



Judge OK's Free Pistol

.22 ISSF Single Shot Free Pistol ("Long Arm")

Last autumn the NSRA sought opinion from the police as to whether the above pistol conformed to Section 1 of the 1968 Firearms Act. The Technical Sub-committee of the Association of Chief Police Officers (ACPO) decided, on balance, that it did but suggested that legal opinion be sought as to whether the counter-balance rods could be considered to be an accessory and therefore discounted for the measurement purposes. At this point the Home Office Minister "stepped in" and decided that these firearms were Section 5 and therefore effectively prohibited, although NSRA had legal opinion to the contrary.

A Surrey resident, on behalf of the NSRA, applied to his Firearms Licensing Dept. for a variation for such a gun and was refused. An appeal against Surrey Police (not the Government) was proceeded with and at the Guildford Crown Court on 19th May 2003 the judge upheld the appeal. The judgment was detailed and specific to this type and caliber of single shot pistol and when NSRA have received a transcript we will make a further announcement. It is understood that this decision will not be subject to an appeal or review by the parties and the judgment should hold good.

The outcome will be disseminated to individual forces via the ACPO chain of command once the transcript is available (2/3 weeks) and has been considered.

It must be borne in mind that the ultimate decision whether to grant or not still remains with each force area. (So get your variation in ASAP. Ed)

For more information contact NSRA on 0845 130 6772.

Rifle Competition Report

Winter League

The John Conway Memorial Trophy was won by Colne British Legion. See report on p2.

Short Range Championship

The first stage is completed and eight finalists invited to shoot shoulder-to-shoulder at Leyland Motors on 12 June.

Ladies: Mrs M Gardner, Bury. Junior: A Goad, City of Salford.

Overall winner: 1st John Wilkinson, Morecambe. 396.

2nd H Temperley, Bury. 394

3rd, Ernie Entwistle, Morecambe. 388.

Individual League

Div 1	1st	J Dummer	Bury
	2nd	J Thompson	Bury
Div 2	1st	N Battersby	Blackpool
	2nd	C Crown	Blackpool
Div 3	1st	B Fletcher	Bury
	2nd	C N A Harrison	Colne BL
Div 4	1st	B Irwin	Morecambe
	2nd	A Nixon	Southport
Div 5	1st	A Melling	Preston
	2nd	B Jackson	Aston u Lyne
Div 6	1st	S Strong	Aston u Lyne
	2nd	R Lockwood	Preston
Div 7	1st	A Naylor	Leyland Motors
	2nd	R Hardwick	Leyland Motors

NWFS Delegate

John Lloyd has been elected the CLSTSA delegate to the Northwest Federation of Sport, succeeding Tony Powers who was our delegate up until now, but Tony has problems getting from Manchester to Preston in time for the meetings. We thank Tony for his past services with NWFS, which as the name implies, is an organisation that brings sports together and, hopefully, provides means of their advancement.

Where did the targets go?

Our Muzzleloading Captain and man of many hats, John "Smokey" Lloyd, would like to hear from anyone brave enough to handle muzzle loading pistols. He'd also like to know of clubs with Black Powder facilities, and anyone interested in taking part in and/or arranging competitions.

Contact John at 01254 209 851.

Cautionary tale

If you are a Three Positional Rifle shooter, or an Air Rifle shooter and are thinking of buying yourself a new jacket and trousers, which cost a bomb, be warned that there are proposals to ban all sorts of things in the currently legal clothing. There are also proposals that affect Pistol shooters. For more information ring John Billbrough on 01257 268 718.

CLSTSA Website

Thanks to Neil Roberts we now have our very own website at www.clstsa.org well worth a look, as there is already a mass of information about the association and lots of links with other shooting organisations. Other "pages" will be completed soon, bringing in a lot of "business" for us and spreading the word about our activities.

