



UK Association of Rimfire Benchrest Shooting
(Affiliated to the UKBRA)

News Letter November 09

Member Feature

This month we feature our 10.5lb International and World Champion from Italy, Gioj Guidi, in his own words -

"Sono un giovanotto di 57 anni nato a Viareggio (in Toscana) e vivo a Roma" sorry try this -

"I am 57 years old and was born in Viareggio, Tuscany, but have been living in Rome now for 35 years. I am a Geologist and work in the Department of Mineral and New Technologies of the ENEA in the field of Preservation of Artistic Patronage. As well as this I have been teaching for 10 years Mineralogy at the University "Suor Orsola Benincasa" in Naples.



Gioj Guidi 10.5lb UKBR22 World and International Champion

From when I was very young I had a passion for weapons, at 14 I had my first air rifle. In those year I practiced a lot but without being competitive. From 1993 as a member of a local club I began shooting the P10 and PL disciplines in Provincial and Regional competitions. In 2001 I was drawn to rimfire and Benchrest at 50M. During my Benchrest shooting days I have met many friendly people and have decided to remain and put aside my pistol shooting for the time being.

I am a member of the BRItalian-Rimfire Association and have managed to gain 3rd place in the Sporter Class Teams category in 2002 and 2nd place in the 10.5lb Sporter Class Team category in 2003. In 2004, thanks to my dear friend Carlo Caricato who also looks after my rifles and repairs them when needed, advised me on my shooting to reach a good consistency of shooting.

During the Italian Championships organised by the Pisa Club last May, Carlo introduced me to the UKBR22 Postal Matches. I have participated in these competitions with the purpose so I can compare my shooting with not only the Italian shooters but also many from else where in Europe. The set up of the Postal Competitions immediately interested me, with the possibility of to compete Internationally with a common Rules particularly without having to travel out of my own Club Range.

I never thought I would have done so well as in May, my first match. This has stimulated me to continue throughout the Season.....I hope to succeed in winning the first Summer League (*this was written before the final results in October*). I expect that future competitions will not be as easy, I will not be competing against Carlo and the members now shooting but the many more that are joining all the time. I have every intention to continue with the UKBR22 Postal Matches and make others know of the Association and get them to join. (*Gioji has since introduced many Members from his Club in Rome for which we thank him for his efforts.*) The growth of the Postal Benchrest shooting will gain more and more adversaries, many of excellent shooting abilities, this will make it all the more enjoyable.

Indoor difficulties

Some members who use indoor facilities with prone shooting members are having a small problem with time. As prone shooters only shoot 10 shots per match, the details or allocated time is usually approx 10 minutes. I have passed on to some members the Rules that apply in this instance. The General Rules state -

Range Commands

The Range Officer will call competitors to the line at least five minutes before the commence fire command is to be given, in order to allow rests and other equipment to be set and adjusted. Before the first match of the day, on each relay, the Range Officer will explain the procedure that is in use at the Host Club to start and stop a match, including the procedures to be followed in case of an emergency cease-fire. If an emergency cease-fire is called, the reason for such should be corrected, and then the match should be restarted with an additional three minutes added to the remaining time (if less than three minutes have elapsed before the emergency cease-fire, the clock should be reset to 30 minutes or 20 in the case of indoor matches).

Although not strictly an Emergency, but if you were stopped half way through a Match I would call it an emergency, please basically shoot for 10 minutes and then when you restart shoot for 13 minutes allowing for re-setting up if required. Any questions about this please email me to discuss further.

October Match - Winter Season Start

Well the Winter Season is upon us and we see new members shooting, and shooting well. The full results sheets are attached and can also be downloaded from the Web Page. This Winter we have the Team Scores as well, there are a few Teams that need more members but I feel this will all come together in the November Matches. The 25 yard Matches have been a success as have the Teams, I won't mention the "Team Martini International" only to say we intend to clean up, yes that's a challenge!, only joking or AM I. Well done to every one, keep up the good scores.

