



## Home Countries International – Bisley 2008 Captain's Report



Horrendous gusty winds on the Wednesday afternoon of the Bisley Meeting, when 'X' Class were shooting at 100 yards and consequently returning 'cricket-scores', made the aggregate scores a lot worse than normal. Consequently several of the 'A' Class, who shot in relatively calmer conditions that morning, returned aggregate scores that were comparable with at least half of 'X'. Nevertheless, Tony Lincoln showed how it should be done in those conditions on his way to winning the 'X' Class Aggregate. This made team selection for the match a little more complicated but to give me a guide I took the average scores from a selection of shooters in both classes and calculated that there was at least an 8 point advantage for the lower class. When I applied this to the total scores, and eliminated those who were ineligible for selection because they were not current ESSU members, it transpired that the whole team were from 'X' class and the two reserves were from 'A'. James Huckle proved his recent good form by coming third in the 'X' class aggregate in his first season, having won promotion from 'A' in 2007, and still a Junior! He naturally doubled-up in the both junior and senior teams. Colin Abbs joined James as a first-timer in the main team, so congratulations to both of them. Richard Watchorn was not only the Secretary for this year, but also qualified to shoot in the team, so thanks to Gill Goodfellow and others who stepped in and assisted with the 'paperwork' on the day to allow Richard to concentrate on the job in hand.

Conditions for the match itself, at 4pm on Friday, were tricky but a lot better than earlier in the week. This was the best day, weather-wise, of the whole week, but still needed careful attention to the changeable conditions. Andy Campbell acted as wind-coach, and some good scores were achieved. Top scorer was Geoff Webb, with a superb 393. James made it hard on himself by putting two shots onto the wrong target at 100 yards, but this slight lapse did not affect the final result, which was a convincing win over a resurgent Welsh team, with Scotland in third place.

My thanks to all of the Team who participated in a fine result and obtained revenge over Scotland for their earlier win on home soil last month.

<b>England</b>	<u>100 yds</u>	<u>50m</u>	<u>Total</u>
T Lincoln	3	8	11
J Huckle	6	13pp	19
G J Webb	4	3	7
N J Day	4	6	10
D Abbs	9	8	17
M T White	2	11	13
M J Bagot	3	7	10
P C Scanlon	6	9	15
R V Watchorn	7	5	12
J R W Latimer	5	9	14
<b>Totals:</b>	<b>49</b>	<b>79</b>	<b><u>128</u></b>

Reserves: Mrs J Hay, M J Payne

Captain: D A Goodfellow Secretary: R V Watchorn

<b>Wales</b>	<b>53</b>	<b>92</b>	<b><u>145</u></b>
<b>Scotland</b>	<b>76</b>	<b>82</b>	<b><u>158</u></b>