



MRRRA.org

Minnesota Rifle & Revolver Association - Since 1932

FALL 2018 & SPRING 2019 NEWSLETTER

Remember to renew your MRRRA Membership!

A membership application is located at the end of the newsletter for you and your friends!:

<http://mrrra.org/membership.htm>

MRRRA MEETING DATES

March 23, 2019:

10:00 AM Board Meeting

12:30 PM Membership Meeting

Splitrocks Entertainment Center, Wyoming, MN

June 29, 2019:

Board Meeting, Gopher Rifle & Revolver Club,
Harris, MN

Sept 28, 2019:

Board Meeting, Gopher Rifle & Revolver Club,
Harris, MN

December 7, 2019:

10:00 AM Board Meeting

12:30 PM Membership Meeting

Splitrocks Entertainment Center, Wyoming, MN

MRRRA

SPRING MEMBERSHIP AND BOARD MEETINGS:

The Spring MRRRA Membership and Board Meetings
is scheduled for

Saturday, March 23, 2019

at

Splitrocks Entertainment Center

5063 273rd Street, Wyoming MN 55092.

651-462-6000

www.splitrocksmn.com

The Membership meeting will start at 12:30PM.

The Board meeting is scheduled to start
at 10:00 AM same date & location.

All members are encouraged to attend.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Once again, our sport is being threatened by the recently elected "class". The MN House and Federal House have proposed Bills to restrict shooting and firearms ownership. They have companion bills in both Senates.

Your rights are being defended by your fellow shooters and many pro-shooting oriented organizations such as the MRRRA, NRA, MN Gun Owners Caucus, MN Gun Rights and many others. If you do not want to give up your rights, you should be staying informed and be ready to contact your Legislators and Congressional Representatives.

It is important that you write, call or email. Let them know your feelings and speak up for our sport!

Contact Information for your Minnesota Representatives can be found at:

<http://www.leg.state.mn.us/leg/districtfinder.aspx>

and <http://www.gis.leg.mn/OpenLayers/districts/>

NRA-ILA website has information about how to contact your Congressional Representatives and the latest information: <http://www.nraila.org/>

MRRRA representatives are active monitoring and addressing these issues. The true voice and strength of the MRRRA is its members. The more members MRRRA has the greater its influence in addressing these pressing issues. In order for MRRRA to stay strong we must retain and increase our membership. I ask all members to use the membership application at the end of the newsletter to renew your membership. If your dues are current, please use the membership application to sign up you family members, friends or your shooting buddies. The annual membership fee is small, \$20.00 but it is a big investment in our sport.

Best wishes and I hope all your shots are good shots!

Regards, George Minerich, President

INTERNATIONAL TRAVEL WITH FIREARMS

By: Erik Rhode

In the last year, I have had the opportunity to travel to different countries to participate in international shooting competitions. While being outside of the USA definitely adds some complication to travel, a little planning will go a long way to making sure you get to where you are going.

The first bit of advice that I would offer to anyone planning an international trip involving firearms, is to **START PLANNING NOW**. There are various processes to complete for various government agencies, both US and foreign, and some of them will probably take more time than they should.

Before you leave home, you will need to complete US Customs and Border Patrol form 4457, and bring your firearm in to a CBP office to be inspected. This form is what will let you bring your firearm back onto US soil at the end of your trip. The purpose of the inspection is for them to verify that the firearm you bring back is the same one that you left with. This is fairly painless, you just need to go to the cbp.gov web page to download the form and find your local office for the inspection.

You will also need to apply for the proper visitor permit/license needed for the country you are traveling to, and possibly for any countries that you are travelling through. The process for the 2 countries that I visited this year (New Zealand and Canada) are both very straightforward. The application is filled out online, and the permit is paid for at the customs office when you arrive. On the next trip to NZ I will be changing planes in Australia, and am finding the process there much less friendly. A "Defense Export Permit" is required, even though I will never even touch the rifle in their country. Approval for this permit is proving to be a somewhat daunting task, and I have exchanged at least 20 emails with various Australian government agencies over the last 2 weeks. Luckily, I started the process early, and with 3 months before the trip, I am confident that it will be straightened out by then.

