

2017 Can-Am Championships

The 2016 Can-Am Championships, held 14-18 August 2017, saw the USIMLT return to Barrie, Ontario, Canada as guests of the Canadian team. This match, with nearly 50 participants, was the primary selection match for the team that will represent the United States at the 2018 World Championships.

The pistol matches were dominated by Bob Lineaweaver, who swept nearly everything. Of particular note was his score of 94 in the Original division of the Cominazzo flintlock pistol match – a score that ties the current World Record. Todd Wenzel and John Ciccone also shot well, particularly in the Reproduction division of the Malson 50 meter revolver match.

Rifle events were a mixed bag. Bob Peloquin took first place in the original division of both the Tanegashima and Hizadai matchlock matches. Mary Peloquin also medalled in both events – a sign of the strength of the U.S. matchlock team. And two new shooters, Mike Willard and Kreig O’Bryant, got off to a fine start with medals.

On the shotgun field, Sam Sellaro shot a 48 in the Repro division of the Lorenzoni match, tying the Zone record and taking first place. Dunc Dawkins took first place in the Original division of that match, continuing his winning streak. Overall, American shotgunners came home with 11 of the 12 shotgun medals awarded – an outstanding tribute to the continuing strength of the USIMLT shotgun squad.

Scores from the Can-Am have been sent to South Africa, which is administering the MLAIC Pacific Zone Championships. With the Pacific Zone member countries spread across four continents, a shoulder-to-shoulder match isn’t practical.