



## **Newsletter**

**September 2008**

Members will no doubt have noticed that these newsletters are becoming less and less frequent. The last one was in June, followed by this one three months later. I think in future it is most probably a good idea to publish these newsletters every two months or so. This certainly makes it a bit easier for me.

Let's start off with the team league. We have held three league team shoots so far this year with the points standing of the teams after the league shoot of 6<sup>th</sup> September being:-

### **Target Rifle**

A section

PRC - 5 points

Winelands - 4 points

### **B section**

PRC - 9 points

Stellenbosch - 6 points

Spes Bona - 2 points

### **Veterans**

PRC - 5 points

Stellenbosch - 4 points

### **303**

CLI - 6 points

PRC - 4 points

The F class league has a query that has still to be resolved, therefore the latest position cannot be published at this time.

The league is certainly very hotly contested and the teams are very closely balanced which makes for exciting competition. You will no doubt deduce from the positions above that some sections of the league are finely balanced and can go either way, while others are virtually decided.

However, if one looks at the statistics published by Graeme Leon, one will see that a lot of people are in good form shooting excellent scores. I would like to encourage everybody to keep up attending and to try to improve their performances and endeavour to attain these levels.

We have two league shoots left this year on 18<sup>th</sup> October (300, 500 and 600 metres) and 15<sup>th</sup> November (800 and 900m). The league prize giving will take place immediately after the November league shoot. It would be nice to see these two shoots have full teams with everybody attending, as after the WP Bisley the league is the next most important event in the province.

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**Western Province Bisley Association.**

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We have had mixed fortunes with weather this winter. Some shoots were held successfully, while others were either cancelled or called off due to the weather. The George Bramley Memorial shoot was cancelled and the Stellenbosch Bisley was called off after shooting the first detail of the first distance.

The CLI Bisley went ahead however, and was a most enjoyable day in spite of the small attendance. The event was well organised and the meal after the shoot was very welcome. Those people who did not attend missed what turned out to be a very interesting day's shooting.

The Results are below.

	NAME	CLASS	500	V's	600	V's	800	V's	SCORE	V's
1	Stigant Eddie	TR	49	3	50	5	72	6	171	14
2	Ahrens Johann	TR	50	6	49	3	68	2	167	11
3	van Rensburg Petrus	TR	50	5	48	4	67	4	165	13
4	Niblett Dave	TR	50	5	48	4	66	1	164	10
5	Botha Vissy (JPS)	TR	48	5	49	5	65	4	162	14
6	Goslin Syd	TR	49	6	46	1	67	4	162	11
7	Di Bona Jason	TR	48	4	45		69		162	4
8	Willemse Gary	TR	49	8	48	4	63	1	160	13
9	Wentzel Jannie	TR	47	4	44	1	63	3	154	8
10	Schutte Karel	TR	36		47	1	67	2	150	3
11	Edge Colin	TR	46		41	1	57		144	1
	<b>F Class</b>									
1	Potgieter Ian	F	50	4	44	2	68	4	162	10
2	Snyman Frans	F	50	6	44	1	66	3	160	10
3	Taljaard Carel	F	50	5	50	4	60		160	9
4	Brits Werner	F	48	5	47	5	64	1	159	11
5	Els Jannie	F	50	7	47	2	61	2	158	11
6	van Niekerk Chris	F	48	3	42	2	61		151	5
7	Goldman Peter	F	47	2	39	1	57		143	3
	<b>303 Class</b>									
1	Noble-Jack Ian	.303	43	1	35		53	1	131	2
2	Carver Darryl	.303	39		39		53	1	131	1
3	Ellis Robert	.303	44	2	33		52	2	129	4
4	Brits Daan	.303	39	1	31	1	58	2	128	4
5	Barkhuysen Sebastian	.303	41		36		51		128	
6	van der Merwe André	.303	31		27		13		71	

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I feel that I must comment on attendance at Club Bisleys. The people who organise these put in a great deal of time and effort to make them a success, however the poor attendance hardly makes it worthwhile for them. I continuously hear the cry for more shooting with people saying there are too few shoots and we must shoot more. I think we must each look to ourselves and make an effort to attend the shoots that are offered.

At the end of August we held the traditional Western Province vs Eastern Province meeting in Oudtshoorn. Each province had a full strength team of twelve and the shoot got underway on time on the Saturday morning.

It was a day full of challenge as the wind was strong when we started and got much stronger as the day progressed. We were using wind readings of 12 to 14 minutes right at 600metres and when we got to 700m 15 to 17 minutes was the norm. We decided to call it a day after 700 metres, as the conditions were getting wilder and rain threatened.

We ended the day with the traditional braai at the SA Police dog unit in Oudtshoorn, which was enjoyed by all. The braai was done inside as the wind howled threatening to lift the roof off at times and it poured with rain outside.

Over and above the team results which are shown below, Meinardt Cronjé and Joppie le Roux won the pyramid. The winnings were spent in the traditional way with everyone being plied with Springbokkies and an array of other hideous concoctions. As mentioned above, I think everyone had a great time and are no doubt looking forward to next year's event.

