



Members Handbook

Season 40

September 2024 – August 2025

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1. Club Rules

Safety is non-negotiable and the NUMBER ONE priority for the club. Shooting must always be conducted in a safe manner in accordance with club rules and under the guidance of the committee.

Anyone failing to shoot in a safe manner or breaching the club rules may be asked to leave the club and not return. Membership (if applicable) would be cancelled, and fees would be refunded only at the discretion of the committee.

Ear, Eye & Head Protection are mandatory. Please ensure that you bring ear defenders or plugs, safety glasses and a suitable hat. Disposable Ear plugs are available free of charge at the shoot.

Membership fees are renewable at the start of each season and become due in September. Failure to pay your renewal by the end of October will result in you dropping out of the league and reverting to non-Member status. Anyone renewing their membership after October will be re-instated in the bottom league.

Felt Wad Cartridges only – strictly NO PLASTIC WADS. Maximum shot size of 7 and maximum load of 28 grams ONLY.

Semi-Auto or Standard shotguns only (Side by Side or Over & Under).
PLEASE NOTE THAT PUMP-ACTION GUNS ARE NOT ALLOWED.

No member will be permitted to shoot at the F&F Gun Club unless they have proof of up to-date 3rd Party Public Liability Insurance (PLI). If a member owns and stores a shotgun, then proof of an up-to-date Shotgun Certificate is required.

Experienced members who are over the age of 21 are encouraged to supervise visitors who have signed a 'Section 21 Disclaimer' and allow the use of their gun if required. Whilst this is not mandatory, it is intended to support the introduction of new members to the club and ensure that inexperienced or novice shooters comply with all safety requirements.

Visitors to the club must hold their own 3rd Party Public Liability Insurance (PLI).

Any visitor or member that does not hold a valid Shotgun Certificate must complete and sign a 'Section 21 Disclaimer' form prior to handling a gun or shooting.

Irrespective of whether a visitor has their own gun/certificate and/or insurance, and declare experience and competence with a gun, Members are expected to closely monitor and supervise visitors during their first few shoots, until satisfied that they are competent/confident with a gun, and exhibit safety behaviours in keeping with the club rules.

Any photographs and/or videos taken by a member or visitor to the club which are subsequently forwarded to the club (e.g. via a Committee Member or other club representative) by any means and for any purpose, are gifted to the club at no cost, free of any copyright and with explicit permission for them to be used by the club as they wish to further the aims of the club, without further correspondence or permission being required. The use of any such photographs/videos will be in accordance with the F&F Gun Club Privacy Policy and will comply with GDPR.

Members and guests are expected to respect the people and property around the shooting ground and the farm. Be mindful of animals and farm vehicles when passing through the farm to/from the shooting ground.

Please ensure you park in appropriate areas as instructed by the Committee or the farm owners.

The farm owner's policy is no dog/dogs unless permission is granted by them and agreed by the Committee. For safety reasons, dog/dogs are not permitted to be running loose during setup or while shooting.

The club will keep the minimum necessary information on file while you remain a member or an active guest to ensure the safe running of the club, this will include, but not limited to, a copy of your firearms certificate and proof of insurance. This information will not be shared beyond the committee or with any 3rd party unless formally requested and required to do so by law. Any information held on file will be securely erased should you choose to leave the club or confirm you will no longer be attending as a guest.

No member will be permitted to shoot if they appear to be intoxicated and will be asked to leave the shooting ground immediately.

The Committee's decision on the use of any shotgun at the shooting ground is final, irrespective of the member or guest status, Shotgun Certificate validity, and their perceived right to shoot.

'GUN SAFETY' is non-negotiable and is everybody's responsibility
If it is not safe, point it out

2. Terms & Conditions

An electronic version of the Club Rules together with the F&F Gun Club Terms & Conditions will be issued to everyone invited for membership; an example copy is shown below. Once issued, this needs to be electronically signed before attending the next shoot.

F&F Gun Club Terms & Conditions

To be completed by all members and guests prior to shooting at Osney Lodge Farm

I agree to comply with the F&F Club rules shown above	
I agree to my photograph being used on the F&F Club website	
I agree to my name being displayed on the F&F Club website	
I agree to my email address being shared with other members and guests during F&F Club updates (If you do not agree, updates will be sent to you as a BCC to hide your email from other members)	
I agree to notify the committee of any changes to my personal circumstances that may impact my eligibility to own or shoot a firearm, for example, revocation of shotgun certificate or refusal of insurance policy. You MUST notify a member of the committee prior to attending the shooting ground	

Date	
Signed	

3. Unlicensed Guests & Novice Shooters

Any visitor or member who intends to handle a firearm or shoot at the F&F Gun Club that does not hold a valid Shotgun Certificate, must complete and sign a 'Section 21 Disclaimer' as required by Firearms Act 1968. Any shooter not holding a valid Shotgun Certificate, must be supervised by a licensed experienced shooter who is over the age of 21. An example of the 'Section 21 Disclaimer' form is shown below.



Declaration under Section 21 of the Firearms Act 1968

It is an offence for a person who is prohibited under Section 21 of the Firearms Act 1968 to have a firearm or ammunition in his/her possession at any time.

Section 21 applies to anybody who has been sentenced to imprisonment or to youth custody or detention in any young offenders' institution for three months or more.

