

2026 Sporter and Unlimited Arizona State Championship

Jan 3rd and 4th were the dates of the match, with the 1st and 2nd dates for practice. The weather and shooting conditions were very good for this time of year. Temperatures ranged from a low of 53 to highs of 70 for most of the days. The wind ranged from 0 to 5 mph for the match days and was slightly stronger for the two days of practice. We had 26 shooters for the match, which was better attendance than last year when we had 15.

We started the match shooting the Sporter 100. For the first match, we had a north wind coming straight at us off the mountain; however, it wasn't as strong as we usually experience for this wind condition. If you pay attention to the slight direction changes and don't worry about the wind speed, you can shoot a respectable group in those conditions. Jim Aylor did it best, shooting an eye-popping .098 to win match #1. The next closest to Jim's zero group was a .153 shot by Justin Young. Jim Wood, wintering in Arizona from Canada, also did a nice job in match #1, shooting a .167.

In match #2, the wind wasn't as strong, but the direction changes were quicker and made it a bit challenging to shoot a small group. Lester Bruno won that match with a .170. There were only three other groups under .200, and all three were in the .191 range.

At this point in the match, the wind conditions eased up, and for the rest of the day we had mild winds of 0 to 5 mph. Shooting the small group for this aggregate was local shooter Jarrod Hahn, who shot a .062 in match #4. Jarrod won matches #4 and #5, with his .062 being the small group for the aggregate. The aggregate, though, was won by Jim Aylor, who shot a very nice .1590. Jim shot two zero groups: a .098 in match #1 and a .093 in match #4. His other three groups were very competitive, just not zeros.



Jarrod Hahn finished in second place with a .2006 aggregate. Jarrod had one non-competitive group; otherwise, he would have given Jim a run for the win.

Top 10 100 Yard Sporter results

1. Jim Aylor .1590
2. Jarrod Hahn .2006
3. Jim Wheeler .2242
4. Dana Andrus .2258
5. Justin Young .2284
6. Durward Wofford .2434
7. Wayne Christian .2460
8. Lou Murdica .2554
9. Jim Wood .2602
10. Lester Bruno .2674

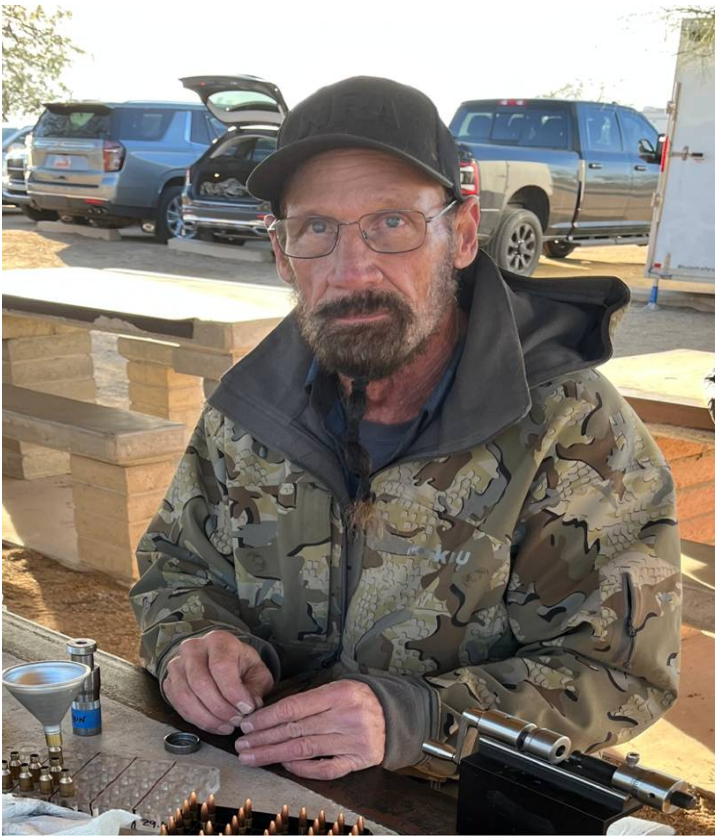
Jim Aylor — 2026 Arizona State 100-Yard Sporter Champion

Saturday afternoon we shot the 100-yard Unlimited-5 match. Shooting conditions were on the mild side, with 0 to 5 mph winds and, as was the case during last month's match, slow changes in wind direction. The competition was very competitive between the top three shooters for the win.

Starting off the match was Gary Ocock, shooting a .083, which ended up placing him third for the yardage. Winning match #2 was Ed Serich, who shot a .063; this group ended up being small group for the yardage. Ed is a new shooter, and I'm pretty sure this was his first Unlimited registered match. He also shot four other nice targets and ended up in fourth place for the yardage.

