

2018 NW Missouri Sporting Clays League

Final League Update from Dave Langvardt

Hello league members,

Wow, what a day Sunday. Last minute changes in placements went on all day, shoot offs, guns and cash given away, Guinness Book record holder performing, great food by Paula, and targets by Randy. Not sure this will be topped. The weather was great too. Anyway, Billy and I were kept bust all day and were not able to mix and mingle with all of you. We want to thank everyone for making the league a success in 2018. I know we thanked all our sponsors, Paula and Randy at the event, but I wasn't present for that, so I want to reiterate it here. We could not do this without our sponsors providing funds to allow us to offer the prizes that we do. You know the names, you see them every time you shoot on the scorecard or drive into the range. I hope you are trying to do business with these sponsors when possible, I know I go out of my way to do so.

Also, we could not find a better range and range owner to host this league than Randy Pickering. I get to the range every Saturday and Sunday around 8:00 and he is already on the course checking traps, loading traps, changing out batteries or remotes, cleaning up, placing cold water on the course for us, changing presentations if the wind is different than the prior day and doing it all for the shooter's enjoyment. He is usually out before dawn and gets back in just in time to send the first squad out. Shortly after Paula arrives and starts cooking for us and is there making sure we have enough to eat the balance of the day. Yes, this is a great club to host our league.

I also want to thank a couple of folks that were not at the banquet. Max Thompson and Neva Woody. Both are of course, league members and Max is also a major sponsor. But they do so much more. They both help out at the range every weekend and also with league duties when Billy and I aren't available. Max is also our FFL for the firearm transfers. He does this voluntarily and refuses any kind of pay or thanks. Neva is our IT specialist. She provided the printer we use to make menus and print standings and she manages Boot Hill's website and makes sure our rules, pictures, and standings are added as soon as I can get them to her. They go on vacation the same two weeks every year and we screwed up and scheduled the banquet during that trip. This will be changed next year. Well, at least Li'l Neva was here.

The gun draws were very interesting this year, and we are happy to say that David Miller with CZ-USA did NOT pull out Billy's or my number like he did in 2016! That was a little embarrassing in our first year to have one of the organizers to win the Grand Prize. Anyway, David drew 6 numbers in all (well, actually 5). First, we did the September guns for the Sub Gauge league and the first number was #37, Ron McNeel for the CZ 628 Field Select Pump Shotgun. Next, he drew #41 for L R Miller and the CZ P10C in 9mm. Then we did the September guns for the Open League. David drew out #87 for Dan Lockridge (I mistakenly said it was John Hollifield his shooting buddy as their numbers are 87 and 88) for a CZ 620 Field Select. Dan was the only shooter not present that won a gun, but we will hold it for him. Next David drew #63 For John Meiners and another CZ P10C. After this gun was drawn I took all the lotto balls and barrel back inside so I could reintroduce the numbers of the previous winners throughout the year back into the barrel. While I was doing that and making sure everyone's number was in the barrel, Billy called out the winners of the placements in each class. I have attached the standings to this email and will let you analyze those instead of listing all here. I do want to make mention of a couple of shooters, however. One shooter took first place in his class I both leagues. Rob Walling won first in Pink Floyd in the Open League and the Zombies in the Sub Gauge League. That came to \$675 and he asked us to make both those checks out to Shoot Like a Girl to benefit the Cameron Veteran's Home. We were happy to do so and Thanks Rob, a class act. I also wanted to mention the overall top shot. I know we don't consider any one class better than another, but this young man has come on the scene and is just shooting great. He shot our 2016 league as a youth and won his class (which I happened to be in). I made a prediction that one day he would win our league as high over all. Little did I know it would be our very next league. James Pantle came into the day with 730 broken targets and in first place. In the morning Mark Garnett shot a Mulligan round and scored a 95, which tied James at 730. James was not at the range at the time and did not show up till around Noon. Once he found out Mark shot so great and had tied him he had to decide what to do, buy a Mulligan and try to beat his worse score (86) and pass Mark, but risk shooting worse and lose out to Mark. Or, just try to beat Mark on a shoot off on the 5 Stand. He agonized over this for a while and spoke to his friends for advice. He decided his chances were better on the 100 target Sporting course than against Mark on the 25 target 5-stand, so he bought a Mulligan and went out and he too, shot a 95. This bested his 86 by 9 targets giving him a total of 739 to Mark's 730. Both shooters shot awesome scores when the pressure was at its highest. Great shooting by both!

