

# IBS 600 Yard Nationals

## Return of The Beast



**'Twas the Night Before Nationals and all through the range. Not a creature was stirring not even a flag!**

The 600-yard IBS Nationals was held at the Memphis Sports Shooting Association (MSSA), in Lakeland Tennessee on the 16th & 17th of September 2022. A total of 99 shooters from across the country descended on Lakeland to compete for the coveted title of IBS 600 Yard 2 Gun Champion.

For those unfamiliar with the 600-yard National format, it consists of a total of 16 targets (8 Light Gun and 8 Heavy Gun) 5 shots each. The unique aspect of 600-yard Benchrest is that the competitor shoots for group and score simultaneously. The object being to shoot the smallest possible group in the middle of the target. Each competitor shoots two targets per relay before leaving the bench.

Day 1 Light Gun (LG) targets 1 & 2

The forecast called for 5 to 10 mph winds, with a low of 66 and a high of 87. Conditions for the start of the match were light and variable winds and 75 degrees. Tommy Jacobs (aka TomE of Vapor Trail Bullets) came out swinging shooting a pair of 50s (with a perfect score of a 100) with groups of 1.424 and 1.092. This put Tommy in the lead for Light Gun score and Light Gun Overall.



Tommy Jacobs on his way to a pair of Perfect 50s!

Shelley Gudger took an early lead in Light Gun Group shooting a sub inch .849 and 1.514 posting a two target Aggregate of 1.182.

LG Targets 3 & 4

LG SCORE

As targets 3 and 4 were posted Seth "The Beast" Wooten made his presence known, pulling into the lead for LG score with a 198 (only dropping 2 points in 4 targets). Jason Wolf followed closely behind with a 197. While Tommy Jacobs fell back to 3rd place with a score of 196. The Top 5 in score were rounded out by Steve "Hitman" Wilson 4th and Bobby Cagle 5th both with Score of 196. As you can see three of the top 5 shooters had identical scores of (196), ties (or placement) are broken by who has the smallest group aggregate.

#### LG Group

After 4 targets Shelley Gudger remained in the lead with a 1.438 agg. Seth "The Beast" Wooten was close in second place with a 1.541 followed by Dave "The Juggernaut" Way in 3rd with a 1.559, Jason Danley (Danley Precision Rifles) with a 1.605 in 4th and Mike "The Godfather" Moses 5th.



Jeff Godfrey and Current aggregate leader Shelley Gudger

#### Light Gun Overall

For those that are unfamiliar with how Light Gun Overall is calculated, the Shooter's placement (or rank) in both group and score are added together. The shooter with the lowest total rank wins. Once again, any ties are broken by who has the smallest group aggregate.

After 4 Targets the battle for Light Gun Overall was shaping up.

1st Seth Wooten rank 3

2nd Tom Jacobs rank 14

3rd Jason Danley rank 16

4th Taylor Ebbitt Rank 17

5th Jason Wolf rank 17

## Targets 5 and 6

“The Championship Rounds.”

At a regular 600-yard match Light Gun and Heavy Gun are four targets each. However, at the Nationals competitors shoot 8 targets for Light Gun (day 1) and 8 targets for Heavy gun (day 2). Combine this with nearly 100 competitors makes for a much longer than normal day of competition. This exposes shooters to greater temperatures and potential for more difficult wind conditions.

### Targets 5 & 6

Going into targets 5 & 6 Tommy Jacobs and Seth Wooten swap paint in Light Gun Score, with TomE (Tommy Jacobs internet handle) taking the lead by 1 point (294) over Seth Wooten's (293). Taylor “The Kid” Ebbitt was in 3rd with a 292 and Jason “Precision” Danley in 4th (291) with and Mike “Papa” Wooten (291 pts.) in 5th.

### Light Gun Group

With targets 5 & 6, Mike “The Godfather” Moses jumped from 5<sup>th</sup> place into the lead with a 1.688 aggregate. Seth Wooten remained in second place with a 1.761. Ray Lowman “The Man, The Myth The Legend” pulled into 3rd place from 12th. Kent “The Man” Hall shot steady all day and moved into 4th place with a 1.841. While “The Juggernaut” Dave Way slipped to 5th from 3rd with a 1.841 aggregate.

