

LMRA vs SRA
7th – 8th October, 2006 Match Report



The 17th Annual London and Middlesex Rifle Association vs the Scottish Rifle Association is a match that will be remembered as a fun, competitive and highly successful weekend. Our hosts, captained by Duncan Bedding (note the shorts!), organised a match with a challenging course of fire, a highly enjoyable meal and amazing (if fairly breezy) weather. After our finale, a 2 & 15 at 1000 yards, Scotland came out winners by 4,575 and 395 V bulls to the LMRA 4,528 and 403 V bulls out of a possible 4,800 and 960 V bulls.

Particularly pleasing for the SRA was the turnout: 28 Scots were involved in the match across the weekend with a mix of ages: half the team was made up of firers aged under 25. Aided by a large contingent from Dollar Academy, the majority of firers were home Scots. The Blair Atholl tourist board trophy for the furthest traveller went to Ally Webster from Aberdeen.

The match was highly competitive with a “best 12” counting at each range. This was very positive as any variation in score (or coaching performance) could be ignored and firers simply moved on to the next range. Nearly all Scottish firers had a least one of their scores counting in the match. At the end of the first day Scotland was narrowly ahead by 4 points but behind by 26 V bulls. While Scotland always had the advantage in being able to pick from a bigger pool of scorers, it was strong long range team shooting in tricky conditions, particularly at the crunch distance of 1000 yards, that led to the eventual 47 point margin.

Most notable on a weekend of good scores was Jimmy Lawrie's 225.25 ex 225.45 at short range outscoring all other firers by 4 points and Ally Webster's 167.14 ex 175.25 at Long Range with a range beating 71.4 on the final 1000 yard shoot. Well done to both firers and their coaches. Bruce Roth was the top Scot overall on 386.31 and Duncan Bedding the top LMRA shot on 384.37. Katy Simpson was the top Under 19 Scottish shot on 371.35.



The Trophy

Range by Range Scores

	SRA		LMRA	
300	591	64	584	76
600	585	63	569	50
500 (15)	852	66	868	86
600	584	58	587	65
900	592	60	586	51
1000	563	46	554	34
1000 (15)	808	38	780	41
	4,575	395	4,528	403

The above team scores represent a 96.7% short range and 93.4% long range average for Scotland. This didn't quite achieve our target 97.4% short range and 96.7% long range performance targets, however, conditions were tough for our coaches at 500 and 1000 yards and always meant that these were going to be stretch goals.

But more importantly throughout the weekend and at different stages in the match we had other goals for the team to help in the overall development of firers and the team cohesion. Our initial goal was to improve squad integration through:

- Practising Team shooting drills;
- Finessing the interdependent aspects of coached shooting (e.g. rhythm, firing to command and coach/shooter interaction);
- Having Target Captains marshal targets; and
- An overall cross weekend goal of getting to know fellow team members.



Eildh (closest) gets ready to shoot while on the firing point are Trina coaching Bob Allen, Nick and Richard around Craig coaching with Bob Aitken plotting and Rab getting into the aim.

This was definitely achieved with a real sense of purpose evident about the team as it went into its final range with efficient changeovers, strong technique and organisation underpinning the performance. It really showed at what a high standard we can operate at and bodes well from a development perspective for Scottish shooting.

There was a good intermingling of individuals on the firing point and at the evening dinner. While the jury is probably still out on the target captain concept it definitely encouraged individuals to meet new faces and helped in the smooth running of the team.

A second goal was to expand our pool of wind coaches. Under the observation of Allan, Alex and Matt; a range of individuals coached all the firers and received feedback on their performance.

Key to the process was inter-coach communication using the headsets. Fortunately this was not recorded for posterity!



Allan observes Julia coaching Rab while Jim plots. On the next target Henry coaches Dot while Lewis plots. Note the blue sky!



Ron and Bruce add touch and smell to their ammunition batching process.

Our final goal was to rehearse for the European Long Range match which is coming up next week. Certainly the emphasis on Day 2 on Long Range with two shoots at 1000 yards helped in our training. We were able to try out firers slotting in on either side of the coach and our ammo quality control process was well managed and run by Ron and Bruce.



Julia focuses



Henry coaches Craig while Alanna plots.

Overall the weekend, however, was great fun. There was a great spirit across the team underpinned by an enthusiasm to get better and try new things out (see e.g. right). It's this ethos coupled with strong shooting across the team that gives plenty for Scotland to build on in the future.

Our thanks once again go to our hosts the London and Middlesex Rifle Association for looking after us over the weekend and for arranging this excellent competition. We are looking forward to the return match next year.