The period for which they are prohibited depends on the length of their sentence. If the sentence was longer than three years, the prohibition is for life.

If the sentence was three months or more but less than three years, the prohibition lasts for five years from the date of their release.

A person sentenced to three months imprisonment or more where the sentence is suspended is prohibited for a period of five years beginning with the second day after which the sentence is passed.

It is an offence for a person to transfer, let or hire, give or lend a firearm or ammunition to someone whom he/she knows or has reasonable grounds for believing to be prohibited by Section 21.

Name	
Address	
Postcode	
Date of Birth	

I HEREBY DECLARE THAT I AM NOT A PERSON PROHIBITED FROM POSSESING FIREARMS OR AMMUNITION BY VIRTUE OF SECTION 21 OF THE FIREARMS ACT 1968.

Signature	
Date	

4. Shooting Calendar

Season 40, September 2024 – August 2025

September, 2024	Club Shoot Memberships Renewal	Sunday 8 th & 22 nd Due by 30 th
October, 2024	Club Shoot	Sunday 13 th & 27 th
November, 2024	Club Shoot Harmans Hard 100 Challenge	Sunday 17 th Sunday 24 th
December, 2024	Club Shoot Christmas Shoot	Sunday 8 th Friday 27 th
January, 2025	Club Shoot	Sunday 12 th
February, 2025	Club Shoot Brownetta 100 Challenge	Sunday 9 th Sunday 23 rd
March, 2025	Club Shoot	Sunday 9 th & 23 rd
April, 2025	Club Shoot	Sunday 13 th & 27 th
May, 2025	Annual Shooting Tour Club Shoot	Thursday 8 th to Sunday 11 th Sunday 25 th
June, 2025	Club Shoot	Sun 9 th & 23 rd
July, 2025	Club Shoot	Sun 14 th & 28 th
August, 2025	Club Shoot Club Shoot & Annual General Meeting Trophy Dinner	Sunday 10 th Sunday 24 th Saturday 30 th

Note: Some dates may change during the season, please check website home page (www.fandfgunclub.org) for very latest information on shooting and event dates.

5. Membership & Fees

Full Membership - **Subscription £ 60 per annum + £15 per shoot**

This is the normal full membership that applies to most members. If you join part way through the season the joining fee is calculated pro-rata as follows:

- December to February **£50**
- March to May **£40**
- June to August **£30**

Honorary Membership - **Subscription £ 0 per annum + £15 per shoot**

This membership is for the original founders of F&F in recognition of creating the club and managing it during the early years or any other member the committee agrees has earned the right for Honorary Membership, for example, members who wish to remain in the Leagues but now live too far away for regular attendance. Honorary members are entitled to a Trophy providing they qualify through the normal scoring system.

Non-Members & Guests - **Subscription £ 0 per annum + £25 per shoot**

This allows people to visit the club and shoot alongside members as a guest but at an increased rate per shoot. Guests that visit multiple times and show a keen interest to join will be reviewed at the quarterly committee meetings. If the committee agrees, they will be formally invited to join. If they are invited and accept, they will join the lowest available league and any scores achieved as a guest will be transferred. If they do not join, and opt to continue to pay Non-Members fees, they will not be entered into a league and will not be eligible for a trophy, regardless of the number of times they attend or what their total score is at the end of the season.

6. The Committee & Annual General Meeting (AGM)

Season 40, September 2024 – August 2025



Geoff Pelling

Treasurer & Membership Secretary

geoff.pelling@fandfgunclub.org

07515 286198



Darrell Etherington

Chairman

darrell.etherington@fandfgunclub.org

07768 107111



Steve Harman

Committee Member

steve.harman@fandfgunclub.org

07780 601924

Committee Structure and Formation

The existing committee will step down, and a new committee will be elected at each Annual General Meeting (AGM). The AGM is held after the final shoot of the season, typically on the fourth Sunday in August.

The committee will consist of three members, which is deemed sufficient to oversee all club operations. Additional support may be provided by co-opted members appointed by the committee to undertake specific tasks or roles, such as travel arrangements or ground maintenance.

Co-opted members are authorised to act on behalf of the club and, when necessary, may be allocated an official F&F email address and access to relevant documentation as required. However, co-opted members do not typically engage in the day-to-day management of the club or attend committee meetings unless specifically requested by the committee. Co-opted members do not hold decision-making powers or voting rights beyond the scope of their designated responsibilities.

On 1st August, the committee will invite nominations from individuals wishing to stand for election. Eligible candidates include any fully paid club member who has been actively shooting with F&F for at least two full seasons, including current committee members seeking re-election. All nominations must be submitted by 14th August. There is no restriction on the duration a member can serve on the committee.

Beginning on 14th August, a seven-day voting period will take place, during which each member is required to select their three preferred candidates for the committee from the list of eligible candidates. For the voting process to be deemed valid, participation from over 50% of the club's fully paid members is mandatory. If this threshold is not achieved, or a tie arises, a supplementary voting round will be conducted.

The newly elected committee will be announced at the Annual General Meeting (AGM).

In the unlikely event that fewer than three individuals are willing to stand for election, the current committee members will determine the most appropriate course of action. This ensures the committee consistently comprises three fully paid members who have been active in the F&F Gun Club for at least two complete shooting seasons.

