



2016 TENNESSEE SMALLBORE PRONE CHAMPIONSHIP  
APRIL 30<sup>TH</sup> & MAY 1<sup>ST</sup> 2016

Oak Ridge, TN.

The 2016 TN. State Smallbore Prone rifle championship was hosted by the Oak Ridge Sportsman Association. Twenty two competitors entered the match from across TN, KY, VA, and AL. All 4 classifications were represented as well as Sr, Jr. and Woman. A major storm front rolling in from the southwest threatened the match on Saturday but the competitors were blessed with calm wind and diffused light for every stage of the tournament.

The course of fire was 50 meters, 100 yards, Reverse Dewar, and finally 50 yards for a total of 160 shots for record with Iron Sights on Saturday and Any Sights on Sunday.

⇒ **SUMMARY BY MATCH**

**The 50 Meter Match** dashed the hopes of every competitor's dreams of a 1600 with the exception of **Ed Foley** who won this stage of the tournament with 400-31X. Master class winner was **Mark DelCotto** 399-32X. Expert class was taken by long range prone shooter **Thomas Colyer** with a 398-16X. Sharpshooter/Marksman class was won by **Steve Wells** with a 393-19X

**The 100 Yard Match.** Four shooters shot a perfect 400 at this distance. **Howard Pitts** and **Rick May** each tied with a 400-31X but Pitts higher X count on the last 20 shots gave him the win and Rick was the 1<sup>st</sup> Master. **Tom Byrne** was the expert class winner with 399-24X. **Steve Wells** won the Sharpshooter/Marksman class with a 385-20x.

**The Dewar Match.** Reverse order Dewar where the first 20 shots were at 100 and then 50 yards. Four shooters shot perfect 100's but only 3 of them were from TN. The TN **State Dewar Team** posted a 1599-125X. Another tie breaker was need to decide which 400-33X won. In this case **Howard Pitts** had the better X count at the longer range to edge out **Mike Carter**. **Thomas Colyer** was first expert with a 399-27 and **Steve Wells** was the Sharpshooter/Marksman winner with 396-21.

**The 50 Yard Match.** **Mark DelCotto** fired a perfect 400-40X to win this match. He declined a continuation of fire to attempt to set a new national record. *The record is 65 additional X's set by Tom Whitaker in 1973.* First master was **Ed Foley** with a 400-34X. **Thomas Colyer** continued to dominate the expert class with a 400-35x as did **Steve Wells** in the Sharpshooter Marksman class with 396-27.

**Iron Aggregate.** **Ed Foley** was the iron sights winner with a 1599-118. **Mark DeCotto** was 2nd with a 1598-138. **Howard Pitts** was 1<sup>st</sup> Master with a 1598-125. **Thomas Colyer** was the expert class winner with 1595-106x and **Steve Wells** took the Sharpshooter/Marksman class with 1570-87x. **Madelyn Wood** was the high Junior and High Lady for the match. **Eddie Meydrech** was the lone F-Class shooter in this tournament and fired a 1575 over the Metric Course.

### **Day 2-Any Sights**

**50 Meter Any Sights** **Howard Pitts** fired 400-39x to win this match. 1<sup>st</sup> Master was **Mike Carter** with 400-37x. 1<sup>st</sup> Expert was **Brian Hunter** with 400-34x, and 1<sup>st</sup> Sharpshooter/Marksman was **Steve Wells** with 399-26x.

**100 Yards Any Sights** **Howard Pitts** scored 400-33x to edge out **Mark DelCotto** by 1x with 400-32x for match winner and first master respectively. **Brian Hunter** remained clean to take 1<sup>st</sup> Expert with a 400-31x. **Larry Sparks** took the Sharpshooter/Marksman class with a 398-18x.

**Dewar Any Sights** Match 8 was won by **Howard Pitts** with 400-35x. 1<sup>st</sup> Master was **Ed Foley** with 400-33x. 1<sup>st</sup> Expert was **Thomas Colyer** with 400-31x. **Larry Sparks** won the Sharpshooter/Marksman class with a 393-18x.

**50 Yards Any Sights** **Ed Foley** won the 50 yard match with 400-37x. **Mark DelCotto** was 1<sup>st</sup> Master 1 x back with 400-36x. 1<sup>st</sup> Expert was **Brian Hunter** with 399-31x and **Larry Sparks** was the 1<sup>st</sup> Sharpshooter/Marksman 395-25x.

**Any Sight Aggregate:** Scope day match winner was **Howard Pitts** with 1600-143x. 2<sup>nd</sup> Place was **Mark DelCotto** with 1600-139x. 1<sup>st</sup> Master was **Ed Foley** with 1599-134x. The Expert class was won by **Brian Hunter** with 1597-123x. And **Larry Sparks** was the Sharpshooter/Marksman class winner with 1583-89x.

**GRAND AGGREGATE** The overall winner of the match was **Mark DelCotto** with a 3198-270x. The Tennessee State Champion was **Howard Pitts** with 3198-268x. 1<sup>st</sup> Master and Senior Champion was **Ed Foley** with 3198-252x and 2<sup>nd</sup> Master was **Mike Carter** with 3194-248x. 1<sup>st</sup> Expert was **Thomas Colyer** with 3192-215x, 2<sup>nd</sup> Expert was **Brian Hunter** with 3186-212x. 1<sup>st</sup> Sharpshooter/Marksman was **Steve Wells** with 3148-171x. High Junior was Madelyn Wood with 3170-179x.

