

SHOOTING WEST

Sporting Shooters Association of Australia (WA) Inc.

www.ssaawa.org.au



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From the President...

Our 3rd expo is now done and dusted and it was a busy period for the association making sure it went ahead in the best possible way.



The expo attracted way over 10000 shooters through the door and showed again we are a force to be reckoned with. Many various Politicians attended and a big surprise for most was seeing Pauline Hanson walk through the front door, she jumped the the chance to have a crack with one of the rifles and pistols on the SSAA indoor expo air range and first shot with the pistol resulted in a very clean V Bull. Another high-profile attendee was Federal Sports Minister Bridget Mc Kenzie and along with several other National Party members she spent a lot of time talking to visitors and exhibitors as well as formally opening our new Mobile Shooting range. We are looking forward to getting out and about to Field days, trade events and we have been approached by a lot of groups interested in having it in use.

Whilst there the Minister made some announcements in relation to an economic survey that will have the ability to report in proper detail the economic benefits that our sport brings to the economy including indirect spends and job supported and created. She also made reference to the ongoing saga of Licensed Dealers not being able to utilize Australia Post to transport firearms and firearms accessories (parts). After much lobbying by SIFA, WAFTA and SSAA WA a solution may be on the way as Australia Post have formulated a package that in its first period allow licensed movement within WA and we wait with baited breath for the wider Australian market allowing the WA trade to be on a level playing field with other states. The Minister has been making representations to help as well.

As you may be aware there is a WAPOL operation underway to check on making sure that all licensed shooters are doing the right thing in terms of securing your firearm's when not in use. It was disheartening to find that some folks are clearly not doing the right thing making our lobbying efforts difficult. A few simple tips are worth note such as don't leave your keys easily accessible or in the same room as your gun-safe, most thieves will upend a room and empty draws in the hunt for valuables and may stumble across your safe keys making it really easy. If you're going on extended holiday consider leaving your firearms with a dealer that can offer safe storage. there are many other ways you can take steps to protect your investment and we need to be vigilant. Police will be visiting at random but also based on several other factors.

We regularly discuss legal matters with our legal eagles that we utilize and one Barrister said he has never seen so many cases up for legal intervention. The usual anti SSAA detractors say we are doing nothing but reality is we are supporting many various cases both direct and indirect with some costing substantial funds. We don't often broadcast this as it may prejudice the process but be very aware as are our legal reps we are there when needed.

The festive season is on us and a one of the best things to get for xmas is a gift voucher from one of the many WA gun shops who have had a varied year with both having to outlay for major security upgrades for handgun compliance but also the transport issues restricting the ability to sell goods .

On behalf of the WA State Executive I would like to wish you all a happy and safe holiday season.

Ron Bryant



Department of
Sport and Recreation

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Building from Nothing

by Rob Hill (State Membership Officer)

After several months of talking about it, every time we met at the range, six likeminded individuals met in a hall in Medina to begin a journey that, I'm sure, has been undertaken dozens of times before.

When I say dozens of times, I might be slightly inaccurate, because there was one distinctive difference with this occasion. These six people



met with the sole purpose of forming a shooting club that has a higher goal than simply sending some rounds downrange into a target and seeing how close they can get to the centre. This shooting club is formed specifically to provide social shooting experiences for the disabled. The club is hoping to be called **Western Australia Accessible Social Shooting**, a name which indicates everything that is important about this concept. Leith Taylor, a good mate of mine, a member of my local club and an avid shooter has thought for months that shooting would be a great social activity for disabled people, who often have difficulty participating in sporting clubs. The way Leith tells it, there isn't a lot of support for shooting from a wheelchair until you're headed to the Paralympics. Leith would know, he's in a wheelchair.

Over the course of several months and many discussions at the range, Leith introduced me to John (Wheels) Davidson. Wheels is pretty famous around Practical Shooting circles, because he competes in prac in his wheelchair. This is no mean feat, since prac shooters are the guys who run around the range, shooting fast and trying to complete their shoot as fast as possible! Leith, John and I, with the help of a couple of others decided we were sick of sitting on our hands and arranged a meeting.