Once the committee has been finalised, the new committee will collectively assign roles and publish the new committee structure by the end of September. These roles typically include Chairman, Treasurer, and Membership Secretary, although one individual may perform multiple roles if necessary.

Should one or more committee members step down mid-season, the remaining members will decide whether replacements should be elected mid-season or deferred until the next AGM.

Any amendments to this process must be communicated to all members for approval and implemented only with the agreement of a majority of fully paid members.

The Annual General Meeting (AGM)

The Annual General Meeting (AGM) is scheduled to take place at the shooting ground following the final shoot of the season, typically held on the fourth Sunday in August.

An agenda outlining the topics to be discussed will be distributed 14 days prior to the meeting. Official minutes will be prepared and shared with all members and guests within a week of the meeting's conclusion.

We kindly encourage all members to prioritise attending the AGM. If you are unable to attend, please submit any matters you wish to raise via email to the.committee@fandfgunclub.org by midnight on the day preceding the AGM.

7. The Safety Briefing

Safety Briefing

A long continuous blow of a whistle means **STOP SHOOTING NOW**. Shooting will not recommence until directed by a committee member, or by 2 long whistle blows.

In the event of an incident an adult “runner” will be nominated to go back to the farm and direct emergency services.

“An Open Gun is a Safe Gun”, closed guns only on stands with finger outside of the trigger guard until you are ready to say “Pull” or “Mark”.

All guns to be empty (no shells in breech) unless shooting. Only ever load two shells per pair when on the stand.

Semi-Auto guns to be loaded with the bolt locked back. One cartridge to be inserted in the chamber, the bolt then closed, and the second round loaded in the magazine.

When leaving the stand, Semi-Auto shooters must eject all rounds (Live or Spent) and insert a safety flag in the chamber. Standard shotguns to be broken and unloaded of all rounds (Live or Spent) and then carried broken or closed and immediately placed in a gun slip or placed on a gun rack. Please remember to pick up empty cartridges and place them in the bucket.

Always be aware where the gun is pointing, ALWAYS DOWN RANGE, avoid “Muzzle Sweeps”.

In the event of a gun jam or dry fire, maintain a firm hold of your gun, and keep it pointing upwards. Be mindful of where the gun is pointing at all times as it may discharge unexpectedly. An experienced shooter will assist you in unloading or clearing the jam if required.

Never be in front of a shooter.

Ear, eye, and head protection is mandatory, for your own safety.

“NO BIRD” means no bird, **DO NOT SHOOT**; others may have seen something you have not.

First Aid Kits are available on the Shooting Ground, should they be required.

Non-licensed, novice and guest shooters must always be supervised by a licensed and competent shooter who must be over 21 years of age, have public liability insurance and is a member of the club.

**‘GUN SAFETY’ is non-negotiable and is everybody’s responsibility
If it is not safe, point it out**

Trap Safety

Auto-traps have an LED on the rear of the control box to indicate the status, **Green** for disarmed, **Red** for armed and **Blue** for launching.

Always approach a trap from the rear to ensure you can see the status.

Before moving a trap, loading clays, or disconnecting from the battery, ALWAYS ensure the trap is disarmed, indicated by a **Green** LED and NEVER lean or reach across a trap that is armed.

To arm or disarm a trap, press the button located on the rear of the control box next to the LED. When disarming, the trap will beep to warn you, then it will launch a clay, after which, the status LED will show **Green**, and the trap is safe.

Make sure boxes of spare clays are placed in a safe area behind the trap to avoid any conflict during launching.

Auto-traps are remotely released and can go off at any time, always remain behind the trap until it is disarmed.

Only connect or disconnect a link cable when the traps are disarmed. To remove the link cable, press the small red locking latch and pull the connector out.

If you see something wrong, immediately cease all activities until the problem is resolved.

Thank you for your attention.

Always remain vigilant and enjoy your shoot

8. The Trophies

<u>Straight Shooting</u>	<u>Handicap Shooting</u>	<u>Annual Tour</u>	<u>Other Trophies</u>
<u>Adults</u> High Gun <u>League 1,2,3 ...</u> (1 st Place / High Gun) * 2 nd Place 3 rd Place Clay Preservation Award	<u>Adults</u> 1 st Place 2 nd Place 3 rd Place	<u>Straight Shooting</u> High Gun 2 nd Place 3 rd Place The Wonky Donkey The Saturday Old Timers Club <u>Handicap Shooting</u> 1 st Place 2 nd Place 3 rd Place	The 'Founders' Trophy Ad hoc events during the shooting season
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Only fully paid-up or members who have attended at least 8 qualifying shoots are entitled to win a trophy (except for ad hoc events held during the season that are open to members and guests) Honorary members are entitled to win a trophy but do not need to attend a minimum number of shoots <p>* High Gun replaces the 1st place Trophy in that shooters league</p>			

There are various trophies for straight and handicap shooting as shown in the table above and a special 'Founders Trophy'. Other trophies may be introduced for ad hoc events during the season.

The Clay Preservation Award

This is awarded by the committee at the end of each season to the shooter considered to be the worst performer during the season. The decision is made by the committee to avoid the scenario where someone shoots just once and has the lowest score during the season but never returns to the club. It will normally be awarded to a fully paid-up member who has made an effort to attend a number of shoots during the season.

