# Association

# **Newsletter**

Volume 7, Number 1

January 2022



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## From the AMRA Chairman

For the long-range target shooter, 2021 was not a great year for so many reasons: ranges closed, competitions cancelled, reloading components disappearing from the shelves and so on.

So, what will 2022 bring? Trying to remain optimistic, I have been happy to see plans being made for competitions including the Woomera happening in 2022. There have even been rumours of a shipment of Berger bullets that might appear as a sign of a return to normality. But just when you thought the situation might get better, it looks like primers and bullets are going to be hard to come by for some time to come.

The reloading component situation is perhaps one of our biggest concerns (apart from the next Covid variant which I am determined not to discuss). Getting practice time on the range is something I look forward to, but now has the concern of using up supplies of bullets and primers being kept aside for competition. Never mind getting the bullet with the best BC, getting hold of anything even

# 2022 Event Calendar

5-6 March
Tasmanian MR&LRF Champs
(Campbell Town, Tas)

7 March Merton Vale 1500 Yd (*Tas*)

**8 March**Woomera Squad Practice
(Tas)

16 & 17 April
Victorian MR & LRF Champs
(Stawell, Vic)

30 April & 1 May 2022 NSW MR & LRF Champs (Ungarie NSW)

2 & 3 May 2022 Woomera Team Practice (Ungarie)

9-14 October 2022
Australian MR&LRF Champs
State Teams (MR, F & FTR)
(Stawell, Vic)

**15 October 2022** 

Woomera Match
Australian V Great Britain
(Stawell, Vic)

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vaguely suitable seems to be the only option at the moment.

The first competition in the 2022 calendar is the Tasmanian MR and Queen's Prize meeting from the 5<sup>th</sup> to the 14<sup>th</sup> of March. The TRA is planning for a full programme and is ready to welcome inter-state shooters. With luck, the event will be able to go ahead as planned and will mark the beginning of the way out of the last couple of years.

Let's hope the next year will be better than we fear and as good as we hope for. Happy New Year!



Paul Monaghan AMRA Chairman

## Woomera 2022

G'day everyone,

I hope this finds you well and that you were able to enjoy the Christmas New Year period with family and friends.

I am pleased to say that there have been 25 nominations received, with a good mix of experienced shooters and coaches from match rifle, f-class and target rifle disciplines.

In the last newsletter I made mention of the team being selected soon after the close of nominations and the first team practice to be at Campbell Town in Tasmania in March.

With the lack of opportunity for match rifle shooting, in either practice or competition over the past year due to lock downs and border closures I have decided to make the practice in Campbell Town on Tuesday 8th March a squad practice open to all who nominated and to make the final selection after its completion.

Moving on from Tasmania there will be a team practice after the NSW Championships at Ungarie on the 2nd & 3rd May and I am in the process of organizing another practice between Ungarie and the last practice at Stawell the day before the Nationals, the location and dates to be announced once finalised.



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Lastly I would like to thank Victorian Match Rifle and the Stawell Rifle Club for agreeing to host the Woomera match and the National Championships after the uncertainty around the future of the Coonabarabran range made it necessary to change the venue.

Chris Halloran Captain 2022 Woomera Team

## Message 10

In recent months we have lost two members of our Match Rifle community.

It is with sadness we note the passing of Spencer Dunstall in November 2021 and Wilf Wright in December 2021.

## **Spencer Dunstall**

Spencer was born in Biloela, Queensland in 1936 and grew up in Wirrulla in South Australia. Leaving school he moved to Broken Hill and studied Accountancy at night whilst working in a local hardware store. It was here he met and married his wife Margaret. Spencer went on to have a highly successful career in local government working in Wilcannia, Tamworth and Inverell before becoming Shire Clerk for the Bland Shire based in West Wyalong.



Spencer was well known in the shooting community having won 9 Queens Prizes (7 in TR and 2 in F Class). He shot at Country, State, National and International level in TR and was renowned for his wind reading ability.

