

# SCOTTISH SMALL-BORE RIFLE ASSOCIATION

## NEWSLETTER

Also for Club Noticeboard

Dear Member/Club Secretary,

From time to time news of Association activities has been published in the Rifleman. As it appears to have had only limited effect I shall be trying, with occasional newsletters, to spread the word more widely.

### Why be a Member?

We now have over 400 individual members in Scotland. While the principal object of the Association is the development and selection of Scottish representative shooters a larger membership will give us a stronger voice to argue the case for Scottish shooting with the Scottish Sports Council, the body which can help finance new facilities as well as coaching programmes. On the personal level, our members enjoy the opportunity to shoot in four distinctive competitions each year (3 indoor and 1 outdoor). For a 50 pence subscription per person why not enrol all your club members!

### 1977 (Winter) Competitions - Late Entries

The targets for the qualifying rounds are being distributed now but I shall be happy to accept late entries right up to the closing date for shooting (31st January, 1977) to give new members the chance to join in:-

Medal & Tankards in Four Classes (show club average)	50 pence
CanDicap - own-handicap for those with average below 96.0 (state handicap per card)	30 pence
Speedway - single class qualifying for 16 to shoot a shoulder-to-shoulder (round robin) final at Perth	50 pence

### Sweatershirts

Available ex stock (except XL) in three chest sizes for £4.95 inclusive.

### Cloth Badges

Beautiful 3 $\frac{3}{4}$ " embroidered badges are available to members, price £1.50. New stock order is awaited and the many already on order will be posted then.

### Matches 1977

In addition to the two Home Countries Internationals at Dumfries and Bisley, there will be the annual challenge match in June against the Army (air rifle will be included this year) and the "Mini-Games" in Isle of Man in October. The postal international against New Zealand will follow shortly after the Speedway final (top eight in the Final win automatic selection to the 15-strong team) and there is likely to be a challenge match during the summer against Wales (prone and air rifle). The excellent match in Holland in 1976 has not yet been scheduled for repeat in 1977.

### Team Officials

On the expiry of the three-year term as Team Captain and Ladies Team Captain of Adam Gordon and Nessie Dick respectively, the Council has appointed Bob Normand and Jennifer Adamson, also for three years. The titles have been changed to Team Manager(s) to reflect more accurately the nature of jobs.

Alister Allan, who is now back in Scotland working in a fishing tackle and gun shop, has accepted Council's invitation to be Chief Coach to the Association and he will be available from time to time to run coaching courses.

### 1977 Trials Programme

Time compels us to run a 1976-repeat programme of trials for "refreshing" the team group for 1977, i.e. a postal stage in April with two shoulder-to-shoulder trials (Perth and Aberdeen) during May to produce a team group of around 20 for the international matches to follow during the summer. For future years it is intended that the next season's team group be established at the end of the previous season and allow time during the winter and spring to run a proper series of coaching courses/

courses covering technical, physical and psychological aspects of match shooting. Entry fee to the trials is 50 pence and the list is now open.

Jennifer is running a separate programme for the Ladies with regional coaching sessions starting in January. Those interested should write to her at [REDACTED]

Air Weapons

The Association ran the first Scottish Air Rifle Meeting in Stirling on 4th and 5th December. It was the weekend of severe weather but we still attracted 35 competitors, including a top American shooter, Miss Sue Ann Sandusky, who is studying in London for a year. Predictably she won Class A with George McKay winning Class B and Jim Scobie nosing home in the Pistol event.

The venture was judged great success and will be repeated on a larger scale in 1977, probably in September. Stirling Royal Infirmary have again offered the use of their Social Hall and Messrs. D. Crockart & Son, Stirling have offered to put up a new trophy and annual prize money for a competition for the Individual Air Rifle Champion of Scotland. Bill and Alison Moonie may also have recovered enough to run the meeting again!

The winter individual air rifle leagues are under way. The increased entry is a further sign of the growing popularity of this version of shooting, hopefully as a supplement to and not a replacement of .22 shooting. It has its own appeal, being shot in the standing position, and the Association has invested in a set of plans for the moving target mechanism, the running "mouse"! I shall be happy to try to arrange a demonstration for any person or club interested in setting up an air weapons section.

Miscellaneous

Perth City & County are holding their "open" indoor meeting on 30th January and 6th February (programmes from G.M. Gove, [REDACTED]), and there will be Glasgow Rail's annual indoor long-range meeting at Barrack Street in February.

Our friends, the Scottish Pistol Association, are organising an international Pistol Match at Meadowbank on March 5th and 6th.

N.B. Please send in those new membership applications and winter competition entries without delay.

All the best for 1977!

Bob Normand  
Secretary.