The Founders Trophy

This Trophy was created in 2015 by the remaining original founders of the F&F Club and awarded to a member for contributions to the club. The Trophy is kept for 12 months and passed to another member during the awards presentation at the Trophy Dinner. The member currently holding the Trophy will decide who has made a significant contribution to the club during the season and presents the Trophy.

The Wonkey Donkey

This is awarded during the Annual Tour to the person with the lowest score during the tour. This is normally awarded to a shooter that has attended and shot on both days i.e. it is the lowest score out of the 300 clays shot during the tour.

The Saturday Old Timers Club

This is awarded during the Annual Tour to the person who attends the shoot for just one of the two days (normally the Saturday) and only shoots 150 clays and has the highest straight-shooting score. In true F&F style, this trophy is also nicknamed the 'Old Farts Club' as it is generally awarded to one of our more senior shooters.

9. Guide to Scoring

Straight Shooting

The ranking for 'Straight Shooting' is very straightforward and simply based on your best 8 shoots during the season. Therefore, you could (in theory) achieve a maximum of 480 points in any season (8 shoots of 60 birds each). If you have not shot 8 times, then your final score will be the total of all qualifying shoots (the Christmas shoot is not included in your total as this is a bonus shoot).

The season runs from September to August with 2 shoots in March, April, June, July, August, September, and October giving each member the option of attending up to 19 qualifying shoots.

For example, if a member attends 10 shoots during the season and shoots 27, 30, 31, 38, 29, 32, 32, 38, 39 and 25, their total for the season would be $39 + 38 + 38 + 32 + 32 + 31 + 30 + 29 = 269$. The 27 and 25 are discarded as only best 8 are used.

Once the scores are added up you are then ranked within each league based on your scores and trophies awarded to 1st, 2nd, and 3rd places in each league.

In the event of a tie between two or more shooters in a season, then a tie-break is required. To ensure that all tied shooters are compared like-for-like, the scores for all shoots in the season where all the tied shooters attended will be totalled (irrespective of the number of shoots) and the shooters ranked in accordance with their score for all those shoots. If there are no such shoots, or if this process does not resolve the tie, then the Committee will decide on the final rankings, based on the relative performance of all remaining tied shooters.

The outright winner with the highest total score receives the 'High Gun' trophy and whichever league this falls in will have a 'High Gun', 2nd and 3rd place trophies i.e., 'High Gun' replaces the 1st place trophy.

From September 2022 (Season 38), the club will have three leagues as follows:

League 1	8 members
League 2	12 members
League 3	All remaining members (up to 20)

The higher the league, the lower the number of members. This keeps it competitive and ensures you must work harder to stay in the higher leagues.

At the end of each season the rankings are used to decide promotions and relegations within the leagues. All shooters are ranked from top to bottom, the first 8 will form League 1, the next 12 will form League 2 and the remainder will form League 3.

The Members Performance table on the web site shows your current ranking and potential League position during the season, see the example below, taken towards the end of the 2021-2022 season. Under the Club Rank column, dark blue shows League 1, light blue for League 2 and orange shows League 3.

Name	Club Rank	Total Score for Season (Best 8 Shoots)					Average Score (Out of 60)				
		2021-22	2020-21	2019-20	2018-19	2017-18	2021-22	2020-21	2019-20	2018-19	2017-18
Darrell Etherington	1	444	434	439	436	443	53	53	54	53	54
Darren Garrett	2	428	391	224	150	133	52	48	45	50	45
Steve Carr	3	422	311	358	432	373	53	52	52	52	54
Andy Catton	4	412	409	404	408	422	50	49	48	50	51
Bob Brown	5	411	403	379	410	422	49	49	44	49	50
Brendan O'Reilly	6	400	404	403	415	419	50	50	48	49	50
Derek Poole	7	392	399	373	376	82	48	47	46	47	41
Kevin Strudley	8	391	374	392	379	424	46	45	48	46	50
George Mendham	9	381	41	n/a	n/a	n/a	47	41	n/a	n/a	n/a
Jim Catford	10	369	318	239	311	306	45	39	40	37	35
Steve Harman	11	343	309	173	n/a	n/a	42	39	29	n/a	n/a
Terry Trevatt	12	335	138	n/a	n/a	n/a	40	35	n/a	n/a	n/a
Geoff Pelling	13	325	306	307	277	293	40	36	36	34	34
Peter Mendham	14	311	61	n/a	n/a	n/a	38	31	n/a	n/a	n/a
David McGuire	15	306	276	n/a	n/a	n/a	36	34	n/a	n/a	n/a
Chris Andrews	16	286	278	260	244	158	33	32	30	27	18
Ed Chellingworth	17	276	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	40	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Johan Widlund	18	267	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	32	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Derek Sharp	19	235	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	40	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Neil Sharp	20	190	276	n/a	n/a	n/a	38	40	n/a	n/a	n/a
Adrian Doe	21	187	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	38	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Gary Fowles	22	165	357	222	n/a	n/a	42	43	42	n/a	n/a
Paul Mathews	23	159	285	224	299	267	40	41	38	35	32
Mike Rogers	24	156	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	39	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Graham Jackson	25	146	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	37	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Peter Wade	26	145	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	29	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Avice Raza	27	140	308	128	n/a	n/a	35	35	n/a	n/a	n/a
David Simmonds	28	117	39	n/a	n/a	n/a	24	20	n/a	n/a	n/a
Louise Towes	29	94	91	114	167	111	14	12	14	20	19
Rory Lautenbach	30	51	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	26	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Pete Mack	31	19	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	10	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Roy Grogan	n/a		189	198	297	209		32	33	37	35
Ruth Tatman	n/a		19	n/a	29	34		19	n/a	29	34
Tony Tatman	n/a		15	n/a	18	16		15	n/a	18	16

Any new members joining during the season will be added to League 3.