In Match Rifle, Spencer was a member of the inaugural Australian Woomera Team which competed against Great Britain at Campbell Town in 1997. Spencer drove the establishment of the match rifle ranges at his home club of Ungarie which hosted the 1995 Australian Championships, only two years after the inaugural match rifle event in Australia at Woomera.

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Spencer had been Patron of the NSW Match Rifle Association since its inception in 2003 and worked tirelessly each year in hosting the NSW Match Rifle & Long Range F Class Championships at Ungarie.

A memorial service for Spencer was held at Ungarie Rifle Club on 11 December and attended by members of AMRA and NSWMRA.

The Last Shot for Spencer was fired by Rob Crerar and the service closed with a piper playing "Scotland The Brave", the tune traditionally used to Chair a Queen's Prize winner off the range.

## Wilf Wright

Wilf was a regular at all match rifle events for over 20 years having taken up match rifle in 1995 at the Australian Championships held that year at Ungarie.

He was selected in the NSW Match Rifle on four occasions – in 2004 and 2011 as a Shooter and in 2006 as a Coach. In 2013 he Captained the NSW Team.

Wilf was twice selected in the Australian Match Rifle team, competing in the Woomera Match in 2006 and 2010.



In the 2006 Australian tour of Great Britain, Wilf finished 13<sup>th</sup> in The Hopton and was the highest placed Australian competitor in this event. Returning to England in 2008 he won the prestigious Wimbledon Trophy and was invited to be the Match Referee for The Elcho match.

Whilst health reasons kept Wilf from ranges in more recent years, he is fondly remembered by his many friends in the match rifle community.



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# Australian Championships 2022 - Program

Note: All competitions with the exception of the Woomera Match will be shot on electronic targets. The Woomera Match will be shot on manually marked targets.

The Great Britain and Australian teams are expected to arrive in Stawell by Thursday 6 October 2022. In the lead up to the program the Stawell range will be available as follows:

**Friday 7 October 2022 – Match Rifle Teams practice day** with the GB Team allocated 2 practice targets and the Australian Team allocated 2 practice targets and 2 targets available for individuals for getting elevations.

**Saturday 8 October – F Teams practice day** for State F Open and FTR teams. Individuals may be able to access a target for getting elevations if not in use by F teams.

## **F Class - State Teams Competitions**

#### **Sunday 9 October**

Match No	Range	Sighters	Shots
1	1000, 1100 and 1200 yards		
	NSW Match for F Class Open State Teams	3	15 at each
			range
	Dyson Trophy for FTR Teams	3	15 at each
			range
2	1200 yds	0	16
	Victoria Match for F Class Open State Teams		
	FTR Teams		

#### State Teams' Aggregates

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3	•	SA Trophy for F Class Open State Teams	Aggregate of Victoria and
			NSW Match
	•	FTR Teams Aggregate	Aggregate of Dyson Trophy
			and Match 2

<u>Long Range F Class Open State Teams</u> consist of a minimum of three (3) and maximum of five (5) persons per team. The team may consist of a Captain, Coach and 3 shooters per distance shot, the Captain or Coach may shoot as well however there is a maximum of 4 persons to shoot throughout the teams Matches (NSW Match and Victoria Match).

<u>FTR Teams</u>: consist of a minimum of two (2) and maximum of four (4) persons per team. The team may consist of a Captain, Coach and 2 shooters per distance shot, the Captain or Coach may be one of the shooters. Composite teams made of members from different States will be allowed provided that each State can only have representatives in one team.

It is proposed to hold a function on the evening of 9 October 2022 which will be a presentation function for the F Class State Teams events and a Welcome function for the visiting Great Britain team.

The draw for the MR Coolibah Trophy will be done at this function (see Match 28).



