THE BLACK POWDER SHOOTING UNION OF SOUTH AFRICA

Formerly The Historical Firearms Shooting Union Founded in 1958

www.bpsu.co.za

Affiliated to:
MUZZLE LOADERS ASSOCIATIONS' INTERNATIONAL COMMITTEE (MLAIC)
SOUTH AFRICAN BISLEY UNION (SABU)

12 April 2017

BPSU Newsflash 4 9f 2017
National Championships 2017

Dear BPSU members

We have just completed yet another very successful BPSU National Championships at the Good Hope Shooting Range in Cape Town that included long range on Friday and short range on Saturday. The shotgun competition took place on their shotgun range in Centurion, because we do not have ranges in the Western Cape than can cater for shotgun. Thank you to Grant Gammon and his team for organising and running the event. And congratulations to Grant for winning the gold medal with an excellent score of 41/50!

The long range (300m - 900m) was a nightmare with the strong South Easter blowing at speeds that exceed the windage adjustments on some of the rifles at 900m. Nine shooters competed in the long range shoot and everything went without a hitch (except for struggling to stay on target in the strong wind). Thank you to our volunteer range and butts officers, Johan Truter, Grant Davies and Johan van Wyk, for sacrificing your day to come and assist us. Without the support of members like you, an event like this will not be possible. As expected, there were no earth-shattering scores on long range, except Chris van Gaalen (the only one from Gauteng) beating all the Captonians at 900m. Well done, Chris!

The short range championship was shot concurrent with the Pacific Zone Postal shoot for 2017 and we were able to enter a nice contingent of Junior shooters for the Pacific Zone – Jean-Pierre Pellissier, Gustav Meyer, Marx Meyer, Corné Schreuder and Simon van Gaalen. The senior competitors in Pacific Zone events were Pieter Truter, Chris van Gaalen, Jacques Jansen van Vuuren, Johan van Wyk and Corena de Beer. The juniors that complied with the senior minimum qualifying scores for Free Rifle during the qualification process were allowed to enter the senior events as well. Simon set a new South African record in the Jun (single shot pistol for juniors) and Gustav equalled the senior Vetterli record of 99/100. Very well done to you both!

There were 30 competitors competing in 137 events of which 31 will also be entered in the 2017 Pacific Zone Championship. This is a good increase from our 2015 Pacific Zone where we only entered 14 events. There were 9 official details, but some members managed to cram more shooting into the available time (Pieter Truter 12, André Stander 11 and Johan Truter 10). All the scores are on the BPSU website - congratulations to everyone who won a medal and thank you to everybody else that participated.

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Thank you to Johan de Beer for being Range Officer (relieved by Chris Williams just long enough to shoot one detail of his own). Also a big thank you to everyone that assisted to set up the range and clean up afterwards, as well as the guys who removed the targets for scoring after each detail (Grant Davies, André Stander, Hubert Heydenrych, Jan Venter, Amedeë Venter and Johnny Theart). Apologies if I left someone out.

The championship ran very smoothly and safely and this was not possible without the assistance of each and every member. Thank you all.

The prizegiving was followed by the Annual General Meeting, which was attended by 21 members. It was disappointing that only 3 members from outside Cape Town attended and competed in the National Championships.

Please remember that **qualification for the 2018 Short Range MLAIC World Championships** to be held in Eisenstaedt, Austria from 18-26 August 2018 ends on **15 July 2017**. This was already communicated in Newsflash 13 of 2016 on 9 September 2016.

Good shooting to you all for the rest of the year.

Kind regards

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