

VICTORIAN PISTOL NEWS

NOTICE OF A.G.M. M.I.S.C. JULY 18TH 7.30 PM

**June
1997**

Official Publication
of the
Victorian Amateur
Pistol Association
ISSN 1322-4654



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9mm	125 gn	Conical	\$21.00
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	140 gn	Round Nose	\$22.00
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	95 gn	Conical	\$17.00
	130 gn	Round Nose	\$21.00
	135 gn	Button Nose	\$22.00
	140 gn	Round Nose	\$22.00
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	158 gn	Round Nose	\$24.00
	158 gn	Semi Wadcutter	\$24.00
.40	167 gn	Round Nose	\$25.00
.44	250 gn	Flat Nose	\$31.00
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	200 gn	Semi Wadcutter	\$27.00
	230 gn	Round Nose	\$29.00

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* Please add extra for freight

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Victorian Pistol News

Official Publication of the Victorian Amateur Pistol Association

Issue Number 38, June 1997

Editor:

Mark Behan

Editorial Copy and Photographs to:

P.O. Box 159

Bacchus Marsh

Victoria 3340

Telephone: (03) 5367 6084

Fax: (03) 5367 2952

Closing Date for all material:

Third week of month prior to publication

Subscriptions:

\$6.00 for four issues,

C/- the Editor

Published: March, June,

September, December

Front cover artwork -

Suzanne Mykolajenko

NOTICE TO READERS

The contents of this issue have been selected 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 at his absolute discretion, reject any contribution, hold it over for later publication, or edit out any 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.

V.A.P.A. SECRETARIAT

P.O. BOX 301

ALTONA 3018

PH: (03) 9398 5351

Contents

- 2 Editorial
- 4 Notice of A.G.M.
- 17 Nationals 97 - Team Managers
- 20 Nationals 97 - Jenny Butcher
- 31 Nationals 97 - C.R.O.
- 32 Nationals Sponsors
- 33 Nationals Raffle Results
- 34 Australian Gun Deaths
- 36 Important Notice
- 38 VRC
- 42 Coaches Corner
- 44 Western Action
- 45 Trail Tales
- 47 Competition Calendar
- 48 Victorian Top Ten
- 52 Ballarat Entry Form

Advertising

Inside front cover L.T. Harris

Back cover Winchester

37 P.L.S. Firearms

13 H & C Vanetten

43, 46, 51 Shooters Ads

Inside back cover V.A.P.A. Fundraising

26 White Box Munitions

EDITORIAL

I write this upon my return home from the Pistol Australia Annual General Meeting. I won't bore you with all the details other than to say that P.A. looks healthy and in good hands. There are still some issues to be addressed (such as what to do about the Bulletin) but they are recognized and are, or will be, dealt with. What I want to bring to your attention is not one of the agenda items but one that came up in discussion prior to the close of the meeting.

Mike Ascher, President of the N.S.W. Amateur Pistol Association, made an impassioned speech on the future of our sport and the threats it faces. I know that you may not want to hear it, there is too much overload of change already, but what he had to say was important. His basic tenant was that those people in the anti-gun movement were more cohesive, better funded, more clever and more motivated than the shooting organizations. They also believed themselves to be RIGHT in all their assertions, their aims and their beliefs. In short, they are more likely to win given enough time or, heaven forbid, another shooting outrage. Unless we do something our sport and your right to own guns is finished.

What he proposes (an open forum and an amalgamation of effort of all the shooting sports / disciplines country wide) is not a solution that I necessarily subscribe to. Indeed I can foresee some fundamental differences between the various shooting factions that rhetoric alone will not overcome. However his general thrust that we must become professional in our approach and that we need to employ professional lobbyists to counter those (some on government funding) of the anti-gun groups I recognize as a simple truth. Whether we do it as part of a larger whole or go it alone is something time can determine but that we must do something is irrefutable.

Now for the "BUT". What is a lobbyist? A person employed with the sole job of putting forward your case, your sport, your beliefs to the politicians (both state and federal), the media, indeed wherever it can have an effect. He is well paid as he will bring certain skills to the job (eg. He may be a lawyer, ex-politician, etc.). Perhaps \$100,000 a year (and no I've not added too many zeros by mistake). He'll need a car, travel expenses, entertainment allowances, an office. There will be little change out of \$200,000 - PER YEAR!

Still with me folks? Heady stuff I know but let's look at it. In the worst case scenario that we, that is the pistol movement in Australia, decide to go it alone. There are 25,000 pistol shooters in P.A. we add an annual subscription of \$10 per year per member (call it a survival tax) and we have \$250,000 already enough to do the job! Can I hear the moans? What is \$10 per year really? Well here's a little list of what \$10 might get you (approx), and remember it is ONE of these in an entire year -

100 gms of WST	2 video hires
3 packets of .22's	3 cans of beer
60 cigarettes	13 litres of petrol
14 newspapers	8 cartons of milk

Think about it. Are you willing to pay to keep your sport, to keep your pistols? Now remember this was only a discussion item, there is no proposal as yet. However the clock is ticking and we need to have our thoughts straight and be ready to act quickly. I need members to REALLY talk about this amongst yourselves. Speak to everyone down the range about this (remember not everyone reads the VPN) and be sure we are all united in this and be sure everyone knows the consequences of doing nothing. If the membership still say "NO" when the time comes, then at least they will do it with all the facts and with no regrets when they "buy back" your pistols.



I guess you might call this an update on the above opinion. Pistol Australia, acting on the speech by Mike Ascher, moved a motion to impose a \$10 levy to put in place a lobbyist and start the process of keeping our pistols. I'm very glad to say that Victoria voted unanimously in favour of the levy. At last something would happen - WRONG! It turned out to be a tied vote (four Associations each) and Nick Sullivan (P.A. President) felt that for such an important move there should be a more clear cut expression of support, so voted against the motion.

For me the real disappointment was that N.S.W., the state that brought up the issue voted against the levy ... dare I say, voted against us making a fight of keeping our guns? I'm not a stupid person (O.K. there are some who might argue) so I'm clever enough to understand the motives that drive people to pursue their own agenda. However I wonder if the states who voted against a levy truly realize that the next target of the anti-gun lobby is the pistol movement and specifically our semi-auto's (interestingly enough they also are including revolvers under the definition that each time you pull the trigger the gun fires). Yes, in an ideal world it would be "nice" if all the firearm movements banded together to fight our detractors. But until that happens it staggers me that anyone would suggest that we sit on our hands and give the entire fight over to the anti-gun lobby.

There is one dim light on the horizon. The Northern Territory has moved a motion that appears to keep the levy option alive. The real question is do we really want to keep our guns, or shall we nit pick our future to death?

VICTORIAN AMATEUR PISTOL ASSOCIATION

Notice is hereby given that the Annual General Meeting of the Victorian Amateur Pistol Association will be held at Melbourne International Shooting Club, Todd Road, Port Melbourne on Friday 18th July 1997 at 7.30 pm.

The purpose of the meeting will be to:

1. Confirm the minutes of the Annual General Meeting held on 19 July, 1996.
2. Receive and adopt financial statements for the year ended, 30 April 1997.
3. Receive and adopt President's and Secretary's reports.
- X 4. Adopt the following changes to the Statement of Purpose and Rules;

(1) *clause 21 (1) to read -*

- (a) a President
- (b) a Senior Vice President
- (c) a Treasurer
- (d) a Secretary
- (e) an Executive Officer
- (f) a Director of the Victorian Referee Council
- (g) a Director of the State Coaching Council
- (h) a Junior Vice President
- (i) a Technical Inspector

(2) *clause 32 to be amended to read -*

X Withdrawal

(A) The Director of the Victorian Referee Council

- (1) shall possess the qualification as a Judge B or higher of the National Referee Council of Pistol Australia Inc. or such other qualification deemed acceptable by the committee;
- (2) shall be appointed by the annual general meeting and shall hold such office until the next annual general meeting of the association or until such time as he ceases to be a member of the committee.
- (3) shall be responsible for the running and chairmanship of the Victorian Referee Council.

(B) The Director of the State Coaching Council

- (1) shall possess the qualification as a Coach Level 1 or higher of the National Coaching Council of Pistol Australia Inc. or such other qualification deemed acceptable by the committee;
- (2) shall be appointed by the annual general meeting and shall hold such office until the next annual general meeting of the association or until such time as he ceases to be a member of the committee.
- (3) shall be responsible for the running and chairmanship of the State Coaching Council.

(C) The Technical Director of the Association

- (1) shall possess the qualification as a Judge B or higher of the National Referee Council of Pistol Australia Inc. or such other qualification deemed acceptable by the committee;
- (2) shall be appointed by the annual general meeting and shall hold such office until the next annual general meeting of the association or until such time as he ceases to be a member of the committee.
- (3) Shall be responsible for the inspection and approval of sites proposed to be used or which are used as a pistol shooting range by affiliated clubs; and
- (4) shall be responsible for advising affiliated clubs on matters pertaining to range safety requirements if and when requested by the clubs or the committee or at his own instigation.

(3) *clause 23 (2) be amended to read -*

Not more than three (3) full time members of any one club shall be elected as officers of the Association.

Rational:

(1) The V.R.C. and the S.C.C. are the two main arms of the Association. Within these two bodies lie much of the Associations expertise as well as many of the functions and services offered to the members by V.A.P.A. To have these two areas not represented directly on the Associations Executive not only places them outside the "information loop" but also denies the Executive the daily use of their expertise. It will also serve the purpose of allowing the two branches to be more directly answerable to the Executive and the C.O.M. It is also an anomaly that the directors of the Associations two major sub committees have no official function or role to play at C.O.M. meetings. Indeed technically, other than their report, they must ask permission of the meeting to speak. The rearranging of the order of elections is an attempt to come to terms with the reality that certain positions have a priority of being filled and that important positions are not adversely effected by clause 23 (2).

(2) Merely a procedural amendment to outline the functions of the various Directors and assure that they will hold the appropriate qualifications.

