

Ulster Rifle Association

Annual Open Fullbore Target Rifle Meeting and 114th IRISH OPEN CHAMPIONSHIP



Ballykinler Ranges
on
6th to 7th June 2026
Target Rifle, F Class, Classic Rifle

COMPETITION RULES
COMPETITION PROGRAMME
COMPETITION FEES AND
TEAM ENTRY FORM

Latest entry date is 22nd May 2026
Since range space is limited the Irish Open 2026 Organising Committee
reserve the right to close the entry list early

RULES COVERING THE MEETING

1. NRA Rules and Regulations will govern the meeting, except where otherwise stated.
2. The meeting committee reserves the right to amend the Irish Open programme and vary the prize list according to entries received. In the event of a dispute regarding any of the Irish Open competitions the decision of the meeting committee shall be final.
3. NRA classification for current year will apply. There will be six classes Target Rifle, F Open, F/TR, Classic, Classic Optical and Classic Transitional Optical
4. Ammunition for Target Rifle will be issued on the range at the start of each day and converted sighters are to be returned with scorecards after each match. Ammunition must not be taken off the range.
5. It is a condition of entry that you remain on the range until you have completed the butt stint or other duty for every competition you fire.
6. No acknowledgement or receipt will be issued unless specifically requested.
7. Completed entry forms must be received by 22nd May 2026. No entries will be accepted after this date.
8. Ammunition issued for the meeting must be used (except F Class and Classic disciplines). 155grain GGG ammunition from the NRA will be used in the Irish Open.
9. Squadding cards will be available on the range from 0830hrs on the Saturday and Sunday on production of a valid Shooter Certification Card.
10. Competitors are expected to report to their squadded firing point at least 10 minutes before commencement of their detail.
11. Match Captains and competitors are encouraged to enter the concurrent team matches. Only recognised club teams will be accepted. The names of all team members for the team competitions must be lodged with Stats by 0900hrs on Saturday
12. All trophies remain the property of the Ulster Rifle Association (URA), who will retain them following conclusion of the competition. Competitors are welcome to take photographs with any trophies which they have won.
13. Competitors are reminded that they will be inside a military establishment and therefore must obey the instructions of MOD staff when directed to do so.
14. If any F Class Competitor is using ammunition with a ME over 4500J, they will have to zero on Saturday morning. Competitors using such ammunition must declare in advance, so that zeroing facilities can be made available. Any F Class competitor may be asked to provide chronographic proof of the ME of their ammunition.
15. The following rules shall apply to Classic competitors
 - Classic Class
 - a. Any Military rifle pre 1945 design.
 - b. As issued battle sights.
 - c. As issued sling used in its original configuration.
 - d. Jackets should be single canvas. If using a modern supportive type jacket it must be worn unfastened.
 - e. Rests are not permitted
 - f. No Target type shooting gloves.
 - Classic Optical Class
 - a. Any Military rifle pre 1945 design with optical sights.
 - b. Optical sight must be pre 1945 (in the spirit of the original) reproductions of the same design may be used.
 - c. Any sling configuration.
 - d. Improvised rests may be used.
 - e. Jackets should be single canvas. If a modern supportive type jacket used it must be worn unfastened.
 - Transitional Optical Class
 - a. Any rifle based on a pre 1945 action, L39, L42, T4's etc.
 - b. Optical sights must be of the period, improvised rests or bipods may be used.

INDIVIDUAL COMPETITIONS – SATURDAY

Competition 1 - BALLYKINLER TANKARD

2 convertible sighters and 15 rounds to count at 300 yds.

Prizes: Target Rifle 1st Tankard; 2nd £4; 3rd £3. F Open, F/TR, Classic, Classic Optical and Transitional Optical 1st £5.

Competition 2 - The CHAMPIONSHIP 300

2 convertible sighters and 7 rounds to count at 300 yds.

Prizes: Target Rifle, F Open, F/TR, Classic, Classic Optical and Transitional Optical 1st £5.

Competition 3 - The CHAMPIONSHIP 500

2 convertible sighters and 7 rounds to count at 500 yds.

