

Glasgow 2014
Commonwealth Games
July 23rd -Aug 3rd 2014

Shooting Section Report
(Welsh Target Shooting Federation)





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1. Preparation for Glasgow 2014

Preparation started immediately after New Delhi 2010, the Welsh Target Shooting Federation (WTSF) having developed a selection policy based on Nomination Document developed for 2010 and revisited by the Commonwealth Games Council for Wales/WTSF in 2011/12.

Sports Wales invested heavily into all the Wales Commonwealth Games sports, shooting was ably assisted by Owen Lewis, Sports Wales Senior Officer, who mentored the WTSF with all aspects of Sports Science and Medicine for several years leading up to Glasgow2014.

The team was developed with modern day thinking and was well prepared for the Glasgow Commonwealth Games and our thanks must go to the Board and Executive of the Welsh Target Shooting Federation. We would also like to thank Sport Wales, The four WTSF member associations, The Commonwealth Games Council for Wales and the Wales Assembly Government for their professional manner and help in ensuring that Team Wales shooting team was prepared for G2014.

2. Pre Games Training 2014

The busy competition schedules of the four sections made it extremely difficult to assemble all the team together for group training prior to departure for Glasgow. The Team managed regular training camps for Small bore and Air disciplines in Cardiff (25m Pistol in Bisley), Shot gun in Cyprus, Italy and Spain, Fullbore in Bisley/Jersey. Prior to departure, all team members were given the opportunity to carry out overseas warm weather training during 2014 and also during the autumn and winter of 2013. These provided invaluable opportunities to prepare for Glasgow. Preparation funding, from, Wales Sports Council (WSC) and WTSF was made available in 2012/14 making it possible for all team members to attend top level overseas matches in preparation for the Commonwealth Games.

Unlike in previous years, sadly, there was not a Commonwealth Shooting Championship to be used as a test event for G2014 to give the Athletes and Officials an insight and feel for the Commonwealth games in July 2014 this proved greatly beneficial in past games.

This would have given the team invaluable experience and bonding with other team members.

WTSF in conjunction with Sport Wales and Wales Commonwealth Games Council for Wales produced a robust nomination policy <http://www.wtsf.org.uk/wtsfcg2014-3.pdf> where scores and performances were tracked during 2013 with Nomination Late (Nov) 2013. The Welsh Target Shooting Federation (WTSF) nominated the team to the Commonwealth Games Council for Wales (CGCW), who confirmed selection of a team of 7 men and 7 women (with two nominations to be tracked during 2014); one of the team nominations and support staff was added in June 2014.



3. Team Wales team members

Shooting Competitors

Clay Target (Skeet & Olympic Trap)

Malcolm Allen & Rhys Price;

Jon Davis & Mike Wixey;

Elena Allen, Sarah Wixey & Katie Cowell;

Small-bore (.22 & Air Rifle)

Michael Bamsey & David Phelps;

Jenny Corish & Sian Corish;

Pistol (25m & Air pistol)

Shawnee Bourner & Coral Kennerley;

Fullbore Rifle (Queens Prize & Pairs)

Gareth Morris & Chris Watson;

Team Wales Shooting Officials

Small-bore Rifle Coach	-- Robert Riddett;
Air/cartridge pistol Coach	-- Steve Pengelly;
Clay Target Coach	-- Richard Stepney;
Fullbore Target Coach	-- Martin Watkins;
Shooting Manager	-- John Dallimore;
Team Sports Scientist	-- Dr Joy Bringer;
Physio/General manager	-- Graham Anderson;

Non accredited staff

Sport Wales	-- Owen Lewis
Bio feedback	-- Mike Gross;
Physiology	-- Victoria Meah;
WTSF Support	-- Paul Donovan;
WTSF Support	-- Ralph Cole;
Rifle Coach	-- Christian Pino;

4. Travel & Arrival

The main party of Team Wales (shooting) departed in two groups from Cardiff first on July 13th (Small-bore cartridge and air rifle/pistol) and a second on July 18th (shotgun, fullbore rifle with Joy Bringer team sports physiologist) each group assembled at SWNC Cardiff and travelled to Barry Buddon Shooting Centre (BBS) ten miles East of Dundee by Official Team Wales coach, with a view to being on the ranges as soon as they were available for light training and familiarisation with the facilities. The journey time was about nine hours, was uneventful and considering the distance, none too tiring for both groups. The first group to BBS were met by Graham Anderson one of the Team Wales managers allocated to Team Wales Shooting. With Grahams help Firearm registration and Accreditation proved no problem; the whole team were through the system in less than 45 mins. The firearms, kit bags and ammunition were deposited in the BBS armoury; and held there until the first visit to the training/competition venue. This was repeated prior to departure on the 30th July. Within an hour of registration we were well established in twin bedded rooms at the Satellite Village at approx. 20:00. Second group on 18th followed a similar arrival path to the first group.



