



Chairman's Report

There should have been two competitions to look back on in this newsletter, but sadly the weather made a mess of the Coonabarabran long range competition. The cancellation of the competition also meant we missed the Special General Meeting and the first of our Masterclasses led by Stuart Collings which dealt with wind reading. Stuart is an excellent shooter and knows a great deal about reading the wind. This would have been an excellent chance to think about wind reading not only as a shooter but also as a wind coach. Hopefully Stuart will be able to reschedule this at another event.



The Special General Meeting of the Association was eventually held at Stawell, and has allowed the committee to split the roles of Secretary and Treasurer. I am delighted that Tom Smith has agreed to take on the role of Treasurer, with Phil Bain remaining as Secretary. Nick Simms remains as Vice Chairman.

One piece of unfinished business is an agreement on a standard target for 1500 yard shooting. Whilst there are only two ranges that can host 1500 competitions (Campbell Town and Coonabarabran), opinions differ on the target to be used for the 1500 yard events and this will be considered at the next AMRA meeting in Stawell next year.

The next opportunity to shoot 1500 yards is March 2017 at the Tasmanian State Championships. The date has been changed: it will be held on Monday the 6th March immediately after the MR competition. Contact the TRA or the AMRA Executive for advice on ammunition transport.

Whilst there are not a large number of MR/F Class Long Range competitions, it is surprising how changes to the timetable result in events running into each other and jeopardising entries to one or other event. AMRA has no formal remit to oversee the event calendar, but is looking to work with the various State Associations to ensure there is a good spread of events across the year.

A recurring theme of this newsletter will be how to encourage new shooters to the ranks of MR and long range F class. The TRA is holding a 'Come and Try' Match rifle day in December, but there must be other ways to bring new shooters to the sport. Please let us know (info@matchrifle.org) if you have any suggestions or know of approaches that have worked in other shooting disciplines.

Paul Monaghan
AMRA Chairman



AMRA wishes to thank Winchester Australia for their generous support of the 2019 Australian Match Rifle Team. Winchester Australia have provided **400 rounds of premium loaded Winchester 308 175gr Sierra HPBT Matching Ammunition** to be used in fundraising for the overseas team.
Please support our generous sponsors with your business.

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For The Diary

Please note there have been a few changes in dates for some 2017 events.

- The Australian Match Rifle & Long Range F Class Championships at Stawell in November have been moved by ~ a week to avoid clashing with the Cup Day “long weekend” which was going to be problematic for accommodation, marking and catering.
- The NSW Match Rifle Championships normally held in May, were mooted for March in 2017 however this would have clashed with other events. The new date for the 2017 NSW Championships will be determined at the NSW MRA Annual General Meeting in February and advised in the next Newsletter. Good news is that NSW have scheduled another Ultra Long Range Challenge for 2017.

The following dates are correct at time of publishing.

4-5th March 2017

Tasmanian MR & LR F Championships

Campbell Town

Practice - Friday 3rd March
1500 yd event follows on 6th March

6th March 2017

Tasmanian 1500 Yd

Campbell Town

27 -28th August 2017

Sth Australian MR & LR F Championships

Lower Light

7 - 9th October 2017

Ultra Long Range Challenge - REVISITED!

Coonabarabran, NSW

Practice Day - Friday 6th October

9th November 2017

Victorian MR & LR F Championships

Stawell

10 - 14th November 2017

Australian MR & LR F Championships

Stawell

Individual Competition - 10-13th Nov.
State Teams for Match Rifle & F Class - 13 & 14th Nov.



2016 Victorian Match Rifle & Long Range F Class Championships

By Lew Horwood

On the 5th & 6th of November the Stawell rifle club hosted the Victorian Match Rifle and Long Range F-Class Championships for 2016.

We had 33 shooters competing in Match Rifle, Open F-Class and F/TR over 1000yds, 1100yds and 1200yds. The practice on Friday had strong rear fishtail winds. On Saturday and Sunday we had nice sunny days with light wind that kept the shooters on their toes.



The comp ran very smoothly thanks to the Range Officer Peter Heullet.

Match Rifle was won by **Peter Maher** (463.28) from Lilydale RC.












F-Class Open was won by **Les Rozsnyai** (529.16) from Nowra RC.

