

VICTORIAN PISTOL NEWS

**DECEMBER
1990**

**Official Publication
of the
Victorian Amateur
Pistol Association**

Registered by Australia Post
Publication No. VBH7854



Smith & Wesson Handguns



MOD. 66
.357 Combat Magnum®
Stainless



MOD. 686
.357 Distinguished Combat
Magnum® Stainless



L. T. HARRIS GUNDEALERS

For all your SMITH & WESSON requirements

ON ALL PISTOL SHOOTING ACCESSORIES & AMMUNITION

Send for our free price list - every shooter should have one

“BULLZI PROJECTILES”



| | | | | | |
|-----|-----------------|---------|-----|-------------------|---------|
| .32 | 98 gr H.B.W.C. | \$17.00 | .38 | 148 gr R.N. | \$23.00 |
| .38 | 90 gr H.B.W.C. | \$20.00 | | 158 gr R.N. | \$25.00 |
| | 115 gr H.B.W.C. | \$21.00 | | 158 gr W.C. solid | \$25.00 |
| | 128 gr H.B.W.C. | \$22.00 | | 9mm 128 gr R.N. | \$23.00 |
| | 148 gr H.B.W.C. | \$23.00 | | | |
| | 158 gr H.B.W.C. | \$25.00 | | | |

• PRICES PER 500

THE PROJECTILES CHAMPIONS USE

MAIL ORDERS OUR SPECIALITY

78 ELGIN STREET, CARLTON. 3053 PHONE (03) 347 6264 FAX (03) 347 3629

BANK CARD, MASTER CARD & VISA CARD ACCEPTED

Victorian Pistol News

Official Publication of the Victorian Amateur Pistol Association

Issue Number 13, December 1990

Editor:

Alun Hughson

Editorial Copy and

**Black & White Photographs to:
P.O. Box 267, Castlemaine. 3450.**

Closing Date for all material:

31st January, 1991

Subscriptions:

\$6.00 for Four Issues,
C/- The Editor

Notice to Readers

The contents of this issue have been selected by the Editor in an attempt to extend knowledge, improve practice and promote communication within the field of pistol shooting for members of the Association.

The Editor may, in his absolute discretion, reject any contribution or hold it over for later publication and edit out unsuitable material.

Opinions expressed are those of the original authors and do not necessarily reflect those of the Editor or the Association.

Persons acting on any opinion, advice, fact or advertisement published in this issue do so at their own risk.

Contents

| | |
|----|--------------------------|
| | Editorial |
| 3 | Shooting Snippets |
| 4 | Ron Gilbert |
| 5 | Action - Vic. Titles |
| 8 | Horsham - UIT Titles |
| 9 | VAPA at Gun Show |
| 10 | Free Pistol |
| 14 | Council from the Council |
| 17 | Shooters Diary |
| 18 | Pistol Registry |
| 20 | Echuca Pistol Club |
| 22 | Juniors - Who Cares |
| 24 | Action Nationals |
| 26 | The Grading System |
| 28 | 1990 Postal Competition |

Advertising

Front Cover

Artwork Susan Wheelan

Inside Front Cover

L. T. Harris

13 Taylor Firearms

28 H & C Vanetten

30 Will Eastmure

Inside Back Cover

P.L.S. Firearms

Back Cover

Precision Handgun Supplies

Editorial

Having voluntarily won the job of editor I would like to start on a positive note and will; I get a lot of enjoyment out of pistol shooting and enjoy discussing it with others and there are a lot of terrific people involved in this sport.

After that positive opening, the downside. APATHY, all the passengers who come for the ride, you'd think it was Vicrail and not a sporting body. Getting this magazine out illustrates the point well, you have to chase nearly everyone for material which you accept as part of the job, but apart from the few "ever reliables" most others let you down. I can sympathise with the problems the past three editors have had, they've all been the same.

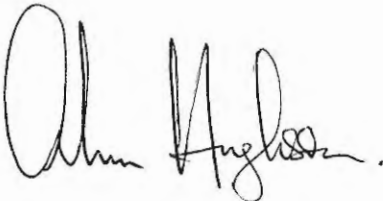
It's a sad fact that if about a dozen people became dispondent and threw in the towel, then suddenly more than half our Association would have to contribute something to their sport for the first time. Another sad fact is that this insult will probably get little reaction and if it does then it was worth saying.

Any organisation is only as good as the effort being put into it so it's time to stop being a passenger, help run your club, be an ambassador for your chosen sport, contribute to VAPA, but most of all do something.

This is not a criticism of those who have worked for years to promote shooter's rights and run our association. They have done this in the face of a bureaucratic licencing system and apathy from other shooters.

Currently we face difficulty with visitors permits in N.S.W. and Victoria, moves by the Department of Conservation and Environment to increase fees for users of crown land, problems with the Environmental Protection Authority, continual harrassment from the anti-gun lobby and many other outside forces. The last thing we need is an apathetic membership.

Do something now, contribute to your chosen sport in some small way and even now if you still don't want to do anything don't be negative and stop or undermine others. If you're at a loss, write me a letter, tell me what you'd like to read or better still, be a contributor to YOUR magazine.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Alan Hughes". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large initial "A" and "H".

Shooting Snippets

V.A.P.A. MEMBERSHIP

An important point for all to note.

Part of your annual fee you pay to your club each year is the portion that goes to V.A.P.A. to run the Association that represents your rights as a pistol shooter. You have to be a member of V.A.P.A. to own a pistol in Victoria as a "pistol club member" category licence holder.

It is your individual responsibility to ensure that you are a member of V.A.P.A. and not the responsibility of someone else such as the club secretary. Even though in most cases it is the club secretary who collects the fee and sends it to the Association, and most do, if they forget or are tardy in the office then you suffer and your pistols could be suddenly at risk.

The capitation fee and census are due and payable by the 31st August 1990 and if not paid to V.A.P.A. by the end of December 1990 you could be disaffiliated from the Association.

Make sure of your membership of V.A.P.A. now with your club secretary or you could be in for a rude surprise in the new year.

1991 STATE TITLES

All of the State Titles will be held at country venues so plan now as in some cases the accommodation you wish may be hard to come by. Service Match at Ballarat, Blackpowder at Echuca and UIT at Horsham. Plan ahead, check the calendar in this issue, enter the shoot and book your accommodation.

BRISBANE NATIONALS

Any members wishing to hire a caravan for the 1991 Nationals can do so by contacting Mr. David Barnett, Rover Vans (07) 399 3536, (07) 398 1174, when contacting Mr. Barnett please state that it is for use on the Belmont Range for the Pistol Shooting Nationals and will be situated on Q.R.A. caravan Site.

The members of the State Team wish to acknowledge the support of the Official sponsors of the V.A.P.A. State Team.



FAI Insurance Group
BP Australia



The support of companies such as these means a great deal to our Association. It is unfortunate that our exposure in the press and on television is so limited, but if all members let it be known to all their friends and families and work colleagues that our Association attracts the support of these companies it may go some way to make up for the lack of publicity we get.

Ron Gilbert — Last Post

Victorian shooters were saddened by the sudden passing of their compatriot “Rotten Ronnie” Gilbert in the early hours of Saturday 29th of September, 1990 after a short but hopeless fight with cancer.

Ron achieved much in his years of pistol shooting and made friends all over the state, this was borne out by the spread of club members attending his funeral service at Northcote on Wednesday the 3rd of October.

Ron started pistol shooting with Melbourne Pistol Club in 1974. He was a driving force in the building of the M.I.S.C. range at Port Melbourne and served on the committee there for several years. Ron transferred to Diamond Valley pistol club for some years and became their roving ambassador, as his club jacket was plainly visible at most open shoots. The “Diamond Valley” across his back thoroughly confused a Bendigo Chinese restaurant waitress who thought he was - a diamond miner.

Ron took on the V.A.P.A. position of Competition Controller just at the time when the competition expanded greatly to include the Service Pistol events. Ron managed the work in his capable manner even finding paid sponsorship for the results sheets, and twisting V.A.P.A.’s arm to buy its first photocopier. Ron continued to attend open shoots after he had given up the controllers job, not always to shoot, but just to talk to his friends and practice his second love of driving good cars. Ron made his last drive to see his friends at the Shepparton Open when he had only one week to live.

Ron had a constant interest in young shooters. He was always ready to give them advice on the way he had overcome a problem they were encountering and in a practical way each year he would donate a stop watch as a trophy to the Junior Camp.