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5. **Accommodation at Satellite Village Dundee**

The choice of the Apex Dundee over the Carnoustie Golf Venue hotel for accommodation as our preferred Satellite village was a good decision and does not appear to have disadvantaged us in any way and probably proved a positive. This decision was made after WTSF Board members made a pre Games visit in May 2013, to look at both hotels and to choose a Guest house to accommodate the Team Wales “non-accredited” support staff for the competition period of Glasgow 2014.

The Apex Hotel Dundee was a pleasant well-appointed AA 4.5*/5* hotel on the banks of the river Tay, near to the Dundee City Centre, ideal for recreational periods.

<http://www.bing.com/local?lid=YN1019x260859316&id=YN1019x260859316&q=Apex+City+Quay+Hotel+%26+Spa+Dundee+Angus&displayFirstImage=True#photos>

The APEX Hotel for the duration of the training and shooting events for the Games had intense security including armed police. All bags and persons were scanned before each entry and also daily on return from BBS centre.

6. **Competition venues Barry Buddon Shooting Centre**

The Barry Buddon Shooting Centre was Located 35/45minutes from the Athletes Village and was constructed on the Barry Buddon MOD army camp, parts of which have “SSSI status” thus no legacy will accrue from the Games. They were situated approx. 95 miles (150km) from the main Games village in Glasgow.

On the first visit to BBS it was noted that the Range infrastructure was still in the process of construction but with the actual range facilities all in working order.

Much of the road/pathway infrastructure was incomplete but was serviceably so by the time of the opening (Day one), bearing in mind the temporary nature of the venue.

- ***Fullbore Ranges BBS***

The Fullbore range, is a permanent Army facility, was facing East and not an ideal size to run a major full bore Commonwealth Games with only 12/18 firing points available at short range with 8 points at the longer 900/1000 yards. The handover from the Army had only taken place July 1st therefore some of the firing points were poorly prepared and almost unusable, particularly a number of the 300 and 900 yard points.

Barry Buddon also suffered from the Haar (sea mist/fog blowing in off the river Tay) which delayed shooting on a number of occasions.

The competition itself was well run with their own broadcasting station sending out live results in real time onto the internet, this resulted in many thousands of “hits” worldwide.



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- **Shotgun layouts BBS**

Unlike the Fullbore range there were three International standard shotgun layouts which were of a temporary construction where the Commonwealth disciplines were competed: Skeet, Double Trap and Olympic Trap. The main layout for finals was situated with TV cameras etc. with a large grandstand on the centre layout. The tree line was approximately 300-mtrs away and plastic netting was laid out to collect lead shot and used clay targets for easy recovery at the end of the competition.

There were tremendous difficulties with the distance of the shotgun ground from the Central armoury (a walk of approx. one km) but with the intervention of the ISSF Technical Delegate, (Nick Sullivan of Australia) and Chef de Mission meetings in Glasgow, by competition days the problems were alleviated by a minibus taking the athletes with their shooting equipment part of the way to the competition venue. All shotgun scores/results were instantly available on Internet

- **50/10mtr range & 25mtr range BBS.**

The 50/10mtr range (50 lanes) were split between air and cartridge events to allow for multi discipline shooting, for the first two competitions days all 50 lanes were set at 10mtr and transposed to 50mtr for days four and five. With the 25mtr range (40 lanes) used solely for 25mtr pistol.

The competition finals (expertly run by Paul Gumn of WALES) were situated on each of the two qualification ranges, with full Television coverage. The first final Women's 10mtr Pistol was broadcast live on BBC One TV and all other finals were available on BBC "Red button".

All targets were Sius Ascor the 10m being Laser Score and the 50m acoustic targets with results also instantly available on the Internet.

