

Teesside Rifle & Pistol Club

tel.: 01642 677174
TRPC@jonathan-spencer.co.uk

A guide to the Catterick ranges used by TRPC

(updated 16 Aug 26)

General

Hythe target frames

Figure 1 below shows typical Hythe frames. These are used together with wood-framed target screens.

The target screen comprises a 4' x 4' wooden frame with long legs like stilts. The legs are placed into a chassis on the front of the Hythe frames and a counterweight is placed in the rear chassis. The two chassis are connected by wire cables which go over the wheels at the top of the frame. The target screen is raised and lowered manually. In theory, this should involve little effort but in reality it is a good workout.

In Figure 1, bullets travel from left to right. The area to the left of the Hythe frames is known as the Markers' Gallery and behind the concrete wall and above the roof is the mantlet, an earth bank. The mantlet protects the Markers from low bullet strikes. When the targets are raised they will be above the mantlet and thus visible to the shooters. To the right but out of view is the Bullet Stop (a high sand berm). This is where the bullets strike having passed through the target. The Markers watch the Bullet Stop for impacts from which they know whether the shooter on their lane fired. If so, the Markers lower the target to locate and mark the bullet hole (patching over the previous bullet hole).



Figure 1 – Hythe frames

On this type of range, those attending are split into two 'Details'. Detail 1 shoots first and Detail 2 marks first. The two Details change over at half time. Communication between the Range Conducting Officer (RCO) at the firing point and the Butts Officer in the Markers Gallery is by VHF radio.

Teesside Rifle & Pistol Club

There is a flagpole and a red flag at one end of the Butts. The flag is safely accessible during firing. When the flag is raised it is a signal to the firing point that shooting must not take place. Only when the flag is lowered (on the order of the RCO) may shooting commence. If communications is lost between the RCO and the Butts Officer, or if there is any other emergency at the Butts, the red flag will be raised to signal to the firing point that shooting is to stop immediately. Hence, when one is shooting, one should check for the Butts flag prior to each shot. If anyone at the firing point notices the Butts flag in the raised position while shooting is in progress he is to shout STOP! STOP! STOP! as loud as possible and then inform the RCO of the Butts flag. Shooting will cease until the situation is resolved.

Figure 11 boards

The military Figure11 'charging soldier' target is illustrated in Figure 2 below. The paper target is pasted to a plywood sheet approximately 4' 6" high and 18" wide. We use blank Figure 11-shaped plywood boards to which we affix our own targets. These boards are used on ranges that do not have Hythe frames. Figure11 boards are also referred to as "stick-ins" because the lower edge is stuck into a slot in a frame at ground level. We typically place Figure 11 boards 100m from the firing point. The Range Warden provides the plywood sheets.

We sometimes use a pair of Figure 11 paper targets on a Hythe target frame in a 'sniper' competition. The target is raised for 5-6 seconds and then lowered. During that exposure the shooter is required to fire one shot at each of the Figure 11 targets. This forces him to reload and re-acquire the second target. There may be ten exposures, thus requiring 20 rounds for that competition.



Figure 2 – a "Figure 11" target

Gallery ranges

A gallery range is one where there are fixed targets and fixed firing points, laid out in lanes, so that each firing point is associated with a single target with no cross-lane firing. A gallery range may be indoor or outdoor and there may be firing points at different (fixed) distances. For example, 25 and 50 yards or 100, 200, 300, 400, 500 and 600 metres. The distances may be measured in yards or metres.

All of the ranges used by TRPC are gallery ranges. There are other types of range but, with two exceptions, we do not use them. All but one of the ranges we use at Catterick Training Area is measured in metres. The exception is 6G Whipperdale which is 100, 200, and 300 *yards*.

We do not form two Details on ranges using Figure 11 boards: everyone shoots together and, periodically, we all move forward to repair or replace the targets. The amount of shooting time is the same on each type of range.