

Scottish Historical Rifle Meeting

Castlelaw Ranges 26 August 2018

Notes for Competitors

The Scottish Historical Rifle Meeting is an Annual Open Historical Rifle Event hosted by the Vintage Arms Scotland Rifle Club. i

This year, in order to boost falling numbers of attendees, it has been decided to subsidise the cost of the event to permit both free entry and free competitions. This has been possible because of the generous contribution of the Vintage Arms Scotland, Shandon, and Claymore shooting clubs.

The meeting is structured around a set of standard events shot at 200m, these are described as follows:

1. Muzzle Loading Deliberate: Best 10 from 13 shots.
2. Centrefire Deliberate: 2 sighters + 10 to count.
3. Rapid Fire: 2 sighters + 1 exposure of 1 Minute.
4. Snap: 2 sighters + Single or Double snap depending on class.
5. Sniping: 2 sighters + 10 exposures from behind cover.
6. Fixed Bayonet: 2 sighters + 5 deliberate + 5 fixed bayonet.

Weapon Classes:

- Muzzle Loading: Flint or Percussion
- Vintage: Black powder Breech Loading prior to 1890
- Classic: Smokeless Breech loader prior to 1918
- Veteran: Smokeless Breech loader prior to 1945

All the above to be used with contemporary issue sights and slings.

- Historic Pistol Calibre Rifle.
- Historic sniping rifle – As issued, design date prior to 1946.
- Historic Target rifle – Design date prior to 1970 with contemporary iron sights.
- Hunter Rifle – Centrefire hunting rifle with telescopic sights and bipod.
- Open Class – Any rifle within the energy limits of the range.

At the discretion of the match director, it is possible to use a firearm that does not fall into a specific class because of modification or ammunition in a later class.

A full listing of all the matches is at Annex A and a copy of the full regulations is available on the VAS website – www.vintagearmsscotland.co.uk

Calibre Classes:

- Miniature: Rim Fire not exceeding .23, centrefire .297/.230, .310 Cadet, .300 Rook
- Small: Under 0.33" (8.38mm)
- Medium: Between 0.33" (8.38mm) and 0.476" (12.09mm) ME less than 3800 ft/lbf (see main regulations for exceptions)
- Large: Over .476" (12.09mm) ME less than 3800 ft/lbf. (see main regulations for exceptions)

No expanding ammunition or ammunition exceeding muzzle energy of more than 4500J is permitted. The use of solid brass or bronze bullets is not permitted on MoD ranges.

Fees:

Due to the generous contribution by VAS, Shandon and Claymore shooting clubs, it has been possible to arrange this years meeting as a free event. No charge will be made for entry or competition cards.

As a result, prizes will be limited to certificates this year, which will be Emailed to successful competitors.

Booking.

Matches can be pre booked by Emailing a list to vas.secretary@btinternet.com. Packs of Cards and entry forms will be available for collection on the day of the event. A blank entry fee is attached which can be Emailed to the above.

All competitors are to be in possession of a relevant Firearms Certificate and a Current Range Competency Card issued by their home club.

On arrival at the range, shooters must report to the stats tent and present their registration form. A maximum of three competition cards will be issued at a time.

Competition cards will be available until 1400. Competitors are responsible for ensuring that they complete all their matches within the time available. Match fees are not returnable.

Timings.

Competitors must be on the range for the safety brief by 0900. There will be another brief at 1100. Competitors are not allowed to proceed onto the range unless they have been briefed.

Competitors are to present their match cards for squadding to the RCO, and await call forward. Shooters not present when called will be put to the end of the queue!

The final results will be available at 1700 or at the end of shooting, whichever is earlier.

Any further queries should be directed to the match director at : vas.secretary@btinternet.com

Miscellaneous.

Cars are not permitted on the range complex. The car park at the range is limited in size and when full cars must be parked outside the range. There will be a ferry service from the entrance to the range to the 200m firing point from 0830 until 0850.

Safety.

All competitors should attend the 0900 range safety brief. The key points are as follows:

- If any person on the range considers there is a potential or actual breach of safety which urgently requires all firers to stop firing he will immediately give the order “STOP STOP STOP”. All firers must immediately stop firing, take their fingers off the trigger, keep their firearms pointing towards the target and await further instructions. No-one may unload or move off the firing point. The person ordering the stop, if not himself the RO, must immediately explain the action to the RO so that the RO can take control of the situation.
- No firer may move himself or his equipment onto the firing point without the express permission of the RO. Firearms are not to be removed from the firing point without having been proved clear to the RO.
- Firearms are not to be made ready (i.e. closing the breech on a live round) or equivalent unless the firearm is pointing into the stop butt or within 3 degrees of the horizontal. The practice of closing the breech on a bi-podded firearm with the butt still on the ground is specifically forbidden. Shooters are only to engage the target at the position indicated by the firing point.
- If a firearm misfires, then the shooter is to make the RO aware of the fact and keep the barrel pointing into the stop butt for a minimum of 30 seconds. The RO is to dictate the action to be taken at the end of the period.
- Neither aiming or snapping an unloaded firearm is allowed except when in the firing position or on the firing point, and then only if in all respects it would be safe to fire and provided it causes no delay.
- You are responsible for the safekeeping of your equipment and firearms at all times. Please ensure that equipment left behind the firing point is being guarded by an appropriate person. Please ensure that you take all your equipment and ammunition away with you at the end of the day.
- The first aid kit is held in the stats tent. Any requirements for emergency services are to be passed to the Match Director who will remain in contact with Range Control.
- You are responsible for ensuring the firearm and ammunition you are using are in a serviceable state and are in all respects ready to shoot. It is advised that any rifle fitted with a telescopic sight is checked for sight and bore alignment prior to shooting.

