

## **Soccer Shoot Committee Report State Convention, 2011**

Committee Chairman: James L. McIntyre, Jr.

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Terry Carpenter

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I am delighted to report that the Soccer Shoot program in West Virginia continued to grow in 2010-2011. Eight lodges reported holding local shoots this year as compared to seven last year. I am also pleased to report that Lewisburg participated this year. Several other lodges expressed interest in the program. I believe we are definitely headed in the right direction.

Looking at the numbers, we had 336 confirmed shooters at eight local shoots. Weirton, Wheeling, Parkersburg, Huntington, Charleston, Martinsburg, Lewisburg and Sistersville reported holding local shoots. I urge each lodge holding shoots to please send me your completed shoot reports. An incomplete report makes statistical analysis a challenge at best, and accurate numbers are vital for the continued support of the soccer program by the Grand Lodge.

The State Shoot was held on November 20, 2010, at the Quantum Soccer Center in Hurricane, WV. Charleston Lodge 202 did a superb job in setting up the shoot. All attending were treated to an excellent display of soccer talent and good sportsmanship. Following the shoot, pizza and soft drinks were served to all present.

The following placed first in the state shoot:

Lauren Overall and Abbie Lewis representing Lewisburg Lodge #1758

Tyce Church, representing Parkersburg Lodge #198

Sage Plumley and Elizabeth Conaty representing Huntington Lodge #313

Jonathan Benson representing Wheeling Lodge #28

Madison DeVaughn representing Sistersville Lodge #333

Hunter Ketchens representing Martinsburg Lodge #778

All of our State Champions were present to represent West Virginia at the Mid-Atlantic Regional Shoot held in Carlisle, Pennsylvania on March 11<sup>th</sup>, 12<sup>th</sup>, and 13<sup>th</sup>, 2011. I was really impressed by the quality of the young people in attendance. It was a very busy, but thoroughly enjoyable weekend. The Region 2 Soccer Committee, the Pennsylvania State Elks Association, and Carlisle Lodge # 578 really went the "extra mile" to make the entire weekend a success. Good soccer, good food, and good fellowship were in ample supply.

Our West Virginia champions performed well in the competition. More importantly, they represented themselves, their sponsoring lodges, and our State Association in a truly exemplary manner.

Results for our West Virginia Champions were as follows:

Girls U-8 Division	Lauren Overall of Lewisburg placed 3 <sup>rd</sup>
Girls U-10 Division	Madison DeVaughn of Sistersville placed 2 <sup>nd</sup>
Girls U-12 Division	Abbie Lewis of Lewisburg placed 2 <sup>nd</sup>
Girls U-14 Division	Elizabeth Conaty of Huntington placed 3 <sup>rd</sup>
Boys U-8 Division	Tyce Church of Parkersburg placed 4 <sup>th</sup>
Boys U-10 Division	Sage Plumley of Huntington placed 5 <sup>th</sup>
Boys U-12 Division	Hunter Ketchens of Martinsburg placed 2 <sup>nd</sup>
Boys U-14 Division	Jonathan Benson of Wheeling placed 4 <sup>th</sup>

The State Association contest (determined by total points of the shooters) was as follows:

1 <sup>st</sup> place	New Jersey
2 <sup>nd</sup> place	Pennsylvania
3 <sup>rd</sup> place	Kentucky
4 <sup>th</sup> place	West Virginia
5 <sup>th</sup> place	Maryland / Delaware / DC

New Jersey has the honor of keeping the Kenneth V. Cantoli Trophy until next year's competition. Michigan did not send a team this year though one U-14 girl from was sent by her local lodge.

After much discussion by the Regional Committee, it was decided that the U-10 age group will move to the Grid Goal for the 2012 Regional Shoot. They will shoot from 18 feet rather than 36 feet as with the older shooters. Only the U-8 shooters will continue to use the five goal system. If we wish to continue to join in the Mid-Atlantic shoot, we will have to do likewise at out state and local shoots.

I want to commend all those individuals and local lodges who took out ads in this year's ad journal. We had a very strong showing and should be receiving funds back to help with next year's program. Expenses continue to climb and all funds really help to keep the Soccer Shoot growing.

Soccer continues to be the fastest growing sport in the country, and is by far the most popular sport worldwide. We can and should be reaching out to this inspired group of young people. I ask all Exalted Rulers to urge your Lodge's Youth Activities Committee to include the Soccer Shoot in their program.

I will be working with the committee to set up this year's state shoot. Any lodges interested in holding the state shoot, please let me know as soon as possible. The Mid-Atlantic Regional is moving back to Hagerstown, MD next year.

Thank you for your continuing support of our youth.

Submitted,

James L. McIntyre, Jr.  
Chairman