

H.A. Bales Runs the Table at Gig Harbor

The annual September shoot at Gig Harbor will aptly be renamed in the future to the Seafood Fun Shoot. Those that chose to brave the threatening weather forecast were again rewarded with fun, food, and fellowship. The ample supplies of fresh seafood saw people stuff themselves like an all you can eat contest Saturday night. The amazing thing is the night before some of the same people did the same thing at the all you could eat appetizer pot luck that included ribs, pork loin, chicken wings, along with seafood appetizers. In between the eating there was a trap shoot to pass the time.

Event 1 Friday saw six squads shoot the Doubles targets, with 13 shooters “getting into the money”. Winners by class included Grant Lau (A) 95, Mike Levanger and Greg Still (tied in B) 93, Fred Schultz and Doug Reimer (tied in C) 90, and Jim Boatman from California (D) 89.

Event 2, Singles was led by a non-Friday night eating, serious shooting H.A. Bales who broke all 100 targets to win B Class. Fred Schultz won the A Class with 98, a 97 by Randy Chandler took C Class, and Paul Kirkendall won in D with 94. Of 55 shooters in the event, 21 finished “in the money”.

Events 3-5 were all Handicap events, which included the WSPITA Magnum option. Winners in Event 3 were all in the 90's; Ken Goerl with a 91 “from the fence”, Ed Vormestrand with a 92 in mid yardage, and Doug Reimer with 92 up close. Event 4 got 'sportier', but Ken Goerl came back with a 92 to win again “from the fence”, Les Prince shot a 90 at mid yardage, and Doug Reimer and Jim Bradbury tied with 88's at short yardage. Event 5 saw Les Prince shoot the high handicap score of the tournament, winning mid yardage with a 95. Dave Teesdale won long yardage with 89, and Pete Mitchell won short yardage with 90. No one hit a magnum purse.

High Overall award pins were won as indicated in the accompanying table, with a thought of having trophies next year to award for the most clams or oysters a contestant can down in a minute. We had a sunny day, two cloudy days, but no one had to shoot in the rain. The cashier is busy because just about everyone who shot has a check coming for something or other. Shooters again came from as far away as Hawaii and California to participate, maybe we'll see you next year.