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# RUGER'S PRECISION



# LONG-RANGE

My son, Ricky Marston has been with Junior Shooters magazine and competing for five years. He just recently started long-range shooting, and I decided that it was the perfect time for me to start shooting with him. What would be better than having the opportunity to help at his practices, meets, and shoots than me getting to shoot alongside him. Plus, the father/son fun time ends up just being an extra bonus. With me having never shot in precision long-range shooting, there was a lot to do.

The first thing I needed to do was to find a rifle capable of handling what I was going to be shooting. The different calibers all have their strengths and positive points. The 6mm Remington, the .243 Winchester, the 6 mm Creedmoor, the 6.5 mm Creedmoor, and the .308 Winchester are all great long-range calibers without going into the magnums. After narrowing it down to my top two choices, the 6.5mm

Creedmoor and the 308 Winchester, I had to make my decision. The decision was tough, but I decided on the 308. After all, it is a proven cartridge capable of top notch accuracy. In 1954, the US adopted the cartridge like the 7.62 NATO. With that being said, brass would be plentiful and economically priced for reloading. Another important factor was that you can find .308 ammo almost anywhere.

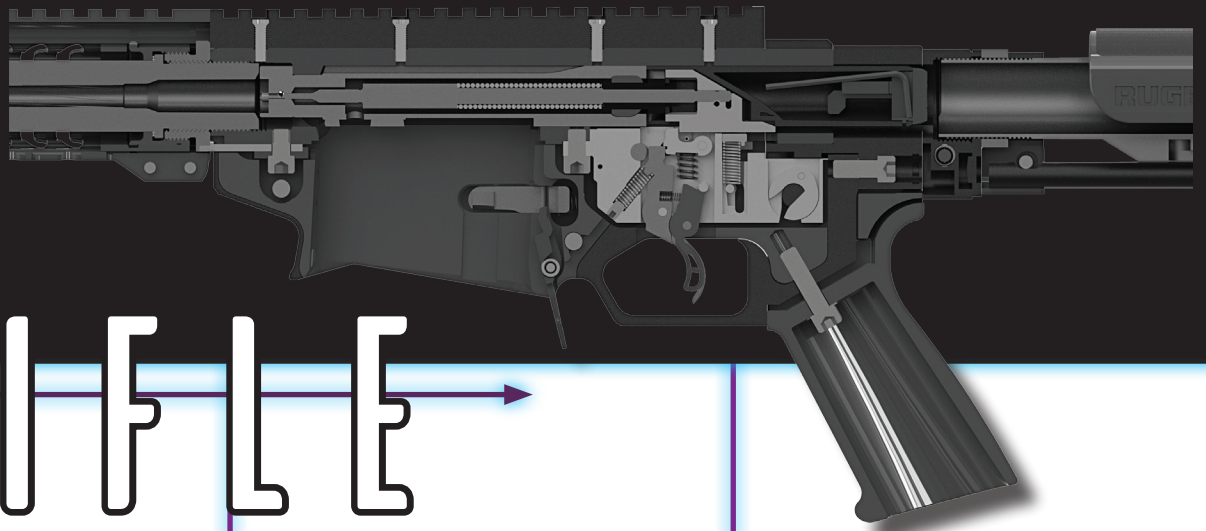
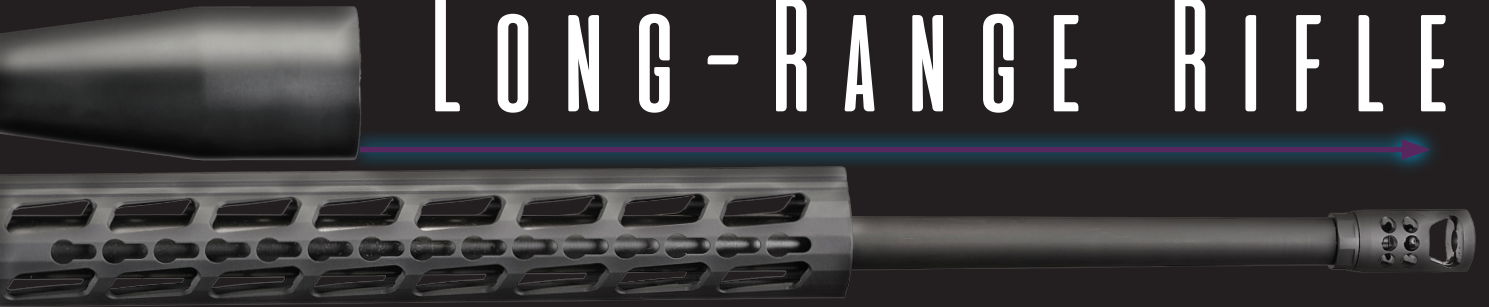
My next step was to choose a rifle that was both reasonably priced and accurate. This may not be the "cat's meow" for the real professional like my son was shooting, but something that made sense for a beginning long-range competitor. What I found was that there were many options available and many would fit within my budget. I looked specifically at Savage, FN, Remington, and Ruger in trying to make my decision. I looked at what would be necessary to add to the rifles to make it worthy or necessary for long-

range shooting and figured that into my decision as well.

I decided on the Ruger RPR {Ruger Precision Rifle}. It would give me everything I needed and was priced perfectly to fit my needs. I would be able to take the rifle straight out of the box and be able to shoot. This rifle comes with a 20" cold hammer forged barrel. It has a threaded muzzle, muzzle break that can be removed for a suppressor, or the thread protection cap (which is included) put on. It also has a free-float Modern Sporting Rifle-style hand guard which you can add accessories to if needed. A 20MOA Picatinny rail for increasing long-range capability and an oversized bolt handle for great bolt manipulation are also included.

This rifle also has the three-lug bolt design with the 70-degree throw. It comes with a precision MSR butt stock and has Quick Detach (QD) sling points. This is attached to an AR style buffer tube with a hinge so you can fold the

# LONG-RANGE RIFLE



# RIFLE

butt stock to the left side. This feature is great for compact storage. It has an AR style grip and safety selector and an adjustable trigger with a pull weight range of 2.25 to 5lbs. The wrench that adjusts the trigger is included and carried on the rifle in the bolt shroud. The barrel is easy to replace with nothing more than a head space gauge and an AR style wrench.

I must say, one of the biggest selling features is the universal magazine latch. It allows you the inner operability with other shooters or replacement magazine availability, with the array of magazines it can use. It can use any of the following magazines - AICS style mags, M110/SR-25/DPMS/Magpul style magazines, as well as some M14 magazines. It comes from the factory with 2 Magpul, 10 round LR/SR magazines.