F/TR was won by **Malcolm Hill** (493.10) from Port Pirie RC.

I would like to acknowledge the work that James Freebairn has done in getting match rifle started in Australia. He saw it shot at Bisley in 1990 while on a goodwill tour and brought it back to Australia. Since then it has become a popular style for a lot of shooters with numbers continuing to grow.



I would also like to thank our sponsors:

-  **Tim Kennedy – T.K. Auto Electrex.**
-  **Nick Simms – Simms Automotive.**
-  **Kimbarra wines.**
-  **Montara wines.**
-  **Taltarni wines.**
-  **Seppelts wines.**
-  **Devondale Murray Goulburn Cheese.**
-  **Peter McDonald.**
-  **Geoff Grenfell – Grenfell Armouring Services.**



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2016 Long Range F Class State Teams

By Bill Siegloff



On 6th and 7th November 2016 the Long Range F Class National State Teams were run as an addition to the Victorian Match Rifle and Long Range F Class state titles.

The Victorian Championships were shot in trying conditions over Saturday 5th and Sunday 6th. After the conclusion of the Vic titles the Siegloff Simms Bisley pairs match was shot. The Siegloff Simms pairs match is 50 shots at 1200 yards with no sighters and each competitor must shoot 1 shot then their pair shoots the next and so on until all 50 shots have been fired. If a shot is fired out of order that shot is scored as a miss. There is a time limit of 45 minutes max for this match. The intention of this match is to incorporate teamwork as both shooters need to coach each other and work on a common outcome instead of working against each other.

The Siegloff Simms match has only been run twice so far and the first time Bill Siegloff and Nick Simms won it and this time the second running Bill Siegloff and Nick Simms once again came out on top with a score of 270.7/300.

On Monday 7th November the Long Range F Class State teams matches were officially started and the overcast conditions made it the best day shooting extended ranges that we have ever shot in, some shooters were able to power their scopes right up to 60 power as the sighting was excellent. All rifles used for the event were weighed and had a sticker attached to prove that all equipment was within specifications and the spirit of the SSR's.

At 8:45AM Peter Hewlett as range officer welcomed the States and shooters to Stawell and wished us well for the matches. The first match that was contested was the New South Wales Match this consisted of 3 shooters firing 15 shots each at 1000, 1100 and 1200 yards. At the end of the first 1000 yard range Victoria had placed the top score of 264.16/280 with South Australia in second position with 257.9/280.

Shooting moved back to 1100 yards and after the dust had settled once again Victoria was in the lead shooting 253.4/280 with South Australia once again in second place for the range with 250.8/280.

This only fired up the competitive spirits between all State competitors as we moved back to 1200 yards. At 1200 yards once again Victoria was successful in winning the range aggregate with a score of 247.6/280 with New South Wales stepping up into second place for the range.

The final results for the New South Wales match were as follows:

1. Victoria 764.26
2. South Australia 747.26
3. New South Wales 746.16
4. Tasmania 723.4



As a part of the New South Wales Match there is an award for the highest individual shooter and coach called the President's Trophy. Nick Simms and Greg Tomorad were awarded this scoring 260.10/280



We stopped for a lunch break as dark clouds started to form and rain drizzled onto the range. We ended up cutting the lunch break early to allow us time to shoot the next match being the Victoria Match. The Victoria Match is shot at 1200 yards by 3 shooters per team shooting 16 shots each with NO sighters. All States then prepared for the final push to the finish line.



We were lucky with the rain holding off just long enough for all shooters to fire their allocated rounds, if the rain had re-started the matches would have been stopped and we would have counted the number of shooters that had completed in each team so if 1 shooter from each team finished 1 shooter's score from each State would have counted if 2 finished the same would have been included.



As mentioned the rain held off just long enough and as the last few rounds were fired we were unsure of the results as it was very close. The results were:

1. Victoria 268.6
2. South Australia 267.9
3. New South Wales 249.3
4. Tasmania 247.3

The NSW and Victorian match aggregates are added together to become the South Australian Match Aggregate.