Ron was a very good shooter who could easily have made the top grade except for his unique individualism that made him “Rotten Ron” - a phrase he coined himself. Ron had his own way, and thoughts about most things, he would not suffer fools and had no reservations about saying so.

Ron made many longstanding friends who each had their own little understands with him. It will be the loss of these ties that will make us miss him most.

Our condolences go out to his family as we fondly remember one of life’s gentlemen and a true friend.



Victorian Action Match Championships

Geelong 1990

Kip Manwaring

What was intended to be a relatively straight-forward Victorian Action Match Championship at Geelong Pistol Club developed a real "mini-Nationals" atmosphere on the weekend of 25/26 August. A total of 82 shooters turned up, with some of Australia's best in action:

Ray Gray, Ray Pulver, Ken Fowles and Jason Anderson from N.S.W.; John Tarrant from South Australia; and our own Brian Kilpatrick, Ercole Anastasi, Tom Whitehead and Peter Muscat.

Also, top junior Peter Battista from N.S.W. was here to give Bradley Tate some real opposition.

In all there were 19 shooters from interstate, and 20 Master Grade shooters competing. It was the best competition held to date in Victoria, and will probably be bettered only by the Canberra Nationals in October.

The business started on the Friday, with most of the interstate competitors turning up to do some practice during the day.

Over the weekend, there were some really raw nerve-ends on show - normally pleasant and affable shooters were seen to be walking about with distracted looks on their faces, muttering about "different mats", and "crooked barricades", and "I really did hit that plate", and "Brian missed a plate at 10 yards!!", and "It's O.K., Ray Gray missed one at 15 yards!!!!", and so it went. All in all, the competition was intense, all the way down the grades.

To add to the fun, Saturday was very wet, and muddy underfoot. The Match Director was asked "What do we do when it rains - wait for it to stop?". To which he replied "You have got to be kidding - we would be here forever if we did that! Welcome to sunny Geelong!!". "But I have never shot in the rain!". "Not to worry, it'll be good practice for the Nationals in Canberra". Some of the South Australians seemed particularly perturbed about this - perhaps they have never seen rain before!

Of course, the prospect of going prone on a sodden, mud-splattered piece of carpet was very disturbing - but down they went! After all, they got wet and muddy only on the front. One prominent shooter was heard to say "That b down there knows I'm going to use that mat next - he's just walked his muddy boots all over it."

Meanwhile, the Mover trundled back and forth, rain or shine, with the operator bemoaning down upon all from her newly-jerry-built control station ("Lynda's outhouse") - who's roof leaked away! And the Match Director admired the self control of the shooters - they all successfully resisted the temptation to shoot away the Mover wires and strings. Not a one had to be replaced all weekend.

In between all the tension and pressure, some very good scores were achieved.

The top score on the **Mover** was 474 out of 480, with Brian Kilpatrick, Ken Fowles and Ray Gray all achieving it. However, **Brian** won that match with 34 Xs, from Ken's 28 Xs and Ray's 21 Xs.



Tom Whitehead on the barricade.



The Falling Plate Range.



Peter Muscat on the speed shoot.



Shooting the speed event.

In the **Practical** event, both Brian and Ray shot the possible 480, but again **Brian** took the match with **41 xs** to Ray's 35 Xs.

On the **Barricades**, possible scores of 480 were shot by Ray Pulver, John Tarrant, Peter Battista, John DeBrevi and the Expert Grade shooter Paul Hutchins. Both Ray Pulver and John Tarrant shot **41 Xs**, but **Ray** took the match on countback of Xs (Ray had two more Xs than John at the longer distances of 25 and 35 yards).

A number of shooters shot a possible 480 on the **Falling Plates** - Ray Pulver, Ercole Anastasi, Tom Whitehead, Ken Fowles, Peter Battista and Paul Nowak in Master Grade, and Kevin Brooke, Clive Williams and Ron Baker in Expert Grade. However, it was **Kevin Brooke** who went on to shoot **101 plates** (to the next best 98 plates) in total to take the match.

At the completion of the Championship matches at lunchtime on Sunday, Ray Pulver from the St. Ives club in Sydney had quietly headed the field to win by one point from Brian Kilpatrick, and a further two points to Ray Gray. Ray Pulver was absolutely thrilled - he described it as his "first big win". The informal "interstate challenge" was narrowly won by N.S.W. (Ray Pulver, Ray Gray and Ken Fowles totalling 5694) from Victoria, (Brian Kilpatrick, Ercole Anastasi and Tom Whitehead totalling 5692).

A point of information for Action shooters reading this report - a SA shooter has developed what he considered to be a new "tweak" - a pop-down handle fitted underneath his barrel weight. Unfortunately, such a device had been tried at the Bianchi Cup in 1989, and was declared illegal under the "artificial support" rule.

With the finish of the high-drama matches at lunchtime on Sunday, it was time for fun and games on the Speed Plates which Geelong had borrowed from Hamilton Pistol Club for the occasion. The Speed Shoot was between the top-20 finishers (in fact, we had to go down to number 22, as two top-two shooters had already gone home). Each shooter had six goes at knocking down the five plates, with the total of the best five goes to count as his score.

After this initial round, the bets six total times then took part in the "sudden-death" final series.

The final top six were (in order of total times) Brian Kilpatrick 16.79 secs, Ray Gray 17.35 secs, Tom Whitehead 17.64 secs, Ron Baker 18.78 secs, Bradley Tate 19.03 secs, and Clive Williams 19.14 secs. In the "sudden-death" eliminations, Brian (16.05) defeated Clive, Bradley defeated Ray (both left plates standing, but Ray left the most), and Tom (16.23) defeated Ron. In the elimination for third place, Bradley (16.61 secs) got his act together to defeat Brian (17.31 secs). In the final shoot-off for first and second, Bradley upheld the honour of the wheelgun shooters to defeat Tom 16.05 secs to 18.24 secs. The lad is quick!

The fastest individual run of the afternoon was by Ray Gray at 2.76 secs for the five plates. I am told that the World Record is 1.83 secs!

Finally may I thank some people -

in general, all those shooters who helped run ranges over the weekend; and specifically, Peter Ballantyne for running the scoring office, Paul Nowak for being Chief Range Officer, and John Gilman, President of VAPA, for presenting the trophies.

State Titles at Horsham

Competitors planning to attend the 1991 UIT Victorian State Titles, at the progressive Western District town of Horsham, over the Labour Day weekend (9th to 11th March) should start their preparations now. Book accommodation early as it may be a scarce commodity during the holiday weekend. The fixture clashes with several other events in the district and some motels are booked out at this early date, so be warned.

The Horsham club members have put in a lot of work to update their facilities, which are now easily capable of handling an event of State Championship status. There are two banks of two Rapid Fire targets, with very fast turning targets. A separate Standard Pistol/Rapid Fire stage range of twelve bays. A twenty bay 50m/25m precision range surrounded by very high earth safety mounds. A twelve bay, soon to be enlarged to fifteen, Air Pistol range with well designed electric windback target carriers.

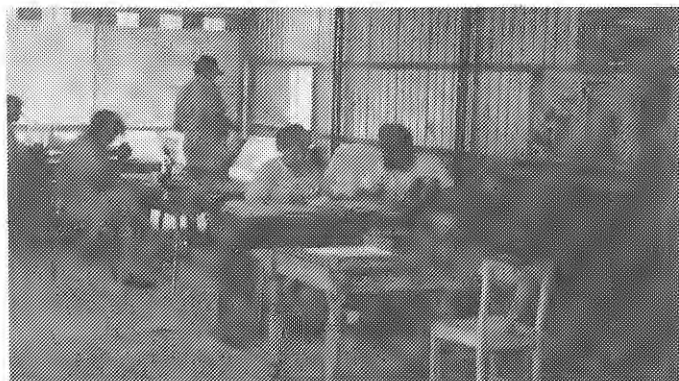
The clubhouse is very spacious, encompassing a large canteen and relaxation area. The rest of the club grounds provide plenty of nearby car parking while the Pistol and Pistolette service section maintains the high standards set elsewhere. Camping is permitted on the range and keen fishermen may be interested in the redfin-stocked billabong a stones throw away.

If the hospitality shown to visitors at the recent Open Shoot is anything to go by the next Victorian Championships at Horsham should really be one to write home about.



*Horsham Pistol Club.
Foreground - Car Park.*

Background - Clubhouse and F.P. range.



