



CLI .303 CLUB OF CAPE TOWN

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NEWSLETTER OCTOBER 2010

What an absolutely magnificent away shoot we had in Bonnievale! The majority of the shooters and their partners arrived on the Friday afternoon. Accommodation was spread within 10KM of the range. Absolutely everyone I spoke to said that their particular accommodation was the best! Well, my accommodation was superb! With the birds waking us up at 6am and then the cows coming to moo at the bottom of the garden, we could have been on an isolated farm without the presence of any other human being for 100 miles! That being said, we were about 2KM from the range!!!

32 shooters presented themselves on the range on Saturday morning. The weather was slightly overcast with a gentle breeze blowing. Signing in went without a hitch. Between François, Jason, Melani and Schalk, everyone had their scoring sheets and we were ready to shoot at 9.15am. As there are only 6 frames, we had 3 shooters per target. This worked out very well as they all shot "string" and the details were completed in no time at all.

All 6 details of the 300Mtr distance were completed by 11.30am!!!

Lunch was served at 12am and all who ate complimented the chefs on a very tender and tasty lamb and boerewors braai. Here we can thank François, Cedric, Schalk and their helpers who sweated over a hot fire to fill our stomachs. Thanks guys, you did an awesome job!

The 500Mtr distance was ready to be shot at 12.45pm. By this time the clouds were moving in fairly quickly and I tried to hurry up the shooters before the rain set in. Although it did drizzle very lightly, we were not inconvenienced by it at all. I was walking around in a T shirt throughout the entire shoot and whatever rain fell on me dried within seconds.

The entire shoot was complete and we had packed everything away by 3.30pm. The reasoning behind this was that we were going to go watch WP annihilate the Sharks at the local pub. Then after we celebrated their win, we were going to go to Weltevrede wine farm for our prize giving dinner. By now everyone knows that it did not quite go like that! WP got a hiding second to none and the celebrations were changed to "drowning our sorrows!" I am pleased to announce that all was forgotten and forgiven within the first 15 minutes of our dinner.

I can carry on forever with the happenings at the prize giving, but I will leave that to those who attended to tell those that did not, just what a magnificent event they missed!

Here are the results of the away shoot.....



Results October Bonnievale shoot

300 Mtr

| <u>X CLASS</u> | | | A CLASS | | |
|-----------------------|---------------------------|------|------------------------|------------------|------|
| 1 | Koos Brink | 43.2 | 1 | Melani Hunter | 43.1 |
| 2 | Jason Di Bona | 41.2 | 2 | Francois de Waal | 39.1 |
| 3 | Mike Di Bona | 38.3 | 3 | Humphreys Colyn | 39.1 |
| 4 | Bas Barkhuizen | 37.2 | 4 | John Duckitt | 36.0 |
| 5 | Darryl Carver | 32.0 | 5 | Rafael Arellano | 34.1 |
| 6 | John Austin | 31.0 | 6 | Riaan Coetzee | 34.1 |
| <u>B CLASS</u> | | | J CLASS | | |
| 1 | Jan-Frederick van Niekerk | 43.2 | 1 | Charl du Toit | 18.1 |
| 2 | Amanda van Niekerk | 39.1 | | | |
| 3 | Chris Gouws | 35.2 | <u>VETERANS</u> | | |
| 4 | Johan Cilliers | 33.1 | 1 | Koos Brink | 43.2 |
| 5 | Conny Arellano | 29.0 | 2 | Humphreys Colyn | 39.1 |
| 6 | Cedric Claus | 29.0 | 3 | Johan Cilliers | 33.1 |

