



WINGSHOOTER

Magazine of the SA Wingshooters Association

Vol. 30 No. 3 – September/October 2024



Annual Report

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PO Box 1097, Pinetown 2123
Tel 071 132 5450; or 082 412 5893
Fax to email: 086 211 5111
anel@wingshooters.co.za

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071 132 5450. eMail: anel@wingshooters.co.za

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Notice to Members

In terms of Clause 8 of the Constitution of the SA Wingshooters Association, notice is hereby given that the Annual General Meeting of SA Wingshooters will be held on Friday, 1 November 2024, at 16:15, at the Edgcombe House Conference Centre, 126 Valley Road, Kyalami, Blue Hills, Midrand (see directions on our website – www.wingshooters.org.za – go to "All Downloads" and look under the "Venue Maps" heading).

1. Chairman's Review
2. Report of the Executive Council
3. Consideration of the Accountant's Report and Financial Statements as at 29 February 2024
4. Re-appointment of external accountants
5. Election of members of the National Council

Eight members of the Association will be elected to the National Council by the General Assembly. Messrs Tony Hampson-Tindale, Graeme Milborrow, Roland Nöfke and Anton Jooste are eligible to be re-elected for these positions for the next term.

Every member personally present at the meeting shall be entitled to one vote, whether the vote be taken by show of hands or by ballot. Voting by ballot may be recorded either personally or by proxy. The document appointing a proxy must be in writing and be signed by the principal or his/her duly appointed deputy or, should the principal be a juristic person, be signed by an official or representative authorised by the said juristic person. A person holding a proxy need not be a member of the Association. The holder of a general or special proxy granted by a member, shall have the right to vote if he/she be authorised by the proxy to attend the meetings of the Association and to participate therein whether he/she be a member of the Association or not.

The document appointing a proxy and the power of attorney or other authority, if there is one, by virtue of which it has been signed, or a copy of such a proxy certified by a Notary must be lodged at the registered office of the Association not later than forty-eight (48) hours before the time of the meeting at which the person designated in the document wishes to vote, and in default thereof the document of proxy will not be regarded as valid. No document of proxy shall be valid upon expiry of six months after the date on which it was signed, unless specifically otherwise stated in the proxy and no proxy that could not have been exercised at the original meeting shall be valid at an adjourned meeting.

By order of the Executive Council,

Proud Board Member of

Anél

Anél van der Westhuizen
GENERAL MANAGER
30 August 2024, Randburg.

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competition. Winners in various divisions, and in open, female and junior categories, are published in the magazine and you receive a certificate.

You can use any handgun or rifle in either centre fire or rimfire calibres and in either bolt action, semi-auto or single shot. Just use the appropriate target – read more on our website:

Download targets here (under the PSP heading): <https://www.wingshooters.org.za/ALL-DOWNLOADS/>

Download the target, go shoot it, and send it back to us! Easy as that! It obviously also counts as a hunting related activity and/or a sport shooting activity, should you be a Dedicated Hunter and/or Dedicated Sport person with us. Email your shot targets to the office. See previous winners here:

<https://www.wingshooters.org.za/Annual-Shooting-Competitions-Top-Shooters/>

– SA Wingshooters

Understanding The Differences Between an Upland Field Gun vs. Clay Shooting Sporting Gun...

When it comes to the world of firearms, there are a wide variety of guns designed for specific purposes. Hunting enthusiasts are often faced with the decision between an upland field gun and a clays shooting sporting gun. While both serve their intended purposes, they have distinct differences that set them apart. In this article, we will explore the characteristics, features, and applications of these two types of guns, allowing you to make an informed choice based on your needs and preferences.

Understanding the Upland Field Gun: A Versatile Companion for Hunting Enthusiasts

The upland field gun, as the name suggests, is primarily designed for hunting in upland areas, such as fields, woodlands, and open countryside. These guns are typically lightweight, compact and easy to maneuver, making them ideal for navigating through dense vegetation or rugged terrains. One of the key features of an upland field gun is its shorter barrel length, which allows for quick and agile handling.

Another important aspect of upland field guns is their versatility. They are designed to handle a wide range of different game, from small upland birds like quail or grouse to larger game like pheasants or turkeys. In addition to 12 gauge, the guns are often chambered for smaller gauges like 20 or 28, which provide a lighter recoil and increased accuracy at closer distances. Additionally, upland field guns generally have a shorter effective range compared to other types of shotguns, as they are designed for shooting in tighter quarters.

Decoding the Clays Shooting Sporting Gun: Unveiling its Precision and Performance

Clays shooting sporting guns, on the other hand, are specifically designed for the sport of clay pigeon shooting. This discipline requires a high level of precision, accuracy and consistency. These guns are typically longer, heavier and more rigid than upland field guns. The longer barrel length of a clays shooting sporting gun offers improved swing and follow-through,

allowing shooters to track the trajectory of the clay targets more effectively. In terms of gauge, clays shooting sporting guns are commonly available in 12 gauge. The larger gauge provides more power and a wider shot pattern, which is necessary for breaking fast-moving clay targets at longer distances. Furthermore, these guns often come with features such as adjustable stocks, recoil reduction systems, and extended choke tubes, enabling shooters to customize their guns to suit their individual shooting styles and preferences.

Unveiling the Distinctions: Comparing Upland Field Guns and Clays Shooting Sporting Guns

While both upland field guns and clays shooting sporting guns fall under the category of shotguns, their differences in design and purpose set them apart. Upland field guns prioritize maneuverability, versatility, and handling in tighter quarters, making them well-suited for hunting in upland areas. On the other hand, clays shooting sporting guns prioritize precision, accuracy, and the ability to break fast-moving clay targets at longer distances, making them the preferred choice for clay pigeon shooting enthusiasts.

The distinctions between these two types of guns extend beyond their physical characteristics. It's essential for hunters and clay shooters to understand their individual needs and preferences to make an informed choice. Whether you're a passionate hunter or a clay shooting enthusiast, selecting the right firearm for your chosen pursuit will enhance your overall experience and increase your chances of success.

In conclusion, the differences between upland field guns and clays shooting sporting guns lie in their design, features, and intended purposes. The upland field gun excels in maneuverability and versatility, making it suitable for hunting in upland areas and handling a variety of game. On the other hand, the clays shooting sporting gun focuses on precision and performance, allowing shooters to break fast-moving clay targets at longer distances. By understanding these distinctions, you can make an informed decision and choose the gun that best suits your needs and preferences, enhancing your shooting experience. – *Shotgun Life*. <https://www.shotgunlife.com/briefs/>



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FITSONIC- THE BALANCE OF SOUND.

Sound is a powerful sensation that excites the hearing mechanism and enables humans (and animals) to communicate – the joyful skill that keeps us connected. Excessive exposure to noise may jeopardize the way you perceive sound and your communication in the long run. Finding the balance between enjoying the shooting range now and being able to partake in the conversations later is possible. FitSonic strives to help shooters find the balance.

Although there are many complexities relating to the transmission of sounds, at the point of reception (at the level of the ears), sound is readily dividable into two simple elements: pressure and time. As sound pressure or intensity increases, so does the impact it will have on your ears. Likewise, as your exposure time to that sound increases, the more likely it is to cause permanent injury.

In other words, a very loud sound may damage your hearing in just a fraction of a second, while a less intense noise may require a few seconds of exposure to have a harmful affect.

To avoid permanent damage, you must protect yourself. The main benefit of using hearing protection is the fact that it will protect your ears from loud sounds by reducing the level of noise that is able to enter your ears. With CENS Digital hearing protection however, you are still able to hear normal conversations while the sound of impulse shots is reduced to a safer hearing level. Provided that CENS Digital hearing protection are custom made with a leak tight seal, the comfort thereof keeps your hearing protected each time and for the full duration of your visit to the range or in the field. Don't wait another season, get your hearing protected today and enjoy the sense of hearing for a lifetime.

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Maintaining ethos...



The year in review was again highlighted by mainly wildlife and conservation issues, and resistance to and combating of the global anti-hunting sentiments and pro animal rightists.

Lead (Pb) used in ammunition remains a target of the anti-hunting and anti-firearm global community for many decades now.

