

Full-bore- Scotch & Netflix

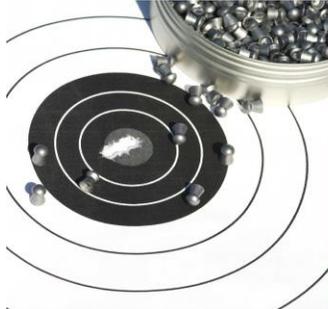
Smallbore Rifle- Plan, focus, execute

The



December
2016

Buffalo Chips



**MANITOBA PROVINCIAL
RIFLE ASSOCIATION**

Air Rifle 22 Long Rifle High Power Rifle

Like always, if you have any questions, scores, tips or advice, comments, or have something that you would like to have published in the For Sale / Wanted section, email me at mprachips@gmail.com



Winter to arrive next week

As I write this, it is November 9th, high of +18c today and Donald Trump just became President of the United States of America. Now strange as all this seems, Don Lagimodiere was caribou hunting in early September and found no caribou but noticed plenty of ducks up by the northern limits of Manitoba. Locals explained it was going to be a long fall and boy were they right. They had no suggestions for the future president though.

High Performance Air rifle is chugging along as is Novice, plus we now have a Seniors air rifle program shooting once a week, midday, at the S.S.P.C. Thanks to Gord Oliver for setting it up, if interested contact him at gord.oliver@shaw.ca.

Finally Gateway is open on Monday nights for 22lr, except when the Novice Program is there. Check the website calendar for the regular times or contact Leo if you have not previously received any of his Gateway e-mails.

Next Air match, Jan 7th at the Leola, 22LR at W.R.P.A. range on Jan 8th. To get on the air rifle list contact Lisa at lisa.deneka@gmail.com, for 22LR reach out to Paul at pilot11@shaw.ca

Thanks to Melissa Deneka, Murray Sloane and Alex and Victor Duarte for helping out with this issue.

You already know that you shouldn't change your physical position during the shot; you should be completely consistent in all the details of your contact with your firearm. Similarly, you should think the same thoughts each and every time leading up to the firing of a perfect shot. You must stay focused on these thoughts, and these thoughts must drive to one irresistible conclusion: a perfect shot. You must not have the conscious mind thinking about technical things (like trigger control, for example), or else firing becomes a conscious act. You must not allow thoughts of unrelated things (like that new scope you saw on the firing line) to interfere with the process. You must stay focused, and you must have the same thoughts each and every time you fire. Linda K. Miller and Keith Cunningham, Secrets of Mental Marksmanship

2016 Capt. H.A. Carty & Whitehead Trophy Matches

Once again thanks to Leo Poulin for organizing and representing the MPRA at these cadet matches earlier this year. The top place in both matches went to the 407th RCACC but it was nice to see the 47th Royal Canadian Sea Cadet Corp that shoots out of our S.S.P.C. won third



Sgt Pounce, Sgt Coulson, Sgt Stewart, Leo, Sgt Vukovic, MCpl Lavendero, MCpl Ada



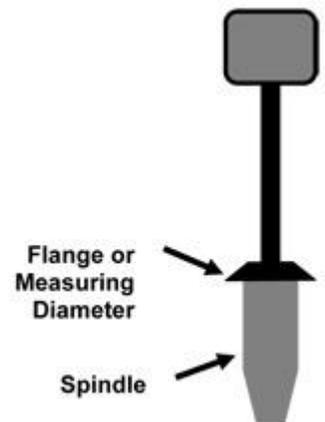


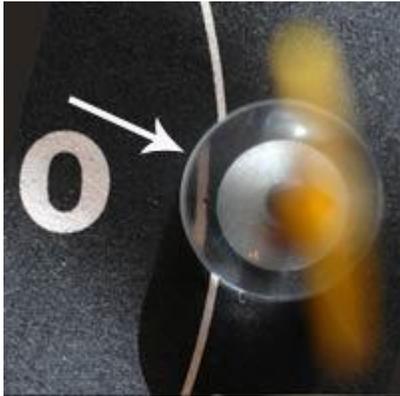
Thanks to Murray Sloane for passing this on, for those of us who still shoot on paper.

