



WINGSHOOTER

Magazine of the SA Wingshooters Association

Vol. 32 No. 1 – March/April 2026



The
2026

*Hunting &
Sport Shooting
Calendar Edition*

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Cape Francolin, Kaapse Fisant in Afrikaans. Alternative name: *Francolinus capensis*. (Syn. *Pternistis capensis*). Large, dark francolin with broad white streaks on belly. Occurs in the Cape only. Photograph by Jed Vaughan.

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A WORD IN YOUR EAR



Members at the official Malmesbury Guinea shoot held on 14 February.

Appreciation...

"According to Oxford Learner's Dictionaries, appreciation (noun) refers to recognising the good qualities of someone or something, feeling grateful, understanding a situation, or an increase in value. It commonly signifies pleasure in something fine, gratitude for help, or a rise in worth." However, I believe it to be even broader than that...

Appreciation is a also a character trait some people possess – sadly, only the minority, unfortunately. If appreciation is at the forefront of your daily attitude towards life, then your world is a much better place – both for yourself and those around you.

Being grateful and appreciating even the smallest things in daily life makes life way more fun and valuable. It stands to reason then, that it is a crucial trait of a honourable, respectable individual, which in turn is an essential key trait of integrity.

I believe that is why many of us love spending time in the veld. Some of us are lucky enough to live in nature, whether it's bushveld, lowveld, grasslands, fynbos or desert – where one can truly appreciate literally everything down to the smallest life form on a daily basis.

Being appreciative is a powerful habit that improves mental, physical, and emotional wellbeing through shifting focus from what is lacking to the overabundance already present.

A couple of weeks ago we received an incredibly kind letter from a member, in which he shared his thoughts and appreciation of wingshooting, the association, spending time in the veld with dogs and friends, and the opportunities he has had thus far.

To this end, the association wishes to sincerely thank you Mr Anthony Chapman for your most kind and substantial donation made to the association. We truly appreciate it, and you!

We also want to thank all the farmers and landowners who, during these trying times due to foot and mouth disease, allow us access to their farms to enjoy our most precious cultural activity of wingshooting.

We wish all members a marvellous shooting and hunting year and always remember – we are a mere phone call away for any assistance you might require.

Waidmannsheil! – André



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30th Anniversary Clay shoot and sponsors

What an enjoyable day!

We hosted our 30 year anniversary Christmas clay target shoot at Sterkfontein Shooting Academy on 22 November last year.

We are grateful for all the members' support and attendance, ensuring the day was very successful and enjoyed by all.



The format, as always, is for everyone to have fun and the targets must be fair and representative of wingshooting. This annual event is not a formal competition – it is purely hosted as an activity for members to enjoy.

We had 15 teams of 6 guns per team in a 5-stand Compak-style setup. There

were five well designed and fun ranges to shoot.

Observing the laughter, chatter, camaraderie and jokes, all enhanced by the "Party Truck" and the delicious catering, was a pleasure. We would like to thank all the event sponsors and the caterers for their wonderful support!

A huge thank you to Mark Schuurmans of Target Truck for sponsoring the "Party Truck" and its staff. All the prize and auction sponsors – thanks ever so much...

Dr Alan Kloeck of MSD Animal Health, Gary Hagemann of GH Wingshooting, Hendry Olivier of TwinBore Agencies, Rosema Bricks and Theo Rosema and family, Leslie van der Merwe of GameChef, Theuns Oelofse of NW Wingshooting, Peter Becker of Entramarc, Rudy Stam of Budget Branding, Debbie Odendaal for the beautiful 30th Anniversary coasters each member received, individual members and of course Charmain Fivaz of Tenworx for the tasty cuisine and table decorations.

See more images of the event on pages 40 and 41 in this edition.

– SA Wingshooters

EP Event - Restricting lead in ammunition in Europe: Implications and consequence

Brussels, 20 November 2025 – The event on "Restricting lead in ammunition in Europe: Implications and consequences",

hosted by MEP Riho Terras (EPP, Estonia), brought together key stakeholders to discuss the European Commission's proposal to restrict the use of lead in ammunition for hunting and outdoor shooting.

The discussion, which took place in the European Parliament on 18 November, focused on the implications of the restriction for hunting, sport shooting and related sectors, as well as for environmental protection and public health.

MEP Riho Terras, Vice-President of the "Biodiversity, Hunting, Countryside" Intergroup, who hosted the event, underlined the importance of a balanced approach, highlighting both the environmental objectives and the need to consider practical implications for hunters, sport shooters, Europe's ammunition industry, as well as Europe's defence capabilities.

Ms. Valentina Bertato from the European Commission's Directorate-General for Environment (DG ENV) presented the proposal for a restriction on lead in ammunition, prepared based on the ECHA's opinion, aiming to minimise the emissions to the environment while limiting the impact on hunting and sport shooting, thanks to specific exemptions and transitional periods before the bans start to apply. She added that defence preparedness will not be impacted as the use of bullets in shooting ranges is completely exempted.

Dr. Ruth Cromie, Research Fellow at Wildfowl & Wetlands Trust (WWT), underlined the scientific evidence on the impacts of lead ammunition on wildlife, the environment and human health and



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focused on the benefits the restriction would bring. She stated: "This restriction is not just about the overwhelming evidence of harms caused by lead ammunition, it is about assuring the sustainability of hunting and image of shooting in a modern society.

As other countries transition to the alternative non-toxic ammunition, I hope the EU seizes the opportunity to adopt this restriction and does not get left behind."

Representing the European manufacturers of sporting ammunition, Mr. Thierry Jacobs, President of the Association of European Manufacturers of Sporting Ammunition (AFEMS), presented the perspective of the ammunition industry. He stated: "The civil and military ammunition sectors are deeply interdependent: both rely on the same technologies, machinery and raw materials.

"Moreover, most European military producers also operate in the civil market, sharing facilities and resources. Any restriction on the civil side therefore has immediate consequences for the military one, even with the derogations and exemptions provided. Our industry remains ready for open and constructive dialogue, although its perspective has not been taken sufficiently into account so far."

From the perspective of the shooting sports community, Mr. Luciano Rossi, President of the International Shooting Sport Federation (ISSF), emphasised the need for regulations that are workable

for athletes and clubs at all levels. He stressed that: "The European shooting sport community is deeply committed to

sustainability and responsible action. Future regulations must remain practical, fair, and evidence-based, or they risk harming not only elite competition but also thousands of grassroots clubs. We urge a balanced approach that protects the environment while safeguarding the future of shooting sports in Europe."

Several questions were posed to the panel of speakers, covering impacts on industry, defence, hunting, and dealers, as well as calls to adopt the legislation to address environmental and health concerns due to current delays.

As discussions on the proposed restriction on lead in ammunition continue in the REACH Committee, FACE will remain engaged with EU institutions, stakeholders and its members.

– SA Wingshooters Association
attended this meeting via online link.

– <https://www.face.eu>



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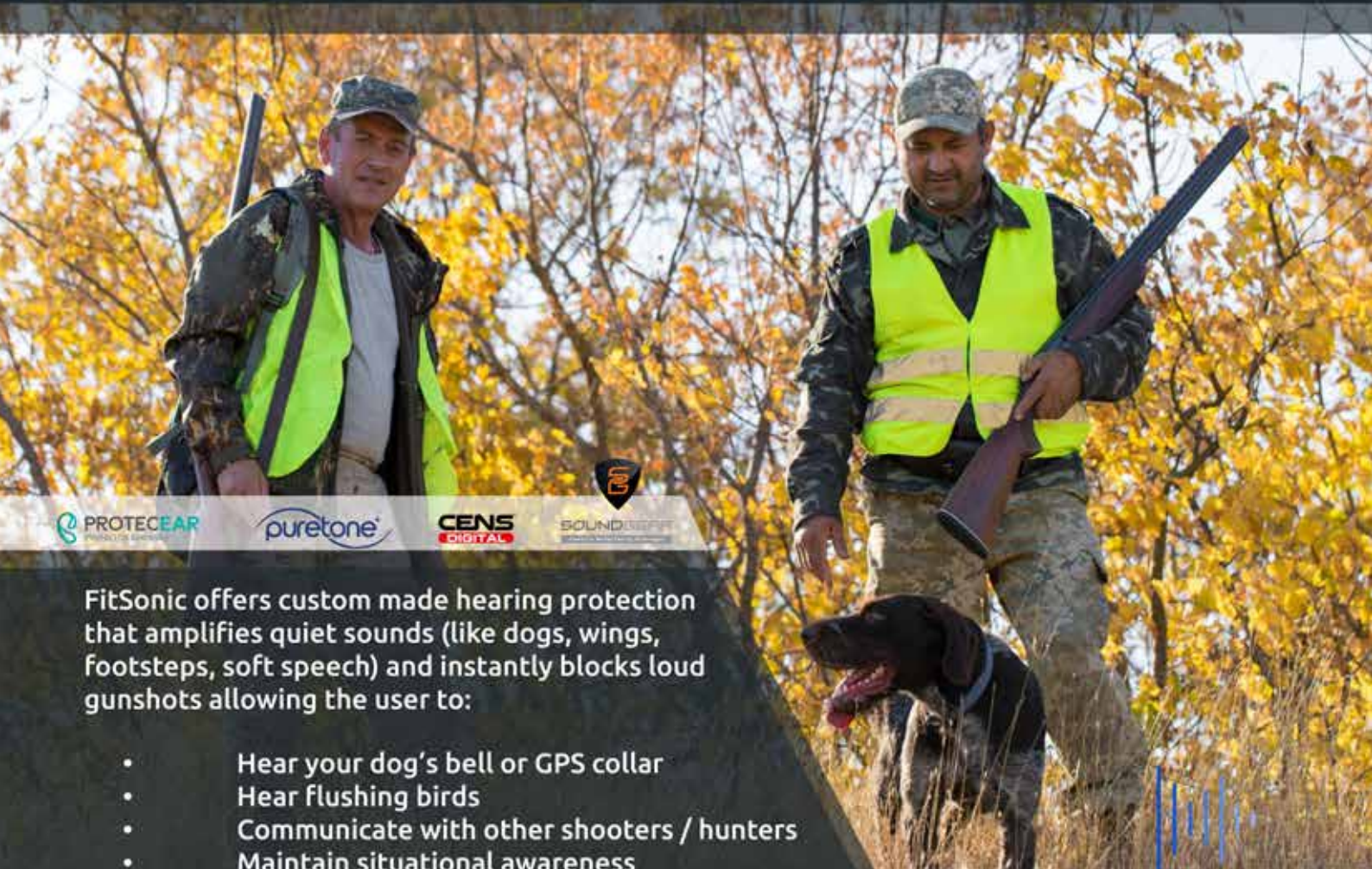
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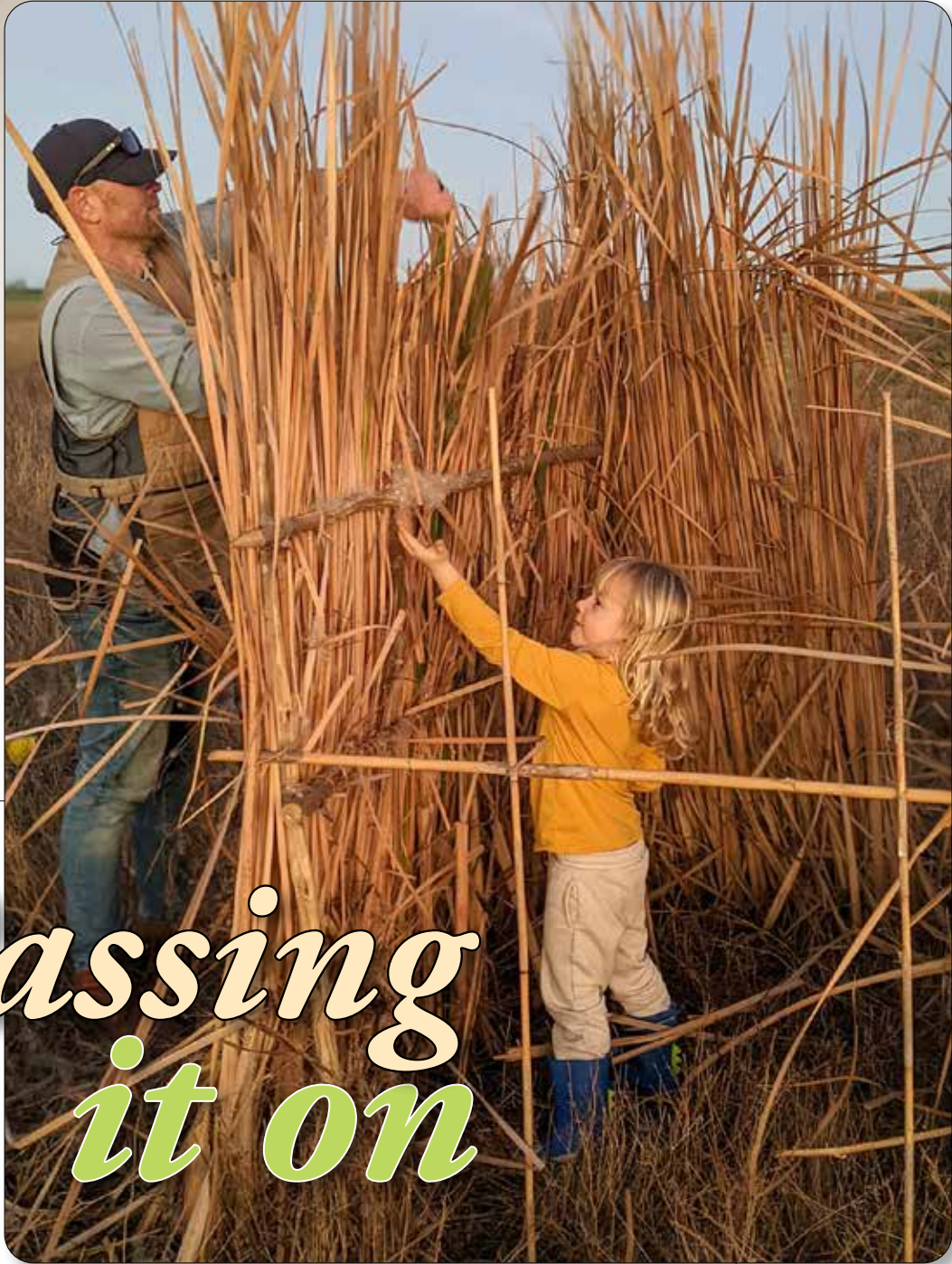
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A photograph of a man and a young child in a marshy area, surrounded by tall, dry reeds. The man, wearing a cap and a vest, is on the left, reaching up to place a horizontal reed branch. The child, wearing a yellow shirt and blue boots, is on the right, also reaching up to help. They are building a structure, possibly a blind or a fence, using the reeds. The title "Passing it on" is overlaid on the image in a large, stylized font.

Passing it on

by John-Patrick van Rensburg

Some people grow up knowing they want to be parents...

For others, like me, it comes as a quiet surprise. It was never something I planned or thought much about. I love my dad deeply and remember all the things we did together when I was a kid, the long drives and early mornings, the smell of coffee and gun oil. But fatherhood was always something that happened to other people until it happened to me.

Becoming a dad changes everything. It happens in stages that somehow blur together. One moment you are holding a baby who can barely lift his head, and the next you are being asked, "Hey Dad, can we go shooting?"

Somewhere between those moments, time seems to have slipped through your fingers. You try to slow it down, to hold it, but the days move too fast.

That question stopped me in my tracks. I realised I had spent years telling stories about wingshooting, about days in the field with my father, but I had nothing tangible to pass on. No shotgun, no kit, no means to show my son what those memories truly meant.

