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L4S Elevate



by Mark H. Taylor

Photos courtesy of Syren USA (except where noted)

The Syren L4S Elevate is based on the Syren L4S Sporting platform and has added features which shooters of the Syren L4S Sporting have been asking for — an adjustable comb and a rib which can be changed to alter the Point Of Impact (POI). What this has done is to take a shotgun which has allowed women shooters to excel in skeet and sporting clays to now excel in skeet, sporting clays and trap. In a nutshell, the Syren L4S Elevate is the *enhanced version* of the Syren L4S Sporting (which I reviewed for the July 2024 issue of *Shotgun Sports* magazine).



The right-handed Syren L4S Elevate arrived in the signature purple-colored Negrini hard plastic case, which provides exceptional protection for this shotgun during transportation. The case is secured with four latches, two of which lock using the key provided. The top of the case is embossed with the Syren logo accented in white. Inside the top of the case is black foam and a cover which is secured by two velcro straps. The top of the inside of the case has a square cut-out to hold the choke tube case and a slot for the second rib. The bottom inside of the case consists of molded plastic where the barrel (when removed) and the receiver (with forearm wood attached) will fit. The inside bottom of the case also has cut-outs for the choke tube wrench and miscellaneous accessories, such as gun oil and shooting gloves.

Putting the barrel of the Syren L4S Sporting on the receiver is a bit different than other semi-automatic shotguns. The Syren has a revolutionary new forearm design that does not rely on the wood to be part of the mechanical assembly of

the gun. This removes all wiggle and movement in the forearm, and makes the barrel-to-receiver relationship more precise and stronger while eliminating the forces that can damage and crack the wood. With this new design, the shooter is required to not only remove the external forearm end-cap but then remove an internal end-cap (which is what prevents the unwanted movement) before the barrel can be slid on/into the receiver. Securing both end-caps and the forearm completes the assembly. This can be somewhat confusing the first time it is done, but once the shooter gets used to it, this is quite simple and results in a much better fit of the barrel to the receiver.

The Turkish Walnut wood used on the stock and forearm of the Syren L4S Elevate is quite nice, and the Triwood finish on this brings out the outstanding grain in the wood. The recoil pad is a 22mm soft black rubber with a very slight curve. Shooters can purchase from the SYREN website different recoil pads in widths of 12mm and 27mm, which when swapped out makes the Length Of

Pull (LOP) shorter by .4" or longer by .2" respectively. And, these recoil pads can be swapped out by the shooter — not requiring a gunsmith to fit them. The LOP on the Syren L4S Elevate I tested was 13.5". The non-adjustable trigger had a crisp pull of 4 lbs.

The stock-to-receiver fit is excellent with no gaps or edges. The right-handed stock does not have a palm swell but does have checkering on the pistol grip which is medium aggressive in feel.

The Syren L4S Elevate comes standard with a four-way adjustable comb. The comb hardware is easy to adjust by hand, but once properly positioned, it can be locked securely into place so it will not move (or become loose) when shooting.

The receiver has a black anodized finish which accents the dark grains in the stock and forearm. Both sides of the receiver have the model "L4S Elevate" etched in purple and white. The Syren L4S Elevate features an oversized purple bolt handle and an oversized purple bolt-release button. The advantage of



The L4S gas-operating system acts as a shock absorber to mitigate recoil against the shoulder.

both of these items being oversized is that it allows ease of operation even when wearing gloves. The safety slides left-to-right and is embedded in the rear of the trigger guard.

The Turkish Walnut on the forearm was just as nice as the stock. And, the forearm has the same medium-aggressive checkering as the pistol grip. Similar to the stock against the receiver, the forearm's wood-to-metal fit was excellent.

The 28" non-ported barrel comes with two ribs, which are easily swapped by removing one pin at the back of the rib. One rib when installed allows the Syren L4S Elevate to shoot a POI of 50/50, and the other rib when installed allows it to shoot a POI of 65/35. Both ribs are 8.5mm high and tapered from 11mm (at the receiver) to 8mm (at the muzzle). Atop each ventilated rib are two beads: a white Bradley-style bead at the muzzle end and a silver steel bead in the middle of the rib. The Syren L4S Elevate's barrel constriction was measured at .725.

