



News Shots

ICSI News – 6th June 2022

This week in News Shots: Lead Ammunition Proposals, Wykeham Clinic Report, Proof House Visit Report, Something to Watch, Courses and Visits

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The Threat to Lead Ammunition

The HSE UK Reach report is now out, and the consultation has now started. Whatever your political leanings this report is a serious threat to the various forms of shooting and poses perhaps the biggest shake-up in shooting since we moved from the bow!

The CPSA have summarised the findings of the report:

Based on these findings, the HSE has launched a six month consultation on the following proposals for England, Wales and Scotland:

- ban on the sale of lead shot
- ban on the use of all types of lead ammunition for live quarry shooting including lead shot, shotgun slugs, lead bullets and airgun pellets
- ban on the use of lead shot for outdoor target shooting with possible exemptions for licensed athletes at licensed ranges with appropriate environmental protection measures
- ban on the use of lead bullets for outdoor target shooting with possible exemptions for shooting at licensed ranges with appropriate environmental protection measures
- mandatory labelling of the packaging of lead ammunition regarding the hazards and risks of lead.

CPSA CEO Iain Parker commented “We are fully aware of the publication by HSE Defra of the public consultation paper on lead ammunition and have been involved in the discussion process with the Government and will continue to do so.

We strongly oppose any changes to clay target shooting and our position remains that it is our intention to lobby hard to keep lead ammunition for our sport. We are reviewing the dossier and will challenge its assumptions, work with fellow target associations, trade, grounds and the Government to protect our sport.

We would encourage the membership to engage with this consultation and have their say.” Please click on the following link to access the public consultation:

[UK REACH – Restriction Proposals 004 - Lead shot in ammunition - Health and Safety Executive - Citizen Space \(hse.gov.uk\)](https://www.hse.gov.uk/citizen-space/uk-reach-restriction-proposals-004-lead-shot-in-ammunition)

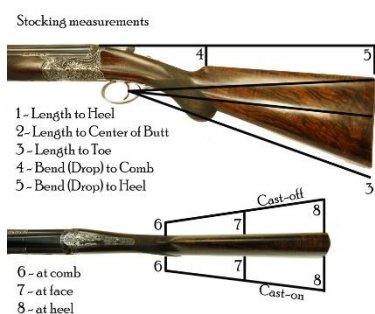
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SHOTGUN FITTING & EYE DOMINANCE CLINIC TUESDAY 24TH MAY 2022

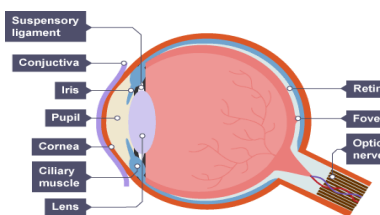


We are grateful to Wykeham Estates for the use of their venue for this first clinic workshop. The day was divided into two parts with Jason Rowntree starting the day off with an excellent introduction to the skills of gun fitting.

Covering the basics of drop of comb and length of pull he also clearly explained the relationship



between basics of stance, balance, and posture to the measurements of the gun. The position and presentation of the hand and finger were discussed and the gun fitters subtle but important changes to the gun in the shoulder and hand investigated. John Cullinan gave the perspective of a gun shop in fitting a gun to a shooter and the balance between gun fit and selling guns. Participants had the opportunity to ask questions and it was agreed that we had simple scratched the surface gun fitting.



After a fine buffet lunch, we reconvened for Robert Clarkson, a retired Consultant Optometrist, to present the topic Eye Dominance. Rob explored the development of the individual's sight and the stages where dominance becomes set. This presentation presented many questions which Rob did his best to

answer but it became clear that from a scientific point of view the use of dominant eye is misleading and a more accurate term is referent eye.

Overall, an excellent day but still so much more to explore and understand.

Below is a summary of Rob's presentation.

The vision status of clients of all ages who present for shooting instruction and coaching is a direct result of vision development from very early childhood. This is shaped by genetics and eye use and age-related deterioration in the older age group.

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To make an aiming or pointing judgement with a shotgun requires at least two points of reference. One being the clay target itself, the second reference point is one of our eyes. This in effect is the rear sight and I propose to label it the REFERENT EYE.

From the moment the shooter first sees the target (the visual pick up point) to the instant the shot is taken, the Instructor needs to know which eye is providing most visual input . ie which eye is acting as the rear reference point/referent eye.

The purpose of correct gun fit, and consistent gun mount is to position the shooter's eye (rear reference point or REFERENT EYE) in exactly the right place behind the shotgun action. The shooter is effectively attaching the rear sight to the action.

We have two eyes which may not work with equal efficiency. This can give rise to the preferential use of one eye compared with it's fellow to accomplish a specific task.