Straight scores are calculated and recorded for non-Members but there are no Trophies.

Handicap Shooting

The trophies for 'Handicap Shooting' are based on a system that looks at your average score for the previous season, which runs from September through to August with two shoots per month in June, July, August, September, and October. If you do not have an average from the previous season, your average for the current season is used to ensure a neutral starting point when calculating the handicapped score. This is used to calculate your score based on how well you shoot above or below your expected average in the current season. The better you shoot in a season, the harder it will be for you in the next season. This levels the playing field across all the adult leagues. Using this formula gives everyone a chance as it is not based around total straight score but how well you shoot against your expected average. For example, a top shooter that scores a little below their normal average could be beaten by a lesser experienced shooter that shoots very well and exceeds their personal average.

As with straight shooting, the handicap competition is only open to adult members and your total for the season is made up from your best 8 shoots (excluding the Christmas shoot). Anyone posting less than 8 scores will have them added up to create their total for the season (excluding the Christmas shoot). For example, a member who shoots twice scoring 42 and 45 will have a total of 87.

A member who has 37 as an average for their previous season would have a target average for the current season of 296 ($8 \times 37 = 296$). If they attend 11 shoots during the season and shoot 32, 37, 33, 40, 40, 40, 42, 42, 32, 29 and 30, their best 8 would be $42 + 42 + 40 + 40 + 40 + 37 + 33 + 32 = 306$. The 32, 30 and 29 are discarded as only the best 8 are used. This gives +10 against their expected average of 296 ($306 - 296 = 10$) and once calculated using the handicap system, a total handicapped score of 479.865.

Another member who has 42 as an average for their previous season would have a target average for the current season of 336 ($8 \times 42 = 336$). If they attend 14 shoots during the season and shoot 36, 26, 24, 33, 30, 34, 36, 36, 48, 43, 44, 29, 25 and 27, their best 8 would be $48 + 44 + 43 + 36 + 36 + 36 + 34 + 33 = 310$. The 30, 29, 27, 26, 25 and 24 are discarded as only the best 8 are used. This gives -26 against their expected average of 336 ($310 - 336 = -26$) and once calculated using the handicap system, a total handicapped score of 479.783.

If you take the two examples above, you can see the shooter that shoots 10 above their expected average gets a higher handicap score of 479.865 versus the shooter who shoots 26 below their expected average of 336 giving a lower handicap score of 479.783.

You can see from the examples above, the handicapped score is higher for the shooter who shoots above their expected average, despite having a lower overall straight score. In these two examples a straight score of 306 (handicapped score of 479.865) wins over a straight score of 310 (handicapped score of 479.783).

For those interested in the calculation used, the formula is shown below: -

$$\frac{\text{Your Actual Score} - \text{Your Expected Average Score}}{\text{Max Score Possible} + 1 - \text{Your Expected Average Score}} + \text{Maximum Score Possible} = xx$$

$$\text{Your Handicap Score} = xx - (\text{Highest } xx \text{ value this season} - \text{Max Score Possible})$$

Once all the handicapped scores have been calculated, all adult members are ranked based on your handicap scores and Trophies awarded for 1st, 2nd, and 3rd places. Remember, there are no leagues to consider as the handicap system 'levels the playing field' to give everyone a fair chance across all adult Leagues. Note, you must be a member to be ranked and qualify for a trophy.

Some examples below show how the handicap ranking works based on how someone is shooting.

Example 1, shooters shoot their average score			
Max Score	Actual Score	Average	Macrae
60	20	20	60.00
60	25	25	60.00
60	30	30	60.00
60	35	35	60.00
60	40	40	60.00
60	45	45	60.00
60	55	55	60.00
If you shoot your average, you will receive the maximum score possible and if multiple people shoot their average they will tie using Macrae formula. With F&F divided by 2 it is not consistent. With F&F not divided results are same.			

Example 3, shooters shooting better than average by same amount			
Max Score	Actual Score	Average	Macrae
60	22	20	60.05
60	27	25	60.06
60	32	30	60.06
60	37	35	60.08
60	42	40	60.10
60	47	45	60.13
60	57	55	60.33
Shooters who shoot better than their average by the same amount (2 in this example) get a higher handicap score the greater their average i.e. the better overall shooter is rewarded more. The F&F formula (divided by 2) sort of works for this scenario.			

Example 2, shooters shooting above and below their average			
Max Score	Actual Score	Average	Macrae
60	30	20	60.24
60	30	25	60.14
60	30	30	60.00
60	30	35	59.81
60	30	40	59.52
60	30	45	59.06
60	30	55	55.83
The higher you shoot above your average the higher your total handicap score will be. The lower you shoot below your handicap the lower your total score will be. Shooters who shoot the same will have a higher score the more they shoot above their handicap. Neither F&F formula works well for this scenario.			

