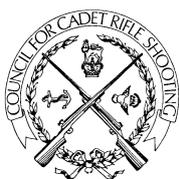


From: Major General Ian Dale CBE



Council for Cadet Rifle Shooting

Patron: HRH The Duke of Edinburgh KG KT

President: General the Lord Houghton of Richmond GCB CBE DL

Chairman: Maj Gen IC Dale CBE **General Secretary:** Lt Col R D Bruce OBE

CCRS 6005

20 Mar 18

All CCF units, SCC units, ACF units and ATC units

Dear Friend of cadet shooting,

You will be aware that CCRS works in partnership with the MoD to promote, encourage and organise the sport of target rifle shooting across the cadet youth organisations. The immediate pinnacle for cadets is selection for the 3 international teams for which CCRS is responsible – the UK Cadet Rifle Team (U17), the British Cadet Rifle Team (U18 – known as The Athelings) and the GB U19 Team. The MoD's own surveys indicate that 4 out of 5 cadets join because of shooting – so it is a top motivator. You might also be interested to learn that 23 of the 25 person GB Squad – which won the last World Long Range Full-bore Championships in 2015 – had cadet backgrounds.

I am aware that many CFAVs and cadets have experienced some frustrations over the last couple of years – most recently concerning maintenance of the full-bore cadet target rifle and transition from the old Number 8 to the new L144 cadet small-bore target rifle. CCRS has seen these frustrations translate into reduced entries in major competitions. I write to say that we have now turned a corner. With very positive assistance from Cadet Branch, most of the problems and irritations of recent years have been resolved and removed making cadet shooting far easier to do and in a very much more positive environment. I would highlight just a few points to reinforce this:

Full-bore cadet target rifle. The MoD recently confirmed that the operational service date for the rifle has been extended to 2026 and the fleet size will remain more or less static. Furthermore – from 2018 onwards - maintenance hubs will be established which will be visited by servicing engineers; this will avoid rifles being transported back to a central location and will both ease administration of servicing and minimise time away from holding units.

L144 cadet small-bore target rifle. The full Army Cadet fleet will be in service by mid- 2018. The full Air Cadet fleet will be in service by mid-2019 – and it has just been confirmed that the Sea Cadet and RM Cadet fleet will be in service by mid-2018 also. Additionally - the early teething problems of the new rifle are being rectified by the manufacturer.

Movement of rifles and ammunition. MoD rules have been relaxed are now more pragmatic.

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Cadet locally purchased/privately owned rifles. A formal policy now exists to allow cadets to use these rifles within defined parameters.

Thank you for your forbearance whilst these issues have been addressed.

I now believe that cadet target rifle shooting is well-placed to move forward and to offer our young people opportunities to shoot at a high level and to aim for those international teams mentioned earlier. I therefore urge CFAVs to take advantage of this new shooting environment, get cadets shooting and enter CCRS national competitions in all disciplines. For more information on events, entry requirements and training advice please get in touch with the General Secretary or the Shooting Officer at Derby Lodge in Bisley.

*Competitive shooting is a fantastic motivator
and brilliant fun for any cadet. Do please
encourage them to come along!*

Best wishes

Ian Dals

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