



Team Journal – Part 21

Thursday 2nd September

How best to put this afresh? Well, our regular readers know the routine by now: blue skies, 7 a.m departure from the hotel etc. etc. Today we have the last day's individual shoot - 10 to count at 300x, 500x and 600x and 15 at 1000x.

The day went much as did the days before - pretty still for 300x with the wind getting more interesting at 500x and 600x. Six of the team went clean in the morning - Jeremy (22x), David Luckman (22x), Jon Cload (21x), Parag (19x), Your Correspondent (14x) and Nigel (11x). Extraordinarily this meant that David Luckman has gone the whole tour without dropping a single point at short range. He has calculated (and he is an actuary) that this means that he has had a total of 270 consecutive bulls at short range in individual matches. The only point he *has* dropped was when he was coached by Jeremy Langley in one of the team matches here in Raton - but he doesn't hold that against Jeremy. The wags of the team in the pits (Nigel (the aliens took my bullet) Ball and David's brother Andy knew the importance of the final shot at 600x for David and put the target up without a spotting disc and with the marker board showing a 9. Poor David spent 10 seconds wondering how he could have gone wrong before they pulled the target and correctly marked the X that he had scored.

In the afternoon the winds again became very tricky. Those in the first detail had a reasonably difficult time. Andy Luckman's score of 150.8 was therefore an outstanding shoot. However, one minute after the second detail started things became more than tricky. As we came back from the butts the flags were hanging down looking at their feet like guilty schoolboys. As we watched in the five minute preparation period the flags picked up and then did a slow complete 360 degree revolution. One minute after the detail started and just as the first of the two string shooters was thinking about firing their first shots we watched a dust storm cross in front of the butts. The order to stop shooting was then given because some of the targets had been ripped apart by the sudden squall (apparently one of the portaloos doors was also blown off, which can only have been of benefit, except to those outside). After ten minutes or so the detail was restarted and the first of the pair given an extra sighter which, uniquely in our experience, meant that those who had not fired a first sighter were given three convertible sighters. The first man to shoot in this detail then had a relatively easy time of it, and Jeremy Langley took advantage of the reasonably quiescent conditions and scored an excellent 149.9 to leave him with a total score of 449.31 on the day. David Luckman also put in a very good 148.8.

After the usual ranges had been shot it was time for the Final which involved only the top 5 in the Grand. Representing the GBRT was only David Luckman, with Andy just outside the 5. Jon Underwood had been nastily caught in the final relay at 1000x and fell out of the top 5 as a result.

Going into the Final David had a 2 point lead over Noma Mayo. He scored 99.4 (winding out shot number 3) at the 1000x final shoot (10 to count), therefore making himself, safely, the winner of the US Grand Agg. This was a great result for him and the team and some consolation for being pipped at the post in Canada after leading the Canadian Grand Agg for most of the time. Coming second to David was Noma Mayo with Mitch Maxberry 3rd. Andy Luckman came 6th and Jon Cload 8th. To top the GB team's day, Jeremy Langley won the day's match with his score of 449.31, from Timothy Manges with 449.29. David and Andy Luckman were 3rd and 4th and Jon Cload 10th.

After the day's shooting the America Match team was announced as follows:

Captain: John Webster
Adjutant: Alwyn McLean
Chief Coach: Nick Hinchliffe

Coach: Jeremy Langley
David Luckman
Jon Cload
Jane Messer
Jon Underwood
Reserves: Nigel Ball, Toby Raincock

Coach: David Richards
Andy Luckman
Mary Boston
James Watson
Parag Patel

This evening the majority of the team went for dinner to the St James Hotel in Cimarron, a building redolent of the Wild West - and one which provided a very good dinner.

Today's Results

Match 4 - the Sierra Bullets Individual Match

Jeremy Langley	100	9	100	5	100	8	149	9	449	31
David Luckman	100	6	100	7	100	9	148	8	448	30
Andy Luckman	99	2	100	4	99	5	150	8	448	19
Jon Cload	100	8	100	6	100	7	146	5	446	26
Toby Raincock	100	5	100	5	99	4	147	4	446	18
David Richards	99	7	100	9	100	7	145	8	444	31
Parag Patel	100	8	100	5	100	6	144	4	444	23
James Lewis	100	8	100	7	99	4	145	4	444	23
Martin Millar	99	6	99	3	99	7	147	3	444	19
Nigel Ball	100	5	100	3	100	3	144	1	444	12
John Webster	99	6	98	5	100	7	144	7	441	25
Alistair Speirs	100	6	100	4	100	4	140	4	440	18
Mary Boston	99	6	100	5	99	6	142	1	440	18
Nick Hinchliffe	99	4	98	5	99	3	144	5	440	17
Jon Underwood	100	6	99	3	100	4	139	0	438	13
Jane Messer	100	8	99	5	100	8	138	3	437	24
James Watson	100	7	98	3	99	3	140	3	437	16
Ross McQuillan	97	5	98	3	99	3	141	2	435	13
Alwyn McLean	100	8	99	5	98	6	136	1	433	20

The Grand Aggregate

		v
David Luckman	1789	94
Andy Luckman	1786	82
Jon Cload	1785	104
Parag Patel	1782	87
Jon Underwood	1780	87
Nigel Ball	1778	79
John Webster	1776	88
James Lewis	1774	86
Alistair Speirs	1773	78
Jeremy Langley	1772	91
Martin Millar	1772	81
James Watson	1771	76
Jane Messer	1770	95
Mary Boston	1769	85
David Richards	1767	84
Toby Raincock	1767	82
Alwyn McLean	1763	86
Nick Hinchliffe	1748	55
Ross McQuillan	1736	64
Erica McMullan	871	28

Today's Photo Gallery



The Captain and David's brother lead the team chairing David off the range



Emil Praslick congratulates David



Jeremy picks up his medal for winning today's match



Each morning the cannon is fired at the lunch trailer,
so far it has failed to destroy the place



Today's featured American, Roger Culbertson of North Louisiana, who has spent much of the week helping in the pits



David and his winning shoot.