

## NATIONAL RIFLE ASSOCIATION OF NEW ZEALAND INC.

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## Ladies Longs – 7 December 2024

Typical spring weather in the Hutt Valley. Hot, blustery wind from the north, west, and south. Not the ideal location to run a Bisley pairs style long range shooting competition. However, that's what the NRANZ Secretariat decided to do for this year's Long Range championship, (2024 Ladies Longs). A detailed championship flyer went out to signal the change of approach and ask for early entries, which we mostly got in advance. There were some walk-up entries on the morning, but enough early entries were received to work out an initial squadding concept and number of relays per match etc. With twelve lanes of Shotmarker E Targets available and 38 entries, it was decided that for each match, relay 1 would consist of; FTRC, FTR, FPR, TR-B, TR-C and Tyro. A second relay would consist of FO and TR-A competitors. This left a few lanes empty in each relay, but this didn't seem to matter.

The recently published Shotmarker event software was utilised to manage randomised pairing and relay construction for each match. This actually worked pretty well. It was, however, quite nerve racking to use with a constant fear of getting something wrong and having your competition full apart during the event. It was great to be able to publish pairing, lane numbers, left or right, left hand shooters on the right etc for all three matches in advance.

It is fair to say that the Shotmarker operating system coped better than competitors. We do have a way to go to understand and utilise all the features available in the Shotmarker system. Lots of onthe-day learning was achieved.

The Seddon Range at Trentham lived up to its reputation and provided a significant number of crossfires during the day. In an electronic environment each crossfire created absolute mayhem and disrupted the shooting of four competitors with stray shots needing to be deleted at the arriving target and a scoring miss added to the target of origin. From an RO's perspective trying to figure out which of the two shooters within the pairs were impacted, which is the offending landing shot and to whom should the miss be awarded and after or before which shot on the screen. And the crossfires kept coming. But we got there in the end and a big thank you to all those who helped out as RO's.

On day two of the weekend we unfortunately missed an error in the published squadding. With rain pending and the wind getting more and more blustery we decided to take the radical step of switching off the event software and ran the remainder of the event on the open Shotmarker software. We stuck to the two relay structure of FTRC, FTR, FPR, TR-B, TR-C and Tyro in relay one, FO and TR-A in relay two. We asked the competitors to form pairs, to move up to the line, to pick an empty lane and to get started. This approach worked just as well as the more rigid process of publishing squadding in advance. We asked competitors to form a different pair and to select a different lane for the 3rd and final match. A big thank you to all the competitors for getting on with it.

## Grade winners:







TR – B Chris B



TR – C Robbie M

## Class winners:



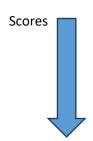




FTR – Saul R



FTRC – Coby S



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