Prizes: Target Rifle, F Open, F/TR Classic, Classic Optical and Transitional Optical 1st £5.

Competition 4 - The CHAMPIONSHIP 600

2 convertible sighters and 7 rounds to count at 600 yds.

Prizes: Target Rifle, F Open, F/TR, Classic, Classic Optical and Transitional Optical 1st £5.

Competition 5 - THE SATURDAY AGGREGATE (STAGE 1)

The aggregate of competitions 2, 3 and 4.

Prizes: Target Rifle, F Open, F/TR, Classic, Classic Optical and Classic Transitional Optical 1st £5.

INDIVIDUAL COMPETITIONS - SUNDAY

Competition 6 - ULSTER RIFLE ASSOCIATION TANKARD

2 convertible sighters and 10 rounds to count at 300 yds.

Prizes: Target Rifle, F Open, F/TR, Classic, Classic Optical and Transitional Optical 1st £5.

Competition 7 - ROYAL IRISH FUSILIERS TROPHY

2 convertible sighters and 10 rounds to count at 500 yds.

Prizes: Target Rifle, F Open, F/TR, Classic, Classic Optical and Transitional Optical 1st £5.

Competition 8 - MOURNE TROPHY

2 convertible sighters and 10 rounds to count at 600 yds.

Prizes: Target Rifle, F Open, F/TR, Classic, Classic Optical and Transitional Optical 1st £5.

Competition 9 - SUNDAY AGGREGATE (STAGE 2)

The aggregate of competitions 6, 7 and 8.

Prizes: Target Rifle, F Open, F/TR, Classic, Classic Optical and Transitional Optical 1st £5.

THE IRISH OPEN CHAMPIONSHIP (STAGE 3)

2 convertible sighters and 15 to count at 600 yds.

Target rifle and Classic competitors will shoot in pairs the F Open, F/TR competitors will shoot together.

Competition 10 - ABERCORN CUP

Awarded to the URA member placed highest in the Irish Open Championship.

Competition 11 - RIFLE BRIGADE CUP

Awarded to the URA member placed highest in Competition 5 the Saturday Aggregate (Stage 1).

Competition 12 - SPENCER SILVER SALVER

Awarded to the URA member placed highest in Competition 9 the Sunday Aggregate (Stage 2).

Competition 13 - THE LORD MAYOR OF BELFAST'S TROPHY

The aggregate of competitions 2, 3, 4, 6, 7 and 8 (Stage 1 & 2).

Prizes: Target Rifle 1st £15; 2nd £10; 3rd £5; F Open 1st The Henry Cup and £10; F/TR 1st The Barnett Memorial Trophy and £10; Classic 1st The Lord Lieutenant's Cup and £10; Classic Optical 1st The Belfast Lepper and £10, Transitional Optical 1st The Cooper Cup and £10.

Competition 14 - ROYAL ULSTER RIFLES CUP

Concurrent with competition 10, but only open to TR competitors 25 years of age or under who have never achieved 1st place in a URA, NRA, CRC or ARA open TR Competitions.

Prizes: 1st £5

Competition 15 - GLENAAN CUP

Concurrent with competition 16, But only open to TR competitors 18 years of age or under.

Prizes: 1st £5

Competition 16 - THE IRISH OPEN CHAMPIONSHIP

To be fired in three stages. Stage 1 is concurrent with competitions 2, 3 and 4. Stage 2 is concurrent with competitions 6, 7, and 8. Stage 3 is open to the 10 target rifle competitors, or 50% of the target rifle entry, whichever is the lower, with the highest combined aggregates in stages 1 and 2. The aggregate scores in stages 1, 2, and 3 will determine the final placings in the Championship. F/TR, F Open and Classic competitors will be allocated at least 2 places each, provided there are at least 4 entries in each class.

Prizes: Target Rifle 1st Irish Open Championship Trophy and £20; 2nd £15; 3rd £10. F Open 1st The Donaldson Shield and £10; F/TR 1st The Finlay Challenge Cup and £10; Classic 1st The Ballykinler Bullet and £10; Classic Optical 1st The Belfast Finlay and £10; Transitional Optical 1st The Mitchell Cup and £10; For classes other than Target Rifle, where there are 10 or more competitors, a prize of £5 will be awarded for 2nd place. The highest placed member of a NI Club will be entitled to compete in the 'Champion of Champions' at Bisley. Special Badges will be presented to all finalists.

