

Pete Wilson wins gold in Olympic double trap

BRITISH SHOOTER Pete Wilson joined the Team GB gold rush at the London Olympic Games, securing the gold medal in the double trap discipline on August 2. The current world record holder entered the final round of shooting with a score of 143 out of a possible 150.

A tense final round saw Wilson's lead drop to just one clay, but he showed great determination and discipline to maintain his lead, taking the gold medal by two clays over his nearest rival, Hakan Dahlby of Sweden. Russian shooter Vasily Mosin claimed the bronze medal.

This was Britain's first shooting medal at the Olympic Games since Richard Faulds took gold in the same discipline in Sydney in 2000. Faulds, like world number one Josh Richmond and reigning Olympic champion Walton Eller, both of the USA, failed to make the final this time.

Wilson's ambition was laid bare in an interview with *Shooting Gazette* in July, where he said: "I have been put on this planet solely to shoot and win at the Olympics. The only thing that matters to me is winning gold. It all comes down to just one day." However, Wilson revealed he had experienced a tricky run up to the final, saying "my training hadn't been fantastic, I wasn't overly pleased



Pete Wilson, who secured the gold medal for double trap shooting.

with how I'd been shooting." His coach Sheikh Ahmed bin Mohammed bin Hasher Al Maktoum, double trap Olympic gold medallist in Athens 2004, ordered him to switch off his phone and not contact his family or girlfriend until he had secured the gold. Sheikh Ahmed told the BBC: "He wanted it so bad, but when you want something so bad sometimes you start thinking about losing it. I told him to separate himself from the world, switch his phone off, not talk to his family and friends. I told him 'those people aren't going to help you.'"

In an interview with the BBC shortly after his victory Wilson said: "It was an emotional roller coaster for me from start to finish. There are a lot of people I need to thank, mainly the British Shooting management and the National Lottery as without them I wouldn't be here. But I think most importantly, without a shadow of a doubt, Ahmed Al Maktoum, my coach. There is no doubt I would not be here today without him. I really don't know what to say. It's really weird to say that I'm an Olympic gold medallist!"

For more information on clay shooting, or to get involved in the sport, contact the CPSA on 01483 485400 or alternatively visit the CPSA website at www.cpsa.co.uk.

Boxall & Edmiston release over-under shotgun

ENGLISH GUNMAKER Boxall & Edmiston has added a new over-under shotgun to its remarkable range. Designed by Peter Boxall, former manufacturing director of Holland & Holland, and manufactured in Shropshire, the new gun will be available in a round action or a side-plated square action and has a number of bespoke options, including wood selection and hand engraving.

The project has been supported by shooting writer Mike Yardley, who worked closely with the company on specification and who has designed a stock for the gun. Mr Yardley said:

"This has been a very exciting project. I have always wanted to see a new, attainable English over-under made to the right specification. A tremendous amount of effort has gone into it from all the team, and we are very proud of it. It handles superbly and is beautiful too."

The 12 bore shotgun is available with 26"-34" barrels and single selective or double triggers. The starting price for the shotgun is £10,900.

For more information on both the gun and Boxhall & Edmiston visit the gunmaker's website at www.boxallandedmiston.co.uk.



The new over-under shotgun from Boxall & Edmiston, designed and built in England.



The best membership & shooting insurance package around.



Full adult £30.00 Per year*
Full price £60.00 + BASC per year £66.00.
Joining is easy. To take advantage of this offer, call now
020 7840 9300 or countryside-alliance.org.uk/join
* For new members. For the best prices only. Offer available in the UK only.

COUNTRYSIDE ALLIANCE
Protecting and promoting our shooting rights