A Primer on Scoring Gauges

By Gary Anderson, DCM

A frequently asked question at CMP concerns what are the correct gauges to use for scoring different targets and where can they be obtained. This is not a simple question to answer. There are inward gauges and outward gauges for most 10 meter and 50 foot targets and when each must be used varies from target to target. There are actually three different smallbore or .22 cal. inward gauges. And in highpower rifle matches governed by NRA Rules, the gauge used depends upon the caliber of the rifle being fired at each target. Moreover, ISSF and USA Shooting Rules give legal gauge dimensions in millimeters and NRA Rules use inches, while National Three-Position Air Rifle Council gives both. With so many rulebook variations, it is not difficult to understand why questions about scoring gauges are commonplace.





An inward gauge is read towards the inside or center of the target—does the flange of the scoring gauge break or touch (is tangent to) the scoring ring? This doubtful shot scores “out.”

Scoring Gauge. A scoring gauge is a precision metal instrument with a spindle sized to fit into the shot hole and a flange or “measuring diameter” turned to a precise size that is specified in a competition rulebook. The gauge, which is often called a “plug,” is inserted into a doubtful shot hole. The scorer then examines or “reads” the edge of the flange to determine whether the doubtful shot is “in” (receives the higher value) or “out” (receives the lower value). A magnifying glass is usually used to aid the scorer in accurately reading where the edge of the flange lies. Scoring gauges come with various types of handles that are used to gently hold the gauge while inserting it in a doubtful shot hole. Scoring gauges available in the USA vary in cost from \$4.00 to \$15.00.

Inward or Outward Gauges. A first step in sorting out this question requires an understanding of the difference between inward and outward gauges. An inward gauge is read on the inside or side of the gauge that is closest to the target center. An outward gauge is read on the outside or side of the gauge that is away from the target center. Inward gauges give direct readings—does the inside edge of the flange touch or break the scoring ring in question? Outward gauges give indirect readings—does the outside edge of the flange remain inside the outer edge of a scoring ring that is usually two rings outside of the scoring ring value that is being evaluated? Some short-range targets and all targets used at distances of 25 yards or longer are scored with inward gauges. Outward gauges are used to score certain shots on 5-meter BB gun, 10-meter air rifle and pistol and some 50-foot smallbore rifle targets. Outward gauges typically are used on smaller rifle targets that have miniscule dots for 10-rings and scoring rings that are very close together because reading those gauges to the outside on larger scoring rings is more accurate.

An outward gauge is read to the outside, away from the center of the target—does the flange extend beyond the outer ring? Here the 8 ring is used to gauge whether a shot is a 10 or 9. This doubtful shot is out.

Scoring Templates. Scoring templates are made of a clear material and have scoring rings and/or score measuring diameters precisely printed, etched or engraved on them. A special type of scoring template is the commercial Eagle Eye scoring device that combines etched rings of various sizes engraved on one end of a 1 ½” x 3” Lucite tube with a magnifying glass installed in the tube. Scoring templates can be used to reconstruct scoring rings when scoring multiple shot groups. Templates or Eagle Eye devices are used to score torn shot holes where the spindle of a scoring gauge cannot accurately find the true center of the shot hole. Eagle Eye devices are also exceptionally effective in finding double shot holes in multiple shot groups.

10-Meter air rifle and pistol scoring gauges, l. to r., Air Rifle/Pistol Inward, Air Rifle Outward and Air Pistol Outward. Note the small flange on the inward gauge and the larger flanges on the outward gauges. The gauges shown here are all Gunsmithing, Inc. gauges.

When Using Gauges. Since there are so many different gauges it is especially important to be sure all scorers use the same correct gauges. Check the rulebook for the competition being fired to confirm the correct size gauge(s) for that competition. If you are unsure of your gauges, it may even be a good idea to check them with a precision micrometer. For .22 cal. scoring take special note of the fact that there are three different .22 cal. inward gauge standards, the ISSF/USAS Inward (.221-223”), the NRA Inward (.2225-.224” and the NRA 5.56 Highpower Inward (.2235-

2245”). When scoring events that require two scoring gauges, be sure all scorers are clear as to when outward and inward gauges are used. Scorer training must assure that the obvious mistake of

using an outward gauge and reading it on the inside is avoided.

5-Meter BB Gun. Two scoring gauges are required to score BB gun targets.

- **AR4 BB Gun Outward Gauge** (0.421-0.423") for scoring 10 to 3 rings.
- **Air Rifle/Pistol Inward Gauge** (4.50-4.55mm or .177-.179") for scoring 2 and 1 rings.

