

THE BLACK POWDER SHOOTING UNION OF SOUTH AFRICA



Affiliated to:

MUZZLE LOADERS ASSOCIATIONS' INTERNATIONAL CONFEDERATION (MLAIC)
SOUTH AFRICAN BISLEY UNION (SABU)

www.bpsu.co.za



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BPSU NEWSFLASH 1 OF 2023 NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP 2023 RESULTS

Good afternoon BPSU members.

The annual National Black Powder Championship was hosted in Cape Town from Thursday, 11 May 2023, until Saturday, 13th May 2023. It was, to say the least, a very interesting and challenging few days.

Thursday was earmarked for Long-Range, including 300m, 500m, 600m and 800m. However, the Cape Town weather had different plans. On Wednesday afternoon, everyone that entered were approached to see whether it would be preferred to cancel the day, seeing that the weather forecasts all predicted rain the entire day. Most were in favour of cancelling; however, a certain member assured us that there would be no rain, and Paul van Heerden, who travelled all the way from Gauteng to take out his Sharps 45-120 for its maiden long-range voyage, really wanted to shoot. So, we gave it a go. After putting up the flags and targets, we had to hide in the butts from the rain, have coffee and just caught up on long-lost conversations. Around 11:00 it seemed as if the weather will give us a gap and off we went to the 300m firing point. After setting up and maybe firing one or two shots each, the heavens opened up again and visibility decreased to close to 0%. We persevered until all 6 of us had fired at least 7 scoring shots (from the magic total of 35 in Bisley), but then most decided to seek shelter and get our gear out of the rain. John and Paul persevered and completed their details. The scores out of 35 was converted to a total of 50, with the understanding that a record cannot be equalled or broken with a converted score – not that there was ANY danger for that. There were NO V-bulls and only ONE Bull 5 shot on Thursday and that by our honourable BPSU chairman, Greg van Schaik. Well done, Greg! 😊 Needless to say, it did not stop raining until Friday early morning, but at least we had done the 300m.

Friday was primarily aimed to shoot all the 200m matches the BPSU Rules cater for, but there are often members that can either not attend on the Saturday or simply have too many details to complete on Saturday, and the BPSU Manco took a decision a few years ago to open the 100m range for Short-Range events also on the Friday. Once again, a few hopeful souls arrived and set up the 200m range. Although there was no rain on Friday, the Cape Town wind blew us off our feet and our equipment full of sand. In the meantime, Johan Truter and Cliffie Brin were responsible for running the 100m range and accommodate any member who wanted to shoot 100m, 50m or 25m until Johan de Beer was done at 200m and took over Range Officer's duties on the 100m range. The only matches that were not allowed on Friday, were the ones where the scores will be submitted to the Pacific Zone Half-World Championship (Kuchenreuter, 50m Single Shot Pistol, Mariette, Patterson, Donald Malson, Remington, Vetterli, Lamarmora, Trapper, Whitworth, Walkyrie, Minie, and Scout). The 200m range was then left in the capable hands of John Duckitt. Free rifles, military rifles, 303s, Martini / SBBL and FBL rifles were shot at 200m, and the wet flags really did not make reading the wind easy. The first two details seemed to have been more kind to us, as two records were broken and one was equalled in the process, but later during the day, a few empty scorecards were

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submitted. Although this is fun, it really is not an easy distance – too far to be short-range and too near to be long-range! Thirteen 200m matches were completed on Friday.

Since the Pacific Zone championship was supported financially by the Western Cape Provincial Government Department of Cultural Affairs and Sport, we welcomed Mr Kevin Malan from the DCAS Major Events department on Saturday and displayed the DCAS branding again as indicated in the Memorandum of Understanding we sign with DCAS. Members of the BPSU that qualified to be representing South Africa in the Pacific Zone were Greg van Schaik, Pieter Truter, Cliffie Brin, Marx Meyer and myself. It was quite a full and busy day with a total of 112 targets being shot and scored. The wind was still pumping and not really conducive to high scores overall. We also had 3 Junior competing – all of them girls (Mila and Janke van Niekerk, and Danelle Beneke) – and in more than one instance, the girls showed some of the older members just how it is done!

