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Norm Crawford Wins 2016 Wimbledon Cup – *the First Cup Win Using Composite-Technology Barrel*

Camp Perry, Ohio – with a score of 200-16X, PROOF Staffer and Palma Champ Norman Crawford won the 2016 Wimbledon Cup during the National Long Range Rifle Championships. This prestigious cup, which dates back to 1875, is awarded annually to the winner of a 1,000-yard shooting competition consisting of 20 timed shots, fired from the prone position, using any sight.

Crawford's win represents the first time in the cup's 141-year history it has been won with a carbon fiber barrel. His winning barrel (1.1" in diameter, 32" long, chambered in .284 Shenane) was manufactured by PROOF Research and is the same barrel Crawford used to take third place overall in the 2016 Midwest Palma Championships, where he also earned a second-place finish in the 3 X 1000-yard Aggregate and a first-place 1200-Yard Trophy.

"I don't know of anybody else in this sport using a carbon fiber barrel," said Crawford, who's been shooting PROOF composite barrels since 2013. "The benefits over a steel barrel are you get a larger-diameter, stiffer, faster-cooling barrel that weighs less than a standard medium Palma-taper barrel, with no real downside I've been able to identify in three years of shooting them. All five PROOF barrels I own are capable of winning any match—providing I do my part."

This Wimbledon Cup win was Crawford's second; he also won the event in 2003. A 30-year Army vet and former Army Special Operations Sniper, he has been shooting competitively since 1990. Crawford's list of shooting accomplishments is long, including winning the Camp Perry National Matches—considered the "World Series of the Shooting Sports"—in 2005 and earning runner-up in 2001 and 2003. A three-time member of the U.S. Rifle Team to the World Championships, Crawford tied the national record for a 600-yard Any Gun, Any Sight competition in North Carolina last November, one of five national records he has set or tied over the course of his shooting career.

"We're extremely proud of Norman," PROOF Research CEO Larry Murphy stated. "Winning this and other events demonstrates just what composite barrels are capable of. I believe it's only a matter of time before they're the norm, pardon the pun, in competitive shooting. Norm is an outstanding ambassador for our brand, and by putting our barrels through the paces in intense competition, he pushes us to provide him, and all of our shooters, with the very best barrels."

For more information about the Wimbledon Cup, visit www.ssusa.org/articles/2016/3/24/the-wimbledon-cup/.

About PROOF Research, Inc.

PROOF Research is a science-driven defense/aerospace company, based in Northwest Montana, committed to developing next-generation materials and composites to produce carbon fiber barrels and weapons systems that lighten warfighter load while increasing durability and effectiveness. PROOF Research's goal is to make reduced weight, unsurpassed durability, and match-grade accuracy a reality for all of its customers.

Headquartered in Columbia Falls, Montana, PROOF Research maintains sales and manufacturing centers in Montana and Dayton, Ohio. For more information, please visit the company's website at www.proofresearch.com.

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