### Light Gun Overall Target 5 & 6

Seth “The Beast” Wooten remained firmly in the lead with a rank of 4. However, Jason Danley edged Tommy Jacobs for second place with a rank of 11. Tommy also with a rank of 11 dropped to 3rd. Taylor “The Kid” Ebbitt remained in 4th (rank 14). Making a big move was Ray “The Man, The Myth, The Legend” Lowman jumping from 13th all the way to 5th.

### The Finish Line Targets 7 & 8

#### Light Gun Score

When the dust settled it was “The Kid” Taylor Ebbitt winning the title of IBS 600 Yard Light Gun Score Champion with a 387. Followed closely by Seth “The Beast” Wooten with a 386. Robert “The Assassin” Unertl made a big move from 15th to 3rd with a score of 385. Tommy Jacobs secured 4th place with a 385 and Jason Danley 5th with a 384!



Taylor "The Kid" Ebbitt is The 2022 IBS 600 Yard Light Gun Score Champion!



## Light Gun Group

The IBS 600 Yard Light Gun Group Champion is none other than “The Godfather” Mike Moses. Mike’s final two targets were a 1.9 and a 2.1, besting the field with an 8 target aggregate of 1.782. “The Juggernaut”, Dave Way secured 2nd place with a 1.854. Jason “Precision” Danley made a nice jump from 3rd to 7<sup>th</sup> with a 1.863. Gabe “Mayhem” Matheny came all the way up from 14th to 4th by shooting a 1.986 aggregate. Rounding out top 5 was Travis “Never Miss” Massie with a 2.026.



Mike” The Godfather” Moses is the 2022 IBS Light Gun Group Champion!

## Light Gun Overall

We had an impressive shake up at the top going into the final two targets. Jason Danley (Danley Precision Rifles) laid down a pair of nice targets (1.5 & 2.2) to become the IBS 600 Yard Light Gun Overall Champion! Jason's combined rank of 8 (5th in score + 3<sup>rd</sup> in group) was enough to take the win. Robert "The Assassin" Unertl moved from 11th place to 2nd with a rank of 10. Seth Wooten had a rare hic-up that moved him from 1st to 3rd place (rank of 10). Taylor "The Kid" Ebbitt remained steady and took home 4th with a rank of 14. Meanwhile, Samuel "Mountain Man" Hall shot two nice final targets (50/1.700 & 50/2.050) that propelled him from 29<sup>th</sup> place to 5th.



Jason "Precision" Danley is The IBS 2022 Light Gun Overall Champion.

## Light Gun Closest to the X

“Closest to the “X” is a side bet. Competitors put their money in a pot and compete to see who will center-punch the “X” the best. It’s not a particularly easy thing to do! But as you can see it’s nice when a lot of people are in the pot, and you win!



Scott “X-Killer” Knight with his winning closest to the X target and a fist full of Dollars. Bart Sauter helping hold up the Target.





## Day 2 Heavy Gun

### WIRE TO WIRE THE CHRIS & SETH SHOW

The forecast was similar to the day before. With a low of 66 and a high of 88. Winds were forecast up to 10 mph out of the Southeast with mostly clear skies.



The Firing Line!

## Targets 1 & 2

### HG Score

It was easy to see that the competitors were dialed in from the day before. Heavy Gun Score began with four shooters with a perfect score of 100. These included: Chris Allen, Wayne Southard, Terry Tholen and Bobby Cagle. The 5th place position was held by Steve Wilson with a score of 99. However, several other shooters also posted a score of 99. These included Larry Averitt, Dave Way, Jeff Godfrey, Scottie Johnson, Robby Vick and Dan Porter. That's eleven shooters that dropped 1 point or less. Pretty tough competition.