7. Training at BBS:

The first day of arrival was spent on range and facility familiarisation but with no actual shooting. Security scanning was also in place on entry to the ranges after the "day one" 24th July. Much of the road/pathway infrastructure was incomplete but was ready by the time of the opening.

All athletes came with coach-agreed training plans which involved training most days but at times commensurate with the provisional competition schedule. Time of day was also varied so as to observe the effect of daily tide variations on wind direction and strength; the range is situated at the mouth of the River Tay. The effect of tides was later to have an important implication for full bore rifle. Pre-opening range-time was plentiful and well organised and while formal booking was required this only became a greater issue as more teams arrived. The Team however came well organised in this respect and was able to acquire range allocation well in advance of other teams and in line with athlete requirements.



8. Official Competitions 24th -29th July

Full Results can be found on: <http://results.glasgow2014.com/sports/sh/shooting.html>

Competitions were scheduled for five days of G2014 from Day two-Day six. 25-29th July 2014.

The schedule was split into disciplines on the five consecutive days, PET and Individual events.

There were 19 separate competitions in the shooting programme;

Team Wales competed in 15 of the 19 shooting competitions.

Medallist Glasgow 2014 Shooting Team

In the Women's Skeet event Elena Allen took the Silver medal narrowly missing the Gold medal.

Finalist Glasgow 2014 Shooting Team

Pistol (top eight)

Coral Kennerley 6th in Women's Air Pistol

Shotgun (top six)

Elena Allen Silver Medal Women's Skeet

Malcolm Allen 5th in Men's Skeet

Rifle (top eight)

Mike Bamsey 6th in the Men's Air Rifle

Jenny Corish 7th in the Women's Air Rifle

***Sian Corish 8th in Women's prone, no final for this event**

9. Conclusion

On day two/three, one medal and four finalists proved an ideal start, day four and five did sadly not result in any finalists. In the windy weather environment of Eastern Scotland the Shooting section of Team Wales performed to a high standard in many of the competitions.

Looking at the overall performances at BBS I'm sure that with the loss of Graham Anderson (Physiotherapist /Gen manager) who left Dundee for approx. five days to support the Wales athletics team in Portugal at an extremely difficult time for the Athletics team and this also resulted in our other Sports scientist spending time in Dundee and Glasgow preparing for the return of the athletics team did not help with our planned preparations, "I must mention that I was asked and fully agreed to Team Wales Management request to release Graham to assist the Athletics team".

The shooting competitions along with the rest of Glasgow 2014 were well-run at a World Class competition venue and our thanks must go out to Peter Underhill, G2014 Competition manager and his team (many from London 2012 Olympic/Paralympic games) for producing a World Class venue.

All members of the Team Wales shooting team, wherever possible supported each other at the ranges during competition and also off the ranges and at the Athletes village.



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Glasgow 2014 was a success for Team Wales in obtaining the goals set by Sport Wales in 2012, and Shooting was an important part of the overall team effort. The shooting section of Team Wales performed very well giving 100% effort at all times.

My thanks go to our Shooting Athletes who contributed to this outcome, an excellent effort, Also to Sport Wales team in SWNC Cardiff without whom, we would not be able to prepare our athletes and coaches for these important competitions.

Two of the G2014 National Technical Officials, Paul Gumn Chief Range Officer Finals and Robert Warnes Classification Officer were members of our Wales pre Games training team for the three years prior to G2014 and it was pleasing to see the recognition of their professionalism by selection to these important positions by Glasgow 2014.

There were also non accredited Shooting support staff in Dundee that we must thank, Owen Lewis Sport Wales, Michael Gross Sport Wales & University of South Wales, Vicki Meah WTSF & Cardiff Metropolitan University, Paul Donovan WTSF, Ralph Cole WSRA, our overseas coach's Christian Pino & Christian Klees (Olympic Champion 1996), who all worked hard for the team in support prior and during the Commonwealth Games these support staff stayed at the WTSF House in centre of Dundee that was sourced during the pre-event visit in May 2013 and funded by WTSF.

I also thank my coaches Martin Watkins, Rob Riddett, Steve Pengelly and Richard Stepney also Dr Joy Bringer for their full unstinting support and assistance over the last three years with our General Team manager Graham Anderson for making Glasgow 2014 a success.

Wm. John Dallimore.

Welsh Target Shooting Federation

Commonwealth Games Shooting Manager G2014