

## Buying an Air Pistol – Greg Yelavich






What make of air pistol is the best, top shooters will only use top pistols so a good place to look was this year's World Championships in Munich

Morini had a slight edge over Steyr, in a field of almost 100 male shooters and 70 females Morini had 8 more pistols, probably the electronics keep them a little a head

Between Morini and Steyr they had about 85% of the competitors covered

Pardini's new models were popular, as were Walther's new line of lite weight pistols there were a few FWB and Match Guns, all these other makes made up the other 15%

I think before parting with your money you need to check a few of the features from the manufactures above for your own shooting ease

-  Trigger reach, most important for little hands  
Pistol trigger must be able sit to the rear so the shooter doesn't have to wrap their hand too far forward around the grip and not have the pistol point naturally
-  Grips, most of the models mention above come with a range of grip sizes, try a few before you decide, you can also buy customized grips (if you have been on my coaching courses you will know that I put a lot of emphasis on grip fitting and point)
-  Pistol point, most models have the application of being able to have the pistol point changed, even fixed ones!
-  Weight of pistol, this is not an issue if you train almost everyday, junior models are usually lighter and shorter, most manufactures have a range of models
-  Sights should be adjustable for width, plus a range of different width front sights

Once you have your pistol, you can tune the trigger, sear adjustment, sight ratio, pellet velocity for grouping, grip comfort and point, even changing the trigger shoe to suit

I know quite a few shooters who have picked up my pistol and found the trigger easy to shoot, most do not believe it picks up the trigger weight! and then others that can't control the trigger break!

So my pistol history, of course a lot of the model types were changed due to technical advances but in recent times (10 to 12 years) my changing from different makes and models were trying to get the most that I expected from my pistol choice

I started with club pistols, a S&W model 52 look alike that took a small soda bulb and a Hammerli co2 master, progressed to a Walther LP1 and LP2, also had CP1 and CP2

FWB 65, 80, 90 electronic and the 100, co2 models 1, 2 10,20, compressed air model 30




Steyr model 1 co2(?)

I have borrowed pistols for trials periods.

Pardini K1, Hammerli 480K, FWB P44 but the truth is in the top few lines of this article, I guess I fall into the 85%

When my FWB 30 was stolen I upgraded (so I thought!) to the 35, about a year later sold this at the end of my air match at a competition in England, (try explaining this to the British customs) brought the Steyr 10, sold this at the end of my match at the world cup in Atlanta, brought home my current pistol, Morini 162E, I have had my Morini for a long time now

I have sold just over 50 Morini air pistols, I like seeing them on the line, Morini's are a good competitive pistol, my personal preference between the top makes and models

-  Air pellets, simply, buy the best brands
-  Train with the best brands
-  Compete with the best brands, you only see good shooters using either H&N or RWS