Not even many photographs, if I'm honest. Decades of travelling the world had taken a toll. I had let the rhythm of life and the hassle of gun licensing distract me from something far more important.

and bought the one that I always wanted. I left with a grin and two thoughts.

First, I had to choose my words and timing carefully when telling my wife about this fantastic new purchase that would change our world. Second, that I had just bought far more than a firearm. I had purchased a bridge between generations. A reason to plan trips again. A way to teach my boy about respect, patience and something as simple as where our meat really



John-Patrick and his son Owen at the Bredasdorp venue.

After years abroad, I was back in South Africa, but I felt like an expat. One afternoon, I looked at my three-year-old son and felt a pang of guilt and a physical ache in my chest. I realised that one of the most important aspects that shaped me the most was missing from his world. I could not let that happen.

The next morning, I walked into a gun shop, handled three shotguns, immediately discarded two

comes from and what it means to be a meat eater.

Months later, after the endless paperwork, tests and waiting, I finally had a shotgun in my own safe. In my own house.. It felt like part of me had been restored. But the next challenge came quickly.

Living in Cape Town is not like growing up in Pretoria, where finding a shooting venue was far simpler. I reached out to the SA

First, I had to choose my words and timing carefully when telling my wife about this fantastic new purchase that would change our world. Second, that I had just bought far more than a firearm. I had purchased a bridge between generations. A reason to plan trips again.



Early morning blind sitting



an email to the address listed on the website, and received an almost instant reply full of warmth, kindness, and understanding.

They remembered me from when I was a boy and my family, and within no time, I was re-registered and seamlessly qualified as a dedicated hunter in short order.

With help from the Wingshooters, I booked a shoot nearby where I live in Cape Town. The excitement in our home was electric. Owen, my little boy, could hardly contain his excitement and woke up asking to look at and read through the bird identification book and our hide designs we made together. We made decoys together, planned our hide in detail, and packed our bags like we were going on a month-long safari.

The day before the shoot, we arrived at the farm and met up with the lovely farm owners. The farmer pointed out the canola fields and a spot beside a small watercourse where the birds had been flying.

My wife, Anna, Owen, and I got stuck in and started building our hide. Anna was on self-appointed reed-cutting duty while I started shaping a frame.

Owen busied himself hauling as many bunches of cut reeds as he could carry, one bundle after another, proudly announcing each new

Wingshooters Association the next day. It was a name that carried warmth and memories. To my

delight, I found that André was now at the helm, carrying forward the legacy of Raoul and Dagmar. I sent

delivery. Tireless for a three-year-old. It took us nearly two hours of steady work. The hide was a mix of reeds, rope, and imagination, and it is probably still standing.

It was hard getting Owen to sleep that night. The idea of waking up in the dark to go shooting was almost too much to bear. I woke at five and started packing our things and making coffee. As I moved around quietly, a small voice came from upstairs, soft in his practised bird-hunting whisper: "We're going shooting today, Dad. What can I do to help?" My heart very nearly burst. This was what it was all about.

We packed everything, kissed Mum goodbye, and drove out in the pitch dark. The air was sharp and cold, at 4 degrees Celsius. We had a kilometre to walk through the darkness, guided mostly by moonlight and infrared headlamps. This kid paced on without a single word of complaint.

I set up our two folding chairs and asked if he would be all right sitting for a few minutes while I put out the decoys. He sat there and didn't make a sound. We crawled into the hide, and I set him up with an extra blanket and ear protectors. Then we waited. I told a few quiet stories about how we used to train up GSPs and my first time hunting waterfowl. Somewhere far off, we could hear geese calling in the field, and there were birds flying overhead that we couldn't identify yet.

As soon as it was light enough to see, Owen pointed out a few geese in the field in front of us. I had built the hide a bit thick, and it was hard to look behind and in front without making a lot of noise.

While looking at the geese in the field further away, we suddenly heard the loud hiss of a pair of flying Egyptian Geese behind us. I was caught terribly off guard, but I hurriedly and urgently told Owen to close his ears because he wasn't wearing ear protectors yet. I picked up and shot the goose right overhead the hide, in full view of Owen and me. It dropped hard and lay where it fell.

Owen jumped up on his chair and very loudly screamed, "Good



shot, dude!" and then proceeded to give me a high five. We collected the goose, and at this point, the excitement was too much for the little man; he wanted to go and show Mum. That was fine with me.

We had done what we came to do, although I glanced longingly at the swarms of spur-winged geese flying in the distance. We packed

up, went back, showed Mum, and took some pictures. Core memory secured, for both of us.

I felt whole again. I felt at home again. And, probably for the first time, I felt like I was actually a father. Thank you, SA Wingshooters, for keeping the dream alive and for all the kindness. I am happy to call my son and I wingshooters.



Is this

Wingshooting?

Conduct in bad taste and frankly, illegal...

By Charles Duff

The other day I happened to view a very disturbing video on the internet. In it the viewer was invited to join a happy band of fearless warriors shooting gamebirds – all well and good, but the video then showed a bunch of men, armed in the main with pump-action shotguns and standing on the backs of bakkies shooting at guineafowl in the air and on the ground whilst the vehicles chased the birds. It was all so unexpected and so totally and utterly wrong in every conceivable way.

For starters, it is illegal in South Africa to shoot gamebirds from any vehicle. This includes boats. Further it is illegal to shoot gamebirds with semi-auto shotguns in eight of our nine provinces. The exception being Kwa-Zulu Natal and there the magazine tube must take a maximum of only two cartridges.

The overriding world controller of sporting shotgunning, FITASC (*Fédération Internationale de Tir aux Armes Sportives de Chasse*) bans pump action shotguns from any of its associated ranges because they cause or are involved in more ‘accidents’ than all the rest of single and double barrelled guns as well as semi-autos.

As an aside, in this video the magazines were patently unobstructed. It



Photo: Screen shot from Youtube.com

also became obvious that bag limits were being blithely ignored.

The only positive about this whole cadenza was that at least nobody was visibly actively imbibing alcohol, which is something that one cannot state about most of our so-called community school shoots.

Now it is patently apparent that our game laws are by and large being

ignored by the average South African bird shooter – I cannot comment as to the situation with respect to hunters of mammalian game but in over fifty years of wingshooting here I have only ever seen a nature conservation officer in the field on one occasion.

This was in the Natal midlands at a community shoot where a nice young fellow in a natty green uniform

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arrived as we were all taking a break from an extended walk-up.

On seeing a hunter with a semi-auto, asked to handle the gun, requested some cartridges, loaded three and confiscated the gun. The luckless owner was then told that it would come up for auction later in the year and he could then buy it if he so desired. It certainly ruined his day until someone pointed out that he had got off lightly – he could have been fined and his vehicle could have been impounded as well!

As a tribe or a community, mankind cannot exist peacefully and suc-

cessfully without a set of ethics, or rules of behaviour, which are historically formulated and become the laws of living of that particular group, tribe or nation.

quickly superseded by the percussion lock, and it was realised that shooting at birds on the wing could be fun and took some skill. It quickly became the rage and a mainly up-market sport.

The ethics that were formed confirmed that shooting birds on the ground was killing for meat, while once airborne the birds had a sporting chance of escaping. Thus wing-shooting ethics were formed and are still the rule today and embody the principles of fair chase.

You can tempt gamebirds with food, bewilder them with decoys, chivvy the flocks into flying over lines

can absorb and not become extinct.

With the exemption of the usually lone wildfowler in his marshes, the sport became convivial and from this, two further ethics evolved.

The first being that if a line is formed to walk over fields then it is mandatory to keep in line and no cross-line shots should be considered; from this developed the necessity of not to poach a next door hunter's birds.

Further, in company, no chancy or possibly dangerous shots were to be taken. If the hunters are standing cheek by jowl then only the hunter



Shooting birds from a vehicle when hunting is not just unethical – it's illegal in most provinces.

Photo: Screen shot from Youtube.com

cessfully without a set of ethics, or rules of behaviour, which are historically formulated and become the laws of living of that particular group, tribe or nation.

Prior to firearms, the bow, sling, javelin or spear could only be used with any real expectation of success if the quarry was stationary and earth-bound. In fact the most successful system was to use nets cast over the noses of setter dogs which were holding a covey in place.

Once guns became available their slow ignition meant that shooting stationary birds on the ground was now feasible. In flight, not so much. So the flintlock shotgun arrived, to be

of guns, but the over-riding ethic is that you only shoot at birds in the air, never on the ground. In Victorian and Edwardian times came the era of the 'grand battues' - mass shooting of pen reared birds supplementing wild ones being driven over a line of guns which now had breechloading automatically ejecting double guns, shot by gents with two or three guns, kept loaded by specialist gun loaders.

Daily bags of many hundred birds were common. Thankfully this came to an end, accelerated by two world wars and the other common ethic of bag limits. The acceptable numbers being reached by game wardens who presumably know what their birds

on the outside of the group should shoot. That anyone would so stupid as to have three or four armed hunters in the back of a moving bakkie really strains the brain.

Thus the elite among wingshooters only take blue sky shots, never shoot at another's bird or across the line, are always safety conscious, never mix shooting with alcohol intake, obey all country and provincial shooting laws with respect to open seasons, bag limits, types of guns etc; purchase the appropriate provincial annual hunting licences and would rather be seen dead than on the back of bakkie careening across the veld after a flock of gamebirds.



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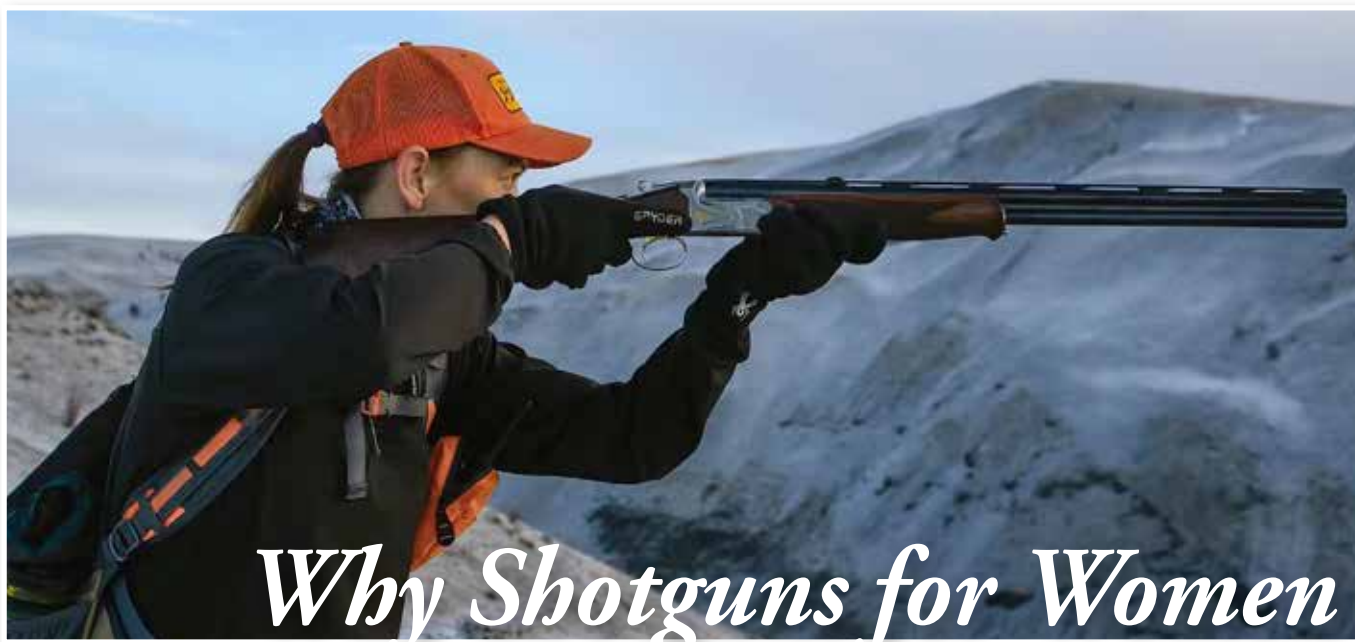
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Why Shotguns for Women Matter

Proper shotgun fit is key to your shooting success; for women, most shotguns simply weren't designed to fit our bodies.

by Courtney Bastian
Courtesy of Project Upland Magazine
Photographs courtesy Project Upland

There was a moment while dog training when my husband asked me to shoot because he needed to keep his hands and attention on the dog. He said it was okay if I missed the bird because he was working the dog to be steady to shot. He handed me his shotgun, and while I didn't feel the pressure of needing to accomplish much beyond safely expelling a shot, I still felt some anxiety and fear about what my first shot from a shotgun would be like. The dog went on point, I walked up and flushed the bird, and as if it was some kind of automatic reflex, I took the shot.

Based on what resulted from that sequence nearly 12 years ago, I'm sure that my eyes were tightly clenched and the stock several inches away from my body when I actually pulled the trigger. I left the field with my ears ringing, a bruised and sore arm, and full intention to never again assist with broke dog training.

It wasn't much later that I was overcome by the desire to have that special bond that develops between a bird dog and its owner while hunting. I wanted my own gun, one that wouldn't hurt me nor fatigue my arms after carrying it around the field for hours. I went into a sporting goods store feeling eager and excited, knowing that I would soon be walking out with my first shotgun. The process unfolded as I had expected: the guy behind the counter handed me five shotguns to shoulder and asked me how each of them "felt."

Having no previous experience or knowledge of what a shotgun should feel like, I replied that they all felt good. I could lift them up to my shoulder, look down the barrel, and only noticed a difference in weight between them. I opted to buy the most expensive option, merely because it was the lightest of the options. Two seasons and a considerable number of missed birds later, I decided that ruffed grouse wasn't the

most beginner-friendly upland bird species to pursue as a novice to hunting and shooting.

Modifying your gun stock for better fit

I spent several weekends that following summer shooting sporting clays. At one point a bystander commented that I would be hitting more clays if my gun fit me better, and suggested that I visit the club's pro shop. The gunsmith confirmed that my shotgun didn't fit me, so I paid a good amount of money to get the stock shortened. Eight more seasons rolled by with some birds in the bag, plus some "how the hell did I miss that?" moments.

I set a goal of spending more time at the range because, with more hunting trips on the calendar, I wanted my shooting abilities to match the amount of training I'd put into my bird dogs for that season. It was the first time I had a shooting instructor, and he immediately acknowledged

that I was canting, or tilting my head over the stock. He said the reason I was canting was because my shotgun didn't fit me correctly and recommended that I get my shotgun modified—again.

I was upset. Why did the guy behind the sales counter sell me a shotgun that didn't fit me? And why didn't the stock alteration I had done previously solve the fit issue? I decided that at this point, it would make more sense to buy a new shotgun. I reached out to some friends who hunt and asked them which shotgun they used and would recommend for me. Their suggestions were quite specific: a youth model or one that would need to be cut down to fit me

Unique design considerations for women's shotguns

I don't know why it didn't seem more obvious to me at the time, or even from the start, that it would be difficult to find a gun that fit a woman in the same way that it fits a man. The majority of women's bodies have more curves, a smaller frame, higher cheekbones, longer necks, and a weaker upper body when compared to that of a man.

All of these unique features play a factor with the touch points of a shotgun. Of course, some women may prefer the fit and feel of a full-size shotgun, just as some men prefer the fit and feel of a women's shotgun.

Acknowledging the obvious differences between male and female bodies, coupled with the rising number of women involved in shooting sports, a few companies now have shotguns available that are designed with the intent to fit the majority of women right out of the box. A women's shotgun will typically have:

1. Shorter length of pull (shorter stock length) to better fit a shorter arm.
2. Reduced grip radius to allow a smaller hand to more comfortably reach the trigger and to provide a better grip and feel.
3. "Toe out" cast and "positive" pitch, which sets the recoil pad toward the shoulder rather than feeling the recoil around the breast.
4. Monte Carlo-style comb to accommodate a longer neck and create a better fit against the cheek.