General Mob picture waiting for the safety briefing

### Heavy Gun Group

At first, I thought the printout for HG Group was wrong! The stat crew Obviously made a mistake. NO WAY was Seth Wooten agging .784 after two targets. Plus, Taylor Ebbitt only had a 1.046 agg. Well, the stats were correct. Seth started with a blistering .438 and followed it up with a 1.129. Taylor stuck a nice sub inch .970 and a 1.122. Chris Allen was in third with a 1.199 aggregate. Chris shot a beautiful sub inch .694 and a 1.704. Competition was so stiff that 19 shooters (for matches 1 & 2) posted aggregates below the 2-inch mark.



Photo Collage of Seth's .438 600 yard target.



## HG Overall

Leading the pack was Chris Allen with a total rank of 4. Followed by Wayne Southard rank of 7, Terry Tholen in Third (rank of 9). Bobby Cagle Fourth (rank of 14) and Steve Wilson in Fifth (rank of 16).

## HG Targets 3 & 4

### Heavy Gun Score

Chris "The Hammer" Allen remained in first place with a score of 199. Shooting on the bench adjacent to Chris is Jeff Godfrey in second with a 198. Third is Scottie Johnson also with a 198. Wayne Southard was in 4th with a 197. While Bart Sauter rounded out the Top 5 with a score of 195. It's interesting to note that had this been a normal HG match of 4 targets, Chris would have had a potential IBS record. The current record is held by Andy Ferguson who shot a 199 score with an aggregate of 1.7049. At this moment in time Chris has a score of 199 (tying the current score record) with a range measured aggregate of 1.613 potentially breaking the old record. Remember ties in score are broken by who has the smallest aggregate, if the range measurement held up Chris would win the tie with the smaller aggregate.

However, this is only conjecture on my part. This is Nationals with an 8 Target format and not 4 targets.



You must be careful around the woods in Memphis. You never know what you'll run into. Ben Peters and Spencer Lamm enjoying lunch.

## Heavy Gun Group

At the midway point Seth "The Beast" Wooten made a rare misstep, shooting a 3.296 on his third target but recovered nicely with a 1.469 on his fourth. While Seth remained in first place with a 1.583, his three-inch group ate into the considerable lead he had over the field. Chris "The Hammer" Allen moved within striking distance pulling into second place with an aggregate of 1.613. "The Kid" Taylor Ebbitt slipped from second into third with a 1.766 aggregate. While "Mountain Man" Samuel Hall remained in fourth with a 1.813. Steve "Hitman" Wilson jumped from 11th place to 5th shooting a 1.845 aggregate.

#### HG Overall

A big shakeup at the Top. While Chris Allen remained in the top spot. The other four were completely changed. Leading the charge was Jeff Godfrey moving into second, Scottie Johnson third, Bart Sauter fourth and Curt Knitt holding fifth. While Wayne Southard, Terry Tholen, Bobby Cagle, and Steve Wilson all dropped from the top 5 positions.

#### HG Targets 5 & 6

After targets five and six, Chris Allen continued to keep 'em in the middle posting a score of 297 (out of a possible 300). Chris' targets were as follows 50, 50, 50, 49, 49, & 49. A most impressive display of marksmanship. The battle for the top 5 continued with Scottie "The Rock" Johnson with a 293 in 2nd. Followed by Jeff "Stone Cold" Godfrey in third also with a 293, as well as Mike "Magic Man" McBride in 4th with guess what? That's right, a score of 293. Bart Sauter fills out the top 5 with a 292.

#### HG Group

HG gun group isn't changing much. "The Beast" (We all know who he is by now. Right?) has a choke hold on the group aggregate and isn't letting go. "The Hammer" is in close pursuit with a 1.711. While "The Kid" nudges "Mountain Man" out of third place with a 1.737. The Mountain Man slips to fourth with a 1.824. Curt "Mr Gadget" Knitt moves into 5th. (I just wanted to see if the nicknames were starting to stick!)

#### HG Overall

We have some movement in the top 5 of HG Overall. Chris Allen remains firmly in the top spot with a score of 3. Scottie Johnson moves from third to second with a score of 11. Bart Sauter slides into third place from fourth (score 12). Sam Hall jumps all the way from 11th to 4th place (score 15). Larry "Tough as Nails" Averitt moves from 12th into 5th place (score of 16).