At last I had the RPR in my possession. I had to put some glass on it. I decided to put a Vortex PST 4-16x50 with an EBR-1 [MRAD] Reticle. This

# RUGER'S PRECISION





# LONG-RANGE RIFLE

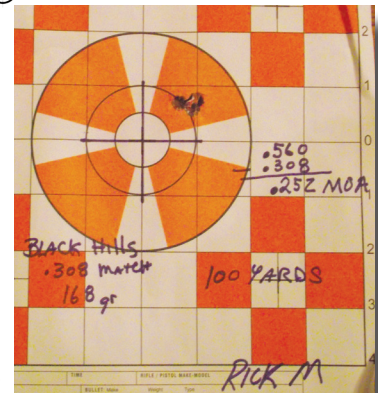
complemented the rifle nicely. Not only was this functional, but it also looked great as well

Let me tell you, this is one sweet set up. I brought it out to the range, and this thing will do all that I expected and better. I tried an array of different magazines, without one fail to feed smooth and flawlessly. The trigger was smooth and crisp. I shot a variety of ammo of different weights, as well as different manufacturers. The rifle performed great. On a cold, rainy, windy winter evening I decided to take it out and see what kind of groups this rifle would give me with the different ammo I had. I shot consecutive three round groups at 100 yards with each of the following. Black Hills 168gr Match, Nosler 165gr. Ballistic tips, Federals Fusion 180gr. As well as Hornady, Precision Hunter with the 178gr ELD-X. The largest group was with the Federal Fusion 180gr. This group came in at .809 moa [I believe there may be some shooter error with this group]. The best group was with the Black Hills 168gr match, this ammo produced a group of .252 moa. At this point, I have shot this rifle out to 1,050 yards with solid impacts. Below is a list of the ammo I shot and the respective group size it produced.

Black Hills 168gr match	.252 MOA
Hornady Precision Hunter 178gr	.348 MOA
Nosler 165gr Ballistic tips	.440 MOA
Federal Fusion 180gr.	.809 MOA

I will tell you, this platform is rock solid. If you take shooter error out of the equation, this rifle is capable of consistently producing sub-half MOA groups. I have shot this out to 1,050 yards with solid hits.

In my opinion, these are amazing results from a production rifle. With a MSRP of \$1599.00, this is a lot of bang for the buck. This is defiantly budget friendly in the world of PRS. I would highly recommend this rifle to any new or experienced shooter looking to pursue and perform well in precision long-range shooting sports. ©





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# Small Town Team

*Photo Sam Arndt Ozaukee Press*



By Sue Nett

# Big Opportunities



*2016 SCTP Texas State Champs*



# A host of opportunities affords a small town team in Wisconsin to grow with the help of the SCTP.

Who would have thought that back in 2007 when Dan Nett became the Head Coach for the Cedar Grove-Belgium Trap Team (in small town Wisconsin) now known as Rocket Trap, the team would be where it is today? Back then there were just seven athletes on the team that participated in the Sheboygan County High School Trap League (SCHSTL). Growth was a little slow, until 2011, when the District Superintendent and the High School Principal provided a bit of support and invited Dan to talk about the trap team at a school assembly. That year the team grew from 17 to 47 athletes and included the first female team members. Today, Rocket Trap has over 60 athletes in grades six through twelve (that's about 1 out of every 10 students) and continues to participate in the SCHSTL, which was founded in 1975 by Bill Lorenz and currently comprised of 12 teams and over 350 athletes. Bill also remains active as the President of the Board of Directors residing over the Sheboygan League he created some 40+ years ago!

In 2016, Coach Nett approached the SCHSTL Board of Directors and coaches with a proposal to join the Scholastic Clay Target Program (SCTP). It was agreed that all 12 teams would become members and a new SCTP conference in Wisconsin was created. The original intention for joining the SCTP was mainly for insurance purposes however, Coach Nett quickly realized all of the additional benefits available through the SCTP.

While they have always had talented athletes participating in the program, 2016 was a very successful year for Rocket Trap. In Conference competition they received awards for Girls Top Gun (Rachel Nett) and Mayville State Shoot Top Gun (Cody Schlenvogt). In addition, they had two teams finish in the top 3 at the Mayville State Shoot and had 11 athletes receive All County honors.

The SCTP brought new opportunities to participate in the State Shoot in Rome, Wisconsin as well as the National Championships in Ohio. Rocket Trap decided to enter both of these events with a Junior Varsity team (Hunter Lund, Colin Kettenhoven, Joe Weyker, Alex Chaudier, and Robby Tharp) and an Intermediate Entry-Level team (Tony Ogren, Jake Weyker, Nolan VanEss, Josh Nett, and Matt Andersen) and the outcome was fantastic.

Not only did the Intermediate Entry-Level team take 1st place at the State Shoot, they also took 1st place at the National Championships. In addition to the team awards, individual awards were received by Josh Nett (3rd place) and Nolan VanEss (5th place) at the State Shoot in their division.

The Junior Varsity team also performed very well placing 7th at the State Shoot and 19th at the National Championships. Joe Weyker also finished in 7th place in the individual standings for the Junior Varsity division at the State Shoot.

The SCTP provides so many additional opportunities for athletes. Rocket Trap had one of its senior athletes chosen to receive a \$1,000 scholarship. Additionally, athlete Josh Nett applied for and was chosen as one of 24 athletes in the nation to attend the Junior Olympic Development Camp at the Olympic Training Center in Colorado Springs, Colorado.

While credit really has to go to the athletes for their commitment and determination, Coach Nett states "the team could not have come this far without the support of the parents, the Cedar Grove and Belgium communities, and the Sauk Trail Conservation Club. We have been very fortunate with the opportunities that have been made available to us through our involvement with the SCTP and are excited about the future of Rocket Trap." ©





# SCTP

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- Shooting year that runs from September 1st through August 31st.
- Athletes from 4th & 5th grade through college can participate in our program.
- State, Regional and National Championships in both American and International disciplines.
- Competitions in Trap, Skeet, Sporting Clays, International Skeet, Bunker Trap and Olympic Doubles.
- The SCTP is the "official" youth shooting program to Team USA and USA Shooting.
- Junior Olympic Development Camps (JODC's)....Athletes stay right at the Olympic Training Center!
- Team savings accounts through the Midway USA Foundation.... and Endowment funds that we deposit.
- Raffle, new team start-up packages, Banquet packages available through us helping teams raise funds!
- Industry sponsored "special" gun prices for SCTP teams and athletes.
- Industry sponsored "special" ammo prices for SCTP teams and athletes.
- A registration and scoring system for all of our teams and coaches to use and track athletes.
- The SCTP gives out over \$50,000 a year in scholarships to its athletes graduating from high school.
- Prizes! Last year alone the SCTP gave out over 30 guns at our national championships!
- Partnerships with Conservation groups like Pheasants Forever and the NWTf help support local teams.