500 Mtr

| <u>X CLASS</u> | | | A CLASS | | |
|-----------------------|---------------------------|------|------------------------|-------------------|------|
| 1 | Mike Di Bona | 48.3 | 1 | Melani Hunter | 43.2 |
| 2 | Koos Brink | 45.3 | 2 | Humphreys Colyn | 43.0 |
| 3 | Jason Di Bona | 43.1 | 3 | Francois du Toit | 42.2 |
| 4 | Darryl Carver | 41.2 | 4 | Francois de Waal | 41.0 |
| 5 | John Austin | 38.1 | 5 | Michael Beardwood | 40.2 |
| 6 | Bas Barkhuizen | 28.0 | 6 | Arnold Beneke | 40.0 |
| <u>B CLASS</u> | | | J CLASS | | |
| 1 | Chris Gouws | 43.2 | 1 | Charl du Toit | 23.2 |
| 2 | Jan-Frederick van Niekerk | 43.1 | | | |
| 3 | Mike Shortt | 42.2 | <u>VETERANS</u> | | |
| 4 | Amanda van Niekerk | 42.0 | 1 | Koos Brink | 43.2 |
| 5 | Jonathan Voss | 40.2 | 2 | Humphreys Colyn | 39.1 |
| 6 | Conny Arellano | 38.1 | 3 | John Austin | 38.1 |



Overall

| <u>X CLASS</u> | | | A CLASS | | |
|----------------|---------------------------|------|-----------------|-------------------|------|
| 1 | Koos Brink | 88.5 | 1 | Melani Hunter | 86.3 |
| 2 | Mike Di Bona | 86.6 | 2 | Humphreys Colyn | 82.1 |
| 3 | Jason Di Bona | 84.3 | 3 | Francois de Waal | 80.1 |
| 4 | Darryl Carver | 73.2 | 4 | Michael Beardwood | 73.2 |
| 5 | John Austin | 69.1 | 5 | Arnold Beneke | 73.0 |
| 6 | Bas Barkhuizen | 65.2 | 6 | Francois du Toit | 70.2 |
| | | | | | |
| <u>B CLASS</u> | | | J CLASS | | |
| 1 | Jan-Frederick van Niekerk | 86.3 | 1 | Charl du Toit | 41.3 |
| 2 | Amanda van Niekerk | 81.1 | | | |
| 3 | Chris Gouws | 78.4 | <u>VETERANS</u> | | |
| 4 | Mike Shortt | 69.3 | 1 | Koos Brink | 88.5 |
| 5 | Johan Cilliers | 68.1 | 2 | Humphreys Colyn | 82.1 |
| 6 | Jonathan Voss | 67.2 | 3 | John Austin | 69.1 |

Now this was quite a set of score cards to get right! Let's hope they are correct!! As you can see from the above, some folks really shot very well.

In the X Class you have Koos Brink and Jason at the top. Well done!

In the A Class you have Melani, Humphreys and the two François's fighting for position. I am sure Melani has definitely qualified for X Class and it feels as if she should have been there long ago. Also, Humphreys had an absolute blinder! What an excellent shoot Humphreys!! To take home a medal for the 300 + 500 and also overall, you really shot exceptionally well! Well done!

To both the François's, well done to the two of you as well. You never know, the X Class is also beckoning for the two of you.

In the B Class we have Jan-Frederick, Amanda and Chris. Between these three, they edged out all the other B Class shooters! Jan-Frederick, you are aware that as from next year you are in the X Class? Amanda, you must also gear yourself up for a change in classes. To the husband and wife team, all I can say is please do not get into any heated quarrels, as 900Mtrs is not far enough for either of you!

Now to Chris..... Most of you don't know, but Chris was a founder member of the CI 303 club. He then decided that to chase a radio controlled boat around a small patch of water was more interesting than shooting a 303! Now that he has borrowed my rifle and took medals at all distances, I would like to make him an offer. "Chris, I will let you shoot my P14 whenever you want to, or until you get your No4 Mk2 sorted out."

Now I am sure we will see Chris at all our club shoots again!

In the Veterans class we have Koos on top and then we have Humphries Colyn again taking 3 medals. Well done and good shooting Humphries! Also to John Austin and Johan Cilliers, well done with your medals as well.



The J Class was once again won by Charl du Toit. Come on Charl, it's about time now you start putting that rifle on a sling! Good shooting Charl! I am sure you will have to find more place at home to hang your medals.

