



MRRA.org

Minnesota Rifle & Revolver Association - Since 1932

SUMMER AND FALL 2017 NEWSLETTER

Remember to renew your MRRA Membership!

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

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

MRRA MEETING DATES

October 28, 2017:

10:00 AM Board Meeting
12:30 PM Membership Meeting
Splitrocks Entertainment Center, Wyoming, MN

December 09, 2017:

10:00 AM Board Meeting
12:30 PM Membership Meeting
Splitrocks Entertainment Center, Wyoming, MN

MRRA MEMBERSHIP AND BOARD MEETING REMINDER:

At the last Membership meeting it was decided that the Fall MRRA Membership and Board Meeting is scheduled for Saturday, October 28, 2017 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

We are all reeling from the tragedy in Las Vegas. We can only grieve and reach out with prayers to those who have losses. With sad heart I must point out, instead of sorrow, political factions are reaching out with their political agenda trying to blame firearms and not the madman responsible. It appears that they do not respect families or their sorrow. They only see a tool to advance their political agenda.

We must be respectful but be vigilant. Once again, it appears that our sport is being threatened because of the deeds of a madman!

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/>

In this issue we are going to share a story about a friend who has left the range, F-Class refresher, the CMP & NRA, ISSF World Championships and a great article on reloading. In reading them, I hope you will see that there is hope for future generations of shooters.

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

Regards, George Minerich, President

KEEP SHOOTING STRONG! PLEASE SUPPORT



Remembering Lance Peters

A little over a year ago, Minnesota lost one of its best shooters, Lance Peters. Lance set club, state and national records shooting rifle and pistol. Lance was a character with a quiet way and a big heart. He was also a great supporter of competitive shooting in our state. Lance had many accomplishments that most of us do not know about. A good friend of Lance's from the all Guard Team, Hap Rocketto, published a great story about Lance which is my pleasure to share with you:

Between Scylla and Charybdis

by Hap Rocketto

We were swapping jokes between relays at the Rhode Island Prone Championship and one that got a big laugh was about a golfing fanatic priest who had called his Monsignor to tell him that he was ill and would be unable to serve Sunday Mass. The errant cleric knew that everyone would be at church to hear his superior preach and, as a result, the local course would be empty. He then slinked to the links to shoot a solo round. During the game the divine knocked in not one, but three, holes in one and finished some six or seven strokes below the course record! His joy quickly turned to ashes when he realized that the Deity had both blessed him as a golfer and cursed him for his falsehood as a priest. He had the best day of golf in his life but could tell no one.

Still laughing we were called to the line and after the preparation period had begun the range officer abruptly called a cease fire and commanded all of us to open our bolts, insure our chambers were empty and to ground our rifles. It seems a tyro's target had come adrift and the range officer was going to give the youngster a chance to go down range and fix it. It was something he did not have

to do because hanging your target correctly is a shooter's responsibility under NRA Rule 18.5. However, it was both within the range officer's rights, according to NRA Rule 10.7, and the compassionate thing to do. While the youngster galloped down and back to the targets my mind drifted to thoughts of an incident when NRA Rule 18.5 'Responsibility in regards to targets' was bent, if not downright broken.

The rule requires that you frame your target properly. That means it must be hung right side up. That doesn't seem like too difficult a task but with most targets being symmetrical it can happen. Years ago the position phase at Camp Perry was fired in four positions on the A-23 target. There was an A-23/3 for team matches with three bulls in a vertical column, it looks like the A-25 100 yard target, but is seldom seen these days. All Guard teammate Lance Peters was sighting in during the standing stage of the team match. He had fired five tens in the sighter and had decided to go for record. As he prepared to shoot his first record shot he noticed, to his horror, that he had hung his target upside down! The five shots he thought were his sighters were actually five shots for record in the second record bull of the three-bull target. He was now faced with a terrible problem. If there were a crossfire on his target the scorers would line up the target with the backer and find that they did not match. He would either be disqualified or lose 50 points. Either would be a disaster.

Lance thought how he might solve his dilemma. His only option was to shoot in the same pattern as the first five into the second bull down. It seemed simple enough. Except that in order for the backer to look right he would have to shoot the shots in a mirror image the first target!



Lance Peters

Maplewood, MN

You are missed old friend!

He had shot another perfect record target standing, just backwards. It was a bit like the old Fred Astaire-Ginger Rogers line. Fred was a great hooper but Ginger did all that Fred did, except backwards while wearing heels.