(3) If amendment one is successful then we have increased the Executive by a further two places. It now becomes increasingly difficult to find people from diverse clubs that are willing and / or have the expertise to serve on the Executive. This is compounded by the simple fact that by making the choice too narrow we will cut out people who V.A.P.A. simply needs. Indeed this course of action (ie. the fear that one or two clubs will dominate the Executive) is not reflected in the realities of past and present nominations. However rather than abandon the concept altogether I suggest we simply make the situation a little more flexible.

5. Elect office bearers for the ensuing year (see below)

6. Attend to any other business which may be dealt with at the Annual General Meeting.

ELECTION OF OFFICE BEARERS

The following members have been nominated for the positions as listed.

POSITION	NOMINEE	PROPOSER	SECONDER
President	Mark Behan	S. Pattison	G. Gallagher
Snr Vice President	John Gillman	R. Beard	B. Wiles
Jnr Vice President	Jenny Butcher	R. Beard	B. Wiles
Jnr Vice President	Andrea Morgan	A. Taylor	M. Cleland
Executive Member	Mark Behan	G. Gallagher	S. Pattison
Treasurer	Sharon Reynolds	Bob Lester	Jim Morgan
Technical Inspector	Clive Woods	D. Boseley	P. Wolf
Secretary	Eddie Evans	N. Whybrow	A. Whybrow

Any member may appoint a proxy to attend and vote on their behalf provided that the appointment is in writing and is received by the Returning Officer at the address below by 1700 Hours on 16 JULY 1997.

ADDRESS: Returning Officer, V.A.P.A., P.O. Box 240,
BENTLEIGH 3204.

Multiple Appointments are not legal and will not be accepted.

It is recommended that the form provided, or something similar be used.

Minutes of meeting of the Annual General Meeting of the Victorian Amateur Pistol Association held at the Oakleigh Pistol Club, Simpsons Road, Clayton, on Friday 19th July 1996 at 9.47 pm.

CHAIRMAN

Mark Behan occupied the chair and welcomed the members.

APOLOGIES: Were received from; B. Hare, R Boyce, N. Stewart, A. Skerry, N. Jones, S. Pattison, J Payne, J. Morgan, C. Lee, L. Ryan.

PREVIOUS MINUTES

The minutes of the Annual General Meeting held on the 21st July 1995 were confirmed on the motion of R Lester, seconded S. Reynolds.

Carried

REPORTS

It was moved J. Corral and seconded K. McAllison that the Treasurer's, President's and Secretary's reports as circulated with the notice of annual general meeting be accepted.

Carried

ELECTIONS:

All Executive Positions were declared Vacant.

As there was only one nominee for each position (with the exception of Technical Inspector) those nominees on the motion of K. McAllison, seconded J. Hawsworth, were declared elected.

Mark Behan President.

John Gillman Senior Vice President.

Gary Fliegner Junior Vice President.

Clive Whelan Executive Officer

Sharon Reynolds Treasurer.

Eddie Evans Secretary.

Following an election Clive Woods was declared elected as Technical Inspector

CLOSURE: The meeting was declared closed at 9.58 pm

PRESIDENTS REPORT 1997

It would be easy to take a gloomy approach to this years report but the truth is that in many ways 1997 has been a watershed year and much of what has happened has been positive. We need look no further than this years Nationals (who would have thought after so long that we would end up with two in a row) to see good things happening in our sport. The Nationals were once again a showcase not only of the countries shooters, but also the organizing ability and depth of talent that this Association has within the membership of its clubs. Even our fickle Victorian weather came to the party this year and allowed us to run a first class national event. Thanks must go to the Yarra Pistol Club and all it's members, Pistol Australia, the V.R.C., several clubs such as M.I.S.C. and Oakliegh as well as dozens of individual members and even visitors from interstate. To you all thankyou.

Probably the main impact on our sport this year has been the tragedy at Port Arthur and the resulting fall out, with Victoria having to come to terms with a new Firearms Act. Put simply the Act has been rushed through. Consultation which was sought, was by in large ignored which has resulted

in an Act which causes huge disruption and increased costs but delivers little to anyone. Even the much hyped National Gun Laws are a myth, demonstrated clearly by the debacle of the junior shooters and Tri-State. As the Act stands there is still much that is unknown in regard its impact or how, when, where or why certain sections will be administered. Currently much of the policy and the accompanying paperwork is being made on the run.

Throughout all this special thanks must go to Eddie Evans our Secretary. His work load ballooned overnight and I know that there were times that the strain of trying to keep pace with the changes, liaise with the police, inform everyone of the requirements and answer the dozens of calls from befuddled club secretaries as well as individual members took its toll. I must also thank his wife and son who at times were without a husband / father while Eddie was "doing V.A.P.A. business". Again I take this opportunity to remind members that all administrators in this state, from club level through to Association level, do this on a voluntary basis so that our sport can continue to exist. To all of them thank you as well.

But as I said, not all has been negative in regard the new Act. There is some comfort to be taken from the fact that as an Association we are still represented within the Regulations with a position on the new Firearms Appeal Committee (only one of two organizations to be so represented). There has been no direct effect on the type of handgun we use or the events we shoot. Licensing will become easier and for some people with 16 or more handguns it will even be cheaper (if you already have an alarm). V.A.P.A. is organizing a new safety course (to replace the inadequate Police one) and expects to have it approved soon. Even that will be positive, with a uniform system operating throughout our clubs. Yes it is a lot of work at the moment but given time ...

I would also take this opportunity to commend to you the proposed changes to the constitution to be voted on at this A.G.M. One of the things that arose out of the new Act was the need to become more professional and to use all the expertise we can gather. To include the Directors of the Associations two biggest "arms" just strikes me as common sense and in the future we will need all the help we can muster, whilst at the same time

shortening the lines of communication.

Finally a thankyou to my Executive (who as a whole shouldered much of the work and necessary decisions arising from the new act), the C.O.M., office bearers, the clubs and all V.A.P.A. members for your past and ongoing support.

Mark Behan
President

TREASURER'S REPORT 1997

We have ended the year with an operating surplus of \$16,556, which is considerably less than the past couple of years but is still a good result. Income was down considerably due to a loss of members from Victoria Ranges and P.S.A. clubs. Although outgoings increased overall you will see that this is entirely due to cost of trophies & medallions for postal and state competitions - expenditure in all other areas has been contained or reduced. Expenditure on capital items included the purchase of SCAT, a computer for the treasurer and additions/replacements to existing equipment. Once again a large slice of our funds went to the production of the VPN, with other major expenditure being incurred by the state team and its associated activities. As usual all trading profit has been credited to the team fund.

Unfortunately there will be a small increase in VAPA fees this year. In order to maintain a good liquidity position we need to ensure our cash incomings (from members and trading) are adequate. No increase this year could have left us with the unenviable task of raising fees by more than CPI in future. Funds have been made available for loans to affiliates - each application is considered on its merits and all loans over \$5000 are secured. Loans have been made to Yackandandah, Security Practical and Warragul-Drouin Pistol Clubs during the year. Further loans will be dependent on the liquidity position of the Association bearing in mind that we cannot use the Fighting Fund cash for this purpose.

I would like to thank all members for their support - no member of the executive works in a vacuum and without the support and goodwill of the members it would be impossible to function. There are a few people who deserve a special mention - Cheryl Lee and the fund raising sub-committee, John Gillman in his role of target secretary, all the members of the executive (with a particular mention for Eddie Evans), James Moore and Jenny Butcher for their assistance evaluating a large loan application and last, but not least, all those treasurers and secretaries in the clubs without whom my job would be impossible.

Sharon Reynolds
Treasurer

SECRETARY'S REPORT 1997

Last year I started off with a bit of 'doom and gloom', this year it is not much better. P.S.A pistol club was instructed by Sporting Shooters to disaffiliate, and this reduced our numbers by over 100. I must stress that there was no disagreement between P.S.A. and the V.A.P.A., this was purely a political move on behalf of Sporting Shooters for reasons known only to themselves. At a time when we are under threat from our political leaders we should be working together, unfortunately this appears not to be the case.

Also last year we were hoping for changes to the Firearms Act which would improve the licensing system. Well, thanks to the incident in Tasmania we got more than we bargained for. Our political masters have produced a new Firearms Act that could probably have been better done by primary school children. At the moment all is in turmoil. Over the last couple of months I have attended five meetings with the Police appointed to the task of administering the new Act, they are trying to bring in systems and paperwork on a day to day basis, and this is causing big problems. About the only good thing in the Act is the change to licensing the club member, rather than the handgun. You will at renewal time this year get a license for three years, and your handguns will be registered. There are lots of problems for juniors and clubs at present, try to be patient until it is sorted out.

The V.A.P.A. on your behalf made submissions on the Act before it was passed, and on the fees in the regulations. Both these submissions were ignored (also those from other organizations). We were successful in getting approval to run the new 'Handgun Safety Course', rather than having it run by T.A.F.E, the paperwork is now with the clubs. Obtaining approval for the instructors will be an ongoing process. Negotiations continue to take place with the Police, and there are constant requests for clarification, this all takes time. You can be assured that we are not sitting back doing nothing, we are getting information out to the clubs as soon as we have anything to pass on.

