

Youth Newsletter

Izaak Walton League of America

May 2020

The Izaak Walton League of America (IWLA) youth program teaches local youth how to safely handle firearms in a hunting environment. The main focus of the program is safety and education. When the group meets, the practices are lead by coaches who teach in various categories of shooting and hunter safety training. The members of the program practice and train all year to compete in the Youth Hunter Education Challenge (YHEC). This competition tests eight different categories including rifle, archery, muzzleloader, shotgun, orienteering, hunter safety exam, hunter safety trail and wildlife identification. The youth athletes better themselves and their communities everyday.



Youth Athlete of the Month



Anthony Terselic is currently 16 years old and a sophomore at Urbana High School. While he had shot BB guns in his elementary years, he did not start shooting firearms until he joined the IWLA Youth Program in the fall of 2017. Soon after he joined the Youth Program he became a club member and competed in his first year of competition in 2018. Outside of the IWLA, Anthony is a part of the Urbana High School FFA and Engineering club. At Urbana high school he enjoys woodworking and improving his problem-solving skills. Currently he is most proud of his second overall placement in the 2019 YHEC. In that competition he placed very highly in the categories of archery, rifle, wildlife I.D., orienteering, muzzleloader, and the hunter safety trail. Anthony's favorite category at competition is archery. Archery appeals to Anthony because of the realistic scenarios that can be used to help him in the field. Anthony's goal for the future is to improve his outdoor hunting skills. He not only wants to improve his marksmanship but to also continue to develop good sportsmanship.

Schedule

No Practice

We Will Follow the FCPS Schedule, Closed Until the 15th

Muzzleloader

A muzzleloader is a primitive weapon that has been used since the 17th century. There are three main components of a muzzleloader, powder, patch and ball. The powder of a 50 caliber muzzleloader must be either FFg or FFFg. A shooter could either use black powder, a class "A" Explosive, or Pyrodex, a class "B" Flammable Solid, as a source of powder. After pouring in the powder, the ball is on top of the patch at the muzzle of the barrel. After firmly seating the patch and ball against the powder the muzzleloader is loaded. Muzzleloaders were some of the first types of firearms and still can be used today in hunting and in competition.



Coaches Corner

Coach Willoughby grew up in Maryland, 8 miles from Washington D.C., and only two blocks away from the C&O canal and the Potomac River. He shot 22's in the Boy Scouts when he was 14. Mr. Willoughby had worked as a farm hand, a dishwasher, a set up cook, a scenery builder/stagehand at the Kennedy Center, and a carpenter. In 1986 he worked as a carpenter for the National Park Service rebuilding lock gates on the C&O canal. Since then he went through historic preservation training and became a Facility Manager. Coach also worked on a museum crew removing artifacts out of New Orleans after Hurricane Katrina.

When Coach Willoughby isn't working he enjoys hiking, camping, kayaking, and scuba diving. He also volunteers his time to many organizations. Mr. Willoughby was an assistant scout leader for eight years and he coached Little League for six years. For over three years he has taught confirmation religious education along with singing in a choir for the greater part of 48 years.

Coach Willoughby joined the Frederick IWLA in 2014. He joined after going to the Poolesville IWLA with his uncle who was a federal judge since the early 1960's. His son, Aidan, was the first of his children to join the IWLA youth program and after about a year of having to attend all of the YHEC Training his daughter, Cailyn, joined. In her first shooting competition against Aidan at Thurmont Cailyn beat Aidan! Coach Willoughby's wife, Mrs. Willoughby, also volunteers much time toward the IWLA Youth Program.

Coach Willoughby says his greatest accomplishment has been raising six children, and four grandchildren. He has also trained about half a dozen National Park Service employees in preservation. Those employees have worked on projects in Marsh Billings in Vermont, St. Augustine in Florida, Cane River Creole in Louisiana, Grand Tetons in Wyoming, and Yosemite in California. Coach Willoughby believes anytime you can have a positive influence on young people is a major accomplishment.

The Frederick IWLA Youth Program is very fortunate to have Coach Willoughby coach the kids in the program.

