



News Shots

ICSI News – 29th November 2021

This week in News Courses, Hull Cartridges Hydowad cartridges, Use of Steel Shot clarified by Hull Cartridges, Workshops and Visits for 2021

Welcome to the ICSI Newsletter:

Welcome back, News Shots which will now be produced every two weeks. If you have information, which you think will be of interest to members, please send it to the email address given below.

membershipsecretary@icsi.org.uk

BSSC and ICSI Council Meeting with MP's

You will have received an email from our Chairman, John Robinson, regarding the meeting with Members of Parliament at Westminster on the 6th December. Derek Wetter and Steve Williams are heading to London to lobby and inform MPs on the issues surrounding shooting, and our members. Along with other members of the British Shooting Sports Council they will be doing their best to inform MPs and gain their support for our sport and for the many people who rely upon the shooting community for their livelihood. WE wish Derek and Steve all the best in their task and look forward to reporting on their meeting in due course.

Also, thanks to those members who responded to John's email and sent in their thought regarding the major issues for our sport, Derek and Steve will take these issues up with the MP's they meet.

News from Around the Sport

Hull Cartridges Launch New Cartridge With New Wad Development

Hull Cartridge have been manufacturing award winning shotgun cartridges for clay and field since 1947. The face of game shooting in the UK is evolving. Lead shot for game shooting may eventually be phased out. Many of you are now looking to the alternatives.

One of the options and the most cost effective one is steel, soft iron. Hull steel game loads have been used extensively for wildfowl shooting in the UK and hunting on the continent for many years and continue to be available in polyethylene plastic steel wadding.

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However, long term Hull cartridges have looked beyond the mainstream single use plastic wad for alternatives. At Hull they been collaborating with experts in biodegradable materials and together we've developed Hydrowad.



Hydrowad's material Conforms to CE EN13432. It's 100% plastic free, non-toxic and will degrade in the field over a period of time. With a cup wad Hydrowad not only throws a dense pattern at range but for use with steel it aids barrel protection.

Report from Member Marcus Webb Ben Husthwaite Coaching Day

I spent Sunday the 28th November at Kibworth Shooting Ground attending a 'Coach the Coaches' day hosted by Ben Husthwaite.

I had prepared an open objective mind to what I was going to hear and be taught. I do believe one should be open minded to ideas that some may consider away from the 'norm'!

There was a wide selection of attendees, from young shot Alfie Tibbles, who would like to get into coaching, to more 'senior' (?) experienced qualified coaches such as myself.

At the outset, Ben stated that this was his way and methods of coaching, and there was no conflict intended towards any of the more traditional training bodies out there. This was well adhered to. The lessons were well presented, detailed and proven with practical workshops to achieve results.

The first session, was on gun fit, balance, creating the correct posture, comfort and eye dominance.

The second was a practical shoot focusing on barrel awareness and barrel/target placement, this was proven by practical demonstrations.

We then went onto another outdoor practical lesson on the Maintained , pull away and swing through (employing the correct negative lead distance to start behind the target) methods, their selection relative to various targets, what information the different methods give you and why you would choose whichever.

This was worked with kill points, gun holds, eye holds and an emphasis on constants leading to consistency.

This was followed by another practical, coaching a competent shooter by observation, understanding the scenario, identifying the correct method to target, any faults and fixes to get the shooter onto the target whilst explaining the fix, why, and the benefits to achieve a successful outcome.

These were the main points covered, with detail and proving practical sessions.

Continued

A blend of more alternative 'modern' methods with a nod to the traditional basics.
I would say an informative value for money day with more tools to add to my box when working with clients.

Regards,

Marcus

Thank you for your report Marcus

FORTHCOMING ZOOM EDUCATIONAL EVENTS.

There is not a zoom seminar planned for December

Any suggestions please let us know

Something to Watch.....

The Great British Shooting Show returns in February 2022

Watch their promotional video

[Great British Shooting Show](#)

The Royal Armouries - Leeds

For those with an interest in the history and development of weapons of all types this might be up your street.

[Royal Armouries Leeds](#)

Hull Cartridges Clarify the Use of Steel Shot and Proofing of Guns

CAN I SAFELY USE STEEL SHOT THROUGH MY GUN?