Kind regards,
Eddie Evans

H&C VANETTEN

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SWAGED

.38

158 GR HBWC
148 GR HBWC
128 GR HBWC
115 GR HBWC
90 GR HBWC

.32

98 GR HBWC

HARDCAST

.32

98 GR BN

.38

90 GR DE
95 GR CN
130 GR RN
135 GR BN
140 GR RN
150 GR SWC
158 GR SWC
158 GR RN

HARDCAST

9mm

125 GR CN
130 GR RN
140 GR RN

40 CAL & 10 MM

167 GR RN
.44
250 GR SWC
.45
185 GR SWC
200 GR SWC
230 GR RN



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VICTORIAN AMATEUR PISTOL ASSOCIATION INC
BALANCE SHEET AS AT 30TH APRIL 1997

<u>1996</u>		<u>Note</u>	<u>1997</u>
	<u>CURRENT ASSETS</u>		
334,829	Cash & Bank	2	333,028
19,749	Receivables	3	15,126
<u>38,162</u>	Inventories	4	<u>42,339</u>
<u>392,740</u>	TOTAL CURRENT ASSETS		<u>390,493</u>
	<u>NON CURRENT ASSETS</u>		
72,712	Receivables	5	109,912
<u>17,836</u>	Equipment	6	<u>18,260</u>
<u>90,548</u>	TOTAL NON CURRENT ASSETS		<u>128,172</u>
<u>483,288</u>	<u>TOTAL ASSETS</u>		<u>518,666</u>
	<u>CURRENT LIABILITIES</u>		
<u>188,623</u>	Creditors & Borrowings	7	<u>204,036</u>
<u>188,623</u>	TOTAL CURRENT LIABILITIES		<u>204,036</u>
	<u>NON CURRENT LIABILITIES</u>		
<u>36,249</u>	Creditors & Borrowings	8	<u>39,657</u>
<u>36,249</u>	TOTAL NON CURRENT LIABILITIES		<u>39,657</u>
<u>224,872</u>	<u>TOTAL LIABILITIES</u>		<u>243,693</u>
<u>258,416</u>	<u>NET ASSETS</u>		<u>274,973</u>
	<u>MEMBERS ACCUMULATED FUNDS</u>		
<u>258,416</u>	Accumulated Fund		<u>274,972</u>

VICTORIAN AMATEUR PISTOL ASSOCIATION INC
PROFIT & LOSS ACCOUNT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30TH APRIL 1997

1996

Note

1997

INCOME

120,067	Subscriptions (net)	97,282
3,330	Advertising (VPN)	2,401
10,375	Interest Received	12,298
0	Government Grants	3,000
1,725	Junior Camp	975
1,332	State Coaching Council	822
2,813	State Referee Council	929
<u>6</u>	Sundries	<u>541</u>

139,647

118,247

LESS EXPENDITURE

880	Audit	975
510	Affiliation Fees	1,265
	Champion of Champions competition	1,800
2,388	Coaching Council	1,206
5,164	Depreciation	6,520
1,790	Donations & Tributes	5,986
0	Grants Distributed	0
11,001	Honoraria	11,432
16,445	Insurance	15,121
1,910	Junior Camp	1,709
768	Legal expenses	1,822
218	Magazines & Journals	0
2,047	Postage	3,384
2,286	Postal Competition Deficit	4,786
3,908	Printing & Stationery	1,449
7,269	Promotions	3,345
5,841	Referee Council	5,139
550	Rental (meeting rooms)	555
851	Repairs & Maintenance	1,346
3,763	State Squad	500
334	Sundry Expenses	109
657	State Government Taxes	617
1,673	Superannuation Guarantee	0
1,610	Technical (Range) Inspections	1,627
2,195	Telephone	2,010
1,633	Training seminars (external)	96
1,702	Travel & Accommodation	1,167
0	Trophies	0
382	Victorian Championships	5,328
22,059	Victorian Pistol News	22,345
<u>63</u>	Workcare & Superannuation	<u>50</u>

99,897

101,691

39,750	Surplus for the year	16,556
<u>218,666</u>	Add Accumulated funds as at 1st May 1996	<u>258,416</u>

258,416

Accumulated Funds as at 30th April 1997

274,972

FORM OF APPOINTMENT OF PROXY

I _____ being a member of the
_____ Pistol Club and the Victorian
Amateur Pistol Association

hereby appoint

_____ on my behalf at the
Annual General Meeting

of the Victorian Amateur Pistol Association to be held on the Eighteenth
day of July 1997 and at any adjournment of that meeting

Signed _____ Date ____/____/1997

My proxy is authorized to cast my vote as set out below

JUNIOR VICE PRESIDENT
PLACE AN X NEXT TO YOUR PREFERENCE
Jenny Butcher
Andrea Morgan

This notice of appointment shall be forwarded to the returning officer
appointed by the Victorian Amateur Pistol Association so as to be received
not later than 16 July 1997.

ADDRESS: The Returning Officer,
 V.A.P.A.
 P O Box 240
 BENTLEIGH 3204

1997 NATIONALS.

What, another Nationals in Melbourne, and I was looking forward to a holiday in Adelaide. At least all the Team members are familiar with the Range and know where the accommodation is. After a couple of days practice everyone is raring to go, then at the Competitors briefing the Queenslanders complain about the light. Last year they complained about the rain and we fixed that problem, now they reckon it will still be dark at 8.00 am. There's just no pleasing some people.

The first day of competition was Service Pistol and Black powder 25 metre. We won't talk about Service except to say the boys need more practice. Les Clark 17th, Ercole Anastasi 19th and Phil Blake 20th combined to place the Team Fifth. The best Victorian was Team Reserve, Glenn Gordon, in 14th place. The light did not upset the Queenslanders as they won this event for the first time in many years.

After the Precision Stage of Black Powder, things are not looking much better.

The next day did not bring much improvement, although the Unrestricted Team finished fourth. At least the Team Members managed to stick together with Les Clark 869, Paul Hutchins 868 and Phil Blake 867. The best Victorian score was 870 by the old stager, Alex Eagle. The highlight of the day was Campbell Morrison's National Record equalling 892. Campbell dropped 5 at 50 yards, 2 in the multiples and 1 at ten yards. Campbell's Team Mates were not far behind him and SA won the event from NSW and WA..

Black Powder 25 did not improve Team wise with the Team finishing in fourth place. Individually Les Clark was in a three way shoot off for second place with Wayne Blisner and Max Wray. The final results were Wayne second, Les third and Max fourth. There must be something about Victorians and shoot offs in this match. John Mitchell was involved in shoot offs in 1995 and 1996, and in 1995 his opponent was Wayne Blisner. (Wayne won that shoot off too).

Two days down and no Team placing's and only one individual placing. Things will have to get better.

Black Powder 50 metre saw Victoria's first podium finish with the Team of Les Clark, Greg Vincent and John Sammartino placing third, with Les Clark eighth and seven Victorians in the Top Twenty. There is some potential for the future among those seven.

Standard pistol was also contested today and the team of Bruce Quick, Noel Ryan and Linda Ryan produced another fourth place, with Bruce fourth individually. Geoff Horton showed he hasn't forgotten how to shoot this match finishing in fifth place.

Good Friday is always a busy day with Free Pistol, Junior Air Pistol and the first half of Rapid Fire. The Free Pistol team of Andy Miller, Bruce Quick and Jim

Wright gave Victoria our second podium finish with another third place, however all results were over shadowed when Phil Adams shattered the 21 year old National record. With cards of 93,95,94,92,93 and 96 (8 tens a nine and a seven) Phil well and truly set a new record of 563. Who said it is impossible to shoot a good Free Pistol score on range one?

Junior Air saw Leigh Schallhammer 7th in Junior Men's, with Sally Taylor 4th and Ainsley Alexander 5th in Junior Ladies combining to give Victoria second in the event. This was a fantastic effort when you consider that both Leigh and Ainsley were competing in their first Nationals.

Rapid Fire is looking good with Bruce Quick on 281, Will Crossman and Jim Wright both on 283.

Things are really starting to get busy now, Finals in Rapid and Ladies Air and the precision stage of Ladies and Junior Sport Pistol. In our best finish for many years the Rapid fire team finished second, just three points behind NSW, with both Bruce and Will in the final. Bruce in second place and Will in eighth. Bruce held on to second and Will jumped from eighth to fifth. In Will's own words "The worst I can do is finish eighth, so let's go for broke and see what happens". The only people who beat Will in the final have all represented Australia in international competition.

The Ladies Air team of Charlotte Bryant, Linda Ryan and Val Turner finished second behind WA by just seven points, with Linda in the final in fifth place. Linda must have been encouraged by Will's charge through the final. With a magnificent 99.4 Linda leapt to second place, missing first by just 0.9. The judge calling the scores (who also looks after V.A.P.A. finances) commented it was very difficult to keep her voice flat and unemotional during Linda's surge through the field. Past Team Member Annette Woodward was also in the final and finished fifth.

After the Precision stage of Ladies and Junior Sport both Teams are well placed, with Sally Taylor third in both Juniors and Ladies.

Only a day and a half to go, it's nearly all over. The first match completed is Junior Sport with Ainsley, Leigh and Sally all in the Top Ten the Team placed second behind Queensland. At least next year the Queensland juniors will be seniors, and while Victoria will lose Leigh, Ainsley and Sally are still eligible and there is a good group of Juniors coming on. It would be great to beat Queensland on their own turf.

Ladies Sport Teams is a nail biter with six points between first and fourth. The Victorian Team of Joy Mullens, Linda Ryan and Val Turner won the event by three points from NT, who were two points ahead of NSW, who beat SA by one point. Talk about close.

Val Turner was the only Team Member in the final, however Annette Woodward and Sally Taylor also qualified. The final results saw Annette third, Val sixth and Sally seventh. With both Annette and Sally nominating for next years Team it augurs a very strong Ladies Team.

The Men's Air Team of Andy Miller, Bruce Quick and Alan Wattz finished fourth, with Bruce in the Final finishing sixth. After the precision stage of centre fire all team members are well placed.

This is it, three details of centre fire rapid fire and it's all over. The last detail was all the top shooters and even a sardine would have complained about the crowd in the spectator areas. As soon as the last shot is fired race off to the Classification Office to help out. Check the scores and see Quickie's in a shoot off with Phil Adams for second, Noel Ryan seventh and Jim Wright eighth. All Team members in the Top Ten and Victoria the Top Team. The first shoot off between Bruce and Phil ended in another tie, in the second shoot off Phil won by two points.

The Nationals are all over for another year, what do the final results show? NSW won the Manton Shield (Again) with WA second and Victoria third, only ten points behind WA. When you consider the Manton is decided out of a possible 12,000 points a difference of ten points in minuscule. Victoria finished with two firsts, four seconds and two thirds. With the exception of both Service matches, Black Powder 25 metre and Standard Pistol, all Teams improved on the 1996 Team score. While we did not have any National Champions there were eighteen Team Members in the Top Ten in various events, with several people who have nominated for next year's team featuring in the Top Twenty.

