The Delta Stryker
5-50x56 Rifle Scope

Benchrest / Long Range Rimfire Shooting

I have been shooting long range rimfire with the Long Range Rimfire Club for 8 years and over that time developed a very good and repeatable setup. More recently I have been shooting Benchrest at 20,50 and 100 yards. My long-range setup is a Nightforce Competition 15-55 zeroed at 100 yards and I used a MOAB adjustable mount to reach the extreme elevations required for 22 rimfire at distances over 200 yards. Unfortunately, the Nightforce does not focus down to 20 yards which initiated my search for a more Benchrest orientated scope. This scope will be used on a dedicated long range rimfire rifle based around a Walther KK-300 Action in a modified Gemini stock.

Requirements and Choice

After some consideration I built a set of requirements or considerations when purchasing a scope for Benchrest and long range .22LR shooting.

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Simon Edwards
Chairman LRRFC

I spent some time on the Optics Warehouse website and eventually purchased the Delta Stryker HD 2-50x56 with the DLS-3 MOA reticule mounted with Tier One mounts. Both items were on special offer with Optics Warehouse £1495 for the scope and £127.37 for the mounts. Other potential scope in my price range would be the Vortex Golden Eagle 15-60x42 or the Sightron SIII Field Target 10-50x60.

My choice on the Delta was made by good reports from other shooters and an excellent match to my requirements.

Design and Build Quality

The Delta Stryker boasts a robust and elegant design and comes well packaged and comes with a sunshade and Lense covers. This ensures durability and rigidity, which are crucial for maintaining zero under heavy recoil. The scope has a 34mm tube which likely accounts for it's considerable elevation range, 100 MOA; almost twice that of the Vortex Golden Eagle.

Optical Performance

Optically the Stryker is very good. Some of the top scopes have a slight edge in terms of brightness and clarity however, without sitting the 2 scopes side by side it is not noticeable. It is very difficult to evaluate optical performance without doing more in-depth side by side testing and using gratings to establish definition and fringing that might be inferior with the lower quality glass. I will summarise by saying that optical quality will not be something I need to worry about with this scope.

Turrets and Adjustments

The Delta Sryker features tactical lockable turrets that offer precise adjustments. The turrets are easy to grip and provide audible clicks at 1/8 MOA detents, allowing for accurate and repeatable changes in windage and elevation. The scope offers a generous 100 MOA of elevation adjustment range, accommodating the severe drop experienced by rimfire shooters. It is slightly unusual to have the read position on the windage turret offset making it easy to read from above the rifle ideal for benchrest

shooting. Since the small bullets are impacted by wind it is good to know there is 25 MOA windage available on the windage turret: for those difficult days.

Side Parallax is graduated from 10yards to infinity matching my requirement to focus down to 20 yards for my indoor range.

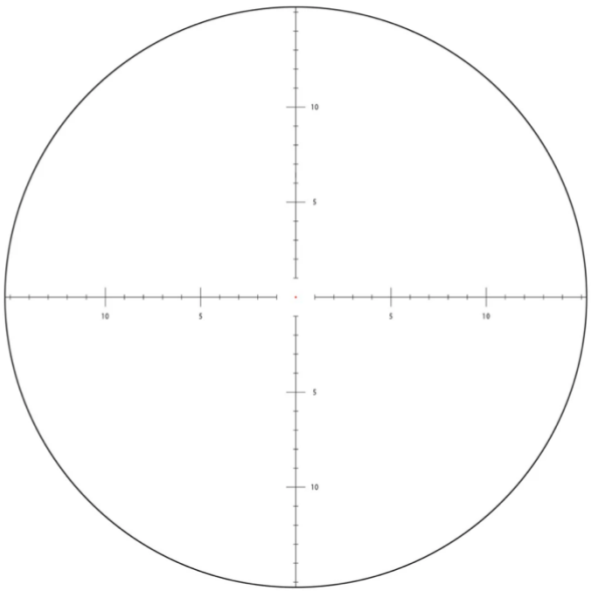
Access to the zero stop is obtained by unscrewing the upper part of the turret allowing access to the zero-stop mechanism which is unlocked using the supplied hex key.

The magnification adjustment is smooth and has an inbuilt throw lever. There is a line under the 40x magnification marker indicating where the reticule reads true MOA values; this is a second focal plane scope.

Reticle

I chose the DLS-3 reticule. This still allows holdovers in wind and elevation. Typically when shooting in reasonably stable wind, I get to a point where I have optimised the point of impact using the turrets and then aim off to compensate for small changes in the wind making this reticule ideal. As previously mentioned, this is a second focal plane scope, the reticule only reads true minutes at 40x. This is a trade-off for having the fine markings in the reticule at all magnifications. In practical terms, the reticule is good for about 10 MOA of holdover, hold-under in either both elevation and windage. The reticule is illuminated but this in my case is not something I personally use for benchrest or long range 22 shooting.

DLS-3 reticle (MOA)



User Experience – Zero and First Shoot

I shot my first benchrest target at 20 yards and since the scope was the only change to my setup, I was very confident that I the setup would shoot well. Zeroing and setting the

zero stop was straightforward although the screw retainer on the turrets is quite difficult to grip, and the rubber seals make them a little awkward to reseat on the turret. The Stryker was set at 40x magnification, the bull nicely fits into the centre of the aiming cross the central dot aligning with the dot on the 10 bull diagram.

With a 20 yard zero and no additional elevation on the mounts I get an additional 40 MOA on the turret which will easily get me to 200 yards (27 MOA) using standard velocity 22 ammunition. I have subsequently shot the rifle at 100yards with excellent scores.

Conclusion

In competitions I like a scope that is unambiguous in its operation so I can concentrate on looking at the wind flags, filling in a shot plotting sheet and observe where my competitor's shots are going. The Delta Stryker 5-50 Scope is ergonomically designed and ideal for my style of shooting. Speaking to other club members 2 of my fellow shooters are using this scope on 308 calibre FTR rifles with good results and no reliability issues. I have now used this scope for a few months, and it has proved to be an excellent purchase in terms of my benchrest scores improving. I have also had an opportunity to practice shoot the rifle out to 200 yards, again with good results and repeatability.

In the future I intend to obtain a 40moa rail which will give me access to the nearly the full 100moa of available range on the elevation turret.