

SPRINGVALE PISTOL CLUB

March Edition

COMMITTEE MEMBERS 2006 – 2007

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Editorial

OK Guys & Gals here is the much awaited newsletter.

The SPC has another jam packed year ahead which is good and we have our very first member going over to the Bianchi Cup in May which should be exciting.

We'll hope you all have a good year shooting this year and hope you all achieve all your personal goals.
Don't forget to submit the information for the newsletter and any photos.

Sam

P.S Some of the articles are a bit out dated but I received some in February but it wasn't enough to make a newsletter.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

FROM THE PRESIDENT'S DESK.

We are now well into another year and the Postals are in full swing. Some of our shooters are into the Open Comp cycle with championship shoots being approached by our keener members.

It has been pleasing to see the good results and improvements shown by our ISSF and NRA shooters. We should all be aware of the success enjoyed by Zeljko in Sydney - 3rd in the World is no mean feat and is the result of dedication and single-mindedness in his approach. Zeljko has been invited to be a member of our team in the Bianchi cup shoot in the USA this year. To be good at any target shooting discipline requires quality practice and training. To be at the top requires high commitment to these and to getting the best from your ammo and equipment.

Some of our other shooters are being noticed - I was discussing our Club with a few shooters at the State Titles and some were aware of our

presence at various shoots around the state. Next weekend for the ISSF State Titles at Ballarat they are expecting to see our best. Good shooting!

Range 1 reconstruction is under way again with the Range Management Committee having approved of a large amount of expenditure for some of the works:

- dropping the firing line level
- disabled access ramp
- wall constructions
- lighting & electricals
- welding of the target frames into position

With a bit more work and some contribution from our members at working bees it will be ready for the Police inspection and approval.

A couple of our members have requested that we conduct another Coaching Clinic to address the Rapid Fire technique. If we get a few more members interested then it will be on. Those interested, send me an E-mail about it.

Happy Shooting!

John

SECRETARY 'S REPORT

I'm about to send into the Licensing Services Division (LSD) our principle club members participation records, if you have attended other pistol clubs competitions and have not advised me or the club captain then your competition attendances may not be correct, if this is the case could you advise me by email ASAP. Hopefully this will be the last year for this paper warfare as we will resume back to the responsibility of the club to advise the LSD of non compliance of attendance by pistol club members.

On a positive note I've been receiving a lot of enquiries about pistol shooting from perspective members since Xmas and most of these have come to the club and tried air pistol and .22, thank you to John, Mikhail and Allen

for you time and effort in helping the prospective members.

Next month we will be sending out the clubs membership invoices, the fees are to be paid by the end of April.

Until I see you next straight shooting.

Brian

CLUB CAPTAIN'S REPORT

Time is passing by fast – 2007 is in a full swing; and quite a few SPC members are participating in open competitions this year, covering almost all disciplines.

We are doing quite well in Action match (as always), congratulations to Zeljko coming second in Open class of SSAA NSW State Titles and first in Metallic Sight class. Hope our guys do well at Canberra Trophy this weekend [*Ed: they did well!*].

We had participant in Black Powder State Titles (John Payne), and in Service Match State titles (Dragutin Delic).

ISSF competitions are well covered this year; we had four people to compete in ISSF State Titles in Ballarat last weekend. Well done Stuart, who came second overall in Rapid fire event and participated in finals.

Regards,

Mikhail

WHAT DID YOU GET FOR VALENTINES DAY?

What did you get for Valentines Day this year? Nothing? Funny, because that's what Troy has given me for the last 4 years. Valentines is not his speciality (actually he is no so good on Birthdays or Christmas either) but this year was different. He was actually talking up his gift, "you're gonna love it" he bragged "it's exactly what you want, you've been telling me your want this for ages". Apparently it had to happen on a Wednesday night but it couldn't happen on Valentines day it would be the following Wednesday. Could I guess? No, I had no idea, but after 2 minutes of nagging (he has a low tolerance to nagging) he fessed up- we were going pistol shooting.