Around the meeting table were three wheelchair-bound shooters and three able-bodied supporters, barely enough to form an association, but these six people

were common-minded in their support for an ideal which, should it meet its potential, could reinvigorate the lives of many people in our state. The business of the night included forming a committee, building a philosophy and generating an initial constitution. Throughout these simple tasks, and seven hours of discussion some clear philosophical standards emerged. Firstly, and in my opinion, most importantly, none of the able bodies around the table wanted any control of the club at all, the club is for disabled people, it should be guided by disabled people, so it was decided that the association will accept anybody as a member, but full membership is reserved for those with a disability. Able-bodied people can join as associate members, with all the rights of a full member except one, they aren't permitted to vote at an AGM, nor are they allowed to hold a permanent committee position.

Leith and John want to build a place without judgement, where people are encouraged and assisted to join with others and learn how to shoot to the limits of their ability. They recognise that the relative abilities of people will be different, but they want to find a way to include people in the sport that they have lived a life loving. We plan to assess abilities through observation and add modifications to traditional competitions which will allow everybody to join in.

WAASS is looking for people to help to build this dream. The association isn't even registered yet, there is no range to call home, there is no bank balance, membership or facilities, but there is passion to build a place where everybody work together to make ballistic sport accessible to as many members of our community as possible. I for one think that is an opportunity far too good to pass up and I would encourage anybody who is interested in what's being done to contact us through the State PR Officer.



2018 Practical Hunting Rifle WA State Championships

Practical Hunting Rifle events are steadily growing in popularity and the state titles this year was a great event.

Thirty-six rim fire competitors at kick-off weathered the soft rain on Saturday the 8th and fortunately the weather improved as the day went along.

Forty-eight shooters were on the firing line for the centre fire event around lunchtime and after checking zero's the fun continued.

The numbers show that the discipline is growing steadily and shooters from as far as Karratha and Boyup Brook attended the event. The number of junior shooters participating is very encouraging and promise to continue the future growth trend.

Both rim fire and center fire course of fire set six separate scenarios where targets were engaged in a 5 shot string each. One string of 5 shots was fired at suspended steel discs (gongs) while the balance went into paper targets.

The event introduced four brand new centre fire targets that provided an added challenge to the competitors, as they have not seen these before.

Results for rim fire:

Open- Overall

1. Ryan, M (490.00)
2. Nicholas, P (460.00)
3. Phil, M (420.00)

Juniors

1. Kai, D (310.00)
2. Ash, C (290.00)
- Anne, D (240.00)

Results for centre fire:

Open- Overall

1. Willem, F (685.00)
2. Marc, D (665.00)
3. Erlanda, D (620.02)

Juniors

1. Zietsman, V (365.00)
2. Kai, D (330.00)
3. Ash, C (325.00)

222/223

- Tim, P (570.02)
Paul, P (540.01)
Shayne, C (495.01)

A big thank you to all the competitors and all those stalwarts putting in hard work to make our state shoot a very enjoyable day – looking forward to next year!

Jan van Niekerk (PHR Delegate)

2018 Big Game Rifle WA State Championships

Howdy all,

Sunday 7 Oct was a nice, just warm enough, sunny day, just right to shoot.

11 competitors fronted for the day at PBGR at WSC, 4 veterans and 7 younger than 60 and shot a total of 46 matches. 27 in Stalking Class and 19 in Stopping class. 2 shooters shot all 8 matches (108 rounds).

Open Winner is aggregate of best 2 stalking class and best 2 stopping class (in %ages). Veteran is aggregate of best two of any matches (in %ages).

Winners included:

Open

1. John P (298.3)
2. Malcolm s (294.9)
3. Johan W (292.2)

Veteran

1. John P (161.3)
2. Malcolm S (158.6)
3. Peter s (155.0)

Many thanks to everyone who helped, particularly Gianni for set-up, Pater S for running details, Terry M for helping with targets and Rich G for scoring and Steve G for checking/confirming some targets.

Mal S (BGR Delegate)

Shot Expo photos



Upcoming Competitions

January- March 2019

Practical Pistol Interclub "Bullet Bowl"

Sun 10th Feb OGSA

Contact: practicalshooting@ssaawa.org.au

2019 SSAA (WA) Steel Challenge State Championships

Sat 23rd March Kukerin Prac Pistol Club

Contact: practicalshooting@ssaawa.org.au

For more information on events please refer to our website
www.ssaawa.org.au

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