Jim Wheeler won match #3, shooting a .098. Jim's aggregate ended up being .1130. His groups were, in order: .123, .112, .098, .114, and .118. He didn't win the aggregate with just one tiny group; he won by shooting five great groups.

In second place was Justin Young, shooting a .1226. Justin also shot very steady with groups of .129, .122, .121, .116, and .117. Those two aggregates are as steady as it gets and are very close to as good as it gets as well.



Honorable mention goes to Dan "6BR" Sutton, who shot a .064 in match #3, the same match when Ed Serich shot his .063. I've nicknamed Dan "6BR" because he shoots a 6BR for all the group shooting benchrest classes. I will also point out that he does not clean his barrel during the match, as he uses some sort of coating on his bullets. Maybe I should change his nickname to "Coated 6BR Sutton."

Top 10 100 Yard Unlimited-5 results

1. Jim Wheeler .1130
2. Justin Young .1226
3. Gary Ocock .1266
4. Ed Serich .1548
5. Duke Rovarino .1800
6. Mike Sosenko .1806
7. Jim Aylor .1846
8. Lester Bruno .1876
9. Paul Weaver .1972
10. Dave Woodward .1978

Jim Wheeler, 2026 Arizona State 100-Yard Unlimited-5 Champion

Sunday the 4th we shot the two stages of the weekend match at 200 yards. We started off shooting the Unlimited-5 first. Shooting conditions were very much as they were on Saturday, except we didn't have the early morning north wind coming off the mountain. The winds were very mild, 0 to 5 mph, with slow angle changes.

Starting off the match was Jim Wheeler, shooting a nice .263. At this point, a few of the shooters were asking Jim to take it easy on the rest of us. I'm not sure Jim paid any attention to them, as he shot a .175 in match #3, which turned out to be the small group for the aggregate.

Jim Aylor, who won the Sporter 100, shot very well with his rail gun in this aggregate and ended up in second place with a .1421 aggregate. He also shot a .195 to win match #2. Winning the aggregate was Gary Ocock, who shot a .1398 aggregate. Gary didn't win any individual matches; however, he did shoot three groups in the .200 range. The biggest group shot by the top three place winners was a .387.

Finishing in fourth place was winter resident Paul Weaver, who shot a .1650. Paul shot a really nice .193 in match #3; however, his two very low .400 groups prevented him from finishing higher in the standings. One of the comments I heard several times during this match was that it's fun shooting a rail when the shooting conditions are on the mild side



Top 10 200 yard Unlimited results

1. Gary Ocock .1398
2. Jim Aylor .1421
3. Jim Wheeler .1468
4. Paul Weaver .1650
5. Mike Sosenko .1735
6. Jarrod Hahn .1832
7. Tom Harger .1943
8. Justin Young .1983
9. Lester Bruno .1986
10. Chuck Miller .2085

Gary Ocock, 2026 Arizona State Unlimited-5 200-Yard Champion

Next up was the 200 Sporter. The wind conditions picked up a bit, and you had to pay attention to a slight pickup in wind speed; there were slight angle and direction changes as well. It was easy to get complacent with what looked like subtle changes that didn't seem like they would make much difference, but they did. There were a lot of groups shot that were under the .500 mark. Only two shooters did this for all five targets, though: Lester Bruno and Justin Young both achieved it.

Lester won the yardage on the last target, shooting a .317, while Justin finished with a .465. Justin shot three .300-size groups, while Lester only had two. The difference was that Lester's groups in the .400

range were smaller than Justin's. When the competition is this tight, a very small difference in the aggregates will impact where you finish in the standings, as was the case here. Lester had an aggregate of .1982, while Justin's aggregate was .2021. That's a difference of .039, which equates to the difference of scores on one 200-yard target out of five.



Shooting the small group for the yardage was Tom Harger, who shot a .219. The only other .200-size group shot was by Dan "Coated 6BR" Sutton. It's a shame that Tom had a mechanical problem shooting his third target, as his aggregate using only the other four targets would have put him in sixth place.

Top 10 200 Sporter results

1. Lester Bruno .1982
2. Justin Young .2021
3. Paul Weaver .2379
4. Jim Wheeler .2503
5. Dana Andrus .2510
6. Chuck Miller .2740
7. Jarrod Hahn .2756
8. Dan Sutton .2875
9. Jim Aylor .2997
10. Earl Horgeshimer .3004

Lester Bruno, 2026 Arizona State Sporter 200-Yard Champion

The shooting is over; the Grands and Multi-gun tally is up next.