Interior of Horsham Pistol Clubhouse.

V.A.P.A. Stand at the Gun Show

The V.A.P.A. again organised and manned a stand at the Australian Gun Show. This year it was held on the 27th and 28th of October at the Exhibition Buildings in Melbourne. We were given permission, by Chief Inspector Keogh of the Firearms Registry, to operate an Air Pistol range at the show. A total of nine V.A.P.A. members gave up their time to build and man the stand. They were John McKee, Bruce Wiles, John Forsyth, Simone Daniell, Brian Clark, Laurie McGregor, Merrolyn Wiles, Sam Macaluso and John Bennett. The temporary range was inspected by the Technical Inspector, Wil Eastmure, on the Friday and the inspection approval was rushed to the Firearms Registry for Mr. Keogh's signature.

Those manning the stand expected the opportunity for prospective members to have a few shots with an Air Pistol to prove popular. The actual response was far greater than expected. There was a constant queue of people waiting to try their hand at pistol shooting from when the range opened at 0900 on the Saturday to the close at 1600 on the Sunday. Over 350 potential new members experienced pistol shooting. Many were given the contact number of the club nearest them.

The other star attraction at the stand was an NRA video on Action Match which explained how many of the matches are shot. This video attracted a large crowd of people around the stand and caused some of the traders at the show to jokingly complain that we were so popular that we were taking the trade away from them.



John McKee, Stan Naskelus & Bruce Wiles.

Free Pistol

— a conversation with Les Clark.

Editor: What do you enjoy about free pistol?

Les: The best part about free pistol is shooting 10's, nothing else, if you can shoot good 10's consistently you enjoy that, because you've done everything right, read the sights, shots gone off beautifully.

Editor: But many people think free pistol is boring.

Les: Shooting 10's is never boring.

Editor: But most aren't shooting 10's.

Les: Shooting 9's if you're that close, 8's, keep them in the black, whatever. Think about it, free pistol is the match with the greatest degree of difficulty to shoot properly because it is the furthest away. The target is only small, it's harder to shoot 10's in free pistol than in air pistol because your angular deviation is more.

Editor: Maybe the difficulty make them think it's boring.

Les: Any shooting can be boring if you don't achieve what you set out to do. So you try as a D grader to achieve 5 shots in 10 in the black and you work up from there. You have to start somewhere, if you start at something you can do or fractionally above it and then try to do it consistently.

Editor: A lot of people go off free pistol, they're introduced to it early as it seems easy to explain it to them and keeps them occupied for 2 hours.

Les: In that case it's wrong. What you should be introducing new shooters to is a great big target that's easy to shoot 10's on. Even a 50m blackpowder target at 10 metres. As close as they need, so they can shoot groups and think "I've done well I've got all the shots in such "n" such.

Editor: So lack of achievement kills enthusiasm.

Les: Yes, they haven't learnt the basics first. It's not a bad introduction to free pistol it's a bad introduction to pistol shooting.

Editor: It appears an easy event, the target doesn't move, but the difficulty is not seen for what it really is.

Les: Free pistol is, once you learn the basics, quite easy because all you have to do is stick a matchbox out at 50 metres (the size of the 10), and hit it 60 times. Then when you can do that please tell me how you did because I would like to know. If you're trying to teach someone to shoot they have to have confidence, if they can't hit the paper their confidence goes out the window. They'll say it's too hard and go and shoot IPSC or something where they can blaze away till they hit something. In free pistol every shoot counts.

Editor: That may get a bite from IPSC or Action Match shooters.

Les: Not really, their good shooters know how to shoot, they learnt the basics first. If free pistol was their favourite event they'd be excellent.

Editor: When you were in full training for free pistol what was your time commitment?

Les: When I was trying to shoot well I would shoot free pistol for about 3 hours a day 4 days a week and then I would shoot air pistol every night and if I didn't do half those things in between I'd be playing with the gun, mainly aiming exercises but getting the muscles trained/co-ordinated. That probably wasn't enough but I couldn't afford any more time.

Editor: For what period of time did you train seriously before you wanted to peak.?

Les: I'd like to know how you peak, I don't know yet. I know some days you get good, you have a good day. For me I don't think there is such a thing as peaking. It depends on how I feel at the time. If it's a specifically good day I can read things beautifully and end up with 90% of the shots to be good, but then again I can train very hard and have a bad day.

Editor: If you were training for the nationals how much time would you need to seriously prepare for it.?

Les: I'd get serious for at least six months.

Editor: Do you find you need a layoff period in training?

Les: It depends on what you feel. If you haven't been doing as well as you would like, yes, knock it off. You have to stop sometime, back off or do something because you get very tired. You can't shoot continually for 12 months and try to be the top for 12 months because your brain gets sick of it. It doesn't want to know so you get tired and you usually try too hard because you aren't achieving.

Editor: Some like to take a break at the end of the calendar year.

Les: Unfortunately the end of the calendar year is just before the nationals, you just can't do it.

Editor: If you take a break, is it better to break with shooting or play with another match.?

Les: The only time I have a break from shooting is if for some reason I have to stop to go somewhere or do something. So I stop for a little while but not specifically stop shooting.

Editor: What is the balance between technical training and mental preparation and what do you think is most important.

Les: I think too many people get carried away about mental preparation. If you shoot well your mental attitude is perfect. If you stand there shooting 10's your mental attitude is spot on, if you shoot 8's it's awful. The best way is to shoot 10's and be comfortable doing it, if your not used to it and all of a sudden start doing it you get uncomfortable, think you're going to make a mistake, and do.

Editor: What of preparation of your get for a shoot.?

Les: It's difficult as I'm used to doing certain things. I make sure I have all the gear, double check so that I know when I get there nothing's missing, I already know that, the gun works, it'll pass the gun check. When you get on the line you're ready, in preparation time I usually hold the gun steady, don't do anything specific but just to get the muscles exercised to hold the gun, because in preparation time that's what you're there to do.

Editor: Is what you do before you go shooting important.?

Les: What you do in your life is important. If your normal life is totally different to shooting, if you're totally unorganised or nervous, then there's no way you're going to change instantly to shoot precision. You have to live the same way as you shoot. It may sound a little strange but I don't think you can shoot well until your life's organised.

Editor: I find I feel the heart pound and take time to settle in the first series.

Les: It's apprehension rather than nerves, that's fine, it means you're alive, if you can't feel the heart going you might be dead. The whole thing is you have to do the best you can, fire your sighting shoots as though they count, as any shoot you fire counts. If you believe your sighters count it's just a progression to your next lot of shots on another card.

Editor: What about final series fade out?

Les: Turning off too early. You've got to the stage of finishing the match too early, you have to finish the match after it's finished. You have to concentrate past the end of the match, as though you have another series to go.

Editor: How do you go on recording your score?. Many advise against it, but I will add in my head.

Les: If you don't write it down that's exactly what you do. I'm not saying you do it after each shot, I can usually write them down in order after 10 shots. If you write them down then you can get them out of your head and worry about what you're doing. Also, if you record them you have a base to check if you disagree with the score. I used to record them on little targets but stopped that, then put arrows in the direction they were so if I looked at the record and saw that I must be pushing them in one direction, so I stopped that and concentrated more on squeezing the trigger rather than pushing the grip into the shot. You can do that easily in free pistol, it sounds funny that with a very light trigger you push into it rather than pulling it back.

Editor: What of aiming areas?. I'm shooting 10's or 6's, though you have your aiming area, you lock onto a spot.

Les: Tell me about it, when you start shooting your aiming area is quite large, but later your movement area becomes less and you expect it to be less as the skill increases. In the end you will end up holding a point so you have to accept that point. If you have a bad shot you're basically out of your aiming area, you have pushed the shot out.

Editor: In summary, what would you say are the essentials of shooting well in free pistol?.

Les: Keep the sights aligned, sounds silly but if you keep the sights aligned, and I mean really aligned within the area of your movement, you can keep it in the black and move the gun in a 7" circle. It's only when the front sight wobbles around inside the back sight you get the angular shots.

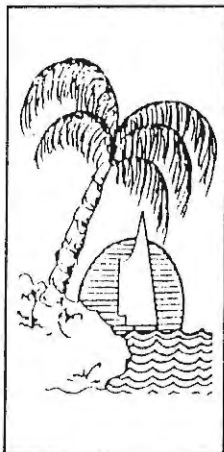
The trigger is obvious because it makes the gun go off, jump on the trigger and you just as likely move the gun. Stance, once you're lined up on the centre of the target that's it, that's what stance is for.

