

Moecher Wins 90th Annual Illinois State Skeet Championships

Article and photos by Bud Shipp



The 90th Annual Illinois Skeet Championships were held at Peoria Skeet and Trap Club in E. Peoria, IL August 19-21. Jeff Moecher bested the field to win the HOA with a 393 and the HAA with a 492. The weather played a role in all events, either with wind and white puffies or wind and rain. The targets were deemed very good by Mike Glasby Sr. who takes care of the fields and machines at the Northbrook Skeet Classic. Mike's blessing carries a great deal of weight. The puffies were another story. They seriously hampered the number of straights recorded.

DOUBLES



Top scores in the Doubles event were two 99's by Mike Glasby Jr. and Jeff Moecher. Glasby won CH and Moecher was RU. Three 98's were posted by Robert Zeek, Eric Fjelde, and Kent Koshkarian. Zeek came away with Third place. Class winners included: AA-Ben Schroeder, A-Dave Jenner, B-Kent Koshkarian, C-Eric Fjelde, D-Steve Hillesheim.

At the conclusion of shoot offs, a complimentary fajitas bar was donated by an ISSA member and was available to the shooters and guests. Jack and Linda Dean made sure everyone had as much to eat as they wanted.

The weatherman promised rain for Saturday's events. Luckily, he was not quite correct. The last flight of the 12 ga. got wet and all others were spared for the rest of the weekend.

12 GAUGE



Seven perfect scores were recorded in the 12 ga. Glasby and Moecher, again stole the show and finished CH and RU in that order. Class champs were: AA-Robert Zeek, A-Greg Hufnagel, B-Brandon Rys, C-Joe Marr, D-Stephen Hess, E-John Burt.

20 GAUGE



The 20 ga. posted only two 100's. Tim Spencer and Vern Shedd duked it out with Spencer CH and Shedd RU. Six 99's shot off for Third. Jeff Moecher made his third trip to the podium with Third place. Class winners were: AA-Ben Schroeder, A-Eric Fjelde, B-Todd Swortzel, C-James Morris, D-John Burt.

After shoot offs, a steak dinner was served by Waugh Foods. Nothing but raves were noted about the meal. While most were dining, a few presentations were made.



First, the Five Man Team Club Challenge trophy was awarded to the Rockford Gun Club team of Bob Zeek, Joe Vancura, Ben Schroeder, Eric Fjelde, and Jim Burrows. Congrats to Rockford.



Next came the Club of the year which was awarded to Loda Gun Club. There were two Art Shima Dedication to the Game Awards presented this year.



William "Barney" Barnett and Mike Glasby Sr. were very deserving recipients of the Shima Award.



The last presentation of the evening was for Hall of Fame. An extremely good young shooter who has won many gun championships around the Midwest and at the State shoot was inducted into the Hall of Fame. Joe Vancura is the most deserving, quiet spoken young man I know in skeet shooting. Joe gratefully accepted his award, but could not find the words to express his gratitude. The look on his face said it all. Joe was totally overwhelmed by the honor.

28 GAUGE



Sunday morning the 28 ga. event began with a pleasant breeze and blue sky peeking through the puffies now and then. No 100's were posted, but six 99's were. Those 99's went head to head with Ben Schroeder taking CH, Glasby Jr. RU, and James Dial Third. Class winners included: AA-Bob Zeek, A-Dave Jenner, B-Brandon Rys, C-Howard Topping, D-William Stevens.

410



The 410 followed the 28 and again no 100's. Some new names made their way to the podium with Dean McMorris CH, Steve Patke RU, and Hank Pollard Third. Class firsts were: AA-Moecher, A-Bob Shuley, B-Tim Spencer, C-Bliss Bragas, D-William Stevens.

HOA & HAA

Jeff Moecher won the HOA and HAA outright. HOA RU was Steve Patke and Ben Schroeder Third. Class champs were: AA-Glasby Jr., A-Dean McMorris, B- Brandon Rys, C-Howard Topping, D-John Burt.

HAA RU was Glasby Jr. and Third was Be Schroeder. Class winners included: AA-Bob Zeek, A-Eric Fjelde, B-Todd Swortzel, C-Sean Wachter.

THANKS !

Another great State shoot is in the books, but many thanks are necessary. Thanks go to: ISSA Officers-Pres. Bud Shipp, VP Jeff Moecher, Sec/Treas Pat Patke; Chief Ref Dennis Cozzi and his crew; Lunch workers-Larry and Lora Murphy, Steve Martin, Cindy Horri, and Marsha DeMay; Jared Coker-Acting Club Manager; Trap Mechanic-Jim McQuinn; a host of folks that stepped up and did a great job of filling in where needed. Our sponsors for the shoot included: Black Hawk Propane-Robert Zeek, Dagger Tools-Artie Tessman, Northbrook Sports Club-Andy Schusteff, Kolar Arms, White Flyer targets, and Decot Hy-Wyd Sport Glasses.

We of the ISSA look forward to another great state shoo with the 91st Annual State Shoot next August.