• And much, much more.....

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You can be part of any and all other youth programs, the SCTP does not discriminate!

The SCTP placed four of our athletes on the US National Junior Team last year as a result of the National Competition we held in Colorado Springs, CO. last summer! This is the first time ever that this has happened and we are proud that it was done through our program!

We hope that you and your schools team will consider being part of the largest youth program in the world, the Scholastic Clay Target Program!

We welcome you to contact us with any questions you might have!

**By Tom Wondrash  
 SCTP National Director**



**QUESTIONS?**

**National Director of Development**  
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 1-641-660-8409  
[smoniot@sssfonline.com](mailto:smoniot@sssfonline.com)

**Regional Field Representative**  
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# DESIRE AND DETERMINATION

By Tom Wondrash  
SCTP National Director



What does a Junior Olympic Development camp in Colorado Springs, a young high school athlete from Brooklyn, Iowa by the name of Lizzy Worthington and the SCTP National Director all have in common?

Well, let's just say.....desire and determination!

SCTP National Director, Tom Wondrash met Lizzy Worthington and her mother Glynis last summer at the SCTP Sponsored Junior Olympic Development Camp (JODC). A camp in which excelling athletes in the American disciplines of Trap, Skeet and Sporting Clays can try their hand at the International disciplines.

Glynis informed Wondrash of the wonderful things her daughter Lizzy was doing, including the Girl Scout "Gold Award Project" she was tackling amongst other things. This project, the "Bear Creek Shooting Range" expected

to open this spring at the intersection of Hwy. 6 and U.S. 63 east of Grinnell is the main focus of Lizzy! She is looking to raise funds and could really use the help said Glynis.

In discussing many things over those 3-4 days last August, Wondrash proposed to Glynis that we work cooperatively in raising some much needed funds for that shooting facility and for SCTP Scholarships that are sent out to deserving registered athletes in the SCTP program. After a month or so of discussions, Glynis and Lizzy contacted Wondrash and a banquet was planned (and held) on February 11 in Brooklyn Iowa.

The result of the hard work and fantastic attendance from local folks in the Brooklyn/Grinnell Iowa area lead to well over \$10,000 towards the shooting facility and over \$10,000 in SCTP Scholarship funds!

So, yes....Hard work, desire and determination will get you what you want! If you are in the area of Brooklyn Iowa this summer, please stop by the newly formed "Bear Creek Shooting Range"! Chances are you will see Lizzy there!

If you are interested in getting involved and taking advantage of the many SCTP Scholarships available, contact an SCTP representative and they can surely help you!!



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# NIKON Monarch 3

By Tristan Woodbury (14)

I was recently given a Nikon Monarch 3 BDC to write a review. The features of the scope are up first. It has a one-inch tube and a magnification of 4-16x42. The parallax knob is on the left. The turrets are in MOA. Scope objective lens cap likes to fall off a lot. The turrets windage and elevation adjust in ¼ MOA, or approximately ¼" per click at 100 yards.

The reticle is a Bullet Drop Compensator (BDC). The reticle is designed for hunting and varmint shooting. I do like how the like how the crosshairs were designed. The BDC reticle can be calibrated for your specific rifle and ammunition using Nikon's SpotOn Ballistic App available for both Apple and Android App markets.

While doing the tests, I used an Ashbury Precision in their modular SABER chassis, chambered in a 6.5 Creedmoor. It is easily capable of shooting ½" groups. The test was shot at a distance of 100 yards. To confirm the range, we used a 300-foot tape because 300 feet is 100 yards. I tested the accuracy of the scope's turret adjustment. I measured from the target to the turrets. I tested the turrets with the tall target test and a box adjustment drill.

I started by zeroing the scope. I fired three rounds and adjusted the scope right, left, up or down until my rounds impacted the same area I was aiming. The turrets are spring loaded, so you don't need tools to re-zero the turrets.

After I had zeroed the rifle, I did a tall target test. The tall target test is to check for errors within the elevation turret adjustments.

I shoot two rounds at zero at a square then I was only able to adjust to 17 MOA. Then shoot at the same square twice. Then adjust down back to zero and shot two more rounds. The turret is only able to adjust up to 17 MOA. It was supposed to adjust to 17.8", but it decided to change 19.5". There was an error of 1.7".

The box adjustment test is for testing the windage and elevation to ensure to make sure the springs adjust correctly. When doing the box test you shoot two rounds at zero. Then adjust 10 MOA to the right and take two shots at the same spot. Then adjust 10 MOA up and take two shots at the same spot. Then adjust left 10 MOA, took two shots at the same spot it was supposed to adjust 10.47". Then zeroed the scope and took two shots, making a beautiful box. When I was doing the box test, I adjusted 10 moa. It should have adjusted 10.47", and it adjusted 10.5" because the rifle is so accurate.

The scope turrets are adjusted very accurately. The scope was very nice. I was not able to test the accuracy of the BDC scope. The scope is not really meant for long-range precision shooting, but it is definitely a good hunting or varmint scope. ©

4-16x42





Tristan, using the Nikon 4-16X42 on an Ashbury Precision Ordnance (APO) custom SABER chassis in 6.5 Creedmoor.



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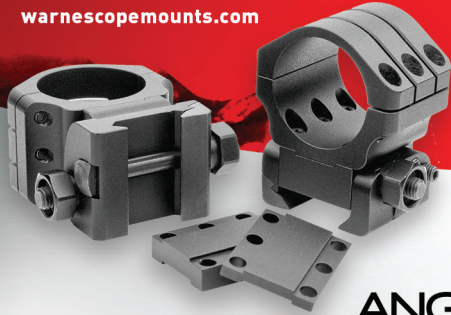
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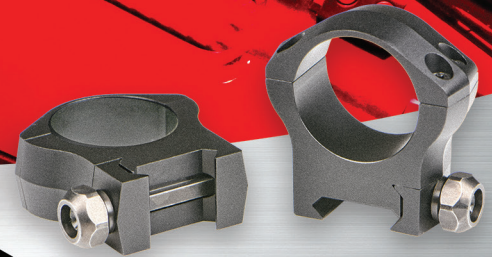
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# POF SKIRMISH

By Ben Moody (18)

