

# The king of DTL

Now in its 19th year, the annual Krieghoff DTL is as popular as it's ever been. Don Brunt reports from what is always a fabulous event



A major championship thrives, in part, from creating a sense of occasion, and that is something that the Krieghoff never fails to provide. As soon as you turn off the winding road that threads through the village of Trefeglwys onto the lane into Mid Wales Shooting Centre it becomes very apparent that it is a special event. A sea of banners flutter in the breeze and there is a palpable atmosphere of excitement in the air – something that many of the Sporting events of 2017 have been sorely lacking in, which might explain why the Krieghoff was sold out some three months before a shot was fired.

## LUCKY NUMBERS

The shoot kicked off on the Thursday with a preliminary 100-target event, which thanks to some perfect weather managed to produce four perfect scores of 100/300 from Ian Mullarkey, Kevan Smith, Darren Cotter and Geoff Howlett.

Friday saw the return of the hugely popular Lucky Numbers format; once again, it is a 100-target event but at the end of shooting, two numbers between zero and nine are chosen. Whoever has a points score that ends in either of those numbers then gets the chance to shoot off in class to earn a place in

## LUCKY NUMBERS RESULTS

Position	Name	Class	Prize fund
1st	D Corvan	A	£1,000
2nd	G Thrane	B	£800
3rd	M Noone	AA	£600
4th	I Thurnell	Wild card	£400
5th	SR Thomas	C	£200

the final where the four classes and a wild card entry get to compete for big money.

The weather was again on side and there were plenty of high scores; nobody managed a 100/300 this time but there were 10x 100/299s! Not that it really mattered as the two numbers drawn by Peter Brass of Krieghoff were three and four. The Lucky Numbers event often throws a bit of a spanner in the works and it's often someone from outside of AA who wins and this year was no exception. D Corvan of A Class took the top prize of £1,000, with G Thrane of B Class finishing second to go home £800 richer.

'Chaplow's experience and ability shone through as he won his place in the final'

Chaplow stormed through the day one final



PICTURES: DON BRUNT

## THE MAIN EVENT

Although Thursday and Friday had seen near-perfect shooting conditions, things changed a little on the Saturday. As the first day of the main event got under way the sun disappeared behind a heavy overcast while the wind speed increased dramatically, which made for trickier conditions, though fortunately the forecast rain failed to materialise in the most part.





Shane Smith in action



Despite that, there were three shooters who managed perfect 100/300s: Paul Neal, Paul Chaplow and Shane Smith, who would shoot off to see who would go forwards to the grand final on Sunday. There, the winner of each of the two days of the main event would go head to head for the fabulous prize of a factory-sponsored gun. Paul Chaplow has a phenomenal record in the discipline and his experience and ability shone through as he won the shoot-off and his place in Sunday's final.

That just left the Sunday for those hoping to shoot their way into a sponsorship, though the weather was again tricky, but dry at least. Two last gasp 100/300s made the scoreboard: Austin Coxhead and Darren Bell who then shot off for the last remaining grand final place. Bell is a phenomenal shot but on this occasion Coxhead proved to be the better man and he went through to the final reckoning against Chaplow. There's a reason why Paul has shot well over 100x 100/300s and he demonstrated it in the final, taking the win over Austin and lifting the trophy for the third time in the event's 19-year history.

Once again the event had been a roaring success with a cash prize fund of slightly less

The event was sold out



than £24,000 which had been added to for 2017 thanks to the involvement of the British Shooting Show, while Hull Cartridge provided more than £8,000 worth of cartridges. ■

Ladies winner, Izzy Thurnell



### EVENT THREE – 200 DTL

CHAMPION		
Champion	P Chaplow	596
RUNNER-UP		
Runner-up	A Coxhead	598
HOA - AA	P Chaplow	895/900
HOA - A	P Neal	896/900
HOA - B	N Conroy	879/900
HOA - C	R O'Neill	851/900
AA CLASS		
1	D Bell	599
2	S Smith	597
3=	L Kirby	596
3=	M Hartley	596
A CLASS		
1	PJ Neal	597
2	W Palmer	593
3	W Donnelly	592
B CLASS		
1	I Thurnell	592
2	N Conroy	591
3	A MacDonald	585
C CLASS		
1	E Davies	577
2	PA Davies	561
3	L Upfield	561
JUNIORS		
1	I Thurnell	592
2	RE Jones	591
3	J Shortt	590
LADIES		
1	I Thurnell	592
2	E Holden	591
3	L Powell	590
VETERANS		
1	A Henry	593
2	RJ Haines	593
3	W Donnelly	592



The winners had plenty to celebrate