

Hopkins farmers FITASC. 21st March 2018 – Purbeck Shooting School.

The ongoing wet conditions meant that this month's shoot had to be changed from Ham Cross to Purbeck. A very challenging but enjoyable shoot tested the very best; several shooters made the comment that targets were relentless with nothing given. Every layout had targets with distance and power with the new areas lending perfectly to the FITASC layouts.

With only four guns achieving 80 and above - Martin Reynolds left everyone trailing with an impressive 88. Nick Bullen and Duncan Morrison easily won their classes with 85 & 83 respectively. A close run contest between Chris Boulton & Steve Hewlett for most improved and 'C' class winners ended with Chris winning the class on 76 & Steve winning most improved. Class 'D' was again a close contest with Kevin Hall nicking a win on 60. Very well shot to all who are mentioned.

Class Results.

High Gun – Martin Reynolds 88.

Class A – Nick Bullen 85, Chris Griffin 80, Richard Pike 78.

Class B – Duncan Morrison 83, Mark Hanson 77, Simon Salvage & Richard Taylor 75.

Class C – Chris Boulton 76, Steve Hewlett 73, John Mascall 68.

Class D – Kevin Hall 60, Frank Hodges & Rodney Steer 59, Amanda Collins 56.

Most improved – Steve Hewlett +10. Draw prize winner – Paddy Croft.

Both win 250 cartridges kindly donated by our sponsors Hopkins Concrete Ltd.

'A word from the winner' - Martin Reynolds.

Reflecting on John Pools comment last month you're never too old to start (I didn't think you all looked that old). I think it's great that Richard has encouraged so many of you to try FITASC and a lot of you have stuck at it and your scores have improved. A few of us have a slight advantage as Ray John and myself have been shooting this for the best part of 40 years, so we should expect to know how to build a good score. FITASC is known as the F1 of clay shooting as there is great target variation in speed and angle.

Now let's analyse 100 FITASC - it's made up of 60 single targets and 20 pairs, two shots to count on the singles so apart from an X factor target we should kill the majority of the singles and in the doubles you should be able to kill more than 50%. Using this as your benchmark you should shoot 70%. To shoot over 70% you will need a sound pre shot routine and treat every shot with the same respect. Don't just look at a target and think that's easy. In my mind there's no hard or easy, they are close or far, slow or fast. Clays that you think are easy may be one that I find tough and believe me the most straightforward clay looks difficult if it's the one you need to win a major championship! So work on your pre shot routine and your scores will improve.

Good Luck!

For next month please note the change; **Ham Cross – Wednesday 18th April**. Due to the change for this month's shoot, we are going to shoot at Ham Cross instead of Purbeck and also revert to the normal Wednesday rather than Friday 20th as advertised.

As always many thanks to this month's hosts Purbeck Shooting School who at short notice put on a superb day for us. Thanks also to Gail and her team for a lovely roast dinner. Finally many thanks to Hopkins Concrete Ltd for their very generous support, especially Rob Allen who on behalf of Hopkins creates the league tables and website information that we all enjoy.

With kind regards

Richard.