

TRAC match – September 26, 2023 – Wayne Mauler, match director

Pistol / piston day today.....and only 6 shooters. Don't know why, but we had gorgeous weather. Clear blue skies with no clouds anywhere. Temps ranging from 81° up to 91° with humidity averaging in the upper teens. Wind ended up being a real Bear today from the outset. 9 mph, up to 15 mph and gusting beyond that. It was constant and continuous buffeting, mainly out of the North to NE. The second half of the match it died down somewhat, and by the last 3 lanes, it almost completely ran out of steam, but early on, whew, hold on to your hat!

It was the kind of wind, coming at you, that make your eyes water. How's that for descriptive?

The usual 6 lanes were set up, but someone got awfully ambitious on lane one with target placement. After shooting.....and missing.....the supposed 35-yard max target (for pistol), I sat there and looked at that target thinking....."that looks a bit more than just 35 yards"..... So, we called a cold line, went forward, and sure enough, that thing was set at 42 yards! Never thought to just range it on my scope. I just assumed it to be set at the max. You know what they say about assuming..... Okay, needless to say, we reset it to pistol legal distance for the rest of the shooters, and Bill and I took our misses on that target. Live and learn.....

Now, to be accurate, there were 7 shooters, but Wayne just put a different scope on his pistol, and decided to sit on the sight in range (in that wind) and try to sight in. He was observed walking away and shaking his head and mumbling to himself before we were even halfway through. Likewise, Jesse somehow broke his gun after only 3 lanes, and ended up just keeping score for Ed.

Here is how the remainder of us fared for the mornings endeavor....

In Pistol class....

26/48 – Ed Brockway – shooting his Brocock Atomic. That's it! One pistol shooter.

In Piston class....

46/48 – Mark Kauffman – shooting his TX200 TL#2 back-up springer with revised sight settings. Previously, they were waaaaay off. Not anymore.

36/48 – Bill Cole – shooting his HW77 springer, and overheard talking to himself...

22/48 – Loren Braud – shooting his Beeman R-7 springer

8/15 – Jesse Avery – shooting his HW77 before it wouldn't cock anymore.  
Methinks he might have a broken mainspring.

In PCP category.....

45/48 – Stanley Mountford – shooting his FX Dreamline puffer gun.

We also had a surprise guest walk in towards the end of the match. Two-bagger Mike showed up, recuperating from one hernia surgery and now having to go in for another tear. He was greeted with words of encouragement....."What the F\*\*\* are you doing here?" And, "You look like s\*\*\*!", to which he thanked us for our concern. He just needed to get out of the house and go for a long overdue burger with us. He also wanted to quell any thoughts of "Rumors of his demise are greatly exaggerated", as spoken in the words of Mark Twain. It was good to see him again.

Also, Mike, and Bobby Corcoran, and yours truly, all share the same birthdate, albeit I am a year older than those two. That momentous annual milestone occurs this coming Friday. Yes, we are certifiable old farts.....and proud of it. We have earned the right to be as old as we are.....except that Mike really looks like s\*\*\* these days.

The only other thing to report is that Wayne will be away for the next three weeks on family business, so you are stuck with me until he returns. Just giving fair warning....

Respectfully submitted (except for Mike),

Mark Kauffman

Secretary, Airgunners of Arizona, Inc.