Our shoot was preceded by the Cape Town Muzzle Loaders Association away shoot. A good time was had by all who attended this historic shoot. One of the highlights of this shoot for me, was when I shot a 95/100 with my Free Breech Loader. Amanda and Jan-Frederick arrived and they both showed interest in my rifle. I did not have to coax Jan too much to give it a try. Well, after he took up my offer, he lay down and promptly shot a 96/100 and whipped my proverbial bum!!!!!! Needless to say, I received offers for my rifle which I unfortunately did not accept. I am sure we will see Jan-Frederick joining the CTMLA soon and start competing in the oldest and the most historical Black Powder club in South Africa, which shares the same camaradie that we do.

We had a few good laughs, both on and off the range. I would like to mention a few of the more amusing things that happened off the range. The funny happenings that occurred on the range will have to be communicated to you by the jokers themselves.

Let's start with Bas and his fishing expedition.... Well Bas saw on the internet that the place he was staying at had a dam filled with Bass and you could fish there. Being a very active fisherman, he decided that after the shoot he would try his hand at fishing. It was not too long before he bagged quite a big one. Faster than the eye could see, he gutted it and put it in his coolbox. Not long thereafter, he hooked another, even bigger. The same fate awaited this one as well. As pleased as punch, he told one of the other shooters of his success and showed them his prize. Shock! He was informed that there is a huge sign at the entrance to the dam, stating "Catch & Release Only" Unfortunately those two were released straight into his freezer!

Then we have Darryl! Unlike all the other shooters, who put there class into the block provided on the score sheet, Darryl feels his class is not X, A, B, Vet or J, but 303!!!!!!!

Yes Darryl, we are shooting 303's and I am extremely glad to see you have eventually found that out!

Thanks go to the following people, who without their help this away shoot would not have happened. We have François who organised the medals, the food, the payments, trailer cartage, etc, etc... Many, many thanks François! Without your invaluable help we would not have been able to hold this shoot.

Then we have John Austin. He went to Bonnievale to organise the range with Febbie. (Owner of the farm) He also went to Weltevrede Wine Estate to organise the meal for Saturday night. He also towed the trailer with all the target frames and weights up on Thursday for us. There is a lot more John has done for our club without ever wanting a mention. John we all appreciate what you have done and are still continuing to do for our club. THANK YOU!

Then to Jason, Arnold, Riaan and everyone else that helped out in the butts and on the firing point, and to Jason who also did the signing in and stats, many thanks to all of you.

There is also a special word of thanks to John Ecclestone for saying the opening prayer.

Lastly, thanks to everyone who attended this shoot. It was a huge success and I am extremely proud of the way each and every one of you conducted yourself on the range. I am 100% sure that next year we will have so many shooters we will have to have 10 details!

Now to something completely different.

We had a few incidents on the range during our shoot, that has prompted me to clear a few points that I was told were "grey" areas.

I consulted with the committee individually as to a serious problem that arose at this shoot. It was noticed that Sierra 174g hollow point (HP) match bullets were been used. The constitution states that only "Army issued" or PMP 174g full metal jacket (FMJ) bullets may be used. Some of our



shooters are using Prvi Partizan 174g FMJ bullets and we have been allowing this. The argument is that the Sierra 174g HP can also be used if we allow the Prvi 174g FMJ. Some shooters went on the say that they were not aware that Sierra 174g HP bullets are not allowed. Due to this “grey” area, it has been decided by the entire committee that **any 174g FMJ bullet may be used** irrespective of its make. These 174g FMJ bullets can either be flat base (FB) or boat tail (BT).

Having said that, it is now **ILLEGAL** to shoot anything else other than a 174g FMJ at our monthly club shoots. Anyone found shooting anything other than this will be disqualified immediately and their score will not be recorded. Further disciplinary action could also be taken if it’s deemed necessary.

At the next AGM we will have a discussion on how we can amend the constitution to incorporate this, but for now we will only be allowed to use 174g FMJ bullets at our club shoots.