Lance composed himself, checked his loading block, and very carefully shot five tens exactly where he wanted them. He had fired two perfect bulls standing. This is an amazing feat under any circumstances but this incident was special. Before he could breathe a sigh of relief and enjoy this spectacular shooting feat he realized he was not yet out of the woods. The backers would still not line up unless he shot yet another five shots, in the same pattern, in the final bull that was the sighter! After drawing himself up to his full six and one quarter feet, taking a deep breath, and murmuring a short prayer he squeezed off five more tens in the final bull. He had now shot a trio of perfect bulls in order to get credit for two.

Continued on next page....

Remembering Lance Peters Continued....

Several of us had been sitting behind the line casually spotting the team's shots. When it dawned upon us what Lance was up to, and up against, we became glued to our scopes. In absolute awe, with bated breath, we watched the quiet drama that was being enacted in front of our eyes. The collective force of our sigh of relief after the last shot almost blew the towering Peters off of his feet.

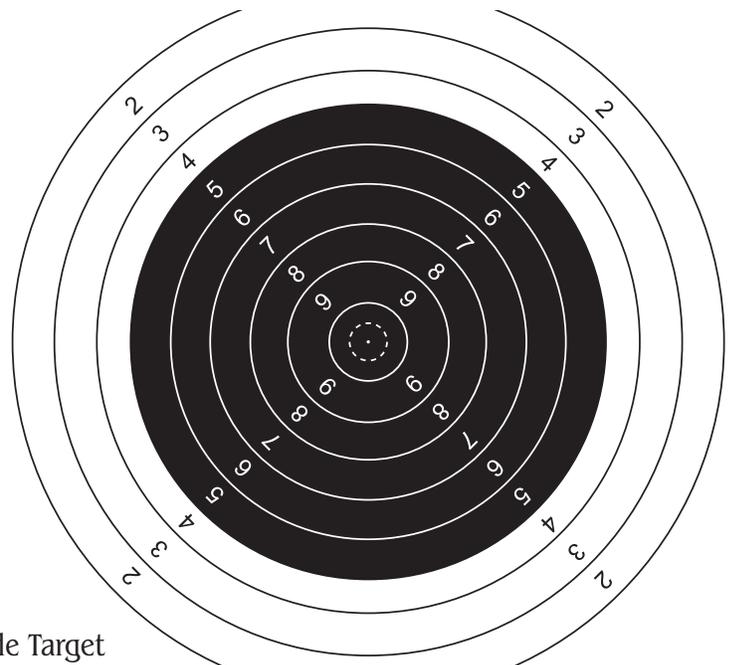
We had witnessed an absolutely unbelievable shooting exhibition. This was the stuff of legend. Most of couldn't have done it prone, let alone standing, and were bursting to brag to everyone about Lance's deed. However, there was one catch. If we told the story we would be admitting to violating the rules and would be disqualified. Worse it would have meant that Lance's astounding

display of shooting prowess would have been for naught. We were forced to keep it to ourselves. The world is a just place and, probably as an act of Divine Intervention, Lance did not receive a crossfire and we did not place in the match. We were caught between Scylla and Charybdis, in other words, a rock and a hard place, just like the priest in the joke

International Shooting Sport Federation (ISSF) World Shooting Championships:

The ISSF World Championships are held every four years. 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. The next World Championship is Aug. 31, 2018 through Sept. 14, 2018. These matches will be shot at Changwon, South Korea. USA Shooting open team tryouts for rifle and pistol were during September at Fort Benning, Georgia. Three Minnesota Shooters traveled to Fort Benning, Georgia to participate in the 300-meter matches. Matthew Griffin, Phillip Klanderud and Bradley Yliniemi shot the 300 Meter International competitions. Matches included Free Rifle (almost anything goes), 40 shots standing, 40 shots kneeling, 40 shots prone, Standard Rifle, 5 kilos weight limit (12 lbs.). and 1.5 kilo (3.3 lbs.) trigger weight 20 shots standing, 20 shots kneeling, 20 shots prone, and prone (free rifle) – 60 shots straight. All firing is done with metallic sights and no magnifying lenses. The 300-meter target has a 3 7/8 inch diameter 10 ring. The 300-meter rifle target is said to be the hardest target in the world to master.

Brad shot 3-Position Free Rifle, Standard Rifle and Prone. Matthew shot Standard Rifle and Prone. Phillip completed the team shooting the prone matches. All of our shooters did well with Brad placing First in Standard Rifle, Matt Second. Brad placed third in 3 Position Free rifle, Brad was 7th, Matt 9th. and Phillip 11th in prone. It should be noted that the Minnesota crew was competing against the finest shooters our Country has to offer including several members of the U.S. Army Marksmanship Unit (AMU). On a final note, former MN Junior Patrick Sunderman is now shooting for the AMU. Patrick was 2nd in 3 Position Free Rifle and 10th in prone. Brad and Matthew are waiting for news from USA Shooting. The final team choice will be announced in March 2018 and there is a good change that one or both of them are going to the World Championships in Korea! Congratulations Brad and Matt!