Current CIP regulations governing UK manufacture of steel shot cartridges set tight safety parameters to minimise pressures. In comparison these are lower than steel cartridges imported from the USA, whose use is not recommended under the current guidelines.

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There are two performance levels for steel shot cartridges - standard performance for use in modern guns (post 1954) nitro-proofed and high-performance steel for guns steel shot proofed and bearing the all-important fleur-de-lys symbol

NB. Standard performance steel cartridges can come in both 65mm and 70mm case length however the shot size must be no more than 3.25mm Fe.4.

It is imperative when purchasing that you select the correct performance level for your gun's proof mark. Your gunsmith will check your gun's condition, markings and offer expert advice.

CIP, LONDON & BIRMINGHAM PROOF HOUSE'S BARREL PROOF SYMBOLS / EQUIVALENCY TABLE FOR USE WITH STEEL SHOT AMMUNITION

CIP/UK	STANDARD	SUPERIOR	STEEL (HIGH PERFORMANCE)
London 2020	CIP N NP	CIP S NP	CIP NP
Birmingham 2020	CIP N BNP	CIP S BNP	CIP BNP
London 2006	NP STD	NP SUP	NP SUP
Birmingham 2006	BNP STD	BNP SUP	BNP SUP
London 1989	NP 850 BAR	NP 1200 BAR	
Birmingham 1989	BNP 850 BAR	BNP 1200 BAR	
London 1954	NP 3 TONS PER □"	NP 4 TONS PER □"	
Birmingham 1954	BNP 3 TONS PER □"	BNP 4 TONS PER □"	

**Please note the British Proof Authority will not give guidance on pre-1954 marks and recommends re-proof of such arms.*

Interestingly, Longthorne Guns have produced a Damascus barrelled 12-gauge shotgun, proofed for steel by the London Proof House as reported earlier this year.

WHAT IS THE CORRECT CHOKE FOR USE WITH STEEL SHOT?

In addition to selecting the correct level of performance there are recommendations regarding maximum choke use.

These are as follows:

Standard Performance Steel - no more than 1/2 choke;

High Performance Steel - no more than 1/4 choke.

HOW DO I SELECT THE CORRECT SHOT SIZE?

As a general rule you should increase the shot size by two sizes i.e. lead shot size 6 - steel shot size Fe.4.

What is regarded as a 'good' bird is very subjective. This varies according to the terrain of the shoot and the individuals themselves. With the correct shot size standard steel can be confidently presented to a 40-50 yard bird with the desired result.

Standard Performance Fe.5 shot - driven grouse, lowland partridge, decoyed pigeon;

Standard Performance Fe.4 shot - driven pheasant, roosting pigeon, duck flighting;

High Performance Fe.3 shot - will extend the range at which you can cleanly despatch mixed quarry.

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Loading Cartridges in Cold Weather

From the ShootingUK website, here are some tips on loading cartridges when cold and wet and under pressure on a game day. The same tips will be useful to those shooting on clay grounds in bad weather.

Tips for swift and safe shotgun reloading

- *Use a specially designed jacket:* if you are loading out of a pocket make sure the shooting jacket you are wearing is specifically designed for this purpose. If it has a flap on the pocket then there should be somewhere to tie the flap up out of the way. When you are buying a jacket or waistcoat make sure you think about loading, not just how it looks. I tried on a waistcoat made by a leading manufacturer recently and could not get my hand in and out of the pockets without cartridges, let alone with two cartridges in my hand. Once you have your chosen jacket or waistcoat, put more cartridges in the pocket than you need and shake the pocket up and down. You will find that the brass part of the cartridge comes to the top and the lead points downwards, so every time you put your hand in your pocket you stand a better chance of getting the right end of the cartridge so it can be loaded straight into your gun.
- *Pouches:* many people now load from pouches to avoid any problems with pockets. Indeed, I frequently use a pouch whilst loading on busy grouse days. The same trick of shaking the pocket works just as well with a pouch.
- *Cartridge belts or clip belts:* these are great for most types of shooting, particularly if you are not firing many cart. For speed. They do mean that the cartridges you take out of the

belt are pointing the right way.

