



# CLI .303 CLUB OF CAPE TOWN

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## *Newsletter* *October 2007*

Hello all!

Well, it's been quite some time since I have written a newsletter, let alone run the range and prize-giving! To tell the truth, I thoroughly enjoyed it! Made all the easier, by the absolute exemplary conduct of all who participated, but more of that later.

Unfortunately, we had a very poor attendance. It could partially be to the fact, that all the "Big Guns" were in Bloemfontein and a few others thought that the years shoot was over and this shoot would not count for the final year-end positions. Whatever the problem was, it was a bit disappointing to only see about 37 shooters take up their positions. Having said that, all those who attended had an absolutely wonderful time!

As usual, we were presented with an almost perfect shooting day. The first detail had a few "mirage" problems. Or maybe it was just an excuse by some shooters to hide their inability to perform better! Do you agree Jason? (I did offer to let him write the newsletter, but he declined the offer. I am sure he is regretting it now!)

In his defence, I must add he was asked to do the squadding and decided on 13 target frames (about 50 shooters). But when only 38 shooters arrived, chaos was the order of the day! Then not to mention those shooters who used the same rifle and had to be squadded together! All credit to him, he fixed it up in no time! But maybe that had an influence on his score?

### ***Back to the shoot.....***

We assembled on the 300mtr firing point in front of the clubhouse and John Ecclestone opened the shoot with a prayer. The shooters then took their positions as per their squadding sheets. The first shot was fired at 9.15 and the last shot was fired at 11.15.

As range officer, I had a few strange problems to sort out. One of them was when I was asked to remove a bullet that was stuck in a barrel. You will be surprised to see how far into the barrel it goes, with only the primer as a propellant!

Then one of our new shooters, who by the way shot very well for his first attempt, could not chamber a round, only to find out it was a 7,62! Both of these problems were sorted out without any problems. Maybe a touch of embarrassment, but sorted nevertheless! Other than this, the rest of the shoot ran flawlessly! The scoring was another story! More on that a little later.

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I was helped on the firing point, by Jason, Riaan Coetzee and Joe. In the butts, we had John Ecclestone, Wayne, Jaron and Johan Cilliers. Thanks to all of you. You made my job just so easy! A very big thank you to all the shooters. We had everyone only taking up their positions on the firing point when told to do so, and also everyone was very safety conscious! Then most shooters went to the butts and pulled and marked targets. Thanks to all of you! I am sure we all appreciate this mutual commitment we have to our chosen sport!

It was also absolutely wonderful to see the camaraderie and helpfulness of all the shooters who attended. It definitely did not go unnoticed! Laughter and fun are two of the best medicines in the world! Thanks to each and every one of you, for your part in helping to keep my sport alive with healthy doses of this wonderful medicine!

**Now to the scores.....**

<b>A Class</b>			<b>B Class</b>		
1.	Mike Di Bona	44.1	1.	Colin Edge	39.0
2.	Arnold Beneke	43.0	2.	Johan Cilliers	37.0
3.	Freddie Troost	42.2	3.	Chris Geyer	37.0
4.	Johan Geyer	40.0	4.	Rafael Arellano	37.0
5.	Jason Di Bona	40.0	5.	Conny Arellano	36.0
6.	Frans de Waal	38.1	6.	Louis Bester	36.0
<b>Veterans</b>			<b>J Class</b>		
1.	Colin Edge	39.0	1.	Marc Jordan	37.0
2.	Frans de Waal	38.1			
3.	Dennis Sherwood	38.0			

Well, let's start off with A Class. What happened Jason? Mirage? Pressure? Sorry, I am gloating!!!!!!! Doesn't happen too often, so I am taking full advantage! Excellent to see Arnold and Freddie also breaking 40! To the rest in the top 6, next time I am sure you will show us how to do it! Well done to all of you.

In the B Class, Colin took it with a 39. Good shooting Colin! The next 5 shooters were separated by a single point. Johan, Chris and Rafael all shooting 37.0 and had to be separated on a count out! Well done! To Conny and Louis, just another point and you would have been in the medals! I wish you better luck next time!

