

City RC 'v' LMRA 8-3-20
Match Report

On Sunday 8 Mar 20 the CRC had its first event of the year with the City taking on the LMRA in a full days shooting.

Originally, we had 6 CRC members signed up but, unfortunately and very late in the day, 2 were struck down by seasonal illnesses. I am glad to report that at least one is well on the mend and I do hope the other is as well.

On to the match, my first as Captain. I am most grateful to those who turned out in what was forecast to be a very rainy day. Thankfully the weather held apart from a brief but heavy downpour around 1500. However, road conditions and firing points were not pleasant with road to the 300 yard firing point resembling a well shelled battlefield.

Team wind coach was Pat Hunt for Rosanne F, Mick J and John H whilst Rosanne wind coached Pat H. At all four ranges electronic targets were used and it was agreed by both teams that random no registration in what was otherwise a sound shoot would be disregarded and another shot taken. Regrettably, the Team Captain is still suffering a frozen shoulder so it was agreed it would be best 3 from 4. I will only outline the best 3 shooter from this point onwards.

300 yards saw us firmly ensconced in the big end of magpie ally with a fair wind and the team members scored 45.2, 49.6 and an impressive 50.6. Moving back to 600 yards saw us take up residence in a tent and lying on a raised wooden platform which was quite bouncy and inappropriately inclined downwards. Additional mats under the shooting mats were the order of the day. Needless to say 600 yard reflected this environment with scores of 45.4, 43.3 and 48.7. After this most frustrating shoot we took an early lunch in the LMRA where the moussaka went down a treat, with chips for most and just green veg for the more health conscious.

Post lunch we headed for Stickle-down and with a quite gusty wind at 900 yards, 7 to 13 mins, the team managed 43.1, 44.4 and 47.6. Encouraged by our reasonable success we moved diagonally across to 1000 yards. Mick J was first to shoot and Mick's elevation was all over the place and the wind coach, Pat H, could not find the wind despite it being reasonably steady by now and so the first 1000 yard score was 26.0. Mick J now wondered if his new barrel was any good after all whilst Pat H considered his wind coaching skills. Rosanne was the next victim, after a heavy downpour, and only scored 12. We were all blaming ourselves until sharp thinking Rosanne identified the problem, the electronic target was set to an F class target. The F class target rings are only half a minute apart so no wonder we were all over the place..! Gracefully, the LMRA agree we could shoot again. John H shot next and achieved 48.2, Mick J went again and scored 46.1 (and regained belief in his new barrel once more) whilst Pat H's best (invalid) score of the day, 38.1 went to Rosanne.

We finished with a combined score of 546.43 and 15 points behind the LMRA's 561.41. Overall top score of the match went to the City with 193.21 scored by John H and 5 point clear of the LMRA's top score of 188.16 by James. Suitable gifts were given to both top scorers.

Overall, despite the trials and tribulations, the mud and the weather it was a successful and good spirited event for both teams.

I am looking forward to our next team event, Bisley Clubs 1 on 25 Apr 20, but we do need a few more to attend to get the all-important team of 8.

Best Wishes

Mr Pat Hunt
City Rifle Club Captain