Example 4, shooters shooting lower than average by same amount			
Max Score	Actual Score	Average	Macrae
60	15	20	59.88
60	20	25	59.86
60	25	30	59.84
60	30	35	59.81
60	35	40	59.76
60	40	45	59.69
60	50	55	59.17
Shooters who shoot lower than their average by the same score (5 in this example) get a lower handicap score the greater their average, so the better shooter is penalised more for shooting badly.			

The Annual Tour

On the annual tour trophies are awarded for both straight shooting and handicapped shooting. The Annual Tour is normally based over two days with 150 birds shot each day giving a maximum possible score of 300.

For straight shooting the results are calculated using the total of your scores from day 1 and day 2. The combined total is ranked, and trophies awarded for 'High Gun', 2nd and 3rd place. The lowest overall score is awarded the 'Wonky Donkey'.

For handicapped shooting, your expected average is calculated from your current season average for all shoots attended from September through to and including April (excluding the Christmas shoot). This could up to a maximum of 10 shoots (September, October, November, December, January, February, March, and April).

Unlike our normal shooting season, where your best 8 scores make up your average, the Annual Tour average includes all shoots attended from September to the start of the Annual Tour (excluding the Christmas shoot).

For example, a member who shoots 4 times during this period with scores posted of 45, 43, 50 and 38 would have an average of 44 out of 60 at the start of the Annual Tour. This average out of 60 is multiplied by 5 to give an average out of 300. In this example, the member would have an expected average for the Annual Tour of 44 multiplied by 5 which is 220 out of 300.

The rest of the calculation is the same as the handicapped system used during the club season except, the total is out of 300 instead of 480.

Once the totals are calculated using the formula, the results are ranked, and trophies awarded to 1st, 2nd, and 3rd places with a 'Wooden Spoon' for the lowest handicapped score.

Non-Members attending the Annual Tour will be allocated an average by the Committee to enable the calculation of an appropriate handicap.

The Scores

During the season your scores are maintained on the web site, so you can check them at any time and see how you are doing. See the example below: -

League 2	2021							2022									Current Season Average	Previous Season Average	Current Season Total	Previous Season Total	League 2 Ranking	Handicap Shoot Ranking	Personal Best		
	Sep	Sep	Oct	Oct	Nov	Dec	Xmas	Jan	Apr	Apr	May	May	Jun	Jun	Jul	Jul	Aug	Aug							
John Smith						34	44				56	45	51	50					48	43	236	357	1	1	50

The season starts in September and runs through to August with two shoots in June, July, August, September, and October, plus a bonus shoot at Christmas (normally the day after Boxing Day). Excluding the Christmas shoot, this gives each person a chance to post up to 17 scores in each season.

The scores shown highlighted in white and red indicate the shoots where you had the top score in your league for the day.

The **Current Season Average** is your average score during the season calculated using all scores posted except the Christmas shoot.

The **Previous Season Average** is your average score from the previous season calculated using all scores posted except the Christmas shoot. If you don't have an average from the previous season i.e., you are a new member, this box will be blank.

If your Current Season Average is the same as the Previous Season Average (or you do not have a Previous Season Average) then it is shown in **Blue** on black background.

If it is better than the Previous Season Average, it will be **Green** on black background.

If it is worse than the Previous Season Average, it will be shown in **Red** on black background.

The **Straight Shoot Total** is the total of your best 8 scores posted throughout the season (excluding the Christmas shoot) or up to 8 scores if you have not posted 8.

The **League Ranking** is the current position in your league based on your straight shoot total. The **Handicap Shoot Ranking** is your current position in the handicap competition. Note, there are no Leagues in the handicapped competition, so the ranking is across all the Leagues. The ranking is generated by calculating your best 8 scores or up to 8 if you have not posted 8 (excluding the Christmas shoot) using the formula explained in the Handicap Shooting section above.

The **Personal Best** is the highest single straight-shooting score you have posted at the club.

Non-Members (Guests) are calculated in the same way as the straight-shooting competition but there are no Trophies, Leagues, or Handicaps. Scores are shown on the web site just for reference. See example: -

non-Members	2021							2022										Current Season Average	Previous Season Average	Current Season Total	Personal Best		
	Sep	Sep	Oct	Oct	Nov	Dec	Xmas	Jan	Apr	Apr	May	May	Jun	Jun	Jul	Jul	Aug					Aug	
Jane Smith													24	39			30			31	22	93	39

If a Non-Member becomes a member during the season they will immediately be placed in the lowest League and any existing scores, and averages will be transferred in.

10. Useful Contacts



Automatic and Manual Clay Pigeon Traps

t: 01777 870243
e: sales@bowmantraps.co.uk
w: bowmantraps.co.uk



Shotgun Cartridges delivered nationwide

t: 01865 300066
e: info@justcartridges.com
w: www.justcartridges.com



The Clay Pigeon Association

t: 01483 485400
e: info@cpsa.co.uk
w: www.cpsa.co.uk



Shotguns, Rifles and Ammunition

t: 01342 300906
e: faanderson@btconnect.com
w: faanderson.co.uk



Country Sports

t: 01892 522208
e: mail@gun.co.uk
w: gun.co.uk



British Association for Shooting & Conservation

t: 01244 573000
w: basc.org.uk



Hillcroft Limited, Clays & Cartridges

t: 01372 843545
w: hillcroftgroup.com

11. Directions & Parking

Please adhere to the following parking guidelines. Should you need to transport supplies into the shooting area for any reason, kindly consult with the committee or farm owner beforehand, particularly during the winter months. Restrictions may apply to vehicle usage beyond the track near the farm to ensure the track is adequately protected.