300-meter Rifle Target

Reloading Precision Rifle Ammo on a Progressive Press

By: Erik Rhode, January 2017

Over the course of my 10-years as a competitive rifle shooter, I have lost track of the number of times that the subject of loading ammo has come up in conversation. Whether on the line, in the pits, or around the campfire after dinner, shooters love discussing this subject. Generally-speaking, most would agree that ammo loaded on a progressive press is good enough for pistol shooting, high-volume "blasting" fodder for AR's, or any application where top-level accuracy is not the primary concern. When top-level accuracy is needed, conventional wisdom leads most hand loaders to a single-stage press. While I agree that most single stage presses are capable of producing excellent match-grade ammo, I don't agree that they are the only option.

The first press that I ever bought was a Dillon 550B. I purchased it in around 2002 from local reloading guru John Walton at the Gunstop in Minnetonka, MN. At the time, I only owned one rifle, and I had never shot it beyond 50 yards at an indoor range. My reason for getting interested in reloading at the time was to feed my 9mm and .45 ACP pistols, which I was shooting A LOT. I wanted to be able to crank out as much ammo as I could in short order, and John did a good job of demonstrating to me that the 550B was the right tool for the job. Having never loaded a single round of ammo before, and not knowing anyone else who had, the saintly Mr. Walton put up with all of my dumb questions, and prevented me from blowing myself up on more than one occasion. The learning curve on the Dillon was a little steep for a complete greenhorn, but once I started to understand how everything worked, I really began to appreciate the efficiency that was possible with this press.

It would be a few more years before I developed any interest in rifle shooting, and a few more after that before I started to understand some of the differences between "good" and "bad" ammo. I had been loading some basic .223 and .308 rounds on the 550, but nothing very serious, and not in any volume. I finally discovered NRA/CMP highpower in 2007, and that is when my loading needs started to change. In my first

season shooting the service rifle, I loaded all of my .223 ammo on the 550 in the exact same way that I would load pistol ammo. Basically, I'd just put a fresh case and bullet on the press, pull the handle, advance the shell holder, and watch a new cartridge fall into the tray. I didn't have anywhere near enough skill with the rifle to be able to tell if my ammo was good or bad, and all lost points on target were definitely caused by shooter error. After I switched to a match rifle for OTC matches, I started to expect better scores, particularly at the 600-yard line, and started to notice things in my reloading process that could potentially be holding my scores back. I experimented with some single stage presses at this point, but found I couldn't stand the slow pace of production after my years with the Dillon. I like talking about loading ammo, but I have no love for actually doing it. To me, it's a necessary evil if I want to keep shooting. I shoot a lot of matches, so I need a lot of ammo to keep rolling, and I decided that a single stage was not going to work for me.

Now, I don't claim to be an expert at anything, but when I look at a press, it seems to me that the only thing it really does is move things up and down. In my humble observations, it would seem that for my application, the straighter the line that it moves up and down, and the better the parts match up when they get to where they are going, the better my ammo will be. The inherent problem in this department with the Dillon presses is the interchangeable toolhead system. It is designed to be able to quickly change your whole set of dies at once, and it is very good for that task. The down side is that there is a lot of "slop" in the fit of the toolhead to the press. The dies are locked into the toolhead, but the toolhead fits loosely into the slot in the press. I normally have 3 dies in my toolheads when loading rifle ammo; a sizing die in station #1, a powder funnel die in station #2, and a seater in station #3. This means that every time the handle is pulled, 3 different things are happening to 3 different cases at the same time. The case in station 1 is getting sized, #2 is getting a powder charge, and #3 is having a bullet seated, all at once. Tiny variances in neck tension, case length, powder charge, etc, will cause uneven stress to be

put on the different stations on the toolhead, and will cause the toolhead to “twist” differently in the press. This can cause your final product to be less straight, or less concentric. Some will argue the importance of having concentric ammo, but I think most would agree that all else being equal, straighter ammo is better.

The way to solve this issue on a Dillon press is to lock the toolhead in place so it doesn’t move. This is really easy, even for a guy like me with next to no mechanical ability. I didn’t come up with any of these ideas, but I use them and have seen measureable improvements in ammo concentricity since setting my press up this way. There are 2 phases to this modification, and 2 parts you will need to make it happen. I believe that you could choose to only do one or the other and still see some benefit, but doing both will yield the best results.

