

## **News**

(See [bottom of page](#) for archived news)

### **Annual General Meeting**

16th Jun 2012

At the AGM there was considerable discussion on matters concerning Division 2 of the Shoulder-to-Shoulder League. As a result, a decision taken by the League Secretary last October was overturned and all the cards for one shooter representing Watsonians as a substitute for a nominated team member in three of its matches were disqualified as it was considered that he did not satisfy the rule governing the use of substitutes. The points were recalculated and Pathhead B consequently take over as winners of the division.

Take the Shoulder-to-Shoulder link on the left to see the new Division 2 results table, and also a personal statement in the form of an open letter to the Association from Bill Hamilton, the organiser concerned, who has since resigned. (See the Division 2 page.)

The shoot-off for Division 1 between Selkirk and Balerno & Currie will take place at the start of next season.

Angus Paterson of Prestonpans was elected to take over running the Shoulder-to-Shoulder League, and John Buchanan will run the Team Postal League from next season. The meeting decided that that league will now be run on a self-scoring basis.

Once again, no County Captain was elected, so there will be no county teams again next season.

If anything else significant happened at the meeting it hasn't reached the site administrator's ears. PLHK.

### **Annual General Meeting**

16th May 2012

The Annual General Meeting of the Association will be held at Balerno & Currie's range at 7.45pm on Thursday 31st May.

All members of affiliated clubs are entitled to attend. Please send any apologies for absence [to the Secretary](#).

The prize presentations will take place after the meeting, and it is hoped that as many prize-winners as possible will be able to accept their awards in person.

### **Minor New Look**

15th May 2012

I hope you like the new navigation icons. Makes it a bit easier to get the mouse over the right bit.

If the old version appears anywhere, just hit Refresh on your browser. If you find any pages that don't have the new look, please let me know.

### **Potential Outdoor Range**

20th Apr 2012

There was a meeting of the Executive Committee and representatives from interested local clubs last night to discuss the offer of a site near Wallyford which could potentially be used to construct an outdoor range. Funding considerations were obviously uppermost, but it was decided to proceed cautiously and seek information on the feasibility of constructing a medium sized range on site and the prospects of obtaining planning permission from the East Lothian Council. The Association's AGM in May would hear reports on these issues and it is hoped a wider audience would be involved in any further discussions on this project. Any comments should be forwarded [to the Secretary](#).

### **Individual Postal League**

9th Apr 2012

The final results of the Association's Individual Postal League are now available. Take the link on the left to see full details.

### **Individual Championship Final**

5th Apr 2012

The Final of the Individual Championship was held at Balerno & Currie's range on 31st March. Here's the story:

Of the eight qualifiers, only 6 could make it, and the organiser decided that instead of anyone getting a bye straight into the final, all six would shoot a preliminary round with the best four going forward to the semi-final. The result of the preliminary shoot was:

1 A Horne (Balerno & Currie)	0, 0 = 0
2 W Vaughan (Selkirk)	2, 1 = 3
3 I Thomson (Watsonians)	2, 4 = 6
4 C Watson (Balerno & Currie)	6, 3 = 9 - regauged to 10
5 N Georgeson (Pathhead)	4, 5 = 9 - regauged to 12
6 K Edward (Selkirk)	9, 3 = 12

A random draw was made, and here is the semi-final result:

W Vaughan 0, 4 = 6 versus C Watson. 10, 6 = 16  
 I Thomson 2, 3 = 5 versus A Horne 0, 1 = 1

Final result:

W Vaughan 1, 1 = 1 versus A Horne 0, 1 = 1

Thus Alasdair Horne won the Championship for the third year in succession.

### **ChooseYour Own Handicap Final**

**5th Apr 2012**

The Final of the CYOH team knock-out was held recently. The winners were George Heriot's FP A, beating the holders and clubmates in their B team. Take the link on the left to see full details.

### **Commonwealth Cities Match 2011**

**27th Mar 2012**

Diligent observers might have noticed that the result of this match has not yet been given here or posted in the County teams page as it usually is. This is not an oversight.

The Edinburgh team shot its cards on 4th April last year. The match period ended on 30th September as usual and the result is normally announced by the NSRA in early November. That time came and went with no result forthcoming. Our contact did not make any immediate enquiries as it was known that the NSRA were having staffing issues (experienced personnel having left and new staff were still bedding in) so left it till earlier this year. Apparently the result had been issued at about the normal time, and Edinburgh was not mentioned anywhere, even as a non-return, and we obviously did not receive a copy. This was queried enthusiastically, and after some time it emerged that despite extensive searches the NSRA could not find Edinburgh's cards. It was admitted eventually that we had actually entered, but there was no record of our cards or our scores.