Last but not least, I must once again thank Dirk Crafford and Leon Scheun for the organising of the event and lengths they go to ensure its success.

The Results are as follows

	<b><u>300m</u></b>	<b><u>600m</u></b>	<b><u>700m</u></b>		<b>Western Province</b>
M Cronjé	50.6	48.5	45.3	143.14	
D Crafford	49.2	46.1	48.2	143.05	
G Willemse	50.6	44.1	44.2	138.08	
S Goslin	50.3	45.2	43.3	138.08	
F Delport	49.3	44.3	44.3	137.09	<b>TOTAL :</b>
E Stigant	46.1	45.0	46.2	137.03	
P van Rensburg	49.4	40.1	47.3	136.08	<b>1620.83</b>
K Schutte	47.2	42.2	47.3	136.07	
D Niblett	47.4	42.3	46.1	135.08	
J le Roux	47.4	46.1	41.1	134.06	
Vissy Botha	50.6	37.0	42.1	129.07	
R van Romburgh	48.0	38.0	38.0	124.00	

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**Eastern Province**

	<b><u>300m</u></b>	<b><u>600m</u></b>	<b><u>700m</u></b>	
R Hayter	49.7	48.2	46.2	143.11
L Scheun	49.6	43.0	48.2	140.08
T Hayter	47.4	46.0	46.4	139.08
R van Rensburg	49.5	45.0	45.0	139.05
D Higgs	44.1	46.3	47.4	137.08
D Hayter	48.4	41.1	46.1	135.06
G Scheun	43.1	43.2	46.3	132.06
G Strumper	45.4	43.0	44.2	132.06
I Louw	46.2	45.2	41.1	132.05
J Rautenbach	43.3	42.3	41.1	126.07
F Scheun	44.4	41.1	40.0	125.05
J Scheun	33.0	33.0	47.5	113.05

**TOTAL :**

**1593.80**

The Louis le Grange matches took place in Bloemfontein on the 19<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup> September. WP however could only raise an F Class team (3 in fact) there being insufficient people available for target rifle or 303 teams.

Congratulations to the F Class team which won the Inter Provincial match and the other two teams which finished 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> respectively in Musgrave trophy match. I do not have scores, so I cannot give any further details.

Congratulations are due to some of our members who have been selected for provincial and national teams.

Firstly, the members of the F Class to represent WP at the Louis le Grange were:-

Jannie Els – Captain  
G. Engelke  
F.C. van Niekerk  
F. Snyman  
W. van Rooyen – Coach

Secondly, the following have been selected to represent South Africa in the Long Range Black Powder World Championship in the USA next year:

Johan de Beer  
Corena de Beer  
Ronnie Blake

Thirdly, the following have been selected to represent South Africa at the F Class world Championships at Bisley in July next year.

Jannie Els – Captain  
Carel Taljaard – Coach  
Frans Snyman  
Chris van Niekerk  
Ian Potgieter  
Anthony Dau  
Rhyner Burger  
Werner Brits

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Well done those who have already been successful and the very best wishes for success to those who will shoot next year.

On a sadder note, Vernon Quixley passed away on 27<sup>th</sup> July after a long illness. Vernon was a long standing member of PRC and Western Province. He attended the SA Open regularly until 2000 when failing health prevented him from shooting as often as he would have liked. We extend our condolences to his wife and family.

The WP Bisley is just a few days away, if you plan to take part, but have not entered yet, I urge you to do so. The dates are 2<sup>nd</sup> to 4<sup>th</sup> October.

By now everyone should be aware of the SABU 80<sup>th</sup> Anniversary matches and the 2009 SA Open Championships. These are scheduled to take place from 26<sup>th</sup> March to 4<sup>th</sup> April 2009. There will be seven visiting international teams along with a large contingent of overseas entrants, hence target space is likely to be limited. As a result SABU has called for both team and individual entrants to enter **on or before 31<sup>st</sup> October 2008** whereupon entries will close. Therefore, if you plan to take part in next year's championship, I urge you to enter before the closing date.

Talking of next year, it was confirmed at the annual council meeting in Bloemfontein on 18<sup>th</sup> September that the SABU membership fees for 2009 would remain at R300.00. However, it was further decided that a late payment fee of R150.00 would be charged for everybody who paid their membership fees after the first day of the SA Open Championships. (The closing date for SABU membership fees.) The first day of the SA Open Championships is 26<sup>th</sup> March 2009.

After the WP Bisley, there are a number of important shoots left on the program. In planning your activities for the rest of the year, please take these into account and make every effort to attend them.

REMEMBER we achieve nothing if we do not participate.

AND REMEMBER the biggest challenge is to get the wind and what is on your sight synchronised.

Henry Wadsworth Longfellow said:

"If you would hit the mark, you must aim a little above it; Every arrow that flies feels the attraction of earth."

Good Shooting

See you on the range.

Syd.

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