



MLAGB

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National 200yd Rifle Championships



Shooters enjoying the spring sunshine on Bisley's Short Siberia Range

There was a good turn out for the first of the National Rifle Championship meetings at Bisley on 13 March. Shooters enjoyed the early spring sunshine on Short Siberia range shooting free and military rifles. Each entrant is allocated a morning and afternoon detail for shooting and may enter one or both events. If only competing in one match (which must be shot first) the second detail is available for training. Paid markers are used at the MLAGB matches so there is no 'butt duty' for the competitors. 200 yard NRA targets, with their 3.5" diameter bull's eye are quite a challenge for today's muzzle loader.

The 200 yard free rifle match for the Jacques Cup was a close run affair. Mick Nash set the seasons lead winning with a score of 39.1, but right behind were three shooters scoring 38. Bill Burrows with his two V-bulls took the silver medal, while Count back had to be used to separate Brian Olding and Dennis Chambers, who both score 38.1. In the end Brian was awarded the bronze medal.

The military rifle match had a clear winner, David Minshall, who made the notable score of 38.1. This is quite an achievement with the open sighted Enfield, and would have been challenging for the medals in the free rifle class! David's outstanding performance gave him a very comfortable six points lead over second placed John Hollis who scored 32. Association Secretary, Charles Higginbottom, was 3rd.

Results:

Free Rifle

1st	R.C. Nash	39.1
2nd	W. Burrows	38.2
3rd	B. Olding	38.1

Military Rifle

1st	D.B. Minshall	38.1
2nd	J. Hollis	32
3rd	C. Higginbottom	29

OTF Fundraising

A match in aid of the Overseas Team Fund (OTF), will be held at Wedgcock Saturday 17 April. This one day competition has a full program of musket, rifle and pistol events. Entry forms have been distributed to those that attended MLAGB matches in the last two years, are available via the web site, membership office or discipline secretaries. Please include a stamped addressed envelope if writing for an entry form.

The Association Auction in aid of the Overseas Team Fund will be held at Bisley on Saturday 1 May 2004. Doors open from 10:00am to receive lots, and the auction will start promptly at 2:00pm. Enquiries to: Paul Roberts – PO Box 779, West End, Woking, Surrey, GU24 9WA – Tel/Fax: 01276 517335 – email: auction@mlagb.com

Pistol Fest 2004

The MLAGB's annual Pistol Fest will be held at Wedgcock Range, Warwick, on the weekend of 15/16 May. With sixteen competitions for matchlock, flintlock, percussion and revolver there is plenty enough shooting to make a weekend of it! So if you want to compete with your original flintlock duelling pistol or your 'Old Army' Ruger there are matches for all. Falling as the event does, before the Phoenix Meeting at Bisley, it will also prove ample opportunity to fine tune your match shooting technique, before entering the muzzle loading pistol event at the Phoenix later in the month. Note that the Pistol Fest is not an open shoot, but confined to MLAGB members.

Schutzenfest & 38th Entente Cordiale



Japanese cheek-stocked matchlock musket shooting at the 2003 Schutzenfest

Established in 1963, the Entente Cordial Team Match is being held at Bisley this year. The event comprises a competition between the Arquebusiers de France and the Muzzle Loaders Association of Great Britain, the teams of six using original muzzle loading military rifles of their respective nations. The competition will be held as part of the MLAGB's annual celebration of muzzle loading, the 'Schutzenfest'. It will be fired on Bisley's Short Siberia Range, on the afternoon of Saturday, 29 May. If you are visiting Bisley for the Phoenix meeting or trade show, why not take some time to visit Short Siberia Range and watch this unique international match. This year's competition also marks the centenary of the signing in London, on 8th April 1904, of the Entente Cordiale, which resolved a number of colonial disputes and helped forge an Anglo-French alliance.

The weekend's shooting commences on Friday 28 May with the MLAGB's 600yd Free Rifle and Military Rifle matches. Saturday will see the 50m and 100m matches on Short Siberia Range. The short range events cater for a wide variety of muzzle loading muskets and rifles, including matchlock, flintlock and percussion musket, military rifle, free rifle, and flintlock rifle. The weekend's shooting is concluded with long range matches at 900 and 1,000 yards on the Sunday.

An evening celebration is being held at the MLAGB club house, 'The Exhibition Hut', at Bisley on the Saturday evening. Visitors will be entertained by live music, and food will be served 7.30pm.

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