Patriot Ordnance Factory, known as POF USA, is the maker of a great line of rifles. One of those rifles is the Skirmish, a Short Stroke Gas Piston AR-15. Out of the box, the Skirmish is instantly set apart from all black guns. The action and lower receiver are matched in a dull gold color that is uniquely good looking. The dust cover is a great addition to the rifle. Laser etched with "GOD



*POF USA and "GOD BLESS AMERICA" What could be better?*

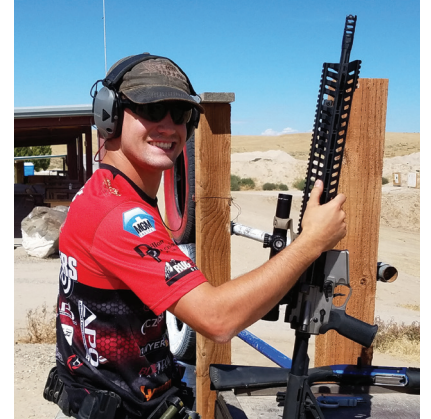
BLESS AMERICA" and the American flag. After checking out some of the controls and testing the action, the rifle was ready to be set up for three gun.

The rifle is shipped out with a short carbine style stock. I am not used to such a short stock, so I replaced it with a Magpul adjustable stock. Next, Warne scope mounts and an Alpen Apex 1-6x power scope were mounted on the rail. All of



*The POF muzzle break works very well with hardly any rise.*

this made a great three-gun package. POF used the 5.56 chambering for this rifle as well as a sixteen-and-a-half-inch barrel with a 1 in 8 twist. The first shots were great, you could cover them with a quarter. The muzzle break is a unique design that did a great job fighting the muzzle rise. The piston also is a quick recoil that is less than the recoil of more conventional firearms. POF has included an adjustable



*The SCRIMAGE is sweet!*

gas block, a great feature to tune the rifle to the different loads of ammo. During the time spent sighting in, I was able to explore the many functions of the rifle.

The controls are all ambidextrous, but the best features are the bolt release and catch. The standard bolt release is still where it always has been, but right



*The bad lever even includes the option to lock the bolt back.*

above the magazine release is a second bolt release. This takes a bit of getting use to but it is a great feature! I know what you're thinking, why would I have this when a BAD lever does the same thing. The bad lever even includes the option to lock the bolt back. Well, POF is one step ahead of you. In the trigger guard forward of the trigger itself is a bolt

lock button. Similar to the BAD lever.

The trigger itself is a four-pound stock trigger nothing to get excited about, right? That's what anyone would assume, but guess what, POF isn't just any company. Their trigger is called the Enhanced Finger Placement Trigger. My whole shooting career has been filled with people telling me to use the pad of my finger to press the



*The Enhanced Trigger Finger Placement is AWESOME!*

trigger. Many people build their grip up to force their finger to that position. With the Enhanced Placement Trigger you always use the pad of your finger. Its unique shape sets it forward from what a traditional trigger would. Not only does it promote a consistent trigger press, but with the added leverage the four-pound pull feels like two.

In competition, the

# IT WAS GREAT!

Skirmish is amazing. The fore end fits in my palm perfectly and its wide base is a huge advantage when resting on a barricade. I found the trigger was great for not only long shots, but for close paper as well. The reset is very crisp. Dumping the rifle is easy, I didn't notice this with other rifles, but the POF safety is smooth and engages easily saving precious seconds during a match. Another

great advantage was the 1 in 8 inch barrel twist. Included in many western 3-Gun matches is the dreaded spinner target. For this target system, it is helpful to switch to a heavier grain bullet. With this barrel twist accuracy is not compromised by the heavier grains. The best part of a Gas Piston System is you can let it get twice as filthy and not have a jam. Through all the matches

and practices I ran, I did not clean it and I did not have a single malfunction. It was great.

In conclusion, I would highly suggest this rifle to those wanting a Gas Piston for competition or hunting use. I would like to thank *Junior Shooters* magazine and Patriot Ordnance Factory for their generous support and opportunity to test this quality firearm. ©

*POF's SKIRMISH is a great 3-Gun rifle. Shown here with an Alpen 1-6X scope and ammunition from Hornady and Black Hills.*



# SAVAGE'S Light Weight Hunter IN .243

By Ashley Rumble (14)

After a few years of shooting steel targets, I thought this year was the right time to try my hand at hunting. It seemed like the next logical step, but as with all new things, there was a lot to do before that first hunt happened. At my age hunter's education is mandatory, so that was my first step. As luck would have it, Randy Irish, one of our Junior Shooters coaches, also teaches hunters education and having already known him, I already felt at ease before the class even started. This was a big plus. Randy is a great coach, so I pretty much knew I'd enjoy taking a class from him. The class lasted two weeks, and was three hours three times a week with one day being on the range. I learned about hunter safety, animal identification, tracking and many other necessary things during the class. The time on the range required that we show our proficiency

with a firearm and get signed off. I got through the class pretty well, and learned some new things to take with me to the field.

After passing hunters education, it was on to the next step. That was finding the right rifle for the job. I was planning on going deer hunting, so I needed something that could take down a mule or white tail deer. Andy Fink recommended a .243, so I was able to get a brand-new Savage .243 to hunt with and review. The rifle was an amazing piece of equipment and did not fail to perform. It has a stainless steel barrel, fluted bolt, synthetic stock, and the Savage Accu Trigger. It definitely caught my attention on looks alone, but shooting it sealed the deal. After mounting a Weaver 3-8x40 scope, we took it out to the local range to get a feel for it, and sight the scope in a little more, and I ended up shooting fifty rounds though it just because I wanted to shoot it. I gave the excuse that I wanted to try some different weights of

bullets, and my dad bought it. Not that he would ever tell me no to shooting a gun. I went out to two hundred yards in moderate cross winds, and as-long-as I was doing my job, the rifle did its job. Shooting that many rounds also puts the fit of the rifle to the test, and this one didn't give me any issues. I had no discomfort sending round after round down range.

We tried some heavy grain, and light grain bullets to see how the range would affect my targeting, and see how I would need to adjust my sight picture through the scope on each shot. The Accu trigger was smooth and crisp on every shot, and was a large asset to helping me perform on this rifle. The Weaver scope did its job by giving me a good, clear picture down range too. Shooting at longer ranges like one hundred or two hundred yards is not something I've done a lot. I have shot some long range during Junior Shooter coaching sessions, and I relied on those lessons to help me out, but most of what I do maxes out at twenty-five yards or so, and it takes a different set of skills to shoot at longer distances. The Savage was a huge help in getting me up to speed in that area. It was just begging to be shot more, and I couldn't

# FIRST DEER HUNT



say no.

