

## Arizona and California UNLIMITED-5 Invitational Championship

This match consisted of four Unlimited Grand Aggregates, two Grands shot at Visalia Benchrest Range and two Grands shot at the Ben Avery Range in Phoenix, AZ.

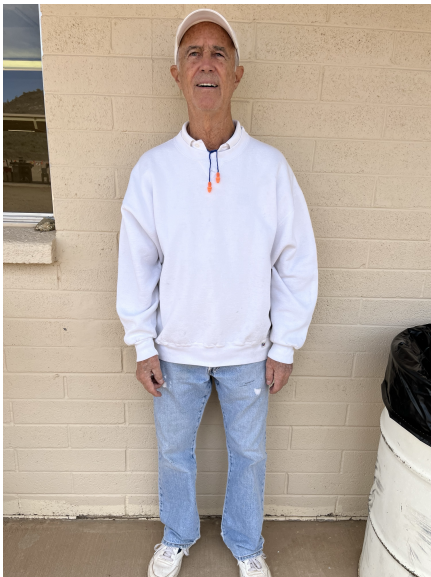
Coming into the Phoenix match and in the lead was Mike Sosenko, who won the two Grands at Visalia shooting a .1617. In second place was Duke Rovarino with a .1757. They both had a nice lead on Gary Ocock and Doug Ruble. With those leads, it was going to be a challenge to catch either one for the Combined CA/AZ Unlimited Championship.

We had two days to practice prior to the match, and most of us were amazed at how nice the shooting conditions were. It was a good time to tweak your load to maximize the potential of the rail guns. We generally had 3 to 5 mph winds with light to moderate mirage. My best guess is that most of the time the wind was close to the 3 mph range. It was fun making small changes to our loads, trying to get the best combination of powder charge and bullet seating depth in order to shoot very small groups.

We had 22 shooters in this match. Winning Match #1 was Jim Wheeler, shooting a .093 group. As an indication of the mild conditions, in the first match there were six shooters who shot under .110.

In Match #2, there were three zero groups shot, with Gene Viele's .088 being the smallest. In Match #3, Ed Adams's .098 just made it into the zeros while winning that match. Ed backed that group up with another zero, a .086, in Match #4. That was not the small group for Match #4, though. Gary Ocock shot a .077, which turned out to be the small group for the yardage. Paul Weaver finished the yardage shooting a .079, winning Match #5. Overall, there were eight zeros shot in this yardage.

Gary Ocock won the yardage shooting a .1192 aggregate. Very close in second place was Ed Adams with a .1198, and Jim Wheeler finished in third place shooting a .1222. In my opinion, if we remeasured all three sets of targets, the aggregate numbers would likely not be the same, and perhaps the finish order of the top three places might change as well. I am not criticizing our scorer at all. In my opinion, she is the best scorer in group shooting benchrest I have ever seen, and I have been at it for 53 years and have shot at many ranges all over the U.S.



My comment is directed toward our scoring system. With the technology available today, I would think there would be something that could be configured to accurately measure our groups in a timely fashion. If you know of something, let the shooters know. You will be a hero.

### UNL-5 #1 Saturday AM

- |                       |                        |
|-----------------------|------------------------|
| 1. Gary Ocock .1192   | 2. Ed Adams .1198      |
| 2. Jim Wheeler .1222  | 4. Duke Rovarino .1330 |
| 3. Paul Weaver .1524  | 6. Gene Viele .1652    |
| 4. Jim Aylor .1660    | 8. Doug Ruble .1710    |
| 5. Lester Bruno .1740 | 10. Chuck Miller .1770 |

*Gary Ocock — First 100-yard aggregate winner*

After a break for lunch, we came back for the second 100-yard match. Shooting conditions were very much like the morning match: very light wind, and when the direction changed, it did so very slowly. The only difference from the morning was the temperature, which moved very close to 80 degrees.

Winning Match #1 was Ed Adams, shooting a .104. This was the only match winner at 100 yards that wasn't a zero. Coming on strong was Mike Sosenko, who shot a .090 and .085 in Matches #2 and #3. Mike's .090 in Match #2 was a match winner. Small group winner in Match #3 was Chuck Miller, shooting a .071. Small group for the yardage and winning Match #4 was Lester Bruno's .061. Lester also won Match #5, shooting a .094. There were two other competitors who shot two zeros in their aggregates: Mike Sosenko and Ed Adams. Overall, there were seven zeros shot in the afternoon yardage.



