



### Ballyvally Slope Training and Shoot

Ballyvally members spent an energetic weekend in Castlewellan Forest Park with slope training on Saturday 21 February and then a FITA unmarked competition on Sunday 22 February. Turnout was good for both events and 57 archers from across Northern Ireland competed on Sunday.

### Slope Shoot results

Sixteen Juniors tackled the slopes and top scorers in each category are as follows; shooting off yellow pegs Luke McConnell won with 224 points in the Under 9 Barebow class with brother Aaron putting in an excellent score of 201 points in Under 12 Traditional.

Shooting from white pegs, Roald Naeri scored 143 in Under 12 Barebow while Rebecca Corbett achieved 204 points in the Under 15 class. Compound Barebow archer Dean Hamilton scored 204 in the Under 12 category with Morgan Russell-Cowan scoring 205 in Under 15 Compound. Rebecca Lennon achieved 150 points in the Under 12 Traditional class.

Shooting both blue and white pegs Barebow archer Lisa McConnell scored 268 points while junior Craig McCreery scored 252 in Compound Barebow.

As usual there was stiff competition among the seniors and juniors shooting off blue pegs. In the Barebow category Neil Gordon won the Men's class with 300 points while Audrey Needham won the Ladies with 252. Under 18 Robert Mallon almost beat the seniors with an excellent score of 297. In the Traditional class John Reaney won with 192 points while Under 15 Shannon Russell-Cowan triumphed with 165 points. In Longbow Roy Meakim and Mark McConnell both scored 153 points but Roy won with fewer misses. Under 15 Longbow archer Frank Lennon scored 119 points while Rory Shannon, Under 15 Freestyle, scored 121 points. In the Compound Unlimited class Brendan Byrne won with 345 points while Under 18 Ciara Dunleavy put in a good score of 302. James Lowry, Freestyle archer, scored 240 points.

Many thanks to Judge Frank Mulligan and course layers, Lewis Gamble, Damien Lennon, Frank Mulligan and Rune Naeri for a steep and challenging course. Thanks also to DARD Forest Service staff of Castlewellan Forest Park.

#### National and International competitions

Ballyvally archers continue to represent both Northern Ireland and team GB at national and international competitions. Last weekend Alan Convery, Amy Lavery and Mark Nesbitt competed in the British Indoor Target Championships in Birmingham and Mark Nesbitt has just flown off to Poland with Archery GB Junior Team to participate in the World Indoor Target Championships.

#### Photocaptions

2724 Archery is a family sport at Ballyvally! The McConnell family of Mark, Lisa, Aaron and Luke with Rory Shannon at slope training in Castlewellan Forest Park.

2722 Ballyvally members Marion Patterson, Andrew and Joanne Walker estimating distances at slope training