The 7½ lb. Syren L4S Elevate comes with five EXIS competition chokes (Skeet, Improved Cylinder, Modified, Improved Modified and Full), which are 4" in total length having 5/8" extend beyond the muzzle. The part of the choke tube which extends beyond the muzzle has the choke constriction written on it. And, it is knurled at the very end for easy gripping.

To see how the Syren L4S Elevate performs on the range, I met my friend Amy Propernick at Colorado Clays Shooting Park in Brighton, Colorado. Amy has a unique perspective when testing the Syren L4S Elevate since she helped me demo for the review of the Syren L4S Sporting in 2024.

Amy and I started our tests at the patterning board. After mounting the 50/50 rib, we used the Allen wrench to move the comb to the right of center and to adjust the comb height so that Amy saw the middle bead and the front bead in a straight line (i.e., one right behind the other). With the Modified choke installed, we stood 20 yards from the

patterning board and used Focchi White Rino shotshells to confirm what POI we would get. The 50/50 rib did indeed give a 50/50 pattern. We then changed to the 65/35 rib and shot three more Focchi White Rino. Again, the pattern shown was what Syren said it should be — 65/35. Neither one of us was surprised given the engineering and manufacturing proficiency at Syren. Amy said she likes to shoot a 55/45 POI for sporting clays, so I changed back to the 50/50 rib and moved the comb up (keeping the left-to-right adjustment untouched) so that the middle bead was halfway up the front bead. We used three more shells on the patterning board to confirm this small adjustment gave her the POI she preferred.

We threw a flat of the Focchi White Rino 7½ shotshells into a golf cart and headed to the sporting clays course after swapping the Modified choke for the Improved Cylinder choke. The course was set up fairly difficult since the day before was the annual Colorado 626 tournament. Amy shot 3 pairs at most



The Syren L4S Elevate features an oversized purple bolt handle and an oversized purple bolt-release button, both of which allow ease of operation even when wearing gloves.



stations and 4 pairs at some stations, such that after 15 stations, she shot at 100 targets. The challenging course offered a variety of targets (i.e., rabbits, crossers, incomers, chandelles and springing teals) and more true pairs than normal. The true pairs were technically tough since it was not always clear which target to shoot first.

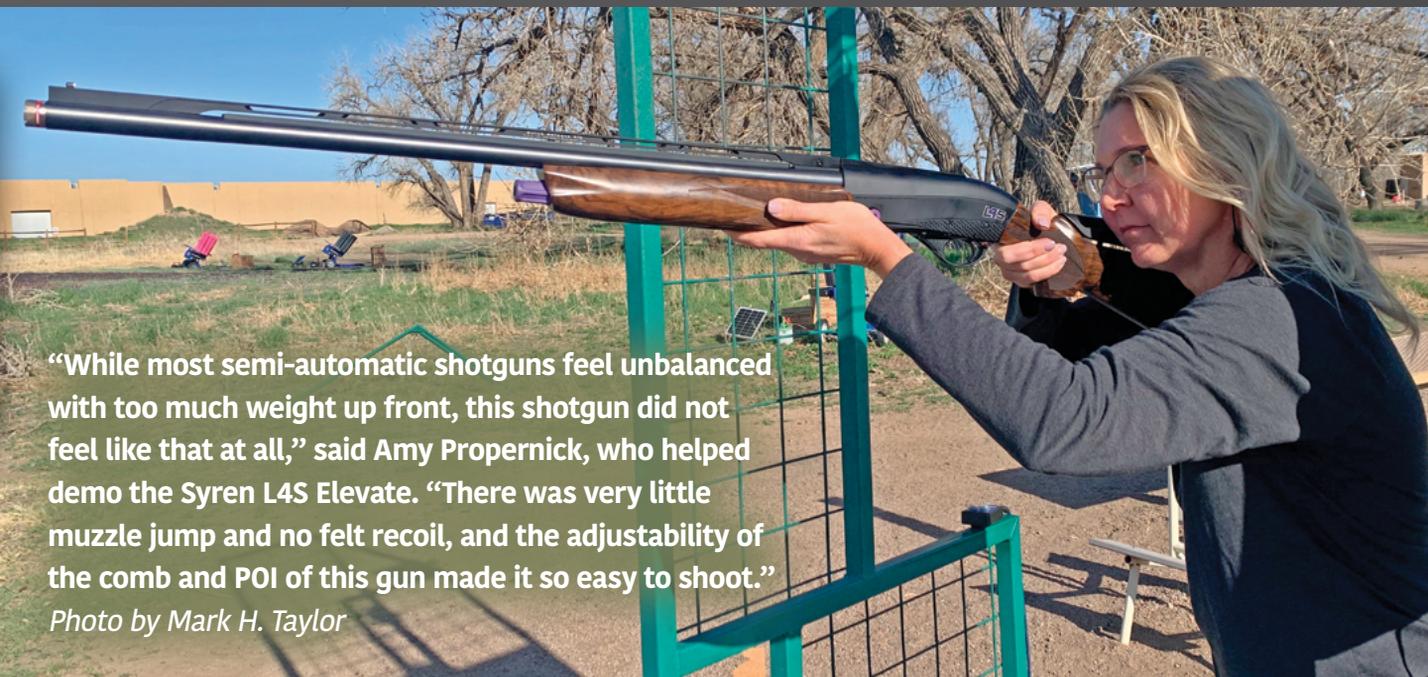
Amy completed the sporting clays course with an 87. With the Improved Cylinder, she absolutely crushed the close-in targets while smashing the targets which were beyond 40 yards.