Comparing the aggregates from the morning results to the afternoon, the top five aggregate average was .1293 in the morning and .1338 in the afternoon. Looking at the 10th-place aggregate, it was .1772 in the morning and .1958 in the afternoon. From this, I can conclude that the shooting conditions were slightly easier in the morning. I can also conclude that Mike Sosenko did a better job winning the afternoon aggregate than Gary Ocock did winning the morning aggregate. Mike's aggregate was .1124, while Gary's was .1192.

#### **UNL-5 Saturday PM**

- |                        |                        |
|------------------------|------------------------|
| 1. Mike Sosenko .1124  | 2. Lester Bruno .1183  |
| 2. 3. Gary Ocock .1324 | 4. Ed Adams .1512      |
| 3. Jim Wheeler .1552   | 6. Doug Ruble .1582    |
| 4. Paul Weaver .1730   | 8. Gene Viele .1802    |
| 5. Jim Aylor .1940     | 10. Chuck Miller .1958 |

*Mike Sosenko — Second 100-yard aggregate winner*

On Saturday, looking at the two 100-yard aggregates, there were nine different shooters who fired 15 groups in the zeros, that is .099 or smaller.

#### **Shooters who shot zero groups:**

Ed Adams led the pack with three zeros: .072, .086, and .098.

Mike Sosenko shot two zeros: .085 and .090.

Chuck Miller shot two zeros: .095 and .071.

Lester Bruno shot two zeros: .094 and .061.

Cameron Snow shot two zeros: .088 and .098.

One zero each was shot by Gene Viele with a .088, Gary Ocock with a .077, Jim Wheeler with a .093, and Paul Weaver with a .079.

I'm really stretching this, but taking the best five zero groups shot, it was possible to shoot a .0720 aggregate given the shooting conditions we experienced that day. I, for one, surely thought someone would shoot a zero aggregate.





*The nine shooters who shot zero groups on Saturday at 100 yards, left to right: Jim Wheeler, Mike Sosenko, Cameron Snow, Ed Adams, Lester Bruno, Gary Ocock, Chuck Miller, Paul Weaver, and Gene Viele.*

Sunday we shot the two 200-yard stages of the match. The weather forecast called for the same light winds with some overcast skies. That did happen, but not until early afternoon. What was not forecast were the winds coming off the mountain, mostly straight at us. The only good part of that was the wind was about half the intensity that we usually get with those early morning winds. They most often ease up around 9:30 or 10:00. Eventually the wind did subside, and we were again shooting in mild, readable conditions similar to what we experienced on Saturday.

What I did notice was that the groups for the first few matches were good, considering the wind we shot in. I think by this point the shooters had their loads fine-tuned after shooting in the light conditions on Saturday.

Starting off the 200-yard aggregate was Duke Rovarino, who shot a nice .216. All five match-winning groups were in the .200 range, with Lawrence Weisdorn's .202, shot in Match #3, being the smallest. Jim Wheeler won the yardage aggregate shooting a .1709. Jim is a newer shooter who works at it really hard. I have seen a lot of shooters come into our sport, but very few put in the effort to achieve success the way Jim does.

In second place was Lester Bruno, who shot a .1821. Lester shot four nice targets, but a .604 in Match #2 pushed him into second place. Finishing in third place was Doug Ruble, shooting a .1888. Looking over the top five shooters, it was Mike Sosenko's .321 in Match #5 that put him in first place. Overall, the aggregates were decent for the top eight shooters; however, we were spoiled by the very mild wind conditions on Saturday and maybe did not pay enough attention to the subtle changes taking place.



*Jim Wheeler — Sunday AM 200-yard winner*

### UNL-5 Sunday AM 200 yards

- |                       |                       |
|-----------------------|-----------------------|
| 1. Jim Wheeler .1709  | 2. Lester Bruno .1821 |
| 2. Doug Ruble .1888   | 4. Cameron S. .1910   |
| 3. Gary Ocock .2018   | 6. Chuck Miller .2101 |
| 4. Mike Sosenko .2160 | 8. L. Weisdorn .2262  |
| 5. Paul Weaver .2406  | 10. Ed Adams .2608    |

Winning the UNL Grand-5 (100-yard PM and 200-yard AM) was Lester Bruno with a .1500. Les finished in second place in both yardages to win the Grand.

### Top 10 in this Grand

- |                       |                       |
|-----------------------|-----------------------|
| 1. Lester Bruno .1500 | 2. Jim Wheeler .1631  |
| 2. Mike Sosenko .1631 | 4. Gary Ocock .1671   |
| 3. Doug Ruble .1735   | 6. Chuck Miller .2029 |
| 4. Ed Adams .2060     | 8. Paul Weaver .2068  |
| 5. Cam Snow .2113     | 10. L. Weisdorn .2270 |

After a short break, we shot the second 200-yard stage. For this aggregate, the shooting conditions improved slightly, with less wind speed and slow direction changes. Starting the match off was Jim Aylor, shooting a .243. Cameron Snow broke through the .200 barrier, shooting a .164 in Match #4, which also turned out to be the small group for the yardage.