John and I would like to thank all Team Members for the way they performed and conducted themselves throughout the Nationals. The camaraderie and support was excellent

I'm sure all Team Members and competitors would join me in thanking Yarra Pistol Club for hosting another excellent Nationals. A fantastic job was done by all.

It has been mentioned that neither City of Brisbane or Metropolitan Club Members want to do the catering next year. We have an excellent catering crew in Victoria and there is even a rumour around that the Yarra crew are willing to travel to Brisbane and cater for next years Nationals, provided they get a Black and Yellow catering truck.

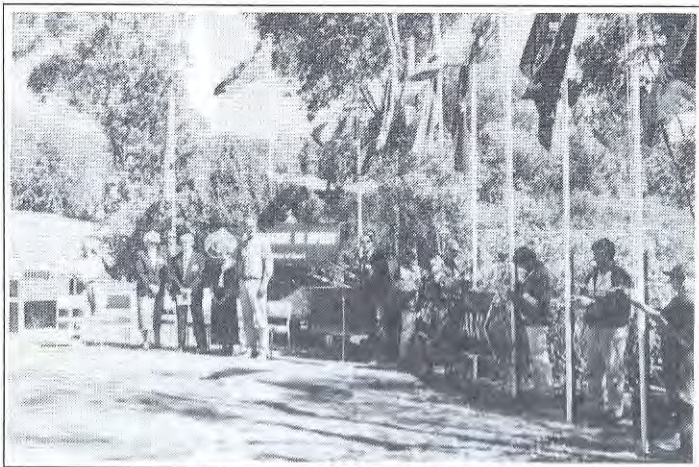
I said last year that "I hope it's not another 30 years until Victoria hosts a Nationals", but I didn't mean for it to be so soon. Maybe 2001 or 2006 would be good years to bid for.

THE 40th NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIPS

Jenny Butcher
President, Yarra P.C.

Last year, Yarra Pistol Club hosted the National Championships, after an absence of twenty-eight years in Victoria. Either because we all had so much fun or to make sure they didn't forget us, we did it all again this year. It is the first time a Club, in any State, has hosted back-to-back Nationals (involving all UIT, Black Powder and Service Matches) a feat that both Yarra Pistol Club and Victoria can be proud of.

Last year we were hampered by the wet weather. This year Mother Nature did a complete turn-around and we had several months of heatwave conditions. This to some extent, slowed down the work that was to be done on the Ranges, but I am sure the additional paths and



The Opening Ceremony

paving works made competing more enjoyable for all. The weather during the Nationals was really sensational and except for one/two mornings of early drizzle was just perfect. The evening presentations were ideal, with sun shining and



The Nationals Crowd

light breeze, and of course Victoria picking up a few medals for both team and personal achievements.

Speaking of achievements, there certainly were a few to highlight, First was, Campbell

Morrison in Service Unrestricted who shot a score of 892 which equals the National record shot in 1988 (in Sydney) by Max Wray. Both competitors have been shooting for awhile so it shows that Shooting is a sport that can be enjoyed for many years and at a high level. Another competitor that highlights this of course is Phil Adams, who certainly was in fine form. Phil shot a new National record in Free Pistol of 563 (a record held by Norm Harrison since 1976 with a score of 559). This score of 563 had a final card of 96 with a seven! I am sure there are many Free Pistol shooters out there that would love a card like that, even with a 7. To match this performance Phil also took out First in Standard (570) and Air Pistol (578) and after a shoot-off finished second in Centrefire(579) one point behind the winner - and on top of all that, he is a really nice guy.



*Yarra President Jenny Burcher
& Russell Marks*

Victoria can be proud of their performance also, with both the juniors and seniors competing well. I am sure Team Manager Neil Stewart will be writing a little piece on their achievements so I don't want to steal his thunder. Neil also doubled as Nationals Organizing Secretary for the second year and once again did a fantastic job. One shooter to be looking out for in the future, will be Sally Taylor who put in good performances both as a junior and senior. Victoria finished a creditable third in the Manton Shield, only ten points behind Western Australia. Watch out for next year, we can pick up those points and maybe give New South Wales a real run for the money.

Whilst all these great performances were going on, there were other world class feats occurring - not on the range but in the kitchen! We speak of course of that first class catering crew - those Stars of the Culinary World, the "Yarra Kitchen Crew". Once again these Masters of Food cooked us up a treat. Toiling over a hot grill with total disregard for his health was Graeme (a shy unassuming policeman - sometimes) ably assisted by Albert (who took on the huge task of ordering / delivery of the food). To assist these guys was Mr. Personality (?) Rory Thomas and the rest of the crew of Tracey, Fiona, Ken and Sandra (hates cappuccinos- don't know why?) There were many people who assisted this group from day to day and their contribution was invaluable to the smooth running of the catering area.

Out on the Ranges the Staffing was organized and managed by the Chief Range Officer Bruce Wiles and his very large group of helpers. One must mention, Jeff Beecher, who came down from Bairnsdale to assist, doesn't belong to a club but as a friend of Bruce's, got roped in. Must be dangerous being a friend of Bruce's!! There were many people from different clubs who gave up their time for the whole period of the Nationals and without this sort of dedication an event of this nature just would not happen.



It's over - Jeff Beecher

Whilst I hate to mention names, in the event someone is forgotten, it would be remiss not to thank Des Boseley, Wally Dunstan, Chris Cullen, Peter Watts, Alex Eagle, Ivan Puclin and Henry Barker for their support. The Clubs of Oakleigh and MISC were recognized for their support by VAPA with a plaque presented during the Nationals. Many, many other people assisted on different days, also many competitors, and their efforts are recognized and appreciated.

Whilst in thanking mode, the efforts of the Classification Office must not be passed. With all the latest equipment (you never have enough toes when you need them) these scribes dutifully scored targets, input them to computers, posted scores and waited for the bribes, but everyone must have been happy with their scores. This group was lead by Peter Butcher (alias Turkey Creek Pete) -ah! maybe competitors thought they couldn't bribe a turkey. He was assisted by David Haddon, Lynley Baker, Alan Walters, Dee Lester, Andrea Morgan, Oliver Jurga and myself.

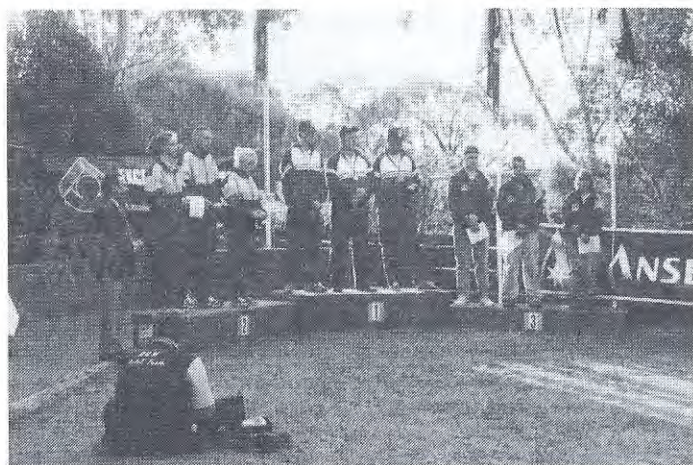
Thankyou to James Moore for the use of his computer- he was a trusting sole allowing us computer illiterates to run amok on his machine. I don't think we lost too many programs. Each competitor received a "Goodies Bag" and this was the effort (for the second year) of Alex and Liz Ligeti. It is no mean feat trying to organize items to put in these bags and congratulations to them for a job well done. Both these folk helped Merrolyn Wiles on The Reception/Armory area which was a great assist to shooters in providing information and storage of guns. The armory was well utilized again this year, with storage ranging from single guns to large trunks (maybe someone had an accident and didn't know where to hide the body).

As you sat in the Clubhouse enjoying that cappuccino, or outside enjoying the sunshine I'm sure you will have noticed how clean the place always looked, considering the amount of people there. This was due to the tireless efforts of that Man in White, that Garbologist Extraordinaire - Harold Lee. Early each day



*The Victorian
Centre Fire
Team, Ryan,
Quick & Wright*

*Women's Sport.
Victoria First.*



*Junior Air.
Victoria Second.*

Harold quietly and efficiently went around the place making sure it was clean with rubbish bins emptied . His efforts were appreciated by all .

We extend our thanks also to the Victorian Referee Council for their organization of the Judge B's and Range Officers and specially to Jim Morgan, Sharon Reynolds and Bob Lester for all their work.

To culminate what was a great Nationals, the Presentation Dinner was held again at Rembrants, with Clive Whelan the VAPA Executive officer presiding as Master of Ceremonies. Clive worked hard behind the scenes organizing the daily presenters and we had some very distinguished guests, such as Olympic Gold Medallist Russell Mark. Those who spoke to Russell will agree, that not only is he a great sportsman, but also a great Ambassador for the Shooting Sports - and heaven knows we need some of them.

Well, there is not much more to say ,except I hope you all enjoyed the 40th National Championships whether you competed or just worked. Victoria can be justifiably proud of their efforts in the presentation of the last two Nationals and as stated by the Queensland Team Manager - "We will be a hard act to follow".