To get one in there once your sights are aligned, once your impact point is organised, keep your sights in line, keep them parallel and the main one you concentrate on is the front one.

Les Clark has been a member of our State Team since 1984 and is a past State Champion in Free Pistol, Blackpowder 25 and Blackpowder 50 metre matches.

34TH AUSTRALIAN PISTOL CHAMPIONSHIPS

23rd March 1991—1st April 1991



ORGANISING BODY:

Queensland Amateur Pistol Shooting Association
City of Brisbane Pistol Club
Metropolitan Pistol Club

VENUE:

**CITY OF BRISBANE &
METROPOLITAN PISTOL CLUBS**

OLD CLEVELAND ROAD, BELMONT, QLD.

Entries close 18th January, 1991



Upper Neerim Investments P/L
Trading as Taylor Firearms

Licensed Gun Dealers
5 Windermere Crescent,
Mulgrave, Vic. 3170
Telephone: (03) 795 5578
Fax: (03) 795 9773
P.O. Box 352,
Noble Park, Vic. 3174
L.G.D. No. 23

For all your **SMITH & WESSON** *requirements*

At Discount Prices

Victorian Agent For:—

**SUNSHINE GUN LEATHER
TAIPAN LEAD & JACKETED PROJECTILES
DILLON RELOADING GEAR**

Mail, phone and fax order available.

BANKCARD, MASTERCARD & VISA ACCEPTED.

Counsel From The Council

ACTION PISTOL SEMINAR, CANBERRA 22/10/90

NRA Referee, Mr. Roger Hawkins was the special invited guest from the U.S.A.

There were 35 APSUA members invited to attend and almost everyone made it to Canberra for the weekend.

ITEMS DISCUSSED

Clive Wheelan, Vice President of the APSUA introduced Mr. Hawkins and outlined what was required or expected when conducting an Action Pistol Open Competition.

ITEM 1

Prior to a competition taking place, the following meetings were to be held.

- a A meeting of all officials to discuss the pertinent rules and, specifically, rules required by the host club.
- b A competitors meeting. All officials are to be introduced. Each official to be given time to explain his duties and to answer questions.
- c Safety infringements to be discussed, specifically the disqualification violations (advice to shooters of these violations).
- d Conduct of competitors. The following points are listed as main priority:
All competitors to ensure that safety is the number one priority.
All competitors and officials to show professionalism.
Good sportsmanship to be displayed by all competitors.
- e Invite all competitors to present gear for inspection and approval should equipment or pistol be of a nature that could be subject to challenge.
- f Dress code. Due to the public image caused by the media attention, we must conduct ourselves as responsible people and a part of this would be our clothing. Our attire should be in good taste and we should definitely discourage military style clothing. Also unclean and untidy clothing is not to be tolerated. Motif t-shirts and hats which have offensive slogans are also not permitted.
- g Media coverage. It is a requirement that prior to the match the competitors would sign agreements stating that they have no objection to being photographed or filmed, however, some media personnel go overboard and in fact hinder shooters whilst they are competing. In Australia this is not a problem at this stage, and in fact it is the reverse where we are trying to obtain media coverage without much success.
- h Social events. If we are required to attend social functions, neat clean clothing is to be worn.
- j Reporting of shooters to officials. In the Bianchi Cup and major American competitions, it is the shooters responsibility to arrive at the shooting range at least 15 minutes prior to his commence time.

The official will call the competitors name at 15 minutes and if there is no response, he will call the shooters name at the 10 minute mark. If the competitor fails to acknowledge the call at the second call (final call), he will be disqualified from that event only.

- k Weather delays. If the weather is inclement and stormy, the normal procedure is to have a postponement for 15 minutes to allow the weather to improve.
Postponements are only made where danger exists, i.e. lightning or hail.

- l Eye and ear protection. Eye and ear protection is voluntary in the U.S.A., however, Australian conditions are that it is mandatory. It must be specified on the entry form that eye and ear protection is a condition of entry.
- m Holster gear. Any competitor who is either a novice or competing with new gear must have all gear inspected and approved prior to competing.
- n Ammo sampling. In the Bianchi Cup, six rounds are taken from the competitor prior to competing in each of the four events. Three rounds are test fired through a test gun by the officials and should the power factor not be met, the competitor will be advised at a later stage to attend the test area with his own pistol, and one round will be fired. Should the round fail to make factor, the second round will be fired, and an average will be obtained from the two tests. Should the second projectile fail to meet the required factor, the third round will be fired. If the average of the three does not reach factor, the competitor will be disqualified. Disqualification is from the entire tournament, not just the match.

At the 1990 Australian Nationals, three rounds were taken at each event. After the competitor had finished all matches, one round was pulled and weighed. One round was fired through the competitor's pistol. If this made factor, that was it. If not, two further rounds were fired, and the average of the three taken.

Roger Hawkins indicated that, at this stage, any person who was disqualified due to power factor failure was still permitted to shoot the balance of matches but his score would not be recognised.

- o Jump tests. Interesting diagrams were shown on jump tests. The most practical is a piece of light aluminium which has two legs prone to the ground and rising on an angle back to reach a height of 16 inches and the horizontal bar is as per the sketch. This particular apparatus is the best safety featured jump test as, should the competitor not clear the bar, the test equipment would only fall over which would prevent injury to the competitor.

RANGE OFFICIALS

Procedure used in the U.S.A. is that when the detail is called to the firing line, the range officer will introduce himself and explain the course of fire. The competitors will then be given time for a sighting picture and also dry firing. After the command "load", the pistols will stay loaded until the match is completed unless the club rules are that no person may go forward to score changed targets whilst the shooters are in a loaded condition. (Strange if this is the case as what happens after firing the 25 metre run in the Practical event whereby the shooter turns and walks a distance of 25 metres with a loaded pistol back to the 50 yard line and at that stage is not only moving but has all spectators in front of him?) If this ruling is a requirement, then it must be specified at the pre match competitor and range official meeting.

Additional sight picture may be taken for a change of position during a match, ie. Los Alamitos, the competitor may request permission for an aiming sight on the left and right hand side of the barricades or, when going prone, the competitor may take one exercise only and at one distance.

Roger indicated that the NRA competition rule book can be modified in the match program which in turn may also be modified in the Match Director's bulletin. All NRA competitions which seek authority must receive same prior to the competition being held.

Sanctioned competitions are of a lesser degree as far as procedures are concerned. In competitions either a jury or a referee will be appointed, depending on the type of competition.

NATIONALS

The U.S.A. allocate a National Title to a club two years in advance.

TERMINOLOGY OF A MATCH

A match may be one single match or parts of a number of matches. Introductory course of fire for novices is the Tyro Course. Roger was queried as to whether the novices have to do a prone exercise and a barricade. He advised that they are not required to do so.

FALLING PLATE EVENT (SCORING)

When scoring in the Plate event the total number of points allowed is 480 and 48 Xs. The competitor will then keep shooting for Xs, however, the total Xs recorded is only applicable for outright placing in the Falling Plate event. For the aggregate of all matches, the maximum the competitor may be allowed is 480 points and 48 Xs.

WINGS ON PISTOLS

The point was raised over what is and what is not legitimate on pistols. The t-bar which is used in the barricade is considered legal unless protrusions are made that may be used to bite into the timber barricade for additional gripping. Also the pop-out front handgrip (as recently seen at the last Victorian Championships) is illegal. Protruding spikes from the bottom of magazines are also illegal. Checkering on the front of the wings is legal.

HAMMERBLOCKS

There is no hard and fast rule in the U.S.A. with respect to these, however, it was advised that in some Australian states it is mandatory to have the hammerblock fitted.

GLOVES

Single layer gloves only are approved, however, many gloves have double padding on the inside of the palm and these are quite acceptable. The main concern is that the glove may not have padding in the knuckle area so as to give additional protection to the hand when same is on the barricade.

QUESTIONABLE MATERIAL

Should the gloves have an adhesive type fabric, eg. velcro, and same was found on the pistol and placed in such a manner that it could be used as a locking device, specifically on the barricade, this would be illegal.

“Non-skid” tape on the wings and barrel is legal.

HOLSTER JUMP TEST

If the competitor is unable to take the jump test due to health reasons, the range official may inspect and approve the gear without a jump being made.

PISTOL IS LOADED/UNLOADED?

