



CMP State Directors

Name Michele Makucevich

Rifle Coaching Experience

With twenty-nine years experience coaching junior athletes, my shooters have won state, regional and national level recognition. Over a dozen of my athletes have been recruited to top NCAA programs including: Texas Christian University, West Virginia, Nebraska, Xavier, Tennessee Tech, Mississippi and West Point. My athletes have won individual and team NCAA Championships, the American Legion National Championship, the National Junior Olympics and the National Smallbore Championships at Camp Perry, Ohio.

Credentials, Staff Positions, Initiative and Honors

Initially credentialed as a rifle coach by the NRA in 1985, I hold a Level 3 Coach Credential. As an inaugural member of the NRA's National Coach Development Staff, I have served as an instructor trainer since 1993. Serving as the Civilian Marksmanship Program's Rhode Island Director since 1999, I have overseen all junior shooting activities in the state. Prior to my arrival in RI, there was no air rifle competition. Through holding clinics and coach schools, we now have five programs.

In addition to coaching a year-round travel team, I have been invited to coach at the Olympic Training Center's National Junior Olympic Camp and the NRA's National Advanced Camps. For eight years I organized a regional junior shooting camp at Rhode Island's Camp Fogarty National Guard base that attracted athletes from eleven states and yielded three Olympians, one Paralympian, and a World Champion as well as more than two dozen NCAA athletes. So successful was this program, it became the NRA National Advanced Camp for Air Rifle.

Recognizing the importance of coaching education, I have contributed to the growth of the sport by coordinating and teaching coach schools for adult leaders throughout the east coast.

A staff member for the American Legion National Championships, I have also worked with JROTC and active duty military instructors. In 2011, I was the POC and assistant instructor for a joint Paralympic & Department of Defense Wounded Warrior Paralympic Shooting Camp held at Navy Newport.

A four-time speaker at the National Shooting Coach Conferences, I have published several articles on junior shooting and coaching in various NRA publications. Wherever I have found myself, I have been involved in junior shooting; founding three junior teams, four rifle leagues and two Junior Olympic camp programs. In addition to coordinating numerous camps, clinics and coach schools, I have also acted as match director for over 200 competitions since 1985.

In 1999 I was honored by the National Shooting Sports Foundation as the USA Shooting National Coach of the Year.

Competitive Shooting Experience

A classified competitor in smallbore rifle, air rifle, long range high power and Palma rifle, I have accrued over a dozen team and individual national records in these disciplines. During my collegiate career I was team captain and later coach of the University of Oregon Rifle Club and was a National College Club Champion in Air Rifle and medalist in both air rifle and smallbore rifle multiple years. I have represented the United States in competition in both Great Britain (smallbore) and Canada (fullbore) and have been a member of several US Randle Teams.

A top-three finisher in over a dozen NRA Regionals, I have won state titles in Oregon, California, Virginia and Rhode Island.

Career

Most of my professional career was spent in the field of education where I was a classroom teacher at the junior high and high school levels for over a decade. In 2012 I switched fields and took a position in technical sales with Super Brush, the makers of Gun-tips and Bore-tips, firearms cleaning swabs.

Family

I have been blessed with two wonderful children who share my passion for the shooting sports.

My daughter, Danielle, began shooting in the womb. No, seriously! While pregnant with her I competed right up until less than two weeks before she was born. Santa brought her her first smallbore rifle, an Anschutz Achiever modified by Karl Kenyon, when she was five. She joined my junior program at nine and has been my partner in Camp Perry's Mentor Match every year since she was five-years-old. She has competed in the National Junior Olympics, the National 3-P Air Rifle Championships and both the NRA Metric and Conventional Rifle Championships.

Matthew has been a Camp Perry volunteer since the age of nine! Not interested in competitive shooting, he enjoys shooting military-style rifles and pistols and has participated in two Small Arms Firing Schools.

Both of my children are accomplished ice hockey players who compete for travel teams as well as their school. Matthew is a goalie and Danielle is a defenseman.

We have two cats that represent our sports interests. Tenex is our beautiful calico who has the unique talent of having been taught to 'sit' on command. Zamboni is our black cat whose agility allows him to catch toy mice mid-air. We also have an African Pygmy hedgehog named Hedgie.

Other Interest

Aside from an avid interest in the shooting sports, I also enjoy classic cars. I am the proud owner of a 1967 Plymouth Barracuda and a 1957 Ford Thunderbird.

I came to my Barracuda at the age of eighteen. Transportation was needed to get to and from the range, as well as to my part-time job (at the Lane E.S.D. Planetarium) and classes (at the University of Oregon). The Barracuda was chosen as much for its trunk's ability to fit a rifle case either vertically or horizontally as for its clean lines. This car was my daily driver for nearly ten years, but now has become more of a weekender.

At the age of five, I fell in love with my first car. My father had purchased a '57 Thunderbird and I was smitten with the sharp fins and port hole top from the moment I saw it. I quickly learned the differences between "my" year and the similar '55's and '56's. I was certain that the Beach Boys wrote about "my" car. In the summer of 2010 my father and I took our T-Bird on a road trip from his home in Springfield, MO, to mine in Portsmouth, RI. It was, beyond a doubt, the best trip of my life; enhanced by breaking down in NY and spending a day at Niagara Falls. "The Bird" lives with me now and we make frequent appearances at local cruise nights.

Thanks

The shooting sports have been the most consistent part of my life, giving me a means to challenge myself as well as the opportunity to meet the people who have most influenced me. My guardian angel was working overtime when I first made my way to join the University of Oregon Army ROTC rifle team on the night of January 15th, 1985. I met my coach and mentor, Bill Suggs. I have spent much of the rest of my own coaching career trying to emulate him. It is also through shooting that I met my absolute best friend, Nancy Tompkins. Godmother to both my children, she is the kind of person who makes one better just for having known her.

That's the thing about the shooting sports, both it and the people you meet will challenge you to be your best self.