Until now, no total bans on the use of lead (Pb) in ammunition can be instated anywhere, as the research and lack of proof currently available globally cannot prove that lead (Pb) used in ammunition has any significant impact on fauna and flora. Merely an illogical farce.

Membership fees was again not increased this year and remained subsidised by the Association for the seventh year running. This has been a huge direct membership benefit!

We sold 560 provincial bird hunting licences on behalf of the provincial departments this year, of which Gauteng province sold 194, 146 licences for Free State, Mpumalanga 100, Eastern Cape 54, Western Cape 24 and KZN 42.

Here at SA Wingshooters we offer it all. Apart from hunting, which we've offered since 1995, we offer a full line-up of sport shooting to include any type of firearm.

From shotgun shooting through to rifle, handgun and semi-auto rifle shooting sports, including the first ever Long Range rifle shooting and .22 Precision Small-Bore rifle shooting, from clay targets, steel plates or traditional target shooting... we offer all of it.

As always, we look forward to a fantastic year ahead, and we plan to host and arrange many sport shooting events and fun days, including shooting training, educational courses and more.

Since last year's report, no less than 209 new members have joined

SA Wingshooters! Thank you and welcome to all the new members!

As always, we confirm our dedication, loyalty and service to members and our duty to give them the best value for money that we possibly can.

I wish to thank the volunteer shoot captains for their continued support and assistance throughout the year. A special thank you all the active shoot captains, who always volunteers to host shoots, even when they're pressured for time. Thank you indeed!

Shoot captains ensure a safe, controlled and organised shoot venue and they are there for your convenience, safety, and to offer any assistance members might need on a shoot. This able team was also the backbone of our Mentorship Programme, which introduces newcomers to the wonderful pastime of Wingshooting.

On behalf of all members, I extend our appreciation to our National Council for their guidance, the other Executive Committee members Etienne Polson and Johan Opperman, and our finance team of Anél van der Westhuizen (book-keeping) and Barbara Bodenstein, our Financial Controller, under the watchful eye of External Treasurer Peter Karsas.

A special thanks to Anél, who does a tremendous job of managing the office. I thank our support staff Zinzi Duma and Lenard Madhlopa for their continued effort and friendly demeanour.

Finally, we thank our IT consultants, risk managers, auditors, sponsors and advertisers for their valued contributions and support.

André van der Westhuizen,
Executive Chairman



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The Importance of Shotgun Snap Caps



When it comes to protecting your shotgun during storage, snap caps are an essential accessory to have. Not only do they help safeguard the firing pin mechanism, but they also prevent damage to the chamber and barrel. In this article, we will discuss the importance of using snap caps for storing your shotgun and why they are a crucial investment for any gun owner.

Snap caps are dummy cartridges that mimic the size and shape of a real shotgun shell, but without any live primer or gunpowder. By inserting snap caps into the chamber of your shotgun, you can cushion the firing pin when the gun is not in use. This helps prevent the firing pin from becoming damaged or worn out over time, ensuring that your shotgun remains in top working condition.

In addition to protecting the firing pin, snap caps also help prevent rust and corrosion in the chamber and barrel of your shotgun. By keeping snap caps in place, you can block out dust, dirt and moisture that can accumulate in the gun's interior during storage. This extra layer of protection can extend the lifespan of your shotgun and reduce the need for frequent maintenance and repairs.

Furthermore, snap caps are a safe and effective way to practice dry firing your shotgun. Dry firing with snap caps allows you to simulate the feeling of pulling the trigger without actually firing a live round.

This can help improve your shooting skills and familiarize yourself with the mechanics of your shotgun, all while minimizing the risk of accidental discharge.

When storing your shotgun for an extended period of time, it is important to properly prepare and protect your firearm. Snap caps are essential for storage because they provide a simple yet effective way to keep your shotgun in optimal condition. By using snap caps, you can rest assured that your shotgun's firing pin, chamber, and barrel are all safeguarded against potential damage and deterioration.

In addition to protecting your shotgun, snap caps also offer a convenient way to easily identify an unloaded firearm. By inserting snap caps into the chamber, you can visually and tactically confirm that the gun is empty and safe to handle. This added layer of safety can help prevent accidents and mishaps, especially if you have children or inexperienced individuals in your household.

Overall, investing in a set of snap caps for your shotgun is a wise decision that can pay off in the long run. Not only do snap caps provide essential protection for your firearm during storage, but they also offer a safe and effective way to practice dry firing and handle your shotgun with confidence.

By incorporating snap caps into your gun maintenance routine, you can ensure that your shotgun remains in top working condition for years to come.

— www.shotgunlife.com

<https://www.shotgunlife.com/briefs/the-importance-of-shotgun-snap-caps>

Shot Size and Effective Ranges

Effective ranges

Live quarry should be shot between 20 and 55 metres. Beyond 55m you might get the odd 'golden pellet' kill, but the pattern cannot be relied upon to produce consistent kills and the wounding rate increases exponentially.

However, most wingshooters tend to overestimate ranges, mainly due to a lack of reference points up in the ether. The old rule-of-thumb is to halve the estimated range and add ten yards. Thus a bird

ACTUAL SHOT SIZES			
Shot	UK	USA	EU
AAA	4B	OV9	
BB	airgun	00	
1	2	1	
3	4	3	
4	5	4	
5	6	5	
6	-	6	
7	7 1/2	7	
7 1/2	8	7 1/2	
8	-	8	
9	9	9	

May not be used on clay shooting ranges

guesstimated at 50 metres is actually very shootable at 35 metres.

Shot sizes

There are two schools of thought: the first believes that a dense pattern of smaller shot will produce multiple hits; the second prefers larger shot with more individual penetration and energy, and accepts a sparser pattern. But research by Dr Slang Viljoen over several years has proved conclusively that number 5 shot kills Swainson's francolin, shot over pointers, more consistently than no. 7 shot. Generally, accurate shooters favour larger shot.

General guidelines

Pigeons & Doves — #7, 7,5 or #8. Rock pigeons — #6 or #7. Quail — #8 or #9, in high wind #7. Francolin & Partridge — #5 to #6. Guinea fowl — #4 to #5. Ducks — #6 or preferably #5. Geese — BB to # 3.

Chokes

Using modern plastic wads with cups, patterns tend to be tighter and the effect of the choke is enhanced. For general field use (excluding steel shot) anything from quarter choke to three-quarter choke will do. Full and extra-full chokes are only recommended on high flying geese.

— SA Wingshooters

The SA Wingshooters Christmas Shoot



FREE!

23 November
2024

When: SATURDAY 23 NOVEMBER at 08H30

Where: Hippo Creek Shooting Centre

Bring your own gun, ammo, friends and family and come and have a GREAT DAY with us at the ANNUAL Wingshooters Christmas Shoot. **FREE SHOOT FOR MEMBERS!** Hippo Creek is a mere 75km (45 minute's drive) south of Johannesburg.

WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW –

Teams of 4 to 5 guns can enter in a group. If you are on your own you'll be squadded in a team. It is a 50 clay target shoot. LIMITED SPACE AVAILABLE – First come, first served!

HOW MUCH?

- FREE for members!!
- Non-members R650.- per gun.
- Non-shooting family members for LUNCH only R250.-

Lunch is included and is a Spitbraai with a choice of 4 meats (Pork, Lamb, Beef or Chicken) with mielie pap, gravy and 3 x Salads (Green Salad, Beetroot Salad and Chakalaka Salad), cocktail onions, potatoes (cooked in the bottom of the braai) and bread rolls. Ice-cream and chocolate sauce for desert.

**PLEASE NOTE: Limited space!
No entries after 18 November please!**

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* After 18 November 2024 no refunds
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What is an English “Best Gun?”



Understanding what “best quality guns” are when it comes to fine, English-made shotguns.

by Duke “L.D” McCaa

article and photographs with
kind permission from
www.projectupland.com

Having dealt with so-called “fine” firearms for decades, the question “What exactly is a ‘best gun?’” comes up a lot. Explaining what a best gun is can be challenging because it’s more of a concept or ethos to building a gun, not something that follows a set of rules or criteria. As such, the term is used quite liberally, especially when

it comes to shotguns. Moreover, best quality shotguns made by English gunmakers are rare by any measure, giving them an almost mythical status. This makes the term “best quality” even more abstract.