1. Victoria 1032.32

Bill Siegloff (Captain & Shooter)
Greg Tomorad (Coach)
Nick Simms (Shooter)
Richard Noordewier (Shooter)
Gerry Thomas (Reserve)



2. South Australia 1014.34

John Shobbrook (Captain & Shooter)
Malcom Hill (Coach)
Brent Webley (Shooter)
Jerome Ziersch (Shooter)
Mick Punturiero (Reserve)



3. New South Wales 995.18

Dennis Shallis (Captain & Shooter)
Greg Warriar (Coach)
Les Shallis (Shooter)
Cliff Austin (Shooter)



4. Tasmania 970.7

John Collis (Captain & Shooter)
Stephen Clark (Shooter)
Paul Monaghan (Shooter)



This is the first time that a single State has won every range and match aggregate and is a credit to the Victorian Team.



I would like to thank the Australian Match Rifle Association for their involvement in these matches. The Stawell Rifle Club and Lew Horwood for his tireless work in organising the markers and range to allow this event to be held. To Peter Hewlett for giving his time to help us out and also the markers as without all of these people we would never have a facility to shoot at.

And a special thanks to all the shooters that leave their egos at the door and place everything on the line to represent their State at the highest level at these extended ranges.

If you are interested in trying your skills at the longer ranges it can be a great challenge and you can learn a lot about yourself in pressure situations and how your equipment fares against some of the best long range shooters in this country. In 2017 the National Long Range F Class teams will be held again in Stawell in November so come and become a part of the long range family.

I felt honoured to captain the Victorian Long Range F Class State team this year, the dedication of all the members that contributed to our success is a credit to their determination and tenacity to push through the barriers that were placed in front of us to achieve the end result. We would like to thank Geoff Grenfell for fitting every one of our barrels with the exact same chamber reamer so our ammunition was interchangeable in any rifle. Benchmark Barrels supplied our 5c barrels and as the results show they performed admirably throughout the competitions. The other company we would like to thank is Sierra we have been shooting the 175gr 7mm MatchKing bullets for the last 4 years and every year we have proven the quality of these bullets as far as 1200 yards standing up against 195gr Bergers, 183gr Sierras, 180gr Lapuas all in 7mm as well as 215gr Berger bullets in 30 cal.

Regards Bill Siegloff

Going To Tassie?

A number of shooters have expressed concern about competing in Tasmania because of changes to provisions for carrying ammunition on the Ferry. Whilst the changes are not what we would like, there are alternate easy and inexpensive ways to get your ammunition across. With a little bit of preplanning it is quite simple - a couple of options are outlined below.

Pack & Send

Pack & Send have a range of offices throughout Australia and are able to arrange the transport and paperwork for you with a dangerous goods carrier. You don't even need to have a branch of Pack & Send locally! They have arrangements with carriers across Australia and if you ring

Mark Gain on 02 6971 7299

he can arrange with you for collection of your ammo (you will need to properly package) and the paperwork. They use TNT for the transfer across to Tasmania and you can address it for you to collect at the TNT depot at Launceston Airport on your arrival. It is on your way to the Campbell Town Range whether you arrive by boat or plane.

Toll

A number of people have also used Toll to transport ammunition to and from Tasmania. Contact your local Toll Express office for details or use the Enquiries Form on their website <http://www.tollgroup.com/onetoll>

*Please Note: Whoever you use, you will need to ensure your ammunition is appropriately boxed and with the correct **1.4S Explosives** orange labels on the box.*

If you email info@matchrifle.org a PDF of these labels can be emailed which you can then print off on orange paper.

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From Everyone at AMRA

We Wish You a

Happy, Safe & Joyful

Christmas & New Year

We Hope To See You On The Long Ranges in 2017

AMRA Who's Who

Feel free to contact any of the Committee or Zone Delegates if you have suggestions for the Association

Executive Committee

Chairman
Secretary

Paul Monaghan (*Tas*)
Philip Bain (*NSW*)

Vice Chairman
Treasurer

Nick Simms (*Vic*)
Tom Smith (*NSW*)

Zone Delegates

- F Class Bill Siegloff
- New South Wales Rob Halloran
- Queensland Kerod Lindley
- South Australia Bill Freebairn
- Tasmania Gil Walker
- Victoria Lew Horwood
- Western Australia David Martin
- ACT Jim Clifford



- Contributions to the AMRA Newsletter are greatly appreciated and can be emailed to info@matchrifle.org

- Next edition will be February/March 2017.