Neil needs more information, so if you have anything you think might be useful for our website, contact Neil Roberts on his home 'phone 0151 226 6832, or by email <n.roberts@blueyonder.co.uk>

Winter Rifle League 02/03

Shoot off for the John Conway Memorial Trophy

As mentioned in the last edition of the BULL, the shoot off for the trophy was held and congratulations go to Colne BL for winning the trophy this year. The John Conway Trophy is awarded to the team that makes the best improvement on their Winter League average.

Div 1 Bury (13.9)

J J Thompson	0
H L Temperley	1
S M Henderson	5
J Dummer	1
D Cheeseman	4
11	
Difference	-2.9

Div 3 Preston GH (36.0)

A D Seed	8
A Melling	9
R Allingham	7
R Lockwood	10
C Lockwood	6
40	
Difference	+4

Div 2 City of Salford A (15.0)

G French	2
D Young	1
G A Fidler	1
K Moody	2
M Schwarz	5
11	
Difference	-4

Div 4 Colne BL (41.3)

W Holden	6
J Dyer	8
B Pearce	9
D Townson	8
C Harrison	6
37	
Difference	-4.3

Dorothy Bannister.

Final results of the Air Pistol Postal Comp.

The comp., run by ex Hon. Sec. David Pritchard and our Hon. Treas. Phil Sadler, has proved very successful. Three Groups, each of 8 shooters, shot 10 rounds. The main results of which are listed below.

Pistol shooters wishing to join in the next competition should contact David Pritchard on 0151 228 6578.

	Name	Average
Group 1	1 Iain Candlish	189.4
	2 Hugh Owen	186
	3 J Ball	185.2
Group 2	1 Mark Schooling	180.8
	2 T Horrocks	178.4
	3 Peter Plunkett	174.5
Group 3	1 <i>Data not available at present, but Reg Cox shot magnificently</i>	
	2 <i>(For his age.)</i>	
	3	

Blackburn R&PC Success

The Welsh Muzzle Loading Association ran a pistol league for individuals and teams of two over a six month period, with entrants from Aberystwyth, Blackburn, Bristol, Cheshunt, Monmouth, Pickwick and West Mercia.

Blackburn R&PC members Duncan Smethurst and Tony Atkins won the Pairs Comp. outright, with fellow club members Brian Chappell and David Wintersgill second.

Tony Atkins was in second place in the individual Comp, and Brian Chappell came in third place.

Tony Atkins.

Sixth for Mike Babb at Fort

Benning World Cup

50m Prone Rifle Men (56)

1 E Uptagrafft USA	598	103.9
701.9		
2 M De Nicolo ITA	598	103.8
701.8		
3 M Knoegler AUT	597	104.1
701.1		
6 M Babb GBR	596	
102.8	698.8	
24 J Hammond GBR	592	
29 H Creevy GBR	591	

Mike Babb of Cheshire qualified for the final of the Men's Prone at the Fort Benning World Cup, ending up in 6th place. He is also shooting Prone Rifle for GB at the Zagreb & Munich World Cup matches on June '03.

A quote from the ISSF

(International Shooting Sport

Federation) President Mr. Olegario

Vázquez Raña

Recent statistics clearly show that shooting sport continues to grow in popularity around the world. Beneath the surface of this mass popularity, our sport is one of the most complex, with a sophisticated and precise set of constitutional and technical rules.

The conduct of the final competitions with the new electronic target system in all rifle and pistol events as well as running target events offers the spectators and all visitors very exciting competitions. The shotgun events with flash targets, electronic scoreboards and modified shoot-off rules also attracts the public. Now this demonstration and presentation of the shooting sport on the Olympic program can well be compared with the presentation of other Olympic sports.

In the rest of the world membership of a shooting club is an honour.

How differently our sport is viewed by British politicians and media!

(Ed)

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Articles for future issues should be sent to CLSTSA Hon. Sec. - Paul Holdstock tel. 0161 434 0192, email <pholdstock@btg.co.uk> or direct to Reg Cox. Please submit copy to Reg Cox by email or on "Word" via a floppy disc. *(If you send it on a piece of paper, I have to type it all out, as my OCR is a bit dodgy! Ed.)*