12. Club History

In the beginning ...

Back in April 1985, a bunch of guys decided to form their own shooting club as the cost of open shoots was getting prohibitive and full of posers of the first order.

Sitting around the table playing cards were George Lake, Brian Sandle, Peter Selmes, Roy Grogan, Mick Harris, Dave Lyons, and Arthur Clackett.



George
Lake



Brian
Sandle



Roy
Grogan



Arthur
Clackett

It was suggested that they form their own club. Names were bandied about, and, after a while, they decided to name the club “The F&F Gun Club.” For an explanation of the name, you would need to ask a member!

The club motto became ‘Qui Vincit Qui Curat.’

George was named Chairman with Brian as company Secretary (looking after all the money). Everyone contributed £15 each, and the club was created.

The first trap was purchased for £60, plus 600 clays for £17 and a ground rent of £20.

The first official shoot was held at Tony’s farm on the A22 on 4th May 1985. The average attendance throughout 1985 was 8-9, which increased to 10-15 in 1986.

In 1985, they started the club’s annual weekend away in May with the first one in Totnes, Devon.

In 1986, the cartridges were £2.50 for a box of 25!

Following the success of the Annual Tour in 1985 at Totnes, in 1986 the Annual Weekend away moved to the infamous Wight Mouse on the Isle of Wight, where they shot for over 10 years.



They started membership subscriptions in May 1986 at a cost of £10 per year.

In 1987, they started to make a bit of money.

Over time, things improved, and at their first AGM in 1987, they had a balance of £227.50.

In 1988, the balance was £210, and so they started to look a bit healthy and bought more traps.

In 1995, Brian and George felt they had done enough. Up to then, Brian had been storing the trap at home and was bringing it with him for every shoot. They handed over to Peter Lake and Darren Garrett, and the rest, as they say, is history!

In 1999, they shot at the Wight Mouse for the last time having been there on the Annual Tour since 1986.



In 2000, the Annual Tour was changed to the North Devon Shooting Ground in Ilfracombe. This remained as the location for the annual weekend away until 2011.



In 2003, the annual membership subscription was increased from £30 to £35 per year for the 12 shoots (including Christmas).

In 2011, the annual tour moved to Ian Coley's shooting ground in Gloucestershire. This remained as the location for the weekend away until 2014.



In May 2014, they purchased their first Auto Trap from GDK™, and after a brief learning curve, soon purchased another one together with remote launchers to enhance safety and allow their many trapper volunteers to concentrate more on their shooting. More recently, in September 2014, they added a third Auto Trap with ABT and DTL capabilities - "The Wobbler". Great fun for everyone as it was a little bit different!



In 2015, for the 30th Anniversary of the F&F Club, they decided to visit the Isle of Wight and went to Bowcombe View Shooting Ground and Bob Cooper's Shooting Ground.



In 2015, the club website was created, and the F&F Gun Club came into the 21st century! It was then used a lot for passing all the scores, photos and general information to the club members. As part of this, we created our fantastic logo, 'Missing Clays Since 1985'!!



Membership remained at a very reasonable £35 per year, only a little more than when they started 30 years previously.

In 2015, three of the original founding members, Roy Grogan, Brian Sandle, and George Lake, created the 'Founders Trophy'. This was awarded to a member who had contributed significantly to the club over the previous year. The current holder would then decide who would be next in line for the award and present it to them at the trophy dinner each year.

In 2016, they created their own design of electronic launchers for the Auto Traps, allowing them more flexibility with SIM-pairs, multi-trap launching, and random clays.

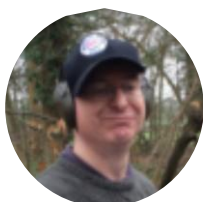
In late 2017, they had some challenges with the availability of a 4x4 to take their traps and clays, etc., from the Club Hut down to the area where they shot, so they took on the challenge to move their Club Hut to the middle of the woods where they shot. You could see the fun and games involved with the move in their Video Gallery on the website.

At the 2017 AGM, they introduced Country Membership for people who wished to remain members and be eligible for Trophies but, due to living a long way from the shoot, were unable to attend regularly. Country Membership was limited to a maximum of 5 shoots per year.

In mid-2018, Brian Sandle, one of the original founding members of the club, announced his retirement from shooting and the club.

At the AGM in 2018, the club voted to increase the annual membership subscription to £40 per annum (the first rise in 15 years) for the 15 shoots (including Christmas).

On 6th October 2019, after a long battle with a brain tumour Paul Smith, known to everyone as 'Smithy', sadly passed away. At Paul's request, we managed to get him to the AGM in his wheelchair in 2019 and he had a great time, although in true F&F style, we've never forgotten he didn't buy a round!! Paul is greatly missed by his many friends at the club.



On 4th May 2020, George Lake, one of their much-loved founder members, sadly passed away after a long battle with throat cancer. George is greatly missed by his many friends at the club.