*Our Successful
Ladies Team*

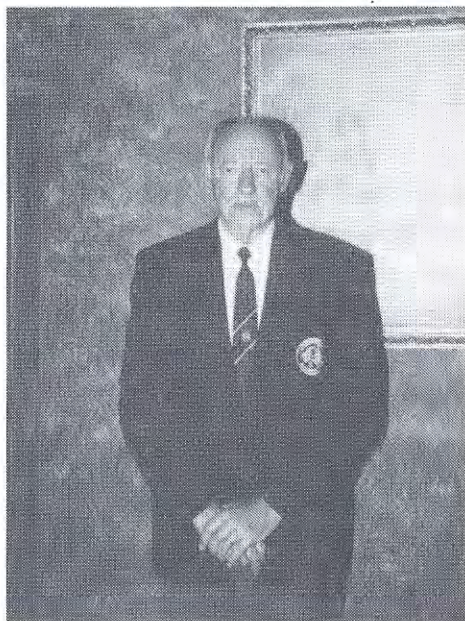




*Some of our Juniors finishing of
the Nationals*



*Team Manager and Organising
Secretary Neil Stewart*



*Team Manager
John Gillman*

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CLUB INQUIRIES WELCOME



The Nationals

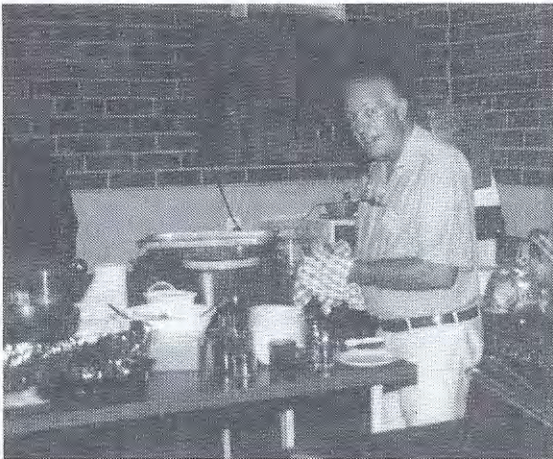
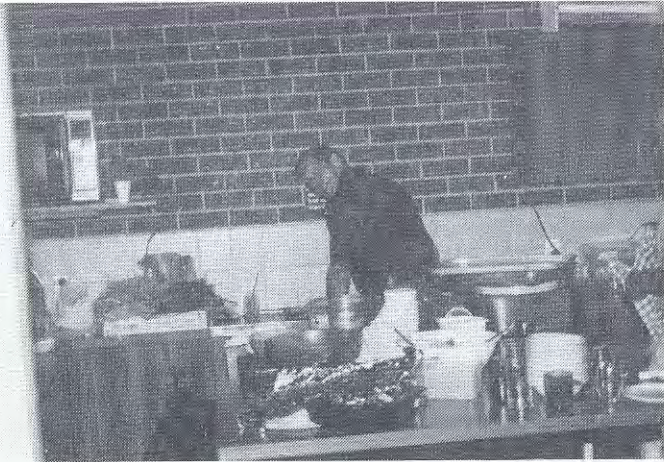
*Noel Ryan &
Mark Behan*



*Rosie Evans &
Annette Woodward*



*John Windsor
hard at it.*



The Nationals



REPORT FROM THE NATIONALS C.R.O.

by Bruce Wiles

As Chief Range Officer for the 40th National Pistol Championships I had the job of allocating some 200 staff for 416 work details. This required lots of letters and phone calls to find the staff to be able to achieve this requirement.

I would like to thank my wife Merrollyn for acting as my secretary and helping to allocate people for the work details. For the five weeks before the Nationals we placed people in work details, only to find out that some were unavailable, and it was back to membership list again, requiring more letters of alterations to the already committed workers who were available.

My plan of attack was to select all those who volunteered, then the retirees, followed by those who are self employed, to try and make up the numbers. It was difficult to squad Shooters for work details, as most of the shooting was finished by 2 o'clock. The 8 o'clock detail was the worst to find workers for, especially during the mid week, as most people were still working at their normal jobs. One of the retirees was Mr. Jeff Beecher who worked alongside me for the whole duration of the Nationals, and to him I extend my thanks for all his assistance.

There was a lot of work behind the scenes, which the competitors did not see, such as preparing the targets, setting up the ranges, making sure there was enough patches, etc., and cleaning of the ranges each evening, all this made for a smooth operation. The majority of the work force came from Yarra Pistol Club, and those members I thank very much, they can give themselves a pat on the back for a job well done. To name individuals, would be just too many, these people know that they did the work and they are included in the following.

I congratulate and extend my appreciative thanks to the following :

- Members of Yarra Pistol Club for their efforts in preparing the complex so that it was at its best standard for the Nationals to happen.
- Members of Yarra Pistol Club for their work done on the range during the Nationals.
- Members from Oakleigh Pistol Club and Melbourne International shooting Club for their much appreciated assistance.
- Individuals from other clubs who assisted.
- Competitors who did not mind and assisted whenever possible.
- All the Referees who gave up their time to see that the ranges ran smoothly.
- Volunteers from interstate.

**THE 40th NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIPS WERE PROUDLY
SPONSORED BY**

Victoria is once again proud to host the 1997 National Championships.

We would publicly like to thank the following sponsors. Without their generous assistance the Nationals would not have been the success they were.

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Without these wonderful contributors the Nationals would not have been the success they were.

**REMEMBER TO SUPPORT THOSE THAT SUPPORT
OUR SPORT.**

RESULTS OF THE YARRA NATIONALS RAFFLES

Winner of the Gun And Accessories Package:

Tony CARR and Trevor MAY both from the Northern Territory.

The Raffle was drawn on Sunday 30th March 1997 at Yarra Pistol Club by Garry Matchem from Winchester, who were a great sponsor for these Nationals.

Winners of the "Nationals Raffle" were:

FIRST PRIZE: 14" Whitewater canoe with wooden paddles and 2 1/2 H P
Outboard motor (With stand)

Won By: Bill Clinton Upper Ferntree Gully

SECOND PRIZE: Custom-made knife with filigree

Won By: Trevor Wyngaard Yarra Pistol Club

THIRD PRIZE: Custom-made Fly-fishing Rod and reel

Won By: Bul Bul Yarra Pistol Club

(Bul Bul is a dog owned by Yarra Club Member Oliver Jurga who made the first prize of the canoe.)

The Raffle was drawn on Sunday 30th March at Yarra Pistol Club by Nick Sullivan, President of Pistol Australia.

**THANKYOU TO ALL THOSE WHO SUPPORTED THE CLUB
BY BUYING TICKETS.**

DEATHS AND GUNS

The Truth from the Australian Bureau of Statistics

Late in February this year the A.B.S. released the latest statistics on firearm deaths in Australia. The document is some 22 pages long and looks at the raw figures and trends over the period 1980 to 1995. There has been some reporting in the media on the results but they are at best very low key, and no-one in the media has taken up the obvious difference between the recent hype and the reality as reflected in the figures.

So what do they show? Perhaps if I put forward the raw figures first. These are based on three year averages so that particular years do not distort the figures.

Period	Firearm Deaths (a*)	External Causes (b*)	Proportion %
1980-82	678	8144	8.3
1983-85	684	7553	9.1
1986-88	701	8125	8.6
1989-91	604	7936	7.6
1992-94	558	7233	7.7
1995	479	7413	6.5

Where (a*) is the average per year and (b*) is all deaths from accidents, poisoning and violence. Even the A.B.S. recognizes that "the relative magnitude of deaths from the use of firearms as a cause of death is small". Indeed if we include Firearms deaths as a percentage of deaths due to all causes then it drops to 0.5%. The over all trend is also clear, these figures show "a decline of 46% over a period of 16 years" of firearm related deaths.

The nature of firearm deaths also takes on a new perspective when we examine the type of firearm deaths.

Period	Accidents %	Suicides %	Homicides %	Other %
1980-82	7.2	76.3	14.6	1.9
1983-85	5.2	77.3	15.1	2.4
1986-88	4.0	78.0	15.2	2.7
1989-91	4.3	79.5	13.4	2.8
1992-94	3.7	80.0	14.1	2.2
1995	3.1	81.0	14.0	1.9

To quote from the A.B.S. on these figures, "The proportion of firearms deaths resulting from accidents decreased from 7.2% in 1980-82 to 3.1% in 1995. Correspondingly the proportion of firearm deaths due to suicides increased from 76% to 81% over the same period. The proportion of homicides remained relatively stable." The 'other' column is made up of deaths from "legal intervention and other types".

So in its simplest form the figures would suggest that firearms are a minor cause of "external" death, and even minute if we were to remove the growing problem of suicide (93% male!). I would suggest that if the government, and indeed the anti-gun lobby, wanted to address the problem of firearm deaths then they need to look not at firearm law alone, but spend their billions of dollars and their time on addressing the social and economic problems that are driving (particularly young males) to suicide.

Lastly (and remember that the full report is 22 pages long and really makes fascinating reading if you get the chance) what types of firearms are involved in deaths?

Type	Accidents no.	Suicides no.	Homicides no.	Total (a*) no.	Prop. (b*) %
Handgun	21	226	92	355	5.3
Shotgun	75	1589	326	2018	30.2
Hunting Rifle	182	3620	368	4218	63.2
Military Style	5	52	27	85	1.3
TOTAL	283	5487	813	6676	100.0

(a*) includes deaths by "legal intervention" (b*) Proportion of total by percentage.

It's nice to see that handguns form such a small part of the deaths, but worrying none the less when you see that Military Style weapons were even smaller and yet have been the most savagely dealt with by the new laws. Still I hope these figures might help you when next you're forced to defend your sport.

IMPORTANT NOTICE

MATTERS ARISING FROM THE NEW ACT

We are trying to increase the number of members who wish to become Firearm Safety Course Instructors for handguns. We have already circulated information to our range Officers and Coach's and many are now approved instructors. However if you fall under one of the following categories and wish to become an instructor then please contact the V.A.P.A. Secretary who will forward your name and details to the Police.

- Firearm Safety Instructors
- NROIA Range Officers
- Teachers with over 5 years membership of a Pistol Club
- Members of the Armed Services with equivalent rank of Sergeant and above, that as part of their promotion did a course to enable them to instruct in small arms.



- Members applying for a handgun license that have already been fingerprinted and interviewed should attach a note to that effect on their license application form. This will speed up their application.
- It would appear that forms WILL be sent to members prior to their license expiring and will be an ongoing process for the time being. However make sure that YOU take responsibility for the submission of a renewal - don't rely on anyone else.
- Whenever you need to give 'genuine reason' on License and Permits to Acquire application forms write "member of the Victorian Amateur Pistol Association" this should also apply to category A and B firearms. Photocopy both sides of your membership tag (including current financial sticker) and attach to form.
- A condition of license will be that the holder "attend a minimum of 10 range practices or competitions per annum, reasonably spread throughout the year".
- Juniors with a 'Junior Permit' under the old Act are deemed to have a Junior License under the new Act. The Junior License will need to be renewed on the expiry of the 'Junior Permit'. These juniors do not need to do the safety course and may continue to shoot A, B and Handguns under supervision.