10-Meter Air Rifle. Two scoring gauges are required to score 10-meter air rifle ISSF, NC-AR10 and NRA AR5 targets. Use an Eagle Eye gauge to score torn shot holes.

- **Air Rifle Outward Gauge** (5.45-5.50 mm) for scoring 10 to 3 rings.
- **Air Rifle/Pistol Inward Gauge** (4.50-4.55mm or .177-.179") for scoring 2 and 1 rings.

10-Meter Air Pistol. Two scoring gauges are required to score 10-meter air pistol ISSF or NRA targets.

- **Air Pistol Outward Gauge** (11.45-11.50 mm) for scoring 10 to 2 rings.
- **Air Rifle/Pistol Inward Gauge** (4.50-4.55mm or .177-.179") for scoring 1 ring only.

50-Foot USAS 50 Smallbore Rifle. Two scoring gauges are required to score the USAS 50 smallbore target that is reduced from the current ISSF 50 meter target.

- **.22 USAS Outward Gauge** (8.98-9.03 mm) for scoring 10 to 4 rings.
- **.22 ISSF/USAS Inward Gauge** (5.60-5.65 mm or .2205-.2225") for scoring 3 to 1 rings.

50-Foot A-36 Smallbore Rifle. Two scoring gauges are required to score the 50-foot A-36 smallbore target that is reduced from the 1958-1988 ISSF target.

- **.22 NRA Outward Gauge** (.3625") for scoring 10 dot/ring only
- **.22 NRA Inward Gauge** (.2225-.224") for scoring 3 to 1 rings.

ISSF/USAS .22 Cal. Rifle & Pistol. All smallbore rifle or pistol scoring that uses ISSF/USAS rules must be scored with a .22 ISSF/USAS Inward Gauge (5.60-5.65 mm or .2205-.2225") for all rings. Note that the .22 NRA Inward Gauge is not legal for scoring these events.

.22 cal. rifle and pistol gauges, l. to r., ISSF/USAS Inward, NRA Inward, A-36 Inward, NRA Inward, A-36 Inward. The first three gauges are manufactured by Gunsmithing, Inc.; the other two by RIG.

NRA Smallbore Rifle & Pistol. All other smallbore rifle or pistol scoring that uses NRA rules must be scored with a .22 NRA Inward Gauge (.2225-.224") for all rings.

CMP Rimfire Sporter (and Sporterifle). A .22 NRA Inward Gauge (.2225-.224") must be used to score all rings. Use an Eagle Eye gauge to detect and score double or multiple shot holes.

CMP Games Highpower Rifle. A .308 Inward Gauge (0.3075-0.3085") must be used to score all CMP-sanctioned As-Issued Military Rifle Matches.

RIG scoring gauges are available in virtually all calibers used for rifle and pistol competitions in the USA from .177 to .45. Most RIG gauges, including the one shown here, have a built in magnifier that is mounted over the flange.

CMP EIC and NRA Highpower Rifle. One of five different gauges may be used, depending upon the rifle caliber being fired at a target: .224" Inward Gauge for 5.56 mm, .243" Inward Gauge for 6 mm, .264" for 6.5 mm, .284" for 7 mm and .308" for 7.62 mm (all gauge dimensions are +/- .001").

Center Fire Pistol Scoring. A 9.65 mm Inward Gauge must be used for ISSF center-fire pistol. Appropriate sized Inward Gauges must be used for pistol events scored according to NRA rules, including CMP-sanctioned service pistol EIC matches (9mm or .45).

Where to Buy Scoring Gauges. The following organizations or shooting equipment suppliers are sources for purchasing scoring gauges and scoring aids.

Gunsmithing Inc., Colorado Springs CO, <http://nealjguns.com/>, has a full selection of precision machined scoring gauges. Gunsmithing scoring gauges are micrometer-measured and the precise measurement of each gauge is recorded on the protective carrying tube supplied for that gauge.

National Rifle Association, <http://materials.nrahq.org/go/products.aspx?cat=Scoring%20Aids>, offers a wide variety of scoring gauges, most made by the RIG company, as well as several scoring templates.

Champions Choice, LaVergne TN, <http://www.champchoice.com/> has a full line of RIG and Eagle Eye scoring gauges.