Wow, that is brilliant I thought. I had been saying for years that I wanted to try it. I'm not sure why because I am a city girl, in marketing, who's life revolves around work and our dogs (kids) bit from the little I have seen at the Olympics or on TV I have always thought that Pistol shooting must be a sport of great concentration and skill, something that maybe anyone can take up, a bit different,

where I might be able to give the men a run for their money and something that, above or else, is a challenge.

Three things stand out from our introduction to Pistol Shooting. One, that Allen, John and Mikhail were right, it is so not like the movies, actually, pity anyone watches any movie with me that has a gun in it as I will be pointing out how ridiculous it all is! Secondly, it's not hard, everything we were told in our brief introductory talk was spot on. Line up your sights, don't look at the target, aim low, get your stance right, don't tense up, lock your knees, hand on hip, breath, gently squeeze... its all spot on, it's just how to get it all to happen at once that's the tricky bit! Lastly, how friendly everyone was, very welcoming and I didn't once feel awkward or embarrassed.

So, after a brief but thorough safety talk I was actually firing a pistol and if that wasn't exciting enough, I was hitting the target, twice in the black and if that wasn't exciting enough I hit the same hole twice! But the happy dance I did meant I lost my stance and had to start all over again. After the pistol session, I moved on to the 22's, the same principles applied but there was a touch of recoil and the target seemed so far away. Troy and I fired off 10 shots between us 7 hit the paper (I reckon 5 of them were mine) so the results were encouraging.

The worst bit about Wednesday night was that it flew by, before we knew it the bar was packed, it was 9.20 and time to go home.

So where do we go from here, well, everyone at the office was interested to hear about my adventure and duly impressed by the target stuck to my office door as proof of my achievements. Funny thing is they are waiting to see what I score next time and I can't wait to see what I score too!

Louise

MILDURA 1920 OPEN

The Mildura Open was to be held on the 3rd & 4th of February, however the date was changed due clashes with other open competitions held on that weekend, the date was changed to the 27th & 28th of January. The changing of the competition date however have an impact on the number of shooters at the competition, it was estimated that up to 10 shooters were not able to attend due to the date change. Most of our club members drove up on the Friday and in a typical Mildura day the temperature was about 40 degrees in the shade, anyway a few of us sighted our guns in and practiced a few events. The club members and partners attending the open were, Zeljko & Lisa, Henry & Janine, Frank, Diane and myself. The weather on Saturday and Sunday was pleasant to cool, it was the complete reverse to the weather on Friday, I guess that's Victoria weather for you. The girls left us and went for some shopping therapy while leaving us to try and put together our best scores, not all went to plan for Zeljko and myself in the open division, Zeljko shot well in the Metallic Division and took out first prize with a score of 1837 and 116 X's. Henry shot well and was 1st in his grade with a score of 1898 and 148 X's. Frank was on fire cleaning the falling plates and shooting well in the other events and breaking grade into Master Grade. It was another successful open for our club members.

See you at the range

Brian

NSW STATE TITLES 1920

Well another good turnout for Springvale away from home. With 4 members making up more than 17% of the Comp.

After some practice on Friday we headed for a well earned Bevy (& a feed). After being knocked back on dress code at one establishment (not Pete's fault this time) we moved on to another only to find @ 7.50 pm sorry we don't have meals tonight - quick sip loud music & move on. Next we have the Bowling club good feed, cold Beer.

Sat. morn. Warm & became hotter some good scores evolving

Throughout the day (for some) it was again a good chance to catch up with many friends from NSW a few other Vics.

Sat. night again Bowling club and a quiet night (no chucky!!)