Now that I had hunters education and my rifle dealt with, it was time for the when and where. At first my dad and I had planned to go to an area outside the town of Riggins for a white tail only hunt. But some things came up and we weren't even

sure we were going to be able to go at all let alone make a full weekend trip. On the last weekend of the regular deer season, a time window opened up for that weekend, and my dad sent me a text to see if I wanted to go to an area around the town of Banks. It wasn't too far from our house and it

would be an easy trip. I said sure, and that put a whirlwind of activity in place. Since we had come to the conclusion that we weren't going, we had nothing ready. So, that night we needed to get another rifle for my dad, and as luck would have it, it was another Savage .243, only it





wasn't stainless like mine, but I'm sure it wasn't a step down in anyway. Next up was Cabela's for our deer tag, and a backup box of ammo. That was done pretty easily, so off to the grocery store for food. We were on a roll and almost done. Home to lay it all out to make sure we had it all, and keeping a watchful eye on the food because we have a couple of boxer dogs and a dachshund that think they're entitled to people food too. Once everything was accounted for and checked off, it was all packed up and put in the truck for the next day and off to bed we went.

0500 came way too early, but there was deer to hunt, so off we went. It took about two hours to get to the area we wanted to hunt. We had chosen this area on the advice of another Junior Shooter dad and knew that our lack of skill at this point, and an unknown area would make for a mixed bag day, but to have a successful hunt, one must first hunt. We set off on foot in an area with a lot of fresh tracks to see what the day would bring.

As the morning wore on we hiked around the area and saw a lot of fresh tracks. I also heard some movement in the bushes. So, we tried to wait out the first animal I heard to see if it was what we were looking for, but I think

our inexperience caught up to us, and it found a way out from where we were. We were walking around a very nice area, and even though we had a task to accomplish, we still took the time to soak up where we were. It was a very quiet wooded area of hills with some old logging roads to follow. It was a very peaceful and beautiful place to hunt, and the weather was perfect.

Part of our plan was to not get too far away from our truck, being pretty new to this, we didn't want to end up getting lost. So, after losing our first contact of the day, we went back to regroup and rest.

After an hour, it was back up the hill, and once on top I immediately found some more fresh tracks. Then, using the tracking skills I learned in hunters education, I found warm scat and more track. I knew we had something very close because I could also hear it. I left my dad at the top of the hill and followed the tracks and scat down to see what I could find. I then made another beginner mistake by getting into a hurry. The deer bolted down the hill and into thick brush.

The next thing we saw of it was a white backside going over the next hill 300 yards away. We knew that thanks to the Bushnell range finder we had.

No venison steaks this go around.

It was getting late in the day, so we decided to call it done. I didn't get a deer this year, but we both learned a lot. What we need for next year is scouting out the area we want to go better, spending more time in the area during the hunt, and moving towards the target better.

It was still a success in many ways though. We got out and saw some great scenery, learned a lot, and had fun. Not a bad day for father/daughter.

In memory of Walter Rumble, my grandfather 11/08/16 ©



## BUSHNELL DX 1000 RANGE FINDER

Andy Rumble (Ashley's dad)

Being a new comer to the shooting and hunting world, the want list that Ashley and I have is pretty long. One of the things that has been on the list is a range finder. It is always nice to know how far a shot really is, as perceptions can be off for the newbie. 100 yards as seen on the football game from the TV looks like a long ways, but in the field is a different matter.

As Ashley and I prepared for our first ever deer hunt this fall, we thought a range finder was a necessity, and we were privileged enough to try the Bushnell DX 1000. Trying it out right out of the box, we found it easy to start up and use by spotting various items in our neighborhood. Neither of us had laid a hand on a range finder before, and we had no issues firing this one up. It's small, so easy to carry too. It really became useful when we saw the prize of the hunt flash his tail at us over a ridge. That ridge was a spot on known 300 yards away, thanks to the Bushnell DX 1000.

Sigh. Better luck next time. ©

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# 9MM



*Above is the standard LAR-9. The one we received, right, had a TRO-STD 14.5-inch free-float handguard.*

**By Ricky Marston (16) and Mike Sacks (coach)**



*Ricky shooting the LAR-9*

*Ricky*



I had the opportunity last summer of 2015 to shoot/test out the Rock River Arms LAR-9 9mm car A4 rifle. This sweet little gem showed up with their TRO-STD 14.5-inch rifle length free-float rail handguard. This carbine was nicely packaged in a very sturdy lockable hard case, as well as one long and two short rail sections, a pair of A.R.M.S., Inc. poly sights, as well as the most important thing, a safety flag.

The LAR-9 is built on a dedicated 9mm lower. The only difference in the operation from any other AR-15 rifle is that the 9mm works on a direct blow back design rather than a direct impinged or short stroke piston. It has a 16-inch barrel, and it uses COLT 9MM AR 32 round magazines.

When I got it out to the range, it ran every type and brand of ammo I threw at it. We mounted a Leupold Delta Point red dot sight on it; this made for great target acquisition from one target to the other. I loved how well it ran so I decided to really put it to the test and ran it in the Seekins Precision Team match.

In November, my team (Ben Moody, Cameron Burke, and I) put it through its paces. We put better than 400 rounds down range through it with no jams or malfunctions with any ammo. Also, the trigger has a nice clean, crisp break and reset. This great firearm is built with excellent, sturdy parts. We also completed the match winning the high junior trophy. A good reminder is to always think about SAFTEY!

I would recommend this great gun to anyone looking for a pistol-caliber carbine for a great price with a lot of bang for your buck. Also, people that like shooting the 9mm pistol in a rifle platform. I want to thank some of the people and companies that made this possible. Thank you, Andy Fink - publisher of Junior Shooters magazine, Rock River Arms and of course all of our sponsors for helping me be able to do what I do.



*Ben shooting the LAR-9*



*Cam shooting the LAR-9*



# Carbine From RRA

## Mike



Bryson holding the LAR-9

Last fall I shot the Seekins 'Hard as Hell' match in Parma, Idaho. My teammates were accomplished shooters, Scott and Andrew. The only rules in this tough 3-gun match are safety, safety and of course safety. I was using my GLOCK 21 in 45acp as my pistol, and it was ok for most applications except for pistol plate racks and spinners out at 50 yards. Ricky Marston was using a Rock River 9mm carbine and offered it to me to use. All I can say is wow! It had a red dot on it and was properly sighted in. I made short work of the steel and felt like a pro! The Rock River 9mm Carbine is not only accurate but is also well balanced and worked flawlessly. The extra barrel length gives the 9mm round a bit more 'punch' and is well suited for a carbine.