Three new events were introduced for the Pacific Zone after the MLAIC Delegates' meeting in Pforzheim in 2022 approved it on Zone level for 2023 before including it in the Short-Range World Championship in 2024. These are the Patterson (open frame revolver at 25m), Trapper (same as our Hawken Traditional at 50m) and the Scout (a brand-new standing Hawken at 100m on a larger target). For this championship, we still called the Trapper "Hawken Tradition / Trapper", but for the next competition, the Trapper will replace the 50m Hawken Traditional. New records were therefore recorded for the Patterson and Scout. The Trapper score was lower than the 50m Hawken Traditional. Canada and the USA also requested that we included a 50m Single Shot Pistol as a special event in the Pacific Zone Championship this year.

Since our National Championship results will be submitted for the South African leg of the Pacific Zone Championship, the scores will not be published on the website until the Pacific Zone Championship is concluded on 30 September this year. Here are the scores for your information, but you are requested not to distribute or publish it on any social media platform yet. You are welcome to share your own scores and pictures, but please do not share the overall results. Thank you for understanding.

BPSU National Championships 2023

Kuchenreuter

	Name	25m SSP
1	Van Schaik, Greg	88
2	Van Niekerk, Jacobus	78
3	Truter, Pieter	76
4	Meyer, Marx	76
5	Malan, Kevin	58
6	Heydenrych, Hubert	55
7	Duckitt, John	47
8	Brin, Cliffie	40
9	Truter, Johan	18

Kuchenreuter Youth

	Name	25m SSP Youth
1	Van Niekerk, Mila	71
2	Van Niekerk, Janke	62
3	Beneke, Danelle	44

50m SSP

	Name	50m SSP
1	Van Schaik, Greg	62
2	Heydenrych, Hubert	34
3	Truter, Pieter	25
4	Meyer, Marx	2

Mariette

	Name	25m Rev
1	Van Schaik, Greg	84
2	Van Niekerk, Jacobus	73
3	Duckitt, John	54
4	Truter, Pieter	49
5	Truter, Johan	18

Cominazzo

	Name	25m Flintlock Pistol
1	De Vries, Alfred	49
2	Malan, Kevin	40
3	Truter, Pieter	35
4	Heydenrych, Hubert	13
5	Duckitt, John	7

Classic Handgun

	Name	25m CHG
1	Van Niekerk, Mila	87
2	Van Niekerk, Jacobus	83
3	De Vries, Alfred	64
4	Brin, Cliffie	64
5	Van Schaik, Greg	64
6	Heydenrych, Hubert	52
7	Van Niekerk, Janke	43
8	Truter, Pieter	35
9	Truter, Johan	17

Patterson

	Name	25m Patterson Rev
1	Van Niekerk, Jacobus	66 NEW RECORD
2	Heydenrych, Hubert	38
3	Truter, Johan	6

Donald Malson

	Name	50m Rev
1	Van Niekerk, Jacobus	45
2	Van Schaik, Greg	43
3	Duckitt, John	28
4	Truter, Pieter	10

Vetterli

	Name	50m FR
1	Van Schaik, Greg	85
2	De Beer, Corena	85
3	Truter, Pieter	80
4	Meyer, Marx	77
5	Brin, Clifflie	75
6	Duckitt, John	63

Vetterli Youth

	Name	50m FR Jnr
1	Van Niekerk, Janke	85
2	Van Niekerk, Mila	77
3	Beneke, Danelle	62

Lamarmora

	Name	50m OH MR
1	Truter, Pieter	84
2	Brin, Clifflie	69
3	Duckitt, John	57
4	Heydenrych, Hubert	54
5	Truter, Johan	33

Pennsylvania

	Name	50m Flintlock Rifle
1	Truter, Pieter	50
2	De Vries, Alfred	44
3	Brin, Clifflie	17