From a purely practical standpoint, your biggest obstacle will be getting all of your shooting gear into the very limited weight and size restrictions imposed by the airlines. On my trip to New Zealand, I was limited to 2 50# bags, plus my backpack that I used for carry on. Purchasing another bag would have added around \$400 to the cost of airfare, so I was determined to make it work. That meant rifle, sights, tools, a small, scope stand, and some other miscellaneous items all went in

my rifle case, while my shooting coat, mat, sweatshirt, hat, glasses, and all of my normal clothes and personal effects for spending 3 weeks in another country in my suitcase. These both tipped the scales at 49.6#. I kept one change of clothes, my toiletry bag, spotting scope, and a few other small items in the backpack. The backpack did double duty as my range bag, carrying ammo, food, water, and many other things on match days. This was an enlightening exercise on what I really need to have with me to shoot a match.

You'll want to make sure that your rifle case is up to the task of withstanding the best efforts of disgruntled baggage handlers to destroy it. I use a Pelican hard case along with a soft case designed to fit inside of the pelican. This kept the rifle protected, and the soft case can be used for daily transport to the range once the air travel is over. You will need to padlock your case, I used 2 keyed Master padlocks and kept one set of keys in my pocket, and the other in my carry-on bag. You do not have to use TSA locks for this, and I would recommend that you don't. If you are flying with ammo, you are limited to 5 kilos (about 11#), and there are restrictions on packaging. One of the corporate sponsors of the US National Team ships all of the ammo in advance for team members on overseas trips. This makes our travel a bit easier, and frees up valuable space and weight. When you get to the airport, you will need to bring the rifle to the airline counter – no curbside check-in for firearms. After you tell the agent that you have a firearm, they will have you fill out a card stating that the rifle is unloaded, and then put the card inside the case. You will need to open the case at the counter, so be prepared for the responses that this might elicit from your fellow travelers. After that, you'll be instructed to take the firearm to the TSA office, where they will run the case through the X-ray machine, and possibly ask you to open it for further inspection. Assuming no problems, they'll have you re-lock the case and will then take it out of your possession. At two different stops on last year's trip, I found my case unlatched, presumably as a result of rough handling. The 2 padlocks were the only things keeping my rifle and all of my other gear inside the case. I plan to bring zip ties along on future trips to further secure the case after TSA is done with it.

Once the TSA takes it away, there isn't really a lot more that you can do to affect the process. Relax, order a drink, and hope it's there waiting for you on when you get to wherever you are going!

U.S. RIFLE TEAM WINS THE BRONZE MEDAL AT THE WORLD PALMA CHAMPIONSHIPS TEAM MATCH.

Eric Rhode (MN) and Morgan Dietrich (ND formally MN) shooters were members of the US Rifle Team that represented the USA at the 2019 Palma World Championships in New Zealand. The U.S. Team came in third behind Australia (1st) and the United Kingdom (2nd). A lot of hard work dedication and money goes into making the team. The all costs and travel to the Championships is paid for by the Team members. I would like to thank Eric and Morgan for all their hard work and effort representing our country and state at the Championships. I hope they make the U.S. Team for the 2023 Championship in South Africa!

MN SHOOTER WINS 2018 PALMA NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP

Matt Griffin (Plymouth) won the individual 2018 PALMA National Championship held last summer at Camp Atterbury, IN. Matt won the event by shooting a 449-27X (450 – 45X possible). Congratulations Matt on a great score and win!

