

# THE BLACK POWDER SHOOTING UNION OF SOUTH AFRICA

*Formerly The Historical Firearms Shooting Union Founded in 1958*



[www.bpsu.co.za](http://www.bpsu.co.za)

Affiliated to:

MUZZLE LOADERS' ASSOCIATION INTERNATIONAL COMMITTEE

WORLD LONG RANGE HISTORICAL RIFLE SHOOTING ASSOCIATION

SOUTH AFRICAN BISLEY UNION (SABU)

7 January 2011

## NEWSFLASH NO 1 OF 2011

Dear BPSU members

There have been a lot of unfounded rumours over the past month about the registration and licensing of muzzle loading firearms. This was aggravated by misinterpretation of the actual legislation by the press. It is not correct that all muzzle loading firearms need to be registered or licensed.

The president proclaimed the commencement of certain provisions of the Firearms Control Amendment Act, which comes into operation on 10 January 2011. This includes a new definition of a muzzle loading firearm, as well as the necessity to apply for a competency certificate to possess a muzzle loading firearm within 12 months.

The BPSU management has not seen the study material or final requirements for the Unit Standard or a list of trainers that are accredited to perform the competency training for muzzle loading firearms. The requirement will only be to apply for a single competency certificate for all muzzle loading firearms. The Act defines a muzzle loading firearm as "a barreled device that can only fire a single shot per barrel and requires after each shot fired the individual reloading through the muzzle end of the barrel with separate components consisting of a measured charge of black powder or equivalent propellant, a wad and a lead bullet sabot or shot functioning as a projectile and ignited with a flint, match, wheel or percussion cap".

This issue will be discussed at the BPSU Exco meeting on 22 January 2011 and we will give you feedback immediately afterwards as to the way forward. Also the issue of cap & ball revolvers that, according to the SAPS, do not fall under the definition of a muzzle loading firearm and thus need to be licensed.

Kind regards

**MERWE VAN RENSBURG**

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