

Over the weekend of the 9th August 2025, the 50th Home International Olympic Skeet event was held at the National Shooting Ground, Esker, Galway. After a huge effort from the England team travelling to Ireland via many modes of transport, we arrived late on the Thursday evening prior. After a quiet team meal, we looked ahead to a day of training on Friday, before the big day on Saturday.

This year, we had three new caps in the England team, namely Robert Vincent, Charlie Worrall and unexpectedly (last minute!), Harry Reveler. It was fantastic to see Charlie and Harry shooting as seniors, which really highlights the talent of these young shooters and are great ambassadors for the England OSK team.

Taking the Captains role this year was the experienced Luke Young. Luke did a fantastic job from start to finish, looking after everyone. We all very much enjoyed the Captain's meal on Friday evening - thanks again to Luke for organising that and getting everyone together.

Saturday morning came and in typical Irish fashion, around 9am when we were due to kick off, the heavens opened along with gusty winds - perfect shooting weather! This however, did not deter the England team. Both Phoebe Brodley-Scott and Arran Ecclestone started strong with consistent scores. With the other experienced team members a very steady start by all. Come the second rotation, the team really stepped it up with even stronger scores. Charlie Worrall and Harry Reveler both shot well, with a 25 and 24 respectively.

In the Vets it was obvious it was going to be a good battle between the Scottish and the English (Simon Davidmann & Ragan Leivers). In the ladies with Emily Hibbs and Jess Hambrook, both shooting to the ability it was always looking likely we would take the win. Sophie Herrman and Phoebe Brodley-Scott also a very Strong team in the Juniors. Andrew Lea, Jessica Burgess and Toby Etheridge also showing there experience with good team scores all round.

The day concluded with a shoot off between Arran Ecclestone and Luke Young, both finishing on a strong 93, in unforgiving conditions. Aaron took the high gun title for 2025 - congratulations Arran! Luke picked up Captain's high gun which is a fantastic achievement, and overall runner-up - congratulations Luke! Charlie and Harry also need a special mention both finishing within a couple of clays away from High Gun.

I can very proudly report that team England took home prizes for winning senior team, winning junior team, winning ladies team and winning super veteran team. Our veteran team were unfortunate enough to miss out on taking that too, just missing out by one clay. This huge team effort meant that England won the overall event.

Finally I'd like to thank all those that helped run the event this year - to those at the Tullamore Hotel, thank you for looking after us and providing fantastic catering and hospitality. To those at the Esker Shooting ground, thank you for organising and running this event. And from me the manager, thank you to the team who were all fantastic all weekend.