The consensus amongst vision scientists and researchers is that there are different types of eye dominance, and these different dominances can coexist in the same individual depending on the method of testing and the task.

MOTOR DOMINANCE is assessed by finger pointing or sighting through an aperture which is moved back to the face.

ACUITY DOMINANCE refers to the predominant use of the eye with the sharper image.

SENSORY DOMINANCE is determined by reporting which half-image is perceived more often during binocular rivalry stimulation.

It follows from this that the terms dominant or master eye in the shotgun shooting context can be ambiguous and confusing.

Probably the best way of determining which eye is being used as the REFERENT EYE is an initial proven empty gun mounted to the instructor's eye. This also gives vital gun fit information and is closest to the actual optical task when shooting. Next watch the client shoot at various targets.

The straight going away and straight driven targets are most informative. A consistent miss to the right or left associated with an off-eye reference point is usually identifiable.

For the Instructor to give accurate advice on eye problems more information is required. Take an eye/vision history, obtain an Optometrists report with details of uncorrected and corrected visual acuities and binocular vision status. If unavailable, consider doing a simple car number plate test and look for any difference between the distance clarity of two eyes.

Ultimately the Instructor needs the eye behind the shotgun to be the REFERENT EYE and must give correct advice relating to gun fit, occluding or partially

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EXTERNAL VISITS

Visit to Birmingham Proof House

Paul Dancer led a visit to the Proof House on Monday 23rd May 2022 and has produced this report:



The Birmingham Proof House was established in 1813 for Public and Military security to ensure the person firing that firearm was not at risk of being maimed or killed by the weapon being used.

This was partially due to the increase of the production of arms in and around Birmingham, as there was already a London Proof House in existence, since that date it is an offence to sell or offer for sale an unproved arm anywhere in the U.K.

The Museum was started in 1858 by a Mr. Greener who established a collection, as a historical record of the evolution and manufacture of small arms.

In 1873 the nucleus of the collection was formed when the 'Guardians' of the Proof House purchased a collection of arms and armour from Claudio Calandra an Italian collector, the conditions being that the Museum was open to the public this did not progress, although tried in the early to mid-20th century.

The first Ammunition Pattern Room was not established till 2000, and soon followed by the Firearms Pattern Room collections you see today.

The Proof House to one side is boarded by the canal during the early day's barges from the likes of Westley Richards, B.S.A, Webley and Greener would arrive laden with barrels to be proved.

Although Birmingham was heavily bombed during WWII, the Proof House was relatively unscathed other than a few incendiary bombs!

Today 'The Guardians' still manage the Proof House and if visited you will arrive and be escorted to the historic 'Guardians Meeting Room, where today's Curator will give you a 'Talk' on the history of Birmingham Gun making from its concept to today, prior to being escorted around the fascinating and absorbing ammunition and firearm pattern rooms.



Our Chairman, John Robinson attended this visit and presented a Certificate of Appreciation to the curator of the Proof House Museum for the help and assistance the proof house has been to the Institute.

SOMETHING TO WATCH.....

Casting the stock of a Shotgun

Ever wondered how it is done?

Continued

Here are two videos, part 1 and part 2 of the process

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=PZBtS_WlcG4

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=TnRgaiU5GEGs>

WORKSHOPS AND CONTINUED PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

A full list of Workshops and Courses are featured on the Institute Website.

Please support the courses, it is only with your support that the Institute can actually provide these opportunities for continual professional development.

To book a place on a workshop or course please do so on the web site.

Dates given below:

Coach and Instructor Development Workshops Course Calendar

Coach and Instructor Development Day

Kibworth
27th June 2022

Coach and Instructor Development Day (Follow up)

Oakedge
25th July

Coach and Instructor Development (Advanced)

Venue to be confirmed
September

Game Shooters and Loaders Course Calendar

Game Shooters and Loaders Course

Doveridge
6th July 2022

EXTERNAL VISITS & ZOOM SEMINARS

Visits

Paul Dancer continues to try to arrange visits to suitable venues however, the spectre of Covid remains and many firms just cannot afford to run the risk of visitors on their premises, but he continues to try.

Zoom Seminars

We hope to announce further Zoom Seminars in the near future.

ICSI ONLINE SHOP

Continued

The online shop is now up and running.

Items may be purchased and paid via our Institute PayPal account, normal debit and credit cards may be used and goods will be despatched as soon as possible

Please visit the website to view merchandise and prices

FINALLY.....

I am sure you have a tale or two related to your coaching experiences or information you have heard which would be of interest to other members or a photograph which would be good to share. Please send them to me for inclusion in News Shots on icsimembership@gmail.com

If there are seminars which you would find useful and know of a provider, please let Simon Arbuckle know and we shall investigate if it is possible to provide a zoom seminar.

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