

2021 started out with the Precision Team competing at the Palmyra Invitational up in PA. In the 60shot standing match, our team finished 2nd in the J2 category. The following day in the .22 smallbore match, our team finished 1st in J2. For individual awards, Matthew placed 7th in Air Rifle and Maria placed 6th out of 75 competitors in their age group. Then later that month our team shot in the CMP National qualifier. This was against 64 teams across the country and our team placed 2nd! This earned us a spot in the CMP Regionals. Out of 325 juniors, our kids placed the following. Maria 13th, Matt 19th, Vic 39th, Brandon 67th out of 325.

In February our team shot in the CMP 3 Position State Championship where they placed 3rd.

In March was the Virginia Junior Olympics .22 Smallbore qualifier. Matthew took 3rd in the Men's category. Later this month our kids shot in the Junior Olympic State Championship up at Sills Range near DC. Here Brandon, Matthew, and Victoria earn invitations to the Junior Olympics being held in Michigan due to COVID.

In April our team shot in the CMP Regionals match against other teams in the United States. Here our team placed 17th and earned an invite to the CMP Nationals at Camp Perry Ohio in July. Top 20 teams earned an invite.

In May Brandon, Matthew, and Victoria went to Michigan and shot in the Junior Olympics. Matthew placed 54th, Brandon 64th out of 114 males. Victoria placed 134th out of 166 Females. Many of the competitors were college shooters since you are considered a junior if under age 21. The Sporter Team competed in the American Legion State Match and placed very well for only shooting for 4 months.

In June Makenzieanne traveled out to Colorado to compete in the Junior Olympic Air Pistol.

July, over the course of 11 straight days (17-28 July) our Junior Precision Team, consisting of Brandon Evans, Maria Koenig, Victoria Koenig, and Matthew Stout represented Lafayette Gun Club better than I, or anyone, could have asked for. They started off traveling to Camp Perry Ohio on the 16th to get ready for the National 3 Position Championship and CMP Nationals Matches. Both of these matches are air rifle competitions that the team qualified for earlier this year. When the team first started shooting Precision in March of 2020, they set a goal of qualifying for Regionals. They set out practicing 5-6 days a week so they could meet their goal and all the hard work paid off. Not only did they qualify for Regionals, they also earned an invite to the 2021 Nationals!

For the National Three Position Championship Lafayette Gun Club placed 11th out of 50 teams competing. Out of all the top junior shooters in the country, Matthew placed 27th, Victoria 87th, Maria 98th, and Brandon 107th out of 257 competitors. The following day the team competed in the CMP Nationals against the same 50 teams. Again, our team performed wonderfully where they placed 18th. This time Victoria placed 87th, Brandon 95th, Matthew 101st, and Maria 164th., pressure got to them.

On the 20th of July our team took apart in the Smallbore SAFS (Small Arms Firing School) that is taught by the Army Marksmanship Unit (AMU). This allows members of the AMU to work one-on-one with our kids and teach them so of the finer points of smallbore positions. This included how to read the wind while shooting targets at 50 yards. This all led into eight straight days of shooting .22 smallbore rifles at a distance of 50 yards, 50 meters, and 100 yards. Up to now, our kids had never shot a match out to 100 yards.

These first two days was the Three Position Smallbore Nationals and consisted of 3 Position (Kneeling, Prone, Standing) matches out to 50 yards in all types of weather. First day was Metallic Sights where they shot a 3x40 match and the second day was Any Sight, but our kids just shot metallic sights again. The aggregate of these two days saw Matthew placing 9th, Brandon 17th, Victoria 70th, and Maria 75th out of 120 junior competitors. On the third day was the Freedom Fire Match (2 person teams) and regular team match. In the Freedom Fire Match, Lafayette Gun Club-Gold (Brandon/Matthew) placed 4th and Lafayette Gun Club-Blue (Victoria/Maria) placed 17th out of 34 teams.

The last five days was the Prone Nationals that was four days shooting Metallic Sights or Any Sights. In the middle of these five days was the team matches. The aggregate of these four days saw Brandon placing 9th, Matthew 13th, Victoria 16th, and Maria 21st out of 35 junior competitors. Out of a possible score of 6400, Brandon led the team with a score of 6344-363x! That is only dropping 56 points over the course of four days!

Lastly, during the National Prone Team Match our Juniors took 1st place in the Junior Team category out of 11 teams. On top of that, they placed 3rd in the Overall Team Match where the 2nd place team, an adult team, beat our junior team by only 2 points. The AMU placed 1st and beat our junior team by only 10 points!

In August our team went to Sills and competed in the Wendell Match. This was an individual match where our kids very well. Matthew came in 2nd, Brandon placed 3rd, and Victoria 6th, Josh 12th, Maria 19th, Michael 28th, and Marina 31st.

In September our Air Pistol Team traveled to Sills and competed in the Virginia Shooting Sports Association where Makenzieanne placed 2nd and Kayley placed 7th in the state. Lucia placed 3rd in the 17 & under category.

Then in October our team went to Sills near DC and competed in the Centreville Cup Match. This was a match that also acts as a qualifier to the US Army Junior Championship. Matthew won the regular match and also came in 1st during the Finals. Brandon placed 3rd in the Finals. As of right now, our team currently sits in 2nd place for the Army qualifier and Matthew is the top individual. Brandon sits 12th, Maria 29th, Josh 33rd, Victoria 36th, Michael 94th, and Marina 102nd out of 181. The qualifier runs till the middle of December.

Also, in October we held the 2nd Annual Mark Buttles Memorial Match (.22 50yd match) where Matthew came in 1st and Brandon came in 3rd. Our team also came in 1st beating out Liberty University.

In November our team traveled to West Virginia University to compete in the Walther Cup Open. This was an individual match that was a USA Shooting National Ranking event. On day one Brandon placed 36th Mathew 49th, Victoria 92nd, and Maria 106th. On Day 2 Matthew placed 23rd, Brandon 39th, Victoria 74th, and Maria 75th. There was numerous Olympians, Army Marksmanship Unit (AMU), and college shooters, so the places our kids came in is outstanding.

Our team will be heading to Camp Perry in Ohio on the December 7th-12th for the Winter Air Gun (WAG) Championship. This is another USA Shooting National Ranking event.