#### The Final Stretch

#### HG Targets 7 & 8

Chris "The Hammer" Allen wins HG Score with a 393! Chris led the match from start to finish. Latching on to the lead like "a pit-bull on a bone." Bart Sauter secured second place with a score of 391. Jeff Godfrey also shot a 391 (tie broken by group agg) for third place. Scottie Johnson came in fourth with a 388. While Mike "Magic" McBride rounded out the top 5.





Chris "The Hammer" Allen is the 2022 IBS 600 yd HG Score National Champion.

#### HG Group

Seth "The Beast" Wooten wins the Heavy Gun Group with a 1.679 aggregate. Seth led the aggregate from start to finish and never relinquishing the lead. The only one that came close to giving Seth a run for his money was Chis "The Hammer" Allen. Chris came in second place with a 1.779 aggregate. Samuel "Mountain Man" Hall secured third place with a 1.905 besting the "The Kid" Taylor Ebbitt by a mere .001 thousandths of an inch. Taylor took fourth place with a 1.906. Bart Sauter came in fifth with a 1.994.



Seth "The Beast" Wooten is the 2022 IBS 600 yd HG Group National Champion  
HG Overall

"The Hammer" Chris Allen wins the HG Overall easily with a rank of 3! Just like HG Score, Chris took the lead on the first two targets and stayed in the lead for the entire match. Meanwhile, the rest of us were simply subjugated to minor roles in the final standings. Bart Sauter secured second place with a rank of 7. Followed closely behind by Jeffery Godfrey with a rank of 10. Samuel Hall remained steady in 4th place with a rank of 15. While "Mr Gadget" Curt Knitt came in 5th with a rank of 16.



Chris "The Hammer" Allen is the 2022 IBS 600 yd HG Overall National Champion.

## TWO GUN OVERALL RESULTS

For those who are unfamiliar with how the 2 Gun is computed, let me explain. Basically, it's calculated the same way as HG and LG, except this time it's with all 16 targets. Competitors LG group and HG groups aggregates are averaged together to determine the shooter's 2 Gun Aggregate. Competitors are then ranked from the lowest aggregate to the highest. The shooter with the Lowest Aggregate receives a rank of 1 (and so on down the list). For this competition it was Seth Wooten with a 16-target aggregate

of 1.872. The 2 Gun Score winner is the competitor with the highest point total from all 16 targets. The competitors' targets are totaled together and then sorted from the highest to the lowest. The competitor with the highest point total receives a rank of 1. The man with the highest 2 Gun Score was Tommy Jacobs with a 765.

To calculate who won the Overall 2 Gun we must add together the competitors 2 Gun Group and Score ranks. The competitor with the lowest combined rank wins the coveted 2 Gun Overall title!

#### ENOUGH STAT-SPLAINING!

Our 2 Gun winner is none other than Seth "The Beast" Wooten with a rank of 3 (1st in group, 2nd in score)! Samuel "Mountain Man" Hall (who just lives down the Holler from The Beast) takes second place with a rank of 8. "The Kid" Taylor Ebbitt in third place also with a rank of 8. The Mountain Man edged The Kid in the overall group aggregate to win the tie. Bart Sauter from out of nowhere took fourth place with a rank of 17. Travis "Never Miss" Massie came in 5th with a rank of 22.





Seth "The Beast" Wooten is the 2022 IBS 600 yd 2 Gun Overall National Champion.

At this point credits start to roll and people are putting their coats on to leave. But HOLD ON! Often the back stories that don't display themselves by the stat sheet are just as interesting and just as important. For example:

A couple of the guys were on the injured and disabled list but Cowboyed-Up and shot anyway. First on the list is Jerry "Aqua-Man" Rochelle injured from a swim related accident. Jerry was suffering from a

torn Achilles tendon. Jerry made his way around the match with his leg supported on a medical scooter. Basically, a high-speed walker. Jerry finished 37<sup>th</sup> which is impressive for a guy that couldn't walk!



Jerry Rochelle Kicking back relaxing at the Match.