The first item you need is the Floating Die Toolhead from Whidden Gunworks. These toolheads are CNC machined to be flat in the places they need to be flat, and they have a post and special lock rings at stations 1 and 3 to allow you to float your dies. The toolheads are available here: <http://www.whiddengunworks.com/product/floating-dillon-toolheads/>

2nd is the Uniquetek Toolhead Clamp kit, available here: <http://www.uniquetek.com/product/T1230>

The kit consists of a tap & die set to thread the post holes in your press and toolheads, some tiny screws and washers, and even tinier heli-coils to put into the newly threaded holes. If you are handy and know your way around a hardware store, I’m sure you could just buy the stuff in the kit separately and save some money. Once you have used the kit to thread the holes and have installed the heli-coils, you are ready to lock your toolhead down. Presuming that your dies are already correctly set up in the toolhead, you will place an empty case in Station #1(sizer die), and a loaded round in station #3 (seater die). With the ram all the way at the top and both the loaded round and empty case fully engaged in the dies, your toolhead is pushed all the way flat against the top of the slot it rides in. In this position, you will insert the tiny screws into the heli-coils and tighten them to lock the head in place.

With the toolhead locked down, you won’t have any

twisting of the toolhead to deal with. The Whidden floating die toolheads allow your sizer and seater to float independently and self align on the cartridge as it enters the die, similar to the way a Forster Coax press operates. For all intents and purposes, it is now like running 3 separate single stage presses simultaneously. Doing this has brought my typical concentricity measurements from .003”-.008” before modifications, to .000”-.003” after, with most rounds falling below .002”. I don’t really even measure runout any more unless I change something in the process, and then only to confirm that everything is still working. I am confident that any ammo I make on this system will have runout below .003”.

I have also done away with the Dillon powder charge system and instead use a generic powder funnel die in its place. I use a separate powder dispenser/scale combo off the press to throw each charge, and then dump them into each case at station #2. At this point, the speed of your powder system will be the limiting factor in how fast you can make ammo. Mine is pretty fast, and the time it takes for each charge to dispense is roughly the same as the time it takes me to do the other tasks. The timing works out well, and I am able to load about 100 rounds per hour with this process. This is the best ammo I can make, and it includes sizing, priming, powder charging, and bullet seating. If I were doing all of the same processes on a single stage, the results wouldn’t be any better, only slower.

These same modifications can also be done on a Dillon 650, and results should be similar. Keep in mind that throwing powder charges off the press will prevent the 650 from running at its full speed potential, and the production rate will be effectively the same as on a 550. Personally, I prefer the 550 for a number of reasons, but both are excellent presses.

If you are a progressive press user wanting to fine-tune your ammo production without sacrificing the speed, these simple modifications might be the ticket for you.

DCM, CMP and NRA Explained

(I hope)

by NRA Staff - Thursday, Sept. 14, 2017

In 1859, the National Rifle Association (NRA) of the United Kingdom was created for much the same reason as our NRA here in the USA. Its founding aim was to raise funds for an annual national rifle match "for the promotion of marksmanship in the interests of Defence of the Realm and permanence of the Volunteer Forces, Navy, Military and Air."

The National Rifle Association of America was established in 1871 with its first "Annual Matches" held in 1873 at the legendary Creedmoor Range on Long Island, NY. Today's NRA National Pistol Championships are still held each summer at Camp Perry, located near Port Clinton, OH, on the southern shore of Lake Erie.

In 1903, the U.S. War Department (now Department of Defense) formed the National Board for the Promotion of Rifle Practice and the National Rifle and Pistol Trophy Matches. The measure provided a great boost to civilian marksmanship training, an effort begun a generation earlier by the National Rifle Association.

In 1905, President Roosevelt signed into law the sale of surplus military rifles and ammunition to rifle clubs that met certain requirements. And in 1916, the National Defense Act authorized the War Department to further distribute funds to open all military rifle ranges to civilian shooters. Today, many military base rifle, pistol and shotgun ranges are used by civilian shooting clubs and associations, providing excellent opportunities for training, practice and competition.

The National Defense Act also created the Office of the Director of Civilian Marksmanship (DCM), which was civilianized in 1996 as the Corporation for the Promotion of Rifle Practice and Firearms Safety, Inc. The restructuring of the Civilian Marksmanship Program (CMP), earnestly supported by the NRA, was opposed by anti-gun members of Congress, who would have preferred to abolish the program entirely, eliminating its firearm safety training activities and destroying its rifles and ammunition.