Shorter length of pull (shorter stock length) to better fit a shorter arm.

In addition, some women's shotgun models that are more commonly used in competition shooting offer adjustable features such as the comb, trigger, and rib. Some models also offer the option to change out the pad for one that may absorb more recoil.

Available options for women's shotguns

Currently, Syren is the only shotgun company that provides a full line of women's shotguns, with 10 models to accommodate the variety of shooting venues including sporting, trap, field and waterfowl guns. Other companies have also added a women's shotgun model to their lineup including Franchi, Fausti, Beretta, Blaser, CZ-USA and Krieghoff. Of these various options, the weight typically ranges from five to eight pounds. Barrel length is typically 28 or 30 inches, with a length of pull around 13.9 inches. Women's shotguns are most commonly found in 12 or 20 gauge, though there are a few 28 gauge and .410 models available.

While cutting down the stock of a full-size shotgun will provide a more comfortable feel in hand, it will often result in an imbalance of weight distribution. Syren points this out, saying, "The Syren guns are engineered to balance perfectly at the hinge point right out of the box and fit most women, so there's no need to severely modify them for fit.

"Small modifications, if needed, can still be made without altering the overall balance and weight, which is part of the magic of what makes a great shotgun."

Is it worth the money to invest in a women's shotgun?

How a gun fits you and how it feels when you shoot it are different factors, yet both are equally important. Shouldering a gun will help determine the fit, while shooting a gun will determine its feel. Before I made the purchase of a Syren 20ga Tempio Light, I spent time with a gun dealer who offered a demo center where I was able to shoot multiple women's shotguns, in addition to a few full-sized shotguns for comparison.

While price is always a consideration with any purchase, I put it into perspective by considering how I shop for a new pair of field boots. My approach is to buy whatever fits the best and will last, so that you don't have to compromise on comfort and durability. I've heard people say, "If I paid that much for a shotgun, I wouldn't want to take it hunting." However, we take our best bird dogs hunting—they're our family pet, we've invested an incredible amount of time and money into them, and we have an emotional attachment even though we know that something could happen to them at any moment. By this same logic... spend the money, get a shotgun that fits you, and have a great hunt.

I spent this past summer getting familiar with my new shotgun. My confidence grew exponentially at the range and in the field while training my dogs. I even went outside my comfort zone and gunned at several of our local NAVHDA training days, which is pretty high-pressure to be responsible for shooting birds so that others can train their dogs. While I can't say that I didn't miss a bird this past season, my percentage definitely improved. But more importantly, I had my most enjoyable season to date.

Whether you're chasing birds through the woods, across the prairies and grasslands, up and down mountains, or sitting behind a blind, it's important to have a gun that fits so that you can use it feeling comfortable and confident.



— <https://projectupland.com/shotguns-and-shooting/shotguns/why-shotguns-for-women-matter/>

THE

2026

Hunting
&



Sport Shooting CALENDAR

Thousands of possible gamebird, waterfowl, plains game and sport target shooting days arranged at venues and ranges countrywide, as well as internationally... just for you – the members! Book now and enjoy the season!



Members may not hijack shooting rights for themselves or their syndicates on any of the properties being advertised through SA Wingshooters – thereby effectively blocking other members. That's considered unsportsmanlike behaviour.

WINGSHOOTING (BIRD SHOOTING)

Gauteng:

When new pigeon, upland & waterfowl shoots become available throughout the year – members are notified via e-mail newsletter of new venues.

IMPORTANT:

ALL PIGEON SHOOT VENUES AND DATES ARE SENT OUT DIRECTLY TO MEMBERS VIA EMAIL.

Please note – below each venue & shoot description, the available dates will be listed without the repeat of the venue explanation.

EXCLUSIVE INVITATION

Advanced Tactical Handgun Course III Timbavati

22-26 July 2026

Full course, meals, tent accommodation, 4 nights.

Exclusive to members! Small team – limited space
Contact the office for full info



North West:

17 June

RUSTENBURG MID-WEEK DAY

Wednesday Shoot:

OFFICIAL SHOOT –

Upland/Walk-up Shoot – Rustenburg, North West.
Co-hosted by André van der Westhuizen

Book with André on this day shoot (option to sleep over). R2900 p/p/d (R3900 including a sleep over). Fully catered all inclusive – just bring your gun and ammo. 6 Guns minimum and maximum. Call SA Wingshooters to book.

15 July

RUSTENBURG MID-WEEK DAY

Wednesday Shoot:

OFFICIAL SHOOT –

Upland/Walk-up Shoot – Rustenburg, North West.
Co-hosted by André van der Westhuizen

Book with André on this day shoot (option to sleep over). R2900 p/p/d (R3900 including a sleep over). Fully catered all inclusive – just bring your gun and ammo. 6 Guns minimum and maximum. Call SA Wingshooters to book.

5 August

RUSTENBURG MID-WEEK DAY

Wednesday Shoot:

OFFICIAL SHOOT –

Upland/Walk-up Shoot – Rustenburg, North West.
Co-hosted by André van der Westhuizen

Book with André on this day shoot (option to sleep over). R2900 p/p/d (R3900 including a sleep over). Fully catered all inclusive – just bring your gun and ammo. 6 Guns minimum and maximum. Call SA Wingshooters to book.

26 August

RUSTENBURG MID-WEEK DAY

Wednesday Shoot:

OFFICIAL SHOOT –

Upland/Walk-up Shoot – Rustenburg, North West.
Co-hosted by André van der Westhuizen

Book with André on this day shoot (option to sleep over). R2900 p/p/d (R3900 including a sleep over). Fully

catered all inclusive – just bring your gun and ammo. 6 Guns minimum and maximum. Call SA Wingshooters to book.

16 September

RUSTENBURG MID-WEEK DAY

Wednesday Shoot:

OFFICIAL SHOOT –

Upland/Walk-up Shoot – Rustenburg, North West.
Co-hosted by SA Wingshooters

Book with André on this day shoot (option to sleep over). R2900 p/p/d (R3900 including a sleep over). Fully catered all inclusive – just bring your gun and ammo. 6 Guns minimum and maximum. Call SA Wingshooters to book.

18 to 20 September

RUSTENBURG

The Raoul van der Westhuizen
Invitational Shoot

On Invitation Only

Upland/Walk-up Shoot – Rustenburg, North West.
Co-hosted by SA Wingshooters

R7500.00. p/p. Fully catered all inclusive – just bring your gun and ammo. 6 Guns minimum and maximum. Call SA Wingshooters for more information.

Limpopo:

WARMBAD/BELA BELA:

Tuli Safaris Upland/Walk-up Day Shoot – Springbok flats – Limpopo. Inspected Venue.

This is a day shoot and no accommodation available. The farms are around Bela-Bela (Warmbad). Bring your own lunch and bird dogs for best results. Various farms. Cost is R1200 per gun, unguided. Min. 4 guns, Max. 6 guns. Call SA Wingshooters for info.

Shoot dates available:

20 June;

4 July;

18 July;

1 August and

15 August.

Continued overleaf...

THE 2026 SHOOT CALENDAR – for members only

Limpopo continued... WINGSHOOTING (BIRD SHOOTING)

NO SHOOT THIS YEAR!

Laerskool Tuinplaas Guinea-fowl Shoot – Limpopo

Upland community day shoot. Should they host we will let you know.

Contact: Nikki Lotter. Tel: 014 792 0820/ email: laerskooltuinplaas01@gmail.com

27 June

The Springbok Flats Farmers Association

Annual Shoot – Settlers district

Upland community shoot. R1300.- per gun. To book please contact: Estelle Paul: 064 685 9614 or email: svbv@senco.co.za

13 June

Tuinplaas Boerevereniging Shoot

Upland community shoot. 10% Discount to SA Wingshooters members. To book please contact: lstuinplaas@telkomsa.com or Altus Joubert: 082 551 5761 altus@jubaweni.co.za

DENDRON:

17 - 19 July

Dendron Community Shoot, Limpopo. Their 26th annual shoot. A great bushveld upland bird shoot. Call Cilanie du Toit: 083 737 8548 or email: tarentaaljagdendron@gmail.com

25 July

Laerskool Warmbad Community Shoot – Warmbad, Limpopo

A well organised community shoot to the benefit of the school. Cost is R1200 per gun (SA Wingshooters members get 10% discount). To book please call: Lise J van Vuuren: 082 960 0733, or Ida Dykema: 082 555 8294.

25 to 26 July

Roedtan Opvoedkundige Forum Shoot – Roedtan

Community shoot to the benefit of the school. To book call Santie Smit: 082 944 9309.

SETTLERS:

Beulah Shoot – Upland birds, Waterfowl & Pigeons

Situated on the Springbok Flats in the Limpopo province. Complete wingshooting experience.

The open grassland is ideal to train and enjoy your hunting dogs. 10% Discount to SA Wingshooters members.

Call SA Wingshooters for info.

SETTLERS:

TBC

St. Hubert Hunting Event

All SA wingshooters members are invited to the South African Field Trial Club (SAFTC). This is a field hunting event for you and your dog/s. Please email for more info: secretary@saftc.co.za

OHRIGSTAD/LYDENBURG AREA:

Guinea-fowl and Francolin shoots

6 to 8 guns. Self-guided venue. Choose your own dates. Call SA Wingshooters for info.

SETTLERS / BELA-BELA

Guided bird hunting on offer – Upland birds and Pigeons

Guineafowl and pigeons available during the open season. Guided hunts, own bird dogs welcome. For booking info and more information please contact SA Wingshooters office.

GROOTFONTEIN SHOOT:

Inspected Venue

Warmbad (Bela-Bela), Limpopo Guinea-fowl shoots

Great upland walk-up and driven day shoots. Bring your own lunch/braai/ soft drinks.

Own behaved dogs welcome. R1500 per gun only for this superbly guided shoot. Dates:

2 May

30 May

11 July

1 August

This is a great shoot!

Call SA Wingshooters for info.

Free State:

HOOPSTAD / BLOEMHOF

Gamebird Shooting – Free State

Upland bird shooting – mostly Guineafowl and Francolin/Spurfowl. Call SA Wingshooters for more info.

AAN-DIE-VAAL Nature Reserve Wingshooting

Waterfowl and accommodation. Contact Adele: 076 337 7700 or email skaapcron@gmail.com

TWEELING

Upland Shoot – Tweeling, Free State. Weekend shoots

Guinea-fowl, francolin & partridge on 350 ha. Farmhouse accommodation. Can accommodate 4 guns. Call SA Wingshooters for info.

Weekend Shoots available:

Arrange your own weekend in the hunting season. All weekends still available. 18 weekends to choose from.

STEYNSRUS:

OFFICIAL SHOOT – Inspected Venue

Vals River Shoot – Steynsrus, Free State

Mixed bag along the Vals river. Shoot waterfowl & gamebirds on the river. Self-catering. Accommodation on the



river bank. Day shoots also available. Call SA Wingshooters for info

Weekend Shoots available.

ZASTRON:

Waterfowl/Mixed bag Shoot – Zastron, Free State. Weekend shoots

Waterfowl (geese, duck, etc) and

Members may not hijack shooting rights for themselves or their syndicates on any of the properties being advertised through SA Wingshooters – thereby effectively blocking other members. That's considered unsportsmanlike behaviour.

Guinea-fowl. Accommodation available. Max. 6 guns.

Call SA Wingshooters to book.

Weekend Shoots available:
Arrange your own weekend in the hunting season.

VREDEFORT

Inspected Venue

Witklip Upland Shoot, Vredefort, Free State. Weekend Day shoots

Game birds, mostly Francolin. Shoot hosted and organised by the farmer and his wife, and includes lunch. Call SA Wingshooters for info.

Weekend Shoots available:
Choose your own weekends in season: 15 May to 15 Sept.

VILJOENSKROON – Day shoots

Inspected Venue

Grassmere Wingshooting – Viljoenskroon, Free State

Francolin walk-up shooting over pointing dogs (extra cost). Own dogs welcome and up to 6 guns. This is a day shoot only. Arrange your own accommodation in the area. Call SA Wingshooters to book.

Weekend Shoots available:
Call for available dates.

VREDE

Inspected Venue

Mooibrak Shoot – Free State

Upland & Waterfowl shooting. Clean and nice accommodation. Limited bird numbers. R1200 for the weekend per person, self catering (2 nights accommodation). Call SA Wingshooters for info.

Weekend Shoot dates:
Choose your own weekends

VREDE

Little Long Creek Shoot – Free State – Inspected Venue

Greywing, swainsons, water-fowl & guineas. Walkup and dogs essential. Arrive Thursday and hunt Friday and Saturday and depart Sunday. Quality self catering lodge. R3000 per person for the weekend, self-catering. Excludes firewood. Call SA Wingshooters for info.

Weekend Shoots available

PARYS

OFFICIAL SHOOT – Inspected Venue

Grootfontein Shoot, Parys, Free State. Weekend day shoots

Good size farm for day hunting. Swainson's, Guinea-fowl, Orange River Partridge. Saturdays only. 4 guns maximum. R600 per person. Bring your own lunch. Own dogs needed – sheep farm, so make sure your dog is under control!

Choose your own weekends in season: 15 May to 15 Sept.

BRONNIE BIRD HUNT HOËRSKOOL HEILBRON

21 to 23 August

Upland Community shoot

A well organised community shoot to the benefit of the school. R1600. Various accommodation options on farms and p/p. For complete info brochure and booking please contact Louise Snyman: 082 965 4964. Email: louise@snymanrek.co.za

VEREENIGING / HEILBRON

Mixed bag birds – Free State

Several thousand hectares. Privately owned & exclusive bird shooting venue. Upland birds - Guinea-fowl & Francolin, etc. For booking info, please contact SA Wingshooters office.

WINBURG

Inspected Venue

Upland birds – Jasper Shoot, Winburg, Free State

Mostly upland game birds on a beautiful Winburg venue. Accommodation on farm available. Self-catering. Well trained dogs welcome. Call SA Wingshooters for info on how to book.

KROONSTAD

Inspected Venue

Rawhide Shoot, Free State

Professionally guided upland and waterfowl bird shooting on various



farms. Catering/lunch also offered on day shoots, and accommodation. Call SA Wingshooters for more info.

NEW VENUES ARE ADDED AS WE ARRANGE THEM THROUGH THE SEASON

Members will be notified via email eNewsletter, our National WhatsApp and social media.

New venues

We are always looking for new venues in all provinces! If you have venues, please call us and we can discuss custodian shoots. If you have a venue, the venue will remain yours, and all shooting activity will be confirmed and allowed through you as the custodian. So rest assured that you will not lose the venue.

Mpumalanga

MIDDELBURG

Inspected Venue – Dates to be confirmed

Waterfowl Shoot – Middelburg, Mpumalanga – Dubula Shoot

Waterfowl and Upland game bird venue. Accommodation available. Own dogs welcome! Call SA Wingshooters to book.

HENDRINA

Inspected Venue

Upland birds & Waterfowl. Sorgenfri

Accommodation on farm available. Self-catering. Well trained dogs welcome. Blesbuck avail. Various rates for accommodation depending on time of the week, etc. Call SA Wingshooters for info.

Continued overleaf...

THE 2026 SHOOT CALENDAR – for members only

Mpumalanga continued... **WINGSHOOTING (BIRD SHOOTING)**

LEANDRA

**Official Shoot –
Inspected Venues
Upland and waterfowl shoots
day shoots**

These upland shoots (and waterfowl when available) are guided shoots on various farms around Leandra-Kendal areas. R1800 per gun. 4 to 6 guns. Full lunch, water and cold drinks provided. Own dogs welcome! Call SA Wingshooters to book.

