

Pine Tree Rifle Club Hosts DelSavio 100



Photo Courtesy – John DelSavio

Participants in the DelSavio 100 centerfire competition match included (l to r); Ken Benton, John Quackenbush, Don Rankins, Chris Bouck, Harold Miller, Mike Johnson, John DelSavio, Mark Duesler, Rich Lewandowski, Randy Swart, and Doug Sterling.

Nine members of the Pine Tree Rifle Club participated in the first annual DelSavio 100 centerfire rifle match on Tuesday afternoon, May 16. The DelSavio 100 Match was named in honor of club member, John DelSavio, who has been instrumental in reviving centerfire rifle competition at the club over the last two decades. DelSavio was present during the match, but refrained from shooting and served as head scorer and awards presenter. Match organizer, Ken Benton, mentioned, "It's not often that you get to recognize a living legend in the shooting sports and we are very fortunate to continue with John's work."

DelSavio, along with many other club members resurrected the PTRC's affiliation with International Benchrest Shooting (IBS) as they host five events, one per month from May to September. These events include one day competitions including the New York State Championships as well as the IBS 100/200 Yard Score National Championships which was hosted by the PTRC in 2016. DelSavio also helped organize the highly successful PTRC Rimfire League that boasts 60 members strong.

Ken Benton, who replaced DelSavio as rifle range and league director mentioned, "John spearheaded the movement back to centerfire competition by hosting reloading classes and developing small centerfire competitions including the Rifleman's Challenge and the Scheutzenfest match." DelSavio served on the PTRC Board of Directors for many years and currently serves as the club's Historian. Benton further noted, "John was also a highly accomplished competition shooter and was honored in 2013 by being awarded with the PTRC Lifetime Membership Award by the Pine Tree Rifle Club.

The DelSavio 100 was broken up into two classes, Benchrest and Sporter. Benchrest class rifles include your traditional custom stocks, barrels, and actions used in competition shooting while Sporter class rifles include firearms used basically for hunting and varmint shooting. Shooters had 15 minutes to send two rounds into each of the five score bulls on an official IBS 100 Yard target at 100 yards. A perfect score was 100 with 10X's.

In Benchrest class, veteran shooter Harold Miller (6 ppc caliber) edged out the competition to claim 1st Place with a perfect 100 and 3X's followed closely in 2nd Place by former IBS Group shooter, Randy Swart (6 ppc caliber) with another perfect 100 with 2 X's. An X is the center dot of the bull and the X-count serves as the tie breaker. Ken Benton (.223 caliber) followed in 3rd place with his Sporter rifle securing a score of 95 and 2X's.

In Sporter Class, veteran Shooter, Mark Duesler (.222 caliber) captured 1st Place with a score of 89 and 0X's. Doug Sterling (.223) followed in 2nd Place with a score of 81 and 0X's while John Quackenbush (.223 caliber) finished 3rd with a score of 77 and 0X's. Other shooters finishing included Rich Lewandowski (.22-250 caliber), Don Rankins (.243 caliber), and Chris Bouck (.308 caliber).

Special thanks to Mike Johnson for serving as Chief Range Officer, Harold Miller for hosting the advanced reloading classes and special instruction as well as John DelSavio for helping with the scoring and awards presentation. The DelSavio 200 will be hosted on Tuesday, July 11, 2017. The DelSavio 200 will be a pre-registration event with details forthcoming.

DelSavio 100 – Top 3 In Class



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(L to R): Ken Benton (3rd place-BR), Randy Swart (2nd Place-BR), Harold Miller (Champion-BR), John DelSavio, Mark Duesler (Champion-SP), Doug Sterling (2nd Place-SP), and John Quackenbush (3rd Place-SP)