



News Shots

ICSI News – 19th December 2022

This week in News Shots: Report from the Observation and Interpretation Workshop. Report of the Lead/Steel Zoom Seminar, Courses and Workshops, Something to see or read.

icsimembership@gmail.com



This will be the last News Shots of 2022 but we shall return on Monday 16th January 2023.

From all those on the Institute Council may I wish you all a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

Let us hope that shooting and coaching grows in 2023 and the problems of 2022 disappear.

Report on the Observation and Interpretation Workshop Kibworth 12th December 2022



On the 12th December 9 members joined Jason Rowntree, John Robinson, and John Cullinan at a cold and slightly snowy Kibworth Shooting Ground for the first Observation and Interpretation Workshop.

The Workshop was conceived from requests from members who had attended the Coach and Instructors Initial and Follow-up Workshops and it centred on the skills of observation of the shooting process and how coaches should drill down to interpret. Using video and play-back coaches

observed each other with the support of a workshop tutor and the correct reason for a problem rather than the symptom. With refreshments provided by the "Cranky Cook, (Heather Cullinan) to keep members warm the workshop consisted of some theory and then practical analysis of shooting and then review of the shooting using video.

Here are some comments from those who took part:

... I attended the source on 12th December, and as per previous courses, this was very well presented by very knowledgeable instructors. I would

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recommend the course to any instructor, it gets you thinking through the whole shooting process, and will deliver a real upgrade to your instruction/coaching skillset. A valuable side effect is that it will force you to think about your own technique and how to improve your own shooting! Davis Harkness

Hi John,

I'd like to say how much I've enjoyed and gained from the three Coach Development Courses I've attended, starting with the Coach development Workshop at Oakedge,. It was totally worthwhile and relevant for any coach at any level.



Then I attended the Gun fit and eye dominance course at Oakedge again, on Monday 28th November, which covered so much detail to further my knowledge on the subject. Run by the same tutors as the coach development workshop plus Rob Clarkson.

Then this Monday 12th December I attended, The Observation and Interpretation Course, which was excellent and went into great detail on the subject of the course title,

I can thorough recommend all these courses to any coach wishing to further their knowledge and experience.

Thank you for a superb series of courses and I look forward to further ones.

Regards,

Ron Braithwaite

Hi John,

After attending the Observation and Interpretation workshop at Kibworth on Monday i would like to pass on my thanks to you all on what was very informative and enjoyable day, the opportunity to meet with other coaches and share experiences was also very helpful, i found the use of video very interesting and will be looking to use this in the future, I would certainly encourage other members to get involved and support the workshops and courses.

Many thanks Chris.(Cottingham)

New Workshops and Clinics are being planned for the New Year, see Courses on the web ICSI site.

Report on the Lead/ Steel Zoom Seminar



ICSI Zoom Seminar 1st December 2022

John Robinson (ICSI Chairman), chaired the discussion that asked the question, 'What is happening in the Game field and on Clay grounds with regards to the Lead v Steel debate and what have members experienced?

Clearly the present situation is centred around the use of steel shot for the shooting of game birds,

less so the use of steel on clay grounds but the concerns of sporting shooters and game shooters have several similarities.

Several members sent in contributions to the debate which JR included within the meeting and every person present was able to contribute to the debate.

The British Shooting Sports Council have been looking at the issue of non-toxic ammunition for some time and contributing to the government agencies tasked with deciding

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upon the issue. At present their discussions are embargoed but JR referred to several aspects to inform the debate.

The debate covered a variety of areas where the move to steel shot is or will have an effect.

The main points were:

- The use of steel in guns and on game is still not fully understood by all shooters or shoot organisers.
- There are many preconceived ideas about steel which may not be true.
- The types of steel shot available are not understood or indeed even known about in some cases.
- The use of Bismuth has not been fully debated, and the costs are not excessive compared to the cost of a day's game shooting.
- The suitability of steel shot for use in any gun is not fully understood and the information reaching shooters is often confused. That brought the issue of safety to the fore.
- There is a reluctance to move from a well-known product, lead, to an unknown product, steel/bismuth.
- Many shooters believe that there just isn't enough substantive and scientific evidence to justify the use of non-toxic ammunition over lead. Other countries experiences and change of policy should be carefully considered and debated. (Norway for example).
- Many shooters do not fully aware of the guidance on the type of choke recommended for steel shot.



- Shooters may be using guns which are effectively out of proof but appear sound, to them!
- The only definitive opinion on proof is the Birmingham or London Proof Houses. Everyone else is simply an opinion based on technical measurements and not being tested at a Proof House.
- In the game field shooters have reported that steel seems to be effective on average birds but there are concerns for higher birds. The thought is that 30 to 35m, it is effective and beyond that questionable.
- Beaters and pickers have reported more birds wounded and needing to be despatched.
- There are concerns that the use of steel may cause game to be unsuitable for consumption, specifically if the steel has oxidised or rusted in any way.
- There are concerns that biting down on steel shot may damage teeth whilst lead is soft it is still unpleasant but less harmful.
- There is no recorded evidence that consuming lead shot is harmful to humans, but if steel shot is consumed and does not pass then there are known dangers for humans needing MRI scans according to some Radiologists. It is believed that may be seriously injured if they have a scan.
- The noise of steel loads appears to be louder, and this may affect both shooting grounds, shoots, and the loss of hearing of individuals in the vicinity.
- If clay grounds ban steel or if they can avoid legally to insist on steel where will game shooters go to practice?
- Will simulated game days increase to allow game shooters to practice using steel.
- There are concerns that steel shot loads may cause excessive and damaging recoil to both gun and individuals using the gun, causing injury to the latter.
- For sporting clay shooters, the dangers imposed using steel will have a



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detrimental effect on their sport. Ricochet, noise, and recoil may well cause many to give up shooting.

