

"Plastic" Guns and Lever-Holsters Win in Nationals market

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Breeze through the statistics coming out of the two nationals, and several things jump out at you.

Frames:

If it's a plastic gun, more people shot it. STI and SV's polymer-gripped frames both gained ground this year, recapturing market share from the all-steel Para-Ordnance (which made big inroads at the 1999 Limited match). Likewise, Glock continued its slow but steady intrusion into the Limited market, rising to 10.29 percent of the Limited total.

Holsters:

No other statistic sticks out as much as the explosion of lever holsters, and

their backers' deep penetration into both matches. Where Safariland could claim to be "the holster maker of USPSA" in years past (more than 50 percent of the competitors used one at the Limited last year), the various Amadini patterns (Ghost, USA, and the new Amadini), combined with the Limcat holster and the non-lever-driven Rescomp CR Speed the have stripped away market share at an astounding rate.

In the Limited match, Safariland hemorrhaged almost a third of its position, primarily to the Ghostholster, which leapt up from 1.17, to 10.28 percent of the total. Hellweg also tumbled while USA and Limcat more than doubled their penetration. Rescomp rose by almost a third. In the Open

match, Safariland was down by a quarter, with Limcat and the Amadinis making more modest gains. Canceling their good luck with the Limited match, Rescomp and Bianchi were both down sharply.

Primer and Powders:

VihtaVuori Oy put its stamp firmly on both matches, capturing some 54 percent of all Open competitors and 43 percent of the Limited – versus 48 percent and 29 percent last year, respectively. Winchester continued its long-running dominance of the primer market (more than 70 percent across the board), but lost ground again in the powder section. New players like Western Powders made small gains, at the expense of Winchester and Accurate.



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Brass and Bullet:

Here's an odd one. Aside from a switch to lower bullet weights, the Limited Nationals actually saw a trend AWAY from jacketed bullets. Plain cast bullets continued to flag in popularity, but moly-coated alternatives gained ground (Precision Bullets was up sharply, capturing 7 percent of the total), as did the lower-cost jacketed and plated options (made by Montana Gold and Rainier Ballistics).

This wasn't the case for the Open, where high velocities and higher pressures place greater demands on bullet performance. Shooters using cast and plated bullets to compete in Standard, Revolver, and Modified divisions during the 2000 Pan American/Open championships skewed the 2000 statistics, making a direct comparison impossible, but this year the statistics are clear – more than 95 percent of Open competitors shot a jacketed bullet.

Peruse the statistics for yourself, the complete listing appears below.



Limited Nationals

First Nationals?	2001	2000
No 193	67.96%	55.33%
Yes 91	32.04%	44.67%
Frame Manufacturer		
STI 116	40.99%	30.26%
SV 74	26.15%	19.88%
Para-Ordnance 45	15.90%	27.95%
Glock 29	10.25%	8.36%
Colt 4	1.41%	1.73%
Springfield 3	1.06%	2.59%
S&W 3	1.06%	0.58%
Caspian 2	0.71%	2.88%
Heckler & Koch 2	0.71%	0.86%
Other 1	0.35%	0.86%
Taurus 1	0.35%	0.00%
Beretta 1	0.35%	0.86%
Entreprise 1	0.35%	0.86%
Bul 1	0.35%	0.58%
Caliber		
40 242	85.21%	79.77%
45 25	8.80%	15.90%
9mm 12	4.23%	3.18%
10mm 3	1.06%	0.58%
38 Super 2	0.70%	0.29%
Sights		
Bo-Mar 185	65.37%	62.72%
Factory 46	16.25%	23.99%
Heinie 15	5.30%	2.89%
Caspian 9	3.18%	3.76%
Other 8	2.83%	2.89%
Wilson 5	1.77%	1.16%
Waki 4	1.41%	1.45%

PRODUCTION *continued from page 56.*

switch to his back-up Glock the morning of the match.

"It's got night sights, it's set up completely different than my match gun," he says.

Praise for Production:

Hobdell and Sevigny both praised the Production Division concept.

Sevigny in particular is a big fan of shooting essentially box-stock guns. I asked if he was using a tungsten guide rod, modified trigger, or any of the other internal changes allowed under the rules.

"No. I think those sorts of changes bastardize the sport. That's what Limited Division is for," he replied. "Plus, this set-up is exactly the same as my IDPA set-up."

Hobdell's comments followed a similar line: "One of the things I like about Production is you can shoot this game with an inexpensive gun and in-

expensive ammo."

"Look," he said, turning to show his gear, "I'm shooting a \$400 gun."

Sevigny started shooting GSSF matches in 1997, started playing IDPA in 1999, and finally joined USPSA in 2000. Despite his relatively short tenure in the sport, Sevigny already has his GM card.

Having won Production, Sevigny is looking ahead toward next year's Limited title. That's right, the LIMITED title. Remember that GM card? It's in Limited, not Production. Sevigny won his GM card with a stock Glock 35 and the KyTac Sooper-Hooper II holster he used at the Nationals (available through www.KyTac.com).

"I want to get into the Limited game next year. It would be fun to run with the top guys using a largely stock setup like Armando (Valdes)."