In the J Class, we have Marc again. I am sure that Marc has enough Certificates and medals to cover an entire wall! Well done Marc, good shooting! We hope to see you in the B Class as soon as you acquire a rifle with a shorter stock.

The veterans was won by Colin, who also won the B Class. Good shooting Colin. Enjoy it while you can. I am sure the committee has you booked in the A Class for next year.

Fantastic to see Frans and Dennis in the top three. Frans is another veteran who is really shooting well lately! Keep it up Frans. After missing a few shoots due to illness, it's wonderful to see Dennis back and in the medals again. Keep it up Father!

**Off to the meal.....**

As usual, it was perfect! Plenty folks said it was like that, due to the fact I was ***not*** there! Wonderful people we have in this club!!!!!!! So very supportive!!!!!!

Francois and Ronnie were assisted by Riaan and they served up an excellent Lamb knuckle pot. You could see Corena was not there, as they had about 4KG's of carrots in the pot!



Guys, it pains me to say, but it was excellent! And without my valuable help nogal!

It shows what you can do when you are taught from a master! (I am now certain that I won't be allowed within 50 mtr of the next pot!) The meat was done to perfection, with fresh herbs and a sweet and sour sauce. Tasty stuff! Thanks guys, there was not a morsel left over, so it must have been top-notch!

### ***More thanks.....***

I would also like to thank Jason and Francois, who had the awful task of matching the score sheets with ones from the butts. I always wonder why Corena walks around in a "dwaal" after doing the stats, now we all know! There were plenty discrepancies in the score sheets. Jason had a torrid time trying to decipher what happened. On one of the score sheets, he had such a discrepancy that Francois had to be called in to discuss it with the shooter and marker. I am glad to report that in the end everything was resolved.

We must appreciate that mistakes do occur, but it is the way you resolve them that ultimately counts. The correct decision must be taken and that must be explained to the shooter. I would not like to be credited with a score I did not earn and was then given a prize, because that would ultimately deprive another shooter of his hard earned position.

I am very glad to report that all the effected shooters shared this feeling as well! Here again it shows, just what sportsmanship we have in this excellent club! Thanks! You do our club and us very proud!

At the prize giving, I spoke briefly about membership. It certainly looks as if it is declining. What I suggested, is that if every shooter tries to bring along a friend, we will definitely start increasing membership again.

Explain to them what this club is all about. It is a fun club with strict shooting rules, where we go to lengths to make everyone feel at home. Tell them what they get for their entrance fee. You cannot buy a meal in a restaurant, for what we charge for the entire shoot and meal! Let's see if we can't go on a recruiting drive next year. The more members we have, the less chance of fees increasing and the more friends we make!

Well that all but wraps up my newsletter. I am sure we will have a complete breakdown of how the shoot in Bloemfontein went from our Chairman. Then we will have the Secretary's report with the true version of the same event! I cannot wait for it!!!!

Guys, girls, that's all from me. Once again it was a privilege to run the range and thanks to all of you who made my day as pleasant as it was!

Yours in shooting

Mike Di Bona

### **FROM THE CHAIRMAN:**

I must firstly thank Mike for taking the reigns and managing the shoot, it is much appreciated. The scores I see were also a lot better than the last time we were away. The Louis Le Grange is usually quite a gruelling event and this year was no different. The Friday event is a practice and a team event. The teams can be mixed provinces,

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but the Gauteng North guys decided to shoot on their own, so yours truly shot in the team and Bare did the coaching. Needless to say, we gave them their fist hiding over the three distances.

The Saturday event was the inter-provincial over 300m, 600m, 800m and 900m. The team was Bare, Corena, Colin and Bas with me in the chair with the scope. The conditions were typical Bloemfontein with a brisk tail wind that sometimes died right off only to come back with a vengeance from the other side. This cycle repeated over the entire event and got worse as we moved back.

Bare sat with me and we both coached as it was very difficult. We must definitely in future discuss the shots in some other language as at one stage we had poor Colin thinking the worst. It went like this; target comes up with a bull. Wind looks the same. Shoot Colin. Target goes down and reappears with a four, just out the bull. Expletive. How did that happen? Wind has changed. Colin, go one and a half minutes right and shoot while the wind is blowing. Next shot five and so it goes. Every time Colin heard that certain word, he thought it was a two (or a miss). Remember that he had no scope to see what was going on. Only one privileged person in the team is allowed to shoot with a scope.