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## National Championships - Individual Competition for Match Rifle, FTR and F Open

## Day 1 – Monday 10 October

Match No	Range	Sighters	Shots
4	1000 yds	3	15
5	1100 yds	3	15
6	1200 yds	3	15
7	Day 1 Aggregate		

#### Day 2 (Note reverse range order) – Tuesday 11 October

	<u> </u>		
Match No	Range	Sighters	Shots
8	1200 yds	2MR, 3F	15
9	1100 yds	2MR, 3F	15
10	1000 yds	2MR, 3F	15
11	Day 2 Aggregate		

#### Day 3 – Wednesday 12 October

Match No	Range	Sighters	Shots
12	1000 yds	2MR, 3F	15
13	1100 yds	2MR, 3F	15
14	1200 yds	2MR, 3F	15
15	Day 3 Aggregate		

#### Day 4 (am) - Thursday 13 October

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	Match No	Range	Sighters	Shots
Ī	16	1200 yds (Day 4 Aggregate)	2MR, 3F	20

#### **Australian Championships - Cross Aggregates**

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Match No	Range			
17	1000 yds Cross Agg (Matches 4, 10 &12)			
18	1100 yds Cross Agg (Matches 5, 9 &13)			
19	1200 yds Cross Agg (Matches 6, 8, 14 &16)			

#### **Australian Championships - Grand Aggregate**

Match	No Range				
20	Grand A	ggregate	(Matches 7, 1	1, 1	5 &16)

## **Freebairn Teams Competition & F Class Pairs**

Match rifle coached teams of 4 people selected from placings at end of Day 3 of the individual championships. F Pairs comprising 1 x F open and 1 x FTR shooter chosen by draw from those nominating. Number of teams may need to be limited dependent on target availability.

#### **Thursday 13 October**

Match No	Range	Sighters	Shots
21	1200 yds (Freebairn Teams)	2	15
22	1200 yds (F Class Pairs)	0	25



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Presentations of the Australian Championship trophies (Matches 4-22) for all disciplines will be made on range at the conclusion of the shooting program on 13 October

(Note that Maloney Match below is also conducted on this day)

## **Match Rifle State Teams & International Competitions**

**Thursday 13 October** (pm following Freebairn Teams)

Match No	Range	Sighters	Shots
23	Maloney Match & Stage 1 of McEachran Trophy for	0	16
	Match Rifle State Teams & NRC of Scotland (See below)		
	1200 yds		

#### Friday 14 October

Match No	Range	Sighters	Shots
	1000, 1100 and 1200 yards with the following events	2	15 at each
	shot concurrently:		range
24	Rowlands Match for Match Rifle State Teams		
25	Phil Cole Trophy for International teams (England, Ireland, Scotland & Wales as may be able to be formed – see below) and State Teams		
26	<ul> <li>McEachran Trophy Stage 2 for State Teams &amp; NRC of Scotland (See below)</li> </ul>		

## State Teams' Aggregates

Match No	Range	
27	Mincham Trophy for Match Rifle State Teams	Aggregate of Rowlands and Maloney Match (Match 23 & 24)

#### Coolibah Trophy - International Drawn Pairs

Match No	Range	
28	Coolibah Trophy (shot concurrent in Australian Championships)	Aggregate of Matches 10,13 & 16 for each team member

Match Rifle State Teams shall consist of between four (4) and six (6) members inclusive of Captain. Only four (4) shall shoot at each range. Any member of the squad may coach and coaches may also shoot. The disposition of the team may be varied e.g. the coach at one range may be a shooter for subsequent range/s and vice versa.

Where a State is unable to field a full team, they may apply to the NRAA for members from any State or Territory not otherwise represented, to combine to form a team. With the NRAA approval, the combined team will be eligible to win the State Teams' Trophies.

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Phil Cole Trophy - Donated by Phil Cole, the Phil Cole Trophy is for Team competition between the Australian States and any team from an overseas country (e.g. England, Ireland, Wales, Scotland). The Phil Cole Trophy will be held in conjunction with the Rowlands Match for State teams. Overseas teams may be goodwill or official teams and shall consist of between four (4) and six (6) members inclusive of Captain and Coach. Only four (4) shall shoot at each range. Any member of the squad may coach and coaches and captains may also shoot. The disposition of the team may be varied e.g. the coach at one range may be a shooter for subsequent range/s and vice versa. Where an Overseas country is unable to field a full team, they may, with the consent of the AMRA Chairperson, include up to two others persons from a Country not otherwise represented to combine to form a team.