Rule 9.1 of the current Action Pistol rule Book indicates that a pistol with an unloaded magazine in place, and with the action open, is not loaded. This rule will be altered in the 1991 book and will show that the pistol will be deemed to be loaded with the empty magazine in place.

GROUND COVERAGE

Plastic covers or ground sheets can only be used if they are available for all competitors.

HANDS ABOVE SHOULDERS

If the competitor tilts his body so that the hand on one side is lower than the other, it is still legal providing the hands are level with the shoulders.

Continued next issue.....

Shooters Diary

1991

JANUARY

12th & 13th

GEELONG

ACTION

26th - 28th

MISC

UIT

FEBRUARY

2nd

CASTLEMAINE

UIT

9th & 10th

ARARAT

UIT

16th & 17th

WARRAGUL/DROUIN

UIT

23rd

POSTALS

ROUND 1 - WEEK 1

23rd & 24th

BALLARAT

STATE TITLES - SERVICE

MARCH

2nd & 3rd

ECHUCA

STATE TITLES - BLACKPOWDER

9th - 11th

HORSHAM

STATE TITLES - UIT

23rd - 1st April

BRISBANE

NATIONALS - APSUA & UIT

APRIL

27th & 28th

HAMILTON

UIT

MAY

18th & 19th

MISC

UIT

JUNE

8th - 10th

MID-MURRAY

UIT

18th & 19th

MISC

UIT

JULY

6th & 7th

GEELONG

UIT

AUGUST

18th

MISC

RECORDS DAY - CENTRE/SPORTS

24th & 25th

GEELONG

STATE TITLES - ACTION

31st & 1st Sept.

POSTAL FINALS - UIT

SEPTEMBER

7th

POSTAL FINALS - SERVICE

8th

POSTAL FINALS - BLACKPOWDER

14th & 15th

17th & 18th

POSTAL FINALS - ACTION

21st & 22nd

SHEPPARTON

UIT

OCTOBER

5th & 6th

YARRA

UIT

12th & 13th

MELTON

UIT

19th

PENINSULA

DOUBLE CENTRE FIRE

NOVEMBER

2nd & 3rd

HORSHAM

UIT

9th

YARRA

BLACKPOWDER

16th & 17th

COPC

UIT

23rd & 24th

YARRA

SERVICE

Pistol Registry

During the last year many of us have experienced some problems with pistol licences due mainly to computerisation and staff shortages. The officer in charge, Chief Inspector Peter Keogh, speaks on these and other matters.

CURRENT SITUATION

At the moment everything should be up to date regarding licence renewals and licences for additional pistols but there is some delay in regard to new members.

We are dependant on information from local police about the suitability of an applicant. Whether that person is adversely known by our officers or by people who live near that person. Generally, in country areas most local police would know who's in the community, who would be suitable. So it's more of a problem, the delay for information, we experience in the suburban areas.

Currently we are below our established staffing. We've got several new people working in our office and it takes time to train them properly and unfortunately when Bob Birney went, it left a big hole in our office, but Sergeant Paul Basey, who replaced Bob is doing an excellent job and has fitted in well.

COMPUTERISATION

The firearms management system which is a computerised database of our reports commenced in May this year. We still have a number of bugs in the system that needs to be sorted out. We've been running seven months now and when we initially did our testing we had limited time and limited space on our system to do our testing. In hindsight I'm sure I'd make sure it was done another way, make sure we had a larger amount of data to test and spend more time doing it and perhaps that we wouldn't have as many faults as we presently have. We've got to spend more time and money fixing up those problems.

When the information from the manual system was put on the computer there may have been errors put into the system. It's important that you check licences and if there are any errors or omissions from the licences they should be returned. Change of addresses can be done by District Firearms Officers but if there is any other incorrect information, the correct information should be clearly inscribed on the licence and sent back to the Registry for correction and the corrected licence will be returned to the holder.

A major part of the system is in fact that a lot of the work, particularly in respect to long arms and to some degree pistol licences, is being decentralised with District Firearms Officers. Each one of these officers has a computer terminal to access and update information on our system, though finally, licences will be determined as to whether they will be issued or refused at this office.

DISTRICT FIREARMS OFFICERS

Some functions that would normally in the past have been done here, will be done by District Firearms Officers at some future stage. More authority will be granted to them to carry out functions we do. Initially this will involve mainly change of details, but involve more as time and staffing permits and we go into further training with these officers.

At the moment initial licence approvals come through VAPA and it probably wouldn't hasten the procedure if VAPA returned the approvals to the District Firearms Officers rather

than bring them here and we issue the licence from here. If that were to change in the future, then the District Firearms Officer could be given the authority to approve a new pistol for a club member, but certainly some consideration will have to be given to VAPA and VAPA control over what's currently being done. I'll give it some thought. An effective role for them could be the handling of the licence issue after the selection notice is issued.

INTERSTATE VISITORS AND SAFEKEEPING

Before a person brings a pistol into Victoria they need an authority, so are required to provide us with information relating to reason for visit, licence details as well as intended safekeeping of pistols while in Victoria.

Over a period of years everyone's just closed their eyes to what provision of security has been provided in Victoria regarding travelling shooters.

Club members have to keep their pistols in safes. Similarly when people come from interstate why shouldn't they need to ensure that "appropriate security", such as the security that's provided by our own members, is of equivalent standard. It seems to be a practice in the past that people have left pistols in motel rooms or in cars. I think there may be some practical situations where it might be very difficult to ensure appropriate security and I'm open to suggestions from people as to what the answer is.

LOOKING FORWARD

I can see that pistol shooting in Victoria seems to be becoming more popular than it's been in the past. There's a higher interest in the community for people to participate in target shooting at pistol clubs and providing these people only use their pistols in accordance with the conditions of their licence and only use them at club ranges I can't see that there's going to be too much of a problem. However I can see that people will probably try to use their pistols at other than ranges and that may have some effect on pistol licences in the future. You are always going to have some individuals who want to do something differently.

I don't see that police generally have a lot of time to spend policing what is happening within clubs but where a problem is identified the police have to make time to police that problem. Club members for their own benefit and the benefit of pistol shooting need to make sure their members do the right thing by the legislation.

Generally the present system is satisfactory. The introduction of a pistol collectors licence is something that should be reviewed as far as I'm concerned. It should be a renewable licence. I've had to put conditions on licences to restrict people collecting firearms manufactured before a certain date and allow those people who hold those restricted licences to show their genuineness before I would allow removal of the restriction. But I think that is my only concern in respect to pistols. In so far as pistol clubs are concerned, that seems to be operating properly and I'm happy with that situation.

Echuca Pistol Club

The Echuca Pistol Club was formed on the 7th July, 1960 and 24 members were present. The Club became affiliated on the 10th August, 1960. Location of its range at that time was on the Echuca Gun Club's Property (South of Echuca on their old location).

Mick Skerry is the only foundation member left and was the first of the Club's members to be granted Life Membership in 1983, he has served on various positions in Committee over the years.

The Club's new Pistol Range was opened on Saturday 2nd December, 1967 by Mr. R. S. L. McDonald, M.L.A. The official opening was held in conjunction with the final of the Inter Club Centre Fire Competition and Ladies Match and Free Pistol was held on the Sunday.

43 shooters competed in Centre Fire, 22 in Ladies Match and 36 competed in the Free Pistol.

The Club's first open shoot was held on the 14/15th September, 1968 and was known as the Murray Goulburn Pistol Championships, this was a regular event until finally the flooding of the access road at that time of the year also became regular and finally dampened everyone in the Club their enthusiasm.

The State Pistol Championships were held here in 1969. Echuca being the second Club to host the State Titles outside of the Metropolitan area. (Ballarat was the first).

147 shooters entered including Interstate Visitors.

The Club also hosted the 1971, 1973, 1974 and 1977 State Pistol Titles.

In 1971 a new event was added, that was the Air Pistol (40 Shot). A similar event was held for the first time at the 13th National Championships at Adelaide in 1970.

The Club held its Annual Murray Goulburn Championships in September through these years.

1970 everyone and everything had to be boated in on account of the flood waters.

One other year this shoot was cancelled after THREE attempts - 1975 was the BIG flood.

There was no Open shoots held in the 1980's and no floods.

Last August the Club held the I.P.S.C. State Elimination Shoot and you guessed it, the flood waters were rising again and after that weekend we couldn't get into the club by car for ten weeks.

At present the Club is updating the Rapid Fire targets and have new toilets.