Sunday morn. Back into it again with some trying to reclaim some disasters of previous matches on Sat. Presentations on

Sun. 12.30 - 1.00

OPEN

And here we go:

2nd OPEN Zeljko Cvetnic 1909

6th OPEN Brian Hardy 1898

22nd OPEN Samantha Renzow 1372
(3rd Ladies and 3rd Junior)

METALLIC

1st Met. Zeljko Cvetnic 1802

4th Met. Brian Hardy 1708

7th Met. Pete Renzow 1417
(Beaten by a glock)

All in all a good weekend with an excellent result from Zeljko, hopefully propelling him towards bigger and better things

Peter

SERVICE MATCH OPEN

In the past month I went twice to Outtrim Pistol to shoot some service matches. First it was an open and then three weeks later on the weekend of 24/25 Feb for the Victorian State Titles. I was gonna shoot Service Unrestricted and Service 25. The first time I went, I took my nearly brand new 4" 686, that had only shot maybe one match before. At the gun check I ran into Alex Eagle for those who know him will tell you he's a guy who sticks to every possible rule he can think of. Besides he is on VAPA Judicial Committee, so there's not much you can argue. Somehow he decided to check the sight radius on the 4" gun and found it was 4 millimetres too long. So I was allowed to shoot on the day but not the next time. When I jokingly asked "Look, Alex, what if I don't manage to fix it in 3 weeks time for the State Titles" he just said "Tell someone who cares".

I wrote a note on my entry form "Please not too early, thanks" and I got a decent start time of 11 PM. It was a hot day and flies were everywhere. First up was Service Unrestricted and it was a disaster. Everybody has an excuse shooting bad and my was that my reloads weren't loading smoothly; wasted too much time reloading and some rounds even jammed so that at some stages the trigger got stuck. All that topped with 120 point penalty (from my mate Alex) in unsighted for supposedly not holding the gun below the shoulder level (which might event be true)! Total score disappointing 609 (I don't think they calculated penalties otherwise it would have been a lot worse).

Service 25 was a similar disaster with no particular excuse except that I flies landing on my nose while shooting prone. Total score disappointing 453! Left and place in disgust and went for a swim at Phillip Island on the way home.

Called Norm Edwards to have the sight radius fixed plus throw in some trigger job.... Some \$450 later and a day before the State Titles got

a 4" fixed for service with beautiful new big sights and a very smooth and light trigger. This guy Alex always costs me money. Last time it was last year when he checked my 6" for 3 pound single action; that time I had to have a trigger stop fitted.

For the State Titles I again wrote on my entry from "No to early please, thanks" so I got the 1 PM start. The guns passed the gun check (probably because Alex wasn't there; he'd definitely find something). First up this time was Service25. I started all confident and the first target was very good (49 from memory) and from then it got progressively worse. Multiples were even worse (one I learn how to shoot these I might event break grade).

But then I got I bit better; in the end scored around 470 (the scores are on VAPA website) but not very happy with performance.

I was in the last definition to shoot Service Unrestricted at 3 PM, and did not expect much given my earlier performance. But after the 50m which wasn't too flash but it wasn't too bad either (and sights could have been adjusted a bit better). Missed one shot on the left barricade at 25 (too late; ran out of time) but still managed 208 out of 240 in that series. And the rest wasn't too bad (did not even miss anything on multiples. By the end it felt quite OK they there were quite a few 7's on the score sheet. The score: 759.

Hang out for the presentation not expecting much. Turned out I won D grade in Service25 despite being disgusted with own performance; came third in Service Unrestricted in spite of what I thought was not that bad!!!

And got a couple of 2 dollars shop quality medals from VAPA.

Drago

E.D it seems that Alex did Drago some good after all

CASTLEMAIN ISSF OPEN

Well the first open of the year rolled around, and there were high hopes and grand expectations from all who made the trip out to the goldfields. Of course by the end of the weekend the hopes had been dashed, and the high expectations driven from the mind like the drunk from the pub at closing time. Still, there is always a lesson to be learned from each outing.

So just how did things go? Well given the time of year the sun was beating down severely, so the oven they call an air shed was getting to a nice baking temperature by the time it was the air pistol event. On the plus side we were all in the same boat, just don't ask what we were doing in a boat. It had to be the quickest air pistol event I have

experienced in a long time. Allotted time for A/P is 1h45m. All bar 1 of the 14 people in my session were done under 1 hour, which is no mean feat. The conditions didn't seem to influence out club captain, who gave me a good 8 point beating, but just missing a place by count-back. Next time Mikhail.