Rob gets a helping hand from Tarni in putting on his new jacket

LMRA	300x	600x	500x	600x	Day 1	900x	1000x	1000x	Day 2	Weekend
Duncan Bedding	48 6	49 3	74 9	50 8	221 26	49 5	48 4	66 2	163 11	384 37
Toby Coleridge	47 5	48 6	74 9	50 3	219 23	47 4	48 3	69 4	164 11	383 34
Eddie Brice	47 3	49 3	73 6	47 0	216 12	49 5	45 3	66 6	160 14	376 26
David Robinson	49 5	45 3	70 4	49 6	213 18	49 2	45 2	69 5	163 9	376 27
John Garnett	47 6	49 5	73 8	48 4	217 23	50 8	44 2	64 2	158 12	375 35
Garnett Faulkner	48 5	45 2	73 11	48 7	214 25	49 2	49 5	60 1	158 8	372 33
Richard Baillie	47 4	46 3	72 6	49 3	214 16	50 4	46 4	59 1	155 9	369 25
David Lloyd	50 10	48 5	69 5	49 6	216 26	45 3	42 3	64 5	151 11	367 37
Charlie Sykes	49 5	47 3	72 8	49 5	217 21	47 4	31 0	69 5	147 9	364 30
Stuart Clark	46 3	46 1	68 4	47 5	207 13	45 5	44 2	61 1	150 8	357 21
Steve Green						49 5	49 3	67 3	165 11	
Dick Winney						50 5	43 0	64 3	157 8	
Norman Edwards						49 5	43 2	61 3	153 10	
Dick Horrocks	0 0	0 0	71 6	50 6	121 12	48 2	47 2	60 2	155 6	
Valerie Jewess						47 1	46 2	55 2	148 5	
Andrew Wilde	50 10	45 5	74 8	48 3	217 26					
Gary Alexander	49 5	49 7	73 6	49 7	220 25					
George Gilpin	50 8	48 6	69 4	47 5	214 23					
Lee Winter	50 7	45 2	69 3	48 7	212 19					
Best 12	584 76	569 50	868 86	587 65		586 51	554 34	780 41		
Best 12 Total							4,528 403			

SCOTLAND	300x	600x	500x	600x	Day 1	900x	1000x	1000x	Day 2	Weekend
Bruce Roth	49 6	49 6	73 6	49 3	220 21	49 5	48 3	69 2	166 10	386 31
Bruce Logan	49 3	50 7	72 7	50 5	221 22	50 6	48 5	66 4	164 15	385 37
Henry Watson	49 2	47 4	71 5	48 2	215 13	50 2	46 2	69 5	165 9	380 22
Ally Webster	49 2	46 5	70 4	46 4	211 15	50 7	46 3	71 4	167 14	378 29
Dot Hume	49 7	48 3	72 11	47 3	216 24	46 1	48 5	68 2	162 8	378 32
Ron Scaglione	50 6	49 6	70 4	44 2	213 18	47 5	46 3	68 5	161 13	374 31
Katy Simpson	49 7	49 4	69 5	48 5	215 21	47 7	44 3	65 4	156 14	371 35
Allanna Lean	49 5	49 5	68 2	47 3	213 15	48 2	45 4	64 2	157 8	370 23
Robert Morgan	49 8	45 3	70 3	49 6	213 20	48 4	44 3	65 4	157 11	370 31
Julia Adamson	48 6	48 7	68 5	48 6	212 24	49 5	45 4	64 1	158 10	370 34
Tarni Dyhre	48 5	50 8	70 5	47 3	215 21	48 3	44 3	61 1	153 7	368 28
Rab Douglas	47 6	48 6	63 2	48 5	206 19	45 4	47 5	67 2	159 11	365 30
Nicolas Beesley	49 5	48 2	66 2	49 6	212 15	45 3	43 2	63 1	151 6	363 21
Joanna Carson	49 4	44 2	68 6	48 6	209 18	49 3	45 4	60 2	154 9	363 27
Alice Lamont	49 2	47 2	66 4	46 5	208 13	46 3	45 1	62 3	153 7	361 20
Bob Aitken	45 4	47 1	69 6	47 4	208 15	49 3	45 5	59 0	153 8	361 23
Alex Stewart	44 2	46 4	69 4	47 3	206 13	46 5	47 3	60 2	153 10	359 23
Bob Allan	47 2	45 2	70 3	49 4	211 11	39 0	44 2	63 4	146 6	357 17
Craig Stewart	44 3	45 4	69 7	45 1	203 15	48 6	47 3	58 0	153 9	356 24
Lewis Vanstone	44 4	45 4	70 1	48 4	207 13	46 5	44 3	57 0	147 8	354 21
Eildh Stewart	46 3	40 1	62 2	46 3	194 9	50 5	43 3	62 1	155 9	349 18
Jim Bell	44 2	44 4	60 0	43 0	191 6	50 7	41 3	64 1	155 11	346 17
Richard Dyball	50 7	45 3	0 0	0 0	95 10	49 6	47 3	66 1	162 10	
Trina Noyes						49 5	48 6	70 3	167 14	
Jimmy Lawrie	50 4	50 5	75 10	50 6	225 25					
Best 12	591 64	585 63	852 66	584 58		592 60	563 46	808 38		
Running Variance	7 -12	23 1	7 -19	4 -26		10 -17	19 -5	47 -8		
(Positive = Scotland ahead)							Best 12 Total	4,575 395		