Another point that was discussed with me at length, is the use of cellphones on the range and in the butts. When your phone rings, you become focused on your discussion and tend to do irrational things. Also with immediate effect, all cellphones will be banned when you are on the firing point and also in the butts. We just cannot have an accident, due to you being distracted by your phone when shooting or when doing butts duty. The first phone to ring, will mean that the person responsible will have to buy a round of drinks for everyone after the shoot! Now if that is not a deterrent, then nothing is!!

Many thanks to everyone who either phoned me or sent me a mail expressing their thanks for a really wonderful away shoot. Here are a few I received.....

Just a quick note to say thanks for organising a really fantastic day on Saturday. If the other guys had only half as good a time as I did, then everyone had a REALLY good time.

To you and the guys, a big thank you for organising the event. I had a most enjoyable weekend and must say that there was nothing to complain about, meal, venue, range and company were all excellent. My accommodation was R300 plus fuel about R350 plus the event R300 makes it a total of less than R1k for the weekend, which is a bargain. Okay, that is besides what wife spent at Parmalat and the market in Montague. The venue is excellent for that reason, there is something for wives to do when we are shooting as the other dorpies are so close by. It is definitely worth another visit.

Thanks for the great shoot at Bonnievale. The catering and organization was yet again fantastic and the shooting range was great.

I am sure that once those shooters who did not attend chat to those who did, we will have a full house. We are limited to the amount of shooters due to only having 6 targets. Shooting 3 to a target with two details means 36 shooters. We also shoot 2 distances so we cannot really have many more than that. I can see people booking for next year immediately!



Here is the last reminder about our “**Workshop**” on **Saturday the 13th November**. We will be having a discussion about the following important factors that contribute to good shooting.

- a) *Wind reading*
- b) *Scoring*
- c) *Rifle bedding*
- d) *Sight picture*
- e) *Prone position*
- f) *Sling*
- g) *Sights*

There will be other points that will be discussed if we have enough time. After the workshop we will have a Potjie meal. This workshop will be run at cost, so whatever it costs us we will divide amongst the participants. At a guess it should be about R50.00 per person everything included. You must please bring your 303's along as well as some ammo.

From the secretary's desk

Unfortunately due to the current work load Schalk has with the exams that are taking place, there is no correspondence from his desk. I am sure he will make it up as soon as the exams are over.

Christmas Shoot

This year we are going to have something different! We will be having our Christmas shoot at the end of this month and this is how it will work.....

We will be shooting the Brakkefontein 400 as we would normally do. Once this is finished, we will shoot this detail once again from 400Mtrs on the same target. But this time we can use any rifle! If you want to shoot with a .338 Lapua fitted with a Zeiss 4x36x80 scope, Davis trigger, composite stock and muzzle break, you may! If you want to shoot with your .270 scoped hunting rifle, you may. If you want to shoot with a muzzle loader, you may. If you want to shoot with .22, its fine! Whether you are going to hit the target is another story!!!!

This will be our Christmas shoot and all our Christmas prizes will be awarded on your score at this fun event. Here is an ideal opportunity to brag with your prized firearm, or just take this opportunity to dust the cobwebs off that scoped rifle you haven't shot in ages!

It should be awesome fun, with some full scores recorded.

For the fun shoot there will be 5 convertible sighters which will be marked individually. Then 15 to count, which will not be individually marked. The .303 Brakkefontein 400 will be shot as a normal club shoot.



Here are some pictures of the Bonnievale shoot.



What a magnificent setting for a country range!



The 500Mtr firing point used to its full potential.



Our range officer looking to see where the rain is.



Oom Frans enjoying the crisp Bonnievale air.



As usual, Cedric hasn't a clue what's happening!



Amanda & Jan-Frederick at the dinner.



Our next shoot is:

Distance: 400Mtr. (Brakkefontein 400) & Christmas Shoot

Date: 27th November 2010

Time: 08:00 – 08.30

Venue: Goodhope shooting range

Ammo: 5 convertible sighters and 10 to count for 303
5 convertible sighters and 15 to count with any rifle

See you all at the end of November!

Yours in shooting

Mike