**Official Shoot Dates –
Saturday 18 July – Ladies ONLY
Wednesday 1 July
Wednesday 29 July**



AMERSFOORT/ERMELO:

**NO SHOOTING THIS SEASON!
Inspected Venue
Amersfoort Vaalriet Shoot,
Mpumalanga.**

Weekend shoots only. Waterfowl and land birds. 2 to 4 Hunters @ R3000 pppd for guided hunts. Bird dogs welcome. Self-catering. Shared basic accommodation @ R700/day and bass dam available. Call SA Wingshooters to book.

Northern Cape

HOPETOWN/ORANIA:

**Inspected Venue
Gkhui Gkhui Shoot,
Northern Cape.**

Wingshooting on the Orange River. All birds that are open in their various season dates, plains game hunting and fly-fishing. Excellent lodge accommodation and superb catering. Lodge accommodation for SA Wingshooters R1350 p/p/night.

Wingshooting R500 per day un-guided to R1000 guided, plus some extras, depending on what you want to hunt and do.

Call SA Wingshooters to book.

**Weekend Shoots available:
Arrange your own weekend**

HANOVER - KAROO CONSERVANCY

Northern Cape –

Egyptian Geese hunting in the Karoo (Hanover). Exclusive for members only. Goose shooting available close to Hanover in the Karoo on lucerne pivots. Many accommodation options in lodge and other on the same farm available. Dogs are not required as you will be shooting from blinds and pit blinds in the fields. R800 per night if you stay in the lodge, hunting included. Call SA Wingshooters to book.

HOPETOWN/ORANIA:

**Inspected Venue
Fins & Fowl Outfitters,
Northern Cape.**

Wingshooting on the Orange River and surrounding areas. All birds that are open in their various season dates and fly-fishing. Excellent lodge accommodation and superb catering. multiple inland ponds and nearby irrigation fields, with an abundance of game birds and waterfowl. SA Wingshooters members receive a discount. Call SA Wingshooters for info.

Western Cape

CERES:

**Inspected Venue
Waterfowl, Ceres, Western Cape**
Waterfowl (Duck and Geese) on a great venue near Op-die-Berg. Good shooting and accommodation hosted by our Western Cape Shoot Captain. Catered. Call SA Wingshooters for info.

RAWSONVILLE:

**Inspected Venue
Rawsonville, Western Cape**
Waterfowl and Cape Francolin on a great venue near Rawsonville. Good shooting day shoot. Hosted by our Western Cape Shoot Captain. Call SA Wingshooters to book.

**Shooting available on certain
dates.**

GOUDA / PICKETBERG AREA:

**Inspected Venue
Waterfowl, Western Cape**
Good shooting day shoot. Hosted by our Western Cape Shoot Captain. Call SA Wingshooters to book.
**Shooting available on certain
dates.**

BREDASDORP:

**OFFICIAL Venue
Bredasdorp Walk-up –
Bredasdorp, Western Cape**
Guineafowl & waterfowl. Accommodation & restaurant on site. Self guided hunting. Call the office to book.

**Weekend Shoots available:
Arrange your own weekend in
the hunting season.**

STRANDVELD

**OFFICIAL Venue
Strandveld Waterfowl & Upland
birds – Western Cape.**
Walk-up shoot close to Elim/Voëlvlei. Guinea fowl, Spur-wing, Egyptian geese and duck in season only. No accommodation – arrange yourself in the area or ask André at the SA Wingshooters office where to stay. Call SA Wingshooters to book.
**Arrange your own dates in
the hunting season.**

TOUWS RIVER:

**Exclusive Venue
Soutrivier Shoot – Western Cape.**
Walk-up shooting between Touws River and Montagu. Accommodation and camping available. Call SA Wingshooters to book.

Members may not hijack shooting rights for themselves or their syndicates on any of the properties being advertised through SA Wingshooters – thereby effectively blocking other members. That's considered unsportsmanlike behaviour.

HOOIKRAAL, HEIDELBERG:

Waterfowl & Upland birds – Western Cape.

Heidelberg area. Guinea-fowl, Spur-wing, Egyptian geese and duck in season. Accommodation, etc. Call SA Wingshooters to book.

Weekend Shoots available:

Arrange your own weekend in the hunting season.

Shoot: Rûens College Shoot

Quarry: Cape Francolin/Guineas

Date: **30 May**

Contact:

kampus@ruenskollege.co.za

Shoot: Suideroord Old Age Home

Quarry: Cape Francolin/Guinea Fowl

Date: **25 July**

Contact person: Cobia

Tel: +27 (28) 424 1080

Email: bestuur@suideroord.co.za



Shoot: Greyton NG Church

Quarry: Guinea-fowl

Date: **15 August**

Contact person: Piet Matthee

Tel: 072 606 1579

Email: pdkmatthee@gmail.com

Shoot: Riviersonderend Bowls Club Guinea shoot

Quarry: Guinea-fowl

Date: **1 August**

Contact person: Corine: 082 871 1533 or Wessel: 082 979 1806

Eastern Cape

BARKLY EAST/RHODES –

GREYWING – Hosted by Ourano Pointers

Greywing Partridge dates available:

Professionally guided, catered shoots with well trained English Pointers. Call SA Wingshooters for more info.

LADY GREY AREA:

Memo Shoot – Lady Grey, Eastern Cape

Grey-wing, Red-wing & Orange river partridge, as well as Swainson's,



Guinea-fowl, Duck and Geese. Basic, self-catering accommodation on farm for 8 people. Shooting fee is R600 pp per day and includes accommodation. Call SA Wingshooters to book.

Weekend Shoots available:

You can select your own dates

RHODES:

Grey-wing Partridge – Eastern Cape

Professionally guided Grey-wing hunting, as well as Plains game. Accommodation and food/meals can be arranged. Call SA Wingshooters for booking info.

Choose your own shoot dates within the various bird seasons.

EAST LONDON:

Douglasvale Shoot – Eastern Cape

Lodge facilities at R500p/p/n self catering this includes cleaning. Braai facilities available and both units have full self catering appliances, linen and ablutions. Various plains game – Impala, Bushbuck, Nyala,

Warthig, Bushpig etc.

Call SA Wingshooters to book.

STUTTERHEIM:

Eastern Cape

Waterfowl, upland game birds, rock pigeons, etc. Self-catering or catered. Accommodation, can sleep 8-10 people. Braai area. Gamebirds and plains game available. Call SA Wingshooters for info.

DORDRECHT:

Eastern Cape

Superb Greywing and other bird shooting with professional guides and FT Champion bird dogs! A five star shoot and venue for sure!

Call SA Wingshooters for info.

MOLTENO:

Eastern Cape

Bespoke bird shooting safaris cover a diverse range of habitats, where no day is alike, giving the hunter an array of opportunities and species that are both exciting and diversified.

Call SA Wingshooters for info.

KwaZulu-Natal

KOKSTAD:

Upland and waterfowl

Upland gamebirds, Waterfowl and Pigeons available during the open season. Can arrange accommodation. Call SA Wingshooters for info.

Week & weekend Shoots

available: Select your own dates

WINTERTON:

Upland and Waterfowl

Professionally guided wingshooting on various farms.

Call SA Wingshooters for info.

NEWCASTLE/DUNDEE:

Upland and Waterfowl

Professionally guided wingshooting on various farms.

Call SA Wingshooters for info.

Continued on next page...

THE 2026 SHOOT CALENDAR – for members only

INTERNATIONAL HUNTING & CLAY TARGET SHOOTING

International Wingshooting:

ARGENTINA – South America **Duck, Dove, Pigeon, Perdiz and mixed bag hunts**

Tailormade hunting and personalised service – every shooting trip is individually designed around each client. We specialise in custom itineraries based on your group's wishes and budget. Luxury lodges and great shooting. Call SA Wingshooters for booking info.

TEXAS, USA:

Waterfowl hunting

This stretch of Texas, commonly referred to as the Coastal Bend region, is home to incredible numbers of ducks and geese. However, it's the large populations of migrating Gadwall, Widgeon, Pintail, Canvasback, Redhead and Teal that keep our duck hunting customers coming back year after year. Call SA Wingshooters for info.

CANADA, Saskatchewan:

Waterfowl hunting

The area is perfect for waterfowl hunting. We offer spectacular goose and duck hunting. Each year the sky fills with migrating waterfowl eager to replenish their energy stores for their flight south – and they pile in! As the premier waterfowl outfitters, we pride ourselves in offering the absolute best goose and duck hunting in Canada. The sheer numbers of ducks and geese that converge here is truly something to witness. Call SA Wingshooters for info.

TEXAS, USA:

Upland and other

From mid-September through March, Upland Bird Hunting is the main attraction at Joshua Creek Ranch. Texas bobwhite quail are found in great numbers on the ranch as are pheasant and chukar. Starting in December each year, hunters can

also harvest Hungarian partridge. Traditional walk-up hunting with guides and dogs is the most popular style of hunting at Joshua Creek Ranch. Call SA Wingshooters for info.

SOUTH DAKOTA, USA:

Discover why our pheasant hunting lodge earned two Beretta Tridents. As the only lodge in the state that offers our guests unlimited pheasants (up to the state limit) with every package, it won't take long to see why we earned the title of the 2017 Sporting Classics Lodge of the Year. Family-owned and operated, they provide all-inclusive packages that make pheasant hunting, fishing and waterfowl hunting especially rewarding. Call SA Wingshooters for booking info.

SPAIN:

Bespoke partridge and wild partridge shooting. The setting of the estate is incomparable for partridge shooting. This estate provides some of the most challenging partridges in Spain.



UNITED KINGDOM:

Pheasant, Grouse, Snipe, Woodcock, Wildfowl and Duck –

The 'GunsOnPegs' provides access to shoots for guns that are looking for shooting. Guns can get access to a wealth of opportunities that previously were only available by word of mouth. Those last minute opportunities no longer have to be given away! GunsOnPegs has now become the largest shoot finder service in the UK. Visit their website www.gunsonpegs.com and choose your next UK bird shoot.

Clay Target Shooting:

Saturday 28 November 2026 – **Sterkfontein Shooting Academy** **SA WINGSHOOTERS ANNUAL** **CHRISTMAS CLAY TARGET SHOOT.** **Our 31st annual year-end clay target shoot –**

We will host our annual Christmas clay target shooting, consisting of 50



fun clay targets, a lunch and prizes for members. Space is limited. Call Anél at the office to book!

STERKFontein SHOOTING **ACADEMY – Olifantsfontein, GP** **Club access to SA Wingshooters** **members only –**

The club is open from 09:00 till 16:00 most Wednesdays to Sundays. SA Wingshooter members have access to the club. Call SA Wingshooters for more info.

CLAY TARGET SHOOTING **COUNTRY-WIDE**

Call the office for info on a club near you.

Throughout the year **CLAY SHOOTING COACHING**

SA Wingshooters has experienced shotgun shooting training coaches. If you are new to shotgun shooting or want to improve your shotgun shooting ability. We'll set up a coaching session for you. We also send out pre-arranged coaching days/dates via our email newsletter throughout the year. Call SA Wingshooters.

THE 2026 SHOOT CALENDAR – for members only

SPORT SHOOTING – TARGET & STEEL

4-Gun & 3-Gun (Handgun, SLR Rifle, Bolt, SG) Shooting:

MULTI-GUN RIFLE, SHOTGUN & HANDGUN MATCHES

At our LRSC shooting facility –

We offer 4-gun, 3-gun and 2-gun combined rifle and handgun shooting events. Multi-stage events include handgun shooting from 10m to 100m and transition rifle shooting up to 1200m. This division is for semi-auto rifles, shotguns and handguns. Call SA Wingshooters for more info.



PSP Handgun & Rifle Shooting:

THE PSP Target shooting Competition for rifles & handguns is open to members

**of the PSP. Send your targets for
entry into this annual competition
to us before 1 October 2026.**

Any handgun shooting course dates, presented by our in-house IDPA Master Class Instructor, will be sent out via our official eNewsletters. All welcome at these training days. Download the PSP rifle and/or handgun targets from our website:

<http://www.wingshooters.org.za/ALL-DOWNLOADS/>. Then simply post or scan and email your shot targets to us. Your best target (score) of the year will be automatically entered into the competition. Call the office to join the PSP.



LRSC – Long Range Shooting Club:



The Long Range Shooting Club (LRSC) is part of SA Wingshooters.

Come and join us at our shooting days on various ranges, where we host long range shoots, etc. Our ranges are set up and the distances range from 100m metres to 1200m. The range is currently available 7 days a week by prior booking.

This facility is not a public shooting facility and is available on invitation only. Should you be interested, visit the site below or call the office. www.longrangeclub.com
Events and matches hosted for members



during the year is sent out on email. Long range shooting is challenging but fun. There is also an 'open' division, so you can compete with your hunting rifle in any calibre, even though it is not the preferred setup for long distance shooting.



LRSC – LONG RANGE SHOOTING CLUB MATCH EVENT DATES 2026:

The 2026 LRSC (Long Range Shooting Club), TPS 4-gun, 3-gun and 2-gun, .22PSBC and handgun Official Match event dates for 2026 are as follows:

7 February:	LRSC Rifle Training day
7 March:	LRSC Rifle match 1
18 April:	LRSC Rifle match 2
16 May:	NIGHT SHOOT
30 May:	LRSC Rifle match 3
27 June:	LRSC Rifle match 4
11 July:	LRSC Rifle match 5
25 July:	LRSC Rifle Training day
29 August:	Annual .22PSBC Small-bore match.
12 September:	TPS 4-gun, 3-Gun and 2-Gun multi-gun Match.
10 October:	RP Handgun LR Match
14 November:	Year-end Fun Shoot/ Designated Marksman Challenge

Participants may enter multiple calibre division at most events, with a maximum of three calibre divisions per match, as per the LRSC calibre divisions.

We invite new members to come and participate in these events, as our focus is on having fun and helping new members at all events.

As always, all event invitations/notifications will be emailed to members in advance, in order to facilitate bookings for events. The TPS, RP Handgun and .22PSBC event points do not count towards annual LRSC Rifle match points.



Continued on next page...

THE 2026 SHOOT CALENDAR – for members only

PLAINS & BIG GAME HUNTING

Plains Game Hunting:

ADANSONIA ECO LODGE –

Musina, Limpopo – Member owned

Plan on a hunting trip, no need to search further. Phone us for an unforgettable time. We have a fully equipped lodge with a one-in-a-



million chef. Daily serviced rooms. Guides to accompany you on hunting & skinning. Cold rooms available. For the game prices contact us. Member owned. Call SA Wingshooters for info.

EASTERN CAPE – Jansenville/

Somerset East – Member owned **Donkerkloof Farm**

Plains game hunting in the beautiful Eastern Cape. Member owned. Call SA Wingshooters for info.

ULUNU SAFARIS –

Alldays, Limp. Inspected Venue.

The Farm is 7,200 hectares and situated near Alldays, Limpopo Province (close to the Botswana border). Lodge & farmhouse accommodation. Rifle and bow hunting is offered. Call SA Wingshooters for info.

IVY SAFARIS, MUNNIK/TZANEEN

– Member owned **Inspected Venue**
Great rifle hunting, bowhunting and wingshooting available. Various lodge accommodation to choose from, fine food and professional service. Call SA Wingshooters for info.

HOPETOWN/ORANIA

Inspected Venue
Gkhui Gkhui Shoot,

Northern Cape. – Member owned
Plains game hunting. Excellent lodge accommodation and superb catering. Lodge accommodation. SA Wingshooters receive a discount. Prices vary depending on what you want to hunt and do. Member owned. Call SA Wingshooters for info.

AL THANDIWE, POTGIETERSRUS (MOKOPANE)

Limpopo – Member owned

An easy two hour drive from Pretoria just off the N1 north. This is a Malaria Free Zone. The ranch falls in the Mokopane district of the Waterberg, Limpopo. Various accommodation options from luxury to tented camp and many species available. Many activities for the family. Call SA Wingshooters for info.

