

## **Benchrest Match Results - Thursday, March 23rd**

For a Match Director the prep for the match starts a few days before the actual match. By the time the truck is packed the night before, a lot of work has happened.

There is a lot of paraphernalia that goes into a PHA match. There are class target boards made up for mounting on the range racks. A box container of plastic clips and staplers. A box container of pens and markers and prize ribbons. A box container of the most Prestigious Harbor Freight Awards for "BEST" single shot on a designated target. A cardboard box of prized PHA hats for shooting a 250 high score. Clipboards of rules & regulations and disclaimer signup sheets. The American Flag is posted. In other words, it's a lot before any shooter is even on the Range.

At the PHA Range at 0600 it's pitch dark! The March temp is a decent 57 degrees F and the wind is still down after the rain the day before. The truck is unloaded and the scoring board posted awaiting the shooter's Class entry as they come in. The target racks are placed and aligned at the 50 yard line.

The second man through the gate at 0630 is from Mocksville, a recent NY transplant new to BR shooting. Just behind is a shooter from Sparta, NC. Google Sparta and then trace how to get to PHA and be there by 0635. He drives a 90's red Chevy truck that has a 350 SB engine that sounds like Richard Childress tuned it up for him!

The other shooters filter in until we have a total of 11 entries. Everyone selects their favorite bench if someone else hasn't beaten them to it. The shooters sign in and then enter their Class selection on the scoring board. Now it's just a matter of waiting for daylight and the safety briefing at 0750.

At 0750 we gather to say the Pledge of Allegiance. Yes, we are Patriots of the privileges we have every day. Next is the safety briefing that we have heard 100 times before but still listen every time.

Just before 0800 everyone is directed to take their bench. The wind has picked up slightly. At 0800 sharp the final "Ready" commands are given.

Today we had 11 shooters that covered most of the Classes. The Sporter Class, as usual, had the most. Several of the shooters enter more than one class and shoot two or even three guns.

The weather today was a factor in all the scores. It doesn't take much to alter the flight of a 40g .22 caliber bullet at 50 yards. Wind, humidity, temp, light, heart rate, breathing, equipment, ammo...it all counts. By the time the first target change out, the wind gusts could move paper.

### **Match Results:**

Factory Light: Dennis Bennett, 250/16X's, CZ452

Factory heavy: Marc Tolbert, 250/8X's, CZ457

Light sporter: Marty Foor, 250/18X's, Tikka, 2nd place Marc Tolbert, 250/17X's, CZMTR

Match Rifle: Keith Raulston, 250/16X's, Vudoo

Sporter: Dave Roberts, 250/9X's, Remington 40XB, 2nd - Keith Raulston, 250/7X's, Vudoo

Open-site: Gary Madden, 300/22X's, Remington 37

Thanks to all who came out to shoot Thursday's Match.

Dave Roberts  
Match Director