The membership of the Club is at an all time high with a total of 63 and more joining.

More Ladies and Juniors are interested in joining than other years.

Over the past 30 years four club members have been State Team members (two of each sex).

The members still compete on Tuesday nights and during the weekend.

Ann Skerry, a past State Team member joined the Club in the late 1960's. She was given all the books and asked to run the Club shortly after her first visit.

She has been on the Committee ever since in one position or another and is at the moment current Secretary.

At the last Annual Meeting of the Club she was awarded Life Membership. Ann and Mick are the only two Life Members in the Club.

Slowly but surely we are upgrading our ranges in preparation for another Murray Goulburn Championship, preferably not to be held during the flood months.

The Club is hosting the State Black Powder Championships in early March 1991.



*Mick Skerry - life member
"you only get 10 years for murder".*



Alan Musgrove "thinking".



*Terry Neal and Ann Skerry checking out
the car park.*

Juniors — Who Cares?

You don't have to be an investigative reporter with the "Age" to realize that nothing much is happening in Victoria with regard to the encouragement of junior shooters.

Junior camp is run each year due to the hard work of "the very few", and the rest of the year others say that more should be done but still nothing happens. Everyone it appears is waiting for someone else to do something.

A FEW FACTS

Currently there are about 180-200 junior shooters in the state and this figure has been constant for the last several years. On average approximately 50 new juniors join each year so it is apparent that the wastage rate is very high or else the total number of juniors would have been growing rapidly. A simple reply may be that they all advance to senior ranks, but unfortunately this is not the case and it is the case that only about five a year advance to senior ranks giving a wastage rate of about 90% a year.

At the 1990 Nationals Victoria fielded a junior team consisting of one member due to the lack of juniors wishing to represent their State.

WHY WORRY?

This is the obvious question so here are a few reasons:-

1. It's a complete waste of effort on everyone's part if 90% of juniors never go on to senior ranks, we need a better retention rate.
2. Juniors are our future State, National and International shooters as well as our future club secretaries, committee members and coaches.
3. They are usually very keen and prepared to make sacrifices for their sport. Enthusiasm can infect the whole club.
4. They will do as they are told so they can be taught good habits.

WHAT CAN BE DONE?

Unfortunately I don't have the instant answer to this but there are some obvious points to make:-

1. All shooters need to think about the problem, make suggestions to V.A.P.A. and be prepared to help in the long term development of junior pistol shooters.
2. Find out what our present juniors want, need and will respond to and make provision for their input rather than simply tell them what to do.
3. Both at a club and state level junior shooting programs need to be developed and implemented. Designed for the future needs rather than responding to requests, and then usually too late.
4. Give someone the task as Director of Junior Development, to oversee the development of junior shooters, rather than the task be just one of the many tasks being carried out by some other body such as the State Coaching Council.

5. Form a State Junior Squad, not a small group aimed at picking a State team but aimed at the longer term. A development squad aimed at all juniors of promise as well as helping the elite shooters, if its too exclusive many lose their way before they get started. Junior camp every January does this well, but is only a once a year event.

NOW, NOT LATER

All too often we talk about something and do nothing. It's all a bit hard when it comes to the crunch of actually doing anything when talking is so easy and anyway, that is someone else's responsibility.

Development of junior shooters is going nowhere now so it's time to act, though if we'd done something a few years ago we would be seeing the benefits now.

It's the responsibility of every pistol shooter to promote their sport and encourage new shooters to excell and enjoy and guide them in the right direction. If people don't know about something they cannot join it - good publicity is essential.

Something like as suggested could cost money, but so what, what doesn't. Our association has a fighting fund and juniors are our future so any money spent would be an investment in the future of pistol shooting. More than money it will take effort, but it cannot rest on a few to do all the work, the drive has to take hold in every club and in all pistol disciplines.

Kids have enough distractions already to give shooting away; cars, girls, boys, alcohol, parents giving up the sport. We need to give them reason to stay, to achieve and develop into the adults whose enthusiasm and achievements will take pistol shooting into the next century.

JUNIOR CAMP

VENUE:

The City of Oakleigh Pistol Club

DATES:

14th — 19th January, 1991

**ALL JUNIOR SHOOTERS
ARE INVITED TO ATTEND
SEE YOUR CLUB SECRETARY
OR CONTACT BRUCE WILES**

(03) 877 5110

Action Match Nationals

The venue for the 2nd Action Pistol National Championships was the range of the Sporting Shooters Pistol Club in Canberra, October 26/27/28th.

The weather throughout the championships was exceptional with bright sunny days that had everybody running for the 15+ and wide brimmed hats.

The range is credit to the hard work of the local club and is certainly one of the best set out and equipped Action Match ranges that we would have in this country and judging by the remarks of the visiting Americans is equal to most of their better ranges.

As with most shoots of that size, 123 shooters, a great deal of the success of the shoot is due to the efforts of the competitor helping out on the range and in score sheds etc.

The State Team representing Victoria was Ercole Anastasi, Brian Kilpatrick and Peter Muscat with Kevin McAllison as Team Manager.

Victoria came in 2nd in the Teams Event with a total score of 5683, which was up on the old National Record Score, being pipped at the post by only 8 points by New South Wales.

The individual score of the Team were -

Brian Kilpatrick 1906 — Individual 3rd

Ercole Anastasi 1892 — Individual 11th

Peter Muscat 1885 — Individual 15th

In addition to our Team we had a strong contingent of shooters who showed that Victoria is no slouch when it comes to Action Match.

Two of particular note were, Janina Tenace who took out the National Championship in the Ladies Event with a great score of 1879 x 126, this was 30 points clear of the next placing and put her up into Master Grade and also now makes her eligible for selection to the Australian team.

The other was Bradley Tate who took out the National Championship in the Junior Match with an exceptional score of 1903 x 140, also 30 points ahead of the next placing.

This score is even more impressive when you consider that only 3 shooters shot higher off gun scores than him.

Brad also won the Speed Event outright with, from memory, a time of 2.58 secs.

Other shooters who did well were, Jim Facey with 1900 x 139, giving him 6th place outright, Tom Whitehead 1883 x 139, Tony Newman 1867 x 129, Kip Manwaring 1865 x 110, Peter Gillihan with 1863 x 130 and Ian Bond 1851 x 110.

Individual outright placings were -

1st - Ray Gray, N.S.W. 1914 x 155

2nd - Ken Carter, N.S.W. 1906 x 157

3rd - Brian Kilpatrick Vic. 1906 x 149



Peter Muscat, Ercole Anastasi, Brian Kilpatrick.



*Eric Anastasi
"what happened".*



*Eric again,
"I'll get it this time".*

The Grading System

It would appear from the many queries made to the Competition Controller and the Association Secretary that many individuals and clubs are still not sure how the grading system works or have their own variations of it.

Both our national body A.P.S.U.A. and our state organisation V.A.P.A. have adopted a grading criteria and as a result it is mandatory for shooters to abide by it if they wish to participate in the system. If you wish to carry your little blue grading card then the way you achieved your gradings must be the same as for everyone else.

For those with doubts as to how the system works it is probably timely at this end of the year to remind all of the criteria used.

A.P.S.U.A.

At the A.P.S.U.A. Annual General Meeting 1986, the following clauses were adopted and made mandatory for all States, in order to establish a uniform Master Grade:

1. A, B, C, and D grade scores may be shot at any organised Club or higher competitions (Interclub, Open, State or National Championships, etc.)
2. Master Grade scores may only be gained at a State sanctioned open competition (or higher competitions such as State and National or International Competitions) preferably in the presence of a qualified Referee.
3. Scores for upgrading need to be shot once, annually from one Nationals to the next Nationals.
4. **NO SELF GRADING INTO ANY GRADE.** Grading score must be shot to attain grade.
5. A shooter who was previously ungraded will establish his first grade in his first competition and will be placed in that grade for which the score qualifies him.
6. Shooters should have proof of grading available at request when entering competitions, and when upgraded, the new grade to be recorded appropriately.

At the Mid year executive meeting of the A.P.S.U.A. in November 1986, a further clause was added:

7. A shooter who does not shoot the appropriate grading score for his grade during the twelve months following the next Nationals **MAY APPLY IN WRITING TO THE STATE ASSOCIATION TO BE DOWN GRADED ONE GRADE.**

V.A.P.A.

UNGRADED

A shooter who was previously ungraded will establish their first grade in their first competition and will be placed in that grade for which the score qualifies them.