Since Colorado Clays Shooting Park offers trap, skeet and sporting clays, we decided we would change to the 65/35 rib and to the Improved Modified choke before heading over to the trap field. With the comb height set to give her a 55/45 POI with the 50/50 rib installed, she hoped that same height would give her a 70/30 POI with the 65/35 rib installed.

I locked the trap machine to throw straightaway targets and had Amy shoot half-a-dozen to confirm the POI was where she liked it. After smoking all

six targets, she confirmed we got the POI set correctly. So, I set the trap machine back to regular oscillation and, when her box of shotshells was empty, she had only dropped one target for a 24.

When I asked Amy for her impression of the Syren L4S Elevate, she said: "While most semi-automatic shotguns feel unbalanced with too much weight up front, this shotgun did not feel like that at all. Even with the White Rino shotshells, there was very little muzzle jump and no felt recoil, and the adjustability of the comb and POI of this gun made it



“While most semi-automatic shotguns feel unbalanced with too much weight up front, this shotgun did not feel like that at all,” said Amy Propernick, who helped demo the Syren L4S Elevate. “There was very little muzzle jump and no felt recoil, and the adjustability of the comb and POI of this gun made it so easy to shoot.”

Photo by Mark H. Taylor



The 28" non-ported barrel comes with two ribs, which are easily swapped by removing one pin at the back of the rib. One rib when installed allows the Syren L4S Elevate to shoot a POI of 50/50, and the other rib allows a POI of 65/35. Shooters can quickly change from a low-rib sporting clays and skeet gun to a high-rib trap gun.

so easy to shoot. I did not have to adjust my face on the stock, and I did not have to cover the rising targets to hit them. The only thing I would change on this shotgun is to make the checkering less aggressive. I think I would like it when shooting with gloves, but it is something I would need to get used to when shooting without gloves.”

Some shooters might think the way shotgun manufacturers develop a women’s shotgun is to reduce the LOP and then paint it pink. Fortunately, this is *not* the approach Syren takes. Syren builds all their shotguns

from the ground up with women shooters in mind. The result is a line of shotguns which have over half-a-dozen features specific for women shooters. The Syren L4S Elevate incorporates those features and then adds additional features which women competitors have been asking for (i.e., adjustable comb and POI changeability). At the time of this writing, the MSRP was listed at \$3,255.

After shooting and testing this shotgun with Amy, it is my opinion the Syren L4S Elevate is the complete package for women shooters wanting a high-quality

Italian-made reliable competitive shotgun which can be used successfully in all clay-target disciplines. **SS**

Mark H. Taylor has over 40 years of shooting experience. He has won many regional, state, national and international clay target competitions. He is the author of the book *Clay Target Shooting – The Mental Game* and co-author of the book *Break ‘em All*. Mark is a NRA Certified Advanced International Shotgun Coach and a High-Performance Shotgun Coach for USA Shooting. He is a Caesar Guerini and Cabela’s (in Thornton, CO) Pro Staff shooter, and teaches monthly beginner shotgun clinics at Colorado Clays in Brighton, CO, and travels nationally and internationally teaching coaching courses and working with world-class athletes. You can email him at coloradotaylor@gmail.com.



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