Larry "Tough as Nails" Averitt was also on the injured list. Larry busted his hip while competing on the Senior Bull Riding Circuit in Cheyenne, Wyoming (That's Fake News). Larry busted his hip while loading his car after a match (but busting your hip while bull riding sounds so much cooler). While on a walker and with a little help from his friends to setup, Larry placed 10<sup>th</sup> in the Overall 2 Gun, beating 90 percent of the field. I guess the moral of the story is, If Larry says he can outshoot you with one leg tied behind his back, there's a 90 percent chance he's right.



## The IBS 600 Yd Rookie Shooter of the Year

In the words of Master Yoda. “The Force is Strong in this One!”

Taylor Ebbitt aka “The Kid” is a rising star in the world of 600-yard Benchrest. In a short period of time, I have watched Taylor grow from a tactical shooter into a full-blown benchrest competitor. Under the tutelage of Mike Moses and Robby Miles, Taylor has gotten really good, really fast. This was Taylor's first Nationals, and he Won LG Score, placed 3<sup>rd</sup> in the 2 Gun Overall, and secured enough Shooter of The Year points to easily win Top IBS Rookie Shooter of the Year. A big congratulations to Taylor for some great shooting and an outstanding year. We look forward to seeing great things from him in the future.



Taylor Ebbitt aka “The Kid” IBS Rook 600 yd Rookie Shooter of the Year.



### “THE BEAST” Seth Wooten

If you want to beat this guy, you’re going to have to put on your Big-Boy-Pants and Pack a lunch. Seth Wooten completely demolished the Long Range Community in 2022 (something akin to a T-Rex running loose in a Field of Cows”). He not only won both 600 and 1000 yard IBS Nationals but also won IBS 600 yard Shooter of the Year. The only other person to come close to matching this feat was “The IceMan” Jason Walker who in 2021 was the first man to win both the 600 and 1000 yard Nationals. However, The Beast in 2022 became the first to not only win both the 600 and 1000 yard Nationals, but also the coveted title of IBS 600 yard Shooter of the Year! Truly a monumental feat and one for the record books, Congratulations Seth!



Seth Shot pretty good in 2021 as well!

Memphis Sport Shooting Association (MSSA)

Big congratulations and thanks to Robby “X-Man” Miles and crew aka “The Fantastic 7” for putting on a flawless Nationals. The entire match ran like a Swiss watch, from the Target Crew to the prize table. But who is in this plucky band of organizers?

First up we have Power-Couple Andrea and Taylor Ebbitt.



Andrea among many other things helped with registration, also served as line boss and cat herder!  
Taylor was a key organizer and Right-Hand-Man



Range Master, Line Boss, and Cat Herder Lisa Bennett.





Mike Brewer electronics specialist, overall fixer, and other righthand man (it's good to have two right hands). Mike also served as Robby's Pit Crew during match cleaning and taking care of his rifle. Without his help Robby couldn't have shot the match. I tried to get a better picture but it's hard to get one where Mike isn't talking (sorry buddy).





Nick Mansfield helped with registration and served as onsite Firefighter! When a fire (problem) popped up Robby could count on Nick to put it out.



Big Thank for Stephanie Knight who stepped up and volunteered to helped set up and organize the prize table and awards.





Target Crew (Left) Kennedy Dupree and (Right) Lucy Talley these two girls were instrumental in how quickly the target crew was able to turn around. They didn't walk, they ran for two days!



Big Thank YOU and Congratulations to Robby "X-Man" Miles for putting on and hosting a highly successful Nationals. Without a doubt Robby is one of the hardest working and greatest assets the IBS has. Robby has done way more than just put on a Nationals. Throughout the year He tirelessly works for the shooters, putting on monthly 600-yard club as well registered 600-yard matches. This combination of club and registered shoots has turned into one of the largest producers of new 600-yard shooters in the IBS. He is constantly coaching, helping and bringing along new shooters. Most of all when you go to one of his matches, he makes it FUN! In his spare time he's on the IBS Long Range committee!

A Big Virtual Round of Applause for The Winners as well as Robby and the Magnificent 7!

In the word of Buggs Bunny "That's All Folks"

Bart



