

The 2015 Swanson Match
Sponsored by
The Corporal Digby Hand Schützenverein
and
The Manchester Rifle Club
Hosted by the
Quaker Hill Rod and Gun Club

THE SWANSON TROPHY IS RETURNING TO COMPETITION!
A CLASSIC CONNECTICUT JUNIOR RIFLE MATCH ON A TRADITIONAL SHOOTING WEEKEND.

The late David L. Swanson was a very active member of the Manchester Rifle Club during the 1960-61 season. Taken ill, his shooting career was tragically cut short when he passed away as a teenager. The Swanson family, wishing to recognize his passion for smallbore rifle shooting, donated a handsome trophy to the Manchester Rifle Club, in his memory, to be placed into annual junior competition.

The first Swanson match was held in 1963 and continued, uninterrupted until 1986 when issues with the Manchester range caused a halt. Jason Stansfield took custody of the trophy and records with the hopes of reviving competition. While reminiscing about 'The Old Days' with Steve Rocketto the Swanson Match came up and the two dedicated themselves to bring the match back. And so, through two long time Connecticut junior coaches the Swanson match returns to competition.

- Dates:** Friday, December 4, 2015, Saturday, December 5, 2015, and Sunday December 6, 2015.
- Location:** The Quaker Hill Rod and Gun Club, 215 Oxoboxo Dam Rd, Oakdale, CT 06370 Club telephone 860-848-8385
- Rules:** Current NRA Smallbore Rules will apply
- Time:** Relays begin, on the hour, 3PM through 8PM on Friday and 9AM through 6PM on Saturday and Sunday. First relay each day will be called to the line 15 minutes before the relay is scheduled.
- Target:** NRA A-17
- Course of Fire:** 30 shots in three positions, in any order, unlimited sighters for juniors
30 shots prone with unlimited sighters for sub-juniors
- Time:** 35 minutes per relay for all matches
- Coaching:** Allowed in both categories
- Fees:** Entry Fee: \$5.00 per individual and per four person team
Challenge Fee: A warm smile and a pleasant request for the first challenge. Further challenges require \$1.00 each.

Awards: First, second, and third place plaques in both matches with winner's name engraved on the permanent Swanson Trophy. Plaques awarded in three classes, A, B, and C, as determined by the Lewis Awards system.

Entries: Advance entries are to be made to Hap Rocketto, 18 Stenton Avenue, Westerly, RI 02891 via mail, Email at hrocketto@cox.net or telephone 401-322-7193. Post entries will be permitted, without additional fee, to range capacity which is 208.

Food: The Quaker Hill Rod and Gun Club will operate its kitchen providing hot dogs, as is traditional with the Swanson Match, beverages, and light snacks.

Notes:

1. **Shooting mats** are provided
2. A **match bulletin** will be available via Email no later than 24 hours after the final challenge period closes to all who provide an email address. Hard copy Match Bulletins will be sent to team coaches.
3. Quaker Hill requires **eye and ear protection** for all those on the range

SWANSON MATCH HISTORY

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The original course of fire was 20 shots prone on the A-17 target for sub-juniors. Juniors shot two matches, one of 20 shots with ten shot in each of prone and standing and a second of another 20 with ten each for sitting and kneeling. The Swanson Trophy was awarded to the junior with the highest aggregate score in both matches.

Additionally there were paper team matches of two and four man teams counting scores from the two position matches and a four man sub junior team event.

While the match was exciting it always seemed that the most important part of the Swanson for most of the kids was gobbling down the inexpensive, but tasty, hot dogs-the only hot food item on the snack bar, if one can dignify a small card table set in the corner of the range by that title, menu.

The Swanson Match was, in many cases, the first major individual victory for many of the winners,

Jesse Johnston, the one of only two two time winners, went on an All American collegiate career at Tennessee Tech, shot on the US Dewar Team, and was the youngest shooter ever to gain membership to the United States Pershing Team.

Barbara Gilnack is the only women, to date to win the Swanson.

David Lyman follows family tradition and runs the junior programs out of Blue Trail Range. He earned Distinguished in prone and position was well membership on the US Dewar Team as a few National Championships in his shooting career.

Gurrie Fandozzi was a member of the US Dewar Team and, along with Dan Whaley, shot on the All National Guard Smallbore Team.

With such lineage who know where the future winners of the Swanson Trophy may find themselves?

David L. Swanson Memorial Match Winners

1963-A. Archibald-548	1976-Barbara Gilnack-383-MID
1964-A. Archibald-561	1977-Jack Santo-383-QH
1965-B. Moeller-558	1978-Scott Bothwell-386-BTR
1966-William Sheldon-565	1979-Jay Poirier-388-BTR
1967-John E, Gallagher-575	1980-Dana Sweet-393-BRC
1968-William Sheldon-574	1981-Jesse Johnston-390-BTR
1969-L. Skoglund-558	1982-Jesse Johnston-394-BTR
1970-G. Slack-560	1983-Dan Whaley-391-MAN/BTR
1971-Carl Lees-559-EHRC	1984-Gurrie A, Fandozzi, Jr.-395-MAN
1972-Rick Blauvelt-MRC	1985-Leo Sihvonen-393-NFA
1973-?	1986-Robert Mercadante-390
1974-David Lyman-388-MRC	1987-Chris Bozzo-385
1975-Steve Snyder-380	

BRC=Bridgeport Rifle Club
BTR=Blue Trail Range
EHRC= East Haven Rifle Club
MAN=Manchester Rifle Club
MID=Middlebury Rifle Club
MRC=Middlefield Rifle Club
MID=Middlebury Rifle Club
NFA=Norwich Free Academy
QH=Quaker Hill Rod and Gun Club
RHS-Rockville High School
XHS=Xavier High School