For entertainment purposes, I'm compelled to point out that Cam's .164 at 200 yards was smaller than six of his groups at 100 yards. That group, along with shooting a .261 in Match #5, pushed Cam into second place for this yardage.

Winning the yardage was Lester Bruno, who shot four .200 groups and a .323. He won the yardage with a nice .1413 aggregate.



*Lester Bruno — Sunday PM 200-yard winner*

### UNL-5 Sunday PM 200 yards

- |                       |                        |
|-----------------------|------------------------|
| 1. Lester Bruno .1413 | 2. Cameron Snow .1726  |
| 2. Gary Ocock .1836   | 4. Jim Aylor .1881     |
| 3. Ed Adams .1984     | 6. Doug Ruble .1992    |
| 4. Jim Wheeler .2059  | 8. Paul Weaver .2073   |
| 5. Chuck Miller .2089 | 10. Mike Sosenko .2177 |

### Top 10 in the second UNL Grand Aggregate (100-yard Saturday AM and 200-yard PM)

- |                       |                        |
|-----------------------|------------------------|
| 1. Gary Ocock .1514   | 2. Lester Bruno .1577  |
| 2. Ed Adams .1591     | 4. Jim Wheeler .1641   |
| 3. Jim Aylor .1771    | 6. Duke Rovarino .1788 |
| 4. Paul Weaver .1798  | 8. Doug Ruble .1851    |
| 5. Cameron Snow .1918 | 10. Chuck Miller .1930 |





*Left to right: Lester Bruno and Gary Ocock*

Lester won the 2-Gun and one Grand.

Gary won one Grand and the CA/AZ Combined.

### **Top 10 2-Gun (two UNL-5 Grands) — The Phoenix 2-Gun**

- |                       |                         |
|-----------------------|-------------------------|
| 1. Lester Bruno .1539 | 2. Gary Ocock .1593     |
| 2. Jim Wheeler .1636  | 4. Doug Ruble .1793     |
| 3. Ed Adams .1826     | 6. Mike Sosenko .1839   |
| 4. Paul Weaver .1933  | 8. Chuck Miller .1980   |
| 5. Cameron Snow .2015 | 10. Duke Rovarino .2089 |

In addition to shooting for the two Grands at Phoenix, there was a competition for the Arizona-California Combined Championship. We use the 2-Gun from a Visalia UNL-5 match and combine that result with this weekend's Phoenix UNL-5 match. Gary Ocock just edged out Mike Sosenko for the win.

### **Top 6 Arizona-California Combined (four Grands, two from each state)**

- |                       |                            |
|-----------------------|----------------------------|
| 1. Gary Ocock .1719   | 2. Mike Sosenko .1728      |
| 2. Doug Ruble .1834   | 4. Duke Rovarino .1923     |
| 3. Chuck Miller .2003 | 6. Lawrence Weisdorn .2059 |

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Pl.		2 gun		.BARREL	STOCK	STOCKER	ACTION	GUNSMITH	Powder Wt.
Bullet		Agg							
1	Lester Bruno	0.1539	6ppc	Krieger	Young	Young	BAT	Lester	29.4 133 Bruno 68
2	Gary Ocock	0.1593	6ppc	Krieger	Young	Young	Neuvo	Ocock	133 Ocock 66
3	Jim Wheeler	0.1636	6ppc	Krieger	Young	Young	BAT	Ocock	133 Miller 65
4	Doug Ruble	0.1793	6ppc	Bartlein	Young	Ruble	BAT	Ruble	29-133 Miller 65
5	Ed Adams	0.1826	6ppc	Krieger	Dodd	Dodd	BAT	Adams	29.3-133 Miller 65
6	Mike Sosenko	0.1839	6ppc	Bartlein	SOS	SOS	BAT	Sosenko	28.6 133 SOS 64.7
7	Paul Weaver	0.1933	6ppc	Krieger	Powell	Powell	Panda	Ocock	133 Miller 65
8	Chucl Miller	0.1980	6ppc	Krieger	Young	Miller	BAT	Miller	133 Miller 65
9	Cameron Snow	0.2015	6ppc	Bartlein	Kensler	Kensler	BAT	Sosenko	133 Miller 65
10	Duke Rovarino	0.2089	6ppc	Krieger	Young	Duke	BAT	Ocock	28.4-133 Miller 65