V.A.P.A. is intending to have its portable air pistol range at the Royal Melbourne Show. This is a big undertaking but the promotion of our Association to the wider public has never more important than now. To do it properly we are required to have our range open for the entire 10 days of the show. Put simply we need man / woman power. V.A.P.A. is asking both clubs and individuals to put forward names and times to the co-ordinator so that he can be SURE he will have the people to keep the range running prior to making a final commitment (and outlaying of costs) to the R.A.S. If you can help then PLEASE call and lodge your name (and when you're available) with -

Air Range Promotion Co-ordinator
Will Crossman
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VICTORIAN REFEREE COUNCIL

THE NATIONALS.

Well they're over again, how do you describe ten days of unpaid work? To the willing horses it was an experience, to many others it was a lot of hard work. Well actually it was bloody hard work for every volunteer who took part. Here's a view from a Yarra club member, a VRC member and a general dogs body.

For most club members the nationals started many months before the event date, for some of us it was rounding up the "volunteers " from the year before to give them the good news that they had been selected. As you can guess this was received with great enthusiasm by everyone we contacted?.

Some several weeks prior to the start date we, (Bruce Wiles, Simone Danial, Merelyn Wiles, Andrea Morgan, Jennifer Finn and myself) burned a fair bit of midnight oil. The object being to get the first draft of range staff together with the help of Neil Stewarts list of interstate volunteers and the VRC's list of volunteer judges and range officers. With this lot we put together the original lists. After several re-makes we then got our hands on the squadding which we matched to the previous draft to ensure that we had not squadded competitors while they were competing. So here we were seven weeks out from the start date and all the ranges full of willing and able volunteers. WRONG! It is at this point as we all know that Murphy's law takes over. Being trusting souls we congratulated ourselves with a job well done. So with just the notifications to be sent out, Bruce and Merelyn suggested that they take these home to their place to finish this final "little" task. I'm sure all of the personnel involved in the last few weeks run in to the start date know that Merelyn probably aged about ten years in that few weeks. For those of us who had a hand in the squadding, Merelyn thank you for your sterling effort.

So we proved that we could put together a list of volunteers, (anyway we had done it the previous year hadn't we?) now it was our duty to turn our attention to the actual event itself. 10 a.m. Saturday morning, a doddle it's only "unofficial" practice day, OK where's the equipment check gear? Where's the service pistol practice, mate? Where's the black powder practice, mate? Where's this ? Where's that? God! What's going on here, where are all the volunteers? Hey our lot are not due here until Monday! OK we'll get over this, hey Allan, Jenny, Joe, Bob, Ray, David anyone? Give us a hand will ya? Sorry mate but I've got to do this and do that, They're going to have to wait it's only unofficial practice day you know. Well onward and upward we all know that the event ran like a clock, "it almost ran itself". Would you believe that some knowing (concerned) member of the National body made this claim to me at the first presentations, I can think of at least 150 odd folks who made the 1997 nationals "almost run themselves".

Anyway to that illustrious gang of helpers may I, on behalf of the Victorian Referee Council extend to you a grateful thank you and warmest congratulations for a magnificent job, particularly well done. Before, during and after the event.

J. MORGAN. DIRECTOR V.R.C.

“ READY POSITION “

S.T.R's 6.8.5.6

In recent times it has become obvious that competitors of all grades at most, if not all competitions, are breaching the regulations in regards to the “ready position” str's 6.8.5.6 states as follows.

“Before each shot the shooter must lower his arm and adopt the “READY” position. His shooting arm must be motionless when the green light is switched on, or before the target appears. The pistol must not be rested on the bench, or shooting table during the series.”

Competitors should be aware that any breach of this regulation can attract penalties that could lead to a disqualification. It is strongly advised that the “READY” position should become an integral part of the competitors training, so as not to put themselves in the position of being penalized whilst in competition.

JUDGES UPGRADE

On the 18th, 19th and 20th of April fifty judges, of all the shooting disciplines attended a U.I.T. seminar in Melbourne. Among the candidates from all of the states, Victoria was represented by seven PA judges 'B'. (PA Pistol) The purpose of the seminar was to upgrade judges to “INTERNATIONAL” B. It is pleasing to report that all judges who attended from Victoria passed the examinations. Though it was not that evident by the comments on the severity of the examination papers.

Those judges who attended and are now U.I.T. judges B International are,
J MORGAN, S REYNOLDS, J QUINLIVAN, P DAVIS, R LESTER, C WOODS, A EAGLE

Again congratulations to our “new” International Judges

SPIRIT OF THE RULES

Over the years violation of the rules have been described in many and varied ways. Examples being, "gaining an unfair advantage", "benefit of the doubt", etc., etc., in reality a pistol competition must give all of the competitors on the line an equal opportunity to perform at their best, without any outside distractions or influences. We have all seen or been involved in so called minor infringements of the "rules". What we must ask ourselves is, are the competitors getting an equal opportunity to perform to their best in the event that I am in control of ?

Infringements regardless of how minor they are, are none the less infringements and disadvantage the other competitors who are competing in that event. We as range officials have a duty to all competitors to ensure that everyone involved in any pistol event comply with the regulations. Ensuring that no competitor has an advantage over any other by stepping outside of the "spirit of the rules". This statement is of course wide ranging in it's intention, as we are all aware we have the STR's and the GTR's to guide us through the complexities of pistol shooting competitions. But we also know that there are those of us who see regulations as a "challenge" and need to be tested to ensure that they are valid. It is the intention of the council to ensure that all pistol competitions conducted within the state of Victoria will be conducted under the umbrella of the UIT official statutes, rules and regulations and departures from these regulations are viewed as being outside the "SPIRIT OF THE RULES" and will be treated by all range officers and judges as the infringements that they are, with the appropriate responses from within the regulations.

*** CHANGES TO HOLSTER REGULATIONS ***

At the recent PA AGM certain changes were made. We are still awaiting clarification as to their implementation. There should be something in the P.A. Bulletin soon.

*** THIS MONTH'S CONUNDRUM ***

Service Match - rule 6.5.b. - can one now shoot using only one hand but supporting the hand or arm with the other hand? Well, its been tried - technically there is no infringement of the rule. *However, the intent of the rule is that shooters will use one hand only with the hand and arm unsupported in any way.* As this will soon be formally clarified by the NRC it is suggested you don't start trying to amend your technique - you will only have to change it again later!

*** CHANGES TO UIT RULES ***

There have been some changes to the UIT rules and now that the Nationals are over these immediately take effect. The ones you need to be aware of are:

CF & Sport Rapid Fire Stage - rule no 6.8.5.5.2 and Standard Pistol - rule no 6.9.4.2 (change to current rules)	If a shooter calls "Not Ready" the Range officer must loudly repeat "Not Ready" . After 15 seconds he then calls "Attention" and immediately turns the targets.
Rapid Fire - rule 6.7.6 (change to rule)	Malfunction reshoots will now be shot in the next normal series of the same time. (This brings RF into line with all the other timed fire events).
Set-up time and Preparation time - rule 6.6.8 (rule expanded)	Preparation time starts with the command "Preparation time begins now" and ends with the command "Load" or "Start" as appropriate. Range staff checks must take place prior to start of official preparation time.
Mobile Phones, Walkie Talkies, Pagers etc. - rule 4.1.14 (new rule)	Use is prohibited on the range and mobile 'phones must be switched off.
Random Trigger Weight tests - rule 4.1.11.3 (new rule)	Now specifies one shooter on each range (one of eight in air pistol) is to be chosen (by drawing of lots) for random tests. Does not apply to Rapid Fire or Free Pistol.
Clothing & Equipment - rule 4.1.6 (rule expanded)	The wrist must remain visibly free of support. Bracelets, wrist watches, wrist bands or similar items are prohibited on the hand and arm which holds the pistol.

Other changes are minor and are not likely to worry you unless you are involved in Nationals or Finals. Range running sheets have been updated and distributed to clubs.

COACHES CORNER

by Des Boseley

Continuing a series of questions asked in the Level One Coach Reaccreditation exam paper. The continued topic for this issue is "Sighting". Test your level of shooting knowledge by answering the questions before looking at the given answers.

Question 5. What are the advantages of a sub six o'clock aim in slow fire shooting?

(a) The whole bull is available to focus on. (b) The white background provides greater front sight definition. (c) The white background shows up sight misalignment better. (d). The white background allows trigger control follow through.

Answer. As you do not focus on the target when shooting (a) must be wrong. If you picked one of (b), (c), or (d), take 3 points. If you picked (b) plus (c) plus (d) then collect 10 points as they are all important advantages of the six o'clock hold position.

Question 6. What is the procedure known as "Area aim" ?

(a) Firing when the aligned sights are at a point where the shot will be a ten. (b) Firing when the aligned sights are in an area of minimal movement. (c) Firing when the sights are in an area equal to the eight ring. (d) Firing when the pistol gets to your minimal arc of movement.

Answer. Trying to fire when the pistol is at a fixed point as (a) is an invitation to snatch the shot. (b) Is the correct answer, take 10 points. The pistol may wander around in a circle 50 mm wide and should still result in a ten. (d) Is almost the same answer but forgets the aligned sights, take 5 points.

Question 7. What is a "Parallel" sighting error ?

(a) The sights are not parallel to the barrel. (b) The top of the foresight is not parallel to the top of the backsight. (c) The sights are aligned but not central in the aiming area. (d) The sights are mis-aligned but the pistol is parallel to the target.

Answer. The correct answer is (c). Firing this shot would give a reasonable score on the target, but not a central ten.

Question 8. What is an "Angular" sighting error ?