If you won money by placing in one or both Leagues and were not present, Billy will mail out a check in the next few days.

Finally, it was time to draw the Grand Prize numbers. I added in all the numbers that were not in the drawing for September's guns as anyone that completed the 8 rounds in the league are eligible for the Grand Prize even if they won a gun earlier I the year. I dumped the lotto balls into the barrel and spun the handle a few times. Then turned it over to David Miller and he spun it a few more times. This drawing was for the Grand Prize in the Sub Gauge League, a beautiful

CZ Field Supreme Over/Under valued at \$1700 and hand selected for our league by David Miller. David opened the door to the barrel, pulled out a ball, looked at me and said, "wait, I've already pulled this number, is that OK?" I said yes, a shooter can win the Grand Prize even if they won a monthly drawing for a gun. That number was 37, Ron McNeel, who had just won another 28 gauge about 20 minutes earlier. What a great day for Ron! By the way, he also got a check too. He needs to go by a lottery ticket. Next, we emptied out the barrel of the Sub Gauges numbers and dumped the Open League numbers into the barrel. Again, I had added in the numbers of the previous winners of the monthly guns. I spun the handle a few times and turned it over to David. He spun it a few more times, then opened the door and pulled out a ball. He looked at it and said, "oh no, it's got a seven in it". Could Ron have won a 3rd gun? He was in both Leagues after all and that would be within the rules. Then David revealed that 7 was the only digit, #7 belonged to Kelly Pickering. Kelly won a CZ Field Supreme in 12 gauge, also valued at \$1700 and hand selected for us by David. It is a truly beautiful gun, just like the 28 gauge. Maybe the real winner here, though, is Randy Pickering as Kelly has been using Randy's gun all year long causing Randy to clean 2 guns each time they shoot.

That was it, the show was over. Congrats to all winners. We will be doing it again.

Billy, Randy, and I talked for a while Saturday night and there will be some changes next year and I will send another email out in a few days discussing those potential changes and also to send a final tally regarding the league funds, your money and how it was distributed. One thing that Boot Hill has requested and that I can say for sure now is that we will move the start and end of the league back one month to make it easier on Randy to do his farming. It will start Saturday, March 2nd 2019 instead of April 1st and it will end Saturday August 31st or Sunday September 1st 2019, depending on how we decide to do the year end banquet. We will NOT do the banquet on the last day as we did this year. It will either be the day following the last shooting day or the next weekend. If we end the league on Saturday, August 31 the banquet will be Sunday, September 1. If we end the league on Sunday, September 1 the banquet will be the following weekend, either September 7th or 8th, 2019.

As for the experiments this year, the Mulligan and the Sub Gauge. Those were a success and will stay, and maybe expand.

I would also like to thank you for the awesome gift you gave to me. The Beef that you gave me is very appreciated. The fact that came from our sponsor is even better. I have picked up the Beef from Nadler's. It was Beef from our sponsor Double R Cattle, operated by Mike and Tony Russell. I have already tried a Sirloin (last night) and the flavor was fantastic. Thank You very much! But please, there is no need to get me anything. I enjoy doing this, as does Billy. The fact that we had

110 people at our end of the year banquet is enough for us. Think about that. 110 at the banquet and only about 20-25 were guests! The rest were league shooters.

That's all for now, but look for a follow up in a few days after we get all checks sent and have time to catch our breath.

Dave Langvardt