ISSF WORLD SHOOTING CHAMPIONSHIPS

Brad Yliniemi, US Shooting Team (Duluth) was one of 1806 shooters from 90 nations attended the ISSF World Championships at Changwon, South Korea this past September. The ISSF world Championships are held every four years at different venues around the world. The first championship was shot in 1897 at Lyon France. Modern day events include air rifle and pistol, smallbore rifle, free pistol, shotgun and 300 meter rifle. Brad represented the U.S shooting 300 meter rifle events.

NEW MN OFFHAND RECORD SET

MN has a tradition of holding an offhand (standing) rifle match that goes back a very long time. I have been told maybe before World War II. It is known wide and far as one of the hardest rifle matches in the Midwest and probably the U.S. Around here we quaintly refer to it as the 100 round Offhand Championship. The match is shot all standing at 200 yards. It is typically fired in 5 - 20 shot relays with 2 sighters per relay. It usually takes most of a day to shoot it. This year it was 4 – 25 round relays.

For a long time, Minnesota shooting legend, Lance Peters owned the record. Well last fall the record was shattered by Duluth's own Brad Yliniemi. Brad attended the Championship at the Minneapolis Rifle Club shortly after returning from the ISSF World Cup Championship. In short order, all the shooters at the match found out why Brad was on the US Shooting Team. Brad won the day by shooting a 995-46X.

Tim Strum (Zimmerman) came in second with a 930- 4X. I would like to invite everyone to try and beat the new record.



MINNESOTA JUNIOR SHOOTERS ROUNDUP

By: Bill Buesseler

As the newly appointed junior chair, I am excited to share the amazing results of the juniors from Minnesota! This past year has been a fun, but busy one!

Minnesota currently has 6 former MN Juniors on NCAA Division I college scholarships. They can be found on the rifle teams at: University of Kentucky, Murray State University, Ole Miss and Nebraska. Check out those web sites and following along as they near the end of their chase for the NCAA Championship on March 8-9, 2019 at West Virginia University. At the end of the season, the top 8 teams will qualify.

Locally here in Minnesota, junior rifle has very talented young members. Many have qualified at local matches and postals for invites to national matches sponsored by the NRA, CMP and USA Shooting.

Some highlights from the past year are: ten MN Juniors qualified for the USA Shooting Junior Olympics, traveling to the Olympic Training Center in Colorado Springs, CO to compete at the national level in either smallbore, air rifle or for 5 of those juniors BOTH disciplines! This match strictly follows the ISSF rulebook and includes full equipment control and gear inspection. It's likely to see a junior rapidly working to get their gear to pass inspection. More than once the stiffness of a jacket required a hammer on a trailer hitch ball to get it to flex more- or even having a car roll over it to thin it out a bit! Always a nerve wracking day! But the juniors keep working on personal bests and hope to one day make finals or even national teams!

The CMP has hosted many national matches as well. The Regional Match at Camp Perry, OH is another one with equipment control. This year 11 juniors qualified, 8 attended and two won the overall! Gavin Barnick took first in precision class, and Jared Zollner won in sporter class! Both earning a place at the National Match in July along with 7 other juniors from MN.

For the NRA Air Gun Nationals in Bloomington, IL, 18 juniors qualified, 5 were able to attend and Jarod Zollner finished 2nd in sporter standing and 3rd in the 3-position event! Team X-Men finished 2nd in the 3-position event. This is another great example of the hard work from these juniors, their coaches and parents. Many have invested in their sport!

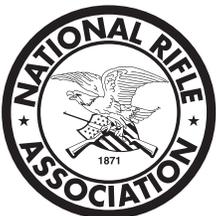
National Records were broken! At the NRA 4P Outdoor match the past October at Minneapolis Rifle Club, Gavin Barnik broke the previous national record in the intermediate junior aggregate category.

