state champion honors. Richard Bullard (189) and Lucci Kern (189) opted for Sub Veteran and Lady 1 awards respectively. Last year's champion, Eli Walker returned to win the Class AAA award with a score of 181.



RICKMARSHALL

Rick Marshall paced the non-residents with 198. Following a shootoff, Scott Obenchain was declared runner-up (197), relegating Chayton Vega to AAA champ and Jamie Anderson to AA champ.

The state of Nevada is divided into 2 NSTA zones. The top 5 singles scores from resident shooters in the north and top 5 from the south returned after hours for the North/South Shootout. The southern squad consisting of Lucci Kern, Tina Shigemura, Ken James, Grant Smith and Jack Wang claimed the bragging rights and a unique belt buckle.

As a special offer to Sub Juniors and Juniors, the NSTA and the NV Hall of Fame offered free entry fees to all young shooters in the state singles and doubles championship events. In the state handicap event, Sub Juniors and Juniors were given 4 free boxes of shells.

SUNDAY

The final day of competition dawned with cold strong winds that swept across the base of the Sheep Mountains (that face the shooting complex trap line) and pushed out many shooters who opted to leave early.

1850 HOA. Carson Schlimmer, a 27-yard shooter took home the custom belt as champion of the super high over all.

HANDICAP CHAMPIONSHIP

CH	LEILA TABION	82
RU	ABBY THOMAS	78
3RD	ELI WALKER	72
4TH	RICH BULLARD	70
5TH	DON HOUSTON	69
6TH	KENNETH JAMES	68
SUB	JR MITCHELL DAGHER	59
JR	ORION COOPER	81
JR GOLD	ALEXANDER OPPENHEIM	
LD1	LETICIA SLINKER	73
LD2	DEB MAIN	50
SUB VET	JOE HANLEY	71
VET	HARRY TERZIAN	75
SR VET	RICHARD KRENZER	72



LEILATABION

Leila Tabion, a Las Vegas resident (Lady 1) and short yardage shooter, had just begun shooting in March of this year after an invitation to the complex by her neighbor. She started off her shooting career with the state handicap crown! Her score of 82 was one target ahead of Junior champion Orion Cooper.

California resident and senior-veteran, Ray Thomas was the N/R champion with an 87, high over all other scores.

HAA AND HOA

HIGH ALL AROUND		
CH	ORION COOPER	353
RU	JACK WANG	346
AAA	ELI WALKER	340
AA	MARK DAGHER	332
A	JOE HANLEY	342
B	ABBY THOMAS	330
C	LETICIA SLINKER	335
D	DON HOUSTON	310
SUB JR	MITCHELL DAGHER	303
JR	GRANT SMITH	349
JR GOLD	ALEXANDER OPPENHEIM	333
LD1	LUCCI KERN	343
LD2	TINA SHIGEMURA	320
SUB VET	RICH BULLARD	351
VET	KENNETH JAMES	346
SR VET	DANNY TALBOT	331
OUT OF STATE		
CH	RICHARD MARSHALL	382

As the first ATA state shoot of the 2024 target year and the 75th anniversary of the Nevada State Shoot, the NSTA Board of Directors

worked hard to put together a program to pull in shooters. Their efforts paid off with a 45% increase in shooters who squadded throughout the tournament to show a 51% increase in entries over last year. This year's ATA All American points factor was a 4.

Orion Cooper, AA/Junior, bested all others for the Nevada High All Around title with a 353x400 total. Last year's High All Around champ, Richard Bullard picked up the 2023 Sub Veteran category title (351) while squad-mate Rick Marshall won the non-resident trophy (382). Father and son duo, Mark and Mitchell Dagher took home the in-state AA and Sub Junior awards in both the High All Around and High Over All.

Richard Bullard led the High Over All with his score of 982x1100. Out of staters fared well with scores topping over 1000: Rick Marshall

HIGH OVER ALL

CH	RICHARD BULLARD	982
RU	ORION COOPER	948
AAA	ELI WALKER	927
AA	MARK DAGHER	941
A	JEFF WHITE	917
B	GARY RUSCH	847
C	LETICIA SLINKER	915
D	DON HOUSTON	886
SUB JR	MITCHELL DAGHER	841
JR	GRANT SMITH	958
JR GOLD	ALEXANDER OPPENHEIM	—
LD1	LUCCI KERN	976
LD2	DEB MAIN	757
SUB VET	JOE HANLEY	964
VET	KENNETH JAMES	958
SR VET	DELTON SWAIN	868
OUT OF STATE		
CH	RICHARD MARSHALL	1055

(champ/1055); Scott Obenchain (runner-up/1031); Quint Sudbury (AAA/1021); Justin Debrie (AA/1015); Brian Wills (B/1003); Alexis Ferman (Junior/1019); and Gerry Williams (Sub Veteran/1002).

A BIT OF NEVADA STATE SHOOT HISTORY

Not a lot of records were kept 75 years ago when the first official state shoot was held for Nevada residents. Over the years the tournament has shuffled among many different clubs in the Las Vegas area. Harvey's Ranch, Bob Taylor's, The Mint, Sage Hill, Elko Gun Club, and the Las Vegas Gun Club were all host sites in various years.

In more recent history, the Las Vegas Gun Club, run for many years by Steve Carmichael, was the tournament site in 1993 and 1997 before the club closed in 2009. The Clark County Shooting Complex was constructed not far away and held its official grand opening in March, 2010. It will be the host for the 2024 Nevada State Shoot.