Sevigny hasn't decided yet, but when he does, watch for him.



Middlebrooks 4	1.41%	0.58%	180 132	54.10%	39.22%
MMC 4	1.41%	0.58%	200 59	24.18%	46.29%
Millet 2	0.71%	0.00%	185 15	6.15%	0.00%
Novak 1	0.35%	0.58%	230 14	5.74%	7.77%
Ammo loaded by			220 5	2.05%	1.77%
Handload 256	90.46%	85.55%	165 3	1.23%	1.06%
Commercial 27	9.54%	14.45%	170 2	0.82%	0.00%
Commercial ammo mfg			175 2	0.82%	0.35%
Winchester 11	40.74%	24.49%	155 2	0.82%	0.35%
Speer/CCI 6	22.22%	16.33%	147 2	0.82%	0.71%
Federal 5	18.52%	20.41%	124 2	0.82%	0.35%
Other 4	14.81%	26.53%	Other 6	2.46%	2.47%
Remington 1	3.70%	4.08%	Bullet Manufacturer		
Reloader model			Montana Gold 69	29.74%	21.72%
Dillon 240	94.12%	93.86%	Zero 39	16.81%	21.35%
Lee 10 3.92%	2.39%		Star 19	8.19%	11.61%
RCBS 2	0.78%	1.02%	Precision 18	7.76%	1.50%
Other 2	0.78%	1.02%	West Coast 17	7.33%	7.49%
Hornady 1	0.39%	1.71%	Other 15	6.47%	3.75%
Dillon reloader model			Hornady 12	5.17%	6.74%
1050 35	33.33%	22.45%	Rainier 12	5.17%	3.00%
650 33	31.43%	34.69%	Berry's 8	3.45%	7.49%
550 30	28.57%	28.57%	D&J 5	2.16%	4.12%
Square Deal 6	5.71%	10.20%	Winchester 5	2.16%	0.37%
1000 1	0.95%	2.04%	Nosler 4	1.72%	1.50%
Type of bullet			Colorado Cast 2	0.86%	0.00%
Jacketed 183	71.76%	82.53%	Remington 2	0.86%	0.00%
Plated 31	12.16%	17.47%	Oregon Trail 1	0.43%	1.87%
Cast 27	10.59%	N/A	Ranger 1	0.43%	1.12%
Moly-Coat 14	5.49%	N/A	Hoser 1	0.43%	0.75%
Bullet weight			Bull-X 1	0.43%	0.37%
			Bullseye 1	0.43%	0.00%
			Brass Manufacturer		
			Winchester 54	33.54%	37.17%
			Starline 39	24.22%	19.37%