(a) The foresight is not aligned in the backsight. (b) The sights are not in a horizontal plane compared to the backsight. (c) The target is not square in its frame. (d) The backsight is not in the centre of its adjustment range.

Answer. (a) describes this error best. Whereas with a parallel sighting error the score was not so bad on the target with an angular sighting error, a very bad score will result. This is why great concentration should be used to keep those sights aligned.

Next issue - Trigger Control.

Spare Time Exercise. Set up a dummy target (Air pistol ones are ideal) and dry fire a shot at it as you normally would. For the second dry shot, take particular notice if the light space on each side of the foresight is really equal. For the third dry shot take notice if the tops of both sights are in one straight line. For the fourth dry shot make sure the light gaps are equal and the sight tops are straight across. Practice this until you are sure you get it right every time.

Tip for the Month. When loading your chamber or magazine don't count "one, two, three, four, five" etc. Say "Ten, ten, ten, ten, ten" etc.

SHOOTERS ADS

NOTE: In line with the new Act all firearms advertised must include serial and licence numbers.

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TWO TONE FINISH
FULLY CUSTOMISED WITH
PLENTY OF EXTRAS
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COMPETITION TRIGGER &
HAMMER
EXTRA MAGAZINES
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MARGOLIN .22
K4453P-30048977
\$200-00

contact Sid
BH 03 9416 1633
AH 03 9741 5357

WESTERN ACTION ?

by Turkey Creek Pete

Will it survive? Will it start in Victoria? Who cares? I used to be apathetic, now I just don't give a damn. After being roped into being the Western Action Co-ordinator for Victoria, and after Kid Marcus put my telegraph line in the VPN I waited for the response, any response. I received one from a club letting me know when they shoot the match. One response, but I hear on the grapevine that several clubs are shooting the match and that some are trying to get it under way.

If you are shooting Western Action don't keep it a secret. Let me know so that it can be announced to one and all. There are shooters hoping to shoot the match but cannot do so at their home club. If your club can accommodate visitors then let them know.

To try to get the match up and running I need to know the following.

Does your club shoot Western Action?

When does your club shoot the match, or any part of it ?

If not, are any of your members interested in Western Action ?

Do you know what Western Action is all about ?

Would you like to ?

Without the input of people who are interested it will be mighty difficult to get Western Action off the ground in Victoria. So make the decision now. Are you apathetic or do you want to see Western Action grow as it has in other States. Do not leave it to that famous person "Someone Else" to respond, put pen to paper and do it NOW ! Send by Pony Express or Stage to

Western Action Co-ordinator

P. Butcher

91 Temple Rd

Selby

3159.

PS. If there are any members of VAPA who have sent money to the Western Shootist Society in South Australia and have received no response, could they drop me a line and let me know, as to the best of my knowledge, the Society is no longer in existence.

TRAIL TALES

Howdy Partners,

Well things are coming together in Victoria with Peter Butcher appointed Western Action Co-ordinator and ALL enquires both club and individual should be directed to him on 03 9745 8757. Some changes will be made to the administrative side and these will be passed on when finalised. The "starters kit" mentioned some time ago has not been forgotten and will be sent via Peter to all clubs when finalised.

Much as I dislikes it the above had to be writ in edukated english so them that is edukated could read it. Anyhows the first half of the year is tradishunly when most o' th' interstate kompetishuns is held, there bein' state titles in S.A., N.S.W. an' QLD. There is also othir two day an' big events in those states an' Canbirra at club level. As we needed warmin' up for the S.A. titles Gray Wolf an' myself went ovir to Bendigo P.C. to join six local an' 2 other enthusiasts, Running Bear frum Stawell an' Jacob McHale frum Horsham.

We done 2 senarios an' there were only a idy bidy gap between the first 4 lead slingers. We retired to th' meetin' hall (club house) with our ladies an' the "wolf pack" fur vittles an' chin waggin' a fore tryin' out on 2 more senarios. Unfortunitly Moonshine an' Dusty Fog had pressin' busines in town so we went ahead anyhows. Well talk about kompetishun. Jacob McHale cum gallopin' thru th' herd to 2nd place in both senarios, looks like we is goin' to have to bend his sights or break his leg or somethin'.

When the smoke had blowed away we had Carbine Kid, Grey Wolf an' Heck Thomas with th' hottest gunsfolloed by Jacob McHale, Johnny Uter, Tombstone, Running Bear, 6 Shooter Smith an' Mrs Grey Wolf (she shoots OK, just have to speed her up a mife). We all had a purdy good time an valuable practice. The pards at Bendigo P.C. would like to have regular W/A shoots an' I hope this happens soon.

Affir the Bendigo shoot my Lady an me organised ourselves fur a 10 day trail ride to th' S.A. state titles at Willare P.C. An' frum ther to the N.S.W. state titles at Mudgee. The Willare Range, bein' set in bush, were about 40m long an' about 100m wide didn't allow a long range rifle event but lent itself to 3 senarios side by side. We was divided into 3 possies an' given the program an' local rules (no shootin' the movin' targits cause they is sheep). We all done 3 senarios befor lunch, reset the targits an 3 senarios before tea. Vittles fur both days was a B.B.Q. an' on Saturday nite there was entertainment in th' form of signin' an' dancin'.

Sunday events was "Master Gunfighter" which was made up of the top 3 shooters frum each catagory. As'n there wasn't enuf shooters in

som catagorys numbers 4 an' 5 frum tradishnul were included. Othir events was a team shoot with each memeber havin' a fixed amount of ammo for each gun an' a fixed amount o' time to shoot it off. Our team got disqualified an' I swear it wern't me that was responsible. The last event fur the weekend was a man on man nock out. All names was put in a hat an' the order of shootin' decided by pullin' names out. Well pardners me heart sunk into me boots cos I had to shootout agin an x I.P.S.C. pard. I thought o' Bendigo an says to myself watch the foresight. It worked an' I progressed right to the end comin' 2, goin' down to a very fast an' accurate lead slinger.

Presentashuns was affir we all cleaned an' packed up th' range an' it was allowed by all to be a real good weekend. Targits was close enuf fur speed but small enuf to make you "sight up" an' not "point shoot". Organizashun was good an' the hole weekend went smoothly, a credit to th' organisers.

Grey Wolf an' hisn pack stayed ovir on Sunday nite an' em lady an' me headed fur Adelaide fur a few days with friends a'fore a 1500km ride to Mudgee in central N.S.W. I achieved personal bests - overall, in tradishnul catagory, in Master Gunfighter an' in man on man. It must have been the practice at Bendigo.

Well 'til the next UPN when I tell you all about Mudgee, Keep yur Hogleg hot an' yer powder dry.

Carbine Kid
Sheriff Tarara Country

SASS 5054

SHOOTERS ADS

NOTE: In line with the new Act all firearms advertised must include serial and licence numbers.

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SERVICE REVOLVER
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**VICTORIAN AMATEUR PISTOL ASSOCIATION
1997 OPEN COMPETITION CALENDER**

JAN	4		11		18		25	M.I.S.C. U.I.T.	
FEB	5		12		19		26		
	1	CASTLEMAINE U.I.T.	8		15	WARRAGUL DROUIN UIT	22	SERVICE STATE TITLES YARRA	
	2		9	BALLARAT ACTION	16		23		
MAR	1	BLACK POWDER STATE TITLES ECHUCA	8	U.I.T. STATE TITLES	15		22	EUROA UIT GEELONG ACTION	29 U.I.T./P.A NATIONALS YARRA 24-31 MARCH
	2		10	OAKLEIGH	16		23		30
APR	5		12		19		26		
	6		13	BALLARAT U.I.T.	20	MELTON ANNIVERSARY	27	HAMILTON U.I.T.	
MAY	3	ECHUCA U.I.T. MELTON	10		17		24	WARRNAMBOOL U.I.T. M.I.S.C. ANNIVERSARY	31 JUNE 1
	4		11		18		25		
JUNE	7	MID MURRAY	14		21		28		
	8	U.I.T. SERVICE	15		22		29	BALLARAT SERVICE	
	9	BLACK POWDER							
JULY	5	ECHUCA BLACK POWDER	12		19		26	~~GEELONG U.I.T.~~	
	6		13		20		27		
AUG	2		9	~~BALLARAT BLACK POWDER~~	16	ACTION STATE TITLES ECHUCA <i>BEAT 190</i>	23	POSTAL FINALS U.I.T.	30 POSTAL FINALS SERVICE, SBC & BLACK POWDER
	3		10	M.I.S.C. RECORDS	17		24	CASTLEMAINE	31 <i>W/D ?</i>
SEP	6	POSTAL FINALS PRACTICAL M.A.P.C.	13	POSTAL FINALS ACTION <i>10/11</i> KERANG	20		27		
		YACKANDANDAH	14		21	SHEPPARTON U.I.T.	28		
OCT	4	YARRA U.I.T.	11	MELTON NEWTON MEMORIAL	18	HAMILTON SERVICE M.I.S.C.	25	~~MILDURA U.I.T. & SERVICE~~	
	5		12		19	WESTERN REGION	26		
NOV	1	YARRA BLACKPOWDER HORSHAM U.I.T. BALLARAT ACTION	8		15	OAKLEIGH U.I.T.	22	ACTION NATIONALS & WORLD CHAMPIONSHIPS 19 - 23 NOV ADELAIDE	29 YARRA SERVICE ECHUCA BLACKPOWDER
DEC	2		9		16		23		30
	6		13		20		27		
	7		14		21		28		

VICTORIAN TOP TEN 1997

COMPETITIONS INCLUDED IN THIS ISSUE:

M.I.S.C. U.I.T., ACT Champs. Castlemaine U.I.T., Service State Titles, U.I.T. State Titles,
U.I.T./PA Nationals. Ballarat Action, Geelong Action, Ballarat U.I.T, Melton Service & Short Barrel
Hamilton U.I.T., Warragul Drouin U.I.T.