The use of “best quality” goes back to the early 1800s. The words describe just that: the best gun that could be built. Most of the time, the term “best quality” is used, and it

refers to a gun or rifle made to order, or bespoke, by an English gunmaker such as Boss & Co., J. Purdey & Sons, or Holland & Holland. These firms are known for producing firearms built with the best materials, craftsmanship, and design to produce guns made to the highest standards

the word grade. The Birmingham makers often offered a variety of different grades, or qualities, of guns. For example, “gamekeeper’s” guns were made with little to no embellishment and were often based on a boxlock action in which a functional version could be made with-

time or another, also made guns to be sold at a lower price point. These lower-priced guns were offered as an effort to put their guns in the hands of customers who were either not willing or not able to afford a best quality. However, if one wants the features on a gun that a certain maker is famous for, that buyer often has to step up to the best quality gun to get them. At the same time, most makers also made highly embellished versions of their best guns. These are simply deluxe or exhibition grades, made to the same demanding standards as a best quality, just with more bling.

It is important to remember that the amount of embellishment on a gun does not make it a best quality. Some best quality guns were made with no engraving at all. Purdey’s and Westley Richards & Co. are both well known for the guns they produced with no engraving. Westley Richards still produces a gun today that originally was referred to in company literature as a “best quality, plain finish,” colloquially known as a “gold



in both form and function, regardless of the time or cost required. For these select English makers, a “best quality” gun is actually their “standard” model, and these guns have literally set the standard worldwide by which all other double guns are compared.

Shotgun Quality Versus Grade

For many, “best quality” describes a gun that is so well made, it is wildly expensive. It’s true. For the most part, they are produced one at a time and made by hand. Due to the level of expertise and time required to make them, best quality guns have always come with very high price tags. Simply put, making a gun by hand to such high standards is terribly inefficient and offers no economies of scale. Thus, new guns deserving the “best quality” title have price tags that match the price of a house.

Still, no machine has been invented that can produce the subtleties that trained hands can do, and the demand for such items continues today.

In the English gun trade, the term “quality” is used, whereas an American gun company might use



out requiring a high level of skill or expense to produce.

There’s a Variety of Best Quality Guns

Most of the London makers known for best quality guns, at one

name” today.

Gold name guns are made just as well as any best gun by Westley’s, but the case-colored receiver has no engraving, only the maker’s name in gold. Purdey’s is also famous for the “unengraved” guns they produced,

continued overleaf...



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tools

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NOT THREE.

70 Guineas.



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Westley Richards Hammerless Ejector Gun, with patent reliable one-trigger or with two triggers, and hand-detachable locks, with Westley Richards Special Steel or Damascus Barrels, highest pattern and penetration	Net Cash.
Price of Pair	70 Guineas
" Set of Three	140 "
Westley Richards Hammerless Ejector Gun, as above, without Westley Richards Extended Rib and Top Lever Fastening	65 "
Price of Pair	130 "
" Set of Three	195 "
Cleaning rod, apparatus complete, oils, etc.,	per gun 1 Guinea
Best leather-covered oak case, for one gun, Westley Richards Special Pattern	£3 15 0
Ditto ditto for pair	£7 0 0

Whitworth Steel Barrels, £5 0 0 extra. Duplicate Detachable Locks, per pair, £5 5 0

Above Guns, constructed for shooting from the right shoulder with the left eye, £3 10 0 to £5 5 0 extra.

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is the strongest fastening extant. It bolts at the top and at the bottom on a principle that has met with world-wide approval.

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"Indifference to recoil.
"The gun will adapt itself to practically every conceivable combination of violence or lightness of recoil and suddenness or complete absence of the involuntary pull. Every apparent requirement of a single trigger action seems to have been met by some application of mechanical movement."

Editor of Field, July 5, 1902.

"The double .577 rifle is still acting perfectly as when I got it about three years ago. I have shot 120 male elephants with it to date. The one-trigger is beyond praise. I would not go back to the old two-trigger for worlds. It is so quick, especially when in thick bush, when a second shot has to be fired rapidly."—J. S. (Africa, July 11, 1910).

is the expertise of the action filer, the stocker, and the barrel maker who can produce a gun with no excess. These gunmakers have the skill and are given the time, with no consideration of costs, to do it.

As it has always been, best quality guns made in England are a luxury good and a sign of wealth. As such, best quality guns have been marketed to royalty, aristocrats, and other affluent customers. It is safe to say that anything described as a "luxury" item is going to be out of my price range. Even though I may never own a gun that costs four times as much as my first home, I do still marvel at their craftsmanship, ingenuity, and beauty. These features make me interested in knowing about luxury guns. After all, the breechloading gun has its origins in the best quality guns invented and made by the English gunmakers of the 19th and 20th centuries.

Learning about these guns helps me have an appreciation for what good value a Spanish gun might be, where a lot of the influence on American-made guns came from, or why my vintage English-made box-lock is cool even if it is not considered a best gun. If you're anything like me, best quality guns can inform your choices when shopping at lower price points and help you identify quality characteristics that set some shotguns apart from others.

— https://projectupland.com/shotguns-and-shooting/shotguns/what-is-an-english-best-gun/?utm_source=Klaviyo&utm_medium=campaign&_kx=fUSZQjgzqv vSYnuuxNSS2OPOnTvdmtPQhgaaKJ-WMWz29fqJhAU3f6Y6qWTLzEu.XSVPXG

often referred to as "funeral" models due to having no engraving and only a deep black finish on the metal. Again, the level of engraving does not make a gun best quality; it is simply a component that may or may not be present.

Best Quality Guns Are Visually Pleasing And Function Flawlessly

To me, a best quality gun is the sum of its parts. They are perfectly blended to be pleasing to the eye and flawless in function. However, there are no hard and fast rules on what makes a best gun. You just know it when you see it, or rather, feel it. The proportion and scale of best quality English-made guns are often what

gun enthusiasts admire about a gun, but have a hard time articulating. It





MY HEART BELONGS TO THE **VELDT**

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GUN ACCESSORIES*

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AND AMMONIA
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One association

We do it all

SA Wingshooters Association is truly the one association for all shooting disciplines. With us you can do it all. We offer shooting events and venues in all divisions, including shotgun, rifle, handgun, semi-auto rifle, long range target shooting and multi-gun sport shooting...



The SA Wingshooters Association has been accredited by the CFR as a Dedicated Hunting Association, since 2004.

In fact, we are the second oldest accredited association in South Africa.

We have current members, many of whom regularly participate in the various sport shooting disciplines available and thus have a definite need to be able to grant such members the Dedicated Sport Shooting status, in order to enable them to fully participate in their chosen sport.

So, we are both an accredited sport shooting and hunting association, as we have members who want dedicated status, but who do not hunt.

We currently offer the following sport shooting disciplines to our members, either at our own facilities/ranges, or at any range country-wide and internationally:

PSP (Postal Shooting Programme) target shooting for handguns, manual rifles and self-loading rifles. Various target shooting tables/disciplines are offered, which can be practiced at any range world-wide. All our targets are available on our website.

Clay Target Shooting – all members have access to Clay Target

Shooting using shotguns at any accredited clay target range or club (CTSASA, COMPAK, etc.) country-wide.

Long Range Rifle Shooting – we have our own dedicated long range rifle shooting range in Gauteng, where members compete over shooting distances ranging from 100m to 1200m. This range also affords us the opportunity to offer multi-gun sport shooting discipline), starting at 10m for handguns, to 100m and then up to 600m for self-loading rifles, with official division categories for calibres and types of rifles.

Handgun Shooting – we offer handgun shooting, again at our LRSC range, or any other range world-wide via the PSP, on our 17 target steel pistol range with targets from 10m to 100m, and includes a 6-plate duelling tree.

Multi-gun (4-gun, 3-gun & 2-gun) sport shooting – we offer multi gun events, where self-loading rifles, shotgun, handguns and bolt action rifles are used, at our LRSC range and elsewhere.

Membership of the LRSC gives you additional membership of the following sub-clubs:

- The LRSC (Long range shooting club for rifles in both Bolt Action and Self-loading rifle, which are to

distinct separate divisions).

