

PP1 and SPB (Saturday 7 March 2009)

Saturday 7th March saw the first URA pistol competition of the year take place. A Police Pistol One (PP1) and Service Pistol B (SPB) was undertaken on a spring day that gave us a combination of overcast conditions and blustery showers. With a total of 35 competitors, this gave 70 individual match entries. No specialist equipment is required to take place in either of these competitions. Any pistol or revolver from 9mm/.38 to .455 calibre is eligible.

The first match of the day was PP1. This match is shot over three distances: 25, 15 and 10 metres. At 25 metres you have two minutes to fire 12 shots in two strings of six rounds, including the reload. With 40% of the total points available during the first stage of this match, the windy conditions obviously played a part here as it was hard to keep a steady hand. The second stage takes place at 15 metres with the target being exposed 12 times for two seconds per exposure, shot in two strings of six rounds. One shot is fired at each target exposure. The last stage takes place at 10 metres, with three exposures of two seconds, where the competitor fires two shots at each exposure. A maximum of 300 points are available in this competition.

After all the competitors had completed the PP1 match the targets were changed and we switched over to the second competition of the day, Service Pistol B. In this match two targets are used with six rounds being shot at 25, 20, 15 and 10 metres. At 25 metres you have 15 seconds to place six rounds on the left hand target. At 20 metres you have 10 seconds to put three rounds on each target. At 15 metres the targets make three exposures of three seconds, with two shots fired at each exposure. The final stage takes place at 10 metres, with one exposure of the targets for six seconds during which the competitor places three rounds on each target. A maximum of 120 points are available in this competition.

Many thanks to the members of the association, who ran the range, scored and patched the targets. This was the first of a number of competitions that will take place this year covering a wide variety of competitive events. Keep an eye on the URA website for an update on the type and dates of the pistol competitions that will take place this year.