

Photos taken by Jana Ohlsen, Archive, Gerd Ochs and Jacky Lamb

WORLD ASSOCIATION 1500

WA1500 WORLD CHAMPIONSHIPS



25 YEAR ANNIVERSARY

The World Association 1500 is the international governing body for the shooting of PPC 1500 (Precision Pistol Competition 1500). It was founded in 2000 in Leitmar, Germany by representatives from eight countries, including Great Britain represented by Neil Jones and Ted George.

Since then the WA1500 has gone from strength to strength and now comprises twenty two member countries, with individual world rankings for pistol, revolver, optical pistol and optical revolver. Competitions are held throughout member countries that qualify towards the ranking, giving

participating shooters a challenge throughout the season. Each year a major international competition is held with European and World Championships alternating. In this, the 25th Anniversary year, the World Championships went back to its roots and were held in Germany.

It's not all about competing though. The WA1500 is a vibrant community of fellow shooters, all working together for the promotion of the sport and supporting each other in their participation. Despite being unable to practice in Great Britain, we are made very welcome everywhere we travel and the support is terrific.

Above: Kneeling from left: Geza Simon (Hungary), Friedrich Storrer (Germany), Björn Svensson (Sweden), Standing middle from left: Karoly Varga (Hungary), Sandrina van Hagendoren (Austria), Ted George (GB), Neil Jones (GB), Josef "Pepi" Laminger (Austria), the then President of the BDMP Dr. Volkmar Schilling (Germany), Standing behind them: Jundrich Skupa (Czech Republic), Emil Fejer (Czech Republic), Stefan Mees (Belgium), Rolf Dieter Reich (Switzerland), Göran Hagel (Sweden) and standing along the back: Elmar Hüffer (Austria) and Lothar Temme (Germany).

Jacky Lamb

reports from Alsfeld

BDMP Ranges, Germany, on 21-24 August.

The 25th Anniversary WA1500 World Championships was always going to be special and it didn't disappoint.

There were fourteen different nations represented (Austria, Australia, Canada, Czech Republic, Germany, Great Britain, Holland, Italy, Latvia, Northern Ireland, Norway, Romania, South Africa and Sweden). 352 competitors, shot 2594 events, requiring 293,100 rounds. Up to 6 targets per event

needed to be scored and scorecards for each event then had to be sorted and recorded for the results.

This was an amazing achievement in itself! The BDMP (Bund der Militär- und Polizeischützen) are the governing body of WA1500 shooting in Germany and the owners of the ranges at Alsfeld. They had been working hard in the background for many months to create an excellent facility and to manage the extraordinary logistics of

a huge event. Our thanks to them for running such a terrific event and for being great hosts.

The Alsfeld range complex consists of many rifle and pistol ranges. For this event, four 50 yard ranges and a 25 yard range were utilised. The ranges were all run by a superb team of Range Officers, including our own Steve Lamb, who is a qualified BDMP

Range Officer.

The travelling party was made up of nine members of the GB Handgun Squad, lead by their Captain David Harris and supported

by their Adjutant, Sharon Bowden, together with a number of independent shooters from SLG Bisley. It was particularly special that one of the WA1500 founding members, Neil Jones, was not just competing, but also shot in the International Revolver Match for GB.

We all arrived on the Sunday evening and enjoyed 3 days of practice on the impressive Alsfeld Ranges whilst the Range Officers shot their matches. On Thursday the event began in earnest. Given it was



Inset: Marc Schmidt (Head of PPC 1500 BDMP), David Brandenburger (President BDMP), Werner Hilpert (Range Manager Alsfeld BDMP), Peter Sonntag (Deputy Head of PPC 1500 BDMP).



Above: The Range Crew and organisation team.

possible for an individual to take part in twelve different individual events and four two-man team events, we were all very busy for the next three days.

The BDMP had also formed a new car-parking area for the competitors and provided a very large marquee. This was a central facility, with trade stands, a café, a lot of seating and a stage. On the Saturday night a reception was held for all the competitors and guests. During this event, all the Captains were invited onto the stage and a draw was held to determine shooting lanes for the International team matches on Sunday.

Sunday morning was cool and fresh, but dry – excellent shooting conditions. The four teams and their supporters gathered at the range and the air was full of nervous anticipation. Neil Jones and Chris Pannell were first up to shoot the traditional revolver match, followed by Steve Lamb and Matt Peppitt shooting the Pistol match. The Optical Match has now been split into Optical Revolver and Optical Pistol. Matt Peppitt and Dave Berry shot the

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Optical Revolver and Steve Lamb and David Harris the Optical Pistol. For the first time, the whole of the event was available to watch live on youtube, with cameras coving both the shooters and the target. There was also a roving reporter interviewing competitors and spectators.

Given the difficult circumstances under which we have to operate in Great Britain, the team acquitted themselves well. They competed in all four events and, in all of them, finished

above at least one team from a country where they can own and practice with these types of firearms.

Special mention must be made of the outstanding performance of German shooter Ralf Vanicek. He won all four individual 1500 matches, achieving scores of; Revolver 1492.105x, Pistol 1494.105x, Revolver Optical 1496.111x and Pistol Optical 1493.113x. Therefore, out of a possible 6000 points Ralf only dropped 25 points and placed 434 of his 600 shots in the X ring.

We are now looking forward to the European Championships next year that will be held in the Czech Republic (03/08/2026 – 09/08/2026). It is hoped that with the increase in emphasis on the optical events, that there will be more interest from the talented pool of LBR and LBP shooters in the UK.

Full results can be found on the WA1500 website: wa1500.org/competition_results.php

The live stream can be found on youtube: World Championship PPC15500 National match live from Alsfeld. [📺](#)

Below: (L-R): Neil Jones, Sharon Bowden (Adjutant), Chris Pannell, Matt Peppitt, David Harris (Captain), Steve Lamb and Dave Berry.

