

The Embassy Cup – match report

The BDMP Embassy Cup was held in Leitmar, Germany on the 18th & 19th of January and this year was the first time I attended. There were eight of us that travelled from the UK, sharing cars & quite a few laughs along the way as we wound our way to Folkestone, through the EuroTunnel and then on through France, Belgium, The Netherlands, into Germany and finally arriving in Leitmar.

But isn't the Embassy Cup just a shotgun match you see at the NRA Gallery Rifle events? Not quite.

The background

Dietmar Hönersch help start the BDMP Embassy Cup roughly about 18 years ago. The idea was to encourage the various SLG's (Schießleistungsgruppen) to compete against each other, but at the same time:

- Promote shooting in general
- Encourage social interaction between the various groups
- Build closer ties with shooting enthusiast, both local & international

The competition consists of three individual matches and then an aggregate of these three. The matches are:

- M1 carbine match (.30 calibre semi-auto rifle – iron sights only)
 - Shot at 50m, unsupported on a roundel target
 - Practice 1 (prone)
 - 3 minutes for 5 sighters
 - 45 seconds to fire 15 rounds in magazines of 5, including 2 reloads
 - Practice 2 (kneeling)
 - 3 minutes for 5 sighters
 - 45 seconds to fire 15 rounds in magazines of 5, including 2 reloads
- NPA B pistol/revolver match (Multi-Target Match)
 - This is basically the same as the standard NRA multi target match, but shot to NPA rules
 - Differences include:
 - Shot only with pistol or revolver (iron sights only)
 - Start position is gun butt in stomach, pointing at the target – not 45 degrees
 - Practice 4 is shot in 6 seconds, not 8.
- Embassy Cup Shotgun match (pump-action only)
 - Shot on 2 IPSC diamond targets with slug ammunition
 - Gun is always loaded with at least 4 rounds to start
 - Ready position is gun at waist, parallel to the ground, pointing at the target
 - Each practice is a set time of 20 seconds
 - Practice 1 (25m)
 - Standing, 2 shots on each
 - Reload with 4 rounds
 - Prone, 2 shots on each
 - Practice 2 (20m)
 - Standing, 2 shots on each
 - Reload with 4 rounds
 - Sitting, 2 shots on each
 - Practice 3 (15m)
 - Standing, 2 shots on each

- Reload with 4 rounds
- Kneeling, 2 shots on each

Help & support

There is always someone available to help on the range, answering questions, provide club guns for matches if you don't have a suitable guns, etc. The hosts really go out their way to make everyone feel welcome and help you enjoy the shoot. On Saturday evening Anna put on a fantastic meal & Dietmar supplied his famous homemade ciders & fruit wines. Some of you may have been introduced to these at the Phoenix meetings.

The results

This year SLG Bisley had a great result:

- Team 1 (D Hönersch, J Robinson, N Brown, M van Dalen) won all three individual matches and the aggregate match
- Overall individual aggregates result:
 1. Norman Brown
 2. John Robinson
 3. Dietmar Hönersch
- Ladies individual aggregate match:
 1. Anna Milke
 5. Lynnemarie Cooper

Another nice touch is that the top 5 individual competitors in the aggregates also get an "Embassy Cup bear" to reward their efforts.

Finally

This may have been my first visit to Leitmar, but it certainly won't be my last. My shooting can definitely improve and I am sure I will get more used to the borrowed guns. Our hosts were extremely gracious and the experience as a whole was wonderful. I can highly recommend these trips & suggest you look at <http://www.slgbisley.co.uk/diary.html> to see what the shooting diary for the year looks like.