Last, I'd like to share my family Thanksgiving. My wife, daughter and I traveled to Ole Miss to have Thanksgiving with my oldest daughter, Abby and her twin sister Dana (who traveled from Murray State to be with the family). The parents from the Ole Miss rifle team planned a Thanksgiving dinner at Ole Miss, so I had an opportunity to meet many other parents who have been through the junior rifle program from their home states of TX, VA, GA, MA, CT and ID. I overwhelmingly heard: "What's in the water in Minnesota!?" Meaning, how do we keep producing these amazing juniors?!?! They have seen Minnesota represented by so many juniors at the national levels, making Minnesota well known!

As supporters of junior rifle, I wanted to share these successes with all of you and say thank you for helping these striving juniors in so many ways so that they may have amazing opportunities available to them! One day they will realize just how many people have worked together to promote junior rifle in Minnesota, hopefully, they will give back as you have done.

Happy New Year to you and your family and cheers to another great year of shooting experiences, new friendships, and of course, scores!

KEEP SHOOTING STRONG! PLEASE SUPPORT



Minnesota Rifle & Revolver Association (MRRA)

Application For Regular Membership

(Juniors use the Application for Juniors form on www.mrra.org)

<input type="checkbox"/> New Application	<input type="checkbox"/> Renewal	<input type="checkbox"/> Change of Information
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Minnesota Resident Yes No
Last Name _____ First _____ Middle _____

Street Address _____ City _____ State _____ Zip Code _____

Telephone _____ NRA Member # _____

E-Mail _____ Please send my newsletter by e-mail

Sending newsletters by e-mail saves the MRRA printing & postage costs.

I agree to notify the MRRA of changes to my e-mail address.

Please Check Areas Of Interest			
Hunting (Big game) <input type="checkbox"/>	Competition	Competition	Competition
Hunting (Upland game) <input type="checkbox"/>	Rifle (Smallbore) <input type="checkbox"/>	Pistol (Conventional) <input type="checkbox"/>	Cowboy Action <input type="checkbox"/>
Hunting (Waterfowl) <input type="checkbox"/>	Rifle (Highpower) <input type="checkbox"/>	Pistol (IDPA/USPSA) <input type="checkbox"/>	3-Gun <input type="checkbox"/>
NRA Firearms Instructor <input type="checkbox"/>	Rifle (Long-range/Palma) <input type="checkbox"/>	Pistol (International) <input type="checkbox"/>	BPCR <input type="checkbox"/>
NRA Firearms Coach <input type="checkbox"/>	Rifle (International) <input type="checkbox"/>	Trap <input type="checkbox"/>	Muzzleloading <input type="checkbox"/>
DNR Instructor <input type="checkbox"/>	Rifle (International) <input type="checkbox"/>	Skeet <input type="checkbox"/>	Silhouette <input type="checkbox"/>
Curios & Relics <input type="checkbox"/>	F-Class <input type="checkbox"/>	Sporting Clays <input type="checkbox"/>	Air Rifle/Air Pistol <input type="checkbox"/>

I would like to join an MRRA Committee

I would like more information about Legislative activities

I would like more information about MRRA activities for Juniors

MEMBERSHIP FEES:

1 Year \$20.00

5 Years \$80.00

Life Membership \$450.00

Memberships expire on December 31st. Memberships started late in the year will expire on Dec 31st of the following year.

I authorize the MRRA to provide my contact information to MRRA affiliated clubs. I certify that I am not now, nor have I ever been a member of any organization which advocates the overthrow of the government of the United States by force or violence. I further certify that I have never been convicted of a felony, crime of violence or misdemeanor domestic violence, and that I am not otherwise prohibited from owning firearms. If accepted as a member of the Minnesota Rifle and Revolver Association, I pledge to practice good sportsmanship, support the MRRA, and uphold the Constitution of the United States and the Second Amendment.

Signature: _____ Date: _____

Mail Completed Form & Check to:

Kevin Kuehl – MRRA Membership Secretary

13756 89th Place N.

Maple Grove, MN. 55369

This form available at www.mrra.org

MRRA reserves the right to reject any application • Rev Dec. 13,2017