

This past weekend was the Michigan Long Range State Championship, held at the Camp Grayling National Guard Base in Grayling Michigan. Our attendance was in the low 20's and included many of the regular supports of the program and competitors from Indiana, Ohio, and as far away as Florida. The weather was cool and the winds were brisk making the event as challenging as Grayling gets.

The winner of the overall match was Bryan Litz, who won the match in 2006. Bryan also shot 2 back to back cleans with 14 X's on Sunday – something not seen any time in my memory. The State Champion was Peter Church, the highest scoring Michigan resident. Peter also shot a clean on Sunday. Only 4 cleans were shot this season, the first by John Homatas at an earlier match this season. The state's second and third place residents were myself (last year's State Champ), and Jerry Engelman, respectively.

Some interesting events took place recently and over the weekend. The 900 yd. berm was moved to its correct location. It was about 15 meters short of the proper distance until now. The edges on the 900 yd. berm and the forward edge of the 1000 yd. berm have been tapered to allow for easier maintenance. At some point, the 900 yd. berm will be covered with topsoil and we'll see how much ground cover we can get to grow on it.

Bryan Litz brought some equipment along to try and determine some ballistic data after shooting ended on Saturday. It was a combination of a chronograph and 2-way radios, along with a digital recorder. He was trying to determine time in flight and remaining velocity at 1000 yd. We will, no doubt, be helping Bryan do more testing next year.

Coming fresh off competing in Canada at the international Palma match last month, there has been a great deal of conversation about running team matches at Camp Grayling. The idea has some appeal and will be investigated further over the winter.

This was my last match as "Officer in Charge" for running Long Range competitions for the MRPA. Mike Ross, Long Range Director and "Range Safety Officer" for the past several years, is also stepping down. Both of us are looking forward to rejoining the ranks of the regular competitors and concentrating on our shooting instead of running the matches, but will always be willing to pitch in and help. We are looking for candidates for taking over as LR Director, so if you are interested in taking this on, please contact either Mike or me.

It's been a great 5 years at the helm. Have a great winter and come back and join us all next season.

Best regards,  
Renzo Tormen, Match Director  
MRPA Long Range Division