You will see from the results that there have been 108 scores put in, obviously some members have shot more than one distance and even class, but even so that is great news.....

Fly Shoot

Carl has organised a Christmas Fly Shoot, this can be shot at 25 yards and with a different target 50M. The targets can be downloaded from the Web Page on to A4 paper. This is just a fun shoot in the spirit of Christmas but that does not mean you have to have spirits inside you.....just because it's the festive season. Carl is organising Badges as rewards for good scores.

Rules

A friend of mine sent this in for a laugh.....



I'm not sure they have read the Benchrest Rules properly.....

Web Page

The Web Site is being continually up dated with Results etc and the new Merchandise Page soon.
 To remind Members the Web Site Address is - <http://benchrest22.mysite.wanadoo-members.co.uk> and the two new Email addresses will be either - UKbenchrest@fsmail.net or UKbenchrest@helpsfamily.wanadoo.co.uk

Current month		In the last 12 months	
Month	Number of visits (average per day)	Number of visits (monthly total)	
November 2004	210	420	
October 2004	102	3170	
September 2004	84	2542	
August 2004	47	1486	
July 2004	76	2379	
June 2004	104	3131	
May 2004	25	791	
April 2004	0	0	
March 2004	0	0	
February 2004	0	0	
January 2004	0	0	
December 2003	0	0	
Total		13919	

Web Page HITS from date of uploading.....well done Carl for all you efforts

Quotes of the Month

Found these little ditties and thought they were amusing so will share -

Start off with a few Presidents - they are in the news at present -

"when written in Chinese the word Crisis is composed of two characters. One represents Danger and the other represents Opportunity" - *John F Kennedy*.

"The best thing about the future is that it comes only one day at a time" - *Abraham Lincoln*

"if you want make enemies, try to change something" - *Woodrow Wilson*

"Speak softly and carry a big stick; you will go far" - *President Theodore Roosevelt* .

Now for some others -

"it is our opinion that Politicians do not always mean the opposite of what they say" - *Abba Eban - Israeli Politician*.

"I don't watch television, I think it destroys the art of talking about oneself" - *Steven Fry*

"I left England when I was four because I found out I could never be King" - *Bob Hope*.

"Everything has beauty, but not everyone sees it" - *Confucius*

"Definition of Future - n - That period of time in which our affairs prosper, our friends are true and our happiness is assured" - *Ambrose Bierce - American writer*

"Exercise is the yuppie version of bulimia" - *Barbara Ehrenreich - American Author*.

"life was a funny thing that happened to me on the way to the grave" - *Quentin Crisp - British Writer*.

"Give up all hope of peace so long as your mother in law is alive" - *Juvenal 40-125 AD - Roman Poet*.

"you can learn more about human nature by reading the Bible than by living in New York" - *William Lyon Phelps. No relation ?*

"Don't go around saying the world owes you a living; the world owes you nothing; it was here first " - *Mark Twain*.

"Any idiot can face a crisis - it's the day to day living that wears you out" - *Anton Chekhov - Russian Playwright*.

"If you resolve to give up smoking, drinking and loving, you don't actually live longer; it just seems that way" - *Clement Freud*.

Walter's Tips

Walter has suggest a couple of tips regarding Targets and economy. The Cartridge Paper we use is not cheap, he has suggested therefore that to cut down on cost it would be prudent to photocopy a 25 yard target on one side and a 50M one on the other, then you have a choice. Another tip came from Walter's paper source running out so he decided to purchase some 800 Lining paper from a nearby Decorators shop. He says the quality is very similar and for 25 yards in doors would suffice until the proper paper was again available or to use this for practice. Don't forget, Walter says it is not much good outdoors especially if it rains.....

Merchandise

The Web Merchandise page is being updated all the time so if you want to see what is on offer please do.

Target Sports

Keep up to date with Vince Bottomley's "From the Bench Column" in Target Sports, if you don't subscribe do so. It probably to best lager in the world.....oooops, sorry that's something else, where's that beer gone.....