After the 300m we were 9 points ahead, but at the 600m they beat us by one point. Things got tense and we pulled out the stops and managed to beat them by a solid 39 points in the end. Well done team. Our top scorer for the Saturday event was Corena, despite the fact that at the 600m event the windage adjustment wheel fell right off the sight. The coach definitely could then explain where the two threes had come from.

The five of us and Vissy travelled in the Fortuner and I have made a decision that I will remain silent, as whatever I say may be used in evidence against me or other parties present. All I can divulge is that Bas and I are sure that we getting closer to finding out who makes our whisky disappear at such an alarming rate. The few days were thoroughly enjoyed by all and thanks to Corena and Bare for transporting us. It was another truly memorable event.

There has been a request for some rule changes via the Bisley club, which Bare will discuss with you and some rules have already been changed at the SABU Council meeting which you will be informed of.

On a more serious note, our dear friend Hannes Willers has been seriously ill over the last few weeks. Please keep Hannes and his family in your thoughts and prayers over the next few weeks.

### **Our next event is the Christmas Shoot and Prize Giving**

**Date:** 24<sup>th</sup> November 2007

**Venue:** Good Hope Shooting Range

**Time:** 08h30

Keep Safe

Darryl

### **FROM THE SECRETARY'S DESK:**

Our combined Christmas shoot with the Cape Town Muzzle Loaders' Association last year was a big success and some members asked us to repeat this. We will therefore



again share our Christmas shoot, as the majority of the CTMLA members are members of the CLI 303 Club anyway.

We are going to shoot the normal disciplines as usual and we call upon our members to bring rifle and ammo again. We need air rifles, .22's, 303's, 9mm pistols and military muzzle loader rifles. If you can't bring rifles, please bring some ammo so that we can entertain everyone that attends. So, bring your wives/girlfriends and children along and come and enjoy the day with us. We will have a meal again which will be included in the entry fee as usual. And of course, the annual prize giving. Please remember to return the trophies from last year!

*If you are prepared to provide any of the above firearms and/or ammo, please let me know, to assist us with the planning. Thank you for your support, as usual.*

If you feel you want to bring a small gift in the spirit of Christmas, you are more than welcome. These will be used, as in the past, for prizes for the individual events.

We had yet another successful interprovincial and a VERY eventful trip to Bloem and back ... (I was first threatened and then paid not to elaborate!!) For those who aspires to attain WP colours for 303 bisley shooting and wonder how to do it - we are maintaining a database with scores from the SA Open Bisley Championships, Louis le Grange, WP Bisley and the monthly bisley league shoots (CLI clubshoots unfortunately don't count). The team is selected on the scores over the last 3 years and is then presented to the WP Bisley Executive Committee for approval (the scores attained at the SA Open carry a lot of weight in the selection process). So, come and shoot bisley with us every 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Saturday of the month, and then be brave and join Darryl & Bas in the infamous 303 Army tent in Bloemfontein ... Just remember, you do that at your own risk! It would be wonderful if we could enter at least 2 or 3 4-man 303 teams in the club matches at the SA Open next year and then select the strongest possible WP team!

I tried to get some pictures from the clubshoot, but it seems as if nobody thought of that. Therefore, the Bloemfontein pictures will have to suffice. Thanks to all of you who took care of Bare's and my usual duties ... as you can appreciate, these shoots cannot run itself. Also, thank you to those who phoned or emailed over the weekend to find out how it went, it is good to know that we had the club's support behind us.

Congratulations to the following members on their birthdays in November:

1<sup>st</sup>: John Duckitt

8<sup>th</sup>: Bryan van Oordt



Teamwork!  
Corena, Bare, Darryl & Bas



Our coach did an excellent job, as always! Thanks Darryl



WP 303 Team: Bas, Bare, Corena, Colin & Darryl

That's all from me for now.

Corena de Beer (082 826 0453)