REGRADING

A, B, C, & D grade scores may be shot at any organised Club or higher competition (Inter Club, Open, State or National Championships).

MASTER GRADE

Master grade scores may only be gained at a State sanctioned Open competition (or higher competition such as State, National or International competitions). Preferably in the presence of a qualified Referee.

DOWN-GRADING

A shooter who does not shoot the appropriate score for their grade during the past 12 months (**THEY MUST HAVE SHOT AT LEAST ONCE IN THAT EVENT IN THE PERIOD REQUIRED**) can apply in writing to their Club Secretary, who in turn will write to the Competition Controller for an official down-grade.

A SHOOTER CAN ONLY BE DOWN-GRADED ONE GRADE PER EVENT PER 12 MONTHS.

GRADING CARD

1. It is the responsibility of the shooter to maintain the grading card and have the correct grades marked at all times.
2. It is the responsibility of the shooter to produce their grading card upon request at all open competitions as required by the V.A.P.A.

FINALLY

Remember that the responsibility for having the correct information on your grading card rests with you, it's not someone else's fault.

If you're still not sure, talk to your club scorer, secretary, discuss it at your club committee meeting or contact the Association's Competition Controller as listed below.

ALUN HUGHSON
COMPETITION CONTROLLER
Post Office Box 267
CASTLEMAINE VIC. 3450.
Telephone (054) 72 1499



**SPONSORING THE VICTORIAN
STATE TEAM AT THE
1991 NATIONALS**

1990 Postals

The postal competition for 1990 proved again to be a great success with 27 clubs entering 125 teams in the competition.

Bairnsdale proved to be the "ruffy" winning a pennant in each of the five events they entered and finishing 3rd outright in the Free Pistol final.

The finals were held at Melbourne International (UIT), Yarra (Service and Black-powder), and Mountain District (Action). These clubs did an excellent job in hosting the finals and if Melbourne International could have done something about the rain on the Sunday morning then things would have been perfect. It was sad that the finals at Melbourne was the last time many of us had a chance to chat with Ron Gilbert.

Some excellent scores were shot over the three weekends but the best I saw was from Ercol Anastasi of Yarra with a score of 1854/1860 in Action Match including perfect rounds in Los Alamos and the Plates. Ercols 148 plates in a row was phenomenal when you consider that the State best previously was 107.

By now all club secretaries have the entry forms for the 1991 competition so make sure your club has entered and if your club has never entered the "postals" before, try it, even if it's only one team in one event.

H & C VANETTEN MANUFACTURER OF "BULLZI PROJECTILES" 29 SWIFT STREET, FRANKSTON 3199 VIC.



| | | | |
|-----------|----------|----------------|------------|
| .32 98 gr | H.B.W.C. | .38 158 gr | solid W.C. |
| .38 148, | H.B.W.C. | 158 gr | R.N. |
| 128, | H.B.W.C. | 148 gr | R.N. |
| 115, | H.B.W.C. | 9 m / m 128 gr | R.N. |
| 100, | H.B.W.C. | | |
| 90. | H.B.W.C. | | |

THE PROJECTILES CHAMPIONS USE

Makers of Pistol and Rifle safes

Phone (03) 783 4064 Business (03) 786 0544

Trade inquiries welcome

1990 Postal Competition - Final Placings

FREE PISTOL

FINALS - Yarra A 2057, MISC 2043, Bairnsdale 1984, Castlemaine 1961.

PENNANTS -

Division 1 - Yarra A

Division 2 - Barisndale

BLACKPOWDER 25

FINALS - Yarra 1079, MISC 1073, Castlemaine 1022, Bendigo 992.

PENNANTS -

Division 1 - Yarra

Division 2 - MISC

RAPID FIRE

FINALS - MISC A 2168, MAPC 2122, Yarra A 2122, Castlemaine 2106.

PENNANTS -

Division 1 - MISC A

Division 2 - Peninsula

Division 3 - Bairnsdale

Division 4 - Benalla

AIR PISTOL 60

FINALS - Traralgon A 2148, Yarra A 2148, Castlemaine 2123, COPC A 2077.

PENNANTS -

Division 1 - Traralgon A

Division 2 - Yarra B

Division 3 - COPC B

Division 4 - Melton

Division 5 - Bairnsdale

AIR PISTOL 40

FINALS - MISC 1416, Warrnambool 1354, COPC 1344, Yarra 1038.

PENNANT - COPC

CENTRE FIRE

FINALS - COPC A 2205, MISC A 2203, Yarra A 2166, Castlemaine 2103.

PENNANTS -

Division 1 - Yarra A

Division 2 - Yarra B

Division 3 - COPC B

Division 4 - Shepparton

Division 5 - Bairnsdale

LADIES SPORTS PISTOL

FINALS - COPC A 1621, Geelong 1594, Yarra A 1576, Shepparton 1568.

PENNANTS -

Division 1 - Yarra A

Division 2 - Yarra B

Division 3 - Shepparton

JUNIOR SPORTS PISTOL

FINALS - MISC A 2145, MAPC 2149, Yarra A 2133, COPC A 2102.

PENNANTS -

Division 1 - MAPC

Division 2 - Traralgon

Division 3 - MCC

Division 4 - COPC B

Division 5 - Bairnsdale

BLACKPOWDER 50

FINALS - Castlemaine 984, MISC 975, Yarra 969, COPC 927.

PENNANT - Yarra

SERVICE MATCH

FINALS - Yarra A 3390, MAPC 3354, Mildura 3322, Yarra B 3305.

PENNANTS -

Division 1 - Mildura

Division 2 - Yarra B

SERVICE MATCH —

UNRESTRICTED

FINALS - MAPC A 3481, Yarra A 3467, Mildura 3401, MISC 2474.

PENNANTS -

Division 1 - MAPC A

Division 2 - Yarra B

ACTION MATCH

FINALS - Yarra A 7267, COPC 7162, Mildura 7131, Geelong 5383.

PENNANTS -

Division 1 - Yarra A

Division 2 - COPC

check for pennant 29

*Standard ?
1978.*

Yarra Pistol Club

1990 Service Pistol Open

24th & 25th November, 1990

SERVICE PISTOL

| | |
|-------------------------------|------|
| MASTER GRADE | |
| P. Muscat — M/Airport | 875 |
| P. Hutchins — Mildura | 872 |
| J. Facey — Yarra | 869 |
| A GRADE | |
| A. Eagle — Yarra | 842 |
| N. Malley — Yarra | 840 |
| R. Baker — Yarra | 833 |
| B GRADE | |
| B. Tate — SSAA | 846 |
| F. Schneider — Yarra | 821 |
| C. Wilkinson — W/Drouin | 813 |
| C GRADE | |
| K. Simpkins — Oakleigh | *822 |
| T. Watson — Oakleigh | 778 |
| S. Gaja — Yarra | 751 |
| D GRADE | |
| P. Patton — W/Drouin | 777 |
| K. Parkinson — Oakleigh | 765 |
| L. Mallia — M/Airport | 745 |

SERVICE PISTOL OPEN

| | |
|---------------------------------|------|
| MASTER GRADE | |
| P. Muscat — M/Airport | 889 |
| P. Hutchins — Mildura | 879 |
| J. Facey — Yarra | 877 |
| A GRADE | |
| P. Butcher — Yarra | 864 |
| R. Baker — Yarra | 858 |
| A. Eagle — Yarra | 815 |
| B GRADE | |
| R. Barrie — M/Airport | 867 |
| N. Malley — Yarra | 857 |
| R. Hendrickson — Oakleigh | 852 |
| C GRADE | |
| C. Wilkinson — W/Drouin | 826 |
| K. Simpkins — Oakleigh | 821 |
| W. Haack — Yarra | 818 |
| D GRADE | |
| B. Tate — SSAA | *847 |
| S. Smith — W/Drouin | 803 |
| L. Mallia — M/Airport | 795 |

* = Grade Break

Will Eastmure, Licenced Gun Dealer

FOR SALE

Manuhrin Match .32 Revolver — As New Condition

\$1200

Patro .22 Standard Pistol — Left or Right Handed Grips — Excellent Condition

\$750

Feinwerkbau Model 2 CO2 — Senior — Excellent Condition

\$700

FAS Rapid Fire Pistol — Left Handed Grips — Excellent Condition

\$1000

Commercial Safe, Key and Combination — 2' 6" x 2' 6"

\$400

PHONE: (03) 728 4666

Melbourne International Shooting Club

RECORDS DAY — 19th AUGUST, 1990

CENTRE FIRE STATE REC. 578

| | |
|-------------------------------|-----|
| A GRADE | |
| P. Oliver — Warragul | 574 |
| F. Danko — MAPC | 571 |
| P. Bowron — Warrnambool | 560 |
| B GRADE | |
| B. Elmslie — MISC | 562 |
| M. Whyte — Watsonia | 554 |
| C. Woods — MISC | 545 |
| C GRADE | |
| K. Stephens — PENINSULA | 535 |
| J. Holden — BEECHWORTH | 534 |
| J. Liew — MISC | 521 |

SPORT PISTOL WOMEN.

