



Kansas Eastern Zone Deemed a Huge Success!

By Al Gehrt, Trap Director

Despite variable winds, at times causing targets to reach for the heavens and yet in the same round, chase rabbits (and sometimes gophers) on the ground – conditions typical for Powder Creek – the Kansas Eastern Zone Shoot held on May 31st and June 1st was a huge success.

Some 92 shooters competed in the Zone Shoot consisting of 4 events and 500 total targets – the Singles Championship consisting of 200 16-yard singles targets and the Doubles Championship consisting of 50 pairs of doubles on Saturday and the Class Championship and Handicap Championship on Sunday.

Forty-five shooters competed in the Singles Championship, 31 in the Doubles Championship, 70 in the Class Championship, and 59 in the Handicap event. The results are posted on the Powder Creek Web Site at http://www.powdercreek.com/pdf/results_eastern_zone_2003.pdf.

While the Trap Director had hoped for 120 shooters participating in the event, according to Al Gehrt, “We came real close to finding out what our maximum shooter through-put is, based on the facilities we have available to accommodate trapshooting and accommodating 120 shooters in any one event or all event would have been challenging and we most likely would have been shooting under the lights. Shooting on both days continued into the late afternoon and early evening as it was.” When asked if there were any plans in the works to expand trap facilities at Powder Creek, Gehrt replied, “Not at this time. We can’t afford, cost wise or space wise, to have facilities in place to accommodate a biennial event – it’s just not good use of our resources. However, we are committed to continually reviewing how we do business, how we handle shooters, and look for ways to improve and upgrade services to our members and customers.

When the targets were finally tallied, some 27,400 registered targets were thrown in the Eastern Zone Shoot, the largest Zone Shoot in the state for 2003 and the largest Eastern Zone in more than 20 years.

Powder Creek purchased “Shoot Compute” software, which arrived on Wednesday prior to the shoot, to assist in running the event. Unfortunately, we were still low on the learning curve on Saturday when the shoot began.



However, Shoot Compute will be a real asset in running registered shoots in the future.

One of the highlights of the weekend was the quality of the trap help out on the lines. The efforts those individuals put in to ensure the success of the shoot was remarkable. They did an outstanding job. The trap machines functioned flawlessly and we had no mechanical failures. Powder Creek members just seemed to jump in and help in doing what needed to be done – folks like Sonny and Casey Chappell, JP Gehrt, Matt Drexler and Rob Wolfe. Thanks to all for their support.

And in culmination to an already successful Eastern Zone Shoot, Zone Shoot Honors at the Kansas State Trapshoot, which concluded on June 8th, went to the Eastern Zone and Powder Creek. The Zone Shoot Champion is determined by adding the scores of the Kansas Singles Championship held on Saturday, June 7th, for the Class winners from the respective Zone Shoots.

Finally, thank you to the Powder Creek Staff for making this event an outstanding success and congratulations to all of the winners!