<u>McEachran Trophy</u> - Donated by Colin McEachran (Scotland) is contested between the National Rifle Club of Scotland and the States of Australia. The McEachran Match will be held in conjunction with the Rowlands and Maloney Matches for State teams. Teams consist of between four (4) and six (6) members inclusive of Captain and coach. Only four (4) shall shoot at each range. Any member of the squad may coach and coaches and captains may also shoot. The disposition of the team may be varied e.g. the coach at one range may be a shooter for subsequent range/s and vice versa. Where the National Rifle Club of Scotland is unable to field a full team, they may, with the consent of the AMRA Chairperson, include up to two other persons from Great Britain.

<u>Coolibah Trophy</u> - The intent of the Coolibah International Pairs Match is to foster international relationships and goodwill between Australia and other Match Rifle shooting countries. It aims to provide a competition where Australian and visiting international competitors have the opportunity to partner together in the spirit of friendly competition. It is competed for whenever there is a visiting international official or goodwill team. Pairs consist of one international visitor and one Australian selected by a draw. Where there are unequal numbers of visitors or Australian participants, participants from the lesser group may be drawn for more than one pair. The winners will be the pair with the highest aggregate score of both competitors over the three ranges selected which in 2022 will be Matches 10, 13 and 16.

#### Woomera Match

#### Saturday 15 October

Match No	Range	Sighters	Shots
29	Australia versus Great Britain	2	15 each
	8 shooters per team shooting over		
	1000, 1100 and 1200 yards		

#### The Woomera Match

Each National team comprises sixteen (16) members inclusive of a Captain and Manager. Only eight (8) members may shoot at each distance, divided into two (2) squads of four (4) shooters each. Any or all of the sixteen team members may coach.

The competition is held over 1000, 1100 and 1200 yards with each shooter firing two (2) optional sighters and fifteen (15) counting shots



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James Freebairn commissioned the building of the Woomera trophy in 1993 for International Match Rifle competitions that Australia is involved in. It was first competed for and won by the visiting British Team at the inaugural international Match Rifle competition held at Campbell Town in Tasmania in 1997.

This will be the ninth time Australia and Great Britain have competed for this trophy.

There will be an official function on the evening of Saturday 15 October at which the Match Rifle teams' trophies and Woomera Match trophy will be presented.

Note further details on competitions listed in this program can be found in the <u>NRAA Competition Manual</u> or on the Match Rifle website <u>Competitions Manual</u>. All competitions are being conducted by the Stawell Rifle Club and will be conducted in accordance with NRAA Standard Shooting Rules.



Ear protection must be worn in the vicinity of the mounds and competitors and visitors to the range will need to comply with all COVID safety rules and procedures that may be in effect at the time.



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Cliff Austen (NSW)

## **AMRA Membership**

#### **Payment of Fees**

AMRA Membership Fees are due on 1 July each year. Under the Rules of the Association, fees are required to be paid within 3 months of the due date or you cease to be an active member. If you are a new member looking to join AMRA, please complete the application form available on the website and submit to the Secretary.

Membership is currently **\$20** per annum and once your application is approved, fees can be paid by direct deposit to Australian Match Rifle Association's Account as below:

Account Name: Australian Match Rifle Association Inc

Bank: Bendigo Bank

BSB: 633 000 Account Number: 140420423

Reference: FEES and then Your Initial & Surname

Please email your payment receipt to info@matchrifle.org

Paul Monaghan (Tas)

Alternately payment can be made by cheque payable to Australian Match Rifle Association and sent to PO Box 535, Wagga Wagga, NSW 2650

#### 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	Philip Bain (NSW)	Treasurer	Tom Smith (QLD)
Zone Delegates			
<b>New South Wales</b>	Rob Halloran	Queensland	John Kielly
South Australia	Bill Freebairn	Tasmania	Gil Walker
Victoria	Lew Horwood	Western Australia	David Martin
ACT	Shaun Wingrove	F Class	Paul Murphy (Vic)

Vice Chairman