

Skout Airguns Rear Benchrest

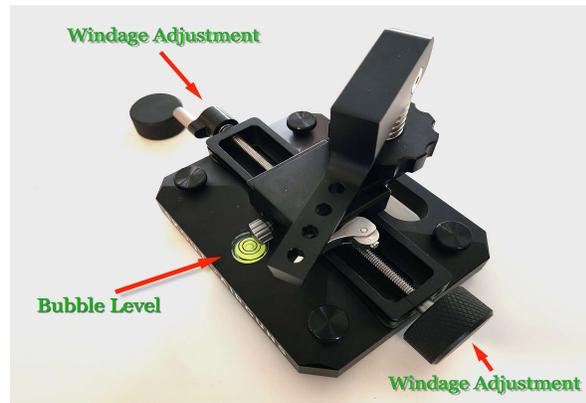
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by Joe Polanco

As a competitive bench shooter, I get to see a lot of different accessories designed to enhance accuracy and the shooting experience. Many of them are of limited use and even more limited quality. I'm happy to report that the latest offering from Skout is destined to be neither. Although currently it's only for use with their Epoch, a soon to be released attachment will make it compatible with virtually any commonly used benchrest gun. The design is innovative, the action is silky smooth, the weight is substantial and build quality is equal to that of their already lauded Epoch. Just one look tells you that this piece has the potential to be game changing.

Lets take a quick look at the features.

- 1: Overall Weight +/- 7lbs.
- 2: Micro Adjustable Leveling Feet
- 3: Precise, Ambidextrous Windage Adjustment
- 4: Interchangeable, Magnetic Windage Adjustment knobs *(two variants included)*
- 5: Large, Precise Elevation Adjustment Wheel
- 6: Arca Swiss QR Mounting Plate
- 7: Windage Tension Adjustment & Position Lock
- 8: Bubble Level



This feature rich rest has a build quality equal to that of the gun for which it was designed. Made of high quality anodized aluminum alloy this rear rest should last the user a lifetime. The operation is smooth and stable allowing the shooter to cut the amount of applied pressure necessary to keep the gun on target throughout the shooting sequence thereby enhancing shot to shot precision. From target acquisition to post shot follow through, the Skout Rear Rest minimizes realignment time literally buying the user more opportunities to catch his/her optimal shooting condition. For benchrest shooters who shoot in varying wind conditions, having a little extra time to wait for a favored wind can be just the edge they need.

I found the use of this rear rest far preferable to adjusting with either my front rest (*a Russ Bear bi-pod*) or any rear bag rest of which I have many. I was able to achieve enhanced consistency in my shot to shot placement with considerably less effort even when “chasing the wind”. Previously, during the period of time after making any adjustment, I found it unnecessary to manually hold the gun in that position while waiting for “my preferred wind”. With this rest in play that all changed. For me, that was the real hook.

So to wrap up what should already appear to be a pretty straight forward set of attributes:

Pros: 1: stability provided from the added weight and hard attachment
2: precision adjustments allowing for much more consistent shot to shot accuracy
3: build quality equal to that of the gun for which it was produced
4: value for dollar – at the current price point it not only out performs it's front rest competitors, but does so at a fraction of their cost

Cons: 1: currently proprietary (*for the Epoch only at this time*)
2: lacks “cant” adjustment – for those not shooting from a very close to level surface, it's hard points of attachment do not allow the rifle to be canted

Currently, Skout is working on an accessory saddle clamp. This clamp will make the rest a universally usable tool allowing it to be used with virtually any rifle while simultaneously eliminating the canting issue.

There are some exciting innovative things for airgunners coming out of Pennsylvania these days. For the serious bench shooter, the Skout Rear Adjustable Benchrest is certainly well worth a look.