- Grounds are concerned that the layout of grounds, placement of traps and drop areas will have to be re-thought and this may make grounds, particularly small grounds with bunds unviable financially.
- What effect will the compulsory introduction of steel have for gun shops? Are they already turning away older guns, particularly side by side shotguns?
- There are concerns regarding the storage of steel cartridges and biodegradable wads. Will steel shot in storage become oxidised and create lumps of steel in the barrels and the risk of over-pressure and hence bulges or bursts barrels?



- For Coaches the increased pressure in steel shot cartridges will inevitably make shells, even the equivalent of 21gram 8's kicky and cause problems for novices due to recoil. If the smaller calibres such as 20g are kicky will this dissuade younger shots and smaller framed female shots.

- The coach will be subjected to more noise impact and so will need better hearing protection.
- Coaches will have to be more fastidious about misfires, soft misfires, and barrel condition to avoid

accidents with clients.

- Gun fit will become even more crucial to avoid excessive recoil.
- It is likely that if steel cartridges for clays are noisier that there will be a rise in complaints against grounds and we may see further restrictions or even closure of grounds.

Overall, the meeting was concerned at the time scale, the lack of evidence and the implications for all shooters and the shooting industry if we move to steel shot. Above all, many involved in the shooting industry who are shooting game or clay clearly do not have all the information to hand with regards to safety in using steel.



Online Petition

Many of you will have seen an online petition asking for Parliament to discuss the proposals for the banning of lead for shooting.

At present once the HSE and Defra have concluded their investigation and made their recommendations to the Secretary of State, he/She can enact the recommendation without consultation or voting by Parliament. This petition is to let Parliament have a chance to debate the issue.

[Petition · Fight the lead ammunition ban · Change.org](#)

Just click on the link and follow the instructions IF you wish to sign the petition.



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CPSA Awards 2022

CPSA ANNUAL AWARDS *Finalists*

11 March 2023 at The Hilton Hotel at St George's Park

The highly anticipated CPSA Annual Awards are taking place on the 11 March 2023 at St George's Park. Tickets are £60 (£550 for a table of 10) and can be booked online at cpsa.co.uk/awardstickets or by calling Paula at CPSA HQ on 01483 485400. Voting is currently open to all CPSA members at cpsa.co.uk/awardsvoting. Voting closes on Tuesday 31 January 2023.

Congratulations to all those shortlisted below (in alphabetical order) in each category and we hope you are able to join us to help celebrate at the Awards 2023.

County Committee:

Cheshire
Lincolnshire
Staffordshire

Disabled Shooter:

Lorriane Greening
Keith White
Ben Woodham

Emerging Shooter:

Lucy Earl
Sophie Herrmann
Henry Lungley

Club:

Barbury Shooting School
East of England Shooting Ground
Eriswell Lodge
Nottingham & District Gun Club
Thimbleby Shooting Ground

Young Shot:

Toby Hurstfield
Ethan Lord
Bethany Norton

Coach:

Ali Schwind
Mhairi-Ann Troup
Allen Warren

Course Setter:

Josh Brown
Tom Common
John Lee

Shooter of the Year:

Peter Chester
George Digweed MBE
Nathan Hales
Lucy Hall
Sam Usher

REMEMBER TO GET VOTING!

Please see the advert from the CPSA Newsletter regarding the CPSA Awards for 2022.

Workshops & Clinics

Coach and Instructor Development (Initial) Workshop

Oakedge, Staffordshire

6th February 2023

Coach and Instructor Development (Follow on) Workshop

Kibworth, Leicestershire

3rd April 2023



Full details and booking can be found on the ICSI web site.

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Several members have attended these workshops several times. The workshops have the shooting process as the spine upon which the workshop is supported but the participants drive the content and direction of the workshop and

Something to watch...or Read

Restore the shine on your shotgun

From ShootingUK.co.uk we have a tutorial on how to restore the shine and looks of your shotgun. Something to do at the end of the season so the gun is ready for its next outing.

[Gun stock shine - how to restore it and disguise scratches \(shootinguk.co.uk\)](https://shootinguk.co.uk/gun-stock-shine-how-to-restore-it-and-disguise-scratches)

Beretta Factory Tour



The debate goes back and forward, Browning or Beretta. Jonny from the shooting channel TSC recently visited the Beretta factory in Italy where he basically had the run of the place. Well worth a watch even if you are from the Browning side of the fence.

<https://youtu.be/uWXGbgB2UWM>

ICSI ONLINE SHOP

Please visit the website to view merchandise and prices.
Gilets are now available at a very reasonable price.

FINALLY.....

Please send your coaching experiences for inclusion in News Shots and any photos you may have.

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If you experience web site issues, please contact Jason Rowntree on coachdevelopment@icsi.org.uk

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