- The .22PSBC (Precision Small-Bore Club)

- The TPS (Tactical Precision Shooting) multi-gun club for 3-gun and 2-gun shooting and competition

- The LR Open Sight club (Open Sight rifle division)

- The LR Handgun and Revolver sub-club – for handgun shooting in various divisions.

The Long Range Shooting Club (LRSC) and the PSP (Postal Shooting Programme) are part of SA Wingshooters and are subject to its constitution, disciplinary codes and rules of ethical conduct.

Lastly, as you know, the SA Wingshooters Association has R20-million liability insurance to cover the Association, with each individual member also having R20-million liability insurance as individual cover, for all shooting-related activities.

We are proud to be an association that offers all forms of shooting and hunting to our members. Thanks for your support!



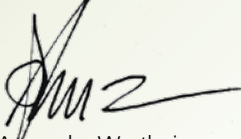


We offer all types of shooting and hunting... as well as coaching!



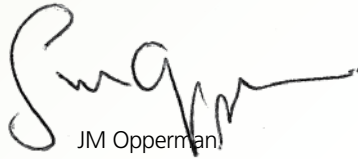
Executive Council's Approval

The annual financial statements for the year ended 29 February 2024 were approved by the Executive Council on 30 August 2024 and signed:



AA van der Westhuizen

Member: Executive Council



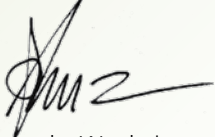
JM Opperman

Member: Executive Council



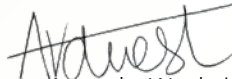
GE Polson

Member: Executive Council



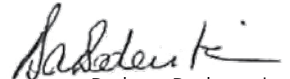
AA van der Westhuizen

Chairman



A van der Westhuizen

General Manager and Bookkeeping



Barbara Bodenstein

Financial Controller

Report of the Accountants to the members of the SA Wingshooters Association

P. van Zyl CA(SA), RA
No 4 Vuurpyl Street
Tubatse Residential Village
Steelpoort
1133

REPORT OF THE ACCOUNTANT TO THE MEMBERS OF THE S A WINGSHOOTERS ASSOCIATION

To the members of S A Wingshooters Association

I have compiled the accompanying financial statements of S A Wingshooters Association based on the information the chairman and financial officer has provided. These financial statements comprise the statement of financial position of S A Wingshooters Association as at 29 February 2024, the statement of income, statement of changes in funds and the statement of cash flows for the year then ended, and a summary of significant accounting policies and other explanatory information.

I have performed this compilation engagement in accordance with International Standard on Related Services 4410 (Revised), *Compilation engagements*.

I have applied my expertise in accounting and financial reporting to assist you in the preparation and presentation of these financial statements in accordance with International Financial Reporting Standards for Small- and Medium-sized Entities (IFRS for SMEs). I have complied with the relevant ethical requirements, including principles of integrity, objectivity, professional competence and due care.

These financial statements and the accuracy and completeness of the information used to compile them are the responsibility of the chairman and the financial officer.

Since a compilation engagement is not an assurance engagement, I am not required to verify the accuracy or completeness of the information provided to me to compile these financial statements. Accordingly, I do not express an audit opinion or a review conclusion on whether these financial statements are prepared in accordance with IFRS for SMEs.



P. van Zyl
Chartered Accountant (S.A.)
Registered Auditor

Pretoria
11 August 2024

Report by the Executive Council

Membership & Services

Membership fees have again remained the same for the seventh year in succession. Membership fees were again not increased in the year under review and remained subsidised by the Association. This has been a huge direct membership benefit! Currently (at date of this report), the Association has 2633 members who are "current" or "paid up". There are 56 members who are 30 days in arrears, 31 are 60 days in arrears, 38 are 90 days and 281 who are 91 days plus – totaling 3039 members, a decrease of 65 members from 3104 of the previous year. A total of 209 new members joined at the date of this report, since the previous annual report. At the time of this report the LRSC has 120 members (with 113 paid up or current, 3 at 90 days and 4 at 91 days +) and produced an income of R255,473. The PSP has 347 current members.

During the year under review, competitions, shoots and licence fees produced an income of R136,419 compared to R169,831 in the previous financial year. The Christmas shoot (and others) is always offered at a small loss, as these are direct membership benefits. This is expected, as this shoot is offered with almost no mark-up to members and the entry fee is almost the same as quoted by the shooting range, caterers, etc. Advertising income in the Wingshooter magazine amounted to R20,700 – a decrease of 12,3% from the previous year. This is due to the lower advertising rates for digital magazine adverts, as well as a decline in general advertising support. Our group liability insurance product for members and the association, which was a first in South Africa, has been continued successfully. The Association has expanded shooting venues for the annual shooting calendar and even more so for the current year. We offered in excess of 1000 organised shooting days during the year under review, and we plan to keep on offering venues to members. The LRSC amounted an expenditure of R67,159 at the time of this report, which is a substantial decrease due to reduced range rental and other savings.

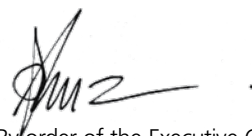
General Review

During the operational year under review, we expanded the Association's membership services and offerings to include the "Lady Birds" ladies sub-club of SA Wingshooters and held various wingshooting and clay shooting activities. We would sincerely like to thank all members for their efforts over the past year to recruit new members. Our cultural heritage activity of hunting, as well as sport shooting and firearms ownership in general, is under constant threat from government and gun-free lobby groups. The weak RSA economy is putting many people under financial strain and we try and keep costs to members as low as possible. We assisted members where we could regarding membership fees and we again thank specific members who financially assisted other members and paid membership fees on their behalf. You are truly exceptional individuals! We have not increased membership fees and the annual membership fees remained the same since 2017 – This is a direct benefit to members.

Bird hunting licences remain available for purchase from our offices for Gauteng, Mpumalanga, Free State, KZN, Eastern & Western Cape. SA Wingshooters Association is part of various forums – from the DFFE wildlife forum to various firearms, hunting and sport shooting forums. In these forums the industry partners up in order to focus on pressing issues that might threaten our ownership of firearms, hunting and shooting. We remain a supporter of the Overberg Renosterveld Conservation Trust. We support and engage in joint conservation projects in Southern Africa, in support of bird conservation of game birds and waterfowl and birds in general. We're proud to be part of the SUCo-SA (Sustainable Utilisation Coalition of South Africa) – of which we are a founding member – along with other hunting and wildlife associations and bodies, such as NHSA, CHASA, PHASA, WRSA, TGA and others. Internationally, our National Associate membership of the British Association for Shooting and Conservation (BASC) continues to add value to the organisation and to our members. We support and donate to the Wildlife Poisoning Prevention and Conflict Resolution, the aim of which is to curb, investigate and resolve wildlife poisoning incidents and conflicts and provide training across Africa to raise awareness of poisoning of fauna and flora. The availability of editorial material from the BASC publications, Guns-on-Pegs and Project Upland for use in our publications is gratefully acknowledged and appreciated.

Financial Results

We are a government registered non-profit organisation and SARS Public Benefit Organisation. The income from membership subscriptions amounted to R2,872,597 during the year, a slight decrease of R63,102 (2,15%) over the previous year. The total expenditure increased by 6,82% (R218,056), due to inflationary pressures and no membership fee increase to R3,417,077 to produce a modest surplus of R190,422. This was again achieved thanks to the strong financial discipline of our Association's management, despite climbing inflation, expanded membership services and benefits, such as offering official shoots below cost and free of association charges, our on-line firearm licence renewal notification and dedicated activity reporting on-line portal, shotgun, rifle and handgun shooting training, etc. The management fees of our administrators, the Advisory Bureau for Development (Pty) Ltd, amounted to R2,261,894. Our Funds increased to R3,807,172 which includes the Legal Action Fund of R73,184, the Publishing Revolving Fund of R40,000 and the Youth Development Fund of R89,600.