Rock River is a fine manufacturer, and their skills really shine through when it comes to design. I have shot a number of 9mm carbines, and this Rock River 9mm Carbine is by far the best. It is light, balanced, easy to reload and functional. If you want to get an edge on the competition, I strongly recommend the Rock River 9mm Carbine. ©



Wyatt holding the LAR-9





# A FAMILY AFFAIR

BY: RAINDROP RENEGADE (14)

I started shooting when I was 10 years old and have been competing ever since. The gun club that I shoot at is the Griffin Gun Club in Griffin, Georgia. My dad and my sister had been a part of the Single Action Shooting Society (SASS) since before I could talk. So ever since I can remember, cowboy shooting is just something that we did. I waited and waited for the day I was allowed to start competing with my dad and my sister. The gun club's age requirement was 8... so why didn't I start when I was 8?

Well, when my sister, Lily, started shooting we lived in California, and the age requirement was 10. My sister insisted that I wait the same amount of time that she had to. So, when I turned 10, that very next match, I came in guns a blazin'. Ok. That's not exactly true.... I was very timid at first. But very soon I got my bearings and was able to compete to the best of my ability. Another thing about first starting, was that I was very, very slow. But to compensate I was also accurate. To this day, I have more clean shoots than my dad. But no matter how slow, no matter how shy I was, my fellow shooters were always so supportive. And that's what I love about this sport.

Everyone, including people that I just met are always willing to lend a helping hand. They always have your best interests at heart. If there is something that you're doing that is remotely unsafe, they are going to let you know. That's another thing. The value on safety is held above anything else. In this sport, we want to have fun while competing, but you must be safe. In cowboy action shooting, we're safe while we shoot, and we look cool while we're shooting. That's one part of the sport I have always enjoyed. Every piece of clothing and accessory from head to toe looks completely authentic. Well, as close as you can get. Even our guns and leather look straight out of a John Wayne movie.

Speaking of guns and leather, I started out with two 22 pistols, a 22 Henry rifle, and a 410 single-shot shotgun (which slowed me down a good bit). And my leather was just an ordinary belt with two holsters to carry my 22s. But as I'm getting faster and starting to move up a category, I'm getting new guns and new leather. I am patiently waiting for a beautiful brand new pair of 38 Cimarron/Pietta pistols. And I have also received a whole rig from Mernickle Holsters.

Talking about Cimarron and Pietta, I was actually selected to be a Cimarron Young Gun for the year of 2017.

I was super excited about this because, for one, I got to tell all of my friends. This is also a great way for me to help clear up some of the bad rep that guns and shooting get. In the news, all you hear is shooting this, and shooting that. I do my best to educate others about how firearms can be used for fun.

Like my dad always says, "Guns are tools, and like any tool, if you use it in the wrong way, you will end up hurting yourself or others. If you use it in the right way, it will serve its purpose." In my case, its purpose is to be used as a tool for me to compete with.

While I'm on the topic of competing, I would like to mention that I have competed at the South Eastern Regional, and placed first in my category. While I was there, I only knew one person on my posse coming in, but when I left I had made many friends. Like I said, people in this sport are always so friendly and helpful. Throughout the time that I have participated in this sport people have always supported me. The support of my friends, my fellow shooters, and my family are the reason I continue to shoot, besides loving what I do. My name is Grace Masa, my SASS alias is Raindrop Renegade, and I love Cowboy Action Shooting. ©



*Grace's actual first match, The Plainfield Raid in Sacramento Ca. She was only few months old.*



R



*Grace at the first shoot she actually shot. She just turned 10. She had her 22s, but was using her sister's holsters.*



*Grace with her Marlin shooting .38 Specials.*

# COWBOY ACTION SHOOTING



*Grace as the Givhans Ferry SASS Southeast Regional as the Buckarettte Champion.*



*WOW! First place Duelist, first place Cowgirl, and first place Buckarettte*



# no gear = no gun

By Jon Michael McGrath II

The shooting sports are unique in that you can enjoy these activities for a lifetime. In order to help you do that, there are a few things you always need to keep in mind. There are two things you will always need when you go to a gun range or go to a place where firearms are discharged. Those items are Eye Protection and Hearing Protection. It's also a good idea to have closed toe shoes. Even when you're just observing someone at a range it is a good idea to have your safety equipment. Just like gun fit, it's important that your hearing protection has the proper fit. This will insure that you not only can participate, but also can enjoy many years in the shooting sports.

There are a number of types of hearing protection on the market.

1. Foam Ear Plugs
2. Reusable Ear Plugs
3. Custom Fit Ear Plugs
4. Passive Earmuffs
5. Active Earmuffs
6. In-the-ear Custom-fit

Electronic Ear Plugs (analog and digital)

The important thing to know is the Noise Reduction Rating (NRR). It will be printed on the package. The higher the number the better the hearing protection is. Foam Ear Plugs are readily available at your local sporting goods store or safety supply house and provide very good protection for the casual shooter. This option will be the least expensive for the casual or recreational shooter. You can just throw them away when your activity is complete. It's a one time use.

Reusable Ear Plugs are a few cents more and you can get a few more uses with these. I have found them to be uncomfortable at times. One size does not fit all.

For the more serious shooter, custom fit ear plugs may be a better option. They are custom molded to your ear with a latex substance. I



have found them very comfortable and I used them for years; however, to have a conversation with someone, you will have to remove them from your ear to hear.

Passive Earmuffs are also available at your local sporting goods store or safety equipment supplier. They cover the entire ear and provide excellent protection. Be sure to check the Noise Reduction Rating (NRR). The price range varies greatly. There can be a big difference in quality.

Active Earmuffs can be electronic with a noise cancelling feature. This is a very desirable feature. This will be a little more expensive, comfortable to wear, but can be warm in the summertime. You will be able to carry on a conversation and never miss a beat.

In-the-ear Custom-Fit Electronic Ear Plugs are the top-of-the-line in hearing protection. They can include a noise cancelling feature so you can carry on a conversation and still enjoy hearing protection. At the time you shoot, it will sound like a muffled clap. Ear molds are required

and they are very comfortable. They come in analog which works well and digital which sounds like natural CD quality sound. I wear In-the-ear Custom-Fit Electronic Ear Plugs manufactured by Electronic Shooters Protection (ESP) Series 2 Digital. As a competitive shooter, I want to be aware of what is going on around me. ESP Digital ear plugs work the best for me and are also preferred by a number of my teammates. They are also great for hunting.