Champions Shooters Supply, New Albany OH, <http://www.championshooters.com/index-ssl.html> also has a full line of RIG and Eagle Eye scoring gauges.

CMP E-Store, <http://estore.odcmp.com/Store/catalog/catalog.aspx>, will carry Eagle Eye .177"/.221" and .224"/.308" gauges starting in February 2008.

An Eagle Eye scoring device with engraved 4.5 mm and 5.6 mm rings and a magnifier. These gauges are used to score torn shot holes and locate doubles. The magnifier also serves as a magnifying glass for reading inward and outward scoring gauges.

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DAISY AIR RIFLES

I have always enjoyed books about hunting or firearms and they seem to follow my interests of the time. Seeing as my longest obsession was with black powder muzzleloaders and cartridge guns one book that I thoroughly enjoyed was “The J.M. Pyne stories & other selected writings by Lucian Cary”. But finding a digital copy so I can share a chapter or two with you is like finding the Holy Grail.

So until I locate what I want please enjoy the following article that makes mention Of the Pyne stories by Lucian Cary.

LOVE IN THE TIME OF CREEDMOOR

And a complete absence of common sense



In the time of Creedmoor: Barreled action by Dan Pedersen, stocked by Robert Szweda with walnut from Bill Downtin. Sam Welch engraved the period scroll and Doug Turnbull rust blued the barrel and case hardened the action. The rifle may have no earthly use, but it sure is pretty.

Lucian Cary is almost forgotten today – an elegant writer from the heyday of magazines in the 1930s whose work graced the old *Saturday Evening Post*. Cary was among the last of the generation of writers (Robert Ruark was maybe *the last*) who appeared routinely in both mainstream magazines and the outdoor press.

In the 1930s, shooting was still acceptable in Manhattan, and Cary’s pet subjects were Harry M. Pope, the single-shot target rifle, and the arcane art of cut-rifling a barrel. This may not seem a likely subject for a series

of short stories to lay before the non-shooting public, but Lucian Cary was such a good writer he made it work. The fictional barrel maker was J.M. Pyne, closely modeled on Cary's friend Pope, and he made regular appearances in the fiction pages of the *Post*.

Of course, at the time, there were still many alive whose memories lingered on the grand days when long-range rifle matches were a staple of the sports pages. Huge crowds turned out at ranges named Creedmoor and Walnut Hill to watch the proceedings, and the names of great riflemen like Farrow and Hudson were as familiar as Ruth and DiMaggio.

But times change. Shooting and literary tastes change. The great ranges became housing developments and the general-interest magazines drowned in a sea of television. Lucian Cary died, an alcoholic, in a seedy hotel on the lower east side.

One man did not forget Cary, Creedmoor, Pope, or the fine rifles at the center of it all. John T. Amber was the legendary editor who made *Gun Digest* such a great publication through the 1960s and '70s. Amber admired all rifles, but he loved old single-shots best of all (he called his Illinois farm "Creedmoor") and in 1964 he began reprinting Cary's stories in the pages of *Gun Digest*. The best one of all, *The Madman of Gaylord's Corner*, appeared in 1967, and it was right there and then, 42 long and unbelievable years ago, that your correspondent fell under the spell of the long-range single-shot rifle.

As with many youthful passions, this one went unrequited for many years. (And my passion for Kim Novak, alas, never was requited.) Through a succession of lesser involvements (the FN-FAL in the army, a .300 Weatherby when I was briefly bewitched by velocity) my interest in finely made, precise instruments of deliberate accuracy, delivered one studied shot at a time, lay dormant.

Then, one day in 2003, I walked into my favorite gunshop and they handed me an old cartridge for my collection. It was a rimmed straight case with a paper-patched flat-nosed lead bullet – a .40-70 Straight Sharps loaded with blackpowder and at least a century old.

That cartridge began to play on my imagination and before I knew it I was knee-deep in the history of the single-shot target rifle. The straight .40-70 is not an old buffalo cartridge; it was designed for, and really limited to, the great target rifles of the late 19th century. And soon I was working out a plan to have one made.



Case hardening, authentic to both period and manufacturer, is Doug Turnbull's forte. The action was case hardened and then polished to an old-coin finish, while the lever was left pristine for contrast.