50m Hawken Traditional / Trapper

	Name	50m HT / Trapper
1	Van Niekerk, Janke	85
2	Brin, Clifflie	81
3	De Vries, Alfred	78
4	Van Niekerk, Mila	77
5	Meyer, Marx	76
6	Heydenrych, Hubert	60
7	Truter, Pieter	48
8	Truter, Johan	32

50m Hawken Modern

	Name	50m Hawken Modern
1	Brin, Clifflie	76
2	Truter, Johan	74
3	Meyer, Marx	70
4	Heydenrych, Hubert	68
5	De Vries, Alfred	57
6	Duckitt, John	42
7	Truter, Pieter	12

50m In-Line BP Rifle

	Name	In-Line Muzzle Loader
1	Brin, Clifflie	62

Remington

	Name	25m Rev	50m Rev	25m+50m Rev
1	Van Schaik, Greg	84	43	127
2	Van Niekerk, Jacobus	73	45	118
3	Duckitt, John	54	28	82
4	Truter, Pieter	49	10	59
5	Truter, Johan	18		18

Whitworth

	Name	100m FR
1	De Beer, Corena	94
2	Truter, Pieter	94
3	De Beer, Johan	94
4	Van Schaik, Greg	93
5	Du Plessis, Casper	91
6	Meyer, Marx	89
7	Brin, Clifflie	83
8	Marsh Neil	80
9	Duckitt, John	79
10	Van Niekerk, Janke	73
11	Germishuys, Petri	16

Whitworth Youth

	Name	100m FR Jnr
1	Van Niekerk, Janke	90
2	Beneke, Danelle	39

Minie

	Name	100m MR
1	Truter, Pieter	90
2	Brin, Clifflie	76
3	Duckitt, John	61
4	Truter, Johan	24

100m Military Service Rifle (303)

	Name	100m 303
1	De Beer, Johan	96
2	De Beer, Corena	88
3	Heydenrych, Hubert	87
4	Truter, Johan	84
5	Truter, Pieter	84
6	Duckitt, John	84

100m Free Breachloader

	Name	100m FBL
1	Van Heerden, Paul	71

100m SBBL & Martini

	Name	100m SBBL / Martini
1	Duckitt, John	38
2	Heydenrych, Hubert	21

100m Hawken

	Name	100m Hawken
1	Brin, Clifflie	64
2	Truter, Johan	30
3	Meyer, Marx	17
4	De Vries, Alfred	14

100m Scout

	Name	100m Scout
1	Brin, Clifflie	64
2	Meyer, Marx	40
3	Heydenrych, Hubert	26
4	Duckitt, John	22
5	Truter, Johan	19
6	Truter, Pieter	12

NEW RECORD

100m In-Line

	Name	In-Line Muzzle Loader
1	Brin, Clifflie	30

200m Free Rifle

	Name	200m FR
1	De Beer, Corena	96
2	De Beer, Johan	95
3	Van Schaik, Greg	84
4	Marsh Neil	77
5	Duckitt, John	52

NEW RECORD

200m 303

	Name	200m 303
1	De Beer, Corena	98
2	De Beer, Johan	92
3	Duckitt, John	83
4	Heydenrych, Hubert	71

NEW RECORD

200m Free Breachloader

	Name	200m FBL
1	Van Heerden, Paul	82

EQUALLED RECORD

200m SBBL & Martini

	Name	200m SBBL / Martini
1	Duckitt, John	45
2	Heydenrych, Hubert	21

300m Free Rifle

	Name	300m FR
1	De Beer, Corena	38
2	Van Schaik, Greg	37
3	De Beer, Johan	36
4	Marsh Neil	30
5	Van Heerden, Paul	29
6	Duckitt, John	26

Top Gun (FR 30m-200m)

	Name	50m OH FR	100m FR	200m FR	Top Gun
1	De Beer, Corena	85	94	96	275
2	Van Schaik, Greg	85	93	84	262
3	Duckitt, John	63	79	52	194
4	De Beer, Johan		94	95	189
5	Truter, Pieter	80	94		174
6	Meyer, Marx	77	89		166
7	Brin, Cliffie	75	83		158
8	Marsh Neil		80	77	157
9	Du Plessis, Casper		91		91
10	Van Niekerk, Janke		73		73
11	Germishuys, Petri		16		16

