

# Performance Manager Report – May 2016

## **HP Programme**

In case you haven't been reading the STS website, the most notable change that has taken place in recent months is the recruitment (at last!!) of new coaches and the creation of a new "management" structure within the Performance Programme. The significant structural change is recruitment of Shona Marshall as Assistant Performance Manager (special responsibility for shotgun) which will (in my view) bring significant knowledge and credibility into the programme on the various shotgun disciplines and this is by no means a slight on Donald but recognition of the potential in shotgun and taking positive steps to tap that potential.

With regard to the Rifle part of the Programme I believe it is common knowledge that due to the change in size of the contract for the rifle coach, I felt I could not apply so there has been a change there. The new coach is extremely well qualified and experienced having coached within the Norway system (as head coach latterly) for some time. Her name is Anne Grethe Jeppesen and you'll all need to learn how to pronounce it as it isn't how it's spelt!! I have met with Anne and I am very confident she will bring something new and different, in a positive sense, to the programme which will be of significant benefit.

The format of training for the athletes will revert to a camp based structure which may become a little more challenging for the athletes in terms of managing time off work, Uni, etc but I'm sure they will see benefit in the long term.

## **Olympics**

I'm sure everyone is aware but just for the record we should note the success of Jennifer McIntosh in the past year, having grabbed a quota place for the Olympics in Rio later this year. Jennifer has established herself on the World stage now, regularly making finals and being competitive. She has yet to win that first World Cup or Major Champs medal but she is absolutely on track and heading in the right direction so huge congratulations to her and long may that progress continue. She is GBR's sole rifle representative in Rio with the other 5 shooting representatives coming from the shotgun brigade, no Scots unfortunately.

## **Recent Performances**

We are now into the summer competition season and a few Scots have already acquitted themselves well competing for either Scotland or GBR, outside of Jennifer's fantastic exploits.

Recently in Berlin Fiona Crowden was on the Podium with a bronze medal in the Womens Prone event with a couple of World Class German ladies. This was a culmination of significant progress over the winter months where Fiona has changed her working conditions to allow her to shoot more often/regularly. A new rifle is coming soon so more progress expected (from me anyway!!). Unfortunately on a recent trip to Plzen Fiona aggravated a wrist injury and had to pull out of her match the day beforehand, however she is shooting wise in good nick for the season ahead.

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Seonaid McIntosh took up 3P during the winter months and is making fantastic progress, shooting a new British & Scottish Junior 3P record in Suhl recently at the ISSF Junior Cup. She has been attending several World Cups and gaining significant experience for her career ahead, becoming a much more established name on the international scene.

## **New Zealand Match**

The New Zealand Match was shot this year at Balerno & Currie. There was the usual scrabbling around to get the team I wanted but not as bad as it has been in the past. The final result was 3 points lower than last year, a little disappointing but competitive. We drew on gun score last year but won the tie on best last 10 shot string count. Here's hoping.....

## **Future Matches**

There is the usual calendar of matches through the summer but of particular note is the CSF(ED) 22<sup>nd</sup> – 24<sup>th</sup> September, taking place in Wales this year. We will be looking to send a reasonably strong team if at all possible.