Now let's be blunt here: This was an insane idea. The cartridge is obsolete. Brass is hard to get and proper bullets even harder. The old great single-shots are a thing of the past. Who would barrel it? And when I got it – *if* I got it – what on earth would I do with it?

Never mind. Mere detail. I began to plot.

There was really only one choice for an action – a Ruger No. 1. And it was appropriate because the very first custom No. 1 was made for John Amber as a Creedmoor target rifle, and it graced the cover of the 1969 *Gun Digest*. The symmetry appealed to me. My friends at Brownells are accustomed to the most off-the-wall ideas, and came up with an action.

I then went to our very own modern Harry M. Pope, Dan Pedersen of Classic Barrel & Gun Works in Prescott, Arizona, and outlined the plan. Dan agreed to barrel the rifle (he had recently fallen under the spell of long-range big-bore shooting, and so was susceptible to madness) and we settled on a 34-inch heavy octagonal barrel. Bill Downtin supplied a walnut blank with the appropriate “period” look, and Robert Szweda prepared to stock it in classic Creedmoor style. Brownells came through, again, with a ladder tang sight and globe front sight with a spirit level.



The ladder tang sight, suitable only for target rifles – true *long-range* target rifles – came from Brownell’s, and was adapted to the Ruger by Dan Pedersen. There is virtually nothing off-the-shelf about this rifle – just as it was in the time of Creedmoor.

The answers to “Why?” and “For what?” remained unresolved, but the “what,” “who,” and “how” were settled. “When?” remained an open question for the next four years.

As with most such plans, this one was barely formed in my mind before it reeled out of control.

The first hitch was the ladder tang sight, *de rigueur* on such a rifle but, alas, the No. 1 has a safety on the tang, and the tang is not long enough to support the sight base. No problem. Since a single-shot target rifle needs a safety like a fish needs a bicycle, Dan removed it, lengthened the tang, and we were away.

We then sent the frame to Sam Welch, an engraver who specializes in scroll, for some embellishment appropriate to the 1890s. By this time, any semblance of good sense was completely out the window, and we wound it up – four years after the idea was hatched – by sending the rifle to Doug Turnbull. Doug case hardened the action and rust-blued the barrel.



Sam Welch's scroll engraving is perfectly suited to a long-range target rifle from the 1890s.

In the interim, I had tackled the ammunition question by obtaining some Bertram .40-70 Straight Sharps brass. Since the re-emergence of competitive long-range blackpowder rifle shooting, Bertram in Australia has started making virgin brass. Thank heaven. The alternative is to form it from .30-40 Krag (which is slightly short) or using .405 Winchester (which is almost identical to the .40-70, but no easier to find). As for bullets, well, in the garage I now have a lead furnace and an impressive collection of old bullet moulds, most purchased on eBay, in every diameter from .401 to .415.

Because of the .40-70's use in such competition, we now have dies available from Redding and RCBS, with expanding plugs in different sizes to accommodate the varying bore diameters, so at least I was saved from having to order custom dies, pay several hundred dollars, and wait two years.

Throughout it all, whenever doubts timidly raised their heads, I would look again at my tattered 1967 *Gun Digest*, and the illustrations of the massive target rifle that accompanied Lucian Cary's story of the *Madman*, and smile. And then I would ask myself, yet again, "But what am I going to do with it?"

The short answer, of course, is “shoot it.” And I have. Not very much, not in competition, and not even enough to learn what it is really capable of, except to know that with the basic components now assembled it will hold its own easily out to 300 yards with that ladder tang sight – enough that I don’t feel I’m wasting lead.

The challenge is no longer merely getting it to shoot. Now we want to see just what it can do out at those fabled Creedmoor distances of 500 and 600 yards.

Although this exercise will win no awards for common sense, it certainly was educational. Rarely today, when ordering a rifle, is one asked “what bore diameter do you want -- .406, .408, 410?” and have to research it to find out. (For the record, I chose .408.)

In 1900, such questions were routine, and it was the answers those men came up with, and the results they produced thereby, that laid the foundation for much of what we now know about target rifles. For that matter, much of this knowledge, indirectly, flowed into this rifle through the hands of Danny Pedersen, who not only made the barrel himself but did all the action work. Danny learned it from Fred Wells, who learned it from...well, you get the picture.

And now, with this rifle leaning against my bookshelf, I can delve into those old *Gun Digests* and turn to the tales of J.M. Pyne, and look up every so often and smile at the sight of a real Creedmoor-style rifle.

