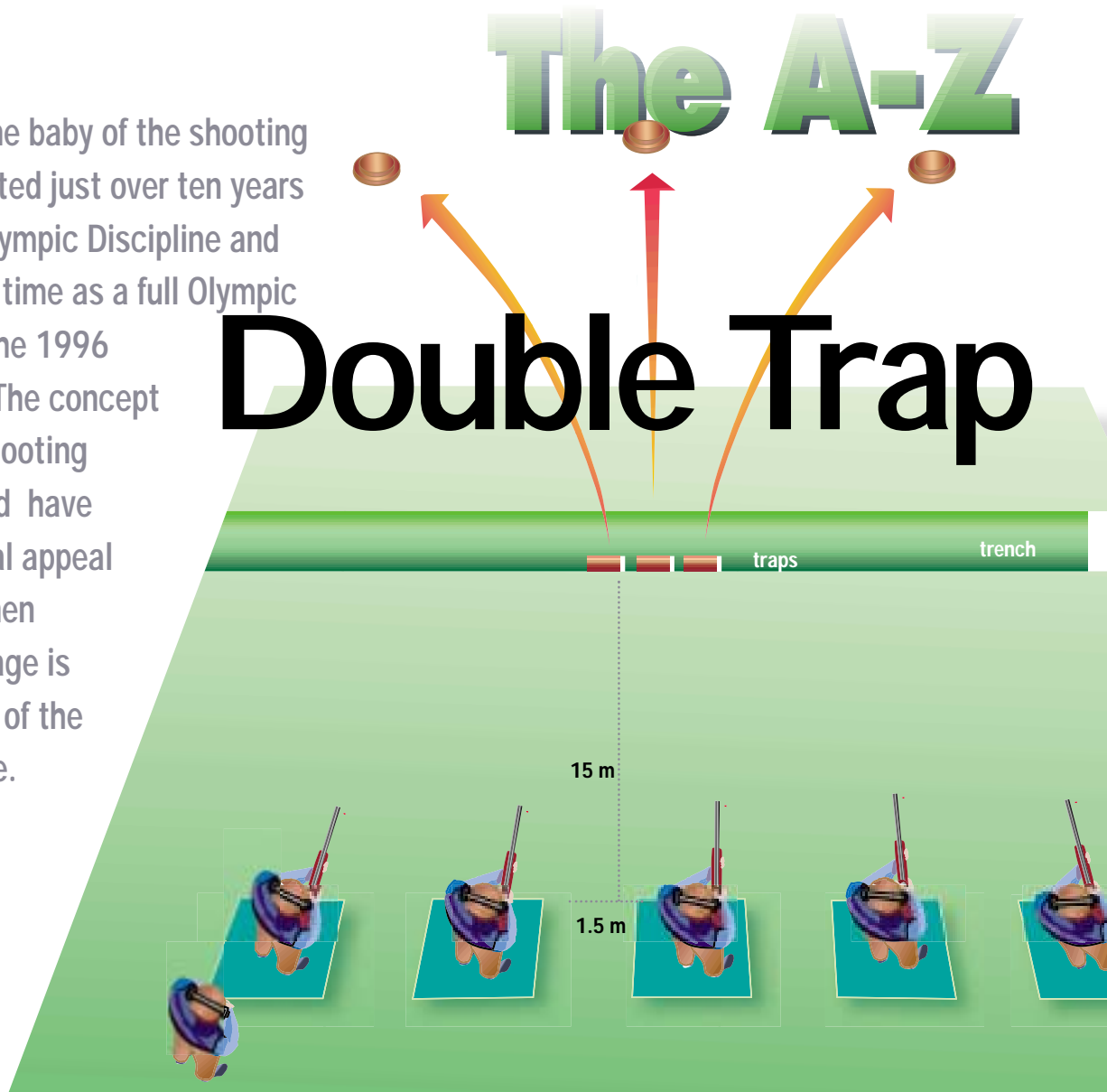


Double Trap is the baby of the shooting disciplines, created just over ten years ago as a third Olympic Discipline and shot for the first time as a full Olympic competition at the 1996 Atlanta games. The concept was for a trap shooting event that would have greater televisual appeal in these days when television coverage is such a vital part of the Olympic package.



THE STARS

Richard Faulds MBE

Richard and Double Trap will be indelibly linked in the annals of clay shooting following his dramatic shoot off success over Australian Russell Mark in the 2000 Sydney Olympics, a result that gave clay target shooting huge national media exposure. Having secured a quota place to shoot in Athens in 2004, Richard will once again be one of our major medal hopes.



John Bellamy

The star of domestic DTL has worked hard to become a genuine contender for international honours in the Olympic discipline with a series of solid performances over the past 18 months. He caused a surprise by edging out George Digweed for a place alongside Faulds in the England team at the 2002 Commonwealth Games, where he beat his team mate and finished just outside the medal positions. 2003 will be a big year for Bellamy as he makes a final push towards a quota place for Athens.



of shooting

Like Olympic Trap and Skeet the discipline is controlled by the International Shooting Sports Federation (ISSF), which is responsible for setting the rules and running major Championships. Double Trap forms part of the annual World and European Championships and World Cup programme and teams to represent Great Britain are selected by the British International Clay Target Shooting Federation (BICTSF). Domestic championships are also held.

The Layout

Double Trap competitions take place on a standard Olympic Trap layout, but only the centre bank of three traps is used. These are set to throw one target straight, one angled left and one angled right and for each round of 25 pairs targets are thrown from two of the three traps simultaneously in set 'schemes'. The targets should fly 55 metres in still air. Major competitions for seniors are staged over three rounds of 50 targets followed by a final 50 for the top six to decide the medal placings. Ladies shoot three rounds of 20 pairs.

Procedure and equipment

Normal squads of six shoot each line, the shooters taking one pair from each station and then moving to their right. Until 2002 the targets appeared instantly leading to the development of a style of 'spot shooting' the first target, made possible because of its known trajectory. This led to safety fears and the ISSF has introduced a delay on release to make this practice more difficult.

Normal ISSF rules on cartridges apply, with a limit of 24 gram loads, maximum shot size 2.5mm.

The newest of the Olympic shooting disciplines is proving to be a rich source of medals for British shooters including the coveted Olympic gold.



George Digweed

The king of sporting is making a second bid for Olympic glory, having previously attempted to secure a place at the games in the 90s. A former World Record holder, he has found the competition tough but remains one of the few British shooters capable of a world-beating performance on his day. It will be interesting to see how the rule changes affect him – it could be an advantage as more of a premium will be placed on pure ability rather than the grooved technique that currently holds sway in the discipline.



Ian Coley

Although no longer a competitor at the top level himself, GB coach Ian Coley can justifiably claim a major part in Britain's success at Double Trap over the past few years. Coach to Richard Faulds and a major factor in the emergence of Charlotte Kerwood, Ian's contribution to the sport has been both massive and tangible. Our Olympic success has produced funding for the World Class Performance scheme that is helping our shooters in their bid for more international glory.



Charlotte Kerwood

The surprise package of 2002, Sussex schoolgirl Charlotte hit the headlines with her stunning gold medal performance at the Commonwealth Games, having switched to Double Trap just a few months previously. Charlotte, whose parents run Northall CC in Sussex, was tempted to give the discipline a try by the scholarship scheme set up by Ian Coley.