- *Loadmasters, bags and Gannochys:* people either love these or hate them. Many Guns absolutely swear by them. but each to his or her own. For some people, these are a great solution.

- *Shooting gloves:* among the other things that can hamper loading is cold fingers. Numb digits will mean we are not as nimble with our loading as we should be. However, many of us find loading in gloves difficult. That said, there are now



some shooting gloves that give excellent feel and dexterity whilst at the same time offering good protection from the elements. These should allow you to be nimble enough to load quickly.

- When all else has failed, there is the stuffer option This option is particularly helpful if you enjoy working your dogs as much as shooting. This allows you to take time to mark birds, especially wounded ones, whilst your stuffer is loading for you – and at the same time it avoids the wrath of the keeper if you are not loaded and ready for the drive.
- Last but not least: no matter which method you use to load your gun, can I suggest that, from a safety perspective, you leave any dropped or fumbled cartridges on the floor until the end of the drive and do not load from anything that involves bending down to collect your full cartridges from the floor. The last thing you want to do is to end your day by sticking your gun in the mud or snow whilst trying to load. And remember that part of the fun of shooting is the birds getting away occasionally.

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WORKSHOPS AND CONTINUED PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

Coach and Instructor Development Workshop



It was with great regret that the final Coach and Instructors Workshop of 2021 had to be cancelled due to 3 of the 6 participants becoming ill, one with a heart attack and 2 due to Covid. We hope all make a speedy and full recovery.

New dates for the workshop will be announced in the new year and there are also some exciting developments to announce once these are finalised.

EXTERNAL VISITS

Paul Dancer has negotiated the following visit:

Longthorne Guns Factory Visit

Date: 6th December 2021
Time: 10:00am
Cost £10:00 per person
Venue: Longthorne House
1 Millbrook Close
Northampton NN5 5IF

icsi.zoomreply@gmail.com



For the Future:

We are looking at visits to:

Laporte Traps
Promatic Traps
Leeds Armouries
Cartridge manufacturers

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ICSI Online Shop

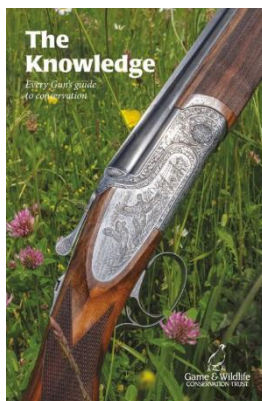
The online shop is presently still under construction with the hope of it going live on the ICSI website soon, here members will be able to browse, order and pay for branded items as well as other related merchandise. In the meantime, if any member needs anything, please contact Jason – shopsales@icsi.org.uk

Below is the current stock list with prices. Other items are currently being sourced and will be added along with our popular polo shirt shortly.

Please contact Jason Rowntree for any shop items.

Email shopsales@icsi.org.uk

Merchandise	Description	Price including P&P (UK only)
Book	Game Cons	£13.00
Badges	Pin	£10.00
	Square	£5.00
	Shield	£5.00
	Bullion	£12.50
	Round	£5.00
	Loaders	£10.00
Tie	Blue	£12.50



FINALLY.....

New ICSI website news

The website has been moved to a new hosting company and for a short time there may be some issues as Richard Halsall makes changes to release the full potential of the website and to include features requested by members.

Richard is doing this work in his spare time and gives his time freely for the benefit of members so please be patient, it's a big task and will take a little time but will be worth it.

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Please remember to log onto and register for the new website.

In the future emails and all communications with members will be generated via the web site and therefore it is important that you register and provide your email details. This will also allow us to comply with the GDPR regulations and keep members details secure.

If you have not yet logged on go to:

icsi.org.uk

Select the tab, "Become a Member"

Follow the instructions using your personal email as your username and provide your own password.

Once completed this will send a notification to me and I will check your credentials on the master members list and authorise your membership. You may then complete your own profile which will then be seen by those wishing to find a coach etc.

If you are experiencing difficulties, please use the [Support Button on the website](#) and Richard will look at your problem.