CLUB TEAM COMPETITIONS (SATURDAY AND SUNDAY)

Competition 17 - The ULSTER CHALLENGE SHIELD

Concurrent with Competition 1. Open to club teams of 6 firers.

Prizes: Winning Team – Shield

Competition 18 - The GURKHA MEDAL

Concurrent with Competition 5 the Saturday Aggregate (Stage 1). Open to club teams of 4 firers who must be class 'O/T'.

Prizes: Winning Team - Shield.

Competition 19 - The KUKRI SHIELD

Concurrent with Competition 9 the Sunday Aggregate (Stage 2). Open to club teams of 4 firers who must be class 'O/T'.

Prizes: Winning Team - Shield.

Competition 20 - The DUFFERIN CUP

Concurrent with the Saturday and Sunday Aggregate (Stage 1 & 2). Open to club teams of 4 firers who must be class 'O/T'.

Prizes: Winning Team – Trophy.

Competition 21 - The VOLUNTEERS SHIELD

Concurrent with Competition 6. Open to club teams of 4 firers.

Prizes: Winning Team – Shield

Competition 22 - The IRISH GUARDS CHALLENGE CUP

Concurrent with Competition 7. Open to Club teams of 6 firers.

Prizes: Winning Team – Trophy.

Competition 23 - The LEPPER TROPHY

Concurrent with Competitions 2, 3 and 4 (Stage 1). Open to Club teams of 6 firers.

Prizes: Winning Team – Trophy.

Competition 24 - The SEAGIRT CUP

Concurrent with competitions 6, 7 and 8 (Stage 2). Open to Club teams of 6 firers.

Prizes: Winning Team – Trophy

Competition 25 - The ALL IRELAND CHALLENGE SHIELD

Concurrent with Competitions 2, 3, 4, 6, 7 and 8 (Stage 1 & 2). Restricted to teams of 8 firers from clubs based in Ireland . Prizes: Winning Team – Shield.

Competition 26 - F Open, F/TR KING'S I

Concurrent with Competitions 2, 3 and 4 (Stage 1). Open to teams of 4 firers of Class 'F'. Prizes: will be awarded in proportion to entries received.

Competition 27 - F Open, F/TR KING'S II

Concurrent with Competitions 6, 7 and 8 (Stage 2). Open to teams of 4 firers of Class 'F'. Prizes: will be awarded in proportion to entries received.

Competition 28 - The ASTOR COUNTY CHAMPIONSHIP

Concurrent with Competitions 2, 3 and 4 (Stage 1). The conditions will be as laid down in the NRA Postal Competitions book. The Winning Club holds the ASTOR COUNTY TANKARD for one year and, in addition, is entitled to compete in the ASTOR COUNTY CHAMPIONSHIP FINAL at the NRA Imperial Meeting. The winning team also receives 6 silver medals awarded by the NRA.

Competition 29 - INTERNATIONAL MATCH

Open to teams of not less than 4 firers, the exact number will be decided in the light of entries received from each of the competing regions. Concurrent with competitions 6, 7 and 8.

Prize: The Terry Speck Salver

COMPETITION PROGRAMME

F Class HME Zeroing: 0900

SATURDAY'S COMPETITIONS

Timings	Competition	Rounds	Range	Detail 1	Detail 2
09:30 – 10:15	Ballykinler Tankard	2 + 15	300	Shoot	Butts
10:25 - 10:55	Championship 300	2 + 7	300	Shoot	Butts
11:10 - 11:55	Ballykinler Tankard	2 + 15	300	Butts	Shoot
12:05 - 12:35	Championship 300	2 + 7	300	Butts	Shoot
12:50 - 13:20	Championship 500	2 + 7	500	Butts	Shoot
13:20 - 14:05	Lunch Break				
14:05 – 14:35	Championship 500	2 + 7	500	Shoot	Butts
14:45 – 15:15	Championship 600	2 + 7	600	Shoot	Butts
15:30 – 16:00	Championship 600	2 + 7	600	Butts	Shoot