STATE REC. 578

| | |
|-------------------------------|-----|
| MASTER | |
| K. McMillan — ARARAT | 545 |
| A GRADE | |
| A. Woodward — MAPC | 565 |
| D. Bowron — Warrnambool | 557 |
| D. Kibell — COPC | 552 |
| B GRADE | |
| S. Rath — COPC | 529 |

| | |
|---------------------------|-----|
| D. Lee — YARRA | 525 |
| R. Spark — MISC | 525 |
| C GRADE | |
| C. Long — YARRA | 476 |
| A. Morgan — COPC | 464 |
| V. Woods — MISC | 420 |
| D GRADE | |
| J. Finn — DANDENONG | 464 |
| J. Flynn — COPC | 445 |
| S. Bodno — YARRA | 444 |

SPORT PISTOL JUNIOR.

STATE REC. 578

| | |
|------------------------------|-----|
| A GRADE | |
| A. Gonczol — MISC | 559 |
| J. Repacholi — MELTON | 551 |
| M. Bowron — MISC | 530 |
| B GRADE | |
| C. Kavanagh — GEELONG | 537 |
| C GRADE | |
| M. Sujansky — MISC | 469 |
| D GRADE | |
| C. Bishop — BEECHWORTH | 532 |

Classifieds

FOR SALE

Walther GSP - .22 long, VGC, spare mag, cased. \$700 ono. Phone (052) 48 6563 after 5.00 p.m.

Hammerli 208 - Standard, spare mag/grip. \$850.

Unique Des Vo - Rapid Fire, cased. \$750.

Colt Gold Cup - .45 ACP. \$850.

Manhurin - .32 Match. \$1200.

S&W K22 - 4" target trim. \$275.

Ruger Red Hawk - .44 mag. 5 1/2"; S/S. \$550.
Phone (059) 89 5846 ask for Tony.

EVERYTHING FOR THE GARDEN



★ "The slug pellets you sold me don't fit my air gun."

VICTORIAN AMATEUR PISTOL ASSOCIATION
 FUND RAISING SUB-COMMITTEE

Some items currently available through the Fund Raising Sub-Committee are listed below:

- APSUA CLOTH BADGES \$3.50 each
 Amateur Pistol Shooting Union of Australia logo which is Green, White and Gold. Round badge.
- APSUA METAL BADGES \$3.50 each
 APSUA logo which is Green, White and Gold. Round Badge.
- VAPA METAL BADGES \$4.00 each
 Official VAPA Logo which is Red and Gold. Round metal badge.
- SCOREPAD COVERS \$4.00 each
 Hard plastic cover. Available in Navy Blue or Black. Gold VAPA symbol on front. Holds 2-3 scorepads of 2-3 Rule Books.
- RULE BOOKS \$5.00 each
 Available for Service Pistol Matches. Available for Black Powder events.

SPECIAL

CHRISTMAS CARDS

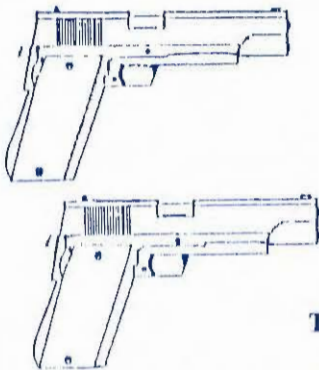
Normal Price — \$0.20 each

SPECIAL PRICE — \$0.10 each

VAPA symbol on front. Words: Seasons Greetings in gold above VAPA symbol. Words: Merry Christmas and Happy New Year in black inside card.

ORDER FORM: (Tear off & forward to Cheryl Lee, 6 Garfield Street, Cheltenham, 3192.)
 Individual orders must enclose payment. Club orders will be Invoiced, if preferred.

| Item: | Qty: | Colour | Size | Price per Item | Total |
|---|------|------------|------|----------------|-------|
| | | | | | |
| | | | | | |
| | | | | | |
| | | | | | |
| Special: Xmas Cards | | | | \$0.10 | |
| Plus Postage: (excess postage will be refunded) | | | | | |
| TOTAL: (Please make cheques payable to V.A.P.A.) | | | | | |
| Name: (Please Print) | | | | | |
| Address: (Please Print) | | | | | |
| Post Code: | | | Tel: | | |
| For Club Orders Only: | | Club Name: | | | |
| Committee Position: | | | | | |



P.L.S. FIREARMS

LGD NO. 3004902-4

Phillip Spry

P.O. Box 627, Warragul, Victoria, 3820

Telephone: A.H.: (056) 26 8449 - Fax: (056) 26 8449

Supplying Gippsland and Surrounding Areas

**SMITH AND WESSON PISTOLS
AT SPECIAL PRICES**

**ACCESS TO ALL POPULAR BRANDS OF
NEW PISTOLS, RIFLES AND SHOTGUNS.**

**LARGE STOCKS OF GOOD QUALITY
SECOND HAND PISTOLS, RIFLES AND
SHOTGUNS OF ALL MAKES AND TYPES.**

For all your Action and Service match needs we are agents for:

**ORIGINAL MAAG GUN LEATHER.
SPECIAL SHALEI PROJECTILES.
BARREL WEIGHTS AND RED DOT SCOPES.**

For ALL your shooting needs we have current stocks of:

**Dillon presses, Safariland, Winchester, PMC, Hercules
Powders, Tasco products and anything else you might
require for all types of shooting.**

GUNSMITHING SERVICE AVAILABLE

Mail, Phone or Fax your order today

(056) 26 8449

Steyr  Match Pistol



\$1640

JOIN THE WINNERS!

Many of the worlds' best shooters are now winning major competitions with the STEYR MATCH PISTOL. (Gold - World Championships (Men) 1990, Moscow. Gold, Silver and Bronze -World Cup finals - Ladies Air Pistol, 1990. Munich!)

RELIABLE CO2 SYSTEM

The latest design CO2 system assures reliable operation in various climatic conditions. The CO2 cylinders are equipped with a newly developed safety valve, can be changed without tools, and are easy to recharge. Muzzle velocity is adjustable.

**AIR MATCH mod 600
CM Air Pistol**



R.R.
\$930

The Mod. CM is now made by MORINI with many small but important detail improvements for an even better pistol. Still the choice of Champions at the Nationals.

**.22 LR PATRO
STANDARD PISTOL**



R.R.
\$1296

Due to the very high hand position and to the grip angle, the pistol has very fast recoil recovery and stability. It is superbly balanced. The trigger pull-weight is constant, and the trigger and firing mechanism design - combined with the short barrel - ensure a very fast "lock time", while the magazine in front of the trigger design provides a STRAIGHT LINE feed system, eliminating bullet distortion, thus aiding accuracy and reliability of functioning.

THE NEW
"FEG .177 cal CO²

TARGET AIR PISTOL
from Hungary



R.R.
\$499

Specifications:

Length = 425 mm
Barrel length = 260 mm
Weight = 1250 gms
Sight radius = 365 mm
Velocity = 400+ ft/sec

**NEW MATCH MODEL
\$600**

This pistol has fully adjustable micro sights, and a very fast lock time of 0.0055 sec.

PRECISION HANDGUN SUPPLIES PTY. LTD.

P.O. Box 62, Elsternwick, Vic. 3185 Phone: (03) 328 1480 or 528 1937

Sole Australian Agent for:

"Air Match" Air Pistols and Free Pistol, Morini "Target Pistols and Grips", "PATRO" .22 cal Standard Pistol, "Star" pistols, "AIMPOINT" Electronic Sights, "POLYTRONIC" Target Equipment, "PHS UNIVERSAL" Progressive Reloading Press, Metallic Silhouette Targets for airgun, etc., "EDELMAHN" Targets.