By order of the Executive Council
André van der Westhuizen
Executive Chairman

Statement of Financial Position

SA WINGSHOOTERS ASSOCIATION
STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION
29 FEBRUARY 2024

	Notes	2024 R	2023 R
ASSETS			
NON-CURRENT ASSETS			
Property, plant and equipment	2	5 632	31 311
CURRENT ASSETS		3 862 889	3 648 678
Accounts receivable		18 540	14 975
Cash and cash equivalents	3,2	3 844 349	3 633 703
TOTAL ASSETS		3 868 521	3 679 989
FUNDS AND LIABILITIES			
FUNDS		3 807 172	3 616 749
CURRENT LIABILITY			
Accounts payable		61 349	63 240
TOTAL FUNDS AND LIABILITIES		3 868 521	3 679 989



Statement of Income

SA WINGSHOOTERS ASSOCIATION

STATEMENT OF INCOME

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 29 FEBRUARY 2024

	Note	2024 R	2023 R
INCOME		3 607 499	3 539 480
Advertising		20 700	23 604
Competitions, shoots and licences		136 419	169 831
Donations received - legal action fund		1 381	1 337
Donations received - other		-	25 000
Income from auction and sale of promotional items		9 992	6 925
Long range shooting program		255 473	177 740
Interest received		263 006	145 657
Membership fees		2 872 597	2 935 699
Postal shooting program		2 287	4 757
Training material and book sales		45 644	48 930
EXPENDITURE		3 417 077	3 199 021
Accounting fees		44 380	42 860
Advertising		64 540	1 243
Bank charges		8 363	6 364
BASC expenses and royalties		2 093	1 798
Cleaning		21 397	19 981
Competitions, shoots and licences		128 386	202 538
Computer expenses		62 540	67 839
Credit card commission		12 043	12 009
Depreciation	2	25 679	31 232
Donations		1 000	36 000
Entertainment and meetings		24 385	28 751
Huntex expenses		15 397	23 778
Insurance		108 055	105 839
Long range shooting program expenses		67 159	110 235
Management fees - administration services		1 496 714	1 363 079
Management fees - finance and bookkeeping		765 180	696 860
Motor vehicle expenses		172 729	107 843
Printing and stationery		27 475	25 422
Promotional items and prizes		47 563	11 081
Rent, electricity and water		78 000	78 000
Repairs and maintenance		3 389	10 689
Secretarial and bookkeeping services		54 600	50 950
Security expenses		8 918	6 461
Staff refreshments		7 313	7 980
Subscriptions and membership		29 695	20 015
Telephone, courier, fax and postage		82 890	77 215
Travelling and accommodation		8 163	-
Wages		18 000	22 900
Website		31 031	30 059
Surplus of income over expenditure		<u>190 422</u>	<u>340 459</u>

Statement of Changes in Funds

SA WINGSHOOTERS ASSOCIATION

STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN FUNDS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 29 FEBRUARY 2024

	General funds R	Youth development fund R	Publishing revolving fund R	Legal action fund R	Total R
Balance at 1 March 2022	3 076 225	89 600	40 000	70 466	3 276 291
Net surplus for the prior year	340 459				340 459
Transfer to legal action fund	(1 337)			1 337	
Balance at 28 February 2023	3 415 347	89 600	40 000	71 803	3 616 750
Net surplus for the current year	190 422				190 422
Transfer to legal action fund	(1 381)			1 381	
Balance at 29 February 2024	3 604 388	89 600	40 000	73 184	3 807 172

Statement of Cash Flows

SA WINGSHOOTERS ASSOCIATION

STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 29 FEBRUARY 2024

	Notes	2024 R	2023 R
Cash flows from operating activities			
Cash generated by the activities of the association	3,1	(52 361)	226 689
Interest received		263 006	145 657
		<u>210 645</u>	<u>372 346</u>
Cash flows from investing activities			
Acquisition of property, plant and equipment	2	-	-
		<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>
Net movement in cash and cash equivalents		210 645	372 346
Cash and cash equivalents at beginning of year		3 633 704	3 261 357
		<u>3 633 704</u>	<u>3 261 357</u>
Cash and cash equivalents at end of year	3,2	<u>3 844 349</u>	<u>3 633 703</u>

Notes to the Annual Financial Statements

SA WINGSHOOTERS ASSOCIATION

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

29 FEBRUARY 2024

1 ACCOUNTING POLICIES

1,1 Presentation of Annual Financial Statements

The annual financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the International Financial Reporting Standard for Small and Medium-sized Entities. The annual financial statements have been prepared on the historical cost basis, except for certain financial instruments carried at fair value as stated in note 1.3 below, and incorporate the principal accounting policies set out below. All amounts are presented in South African Rands.

1,2 Depreciation of fixed assets

Property, plant and equipment are held for administration purposes and are expected to be used during more than one financial period.

Property, plant and equipment are carried at cost less accumulated depreciation and any impairment losses.

Property, plant and equipment are depreciated using the straight line method at rates that will reduce carrying estimated residual values over the anticipated useful lives of the assets. The useful lives are:

Computer equipment	4 years
Computer software	2 years
Equipment	5 years
Furniture and fittings	6 years
Motor vehicles	5 years
Office equipment	6 years

1,3 Financial instruments

Initial measurement

Financial instruments are initially measured at the transaction price. This includes transaction costs, except for financial instruments which are measured at fair value through profit and loss.

Financial instruments at amortised cost

Debt instruments, as defined in the standard, are subsequently measured at amortised cost using the effective interest rate method. Debt instruments which are classified as current assets or current liabilities are measured at the undiscounted amount of cash expected to be received or paid, unless the arrangement effectively constitutes a financing transaction. These include accounts receivable and accounts payable.

At the end of each reporting date, the carrying amounts of assets held in this category are reviewed to determine whether there is any objective evidence of impairment. If so, an impairment loss is recognised.

Financial instruments at fair value

Cash and cash equivalents are measured at fair value.

1,4 Membership fees

Membership fees comprises subscriptions and entry fees received excluding value added tax. Subscriptions received is accounted for in the financial year in which it is received.

Notes to the Annual Financial Statements (continued)

SA WINGSHOOTERS ASSOCIATION

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (continued)

29 FEBRUARY 2024

2 PROPERTY, PLANT AND EQUIPMENT

	2024			2023		
	<u>Cost</u>	<u>Accumulated depreciation</u>	<u>Carrying Amount</u>	<u>Cost</u>	<u>Accumulated depreciation</u>	<u>Carrying Amount</u>
	R	R	R	R	R	R
<u>Owned assets</u>						
Computer equipment	410 841	410 795	46	410 841	408 444	2 397
Computer software	149 316	149 294	22	149 316	149 294	22
Equipment	121 840	117 061	4 779	121 840	94 053	27 787
Furniture and fittings	12 529	12 521	8	12 529	12 521	8
Motor vehicles	220 270	220 270	-	220 270	220 270	-
Office equipment	44 735	43 958	777	44 735	43 638	1 097
Total	<u>959 531</u>	<u>953 899</u>	<u>5 632</u>	<u>959 531</u>	<u>928 220</u>	<u>31 311</u>

The carrying amount are reconciled as follows:

	<u>Carrying amount at the beginning of the year</u>	<u>Additions</u>	<u>Disposals</u>	<u>Depreciation</u>	<u>Carrying amount at year end</u>
	R	R	R	R	R
<u>Owned assets</u>					
Computer equipment	2 397	-	-	2 351	46
Computer software	22	-	-	-	22
Equipment	27 787	-	-	23 008	4 779
Furniture and fittings	8	-	-	-	8
Motor vehicles	-	-	-	-	-
Office equipment	1 097	-	-	320	777
	<u>31 311</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>25 679</u>	<u>5 632</u>



Notes to the Annual Financial Statements (continued)

SA WINGSHOOTERS ASSOCIATION

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (continued)

29 FEBRUARY 2024

	2024 R	2023 R
3 NOTES TO THE CASH FLOW STATEMENT		
3,1 Cash generated by operations		
Surplus of income over expenditure	190 422	340 459
Adjustment for interest separately disclosed in the cash flow statement	<u>263 006</u>	<u>145 657</u>
	(72 584)	194 802
Adjustment for non cash flow item:		
Depreciation	<u>25 679</u>	<u>31 232</u>
	(46 905)	226 034
(Increase) Decrease in working capital	(5 456)	655
(Decrease) Increase in accounts payable	(1 891)	3 137
(Increase) Decrease in accounts receivable	(3 565)	(2 482)
	<u>(52 361)</u>	<u>226 689</u>
3,2 Cash and cash equivalents		
Cash and cash equivalents included in the cash flow statement comprise the following:		
Cash at bank	555 425	856 213
Cash on hand	4 888	6 461
Funds on call	3 284 036	2 771 029
	<u>3 844 349</u>	<u>3 633 703</u>

4 TAXATION

Taxation has not been provided as the association is recognised as a Public Benefit Organisation in terms of section 30 of the Income Tax Act.

