

ULSAN KOREA  
REPORT FROM THE WORLD TARGET CHAMPIONSHIPS

Report number 5 is late because access to the internet is very erratic. It is at least 36 hours since I've been able to get online.

Yesterday was the teams' event, for which we had great hopes.

First up was the women's compound where we were ranked 15th out of 16 in the world and thus met the Russian Federation, the number 2 seeds.

However we out-placed the Australians who did not qualify at all.

The first end saw New Zealand with a 4 point lead because the Russians shot a pair of 8s. Over the next two ends we matched the 8s and the lead dwindled to 1 point and then 1 point behind. We were getting our arrows in the gold but they shot more 10s than we did and despite our best efforts we lost by the one point 219-220.

Looking at the scores of all the countries beaten in this 1/8 round we are placed 13th in the world of the 21 teams entered. As the British beat the Canadians and the Canadians scored 221, we are 3rd in the Commonwealth.

This is very important for the Commonwealth Games selection standpoint.

In the men's compound team event New Zealand qualified in 4th place and met Finland the number 13 seed.

It seems that nerves played a part in the first end because we found ourselves 3 points behind. To give the team great credit they won their way back to a tie position for the final end. In fact the final arrow shot by Finland won the match because they ended with 1 ten more than we managed and so the result was Finland 226 New Zealand 225.

Again checking the results of others who also lost in the 1/8 round we are placed 12th in the world. We had the same losing score as South Africa and Australia but finished ahead of South Africa on the number of 10s and Australia was another place back.

We have also finished in third place in the Commonwealth behind Great Britain and Canada in the men's division.

After the successes in Antalya and Shanghai we had great hopes, perhaps expectations, for our women and men's compound teams.

To actually qualify for the teams' elimination rounds at a World Championship is a tremendous achievement and to finish around the top 12 or so in the world is a very high base from which to build. Yes the compound team members are disappointed at not doing better but in reality they did very well indeed. And the two teams that beat us have gone all the way to the medal matches!

*Carole A Hicks*

Team Captain