In September 2020, they finally decided to expand the storage at the farm, so a new shed was ordered to become the new clay store. The plan had been to build this in September/October, but Covid delayed things. They then planned to build this in September 2021.

Busy schedules meant a few further delays, but they did finally start building the new shed in March 2022, completing the base, the walls, and some of the roof. The rest was hopefully to be completed after the Annual Tour in May.

In July 2022, Pete (Mad Dog) Mendham and Darrell Etherington both very kindly donated a Bowman™ Supermatch 1 Trap to the club, bringing the total number of Auto Traps to eight. The new Bowman™ traps were a significant step up for the club and the first semi-pro traps they had owned. This helped with their safety as it reduced the need for manual trapping. They added their own remote-control boxes in July/August to integrate them with their existing traps.

In September 2022, thanks to generous donations from Terry Trevatt, Pete (Mad Dog) Mendham, and Graham Jackson, they purchased their third Bowman™ Supermatch 1 and retired another old GDK™ unit. This helped with reliability and gave them a lot more flexibility.

At the AGM in 2022, the committee agreed to increase the annual membership subscription to £50 per annum to cover increased costs and the number of shoots rising from 15 to 18 per year (including Christmas). This was only the second rise in nearly 20 years!

In January 2023, thanks to more generous donations from members, they managed to purchase two more Bowman™ Supermatch 1's, giving them a total of five Bowman™ traps. At this point, they decommissioned all the remaining GDK™ units except the Wobbler that still seemed to be 'hanging in there!' In addition, Darrell & Geoff topped up the donations to get some custom-designed chunky off-road wheel trollies for all five Bowmans™, making them much easier to manage on the rough ground at the farm, and they looked good too!



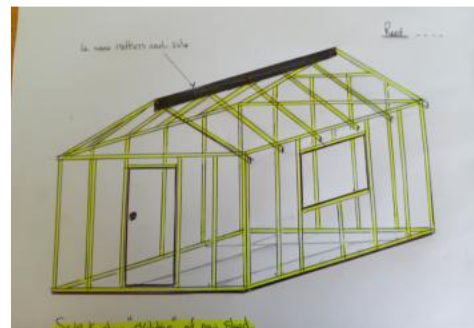
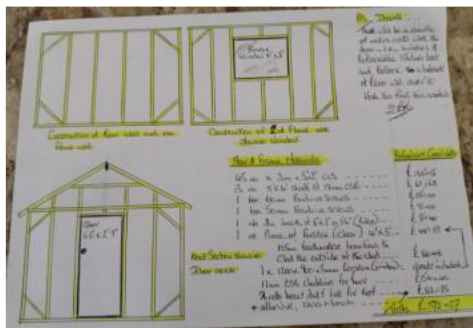
On 25th March 2023, Brian Sandle, one of their much-loved founder members, sadly passed away after being unwell for some time. Brian had been shooting up until retiring in 2018. He is greatly missed by his many friends at the club.



In August 2023, Derek Poole spotted a Battue upgrade kit for the Bowman™ Supermatch 1, so they added one of these to their growing fleet of Bowmans™, giving them the benefit of Midi, Standard, and Battue stands.

At the AGM in 2023, it was decided the 2nd shed was not very sturdy, so everyone agreed to build a new wooden one. Bob Beckman (2Bob) offered to design and build the new shed.

In September 2023, 2Bob created the first set of designs for the new shed and fund raising generated an amazing £800 towards the materials.



In October 2023, the first section was completed, and plans were created to remove the old shed and replace with the new one.

In November 2023, thanks to some further fund raising we were able to purchase a further two Bowmans, included the clever Rabbit/Chondel combination. The members had been asking for a rabbit for a long time, so this was a very welcome addition and allowed for a further two old GDK™ traps to be decommissioned.



On December 15th, 2023, the old shed was dismantled and removed, and the pre-built sections for the new shed were delivered to the farm.



On December 16th, 2023, with the help of some keen volunteer's, the shed sections were moved down into the woods and the build was started and completed over the next few days.



In January 2024, the last few bits of the new shed were finished off followed by a big 'spring clean' to organise the new space.

In February 2024, more fundraising including donations, a raffle, and some proceeds from a training/practice day enabled us to purchase our 8th Bowman™ trap. This left just one old GDK™ to replace. A great achievement for the club with the new traps creating a much better shooting experience. In the space of 18 months, over £10,000 was raised by members showing their true dedication to the F&F Club.

In June 2024, the final old GDK™ was replaced when we purchased our 8th Bowman™ trap. This time we ordered a Supermatch 1™ with a Mini attachment ready for our Xtreme event planned for August 2024.

In August 2024, we ran our first ad-hoc event in between normal shoots which was branded the 'Xtreme 100 Challenge'. This was a very difficult shoot covering the whole shooting ground and all sorts of special targets including flurries and long-distance birds.



The event was limited but proved very popular and 10 members and guests attended to take on the challenge. A lot of fun was had by everyone – Ask Bob Beckman about the Horseflies!!

On August 25th, 2024, we had our AGM and made a few changes to the way the club operates. We improved the format of the AGM with a detailed agenda and introduced a voting system to allow the members to vote for their committee.

The committee size was reduced to three and a new committee was duly voted in. Sadly, due to some increases in farm costs we also increased the annual membership from £50 to £60, thankfully a small rise and the first one for several years.

More to follow soon ...