THABAZIMBI, Limpopo

Limpopo. Nuvo Safaris

Rifle hunting & bowhunting. Various species and comfortable accommodation, self-catering. Minimum 4 hunters for 3 days. Call SA Wingshooters for more info.

DWAALBOOM, Limpopo

Limpopo. – Member recommended **Retief Rieker Hunting Safaris.**

Wildebeest, Impala, Kudu. Day fee R400 p/p per day. PH fee R1500 p/d per group. Hunting camp sleeps max 6. Call Retief: 071 110 8319.

FREJA ODLA, ALLDAYS, Limpopo

Inspected Venue. – Member owned
The most beautiful game farms 30km from Alldays. Well stocked with game!



This farm is 2800ha with hills and lookouts, and a nice long range where

shooting is possible out to 1500m. Various accommodation options available and from self-catering to full catering can be booked. Hunting from blinds, walk-and-stalk or long range, for rifle hunting (with silencers preferably) and bowhunting. The farm was inspected by SA Wingshooters and it is just the most beautiful place! The farm has P3 exemption and hunting is open all year. A 7,5% discount applies to LRSC members only! Call SA Wingshooters for more info.

ROOI IVOOR, ALLDAYS

Limpopo. Member owned.

Large variety of plains game species,



including Buffalo, Sable, Roan, and many other species, on 9000ha in this beautiful area of South Africa. Self-catering en-suite airconditioned accommodation for maximum 8 guests in 4 chalets. Call SA Wingshooters for more info.

KALAHARI, Northern Cape



Various farms in the Ashkam and Van Zylsrus area. Hunting in the Kalahari is always a special experience and is like no other hunting trip. Call SA Wingshooters for more info.

PALMIETFONTEIN Game Farm –
Bloemhof, NW Inspected Venue.
– Member owned

THE 2026 SHOOT CALENDAR – for members only

PLAINS & BIG GAME HUNTING CONTINUED...

Plains game hunting, many species to choose from. Luxurious air conditioned accommodation for up to 15 people, serviced daily. Cold room and slaughtering facilities. Member owned. Call SA Wingshooters for info.

THABAZIMBI

Limpopo. Inspected Venue.

4-Star tourism graded

Buffelspan offers 8 luxurious chalets, all with aircon, en-suite bathrooms, towels, hand wash & shampoo, fridge and coffee/tea station. The lodge consists of a big lapia, WiFi, DSTV, Snooker table, etc



Game drives (day end night) are included with our Land Cruiser Game Viewer. We have 5 luxurious bush hides all equipped with mattresses

and toilets, which caters for both rifle and bow hunters.

Call SA Wingshooters for more info about this superb lodge.

PIGEON & DOVE SHOOTING... and more venues

All Provinces:

All pigeon and dove shooting venues are sent to members via email and other online media. We have too many venues to list and new venues are added constantly.

We have many pigeon and dove shooting venues, in many provinces. Most of these venues are exclusive to SA Wingshooters members.

Our venues and shoots are for members only, as we work hard to acquire them, and believe that your contribution to the association – monetary and otherwise – is appreciated. Therefore, we do not want to spend your time and membership subscription money, to help people who are not members. If you want to participate, then join us! You receive many benefits and it is the right thing to do anyway.

Some of the venues that are open most of the year include, but are not limited to:

The Singita shoot venue, GP

Elandsfontein venue, GP

NW Wingshooting venue, NW

Winddam venue, FS

Rooikoppies venue, MP

Erdzak venue, MP

Deneysville, FS

Sasolburg venue, FS

Goedehoop venue, FS

Concordia venue, MP

Witklip venue, FS

Uitkoms venue, FS

Vlakfontein venue, GP

Lillydale venue, NC

Merinovlakte venue, Lim

Renosterfontein venue, GP

Geelong venue, FS

There are many more venues on our venue database. Call SA Wingshooters to enquire about any venue country-wide.



Choosing the Right Gundog for South African Hunting

Last year, I was hunting in the Eastern Cape. We were in the Karoo, looking across at Compassberg – the highest point of the Sneeuberg range, rising above everything around it the way certain things do when you finally understand what you are looking at.

By Matthew Berry

There is a parallel worth drawing. The greywing francolin holds a similar place in the hierarchy of South African bird hunting. Not the most commonly hunted species, not the easiest to reach, but for those who work their dogs seriously on wild birds in honest country, the greywing represents something close to a benchmark. A mountain bird in mountain terrain, holding tight or running hard depending on the day, demanding the best from both dog and handler.

Rodri – Sneeuberg

Across a ravine, I noticed Calvin working his way down the slope with his small spaniel. They had already been hunting for an hour, perhaps a little more. The little dog was working hard – quartering, constantly busy – and it was fascinating to watch him in terrain like this for the first time.

You could see them moving through the Karoo scrub, steadily dropping lower. Then the dog changed. Subtly at first, then clearly. He became birdy. Calvin saw it instantly and closed his shotgun. The spaniel began working scent with purpose, tightening his pattern. A few seconds later, within easy gun range, he flushed the first francolin. Calvin fired and dropped the bird cleanly. The dog remained completely steady. Calvin walked up, sent him, and the retrieve was made confidently to hand – though not without disturbing a few more sitting birds along the way. It was a small moment, but a telling one.

Traditionally, spaniels are not considered nat-



Calvin Fisher & Rodri



ural greywing dogs. The mountain terrain and the distances involved are the reason – not any fundamental incompatibility with the species itself. Most people would never bring one into that kind of country. In this case, we knew the birds were holding within a defined block, and while we worked pointers on one side, we allowed Calvin and Rodri to hunt their own line.

There had been some doubt about whether it would work. I told Calvin that if the dog faded or struggled, he could simply fall in with our pointers and still enjoy the full greywing experience. He agreed, and that is how Rodri found himself hunting the Sneeuwberg near Nieu-Bethesda.

The lesson is that context matters as much as breed. Rodri succeeded because the situation was structured to support what a spaniel does – a defined block, birds holding tight, a plan that accounted for how he worked.

The question worth asking before choosing a dog is not just “what dog do I want?” Who am I going to hunt with, and what does my hunting context actually support?

If you hunt in groups running pointing dogs, a flushing dog is a structural conflict. If you hunt alone on defined ground with the right plan, your options open up considerably.

Miley – Nieu-Bethesda

On that same hunt near Nieu-Bethesda, we had a mix of dogs in the field. Hannes was running English

Pointers along with a few Drahthaars from my lines. I was hunting with several field-seasoned Kurzhaars – German Shorthaired Pointers. But interestingly, the dog that left the strongest impression that weekend was neither a Drahthaar, nor a Kurzhaar, nor an English Pointer. It was a young Vizsla bitch I had bred – a little dog called Miley.

To put that in context: for a long time, Vizslas in South Africa were regarded – fairly, in many cases – as Disappointers in the field. Beautiful dogs, trainable, affectionate, physically capable. But in terms of genuine hunting performance, what was available locally rarely translated into the kind of field dog serious hunters wanted. The drive was inconsistent. The nose unreliable. The instinct to hunt independently was simply not there in most individuals.

The problem was not the breed. The problem was the gene pool. Working in partnership with Dr Spike Erasmus, Dr Johan Davis, Ivan Volschenk, and others from Stellenbosch, we began a selective breeding programme with a clear objective: to prove that through deliberate genetic selection, we could produce Vizslas in South Africa that could genuinely hunt alongside the best pointing breeds in our conditions. These breeders had not only imported serious working bloodlines from Hungary and Europe, but they also had a small gene pool of dogs already working in South Africa – dogs that were proving themselves in the field under serious hunting con-

ditions. These were Vizslas that could point, find game birds, and retrieve reliably. This was not theory. This was evidence. Miley was part of that process. She was outstanding. Miley moved freely across the mountains, working ground and wind with equal confidence. She was light on her feet, efficient on the climbs, and mentally switched on throughout the day. She held her own comfortably alongside the English Pointers, covering ground intelligently without overreaching herself.

What made it more meaningful was Hannes’s reaction. He is someone I regard as a serious dog man – experienced in the field, open-minded, and willing to give different breeds a fair opportunity. Even he commented on how impressive the little Vizsla had been in that terrain.

Out there, in the field, performance is rarely breed-specific. It is dog-specific. But behind every exceptional individual is a breeding decision someone made with intention. Miley did not happen by accident.

Ellis – KwaZulu-Natal, 2002 – 2003

There is another story worth telling, though it reaches further back. More than two decades ago now, long before that weekend near Nieu-Bethesda, I was still learning what South African hunting actually demanded of a dog. What happened with Ellis in 2002 and 2003 shaped much of how I think about gundogs today.

In 2002, I entered Ellis – a Deutsch-Drahthaar I had imported from Germany in 2001 – in an HPR field trial near Elandslaagte, outside Ladysmith. The HPR evaluates dogs across nose, bird finding, use of terrain, pointing, and retrieving. On paper it is exactly the kind of trial a working gundog should face.

On the day, the judges were not impressed. She worked methodically. She read terrain. She used wind carefully. On her round, she found birds. The other dogs did not. The judges’ comment was that they could fall asleep watching her work. Too slow. Too methodical.

I have thought about that com-

ment many times since. A year later, in 2003, I was invited to a walk-up shoot in KwaZulu-Natal – on private ground near Rorke's Drift, that carries the weight of the Zulu War of 1879. The group included men running English Pointers, German Shorthaired Pointers, and Labradors. Experienced hunters with dogs worked for seasons. What followed was organised chaos.

Dogs shot forward, quartering fast and wide. Ellis did not join the rush. She worked calmly, methodically – the same way she had at Elandslaagte. Then she lifted her head, made a direct line across field that five or six pointing breeds had already covered, and came on point next to a small bush.

On the same wind. On ground those other dogs had dismissed minutes earlier. The man next to me called it out. We walked in. I was still new enough that my gun was not closed. The birds went up. He shot one. Ellis retrieved it and delivered to hand as all properly trained German dogs do. She had found birds where every other dog in the field had found nothing.

The dogs that impressed the judges at Elandslaagte were exactly the kind of dogs in that field at Rorke's Drift. Fast. Wide. Visually dramatic. And not one of them had pointed a bird. A field trial can tell you which dog looked best on the day. It cannot always tell you which dog will find birds when it matters. Those are not always the same dog – and in South Africa, in the field, that difference eventually becomes impossible to ignore. Ellis just went and found them.

South African hunting places specific demands on gundogs. Durability matters – sustained performance across long days in heat, on hard ground. Mental resilience separates useful dogs from good-looking ones. Then there is the nose – especially scenting quality. Our climate is harsh. Dry air, dust, wind, heat – everything works against scent. Dogs need highly refined noses, the ability to work sparse scent in difficult conditions, to interpret what little infor-



Kaylee Tucker with Miley

mation the wind carries and make decisions. Finally, there is savvy.

Our birds are cunning. South Africa has multiple francolin and spurfowl species, each terrain-specific, each presenting different challenges. They run, double back, sit tight, and use ground intelligently — and what works on one species in one terrain may not work on another.

Flushing dogs excel in dense cover but struggle over long mountain days.

Pointing dogs bring efficiency in open terrain but lack versatility in post-shot work. Versatile continental breeds – the Drahthaar, Kurzhaar, Vizsla, Weimaraner, and others – offer adaptability for the single-dog hunter, but only when breeding has been honest. Retrievers bring steadiness but were not built for primary bird-finding in expansive upland country. None of these types is wrong. Each is a different answer to a different hunting problem.

Rodri found birds on the Sneeuwberg that nobody expected him to find. Miley reset the expectations of men who had spent decades watching pointing dogs work mountain country. Ellis stood in a field near Rorke's Drift and pointed birds on a wind that five other dogs had already crossed and dismissed.

None of them were the fash-

ionable choice. None of them had reputations that preceded them into that ground. They just went and did the work. South Africa has a way of cutting through the noise. Our terrain is varied, our birds are cunning, and our conditions are unforgiving enough that a dog cannot fake it for long. Performance either holds up or it does not. Reputation either survives contact with honest country or it doesn't.

Choose the dog that suits your ground, your pace, and your company. Back that choice with honest breeding, committed training, and the patience to let the partnership develop.

Ask the right questions before you buy. How often do you hunt? Where do you hunt most? Do you hunt alone or socially? Many South African hunters own a single dog and expect it to do everything. In that case, adaptability matters more than specialisation – and matching the dog's temperament to your own personality matters more than most people realise.

If you do that well, the breed on the pedigree will matter far less than what the dog becomes in your hands – and what the two of you build together, season by season, in country that tells the truth.

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Sandgrouse

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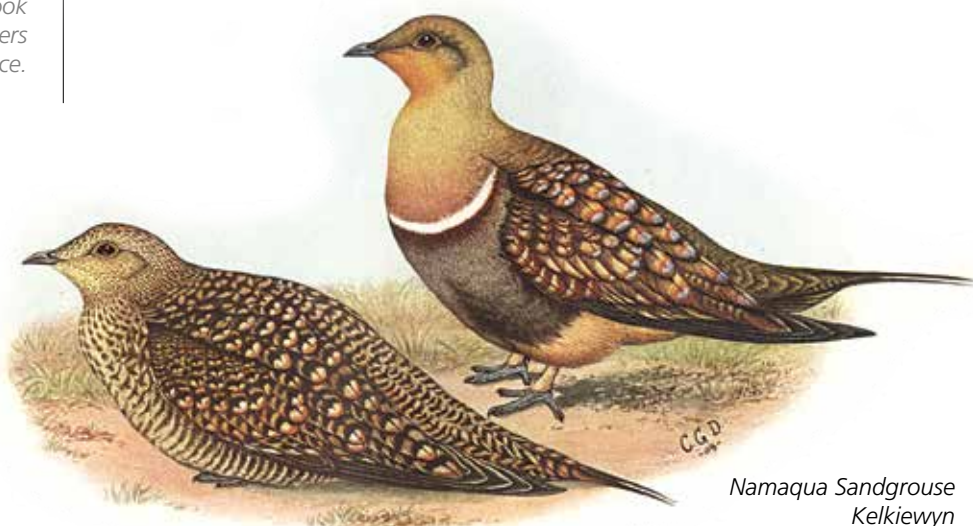
*By the late Fanus Greyling
From the official Wingshooting Handbook
– Available from the SA Wingshooters
office.*

Two species of sandgrouse are of interest to wingshooters in the Northern Cape of South Africa, the heartland of sandgrouse shooting – the Namaqua sandgrouse (kelkiewyn) and Burchell's sandgrouse (gevekte sandpatrys). The shoot takes place around a waterhole in the semi-desert, where the birds come in to drink during the mornings.

Provided this method is not abused, it is the only viable way of utilising this excellent sporting bird. It is almost inevitable that both species will show up on the shoot, and as their shooting and breeding seasons differ, it is of vital importance to be able to distinguish between the two during flight.

The shooting season for Namaqua sandgrouse in the Northern Cape is 1 April - 15 July (bag limit of 10 birds /gun/day. For Burchell's sandgrouse it is 1 Jan - 31 March (bag limit 5).

Sandgrouse are the only bird



*Namaqua Sandgrouse
Kelkiewyn*

known where the male bird's belly feathers act as a sponge, soaking up water which he then carries to the chicks and lets them suck from his feathers. A typical sign of breeding behaviour is when you see the male birds dipping their breasts into the water, an act known as 'bellywetting'. It is sickening to feel a light spray of water coming down on you after you've shot a bird!