This brings me to another point. Don't forget to use hearing protection when you're hunting, especially with a young shooter. Young ears need hearing protection too. Don't take the ability to hear for granted. Always be prepared and make it a habit. Too often, I see young hunters without eye and ear protection. Set a good example so they too can enjoy shooting sports and hunting for a lifetime. ©

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**I found that perfect lull of nothing between breaths, I squeezed the trigger to the point of the break and sent a round.**

*By Cameron Burke (18)*

# LONG-RANGE

Fall signifies the beginning of school, football season, and most importantly deer hunting season. My deer hunting experiences in the past have been typically limited to getting a shot within two hundred yards, using my Tikka .243. At the time, I was only confident out to that distance. Now, with the accuracy of the Ashbury Precision Ordnance 6.5 Creedmoor rifle and the Hornady 140 ELD or ELD X rounds I have had the opportunity to use, I am confident out to at least three times that distance!

This year's deer season was a very special one. My grandpa took all of us grandkids hunting. This was the first year all five of us were old enough to hunt deer, with my youngest cousin Brenett finally coming of age. Throughout the season each kid got to go out at different times to an area where the deer were plentiful. The youngest kids, my brother Jack and my cousin Brenett shot their first bucks this season, and my grandpa was there to share in the adventure and their excitement! My other two cousins, Bryce and Brianna also shot nice bucks, with my grandpa there to guide and support them. With the workload of my Senior year, where missing a school day can leave me drowning in homework, I didn't go out until the last day of the season. It was a family affair, with my grandpa, my cousin Bryce, his dad (my uncle Gary), and one of my best friends, Garrett. Garrett had already shot his deer but volunteered to go to help pack out if needed, and I definitely needed it.

It was a cool, crisp day, and we had been driving and hiking around all morning. By the time we got into deer, it was around two o'clock in the afternoon. Bryce and his dad were on one side of a ridge glassing down at some does, so my grandpa and I drove up the trail in our UTV to check the other side. Sure enough, there was a little buck standing on the next hillside, which was approximately five hundred yards away. I hopped out of the UTV with my Ashbury and gear and hiked to a spot where I had a clear line of sight to all of his exit points. I quietly positioned

*Cam, his deer taken at 450 yards with an Ashbury Precision Ordnance 6.5 Creedmoor custom rifle and a 140-grain Hornady ELD cartridge, with his grandpa.*



myself down on the ground in a prone position, with my Atlas bipod extended and my Rifles Only sling around my shoulders in a sturdy hold. All my long-range training kicked in, thanks to my coaches Brian and Travis, it gave me confidence and pride as I prepared to take the shot. Previously, I had checked all of my atmospherics and calculated my DOPE. I checked the range with my Sig Kilo rangefinder and found the deer to be about four hundred and fifty yards away.

After confirming my data, I DOPEd up my Leupold VX6, racked a 140-grain ELD into the chamber and put the reticle right behind his shoulder. Once I took my breaths and found that perfect lull of nothing between breaths, I squeezed the trigger to the point of the break and sent a round. I hit him behind the shoulder, but just a little far back from the heart. He jumped and made his way to the bottom of the ravine. While on his way down I gave him another round, striking him behind the shoulder once more. He stopped in his tracks. As he stood slightly hunched over, I sent a final round to his neck to put him down. I was grateful for this animal, the quick kill, and the opportunity to be on the

mountain that day.

Once I got to the bottom of the ravine, I confirmed the buck was dead and then checked my shots. The two shots behind the shoulder were practically one hole, I had never shot such a good group on an animal before! Even though the Hornady ELD is not their official hunting round, it still made light work of the mule deer. The rifle ran smoothly, and I was able to stay on target for every shot. The Leupold glass on the rifle was very crisp and clear, and I could see every feature of the deer, as well as where my shots were impacting. After this exciting minute or so, then came the real work, gutting and dragging that hog of a deer UP the ravine.

My grandpa was very proud of me, and it was exciting to have him there, but then he gave me another great hunting lesson...what goes down in the ravine must be packed back out of the ravine. This is where my good friend Garrett came into play. We ended up dragging it by the antlers all the way up the hill. It took us less than two hours, but I was definitely ready for a nap afterward. As we finally came to the top of the ravine, covered in blood and sweat, I could see my grandpa smiling at me with pride

This season was definitely the best deer season for our whole family!

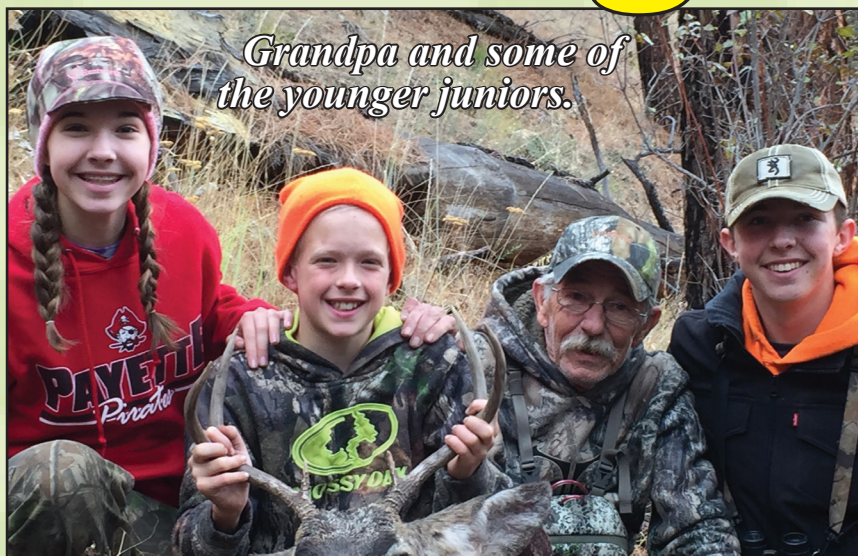
# Deer With an Ashbury Hunting

and excitement.

This deer season was a very special one because my grandpa got to take all of his grandkids out and every one of us got a buck, 5 in all. The only girl out of the grandkids, my cousin Brianna, shot the biggest buck of all, and she was sure to let us know about it!

This season was definitely the best deer season for our whole family, and I would like to thank Ashbury Precision Ordnance for letting me use such an amazing rifle, Leupold for the scope, and Hornady for the ammo to get the job done. Thank you to Junior Shooters as well, who has given me the opportunity to use and have access to all of our wonderful sponsors. Junior Shooters has taught me shooting skills that are not only great and effective for competition, but skills I can use enjoying an amazing hobby.