5 GOING CONCERN

The annual financial statements have been prepared on the basis of accounting policies applicable to a going concern. This basis presumes that funds will be available to finance future operations and that the realisation of assets and settlement of liabilities, contingent obligations and commitments will occur in the ordinary course of business.

6 SUBSEQUENT EVENTS

In the opinion of the Executive Council there have been no events subsequent to the end of the reporting period which have not been accounted for in the financial statements and which would materially affect the financial results of the association.

Members in the field...

John Smillie, Garry Emerton, Charles Duff and Calvin Fisher at The Rusteburg



Chris & Matthew at the Leandra shoot



*Above: Junior member Roux Struweg at Singita.
Left: Vice-Chairman Henni Boudjelthia at a shoot in Settlers.
Far left: Paul Jordaan and Christo Schutte wingshooting in the Western Cape.*



Left: Jed, Noah and Gaebriele Hurwitz on a plains game hunt.

The juniors in the Association are keen hunters and sport shooters and we support junior member participation in hunts, shoots and association events.



Above: Rob MacKay and Diesel

Below left: Emil Engelbrecht at a Kendal/ Delmas shoot.

Below: Dominique Ferreira, Pedro Costa and Paulo Costa at Merinovlakte.



Dr Mongezi Milela with a beautiful Zebra



Members on our LRSC Range



Left: Members on the shooting slab ready to start their calibre division

Dane Alan metally ready for the course of fire!

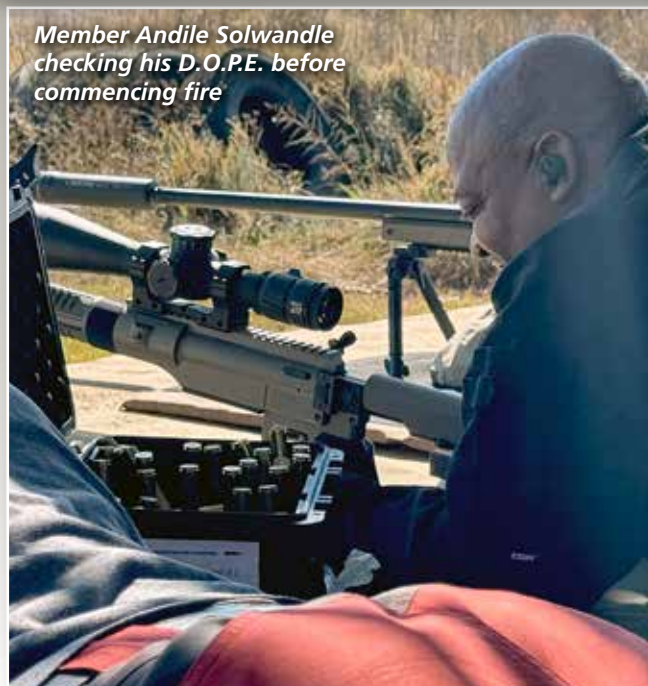


The kit! All calibres may be used at the LRSC on competition days

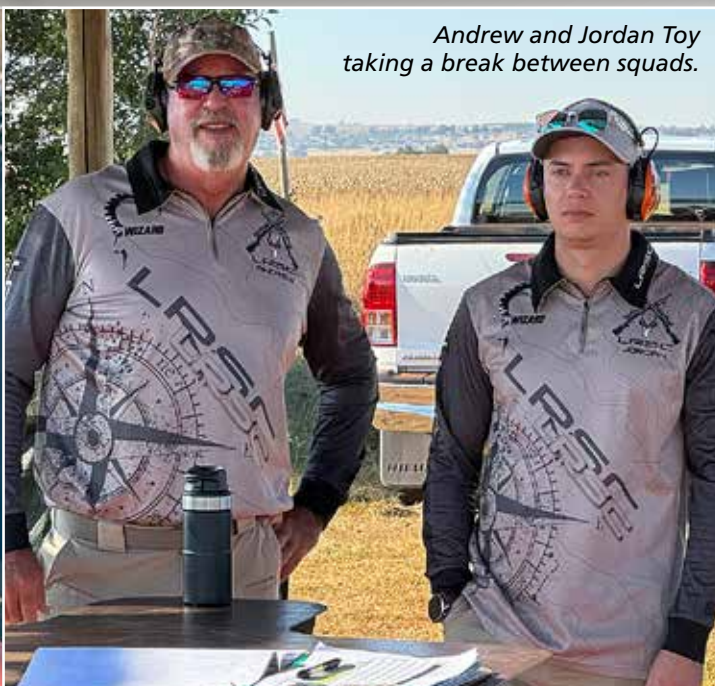


Executive Committee member Johan Opperman with Cornell van der Westhuizen, in demonstration, at our Handgun training day.

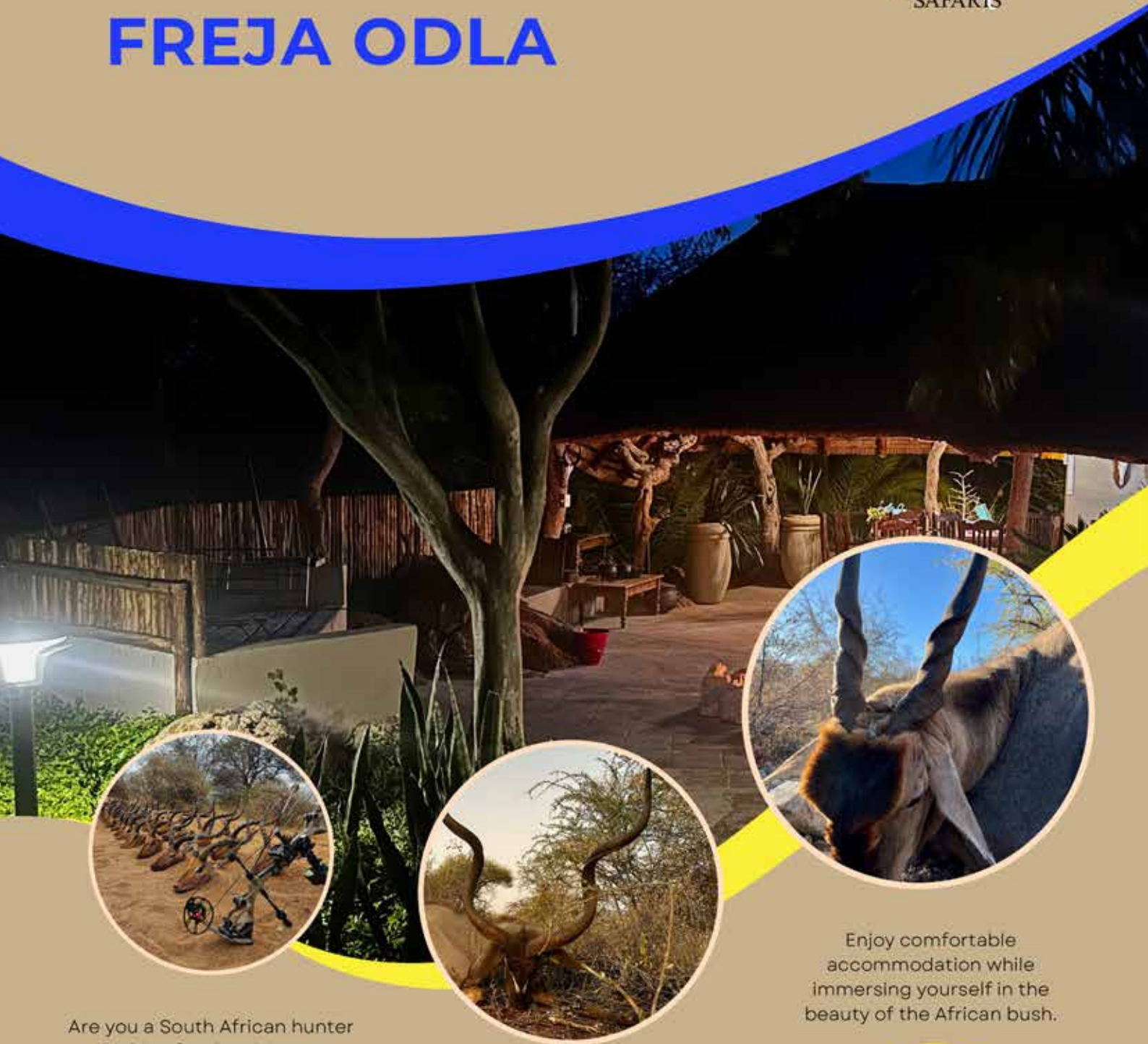
Member Andile Solwandle checking his D.O.P.E. before commencing fire



Andrew and Jordan Toy taking a break between squads.