FREE PISTOL

State Record 555 John Gillman (1976)

1	MILLER Andy	547
2	QUICK Bruce	539
3	MARSHALL Terry	537
4	BOYLE Kevin	532
5	WRIGHT Jim	531
6	IGLESIAS Jose	529
7	CLARK Les	527
	CROSSMAN Will	527
	HOWARD Greg	527
10	GREGORY Eric	524

CENTREFIRE

State Record 585 Bruce Quick (1996)

1	QUICK Bruce	579
2	RYAN Noel	574
3	WRIGHT Jim	572
4	IGLESIAS Jose	566
5	WATTZ Alan	559
6	HORTON Geoff	558
	TAIT Peter	558
8	LAWTON Dave	557
9	ALEXANDER John	556
10	GALT Roger	553

RAPID FIRE

State Record 575 Peter Oliver (1990)

1	QUICK Bruce	569
2	WRIGHT Jim	567
3	CROSSMAN Will	562
4	RYAN Noel	558
5	GALT Roger	556
6	HOLDEN Jack	551
	HOWARD Greg	551
8	BIRR Herbert	541
9	EDWARDS Norm	540
10	LAWTON Dave	540

STANDARD PISTOL

State Record 578 Phil Adams (1995)

1	QUICK Bruce	571
2	HORTON Geoff	559
	RYAN Linda	559
4	WATTZ Alan	557
5	RYAN Noel	552
6	WOODWARD Annette	551
7	MILLER Andrew	549
8	CROSSMAN Will	547
	WRIGHT Jim	547
10	LAWTON Dave	546

MENS AIR PISTOL

State Record 575 Greg Schultz (1997)

1	QUICK Bruce	573
2	CROSSMAN Will	565
	MILLER Andy	565
	WATTZ Alan	565
	WRIGHT Jim	565
6	EDWARDS Norm	564
	ROBERTSON Colin	564
8	MARSHALL Terry	563
9	GALT Roger	561
10	BUTCHER Peter	560

WOMENS SPORT PISTOL

State Record 578 Annette Woodward (1992)

1	RYAN Linda	579
2	WOODWARD Annette	575
3	TAYLOR Sally	569
4	TURNER Val	567
5	MULLENS Joy	565
6	RYAN Helen	558
7	BROMMER Janice	555
8	BRYANT Charlotte	549
9	KUBIAK Carol	547
10	LEE Cheryl	546

WOMENS AIR PISTOL

State Record 384 Val Turner (1997)

1	TURNER Val	384
2	WOODWARD Annette	379
3	BRYANT Charlotte	376
	RYAN Linda	376
5	BROMMER Janice	374
6	KUBIAK Carol	372
	LEE Cheryl	372
8	RYAN Helen	371
9	TAYLOR Annette	369
10	MULLENS Joy	367

JUNIOR SPORT PISTOL

State Record 578 Andrew Gonczl (1990)

1	SCHALLHAMMER Leigh	568
	TAYLOR Sally	568
3	ALEXANDER Ainsley	543
4	MULLENS Col	537
5	REPACHOLI Daniel	534
6	WONG Tai-Lien	531
7	COOK Kim	527
8	KORENY Yvette	523
9	PATTISON Jarrod	508
10	KORENY Chris	489
	TWITE Travis	489

JUNIOR MENS AIR PISTOL

State Record 565 Greg Schultz (1996)

1	SCHALLHAMMER Leigh	548
2	REPACHOLI Daniel	532
3	MULLENS Col	514
4	WONG Tai-Lien	489
5	TWITE Travis	487
6	PATTISON Jarrod	485
7	SWIFT Toby	483
8	KORENY Chris	481
9	McPHERSON Mark	469
10	SIMMONS Adam	444

JUNIOR LADIES AIR PISTOL

State Record 361 Shelly Turner (1991)

1	TAYLOR Sally	366
2	ALEXANDER Ainsley	360
3	COOK Kim	342
4	KORENY Yvette	341
5	DUNBAR Rebecca	336
6	McNAUGHT Rebecca	331
7	BEARD Emma	242
8		
9		
10		

BLACK POWDER 25 METRE

State Record 378 Noel Ryan (1980)

1	CLARK Les	371
2	SAMMARTINO John	365
3	LUKSCHANDERL Rupert	363
4	McCANN David	358
5	COX Jim	354
6	BELL Graham	353
7	VICNCENT Greg	353
8	HANSON Glen	352
9	HASTIE David	347
10	MITCHELL John	346

BLACK POWDER 50 METRE

State Record 371 Les Clark (1994)

1	CLARK Les	355
2	MITCHELL John	353
3	VINCENT Greg	347
4	SAMMARTINO John	346
5	LUKSCHANDERL Rupert	342
6	BELL Graham	341
7	REDSTON Rocky	337
8	COX Jim	321
9	MOTTON Ralph	319
10	SMITH Ern	316

SERVICE PISTOL

State Record 887 Peter Muscat (1992)

1	CLARK Les	865
2	HUTCHINS Paul	861
3	DOHERTY Joe	858
4	LOWE Greg	857
5	EAGLE Alex	854
6	GORDON Glenn	852
7	ANASTASI Ercole	849
8	MOTTON Ralph	847
9	EVANS Eddie	845
10	MALIA Len	840

SERVICE UNRESTRICTED

State Record 886 Peter Muscat (1989)

1	BLAKE Phil	879
2	MALIA Len	875
3	EAGLE Alex	870
4	CLARK Les	869
	GORDON Glenn	869
	WILLIAMS Clive	869
7	HUTCHINS Paul	868
8	PATTISON Sid	867
9	BEHAN Mark	865
	MOTTON Ralph	865

SHORT BARREL MATCH

State Record 607 Ralph Motton (1996)

1	MOTTON Ralph	611
2	EAGLE Alex	606
3	GORDON Glenn	605
4	SCHUETTKE Dietrich	602
5	DOHERTY Joe	600
6	BLAKE Phil	595
7	LOWE Greg	593
8	CORBIDGE David	588
9	BEHAN Mark	587
10	CLARK Les	586

ACTION MATCH

State Record 1920 163X Brian Kilpatrick (1995)

1	KILPATRICK Brian	1916	171	X
2	WHITEHEAD Tom	1916	157	X
3	TATE Bradley	1914	171	X
4	HARDY Brian	1912	143	X
5	MUSCAT Peter	1909	148	X
6	MACKIEWICZ Anita	1900	139	X
4	ANASTASI Ercole	1893	143	X
8	BARRATT Alan	1888	128	X
9	MORSE Gary	1884	137	X
10	STRIDE Geoff	1884	128	X

RESULTS OF 1997 BLACK POWDER STATE CHAMPIONSHIPS (ECHUCA) HAVE NOT BEEN RECEIVED AT THE TIME OF PRINTING.

SHOOTERS ADS

NOTE: In line with the new Act
all firearms advertised must
include serial and licence
numbers.

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.45

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REBLUED SLIDE WITH

SILVER FINISH FRAME

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S & W Mod 28 .357 6" **\$350**

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Colt Officers Model .38 6" **\$300**

935323

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500 9mm once fired brass **\$50**

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Late model Sako Std. Pistol

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BLACK POWDER OPEN

9TH & 10TH AUGUST 1997

BALLARAT PISTOL CLUB INC

SATURDAY

25mt Match

50mt Match

International Match

SUNDAY

25mt Match

50mt Match

International Match

INTERNATIONAL MATCHES WILL BE SINGLE SHOT AND REVOLVER ONLY

ENTRY FEE: \$8.00 PER EVENT FOR 25MT & 50MT MATCHES, \$4.00 FOR EACH PART OF THE INTERNATIONAL MATCH

ENTRIES TO: COMPETITION CONTROLLER (ph. 03 5335 7172)
P.O. BOX 274
SEBASTOPOL 3356

PLEASE MAKE CHEQUES PAYABLE TO BALLARAT PISTOL CLUB INC.

NOTE: Some ranges have limited capacity. Enter early. Trophies will be awarded for 1st, 2nd, and 3rd places in each grade for the 25mt & 50mt events and 1st, 2nd, & 3rd for each of the International Matches.

Shooters may elect to shoot 1st half of the 25mt Match on Saturday and 2nd half of the 25mt Match on Sunday.

CATERING: Light meals and hot drinks will be available both days.

RULES: Black Powder rules will apply as far as applicable to matches and pistols.
Grading will be in accordance with current P.A. Regulations.

Shooters must produce current grading card on request. Trophies will be presented on Sunday on completion of the competitions.

ENTRY FEE MUST BE SENT WITH THE ENTRY FORM - CLOSING DATE FRIDAY 25 JULY 1997

NAME _____
ADDRESS _____
CLUB _____ PHONE NO. _____

PLACE GRADE FOR EVENTS ENTERED - PLEASE NOMINATE DAY

SATURDAY

25mt Match (\$8.00)

50mt Match(\$8.00)

International Match

Revolver (\$4.00)

Single Shot (\$4.00)

SUNDAY

25mt Match (\$8.00)

50mt Match(\$8.00)

International Match

Revolver (\$4.00)

Single Shot (\$4.00)

SPECIAL REQUESTS _____

Victorian Pistol News

Winchester a Major Sponsor of the 40th Annual Pistol Championships

Winchester are Australia's largest supporter of the shooting sports and are proud to be sponsors at this years Pistol Championships, at the Yarra Pistol Club.

CZ 85 Combat Pistol
Aggregate Winner
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***Free Pistol
PHILLIP ADAMS**

***Rapid Fire
PAT MURRAY**

***Standard Pistol
PHILLIP ADAMS**

***Woman's Sport Pistol
CHRISTINE TREFRY**

***Junior Sport Pistol
ADRIAN BERTHELSEN**

***The Winner
of each
sponsored
event Wins
a hand
engraved
Pewter
Tankard.**



*First, second and third in each of the above events will receive "Supreme Pistol" ammunition. The new leading edge competitive pistol target shooting ammunition from Winchester. We wish all participants success in their events and congratulate the Yarra Pistol Club on bringing the Championships to Victoria for the second year in succession.



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Printed by Motion Press Pty. Ltd. Telephone: 9354 4881