

Honest Truths and Some Pretty Good Opinions : A Sporting Clays Article from Dan Schindler

The more we add in terms of swing mechanics, strategies, shooting methods and equipment the more complicated this whole thing becomes. I promise you, breaking a target, consistently, is not hard. It truly isn't. But the more we think about shooting, the more we analyze, the more difficult it can become. At times, some of us feel lost in a complex puzzle of unanswerable questions. What is best, when, why, where and how, all lead us into a shooting game that seems anything but simple. Yet everything we shooters read, see and hear tells us the less we think about when that target's launched the better. That is true. Good shooting comes from our doing less in the box, not more. So how did we get here? More importantly, how can we make better sense of all this?

If entertainment is your goal in a round of clays there are very few good reasons for adjusting your shooting. If consistency and measurable improvement are a priority, there's no getting around this point: progress requires more than just pulling the trigger. What follows is a blueprint of sorts. From it you can assemble a no-nonsense approach to self-improvement. Keep what you like, discard what you don't. None of this is really new to the book *Perfection in Sports*, but I guarantee these messages can help you organize your overall game and get a better return on each hit and miss.

Most of us really do want to shoot better. We want to be more consistent from day to day, week to week, and we want higher scores. If shooting improvement is an honest goal, again, there's a cost. Reaching higher skill levels depends on you making changes to your present game. Unless you already are where you want to be in your shooting, change is the only way to get where you want to go.

What should you change? That's a very good question, one I get asked a lot. The answer is not complex but does pivot on the answer to a more important question: what do you want from your shooting? Basically we aspire to different levels of skill. This suggests there are different plans and practice regimens for different people.

What follows doesn't presume a goal for you but can, if implemented, improve your average score in a round of 100. And that's the point here. Saying "I want to shoot better," defines a goal but is a bit vague on how to get there. Learning a few principles might improve the odds on your achieving this goal.....

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Sporting clays continues to be an elegant sport born of long tradition, fulfilling our wingshooting passion to experience the wing and shot. Feather and clay, inescapably tied, grants us so many learning opportunities to hone our skills, a path of personal growth that affords us a refreshing, unbiased look at ourselves. Time and again, my students have learned how entirely more capable they are than once thought. The American sporting clays shooter can honestly and proudly say, in a very short period, he has indeed advanced to take his rightful place among the best in the world. And, let's not forget, no one is having more fun out here than you and I are.

The events, times, places and persons in my articles are all true. While I changed a name here and there, 100% of the information came from my experiences with you. Each tournament, each lesson, each experience with you generated the material for my work. I am grateful.

We hope you enjoyed the first part of the article and will visit us online to browse the numerous collection that is available. Until then, happy Sporting!

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