UNLEASH YOUR INNER SNIPER AT FREJA ODLA



Are you a South African hunter looking for the ultimate challenge? Freja Odlá Safari offers the perfect blend of traditional hunting and long-range shooting.

Experience the thrill of bow or rifle hunting in the heart of Alldays, followed by honing your marksmanship skills on our world-class 1.5km long-range shooting range.

Enjoy comfortable accommodation while immersing yourself in the beauty of the African bush.

Book your adventure today!



How to correctly command Your Dog

*As Commander-in-Chief of your hunting dog,
make sure your intended message is clearly
understood*

Written by Jason Carter

with kind permission of projectupland.com



“Where were you last night?” These words strike fear in nearly all adolescent children. Is the parent simply curious? Was it an ambivalent conversation starter or a knowing and accusatory set up? The answer always lies within the subtle tones, expression and body language of the parent.

The same is true when thinking about the delivery of a command in dog training. It is very important to be cognizant of how we present information to our dogs because they, too, are always studying what we are saying. Know that you can't hide your emotions within a command, no matter how hard you try. Always try to remain clear, calm, consistent and absolute when commanding.

The volume and tone of each command should be heard clearly by the dog. Your physical touch and visual cues should silently command the dog towards your desired outcome, not conflict with your words. Speak only when you have something to say.

If everything is done properly, the communication highway between you and your dog will remain free from obstructions, which lends itself

to quicker and deeper understanding. The following commanding techniques will help you to better communicate with your dog and avoid some of the common mistakes that handlers make.

Commanding Techniques to Avoid

The following personas are examples of common training pitfalls. Understanding these mistakes will help you to become a clear communicator and will improve your training relationship with your dog.

The Over-Commander

We all know those handlers, where commands come flying out of their mouths faster than pops in a popcorn machine. “Come, come, come, heel, heel, come, sit, bad, here, come...” They’ve blown their whistle to the point where you would be happy to help them relocate it someplace else.

It’s important to not over-command in the field. Try to streamline your commands towards only speaking when you have something to say. Never layer commands on top of one another. Be sure that your dog adheres to the first command before giving the second, which will help to prevent command overload.

Over-commanding, more affectionately known as “nagging,” will eventually cause the dog to ignore you. Following a one-command system of training develops an attentive and responsive dog.

The Loud and Proud Trainer

When delivering a command, folks have a tendency to tier the commands with the volume that best aligns with their emotions. For example, you may first start with the “whoa” (stop) command with an appropriate volume that is just enough for the dog to hear. If that doesn’t work, you escalate up to a “whoa” with double the volume and animation.

When that doesn’t work, we dive headlong into the “WHOOAAAAA!!!” with enough emotion and fury that it inspires us to actually do something about the behavior. Guess which

command to which the dog tends to respond best? Yup, you guessed it, the one that you back up with enforcement. They figure that the first two commands are shots across the bow and are waiting for that all-expressive third command that you back up with a correction. If, instead, you acted upon the first command, the dog would have started to respond on the first low-level command.

Remember that dogs can hear incredibly well. Human hearing can

The English Teacher

We all tend to carry our love and admiration of our hunting dogs into the field. We want to tell them all kinds of sweet nothings to let them know how much we care. In humanizing our dogs, we tend to muddy the waters with existential conversation.

You may have noticed that after you shoot your bird and it gets delivered to the bag, your dog isn’t there snuggling and looking for affirmation. Instead, it is licking the blood



detect sounds beginning at 20 hertz and ranging up to 12,000-20,000 hertz. Dogs can hear in the range of 40-60,000 hertz.

If you have suspicions that your dog might be ignoring you, guess what, they likely are doing exactly that. There’s no need for the eye-bulging, vein-popping, satanic commands. Save those for the emergency situations that you may someday encounter in the field.

from its lips and asking to be released so it can get back after it.

Throwing in extra words with our commands forces the dog to have to pull the command from the assortment of ramblings. Remember that humans are humans and dogs are dogs. We act like we do; they act like they do. Being anthropomorphic only benefits you and is detrimental to the dog’s learning. Dogs are capable of understanding many commands, but

continued overleaf...

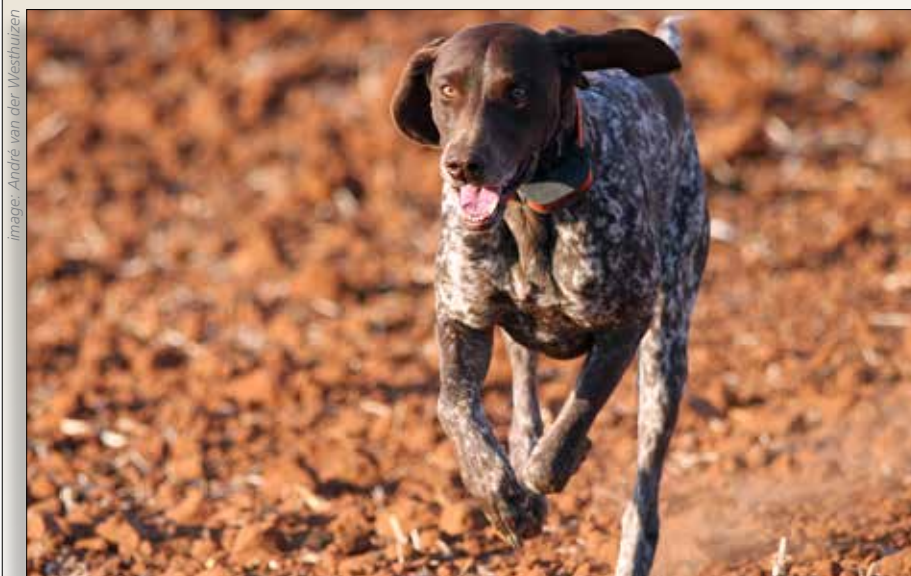


Image: André van der Westhuizen

in the end, they don't know or comprehend English. Talking to your dog in full sentences is just confusing.

Troubleshooting Problems in Dog Training

It's been said that good trainers can fix problems, but great trainers never have them. Either way, here are some tips on identifying and correcting problems you may face when learning to command your dog.

"Can You Hear Me Now?"

In training, it's important to know if the dog can hear our commands. Between running, barking, bells and beepers, there are times when the environmental noises mask our commands. This is especially the case with soft-spoken handlers.

When teaching a new command, keep the pup in proximity for ease of hearing. Also, when the dog is at a distance, whistles are great for a long-range command tool. They carry no emotion to read into and provide clear communication to the dog. I highly recommend whistle training your dog if you haven't already done so.

"Sorry, Did You Say Something?"

Ever feel like your dog is not hearing a word you're saying? Sometimes dog training is like the classroom scene from Peanuts, "Wha, wha-wha, wha, wha-wha..." Like a child with ADHD, dogs are very easily distract-

ed and tend to tune you out in stimulating situations. Though frustrating, training with distraction is an important technique to expose weaknesses in your training. It reminds you how very important it is to be able to get your dog's attention. Getting your dog's attention before presenting it with a command is essential for understanding and compliance.

"Show Me the Money!"

We tend to want our dogs to listen to us; dogs, on the other hand, prefer that we show them what we want. Dogs pay incredibly close attention to our visual routines in training. How we move, how we stand, where we place our hands and eyes... all of these are silent commands that clue the dog in to the situation and what we are asking.

