

Western Province Bisley Association

Newsletter

February 2008

"The van Zyls are back"! Was the cry from the audience after the February League shoot. Indeed they are. Gert van Zyl won the day with a brilliant score of 146.8 and Chris van Zyl attended his first individual League shoot in many a month.

We had another excellent turnout with 55 people attending. The league is a very close run thing at this stage. The TR championship is led by Gert van Zyl on 248.12 with Johan Ahrens lying in second place on 242.21 and Eddie Stigant is just behind him on 241.17.

In the TR B Class we have Meinhardt Cronjé on 233.9 with Monica van Niekerk hard on his heels with 233.8.

The F class is also very close with the two main contenders being Frans Snyman on 243.16 being very closely followed by Werner Brits on 243.15.

The 303 class seems a bit more wide open with John Moore on 213.8, a clear 15 points ahead of the second person, Corena de Beer, on 198.3.

It is quite likely that the situation will change during the third stage as the weather normally has a tremendous influence and many a championship has been won (and lost) at 800 and 900 metres. We will have to wait and see what happens.

The top scores from the Second Stage are:

TR Open

Gert van Zyl	146.8
Eddie Stigant	144.10
Johann Ahrens	143.14

TR B class

Karel Schutte	142.9
Monica van Niekerk	136.5

F Class

Werner Brits	143.7
Frans Snyman	142.9

.303

John Moore	131.5
Jochen Mathes	119.2

Apart from a few people going AWOL for their butt duty, the new procedure of sending people to the butts to deal with queries and assist the markers to mark correctly worked very well. There were very few queries arising at the firing point and those that did arise were dealt with quickly and efficiently. We will continue with this process in the future. The committee has decided that people who do not want to do butt duties will not be permitted to shoot and those that go AWOL for their allocated duties will have ten points deducted from their score. These penalties were agreed upon as it is only fair that all shooters do their bit.

So go to the butts for your duty, do not let anybody talk you out of it and you should be fine.

I have been asked to include some amusing incidents in the newsletter. This is not always easy as I have a warped sense of humour and people do not always think that what I think is funny, is in fact funny.

When doing Range Officer duties one becomes aware of some incidents which if not funny, are very confusing. A person, who shall remain nameless, happened to shoot a series of misses in the last league shoot. It turned out that these misses were to the left of the target. Upon establishing this, the advice given to the shooter by his partner was that he should come a further three or four minutes left. Food for thought!

I must also add that when one shoots on the wrong target it is not the marker's fault!

Whilst talking about misses I must point out that the rule is, upon firing four consecutive misses one must stop shooting and let the other shooters on the target complete their shoot before continuing. One may carry on with one's shoot once the other shooters on the target have completed their shoot. They must mark for you and may assist you to get onto the target but one is not permitted to have additional sighting shots.

I also understand that not everyone knows the rules, which is in a way excusable since the rulebook is not available at present. We will however try to apply the rules as we last had them and will help those of you who genuinely are unaware of the rules. This of course excludes people who have been shooting for years, so do not push your luck.

Finally years ago in Bloemfontein, I heard a chap who had a vice mounted on a pole which was in turn bolted to the tow bar hitch on his car, say to a friend of mine "I must take the vice off my car so that I can polish it". I thought it strange that anyone should want to polish a vice so I asked my friend, "why does the chap he was talking to want to polish his vice"? The response I got was a confused "what are you talking about"? See what I mean about a warped sense of humour.

The next shoot is the PRC Bisley on 1st March. We will shoot 300,600,800 and 900 metres. All distances will have 2 convertible sighting shots and ten shots to count. There will be an additional compulsory non convertible sighting shot at 300 metres. We will not break for lunch but will shoot straight through. So remember to bring whatever food and drink you want with you. The entry fee will be R80-00 per person.

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The next league shoot is on Saturday 15th March where we will shoot 800 and 900 metres. 800 metres will consist of one non convertible sighting shot, two convertible sighting shots 2 and ten counting shots. 900 metres will consist of two convertible sighting shots and eleven counting shots.

Please remember to complete Standard Therapeutic Use Exemption Forms for everyone who is taking medication. The **original forms** must be submitted to SABU 30 days before the SA Open Championships start (also provide the WPBA with a copy of the form for record). Forms can be downloaded from the SABU website at <http://www.sanra.co.za/Drugs.htm> - the complete list (latest Athlete's guide to drug-free sport) can also be downloaded on this page.

Also remember that you have until the start of the SA Open to pay your SABU subs. Effectively it means you have to pay at the 3rd Individual League at the latest. The 2008 Membership form is available on the SABU website (<http://www.sanra.co.za>) or will be available on the range. Please do not pay SABU directly, because the WPBA handles all monies and membership cards for its members.

See you there.

Good Shooting

Syd Goslin.

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