Wonder what Kim Novak is doing on Saturday night?

“Their sport requires its own special kind of nerve, the nerve to wait under pressure, to resist the natural human impulse to snatch at the trigger as the sights swing fast across the bull, to hold until the gun steadies, slows down, edges toward the center, and then, promptly but without haste, to put the last necessary quarter-ounce pressure on that trigger.”

Great marksmanship, as Cary described it, sounded like Zen mastery. “When everything is going well, the gun seems to fire itself. But it won’t do that for a man who is excited, or even for one who is trying too hard.”

Lucian Cary, 1935

Did we have a good year.

While I did not get a deer this year I still enjoyed the time outdoors and went old school as far as a rifle went. My Lee Speed No3 built on a Sparkbrook Mk11* M.L.E. action from 1896.



Logan Richard's must be be paying attention to coach Rob Deneka's advice
As he dropped this deer after his dad missed.



Novice groups Rylan may not have pulled the trigger but he did enjoy the season being out with his dad, David.



Perry Marsh's son Lucas with his first deer





Kirsta Hildebrand went to the AHA Memorial Match in Olds, Alberta in November and got 2nd in finals

Ralph Pratt's family, Dusty-Jean with her first deer, Dusty and Zoe shooting and son-in-law Chris going old school.



My name is Alex, and my dad and I have been planning this trip for over a year. Our journey began in Winnipeg on December 2, 2016 with a red eye flight to Churchill, Manitoba. I took with me a Tikka 30-06 with 180 grain loads and a Vortex scope. I've been saving for this gun for over a year, and finally made enough money to make the purchase in time for this hunt.



Packing up our gear at the Polar Inn

On arrival in Churchill, we were picked up by Didier Allen, our guide and friend. The arctic at this time of the year is very unforgiving, and the trek to the cabin requires a familiarity with the area that goes beyond the limitations of GPS navigation. Didier has been hunting this land for most of his life. His skills and knowledge are imperative to a successful hunt.

We unpacked our gear at the Polar Inn which we used as our home base for the next 10 days, and began getting ready for the trip to our outpost trappers cabin 50 km north of Churchill where we would settle for 5 days in search of the elusive moose.

With the snow machines loaded and fuelled, we headed north. The trip took us over a twisted contorted trail that weaved in and out of the tree line, lakes and the shores of the Hudson's



Didier and I, taking a rest on our way to the cabin

Bay. As a result of the warmer temperatures this year, the trail was barren in some areas and some of the lakes and rivers were still showing signs of thin ice and open water in some areas. Temperature ranged from -20 to -35 degrees.

On the way north, we saw signs of Polar Bears, Moose, caribou and wolverine.

The entire trip took approximately 3.5 hours. We arrived just before night fall. At this time of the year the sun rises at 08:30 and by 16:00 the landscape is blanketed with darkness. By the time we drove to our hunting areas we would have at most four hours available of daylight



Our home for the next 5 days

We spent the next two days familiarizing our selves with the trails, observing and tracking the movement of the moose.

Over the course of the 5 days, we were amazed by the beauty of the tundra. An ecosystem, that at first appears inhospitable, cold and unforgiving. Once emerged in it for a few days we were rewarded with amazing sunsets and sunrises, a variety of wild life that ranged from the humble red fox to the the amazing polar bear. Our cold nightly bathroom visits were rewarded with the dance of the northern lights high up in the black northern sky.

We found our moose in a bluff of willows and trees. Didier pointed out mom and two calves relaxing and frankly quite not interested in us. He suspected that a bull moose might be hanging around as well. As we drove around the thick willows and temporarily lost sight of the mom and calves. Our attention was diverted to the end of the lake. Emerging out the the 6 foot high willows, we saw two large bulls looking as surprised to see us as we were to see them.

The larger of the two quickly disappeared into the willows, and I was able to take aim at the second moose. A single shot was delivered at two hundred yards. I had my first bull moose!!!!



My dad and I with my moose

You Heard It At The Range

“I always shoot fast, it is just the way I am.”

Novice Member – Yuvraj Chhokar

On behalf of everyone on the executive of the M.P.R.A. I would like to wish you the best of the season and a safe and exciting 2017. See you on the range.

*Merry
Christmas*