Range Procedure.

Once in possession of a competition card, the shooter is required to fill in the details in a clear and readable fashion. In particular, competitors must enter the competitor number that appears on their registration form on each of their match cards.

It is up to each competitor to ensure they are entering the correct competition based on the firearms they are using. Assistance and advice will be available in the stats tent from the scrutineer, however entries will be checked on the firing point by the RCO.

Competitors are to present themselves “ready to shoot” at the rear of the firing point, and give their card to the RCO who will call them forward in order. It is up to the RCO to decide how many cards he will accept from a shooter at any one time.

For deliberate shoots, shooters will shoot in twos or threes on a firing point. It is up to the shooters whether they take turns or shoot individually, however shooters are to maintain a reasonable rate of fire and not waste time.

Shooters are to exchange cards and mark each other. At the end of the shoot, the competitor is to sign their card and have it witnessed by the RCO.

Bryden Ritchie

Match Director

MatchFinder

Match Finder

Match	Calibre	Age	Course	Title	Notes
1	Large	ML	Deliberate	The Rev Forsyth	.577
2	Med	ML	Deliberate	The Alex Henry	.451
3	Large	Vintage	Deliberate	The Dreghorn	BP Breech - Snider
4	Med	Vintage	Deliberate	The Hunter's Bog	BP Breech - MH
5	Small	Classic	Deliberate	The Black Dog	Pre 1819
6	Small	Vet	Deliberate	The Dechmont	Pre 1945
7	Min	Vet	Deliberate	The Howmoor	.22/.310
8	Small	Hist Tgt	Deliberate	The Blair Atholl	Eg .No4 PH sights
9	Pistol	Vet	Deliberate	The Longyester	Historic underlever
10	Small	Hist Sniper	Deliberate	The Castlelaw	As per Match 25
11	Any	Hunter	Deliberate	The Balmoral	With scope + Bipod
12	Any	Any	Deliberate	The Kenstey	No Bipods
13	Med	Vint	Snap	The Farqharson	Single Snap
14	Small	Classic	Snap	The Danl. Fraser	Double Snap
15	Small	Vet	Snap	The McNaughton	Double Snap
16	Pistol	Vet	Snap	The Bryce	Historic underlever
17	Any	Hunter	Snap	The McKinley	Double Snap
18	Any	Any	Snap	The Dickson	No bipods
19	Med	Vintage	Rapid	The Alex Martin	
20	Small	Classic	Rapid	The Horton	
21	Small	Veteran	Rapid	The McCrerrick	
22	Pistol	Vet	Rapid	The Ingram	Historic underlever
23	Any	Hunter	Rapid	The Groat	Scope + Bipod
24	Any	Any	Rapid	The Malloch	No Bipod
25	Small	Historic	Sniper	The Ross	Historic Service Sniping Rifle
26	Small	Historic	Sniper	The Lee	Any Historic rifle
27	Any	Any	Sniper	The Graham	Optics and bipods permitted
28	Any	Any Eligible	Fixed Bayonet	The Onion	

Class Guide

The following is a short guide to which competition you should enter depending on the class of your rifle. The class is made up from age and calibre.

Muzzle loading.

There are two muzzle loading classes, based only on calibre.

Large Bore: .577 Enfield P53

Medium Bore: .451 Whitworth or Rigby and most American .45

Vintage

Vintage rifles are breech loaders having a design date of 1890 or before, are loaded with black powder or accepted equivalent with a solid lead bullet and iron sights.

There are two calibre classes:

Large Bore: .577 Snider, 15.4mm Dreyse

Medium Bore: .577/.450 Martini Henry, .45/70 Rolling block, Trapdoor Springfield, 11mm Mauser,

Classic

Classic rifles are first generation smokeless military rifle used up to the end of WW1. There is only one small bore calibre class.

8mm Mauser, 8mm Lebel, Enfield Long Lee, No1 SMLE, Ross, Schmidt-Rubin M1911, Springfield M1903, Mosin Nagant M91, Mauser G98

Veteran

Veteran rifles cover the period between the end of WW1 and the end of WW2. There are three calibre classes:

Small Bore: Enfield No4 & No 5, Schmidt-Rubin K31, Mosin Nagant M91/30, Mauser K98

Legal Manual versions of semi auto rifles in this class such as the M1 Garand and Stg44 are also permitted, however magazine capacity needs to be limited in some matches.

Miniature Bore: All .22RF, .310 Cadet, Rook and Rabbit rifles

Pistol Calibre Rifles:

This class covers short underlever rifles chambered in recognised pistol calibres

Miscellaneous Classes

Historic Sniper Rifle: This is a special class to cover sniper rifles used up to the end of 1945.

No4T, Mosin M91/30, Springfield M1903, G/K98 all fitted with the correct scope and fittings. Modern reproductions are permitted provided they are in the spirit of the original.

Historic Target Rifle:

The purpose of this class is to utilise the generation of early target rifles based on military designs such as the No4 or Mauser actions fitted with target sights.

Hunter Rifle:

This special class is to cover modern scoped and bipod rifles used primarily for stalking.

Open Class

Any rifle can be entered into the Open class events provided no slings or bipods are used.

The Onion Match (Fixed Bayonets)

This match is open to any rifle which is designed to have a bayonet fitted. The correct bayonet for the rifle must be used, which must fit and be secure when fitted.

The shoot is named after the Onion rifle range on East Falkland and commemorates the first bayonet charge carried out for several generations. (regrettably not the last!)