At this distance from the match period, it is unlikely that anything will be done about this situation. The person who sent Edinburgh's cards off did not obtain a certificate of posting, so that avenue is closed. If there are any developments, they will be given here as soon as they are known. The estimated scores are available in the County teams link on the left.

As previously intimated, the 2011 Cities & Boroughs match was cancelled by the NSRA due to lack of entries.

It is not known by this writer whether either of these two competitions will be entered by Edinburgh this year, or even if they will be run by the NSRA at all as entries have been very low in recent years. When he knows, you will too.

### **Shoulder-to-Shoulder League**

**20th Mar 2012**

Division 1 of the S/S league still has one match to go which will not affect the final placings, but the top two teams have completed their programme and have tied on 16 points each. This means that Balerno & Currie and Selkirk will have to shoot off to decide the title. Pathhead will be 3rd and Heriot's 4th. The date of the shoot-off still has to be decided.

There are still a couple of matches to go in Division 2, but the leaders cannot now be caught and Watsonians will win this division.

The 'Champion of Champions' match between the two divisional winners will be arranged in due course. This match is run on the Macrae handicap system.

### **Team Postal League**

**18th Mar 2012**

The final round of the Team Postal League has just been completed and the winners are now known:

**Division 1** was won by Pentland. The team from Caithness who came so close last season went one better this time, only losing two matches, one where they were a man short, and had the best average. Balerno & Currie pipped Watsonians for second on gunscore.

**Division 2** was won by Orkney, who won all their matches (the only team in the league to do so), taking the win from Leven & Dist whose only losses were to the team from Kirkwall.

**Division 3** was taken by Watsonians B. Redcraig were second by a point, but the winners were well ahead on aggregate.

In **Division 4**, Edinburgh Civil Service won all the right matches to win by a distance from Kinross & Milnathort, who had a better average and inflicted ECS's only defeat in the last round.

**Division 5** was won by Wishaw from their near-neighbours Lanark ESM. Wishaw have been in this competition only two seasons, and have won their division both times.

The best average award (the Duncan Cup) goes to Alasdair Horne of Balerno & Currie, just in front of clubmate Sinclair Bruce (99.3 to 99.2). Last year's winner Eric Brown of Selkirk was third with 99.0. The winner of the Best Improvement award (the Smith Shield) goes to Jack Sime of George Watson's College for a 47.8% improvement in his average from last season.

Take the link on the left to see full details of this season's competition.

### Championships

14th Mar 2012

The results of the first stage of the Individual Championship have been released, including the winners of the subsidiary competitions. The eight qualifiers for the Knock-Out Final meet at Balerno & Currie's range on Saturday 31st March.

The qualifiers for the Final are:

Name	Club	Qualifying score
A J Horne	Balerno & Currie	200
N Georgeson	Pathhead	196
A S Bruce	Balerno & Currie	196
W Vaughan	Selkirk	194
I Thomson	Watsonians	193
K Edward	Selkirk	191
C Watson	Balerno & Currie	191
A Jackson	Watsonians	190

There are no reserves.

### Subsidiary Champions:

Championship	Winner	Club
Ladies	A Kemp	Orkney
Veterans	W Vaughan	Selkirk
Junior	D Brown	Selkirk
Inexpert A:	No returns	
Inexpert B:	R Dempster	Selkirk

There was a very poor entry once again. Only four clubs within Lothian entered this competition, one of which entered ten shooters (some in more than one comp) but returned no cards. The other three clubs presented only 8

competitors out of the total entry of 18 who returned cards (one of whom is from Orkney). None of the winners are from Edinburgh or Lothian clubs. Why don't people enter their local championships?

The main championship final consists of the top eight qualifiers. Only nine shooters sent cards in. One competitor was disqualified and there were four no-returns so it's hardly a qualifying competition where everybody qualifies. No doubt there will be call-offs from the Final, as there always are, so it will be another poorly attended farce as there are no reserves to fill vacated spots. It's getting to the stage where it is not worth running these competitions if they are not supported.

### **Individual Postal League**

10th Mar 2012

The results for February's round of the Individual Postal League are now available. Take the link on the left to see all the details.

### **"World Cup" Final**

4th Mar 2012

The Final stages of the Association's "World Cup" competition took place yesterday at Balerno & Currie's range. Congratulations to Alasdair Horne of the host club for winning this very difficult competition for the sixth time. He beat James Henderson of Watten in the final by 199 to 198.. The Plate was won by Bill Vaughan (Selkirk), and the Bowl by Bobby Spence (Orkney).

The Association wishes to thank Balerno & Currie Rifle Club for the use of their range and also Alasdair Horne for arranging the catering. Thanks are also due to Anne Hamilton for doing the scoring and to John Buchanan for running the range. The prizes were presented by EU Alumni shooter Sarah Bates who was at the shoot supporting her fiancé James Henderson and will shortly be on the way to Caithness to start her new life there. He was the only prizewinner to get a kiss!