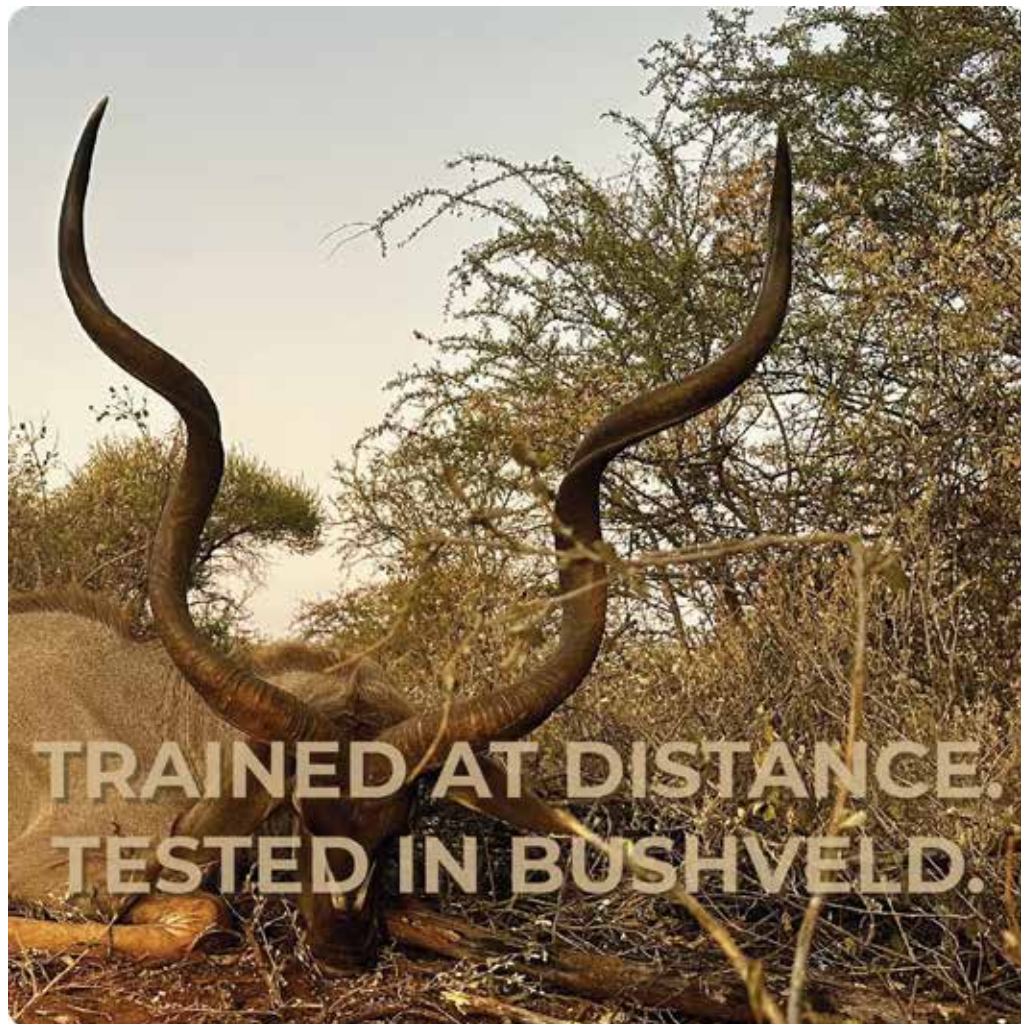
Know the birds

When you are shooting Namaqua sandgrouse during the winter shooting season, the Burchell's will be breeding! You must know the difference, because you must stop the shoot as soon as the first Burchell's arrives. This is normally two

thirds into the two hours a sandgrouse shoot lasts (everybody should have had enough shooting by then anyway). The Burchell's sandgrouse is a bit bigger, flies a bit slower and makes a soft 'kok-kek' sound instead of the Namaqua's beautiful three syllable 'kelkiewyn'.

With a bit of experience, the best way to distinguish them is to look for white flashes on the wings as they come in. Always remember that you are the one person standing between two small chicks in a desert environment and an agonising thirsty death. Do not let the lure of a bigger bag deter you from your stewardship.

Check on a good dependable



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waterhole the morning or even late afternoon before your shoot. If there are birds coming in during the afternoon, there will definitely be more coming in the next morning.

The waterhole

It is vital to remember that a given area can only sustain so many sandgrouse. When you see all the thousands of birds coming in, it doesn't mean there are so many birds. It means there is so little water. They favour natural pans – usually devoid of vegetation and trees – over artificial waterholes. They land a couple

the guns, thus offering good, sporting shots and avoiding flock shooting. If the shottists are good, you can make things a little more difficult by moving the guns further away from the waterhole. It is not about the killing, is it?

The shoot

A good sandgrouse shoot produces some of the highest adrenaline rushes and barrel temperatures in the shooting world. The shoot starts about an hour-and-a-half after sunrise, soon after the 'spotter' is over.

The spotter is the first bird of the

for a compact little bird with a skin no human fingers can tear. You must stay clear of flock shooting. Pick a single bird to the side or to the end



Burchell's Sandgrouse
Gevlekte Sandpatrys

of metres from the edge of the water, and walk in to drink. If it is blowing, the birds come in to land against the wind.

That is where you put the guns if you have only two or three, or the leading client if you have a big group. Space your guns about 40 to 50 metres apart, depending on the size of your waterhole, anything from 50 to 100 metres from the waterhole.

This is to make sure that the birds that are not shot will still come in to drink, and that the birds are still high and wider spaced when flying over

morning, flying high and straight over the waterhole, uttering the crystal clear 'kelkiewyn' call that gave these birds their Afrikaans name. Sometimes you can't even see it.

You just hear that melancholic sound from the crisp blue desert sky, and the first shiver runs down your spine. Soon afterwards they start arriving. Flocks numbering hundreds, jinking and dashing over the guns. Fantastic sport. The stronger the wind, the better.

Use number 6 shot. No.7 or 8 clay target cartridges are not good enough

of the flock. Pick the front one, and inevitably one, two or more from the middle of the flock will fall — very bad for bird wounding and wing-shooter ethics.

Never shoot the same waterhole more than once a season; twice at the most with the shoots spaced at least 4 weeks apart. Only a lunatic will shoot the same waterhole twice on consecutive days. The most important part of sandgrouse shooting is the self-discipline. If you over-shoot or exploit a venue, within two years it will be no more!

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SHOOTING TIPS

Some tips to help you shoot better –
Ask the instructor: Saving Face & Hold Points

By Don Currie



For planning purposes, a hold point that is two-thirds of the way back from the break point toward the trap is a good start for a flat-trajectory crossing target, regardless of your engagement technique. The speed, distance and engagement window of a target and pair may, however, require that you adjust your hold point closer to the breakpoint. Use your outstretched front hand to test your plan and see if a hold point adjustment is necessary.

With that said, and very generally speaking, you will need a bit less “runway” to execute a sustained-lead move on a crossing target, and thus can usually move your hold point closer to the break point. When using pull-away on a crossing target, the two-thirds rule is still applicable; however, you may find that a hold point that is halfway back from the break point is adequate when using sustained lead. With sustained lead, you are inserting to the lead and executing the shot, whereas with pull-away, you must first insert to the target then separate from the target prior to executing the shot. Shooters tend to ignore a target’s transition point when selecting the break point and engagement technique. Almost all targets will transition, or change speed and direction, at some point along the flight path as the target succumbs to gravity. If the target is transitioning at the chosen break point, it is much more likely that you will occlude the target with the barrel and miss high and in front, particularly if using pull-away. This is why I advocate that a shooter possess a handful of techniques to draw from and select the technique and hold point that is appropriate for each target.

Question: Friends of mine, all novice shots, have invited me to shoot sporting clays for the first time. The last time I had a firearm in my hands was when I was in the army in 1959. I don’t want to look like an idiot. In 30 seconds or less, how do I keep my buddies from beating me?

Answer: That’s easy: Focus – Movement – Faith. Most shooters come to the sport assuming that shotgunning is identical to rifle shooting. They assume that our job, as shooters, is to visually and consciously line up the sights of the gun with the target and when everything looks aligned, execute the shot. If you apply these same fundamentals to shotgunning, you will have very limited success.

So, what do you need to do? Engaging a moving target with a shotgun is more akin to returning a tennis serve or hitting a baseball with a bat than it is like shooting a rifle at a stationary target. Your job as a shotgun shooter engaging a moving target is:

FOCUS – apply acute visual focus to the target and hold that acute focus through your trigger pull. Your job is to feed the

brain information about the target through shot execution. This gives your subconscious mind the necessary information to intercept the target, similar to catching a ball or hitting a baseball with a bat. The key is to focus on the target.

MOVEMENT – Feel the point of the shotgun with the index finger of your front hand, just like pointing at a bird in the sky. Maintain focus on the moving object yet feel the point with your index finger. At no point during your movement should you soften or remove your focus from the object as you execute the point and pull the trigger.

FAITH – As you maintain acute visual focus on the target and execute the shot, have absolute faith that your subconscious will point the gun in the right place to break the target, the same way the tennis racket or baseball bat intercepts its target.

Question: Is the recommended hold point for crossing targets of two-thirds back from the break point towards the visual pick-up point equally suitable for both maintained lead and pull-away styles, or is an adjustment needed?

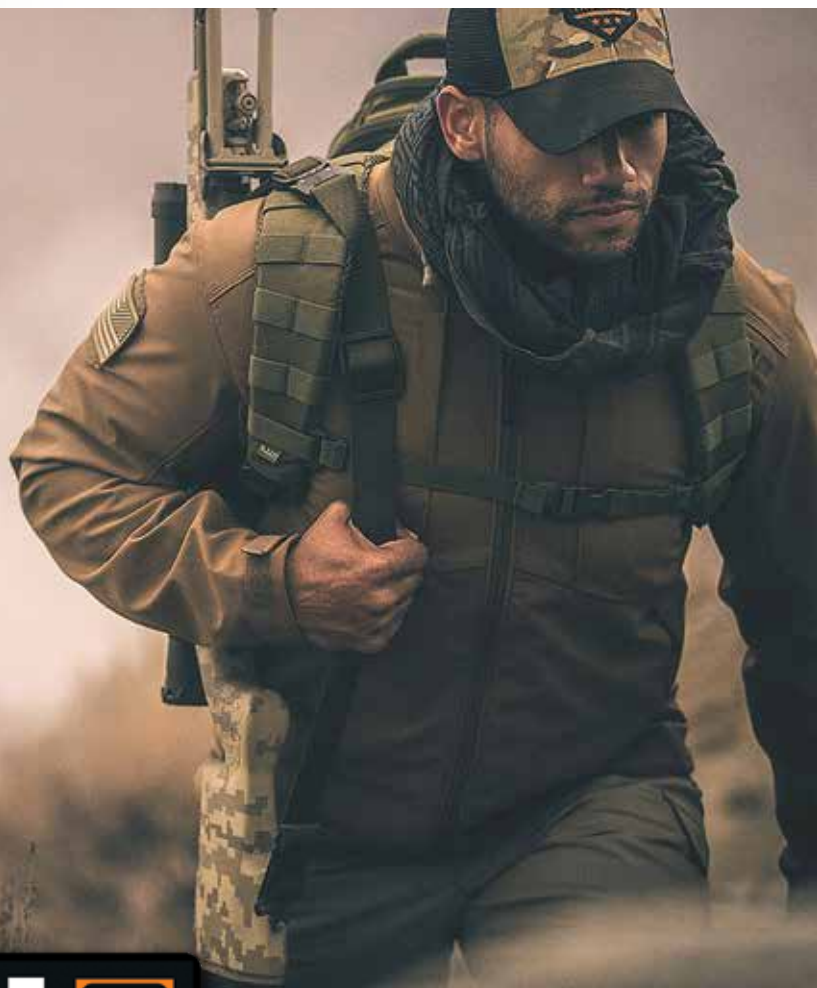
Answer: The short answer is, it depends.

– Don Currie is NSCA’s Chief Instructor, an Orvis Wingshooting School instructor, and Master Class competitor. Sign up free for his monthly newsletter. You can also see more tips from Currie at www.doncurrie.com.

5.11 

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PROVINCIAL BIRD HUNTING SEASONS (and bag limits in brackets)

MPUMALANGA – Gazetted

1 May '26-	
30 Apr '27	Rock pigeons, Egyptian goose, Spurwing (need licence)
1 May-31 Aug	Yellow-billed duck, red-billed teal, Guineafowl, Natal & Red-Necked Spurfowl, Crested francolin, Coqui francolin, Orange River Partridge, Shelley's.
1 June-31 Aug	Grey Wing, Redwing

FREE STATE – Gazetted – Same as 2025

All year	Rock pigeons, Cape turtle dove, Laughing dove.
15 May-15 Sept	Greywing & O/River partridge, all Spurfowl, common quail, guinea fowl, all Francolin (except Redwing), yellow-billed duck & red-billed teal, Egyptian goose, spurwing, Red KnbKoot
1 Jan - 30 Apr	Shelduck (1)
Note:	(maximum 10 land & 10 water birds pp per day)

GAUTENG – (NOT YET GAZETTED)

1 May-30 April	All year. Rock Pigeons (need licence) (20).
1 May-31 Jul	Egyptian geese (5); Red-bill teal (5); Yellow-bill duck (5). <i>Note: Spurwing remain closed!</i>
1 Jun-30 Sep	Swainsons francolin (5). Helmeted Guineafowl (5).

N-WEST PROVINCE – Same as 2025 for now (Draft in process)

All year	Rock pigeons (No limit), Red eyed dove (20), Cape turtle dove (20), laughing dove (20) (licence required).
1 May-30 Sep	Francolin: Red-billed (3), Crested (5); Partridge: Coqui (5), Guineafowl (10).
1 May-30 Aug	Partridge: Shelleys (5), Redwing (5); Quail: Harlequin (5), Common (10); Rameron Pigeon (5).
1 Apr-31 Jul	Partridge: Orange River (5).
1 Apr-15 Jul	Namaqua Sandgrouse (5).
1 Nov-31 Apr	Sandgrouse: Burchells (5), Double-banded (5).
1 May-31 Jul	Duck: White-faced (4), Yellow-bill (4), Cape Teal (4), Red-bill (4), Cape Shoveler (4), Southern Pochard (3), Knob-bill (4), Spurwing (4).
1 Jun-30 Sep	Swainsons Francolin (5), Natal Francolin (3).
1 Jan-31 Jul	Egyptian Goose (4).
1 Jan-31 Mar	Shelduck (2).
Note:	A Maximum combined total of 10 land birds & 10 waterfowl per day.

LIMPOPO – Gazetted

All year	Rock Pigeons (licence) (50), Red-eyed Turtle Dove (50)
1 May- 30 Sep	Guinea fowl (10), Crested Francolin, (6), Shelley's (2); Natal francolin (6).
1 May - 31 Jul	Egyptian (6) & spurwing (4), white-faced whistling duck (6), Yellow-bill duck (4), red-billed teal (4).
1 Jun- 30 Sep	Swainson's francolin (8).
Note:	Total combined daily bag of (10 land & 10 water birds)

WESTERN CAPE <https://www.capenature.co.za> – Gazetted

1 Jan-31 Dec	Spurwing (3) & Egyptian goose (10), rock pigeons and Cape turtle dove, Laughing dove, Red eye dove, Speckled Pigeon (40 in total), guinea fowl (10), Yellow-billed duck, red-billed teal, shelduck, Cape teal, Cape shoveler, southern pochard (5 in all total combined).
1 Jan-30 April	
1 May-31 Jul	Greywing Partridge (3); Red-necked Francolins (3); Cape Franc. (6). 1 March-30 April – Common quail (2).