Last but not least, a big thank you to my grandpa for taking me hunting all of these years, it is truly one of the things I look forward to every year. ©



*Cam, with his Ashbury Precision Ordnance custom 6.5 Creedmoor long-range rifle specifically designed for Precision Rifle Shooting (PRS) matches. It has a Leupold VX-6 (3-18x44) scope with a TMR reticle. With accuracy of less than .25 MOA, it also makes a fantastic long-range deer rifle!*

# Junior Gear Guide

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## Boresights

Firefield has a large variety of boresights. Shown here (top) is their Universal Boresight and the other two are fixed caliber boresights. These are very affordable and are something every shooter should have for performing pre-sighting before going to the range to sight in your scope.



SIGHT MARK®

## Core SX 4X32 .22 LR

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# Junior Gear Guide



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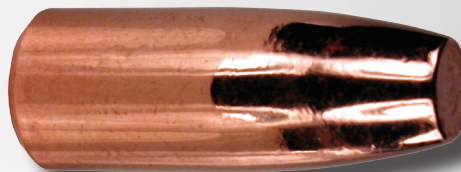
**.45/70 Jacketed and hardcast**



**.30 Carbine**



**220 Grain 300 Blackout**



**.30-30**

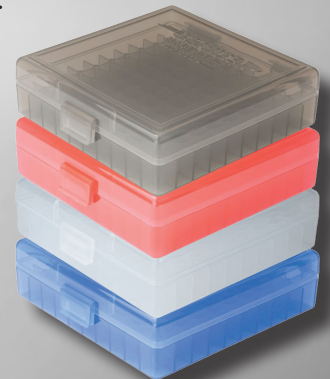


**7.62x39**

Primarily known for their pistol bullets, both hard cast and metal jacketed, Berry's Manufacturing has a large variety of products including some rifle bullets, cartridges case boxes, case lube, and oil. They are expanding their inventory and products on a regular basis. We have used these for sometime with excellent results. Here are some comments from one of our juniors and their dad.

"Berry's Manufacturing, out of St. George, Utah, is a great company to do business with. Not only do they have great products, but their prices are very competitive. We have reloaded thousands of rounds of pistol and rifle bullets from Berry's. A great advantage to this company is the option to buy in bulk on the internet. Call or order online and within a few days it is on your door step.

For 3-gun competitions we go through an extensive amount of ammo and buying bulk is cheaper and easier to acquire. Often, bulk orders include free shipping. The quality of the bullets is unmatched, uniform in shape, as well as weight. They have a wide variety of calibers, weights and styles. Berry's has also made available many different storage boxes and common reloading supplies. Price, quality and customer service make Berry's a great choice."



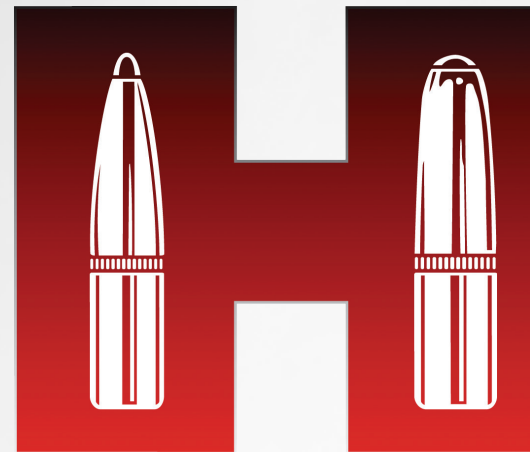


# Junior Gear Guide

## CHAMPION® Duraseal Soup Can



This is a FUN target!  
Champion's Soup Can target was designed as a fun target that you can fill with water, flour or a similar consistency powder so you can get a visible shot indicator without having to mix chemicals to get a reaction. When your bullet passes through the target, the powder or water inside will compress, pop the lid off of the target and leave a visible cloud so you know you hit your mark. This target is made from the revolutionary DuraSeal™ material, a non-metal, self-sealing target that lets bullets pass through with minimal damage.  
It handles .17 caliber up to .50 caliber, rifles or handguns. You can fill it full of water, chalk, flour, or dirt.



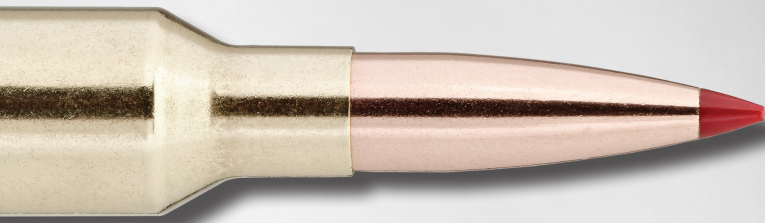
## Hornady



Hoppe's 9 has been around for a long time and it is still a great product. They also have some new cleaning kits. Check it out!



## Hornady 6.5 Creedmoor with 140 Grain ELD match Bullet



Hornady makes some of the best ammunition that is available. We have been using an extensive amount of their 140 grain 6.5 Creedmoor loaded ammunition and reloading their brass with their 6.5 Creedmoor 140 grain ELD match bullet. This provides exceptional accuracy and consistency. Reloads have been made with different powder but Hodgdon Hybrid 100V produces results very close to factory loads.

Hornady's innovation in ammunition design has also led to their "Leverrevolution" ammunition. This has been a significant breakthrough allowing bullets with better ballistic coefficients and performance be used in tubular magazines.



# Advertiser's Index

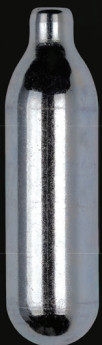
Ashbury Precision Ordnance	20
Bar-Sto Precision Machine	61
Berry's Manufacturing	7
Black Hills Ammunition	34
Breakthrough	27
Buckhorn Gun Store	48
Chiappa	34
CMC Triggers	35
Cowboy Fast Draw Association	49
CZ-USA	43
Dillon	23
Ding-Go Coatings	48
The Coin	48
GLOCK	39
HIVIZ	13
Hodgdon	48
Hornady	11
Lyman	35
Magpul	34
MGM Targets	20
MKS Supply	61
Montana Gold	31
Mossberg	2
NSSF	3
Prime Ammunition	35
Pyramyd Air	17
Rock Island Armory	55
Ruger	5
Rugged Gear	47
Sawyer	35
Sig Sauer	BC
Starline	21
Sun Optics	45
UMAREX	47
USA Shooting	31
USPSA	45
WARNE Scope Mounts	49
ZenithQuest	45
Zero Ammunition	27

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