



NORTHAMPTONSHIRE CPSA

2010 April Northamptonshire Report by Bob Meadows – sec@northantscpsa.org

As I write this, the snow has at last receded and we are now enduring the rain and mud on the shooting grounds. But not so in India, where the Commonwealth Shooting Federation championships are being held on the new range that has been built for the Commonwealth Games to be held later in 2010. Many of you may not know, but Northamptonshire have a shooter Nicki Brocklesby (pictured), shooting Olympic Skeet for England. Not only

competing, but as a team with Pinky Le Grelle, has just won Gold in the Pairs event! Our congratulations are due for a great shoot. Olympic disciplines are often the forgotten from the county perspective, but Nicki and Rachel Yardy will represent Northants, England and GB in Skeet and Trap.



Now is the time to think about our equipment and ensuring we invest some time in maintenance and preventative measures. For the shotgun,

think when the last time it had a service. I know mine went in last year and I had the firing pins, main springs and top-lever spring replaced. You wouldn't leave your car for years before having an MOT and service, so don't leave your shotgun. Waiting for something to break in that County of National Championship will only cause you more tears, than an investment of perhaps a £50 in a service. On the other equipment front, think about protective clothing, boots, glasses and ear protection. Your ear muffs will not last for ever, but your hearing has to last you a lifetime. With hearing protection, remember that anything that has a chance of infecting your ears needs to be clean and preferably sterile. If you use earplugs, clean them every shoot or so to ensure they are not going to cause a problem.

Ammunition is another item that you should be thinking about. The cost is always an issue, but what is happening when the shot leaves the barrel? Have you ever patterned your cartridges to see? If you talk to your local clay ground, they probably have a facility to see what is actually happening. For me, I use a combination of Steel cartridges for increased pellets (for close easy clays) and Lead (for distance and hitting power.) For you, it may be that you have a particular cartridge that you like and perhaps you might be able to get a discount from your local supplier, if you 'club together' with others to buy a larger quantity.

By the time you read this, Northants CPSA committee will have had their first meeting and remember that the committee are only representing the shooters. If you have an issue or an



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idea to improve shooting in Northants, do let the committee know. With the county Chairman Colin Butler being Regional Director, we additionally have access to the Board of Directors and thus a say in the National decisions. Take advantage of that opportunity.

Here's looking forward to 2010 and some great county championships.

May Championship Fixtures

SPORTRAP	15th MAY	SPORTING TARGETS
FITASC	22nd MAY	SPORTING TARGETS
ABT	23rd MAY	NORTHAMPTON



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