NORTHERN CAPE PROVINCE – Gazetted Same as 2025

All year	Egyptian Goose (10); Red eyed, Laughing, Cape turtle Doves (10 each) and Rock Pigeons (50).
1 April-31 Dec	Helmeted Guinea-fowl (10);
1 Jan-31 Mar	Shelduck (5).
1 May-31 Aug	Spurwing (5).
1 May- 30 Jun	Orange River Partridge (5), Red-billed Francolin (5), Cape Francolin (5), Natal Francolin (5), Swainsons Francolin (5), Grey-wing Partridge (5).
1 May-31 Aug	Northern Cape Excluding Namaqualand Magisterial District Yellow billed duck (10), Red-bill Teal (10), Cape Teal (10), Cape Shoveler (10), Southern Pochard (10).
1 Apr-15 Jul	Namaqua Sandgrouse (10).
1 Jan -31 Mar	Burchell's Sandgrouse (5).
1 Jan-30 Apr	Namaqualand Magisterial District Yellow-billed duck (10), Red-billed Teal (10), Cape Teal (10), Cape Shoveler (10), Southern Pochard (10).
Note:	A maximum combined total of 10 land birds & 10 waterfowl per day.

EASTERN CAPE – Gazetted – Same as 2025

1 Jan-31 Dec	Red eyed, Laughing, Cape turtle Doves and Rock Pigeons. (need licence).
1 Jun-31 Jul	Rameron Pigeon (Olive Pigeon) (5).
1 Jan-31 Mrt	Shelduck (4).
1 Feb-30 Sept	Egyptian Goose (15).
1 Mrt-30 Sept	Spurwing (5).
1 May-31 Aug	Red-billed Teal (3), Yellow-billed Duck (3), White-faced duck (2), Southern Pochard (2), Cape Teal (2), Cape Shoveler (2).
1 May-30 Sept	Guinea fowl (5).
1 Oct-30 Nov	Quail (10). (Note: Different in former Ciskei)
1 May-31 Jul	Red-Wing Partidge (2).
1 May-31 Jul	Grey-wing (4), but in Queenstown (2), Orange River Partridge (4), Red-Necked Francolin (4).
1 Jan-31 Dec	Exotic Anseriformes

KZ-NATAL – Same as 2025

31 May-31 Aug	Ordinary Game Licence Required for all. Common Quail, White-faced Duck, Red-billed Teal, Yellow-billed Duck, Egyptian Goose, Spurwing, Helmeted Guineafowl, Rameron Pigeon. Francolin: Red-necked, Natal, Swainsons. Partridge: Grey-wing, Red-wing, Coqui, Crested & Shelleys.
Note:	A Maximum combined total of 10 land birds & 10 waterfowl per day. Other game birds can be shot under a SPECIAL PERMIT during the open season, please contact KZN Hunting & Extension Department on 033 845 1652.

PLEASE NOTE that all members must still consult the respective provincial ordinances, as we do not list species that are not traditionally gamebirds, and we do not take responsibility for information correctness on this page. All exotic Anseriformes are open all year. E&OE.

Please Note: You have to return your licence to the respective provinces, after each season, stating on the licence all the relevant details as asked. This applies to provinces who require this, such as NW Prov, and is stated as such on your licence.

SA WINGSHOOTERS ASSOCIATION

Provincial Hunting Licence Order Form 2026

Please INCLUDE PROOF OF PAYMENT WITH THIS APPLICATION !

PLEASE NOTE THE FOLLOWING:

If you haven't used this form to order your provincial hunting licence/s –
we can't issue you one! This is due to the hundreds of licence requests we get during a short three month period prior to the hunting season, and its easy to loose track of who ordered what.

Please print the form, complete clearly and send back to us on contact details at bottom.

ALL PAYMENTS FOR LICENCES MUST BE MADE IN FULL PRIOR TO ISSUING.
For SA Wingshooters Members ONLY.

Full Names:

Surname:

RSA ID / Passport Number:

Date:

I wish to order the following Provincial Hunting Licence/s:

☐

Collect from office (will not be scanned, originals collect)

☐

ONLY scanned copies

GAUTENG (Birds only):

☐

R100.- NOT AVAILABLE YET!

FREE STATE:

☐

R300.- (valid from 1 May - 31 Dec of the same year, refer to Hunting Gazette)

KZN:

☐

R60.- (valid from 31 May - 31 Aug of same year, refer to Hunting Gazette)

EASTERN CAPE:

☐

R70.- (refer to Hunting Gazette)

MPUMALANGA (Birds):

☐

R150.- (refer to Hunting Gazette)

WESTERN CAPE:

☐

R240.- (refer to Hunting Gazette)

TOTAL:

* Please note – **ALL PAYMENTS FOR LICENCES MUST BE MADE IN FULL PRIOR TO ISSUING.**

The above listed provinces are the only provincial licences which we may issue. This form is valid for 2026.

Limpopo Province online via government e-services website, or call the office.

Northern Cape can also be ordered online.

North West Province: All licences to be ordered by applicants online ONLY at www.nipas.co.za *Contact

the office for above licence order info and help.

EFT (Attach the proof of payment with this order before processing on our side)

Banking details - SA Wingshooters

ABSA Brooklyn, Branch Code: 335-345 (or universal 632005),

Acc number: 1500 165 460

(please use your "initials & surname-Lic" as reference)

– Please note that your application will not be processed unless you attach the proof of payment to this application.

Please send this form and proof of payment to: anel@wingshooters.co.za ||

SA Wingshooters Association - 07113325450 - Collection addres: 49 Judy road, Blairgowrie, Randburg

30 Year Anniversary

2025 Christmas Shoot



Above: Theo Rosema



Above right: Team 7 at range 4.

Right: James Dunlop enjoying a cigar



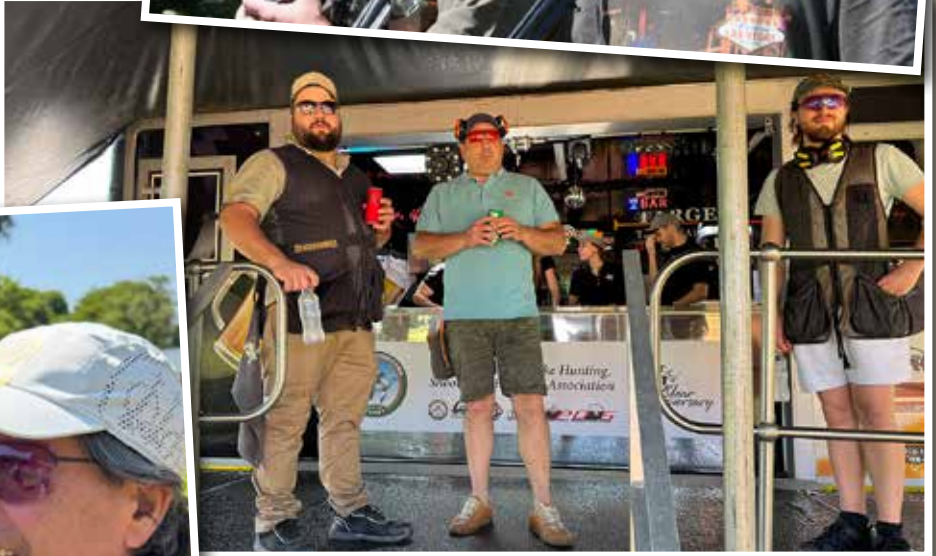
Below: The party starters!
Below right: Colin Mostert





Above, from left: Claudio Linossi (High Gun for the day) and Peter Karsas.

Above right, from left: Shannon & Brogan McEwan. Right: Roeflie Rosema, Jean Polson & Nicholas Rosema getting free drinks from the party truck. Below from left: Nico Vassiliou & George Lazarides.



Below Left: Noel Gibson & Barry de Blocq

Below: Anthony Chapman

Bottom left: Lauren Pelliccia (orange cap) & Romana Katrakilis.

Bottom right: Gio Pelliccia & Sebastiano Valle (right)





Top: Andrew Lillico. Top right: Dieter Ochsenbein & Edward Bramley. Above Right: Derek Nell.
Above middle: Mike Parton. Above: Keith Atkins.
Below: Former Chairman Charles Duff.
Bottom: Glyn Dennis.

Below: Members enjoying the lunch, free drinks, prize-giving (everyone attending received a prize) and camaraderie. Members on the ranges. It was a perfect day! Thank you to all members!





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Four small photos of dogs: a black and white dog, a black dog, a black and white dog, and a black dog.

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MUSINA-LIMPOPO

A photo of the Adansonia Eco Lodge, a small wooden building with a thatched roof, surrounded by lush greenery.
A photo of the interior of the lodge, showing a wooden table and chairs.

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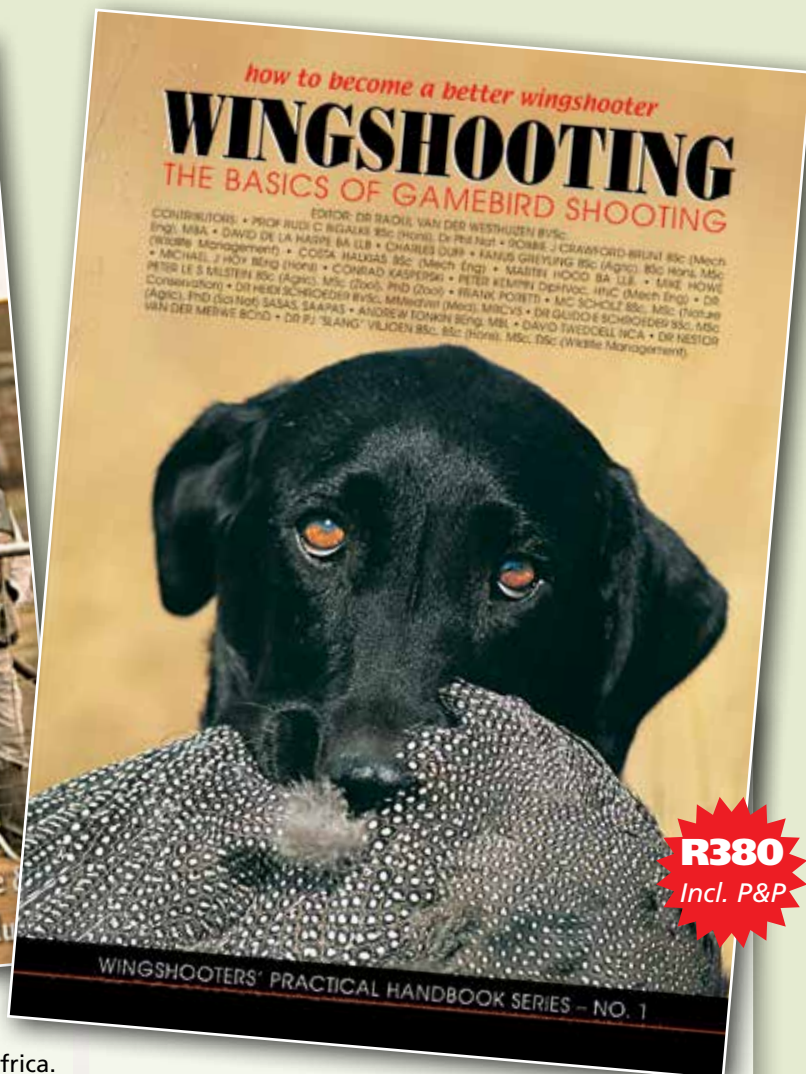
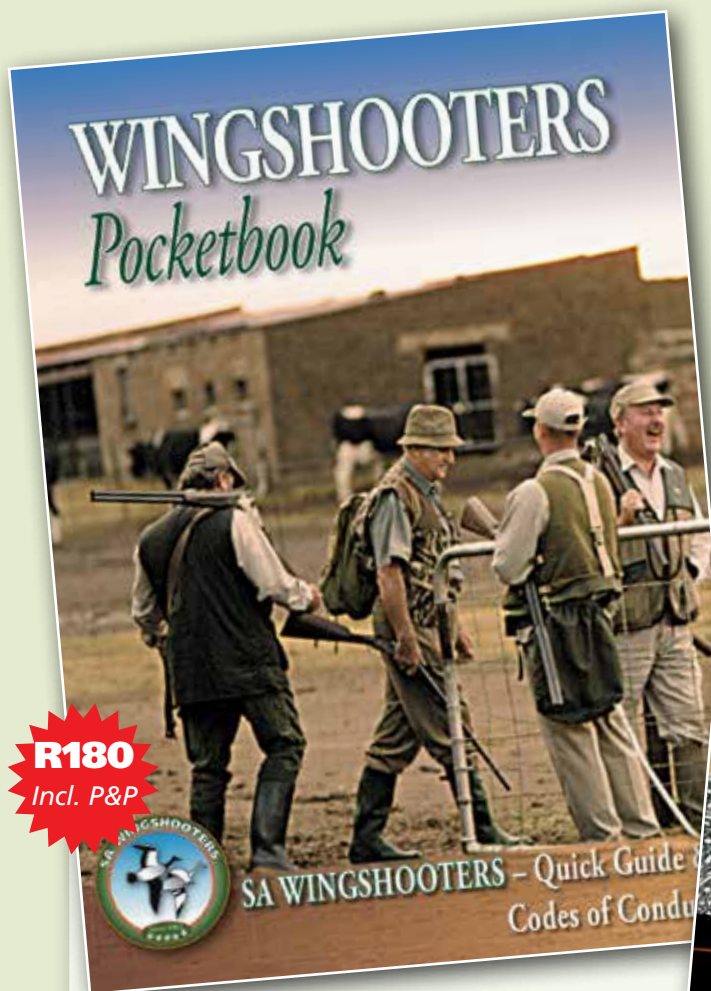
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— Dr Alan Klocek

MD: MSD

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— Dr Raoul van der Westhuizen

Chairman: SA Wingshooters

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For the first time, this book brings together the collective know-how and experience in game bird shooting of many of the leading wingshooters in Southern Africa — be they scientists, field trialists, gun dog experts, veterinarians or lay people — who all share the passion for wingshooting and the joy of the great African Outdoors. The section on shotgun marksmanship alone makes the handbook worth having. In this section the greatest South African sporting clay shooter ever and 20 times Springbok tells how to shoot any target under any condition. The handbook is edited by the co-founder and first chairman of the SA Wingshooters Association, Raoul van der Westhuizen.

To order your books today, call the SA Wingshooters Association office: 071 132 5450.

Dedicated REPORTS

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and register to create your own profile for your dedicated reports & firearm licence renewal reminders



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How you can send us your report:

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<https://members.wingshooters.co.za>

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Complete a report (you can download it from our website: www.wingshooters.org.za) and e-mail to: anel@wingshooters.co.za or fax to 086 211 5111, or you can email us a report listing 2 activities you did during the year. Dedicated activity reports are mandatory, by law, for all qualified dedicated members!

New Member Online Portal

For Dedicated Activity Reports & Firearm Licence Renewal Notices –

Firstly, It's nearing the end of the season, thus all Dedicated members need to send in their dedicated hunting activity report. **It's a legal (Firearms Control Act 60 of 2000) requirement for Dedicated Hunters and Dedicated Sports persons.** You can send any hunting activities report, whether it was plains game, bird hunting or range shooting and includes rifles, shotgun, handgun use, etc. You only need to list two (2) activities for the year. Remember to send us a report before end October, as we have to send a 'members activity report' to the SAPS every year in November, listing all the members who did not send in a report.

Our on-line member portal –

You can do it on our new member online portal. Please go to our on-line member area and 'Register' with us:

<https://members.wingshooters.co.za>

Once we've approved your registration request, you can 'Login' and start to use this service for your dedicated reporting and to list your firearms renewal dates for our renewal reminder service. Call the office if you don't know what to do! Tel: 071 132 5450.

You can also enter your dedicated hunting/sport shooting activities report online, on our website! Go to www.wingshooters.org.za and click on the "Dedicated Hunters" menu and complete the form right at the bottom of the page. It's quick and easy!

