

Post 644 Marksmanship Qualification Program

Post 644 is pleased to support its members in obtaining ratings through the NRA's Marksmanship Qualification program. The program is a fun, informal, year-round shooting opportunity. Participants develop and improve marksmanship skills at their own pace, including perfecting their breathing, trigger control, follow through and sight alignment. Additionally, they will develop the skills to participate in NRA Action Pistol competition, as well as the basic skills needed for personal protection.

You do not need to be an experienced shooter or own a gun to participate. Beginners are welcome and encouraged – we will help you.

Shooters acquire the large discipline patch at the onset of the program and as each rating is earned, they are entitled to all of the corresponding awards and rockers for the rating. You may wear your earned patches and medals on your uniform or on a jacket.



Each discipline has achievement levels. You must complete the skill levels in succession. You can get started right away by completing the first two levels at your own place using 9" paper plates as targets. (If you use the indoor range at Target World, you cannot shoot at paper plates there – trace the outline of a paper plate onto a large piece of paper instead.) Here are the requirements:

Pro Marksman:

Position: Benchrest, two hands (you must use a table or benchrest, – this is to help you focus on proper sighting and grip).

Distance: 15 feet.

Target: Paper plates or paper discs, 9" diameter.

Time: No restrictions.

Rating requirements: Acquire 10 plates with 5 shots in each plate. All shots must be inside a half-inch margin from the edge of the plate. The 10 plates do not have to be fired in succession or on the same day.

Marksman:

Position: Standing, two hands.

Distance: 15 feet.

Target: Paper plates/discs 9" diameter.

Time: No restrictions.

Rating requirements: Acquire 10 plates with 10 shots in each plate. All shots must be inside a 1½" margin from the edge of the plate. The 10 plates do not have to be fired in succession or on the same day.

The remainder of the skill levels require D-2 or D-1 "Bianchi-style" targets, which you can get from Kelly for 35 cents apiece (10 for \$3.50). We will also provide you with detailed instructions on how to complete the additional skill levels. As you complete the skill levels, show your dated targets to Kelly as "proof" and she will award you the skill level and corresponding rocker.

Cost:

The cost for entering the program and completing all levels through Expert is only \$10 (which covers the actual cost of the materials). Shooters will pay for their own ammunition, range fees and targets (which you can also purchase from Kelly at actual cost, as above). If you do not own a handgun, you can use a borrowed one (you can shoot with any caliber handgun from .22 to .45). If you complete the entire program and earn the nationally recognized rating of Distinguished Expert, then you will need to pay an additional \$17.50 for the NRA registration packet, and you will receive the Distinguished Expert medal, rocker, and certificate. Again, this is a nationally recognized rating that must be witnessed by an NRA member or instructor (Kelly can witness this for you) – you can also earn this rating by acquiring points through formal sanctioned competitions if you so choose.

Other Logistics:

Shooters may complete the ratings at their own pace. Please observe range safety at all times – do not shoot alone, use eye and ear protection, **always** keep the gun pointed in a safe direction, **always** keep your finger off the trigger until ready to shoot, and **always** keep the gun unloaded until ready to use.

If you plan to go shooting, please post your plans on the Post 644 Facebook page so that others can join you. Shooting in groups is always more fun!

After you complete the Handgun Qualification Course, you can complete similar qualification courses in other disciplines (Bullseye, Air Pistol, Air Rifle, Rifle, Shotgun, Muzzleloading Firearms, etc). Just let Kelly know what you would like to try so she can order the appropriate materials for you. If you complete the Distinguished Expert rating in other disciplines, you can attach the appropriate bars to your medal.

Have fun, and be safe!