

Accuracy & Chronograph Data

	Robar SR 90	Autauga Tactical
Federal Gold Medal Match 168-gr. Sierra MatchKing		
Average Velocity (10 ft.)	2,751 fps	2,763 fps
Standard Deviation	5 fps	21 fps
Muzzle Energy	2,820 ft. lbs.	2,845 ft. lbs.
Smallest Group, 100 yds.	0.48 in.	0.27 in.
Largest Group	0.59 in.	0.75 in.
Average Group	0.55 in.	0.60 in.
Winchester Supreme Competition 168-gr. Nosler Match		
Average Velocity (10 ft.)	2,677 fps	2,704 fps
Standard Deviation	26 fps	15 fps
Muzzle Energy	2,671 ft. lbs.	2,725 ft. lbs.
Smallest Group, 100 yds.	0.19 in.	0.76 in.
Largest Group	0.80 in.	1.04 in.
Average Group	0.57 in.	0.85 in.
Black Hills Match 168-grain Moly-Coated HPBT		
Average Velocity (10 ft.)	2,707 fps	2,736 fps
Standard Deviation	17 fps	32 fps
Muzzle Energy	2,731	2,790 ft. lbs.
Smallest Group, 100 yds.	n/a	0.37 in.
Largest Group	n/a	0.95 in.
Average Group	n/a	0.67 in.
Dakota .300 Dakota Manufacturer 168-gr. Nosler J4	Dakota Tactical	
Average Velocity	3,357 fps	
Standard Deviation	14 fps	
Muzzle Energy	4,200 ft. lbs.	
Smallest Group	0.42 in.	
Largest Group	1.36 in.	
Average Group	0.86 in.	

had to be forced over the round.

The 26-inch barrel, Dakota said, was made by either HS Precision or Lothar Walther. We could not determine which. Like that of the Robar, it was fully free-floated. The brake, which extended the barrel length to 28 inches, was screwed to the muzzle securely, and it had flats to remove it if desired. The brake consisted of six rather large ports on the top half of each side.

The accuracy of the Dakota was almost outstanding, but it had some problem that we couldn't pin down. It tended to put one or two random shots from a five-shot group into a

location that was always vertically displaced from the others, and about an inch out of the otherwise tiny group. Of the ten test targets shipped with the rifle, five of them showed this same condition to varying degrees. We suspected a bedding problem, but could not prove it.

The bolt of the Dakota was nowhere near as slick as either of the two other Remington 700-based rifles, though it extracted well and reliably, and provided positive ejection. The bolt showed wear spots in its finish by the end of the test, though its function wasn't harmed.

The Dakota was often astonish-

ingly accurate, which made us think there was some simple problem with it that prevented perfect performance. In one case, a groups measured 0.23 inch for three shots, but 2.11 inches for five. Another group measured 0.10 inch for two shots but 1.3 for three. We also shot one group that measured only 0.42 inch for four shots, but 0.9 inch for five. This sort of thing happened all during our testing, with several shooters involved.

We finally determined why. We took time to explore the scope mounts and base attachments to the rifle. We discovered the front two screws holding the base to the action were loose. We tightened them, cleaned the barrel, fired one fouler, and put the next four shots into 0.45 inch. This was an oversight by Dakota, albeit an easy one to fix, once we figured it out.

Autauga Tactical Rifle

Our recommendation: It shot very well, way more than well enough, and if it's possible to have a best buy in this niche, we would pick it first for value received.

Based on the Remington 700 BDL, the \$3,200 Autauga Tactical rifle came with camouflage-painted McMillan stock and a variable scope. We were told the barrel was already broken in, and we would not have to clean it very often. We tried it both clean and dirty, and it shot its best when clean and then slightly fouled.

This 13.9-pound rifle was quite simple-looking, yet perfectly effective. It had a 26-inch heavy barrel that stayed cool to the touch during strings of fire. No it didn't have the neat-looking and functional fluting found on the Robar, but we don't feel it needed them. Note that the Robar weighed essentially the same, so the balance of the two rifles was significantly different. The muzzle-heavy bias of the Autauga would tend to make offhand hits easier, but that's not how you use these rifles.