Now in the 21st century there are nearly 2,000 state and local shooting clubs and associations affiliated with the CMP, and over 15,000 shooting clubs and associations affiliated with the NRA. Nearly all offer matches in multiple disciplines that are sanctioned by one or both organizations. This vast network offers tremendous opportunities for shooters to exercise their Second Amendment rights competing in the shooting sports.

CMP continues to administer its historic Excellence-in-Competition program (Leg Matches leading to Distinguished ranking) and to sponsor the National Trophy Matches, which include the President's Rifle and Pistol Matches, fired with service rifles (such as the AR-15) and service pistols. Recently the CMP has made available an electronic target system in conjunction with Kongsberg, including a mobile setup to demonstrate the technology to those unfamiliar with it.

These matches usually begin each year in July, followed by NRA matches in Precision (Bullseye) Pistol, Smallbore, High Power, Mid-Range and Long Range Rifle. In 2014 the NRA National Smallbore Championships moved from Camp Perry to Wa-Ke'-

De Rifle Range in Bristol, IN. In 2017 the NRA National High Power Championships also found a new home on the ranges of the Indiana National Guard's Camp Atterbury. NRA Precision Pistol remains at Camp Perry.

You will hear the terms DCM (the CMP Director) and CMP used interchangeably in reference either to firearms sales such as the M1 Garand or sponsorship of the National Trophy Matches. Both CMP and NRA each have their own rulebook, with subtle differences. Both use different scoring systems. NRA matches allow sighting shots—CMP, generally, does not. In general, however, the two organizations have pledged to make the two rulebooks as compatible as possible. For example, the NRA High Power Rifle rulebook reads:

3.1 Service Rifle ... (e) Any rifle or modified rifle not covered by NRA Rule 3.1, but permitted by CMP Rules is considered a service rifle in NRA sanctioned competition.

Paragraph 2.3 of the CMP rulebook explains: Annual National Rifle Association (NRA) National Rifle and Pistol Championships may be conducted in conjunction with the CMP National Trophy Matches. The CMP and NRA will conclude appropriate agreements to identify their respective responsibilities in conducting the events that comprise the National Matches.

To participate in the National Matches or for more information about the CMP, CMP Clubs, and Excellence-in-Competition matches, contact 888-267-0796 or go to www.thecmp.org. For NRA competitive shooting programs, contact 877-672-6282 or visit www.compete.nra.org.

WHAT IS F-Class

Due to many inquiries about F-Class, I am re-running this article.

What is F-Class competition? Well, it is sort of a cross between Palma-style shooting and conventional benchrest. You shoot from the ground, like Palma, but you use a high-power scope, front rest (or bipod) and rear bag, like Benchrest. Most matches are scored by hit value like Palma, rather than group size like 1000 yd Benchrest. F-class is one of the fastest growing forms of rifle competition. Scopes allow the shooters to wring the full accuracy out of their guns at long range. Shooting from the ground allows matches to be conducted at ranges that don't have benches for long distances.

Being new, F-class rules are still evolving, but here in the United States, two classes are recognized: Open, with a rifle weight limit of 10kg (22 lbs) and F/TR (F-Class/Target Rifle) with is restricted to .223Rem. and .308Win. caliber rifles fired off of bipods, with a 18.15 pound weight limit. A rear rest (sandbag or sock) is permitted if wanted.

The MRRRA welcomes this new sport and supports its growth. There will be several F-class matches as well as a State championship this year. Watch for news as well as an F-class section on the MRRRA website. Many F-class matches will be held in conjunction with High Power (midrange), Palma and International matches although the growing popularity of F-class will encourage dedicated matches in the future

www.mrra.org

The following web sites have more information on this exciting sport.

www.f-classinfo.com

www.6mibr.com

www.long-range.com

www.usfclass.com

Minnesota Rifle & Revolver Association (MRRRA)

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 MRRRA printing & postage costs.
 I agree to notify the MRRRA 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 MRRRA Committee <input type="checkbox"/>			
I would like more information about Legislative activities <input type="checkbox"/>			
I would like more information about MRRRA activities for Juniors <input type="checkbox"/>			
MEMBERSHIP FEES:			
<input type="checkbox"/> 1 Year \$15.00	<input type="checkbox"/> 5 Years \$60.00	<input type="checkbox"/> Life Membership \$350.00	

Memberships expire on December 31st. Memberships started late in the year will expire on Dec 31st of the following year. I authorize the MRRRA to provide my contact information to MRRRA 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 MRRRA, and uphold the Constitution of the United States and the Second Amendment.

Signature: _____ Date: _____

Mail Completed Form & Check to:
 Kevin Kuehl – MRRRA Membership Secretary
 13756 89th Place N.
 Maple Grove, MN. 55369

This form available at www.mrra.org MRRRA reserves the right to reject any application