2026 TOP 10 Arizona State

Sporter Grand

1. Justin Young .2152
2. Jim Aylor .2293
3. Lester Bruno .2328
4. Jim Wheeler .2372
5. Jarrod Hahn .2381
6. Dana Andrus .2381
7. Chuck Miller .2755
8. Lou Murdica .2876
9. Dan Sutton .2890
10. Ross Mccollum .3113

Unlimited-5 Grand

1. Jim Wheeler .1299
2. Gary Ocock .1332
3. Justin Young .1605
4. Jim Aylor .1634
5. Mike Sosenko .1771
6. Paul Weaver .1811
7. Lester Bruno .1931
8. Tom Harger .2019
9. Dan Sutton .2121
10. Jarrod Hahn .2160

2 Gun

1. Jim Wheeler .1836
2. Justin Young .1878
3. Jim Aylor .1963
4. Lester Bruno .2129
5. Jarrod Hahn .2270
6. Gary Ocock .2483
7. Chuck Miller .2484
8. Dan Sutton .2506
9. Wayne Christian .2772
10. Dana Andrus .2788



(L) Lester Bruno — 3-Gun Champion
(R) Jim Wheeler — 2 & 4 Gun Champion

2025-2026 shooting season 3 and 4 Gun Top 10

3-Gun

1. Lester Bruno .2464
2. Jim Wheeler .2545
3. Chuck Miller .2979
4. Lou Murdica .3031
5. Dan Sutton .3040
6. Jarrod Hahn .3057
7. Hector Elias Jr. 3253
8. Ross Mccollum .3697
9. Jim Aylor .3704
10. Camreon Snow .3753

4-Gun

1. Jim Wheeler .2233
2. Lester Bruno .2331
3. Chuck Miller .2788
4. Dan Sutton .2810
5. Jarrod Hahn .2833
6. Jim Aylor .3186
7. Lou Murdica .3276
8. Cameron Snow .3377
9. Ross Mccollum .3519
10. Kendall Hughes .3553

Equipmet List
Ben Avery
Jan-26
Sporter

Place		Aggregate	Cart	BARREL	STOCK	STOCKER	ACTION	GUNSMITH	POWDER-Wt
1	Justin Young	0.2152	6ppc	Bartlein	Self	Self	BAT	SOS	133
2	Jim Aylor	0.2293	6ppc	Bartlein	Scoville	No Info	BAT	Aylor	133
3	Lester Bruno	0.2328	6ppc	Krieger	Scarbrough	Lester	BAT	Lester	29.4 133
4	Jim Wheeler	0.2372	6ppc	Bartlein	Bru/Mcm	Lester	BAT	Ocock	133
5	Jarrold Hahn	0.2381	6ppc	Bartlein	Bru/Mcm	Lester	BAT	Ocock	29.3 133
6	Dana Andrus	0.2384	6ppc	Krieger	Comb	Comb	BAT	Andrus	28.3 133
7	Chuck Miller	0.2755	6ppc	Krieger	Marsh	Miller	Panda	Miller	133
8	Lou Murdica	0.2876	6ppc	Bartlein	Kelbly	Kelbly	Kelbley	Murdica	LT -32 29.0
9	Dan Sutton	0.289	6br	Bartlein	Mcmillan	Sutton	Marsh	Sutton	29.5 8208
10	Ross Mccollum	0.3113	6ppc	Krieger	Bru/Mcm	Lester	BAT	Ocock	No Info

Unlimited

Place		Aggregate	Cart	BARREL	STOCK	STOCKER	ACTION	GUNSMITH	POWDER-Wt
1	Jim Wheeler	0.1299	6ppc	Krieger	Young	Young	BAT	Ocock	133
2	Gary Ocock	0.1332	6ppc	Krieger	Young	Young	BAT	Ocock	133
3	Justin Young	0.1605	6ppc	Bartlein	Kensler	Kensler	BAT	SOS	133
4	Jim Aylor	0.1634	6ppc	Bartlein	No Info	No Info	BAT	Ocock	133
5	Mike Sosenko	0.1771	6ppc	Bartlein	SOS	SOS	D&M	SOS	29.2 133
6	Paul Weaver	0.1811	6ppc	Krieger	Powell	Powell	Panda	Miller	133
7	Lester Bruno	0.1931	6ppc	Krieger	Young	Young	BAT	Lester	29.4 133
8	Tom Harger	0.2019	6ppc	Krieger	Hasecuster	Ocock	Marsh	Ocock	133
9	Dan Sutton	0.2121	6br	Krieger	Young	Young	BAT	Sutton	29 8208
10	Jarrold Hahn	0.216	6ppc	Bartlein	Young	Young	BAT	Ocock	29.3 133