Thankfully the standard event was earlier in the morning, so the heat radiating from the tin walls of the range was not too hot, more like a gentle boil. On the downside the early morning light made lovely shadows dance across the targets, making it an interesting task trying to pick up the sights properly. Still, after a semi-decent shoot I was leading B grade. Things turned interesting later in the afternoon when some upstart from Oakleigh attempted to push me from my pedestal. We were given the option of deciding by coin toss, but that was not the manly way, so it was pistols at 5:15. But fear not, after a swift shoot out, I relegated him to 2nd.

Next up, Rapid fire. Oh rapid fire, seemingly so easy, but so damned hard. It also doesn't help when you decide not to put all 60 shots on the targets, but opt for 58. Hell, I thought I better give the others a sporting chance. Too much of a chance, it seems! I was quite happily sitting in 2nd, trailing 1st by a decent margin, when a certain commonwealth/Olympic shooter strolled to the firing line and ungracefully threw me from the podium.

And there will be no mention of the 50m free pistol. Some things a best left unsaid.



So, on reflection not the greatest of efforts, but it was the first of the year, so things can only get better.....I hope.....

On a happy note Marek had a PB at the Open, so congratulations Marek. Mikhail and Alexandra also came away with a 4 trophies, with several 1st in the collection.



Stuart

BLACK POWDER STATE TITLES



Saturday and Sunday 3rd and 4th of March the PENINSULA PISTOL CLUB for the first time hosted the **BLACK POWDER STATE TITLES**

I entered and shot two events:

BP 50 - very difficult and tiring! 3 hours at the line and concentration gets at you.
BP25 - similar to Centrefire with precision and duelling (oops, Rapid Fire)

What was the range like?

Ranges faced West and so in the morning the targets were well lit and clearly visible. Afternoon we were shooting into the sun against dark targets and through sunlit smoke!

DAY 1

I was squadded to shoot BP50 first up at 9:00 am Saturday. Darn it, not having shot this before, I was hoping to watch the first detail to get the hang of it!

This turned out to be a bit of a disaster. I was starting without knowing where my sights were set due to the need to

dismantle the rear sight a couple of days before to sort out an adjusting screw problem. Oh well, that's what 'sighters' are for! Managed to get a couple of shots near the middle of the paper during sighters. Feeling happy. First two cards (10 shots each) were pretty OK. Then the wheels fell off. On the last card I was struggling to get shots on the paper - tired feet, tired arm, sore fingers, generally fading brain.

What a gift - bronze medallion for 3rd in 'D' grade (only three of us, so you only had to be in it to win it).

DAY 2



Squadded to shoot precision at 10:30 am - into the bay & arrange the paraphernalia according to Hoyle. Procedure is a bit different this time: for precision, reloading & capping at the firing line; for rapid fire reloading at the rear bench and capping at the firing line. OK.

Sighters were EXCELLENT (3X10s and 2X9s)!! No adjustment from 50m. Short-lived though. Precision descended into mediocrity after the second card. Look at the score board - good! I' in third place after the precision.

Oh well, Rapid Fire is a chance to redeem myself. Many 'C' graders complaining that this is where they tend to fail (such negative attitudes). Sighters - good again! I'm in the home straight. First two cards good. Then the sunlit smoke completely obscured the target. Heard it turn, raised and started increasing pressure where is it?? Wait a little for the smoke to clear a bit . . . snap! The targets turned away - released the shot in frustration. Darn It!! now I'm dependent on the others dropping a few points. It didn't happen. The score sheet tells the tale - beaten by ONE POINT for 3rd place and by a WOMAN!!

What was the best Score?

BP50 - Wayne Davis with 362
BP25 - John Ingold with 370

I have a long way to go!!

Saturday Night Fever

At the end of the day on Saturday, there was a great spit roast organised. Everyone was very well behaved and drank in moderation(!?!).

This is a fun competition that gets very serious in short bursts with lots of banter and socialising between the details and even between the series. Very entertaining watching others' reloading equipment and the various ideas they have as to what's best. Interesting that some of the best shots do not muck around with fancy stuff.

It was notable that the shooters' ages were all fairly senior - no juniors and few below mid-40s.

John



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