National Champion (FR 100m-300m)

	Name	100m FR	200m FR	300m FR	National Champion
1	De Beer, Corena	94	96	38	228
2	De Beer, Johan	94	95	36	225
3	Van Schaik, Greg	93	84	37	214
4	Marsh Neil	80	77	30	187
5	Duckitt, John	79	52	26	157
6	Truter, Pieter	94			94
7	Du Plessis, Casper	91			91
8	Meyer, Marx	89			89
9	Brin, Cliffie	83			83
10	Van Niekerk, Janke	73			73
11	Germishuys, Petri	16			16

Here are a few pictures of the event.



Paul van Heerden and John Duckitt at 300m



Not even rain deterred Paul to make some serious smoke with his Sharps 45-120



Saturday's wind conditions. Not two flags looked alike



Stats office being set up



Johan de Beer (Chairman WPBPA), Greg van Schaik (Chairman BPSU) and Kevin Malan (DCAS)



First detail underway



Pieter Truter



Casper du Plessis



Hubert Heydenrych















Greg van Schaik and Alfred de Vries



Cliffie Brin



Marx Meyer

 <p>Pieter Truter, Corena de Beer and Kevin Malan</p>	 <p>Kevin Malan trying his hand on a flintlock pistol</p>	 <p>Corena de Beer</p>
 <p>John Duckitt</p>	 <p>Paul van Heerden</p>	 <p>Mila van Niekerk</p>
 <p>Janke van Niekerk</p>	 <p>Danelle Beneke</p>	 <p>Janke van Niekerk won gold in the Trapper match, with Cliffie Brin second and Alfred de Vries third</p>
 <p>Mila van Niekerk won gold in the Classic Handgun match, with Jacobus van Niekerk second and Alfred de Vries third</p>	 <p>Top Gun (50-200m FR): Corena de Beer (1st), Greg van Schaik (2nd) and John Duckitt (3rd)</p>	 <p>National Champion (100-300m FR): Corena de Beer (1st), Johan de Beer (2nd) and Greg van Schaik (3rd)</p>

Thank you to everyone who participated and well done to all the winners. This was truly one of the most enjoyable National Championships I have had in several years. The atmosphere was fantastic, and everyone assisted with setting up and cleaning up the range and supported where they could. Thank you! I would go to war with you lot – not necessarily for your shooting skills, but for the fact that you are there for the right reasons to build and support the overall goals of the sport we love!

A very special well done to Janke and Mila van Niekerk, who beat several old(er) hopeful guys to win gold medals for the Trapper and Classic Handgun events!! We are so proud to have you in our midst!!

If anyone has the urge to make derogatory comments about the (low) scores, let me leave you with this thought. You were not on the range and conditions from a lazy-boy is always perfect. I challenge you to join us next time and show us that you can do better!

A few updates from the AGM. Hosting of the National Championships will be alternating between the two provinces, but until Gauteng can provide a range that complies to MLAIC standards, the Pacific Zone Championship will be hosted in Cape Town. It was further decided to expand the National Championship to a postal shoot. There are a few exclusions, however. Anyone who is contending to be included in the Protea teams to either Long-Range or Short-Range World championships in the following year, must compete shoulder-to-shoulder in the Nationals in whichever province the Nationals is held that year. Gauteng is also hereby encouraged to find more shooting ranges to use, both long-range and short-range. The AGM in such cases will be separated from the Nationals and be hosted virtually during the week preceding the Nationals.

The Manco (Chairman, Vice-chairman and Secretary / Treasurer) was re-elected unanimously with the option to co-opt additional member(s) if necessary. Thank you to everyone, not only office bearers on provincial or national level that donate their time and energy to enabling all our members to belong to and shoot with a well-run organisation. It is a thankless job, but with our members volunteering and supporting where they see fit, often without being asked, we can keep this ship afloat.

I wish you all a good shooting year and may our sport prosper and thrive for many years to come!

Kind Regards 

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