SUNDAY'S COMPETITIONS

Timings	Competition	Rounds	Range	Detail 1	Detail 2
09:10 – 09:50	URA Tankard	2 + 10	300	Shoot	Butts
10:00 – 10:40	Royal Irish Fusiliers Trophy	2 + 10	500	Shoot	Butts
10:55 – 11:35	URA Tankard	2 + 10	300	Butts	Shoot
11:45 – 12:25	Royal Irish Fusiliers Trophy	2 + 10	500	Butts	Shoot
12:35 - 13:15	Mourne Trophy	2 + 10	600	Butts	Shoot
13:15 - 14:00	Lunch Break				
14:00 – 14:40	Mourne Trophy	2 + 10	600	Shoot	Butts
15:15 – 16:00	IO Championship Stage 3	2 + 15	600	Butts	Butts
16:30	Prize Giving – No3 Range				

NOTES

1. **To gain entry to Ballykinler competitors need to present the following documents: photographic ID (driving licence, passport etc.), firearm certificate (if possessed) and club membership card. Please try and arrive early, as processing at the gate can be slow.**

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Competitors from GB wishing to bring firearms, no longer need approval from the PSNI; those from the Republic of Ireland need to complete a 30/38 form. A copy of the form can be found on the PSNI website here:

<https://www.psni.police.uk/sites/default/files/2022-08/Firearms%20Form%2030-38%20-%20Application%20for%20a%20visitor%27s%20permit%20to%20enable%20possession%20of%20a%20firearm%20and%20ammunition.pdf>

IRISH OPEN MEETING 2026
ENTRY FEES

Comp No	Competition	F Class ¹ /Classic Rifle ¹	Target Rifle Under 21 ²	Target Rifle Entry Fee
1	Ballykinler Tankard			
2	Championship 300			
3	Championship 500			
4	Championship 600			
5	Saturday Aggregate			
	Saturday Only Entry Fee	£35.00	£70.00	£95.00
6	URA Tankard			
7	Royal Irish Fusiliers Trophy			
8	Mourne Trophy			
9	Sunday Aggregate			
	Sunday Only Entry Fee	£30.00	£65.00	£85.00
10	Abercorn Cup			
11	Rifle Brigade Cup			
12	Spencer Silver Salver			
13	Lord Mayor of Belfast Trophy			
14	Royal Ulster Rifles Cup			
15	Gleanna Cup			
16	Irish Open Championship			
	Total Entry Fee	£65.00	£135.00	£180.00
CONCURRENT CLUB TEAM COMPETITIONS				Entry
17	The Ulster Challenge Shield	Team of 6 firers from same club (any TR class)	No Fee	
18	The Gurkha Medal	Team of 4 firers from same club ('O/T' class)	No Fee	
19	The Kukri Shield	Team of 4 firers from same club ('O/T' class)	No Fee	
20	The Dufferin Cup	Team of 4 firers from same club ('O/T' class)	No Fee	
21	The Volunteers Shield	Team of 4 firers from same club (any TR class)	No Fee	
22	The Irish Guards Challenge Cup	Team of 6 firers from same club (any TR class)	No Fee	
22	The Lepper Trophy	Team of 6 firers from same club (any TR class)	No Fee	
24	The Seagirt Cup	Team of 6 firers from same club (any TR class)	No Fee	
25	The All Ireland Challenge Shield	8 firers from clubs based in Ireland (any TR class)	No Fee	
26	'F' Class King's I	Team of 4 firers from any club	£4.00	
27	'F' Class King's II	Team of 4 firers from any club	£4.00	
28	The Astor County Championship	NI Clubs only	No Fee	
29	International Match		To be decided	

¹ Provide own ammunition. ² 21 and under or in full-time education (age limit 25).

Please note that the Saturday and Sunday fees when added together come to less than the total fee. This is due to some aggregates which can only be entered if competitors shoot both days. The Sunday only fee has been reduced to reflect this.