Remington 32	19.88%	24.08	S & W 2	0.72%	0.78%			
Federal 19	11.80%	11.52%	Springfield 2	0.72%	0.52%	Bullet Manufacturer		
Speer 9	5.59%	4.71%	SPS	1	0.36%	Montana Gold 97	38.96%	33.20%
Other 3	1.86%	1.05%	1.56%			Zero 66	26.51%	23.77%
PMC 2	1.24%	1.05%	Entreprise 1	0.36%	0.52%	Hornady 19	7.63%	12.70%
IMI 1	0.62%	0.52%	Colt 1	0.36%	0.52%	Star 15	6.02%	5.33%
Hornady 1	0.62%	0.52%				Winchester 11	4.42%	6.97%
Midway 1	0.62%	0.00%	Caliber			Remington 10	4.02%	0.00%
Primer Manufacturer			38 Super 127	46.01%	41.39%	West Coast 6	2.41%	4.51%
Winchester 168	73.68%	73.93%	38 Super Comp 83	30.07%	17.22%	Rainier 6	2.41%	2.87%
Federal 44	19.30%	19.07%	40 25	9.06%	21.34%	Sierra 5	2.01%	2.05%
CCI 11	4.82%	6.23%	38 TJ 12	4.35%	2.83%	Nosler 3	1.20%	2.46%
Remington 5	2.19%	0.78%	9 Super Comp 9	3.26%	3.08%	Speer 3	1.20%	1.23%
Powder			9x21 9	3.26%	2.31%	D&J 2	0.80%	3.28%
VihtaVuori Oy 110	43.48%	29.55%	9x23 7	2.54%	5.40%	Berry's 2	0.80%	0.00%
Hodgdon 79	31.23%	32.99%	45 3	1.09%	2.31%	PMC 1	0.40%	0.41%
Winchester 30	11.86%	18.21%	38 Lapua 1	0.36%	0.00%	Lapua 1	0.40%	0.41%
Alliant 15	5.93%	8.93%	Type of sight			Oregon Trail 1	0.40%	0.00%
Accurate 9	3.56%	5.50%	Optical 260	94.20%	77.26%	Precision 1	0.40%	0.00%
IMR 6	2.37%	2.41%	Metal 16	5.80%	22.74%	Brass Manufacturer		
Western 2	0.79%	0.00%	Sight Manufacturer			Starline 116	51.10%	42.59%
Other 2	0.79%	2.41%	C-More 173	64.79%	53.93%	Remington 50	22.03%	23.33%
Holster			Tasco 33	12.36%	12.92%	Winchester 38	16.74%	28.52%
Safariland 100	35.46%	50.29	Holosight 19	7.12%	4.49%	Hornady 11	4.85%	4.81%
Rescomp 36	12.77%	9.94%	Aimpoint 14	5.24%	5.06%	Other 5	2.20%	0.37%
Ghostholster 29	10.28%	1.17%	Bo-Mar 9	3.37%	13.20%	Federal 3	1.32%	0.00%
LimCat 28	9.93%	4.68%	Omni/Oko 8	3.00%	2.24%	Lapua 2	0.88%	0.00%
Bianchi 26	9.22%	9.06%	ADCO 3	1.12%	1.69%	Midway 1	0.44%	0.00%
Universal 25	8.87%	3.80%	Other 2	0.75%	3.09%	PMC 1	0.44%	0.37%
Blade Tech 11	3.90%	2.92%	Leupold 2	0.75%	0.56%	Primer Manufacturer		
Hogue 7	2.48%	2.05%	Heinie 2	0.75%	0.00%	Winchester 180	74.07%	72.93%
Other 7	2.48%	5.56%	Wilson 1	0.37%	0.00%	Federal 53	21.81%	21.43%
Hellweg 4	1.42%	5.56%	Factory 1	0.37%	2.25%	CCI 7	2.88%	3.50%
Ky-Tac 3	1.06%	1.46%	Ammo loaded by			Remington 3	1.23%	1.91%
Ernie Hill 2	0.71%	1.75%	Handload 270	97.83%	94.85%	Powder		
Gilmore 2	0.71%	1.75%	Commercial 6	2.17%	5.17%	VihtaVuori Oy 145	54.51%	47.95%
Glock 2	0.71%	0.00%	Commercial ammo mfg			IMR 41	15.41%	12.57%
Gunsmith			Atlanta Arms 2	33.33%	0.00%	Winchester 20	7.52%	11.99%
SV	22	19	Winchester 2	33.33%	31.58%	Hodgdon 19	7.14%	7.31%
Dawson Precision	16	17	Federal 1	16.67%	21.05%	Vectan 16	6.02%	6.73%
STI	11	7	Speer 1	16.67%	0.00%	Accurate 15	5.64%	10.53%
Steve Moore	8	4	Reloading press			Alliant 7	2.63%	0.58%
Wayne Bergquist	6	6	Dillon 256	95.52%	93.99%	Western 3	1.13%	0.00%
Briley	5	0	Lee 7	2.61%	3.55%	Holster		
EGW	5	8	RCBS 1	0.37%	1.09%	Safariland 97	35.27%	43.44%
Glock	5	8	Other 2	0.75%	0.82%	LimCat 43	15.64%	9.84%
Keal	5	1	Hornady 2	0.75%	0.55%	Ghost Holster 41	14.91%	6.01%
Triangle Shooting Sports	5	6	Dillon model			Rescomp 35	12.73%	14.48%
Doug Jones	4	0	650 69	37.30%	39.57%	Bianchi 26	9.45%	15.03%
Marc Krebs	4	3	1050 65	35.14%	36.96%	Universal 19	6.91%	5.46%
Roger Kotanko	4	0	550 46	24.86%	18.26%	Other 6	2.18%	3.29%
TZP4	2		Square Deal 5	2.70%	3.91%	Hogue 4	1.45%	0.00%
AW Custom	3	6	Type of bullet			Blade Tech 4	1.45%	0.55%
Bob Javery	3	2	Jacketed 254	95.13%	89.69%	Gunsmith		
Competition Specialties	3	0	Plated 7	2.62%	6.69%	SV	23	14
Linthicum Custom	3	0	Cast 5	1.87%	3.62%	Dawson	21	15
Rusty Kidd	3	2	Moly-Coat 1	0.37%	N/A	Brazos Custom Gunworks	10	6
Z-M Weapons	3	3	Bullet weight			Steve Moore	9	4
Open Nationals			124 95	37.25%	34.68%	Limcat	8	7
First Nationals?	2001	2000	115 70	27.45%	18.79%	Rusty Kidd	8	5
No 219	79.35%	53.98%	125 44	17.25%	18.50%	EGW	7	6
Yes 57	20.65%	44.73%	180 13	5.10%	11.56%	STI	7	14
Frame Manufacturer			121 7	2.75%	0.87%	JP Enterprises	6	2
STI 1 58	57.25%	50.13%	135 5	1.96%	2.60%	BP Technology	5	2
SV 66	23.91%	23.38%	130 5	1.96%	1.16%	Mike Johnson	5	3
Caspian 21	7.61%	6.23%	200 4	1.57%	4.62%	Triangle Shooting Sports	5	7
Para-Ordnance 14	5.07%	10.65%	155 3	1.18%	1.45%	Craig Ltd	4	4
Glock 8	2.90%	3.64%	147 3	1.18%	0.00%	Kustom Ballistics	4	4
Other 2	0.72%	2.08%	Other 6	2.35%	2.03%	Precision Gun Works	4	1
						Stainless Ltd	3	2