

THE CANADA TROPHY

A Challenge Cup presented by the Canadian National Railways in 1931, for competition between teams representing the Mother Country (Great Britain) and Canada at the Annual Prize Meeting of the Dominion of Canada Rifle Association.

DESCRIPTION

A Sheffield Sterling Plate Bowl style cup with two handles, a lid on which stands a Victory Figure, a long stem tapering to a tiered and flared base. With the lid in place the trophy stands 657mm high, 430mm across the handles, 280mm in diameter at the top, 178mm in diameter at the flared base. The trophy stands on a wooden base that is mahogany in colour and which measures 134mm high and 330mm square.

BACKGROUND

In 1931 Great Britain sent a rifle team to Canada under command of Commander Sir Lionel Fletcher CBE, RNR to compete against Canada's top marksmen at the Annual Prize Meeting of the DCRA. Prior to that year no international teams matches were included in the regular schedule of events. It was considered fitting therefore that a short range event following the traditional conditions prescribed for the Kolapore at Bisley be introduced. The conditions called for teams of eight marksmen each firing two sighting shots and ten shots for record at each 300, 500 and 600 yards within a specified time limit. The match was titled the Canada Match and with the assistance of the generosity of the Canadian National Railways, the Canada Trophy was placed in competition.

RECORD OF WINNERS

In years where GB or Home Countries teams were present

Total Matches to 2025: 60

Wins to date:

1931	Great Britain	Great Britain	31 wins
1937	Canada	Canada	23 wins
1950	Canada	Australia	2 wins
1952	Great Britain	England	2 wins
1954	Great Britain	USA	2 wins
1956	Great Britain		
1958	Great Britain		
1960	Canada		
1962	Canada		
1964	Canada		
1966	Canada		
1967	Great Britain		
1968	Canada		
1969	Canada		
1970	Great Britain		
1971	Great Britain		
1972	Great Britain		
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2000	Great Britain		
2002	Great Britain		
2004	Canada		
2005	Canada		
2006	Great Britain		
2007	Great Britain		
2010	Canada		
2011	Great Britain		
2012	Great Britain		
2013	Great Britain		
2014	Great Britain		

2016	Great Britain
2017	Great Britain
2018	USA
2019	England
2022	Great Britain
2023	USA
2025	Great Britain

THE COMMONWEALTH MATCH

Presented to the Dominion of Canada Rifle Association by the Canadian Pacific Railways Company for annual competition between Empire Teams in 1931.

DESCRIPTION

A Sheffield Plate Bowl with two handles and a prone figure of a marksman mounted on the stem base. The Bowl is mounted on a three tier black wooden base upon which the names of the winning teams are recorded on small silver shields. Hallmarked M & W (Mappin & Webb), the Crown, Lion Passant and year of manufacture symbol. The Bowl is 215mm in height, 420mm across the handles, 286mm in diameter at the top and 193mm in diameter at the base of the stem: the three tier wooden base is 354mm square and 143mm high.

BACKGROUND

In 1931 Great Britain sent a rifle team to Canada under command of Commander Sir Lionel Fletcher CBE, RNR to compete against Canada's best marksmen at the Annual Prize Meeting of the DCRA. Prior to that year, no international team matches were included in the regular schedule of events. It was considered fitting that a long range event following the traditional conditions of the Mackinnon at Bisley be introduced. The conditions called for teams of 12 marksmen each firing two sighting shots and ten for record at each 900 and 1000 yards within a specified time limit. The match was entitled the Empire Match and with the assistance and generosity of the Canadian Pacific Railways Company, the Empire Trophy was placed in competition.

While the general conditions of the Empire Match have continued through the years, it was renamed the Commonwealth Match following World War II and is currently fired at 800 and 900 metres.

RECORD OF WINNERS

In years where GB or Home Countries teams were present

Total matches to 2025: 60

Wins to date:

1931	Canada	Great Britain	32 wins
1937	Australia	Canada	21 wins
1950	Great Britain	Australia	4 wins
1952	Great Britain	New Zealand	2 wins
1954	Canada	England	1 win
1956	Canada		
1958	Canada		
1960	New Zealand		
1962	Great Britain		
1964	Great Britain		
1966	Canada		
1967	New Zealand		
1968	Great Britain		
1969	Canada		
1970	Great Britain		
1971	Canada		
1972	Great Britain		
1973	Canada		
1974	Great Britain		
1975	Great Britain		
1976	Australia		
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2005	Canada		
2006	Great Britain		
2007	Great Britain		
2010	Great Britain		
2011	Canada		
2012	Great Britain		
2013	Great Britain		
2014	Great Britain		

2016	Great Britain
2017	Great Britain
2018	Great Britain
2019	Canada
2022	Great Britain
2023	Canada
2025	Canada

DOUBLES

winning the Canada and Commonwealth Matches in the same year
have been achieved in the following years:

1952	Great Britain
1966	Canada
1969	Canada
1970	Great Britain
1972	Great Britain
1973	Canada
1974	Great Britain
1977	Great Britain
1978	Great Britain
1979	Canada
1982	Australia
1983	Canada
1985	Canada
1986	Great Britain
1987	Australia
1988	Canada
1989	Great Britain
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2001	Canada
2002	Great Britain
2003	Canada
2005	Canada
2006	Great Britain
2007	Great Britain
2012	Great Britain
2013	Great Britain
2014	Great Britain
2016	Great Britain
2017	Great Britain
2022	Great Britain

14 Doubles from Canada
20 Doubles from Great Britain
2 Doubles from Australia
1 Double from England

Record scores for the Matches are:

Canada Match

2012 by Great Britain
(Captain: Dr JDS Langley)

Score of **1200.156**

Commonwealth Match

2016 by Great Britain
(Captain: LM Peden)

Score of **1194.138**