



WO Dustin Taylor of the 2928 Royal Canadian Army Cadet Corps recently cleaned up on accolades at a couple of rifle competitions. Justin Dickie - Truro Daily News

Sharp shooter
Truro army cadet cleans up at international events

JUSTIN DICKIE
The Truro Daily News

TRURO - Dustin Taylor knows how to handle a gun.

So when the 16-year-old warrant officer from the 2928 Royal Canadian Army Cadet Corps in Truro travelled to Ontario and England over the summer to compete internationally with the Royal Canadian Army Cadet National Rifle Team, he didn't fool around.

When it was all said and done at the two world-class events, Taylor had three gold medals (first place), four silver medals (second place), and 32 bronze bars (top 10) in his various full bore and

long range shooting competitions. He was also named the top Canadian under-25 and won grand aggregate in England.

He did all this as one of the youngest shooters in the competitions.

“It feels pretty good. A lot of the older people said I’ve got a lot of potential and that I should continue shooting full bore,” he said. “It makes me feel kind of proud.”

He said when he joined cadets four years ago, the main reason he did was so he could start shooting. It was a natural interest that blossomed an obvious natural talent. It seems like the more he shoots, the more he enjoys it.

“Shooting a high score makes it fun,” he said, followed by a confident snicker. “I’ve been doing it for years. It’s fun. It’s something I like and it’s something I’m good at.”

Taylor said being involved in cadets has allowed him to meet people all over the world, adding he enjoys learning about other cultures. But more than meeting new friends, it seems Taylor enjoys winning most of all. Sometimes all his winning gets tiresome for his new friends, but he seems to find a balance without getting under their skin too much.

“I kind of cleaned up for the most part...” he said with a laugh. “I know I’m good, so I kind of gained a little bit of bragging rights, but I didn’t push it.”

Although Taylor is confident, he’s far from arrogant. His commanding officer, Keri Moore, said he is a huge role model for his fellow cadets in Truro.

“The people who like shooting can look up to him. Everyone should feel proud of what he did,” she said.

And as far as Moore was concerned, Taylor has every right to be proud of himself. She said she knew he would come back from the competitions with all the accolades he acquired.

“He’s a good shot, so whenever he goes to a competition he does the best he can,” she said.