Take the link on the left to see full details.

### **Choose-Your-Own-Handicap Team Knockout**

24th Feb 2012

The second round of the CYOH has taken place and it has thrown up an intriguing Final, with Heriot's A and Heriot's B going head-to-head for the Tom Hastie Shield. Take the CYOH link on the left to see the details of the second-round scores.

### **Watsonian Open Meeting**

15th Feb 2012

WRC are delighted to announce the date for their annual open will be Saturday 10th & Sunday 11th March 2012, which will be held at George Watson's School ranges in Edinburgh.

The course of fire is six ten bull cards. There are five classes with separate competitions for Veterans, Ladies, U21, U18, U15, club pairs and teams of three.

Food is supplied throughout the day from the "Bun Room" with entries being accepted on the day, although early entry helps secure desirable shooting times.

For further information and entry forms please [contact the organiser](#).

### **Individual Postal League**

8th Feb 2012

The results for January's round of the Individual Postal League are now available. Take the link on the left to see all the details.

### **Choose-Your-Own-Handicap Team Knockout**

6th Jan 2012

The first round of the CYOH has been shot and the results are now available. Take the CYOH link on the left to see which teams made it through to the next stage.

### **BSA Cup and Women's County Match - results just in**

21st Nov 2011

The results for these two matches have just been received. Take the County Teams link on the left to see full details.

Both teams finished 5th, which is exactly the same as last year. These aren't bad considering that in the BSA Cup the top English county was 6th. Aberdeenshire won it and there was again a strong showing from New Zealand with Auckland and Wellington just above Lothian. Caithness were runners-up.

In the Women's match, Lothian improved on last year's score but stayed in 5th out of the 12 teams that sent in cards, and were well down on the winning score.

### **Balerno & Currie Open Meeting**

2nd Nov 2011

Balerno & Currie Rifle Club are pleased to announce that their popular Open Meeting will be held at their range on Saturday/Sunday 19th/20th November. The course of fire is two 30-shot competitions plus an aggregate in four classes, with a concurrent Junior competition along with Pairs and teams of three. The first detail is at 10am each day. Catering will be provided. There is a trophy for each Class winner plus unique BCRC medals to be won.

To request an entry form, [email the organiser here](#).

### **Team Postal League**

18th Sept 2011

Stickers are about to be distributed to participating clubs and should arrive by the end of this week. The first round is due on 17th October.

There are only five divisions this year as the entry is down somewhat on last season where there were six. Four clubs have dropped out completely - EU Alumni, Edinburgh University, Heriot's and Dalkeith (not surprisingly as they have disbanded), and there are only 28 teams from 15 clubs against 34 teams from 19 clubs last year. Several clubs have only entered one team where before they put in two or more. Balerno & Currie and Prestonpans have bucked that trend however, by entering one more team each than last season.

19th - STOP PRESS!! EU Alumni have just squeezed in under the wire with the (very) late entry of two teams. Great - this mean no Bogeys now. There had been one in Division 1 (never good unless unavoidable, as it was) but they have taken that place.

### **Mary MacDonald**

17th Sept 2011

It is with sadness that I have to report the death last Thursday of Mary MacDonald. She was 78 and had been ill for some time. Mary was an official of the LSSA in the 1970s-80s period along with her late husband Bill and served as Treasurer for a couple years and was also the Air Weapons Secretary. She was also heavily involved in the organisation of the Scottish Pistol Association and was a member of the long-defunct Hewlett Packard shooting club in South Queensferry where she lived, and afterwards shot at Redcraig. She was the Lothian Ladies Prone Champion in 1971, 1981 and 1982.

The funeral will be held at Falkirk Crematorium on Thursday 22nd September at 1.30pm, followed by a reception at the Two Bridges Restaurant in South Queensferry at 3pm to which all her shooting friends are invited.

### **Entries - reminder**

4th Sept 2011

Clubs are reminded that entries for the Association's team competitions close on Monday 12th September. That is, for the Team Postal League and the Choose Your Own Handicap Knock-out. *All* entries should be sent to the Association Secretary.

The Shoulder-to-Shoulder league entries should be in (by email or post) by Monday 5th September. The fixture Meeting will take place on Thursday 8th at Balerno & Currie at 7.30. (Entries may be emailed directly to the S/S league Secretary up to the Wednesday evening as long as the full paperwork follows.)

If forms are required, perhaps by a new club wishing to enter - we'll take anyone - then please [contact the Secretary](#).

Entries for the 'World Cup' competition are due on Tuesday 20th September.