Or, if you prefer to remain old school you can download the form from the "All Downloads" page on our website. You can fax it to 086 211 5111 or 071 132 5450. You can also send us the same one you might have done for another association you belong to... it needn't be our form.



LONG RANGER

Magazine of the LRSC – SA Wingshooters Association

Vol. 1 No. 1 – March/April 2026

THE 2026

LRSC Ranges
Shooting fundamentals
Gear and more



CONTENTS



The Cover

A 6.5 Creedmoor rifle at our LRSC Range in Gauteng.
Photograph by André van der Westhuizen

Vol. 1 No. 1 • March/April 2026



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One of the most important aspects

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You can use any calibre to compete

First look at the DiscoveryOpt Scope 61

A possible consideration as a budget scope



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WARRIOR



RANGES AVAILABLE TO MEMBERS...

With four ranges in four provinces we are expanding the opportunities for members...

GAUTENG – The Home Range

The Gauteng range is our home range where all of our competitions are held currently. This is due to the fact that the association's head office is in Randburg, Johannesburg, which makes it easiest to host matches, set up ranges for competitions and for training purposes.

That being said, we intend to, in the near future host shoots in other provinces, starting with training and competitions at our new Western Cape range (see details of the Western Cape range under its heading).

The Gauteng range is a mere 50km from Randburg central and is easy and quick to get to. You can view our 2026 match and activity dates on page 25 of this issue of the magazine.

We host long range shoots, multi-gun competitions to include 4-gun, 3-gun and 2-gun and any combinations of multi-gun sports possible. You can participate with any legally licenced and suitable firearm, including revolvers in the various specific categories.

We have a cement prone shooting slab, a waist-high standing cement shooting slab and three standard shooting benches. The range is under roof and there are two flush toilets (male & female) and braai area.

There are two 30m handgun/multi-gun ranges with three-sides berms next to the rifle range. The rifle range is fairly flat with, more often than not, serious mirage and wind.



Quick Range specs – Gauteng:

- 25m to 1145m (1,6km coming soon).
- 2 x 30m handgun ranges
- Cement prone slab
- Under roof
- Waist-high cement slab
- 3 x shooting tables
- Enclosed built-in braai area
- 2 x flush toilets
- Ample seating benches.

Contact: SA Wingshooters office for more detail





RANGES AVAILABLE TO MEMBERS...

With four ranges in four provinces we are expanding the opportunities for members...

LIMPOPO – Freja Odlá Range

The Freja Odlá range is our Limpopo range on a farm owned by a lifetime member, and is around 30km from Alldays. The range is on a beautiful game farm (which is open to members to book for hunting).

The range features a cement shooting platform under a thatch roof and a braai area. The range is initially flat but increases in elevation the further the distance.

There are various lodge accommodation to choose from – bush lodge self-catering accommodation to fully catered main lodge. You are in prime bushveld country here, so why not combine it with a hunting trip. The range itself does not have toilet facilities, however the various lodges have, should you require.

The range is permanently set up with targets ranging from 200, 300, 542, 613, 749, 1000 and 1600m.

Quick Range specs – Limpopo Range:

- 25m to 1600m
- 100m handgun/Rifle range
- Cement prone slab
- Under roof
- Built braai
- Toilets at lodge
- Various accommodation options.

Contact: info@frejaodla.com
for more info





RANGES AVAILABLE TO MEMBERS...

With four ranges in four provinces we are expanding the opportunities for members...

Quick Range specs – Western Cape:

- 25m to 1540m
- 30 & 10 m handgun/Rifle range
- Under roof handgun range
- Built-in braai
- Toilets at range
- Various ranges

Contact: Emile Tredoux on
082 450 8425.

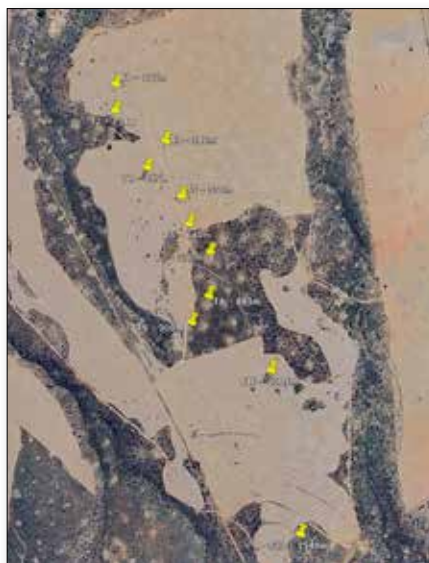
WESTERN CAPE – Bergop Range

The Bergop range is a mere 37km north of Piketberg. The range was designed by SA Wingshooters and laid out to be a challenging range.

Our ranges are all challenging in their own right, but this range has a natural beauty with mountain backdrops and elevation shooting, however not nearly excessive.

The range offers a long range currently out to 1540m for a total of 11 targets for the range. The shooting platform is raised with ground sheeting. There are two handgun/multi-gun ranges, one being 30m and the other 10m distances. The 30m handgun/multi-gun range is under roof.

There are two toilets, male and female, close to the handgun ranges. There is also a standard range with targets 100, 200, 300, 400m. Many accommodation options in Piketberg and surrounding farms. The long range target course of fire is available from the SA Wingshooters Association office or from the range owner.





RANGES AVAILABLE TO MEMBERS...

With four ranges in four provinces we are expanding the opportunities for members...

MPUMALANGA – Leandra Range

The Leandra range is 2,5km outside the town of Leandra. This used to be our official range until the end of 2022, when we moved to the current Gauteng range.

The range is 130km from Randburg using the N17 highway. The range offers slight downhill shooting until around 550m and then slopes uphill to the 1200m target. This is a working sheep farm and targets are not permanently set up due to grass cutting activities, etc happening on the farm.

Target sizes and shapes, as for all the our other ranges, vary and we use 100mm, 150mm, 200mm, 300mm round gongs, USMC vital-zone targets, narrow humanoid bowling pin style steel targets and IDPA-style shaped steel targets.

As per all our ranges, the use of monolithic bullets are strongly discouraged due to the possibility of ricochets. Shooters always shoot at their own risk and all ranges are private and open on invitation only.

Enjoy your shooting and be safe.

Quick Range specs – Mpumalanga:

- 25m to 1200m
- Same range handgun/Rifle range
- Built-in braai
- Toilets at farm house
- Water at range
- Heavy steel shooting table

Contact: Etienne Polson on
082 877 4280.



SHOOTING FUNDAMENTALS

*Small things that make a huge difference –
improve your shooting at no cost...*

by André van der Westhuizen

Hopefully you've been taught this since a very young age when you started shooting, or in your later years. The fact of the matter is that you absolutely need to focus on the basics if you want to be a good marksman!

I've seen this at every single shoot and competition, without exception... the big three, as I call it. When shooting a competition, hunting or more range practice, it is arguably the most important part of rifle shooting and, in fact, handgun shooting as well – the top fundamental – trigger control.

It all starts, and ends successfully, with the most basic of fundamentals. They are Breathing, Trigger Control and Follow Through. Simple and basic indeed, yet underestimated and overlooked by 90 percent of shooters. Sure, we all slip up every now and then, but this is exactly why one needs to work on it and mentally focus on it, when doing it.

Breathing –

Everyone has their own rhythm of

breathing and that is fine. I personally breath in and out twice and start squeezing at the bottom of the exhale.

Whatever your routine might be, is good. As long as you keep it consistent.

Trigger Control and Squeeze –

Working with a fairly standard trigger pull, such as around 2 pounds, one needs to squeeze the trigger incredibly slowly and with focus, until the shot, continuing to squeeze through as if there is another shot coming if you continue to squeeze. This will ensure minimal movement

during the lock-time process and if done right, will ensure a good follow through as well.

Follow Through –

Continue to squeeze and see your bullet impact in order to confirm yourself whether you hit the target or not, and if missed, what correction to make. If you don't do these three steps, you'll miss often, especially at longer ranges, even if you did everything else right.

There are many fundamentals to good rifle shooting, but these are key fundamentals.



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THE NAME CREEDMOOR

*You might've thought it a mere
calibre name...*



Americans shooting at Wimbledon, then the home of British rifle shooting. It was then annually awarded for 1000-yard

The range was established after the New York Legislature and the newly formed National Rifle Association of America (NRA) collaborated in 1872 to acquire 70 acres of farmland from Bernardus Hendrickson Creed (1811–1889) for long-distance rifle shooting and the holding of shooting competitions.

The range officially opened on June 21, 1873. The Central Railroad of Long Island established a railway station nearby, with trains running from Hunter's Point, with connecting boat service to 34th Street and the East River, allowing access from New York City.

In 1873, the NRA and the Creedmoor range benefitted greatly

from the substantial publicity created when the Irish Rifle team, in that year the British champions having won the Elcho Shield, challenged the 'Riflemen of America' to a match at Creedmoor the following year. The Amateur Club accepted the challenge and won by a small margin.

In 1874, the Leech Cup was presented to the Amateur Rifle Club by Major Arthur Blennerhassett Leech, Captain of the visiting Irish Rifle Team and is thus the oldest trophy offered today in competitive target shooting in the United States. It was presented to the NRA in 1901 and was then annually awarded for long distance shooting by any rifle.

In 1875, the Wimbledon Cup was presented to the NRA by the British team on the occasion of the

shooting.

International competitions, organized by the NRA, were held annually at the range until 1891, after which a decline in interest and support caused them to be moved to the range at the National Guard Camp, Sea Girt, New Jersey under the auspices of the New Jersey State Rifle Association.

The Creedmoor site reverted to the State of New York in 1907 and in 1912 became the Farm Colony of Brooklyn State Hospital. Today it is the site of the Creedmoor Psychiatric Center.



– https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Creedmoor_Rifle_Range?utm_source=chatgpt.com
– Photograph from NRA: <https://www.ssusa.org/content/the-history-of-creedmoor-range/>



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Competition Divisions & Categories

The LRSC was established, partly, to honour the role of specific current service calibres that are in use world-wide, specifically relating to long range shooting and tactical extreme range shooting. Competitors will compete in their respective calibre divisions, as below: We offer two divisions – F-BA (Bolt Action Rifles) and F-SL (Self-Loading Rifles) divisions.

LRSC Calibre divisions –

In an effort to simplify the divisions and calibres for the LRSC, the following would be implemented for 2019 onward, until such time as amendments are needed.

There will be only the two divisions:

1. Bolt action (BA division) and
2. Self-Loading / Semi Auto (SL division)

Under each of these divisions above, there will be the following calibre categories:

- .223 Rem.
- .22-250 Rem.
- .243 Win/6mm
- .264 (6.5mm)
- .308 Win.
- .30-06 Springfield
- .300 Win. Mag.
- .300 Norma Mag.
- .338 Lapua
- .50 BMG

There is no differentiation based on a factory rifle/custom rifle, ammunition used, etc., only on:

- Action (bolt action and self-loading), and
 - Calibre.
1. If a calibre competes in a competition and that calibre is not specifically mentioned above, it will compete in the higher calibre category. (i.e. .284 will compete in .308 class). Minor division = smaller/lighter than .308. Major = heavier than .308 calibre.
 2. To determine the 1st, 2nd and 3rd places in a calibre category, there should be 3 contestants that each shot a minimum of 50% of the official shoots for the year.
 3. All the shoots for the year will count the same total points (in a calibre division).
 4. To calculate winners for each category, a percentage of the best scores from the official shoots – (day scores) will be taken into account for each contestant.
 5. There will be only 1st, 2nd and 3rd placed winners announced at the Year-end Shoot for each category.
 6. On the day of the shoot:
 - a. On match days, there will be no shooting prior to the start of the competition.
 - b. a competitor will have 30 seconds to shoot a fouling shot at a designated target.
 - c. thereafter the competitor will be given 2 minutes to ready him/herself for the competition.

To accommodate other disciplines/firearms the following competitions will be hosted during the year:

1. .22 LR (Know Your Limits) Steel & Target Score shooting, in:
 - a. Bolt Action rifles.
 - b. Self Loading rifles.

Multiple gun shoot:

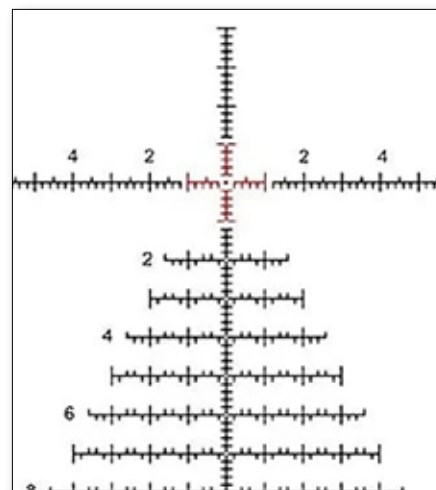
2. 2-gun (Handgun and Bolt Action rifle).
3. 3-gun (Handgun, Self Loading and Bolt Action rifle).
4. 4-gun as above but includes shotgun.

For handguns and rifles in 2-gun or 3-gun shoots, there will be no categories, such as Minor and Major. This means that you can shoot any combination of centrefire calibres for this discipline.

Practical Handgun & Long-Range Handgun shooting:

1. A Pistol or Revolver may be used in any calibre. Pistol and Revolver divisions will be separate.

SCOPE CHECK

*A quick look at the DiscoveryOpt –
Model ED-PRS Series**By André van der Westhuizen*

One of the of tricky decisions one must make when deciding on a new rifle scope, is which scope, brand and reticle to get. This can be a daunting task, especially due to the thousands of scope brands and models out there.

This is especially difficult when one has to make that choice when on a budget. Before I go any further, I must say the old saying that goes "you get what you pay for" is indeed the truth when it comes to rifle telescopes. I was raised with the belief that a scope should cost at least double what your rifle purchase price was. This is indeed the case, and has never failed me or anyone else that follows the same guideline, that I know of.

This is of course the ideal situation. However, not everyone (including me) can afford the best of the best on every rifle they own. So, we have to choose a scope that will work, but not break the bank, and one still needs to remain married, all at the same time!

When I was down in the Western Cape to host the Malmesbury Guinea fowl shoot in mid-February, my co-host for this



shoot, Heinrich Stoltz, had an interesting scope on his rifle when we went to do the reconnaissance on the farm a day before the shoot.

I had the opportunity to handle, dial, peer through and visually inspect the DiscoveryOpt ED PRS 5-25x scope. At first glance, I was very impressed with this scope, as the turrets dialed with incredible crisp, positive and audible clicks, the zero-stop function as explained to me seemed simple yet sturdy and the all-round feel of the scope was one of surprising quality. The main feature that caught my attention

and kept it, was the fact that the reticle was sharp and crisp due to the glass being from Japan, with the all-important .2 MRAD horizontal stadia! This is exactly what one needs, as this specific characteristic is lost in most budget friendly scopes. Let's just say usually the reticle design truly leaves something to be desired... to put it politely.

We will review and test this scope on the range soon and will give members honest feedback. But for a scope under R10,000 this looks promising indeed and we look forward to testing its abilities and repeatability.



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YES!

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anel@wingshooters.co.za

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* If you are a dedicated hunter at any other association please attach a copy to receive a credit towards decated hunter status.

* Please enquire about our family memberships.

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Date

I agree to honour the constitution and I do not have a criminal record. You hereby confirm that you are subscribing to SA Wingshooters Association for a period of one year or two years, depending on your option.

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- 2 x handgun ranges, multi-gun range
- Match days and competitions for long range rifle shooting, multi-gun 4-gun, 3-gun and 2-gun matches
- Rifle and handgun training, competitions and fun shoots, etc.



Membership of LRSC includes:



The LRSC is a sub-club of the SA Wingshooters and requires an additional membership to SA Wingshooters

www.longrangeclub.com
Tel: 071 132 5450