

**WOOOOO HOOOOO!!!**  
**WE ARE STATE CHAMPIONS!**

The **Martinez CYSSA Trapshooting Team won a State Championship** with a 2nd place finish in the Top Team Event of the Junior Varsity Division posting a score of 894 out 1000 targets! The winning team consisted of:

**BEN RICHIE**  
**GRANT WHITE**  
**MILES MILLAN**  
**ERIC WETZSTEIN**  
**CASEY O'NEIL**

Miles had an outstanding shoot, delivering the shooting prowess we knew he had in him, running 4 traps and fighting for individual medal honors until the bitter end. Ben and Grant, two of the team's strongest shooters, were also in medal contention throughout the competition. Eric, our team's phenom, had already bagged 3 medals going into this shoot and provided another solid performance almost making Martinez CYSSA history by capturing 4 straight medals. Casey, also a multi-medal winner in previous events came into the competition with high expectations. Casey provided a solid performance and like the rest of the team came through with a clutch performance in the last 50 targets to secure the team's 2nd place Championship!

As this team entered the last 50 targets of the competition they were 1 target shy of 2nd place and there were 2 two teams in hot pursuit of their position being only a few targets behind them. These 5 competitor never showed such intensity, focus and determination! They just smoke the first 25 targets! Their true ability shined through. As coaches we could not have been prouder of their performance and know they have set a new standard for themselves. **Truly a job VERY well done!**

We were also represented by:

**NATE KEMPER**  
**KYLE KAUFMANN**  
**CHRISTIAN SCHLAGEL**

Both Kyle and Christian **shot personal bests** over the weekend while Nate turned in another solid performance. Nate and Christian are of our youngest shooters and have made great progress over their very short shooting career. During this shoot Kyle proved he is a top contender to be dealt with in the upcoming season.

It can't go without being recognized: the championship performance put on by **Blake Butler**. Both Blake and his brother Spencer began participation last year with the Martinez program. Both brothers showed great potential, but due to unforeseen circumstances they became members of the Putah Creek Club CYSSA Team. However, they returned to Martinez to continue their training and we are happy to have them in our training program. Blake shot a terrific score of 193, running a 50 straight, but falling 1 (stinking!) target short of making the shoot off for 2nd place, individual honors JV Division. Blake was in contention until the end and we all congratulate him on his break-through performance! We look forward to next year boys!!

Due to a number of our CYSSA team members unavailability for the State Championship competition, we were unable fill a complete second squad having only 3 shooters, as noted above. In total we had 4 Junior Varsity (JV) and 4 Intermediate Entry (IE) classified shooters attending this competition. This limited us from competing in some additional Team Events since we didn't have enough shooters to accumulate competitive scores. I'm confident we would have had great success in these events as well had we been able to field complete squads.

Our shooters faced tough competition from teams around Northern California all which have had a scholastic program for many years. Some of our competitors have as many as 70 members yet **our focused team of only 8 shooters got it done!** Not only did our relatively small team bring home a State Championship, our shooters did an outstanding job throughout this competitive season **winning numerous medals** of First, Second and Third Place during the six shooting competitions leading up to the State Championship.

**This is a tremendous accomplishment by the shooters when you consider this is the first year this program existed at the Martinez Gun Club AND with the exception of 2 shooters none of these shooters ever shot before 8 months ago! The oldest member on the team is 15 and some as young as 12!**

**Also notable is our winning team consisted of 3 JV shooters and 2 IE shooters, not 5 JV shooters. While classified as a JV team for the event, our team had two younger division shooters competing against teams comprised of all older, more experienced shooters, yet they prevailed!**

Each of the winning team members was awarded a beautiful trophy and there is one that will be proudly displayed on the fire place mantle in the Martinez Club House!

All the members of the Martinez CYSSA Trap Team and Coaches thank the Martinez Gun Club for their support and all the moms and dads that do so much to support their children in this great sport.

Now, let's get back to practice because we're making room on the mantle for **next year's First Place trophy!**