Teams

Last month I briefly covered the Team idea for the coming Seasons. This I'm glad to say has gone down very well and we will be issuing the initial Teams by the end of October for the Winter Season. There will be many new members shooting this Winter so the Teams will change for the Summer Season based on achievements this Winter, so don't feel left out.

World Championships - I am in discussion with Peter Armstrong in Australia, well he contacted me, he is organising World Championships to be held in the US in 2006 maybe end of 2005, 2007 in Australia. His question to me (us) was would we be prepared to help out and organise Teams from Europe. I relied we could do that and also could possibly put on the 2008 World Champions at Bisley or in Italy, France or Germany depending on where the biggest Team is situated and best facilities. Realistically Bisley sounds good but there are no facilities, benches etc anything like they have in Italy.

The World Championships would be shot on the RBA Target at 50 yards. These targets are very similar to ours, I think the 10 ring is slightly smaller but otherwise the same. Personally I cannot see a problem with that but I would like some feed back from Members. Just to let you all know I have one Member who has put his name down for both events already.

Membership

Membership is still growing with many shooters coming in to the competitions. As stated last month France has now joined us and there are even more asking for details, Germany have all the information and will steadily grow under the control of our newly appointed Management Committee Member Norbert Weigl. Scotland are showing an interest so we will have to wait and see. Still discussing matches Australia and now Canada.

Membership Fees will be due in January for the full 2005 year; the full Fee will be £10.00. As Founding Member I have decided that the following will also apply for next year.

- Full 2005 Membership - £10.00 (€16.00 or \$18.00)
- If a Member has paid the full Fee this year, as some have, the Fee for 2005 is FREE.
- If a Member has paid half the Fee this year, the Fee for 2005 will be £5.00 (€8.00 or \$9.00)

If anyone has a query about the Fee set up for 2005 please Email me.

Air Rifle Division

In the air Rifle division in which Maurice Chell is the Management Committee Member in charge, experiments have been conducted to see if there was any significant difference between a score for a .177 and a .22 air gun pellets on our targets. At present and using a specially made plug shown below there would seem to be no requirement to instigate a separate .177 and .22 Air Rifle class. In Maurice's own words he says -

"We had 3 people shooting both calibres using a variety of guns (including one Springer) in both .177 and .22. We found no really meaningful difference between the scores with the .177's consistently appearing to score slightly higher than the .22's. When we scored all as .22 it just opened the gap up further although to be fair on average this only actually affected around 3 to 4 shots per target as most shots were either touching or over the higher scoring ring or so far away they still wouldn't reach with the .22 gauge.

I would be interested for others to try this experiment as well but based on my results here (admittedly not statistically significant due to the small numbers and using shooters new to benchrest) I would say the perceived advantage of .22 calibre is not really evident in practice. I have had a gauge made up (picture attached) by Neil Price in Nuneaton for the princely sum of £4 inc p&p. If all airguns are to be scored as .22 we would all need to get one of these gauges. Neil can be contacted by email on - Neilwprice@aol.com"



Air Rifle Gauge for .177 to .22

Grading

Nearly all members have now received their initial Grading Certificate. To explain to new Members we remind you of the Grades -

Novice	score - 209 and lower
Marksman	score - 210 to 219
Sharpshooter	score - 220 to 229
Expert	score - 230 to 239
Master	score - 240 to 245
Grand Master	score - 246 to 249
Ultimate Grand Master	score - 250

If there is Member interest we will be producing Grade Badges similar to those shown on the Merchandise Page of the Web Site. Final design and price to be decided.

Association Office

Caught by surprise by my lovely wife Pauline. I was working hard, promise.....



The Tiger is not eating me, it just seems that way sometimes.....the scope is a Leupold.

Well that's all the news so far.....don't forget any questions, problems or information required please Email me.

Pat

Founding Member
UKBenchrest22