



**Grrrr. Sascha Beck (Germany).**

Lighting an underground range for shooting Steel Challenge also raises some issues. Wigger's crew hangs additional fluorescent lights above, behind, and in front of the shooter, seemingly anywhere that makes sense. There's no way to make shooting underground the same as shooting under the hot sun of Piru or Frostproof, but Wigger's crew does their best to light things well. To Wigger's credit, the shooters gave his new-and-improved lighting scheme high marks compared to prior years. (Hint: If you find yourself under indoor lights, take a careful, deliberate

sight picture. The sights may look different from stage to stage, and at different angles.)

### **Dutch Flair**

Wigger's European Steel Challenge feels welcoming and comfortable to all comers, with little bits of Dutch flair. So say the various foreign and Dutch

competitors that travel here to compete. 2011's match boasted 190+ starts, putting it on par with the big regional steel shoots held in the United States (the World Championships has about 290 starts). It has an unusually strong prize table (by Euro standards), helped greatly by main match sponsor Vihtavuori - who made sure every participant went home with a half-kilo (1.1 pounds) of one of their pistol powders.

Winterswijk draws Dutch and German vacationers who like to

ride bicycles around the area, stopping off in the old market surrounding a church dating from the 1280s. Every driveway is clean, every garden manicured and neat, with hardly a trash bin out of place. Little bits of historic American influence can be seen as well, such as the odd McDonald's restaurant, or the road sign pointing to the "Boogiewoogie."

As a foreigner I hesitate to say whether this is typically Dutch, but everything about the match, the match hotel, even the food feels supremely well-organized and neat. Banners decorate the hallways and the stages, there is no clutter visible, and the catered lunch (available for an extra charge) was amazing.



**Adrie De Bot helps the RO find a hit.**

The Hotel Frerikshof rests a short walk from the range, and offers rates negotiated to an affordable level. A marvelous breakfast comes with the room rate - something far above and beyond typical fare in the 'States. A bar-becue for guests, officials, and sponsors is held Saturday night, again with an eye toward hospitality.

Taken collectively, it's no surprise that this match is so popular, and has such a following. If you get the chance to come, tell them you heard about it in *Front Sight!*

**For more information:**

[www.steelshoot.nl/](http://www.steelshoot.nl/)



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