

**Steve Mathis**

**2019**

Steve Mathis love for shooting came early in his life.  Steve was a duck guide for 22 years and has been involved with the Delta Waterfowl and Waterfowl USA and their celebrity hunts.  He has guided for a few outdoor television shows and even made his own line of duck calls during his last years of guiding.

Steve has been involved with trapshooting for 35 years.  He began shooting trap in 1983 after seeing the state trap shoot on the local TV news.  He later visited the Remington Gun Club, and with the encouragement of its shooting manager, Billy Crutchfield, he began shooting Amateur Trapshooting Association (ATA) trap.  He was hooked!

Steve shot his first 100 straight in 1984 and made the 27-yard line in 1989.  He has shot a lifetime total of 44,450 singles; 35,300 handicap; and 33,900 doubles targets to date.

Steve has served as the director and vice-president of the Arkansas State Trapshooting Federation board.  He has coached in the Arkansas Youth Sport Shooting Program (AYSSP), and he has had teams finish 2nd and 3rd in the state.

During his career, Steve has earned numerous awards.  He was the high handicap average leader in 1986 and 1987; the overall state class champ in 1985 and 1986; the 1989 State Handicap runner-up.  Then, in 1990, he was the State doubles and all-around champion and the 1990 Petty Family trophy winner.

Between the years of 1992 and 2006, Steve spent his spare time with his sons Patrick and Hunter.  But, when in 2006 Hunter asked his dad to teach him how to trap shoot, Steve knew it was time to get back into the sport.  And he did with a vengeance.

In 2006, Steve earned the title of state doubles runner-up; 2007 he was the high handicap average leader; 2011 he was the Mississippi State AA doubles championship; 2012 he won the Arkansas AA doubles championship; 2013 and 2016 he was the high overall state class champ; 2017 he won the state sub-vet doubles championship title.  Then, in 2018, he won the doubles championship and the high all-around championship at the Arkansas Fall Handicap trapshooting competition.  In 2019 at the Louisiana State Trap Shoot he won sub-vet singles championship, sub-vet handicap championship, AA doubles and sub-vet HAA championship.   Steve has won many other preliminary events in singles, handicap, and doubles both in and out of Arkansas.  He has made the Arkansas state trapshooting team 18 times and served as its captain in 2008.

Steve has participated in the Grand American World Championship (GAWC) in Sparta, Illinois many times.  He was the yardage group runner-up in preliminary handicap competition in 2013, and won A class runner-up in preliminary singles event in 2014.  Steve also made it into the class shoot-offs of the World Championship Clay Target singles event in 2013 and 2016.  He tied for 3rd place in class high all-around championship in 2016.

Steve has been fortunate enough to shoot in several different states at various clubs like the Shreveport Gun Club (Louisiana), the Memphis Gun Club (Tennessee), and the Corinth Gun Club (Mississippi).  During Steve’s trapshooting career, he has been a good ambassador for the State of Arkansas, a good sportsman, and last but not least, a good friend to any and all who have met him.  He is always willing to help any new shooter or even and old pro in a slump.  The ASTF has been blessed to have a shooter like Steve representing the State of Arkansas.