Timing Takes Time

Timing is everything in dog training. To give the right command at the right time takes some phonetic dexterity. Formulating the correct word to deal with quickly evolving situations takes practice. If you find yourself stumbling over your commands, welcome to dog training! We have all been there. Slow down and focus on getting the dog to listen to the original command before moving on to another. Think ahead, focus hard on your dog, and be ready to give the command when the behavior presents itself. Be in the moment.

Setting the Tone

Growing up, when my parents asked me to clean my room, it was rarely said in a way that left me wondering, hmm, was that just a suggestion? On the contrary, it was clearly communicated that it absolutely needed to be done, immediately and correctly. The tone in their delivery communicated everything I needed to know. They didn't need to yell or have a fit about it, I just understood what was behind the tone and that the implications for not complying would be swift and compelling.

The same philosophy works in our dog training. Our tone in training should always convey a non-ambiguous order to comply. I prefer using descending, low tones when providing my commands. It helps differentiate the command from my normal speaking patterns that they hear all the time.

Dogs also respond well to high or falsetto tones for encouragement and reward. Don't be afraid to get animated and silly at times to help encourage correct behavior. In the end, we become somewhat theatrical in our training style, full of animation and tonal expression. Your tonal variations in commanding are utilized to build drive and attitude while being careful not to lose accuracy and attention.

We all have different personalities that flow into our training. Issues arise when those personalities interfere with the flow of communication. We want to be as clear and concise as possible when we train. As you and your dog navigate your way through training lessons, the clarity in communication will start to click, and it will start a snowball effect where learning comes quickly. As success builds on success, before you know it, you will be reaching your training goals in no time.



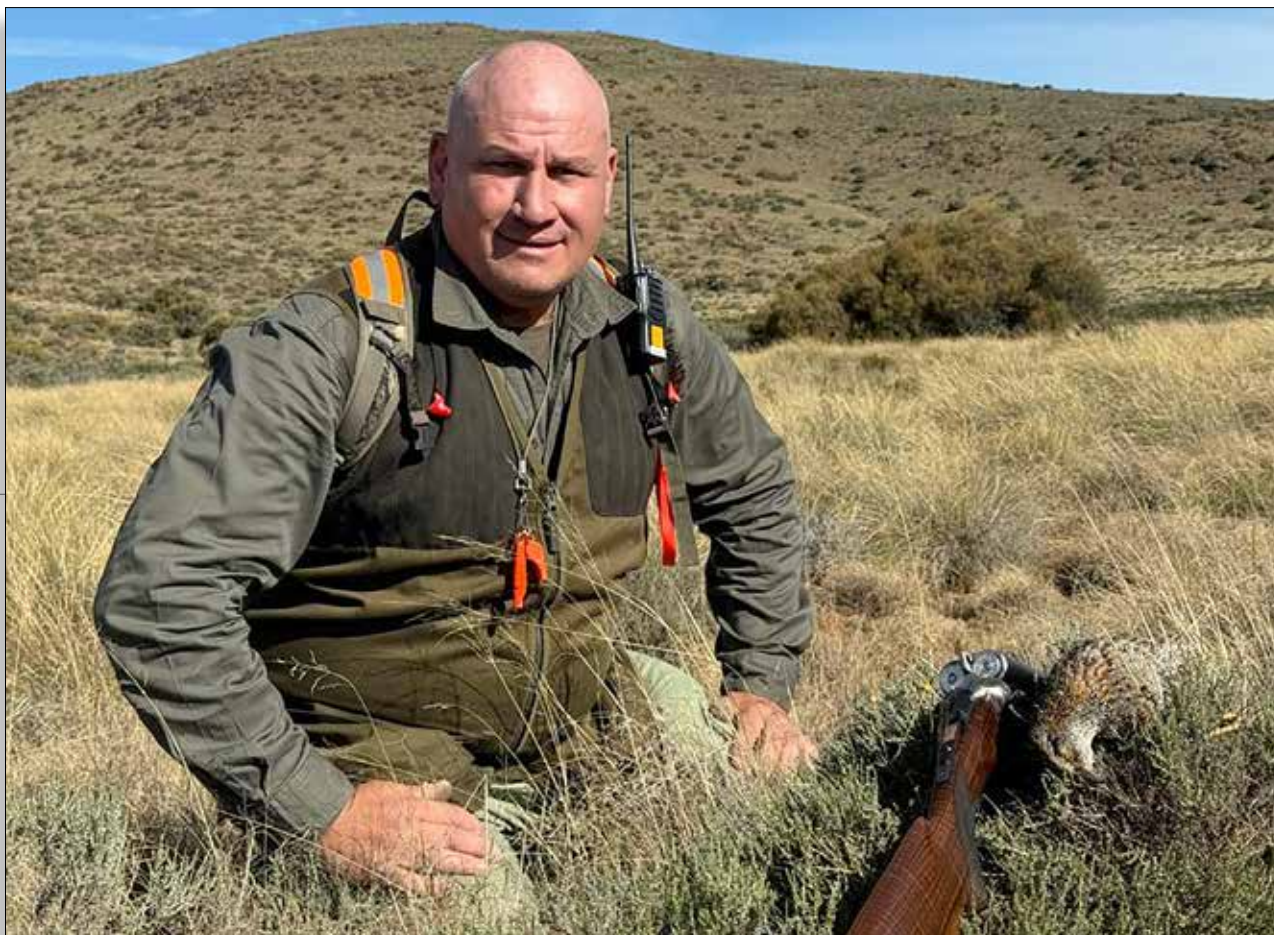
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this image: Matthew Berry

Sideways or Vertical

Our editor tells me that a frequently asked question from our members is – which is better, the side-by-side shotgun or the over and under – and certainly both have their advantages and disadvantages.

by Charles Duff

photographs
André van der Westhuizen

As a long time user of both species, starting with side by sides, henceforth S/S and eventually graduating to over and unders or O/U an early very short affair with a pump-action and a late blooming dalliance with semi-autos, I think I am qualified to present you with the facts, reasonably fairly.

The first, and very important question you need to ask yourself is – what do you intend to do with the gun? If you only intend to shoot gamebirds and waterfowl then the

S/S is definitely indicated. Should your leaning be towards clay target shooting then the O/U must be your choice. If you intend to do both then the O/U tends to edge out the S/S.

Next comes cost. Today, there's little to choose between the two in the new gun market at the starting level, but in the second-hand sector the average S/Ss are definitely cheaper than the O/Us. A perfectly useful average boxlock S/S with fixed chokes, double triggers and extractors can be had for under R 10,000 at any auction or gunshop. The equivalent O/U will almost certainly be at least R 5,000 more.

definite line to swing across the bottom of the bird's flight while the O/Us much narrower rib is less easily kept on line.

The double triggers, aided by the straight-hand stock, give you a fast enough second shot whilst retaining what is basically two single barrelled guns put together. Should one side fail, you always have the other.

While the 'splinter' forearm does expose the fingers to the barrels, it does keep the hand more in line and in contact with those barrels. The sidelocks and action fences etc, allow for the full blossoming of the gunmaker's and engraver's skills, culmi-

nating in the British 'best gun'. And, of course yes, our eyes are indeed side by side.

The over-and-under aficionados say: Being usually somewhat heavier the over-and-under can absorb more recoil, allowing heavier shot loads without much increase in recoil. A heavier gun, once the swing has begun, is smoother and less likely to be stopped. The single sighting plane gives a far better view of the target. The larger, more hand-filling forearms detach the fingers of the supporting hand from the hot barrels. Further, the fingers do not obscure the sight picture, as with a side-by-



Next comes recoil, for some of us a definite problem. While the O/U's recoil is in the vertical plane, the S/S's recoil has a sideways twist, the right-hand barrel twisting to the right and the left-hand barrel to the left, whilst both obviously also recoil with the usual upwards flip. Also the S/S guns tend to be lighter and gun weight is a big factor in recoil.

The fans of side-by-sides say that: They are usually lighter guns, thus more suitable for carrying all day long. The broken-open gun sits more comfortably in the forearm carry. A light gun is quicker into action. The barrels and front sight give you a

***"The single
sighting plane
gives a far better
view of
the target"***

side, which can lead to head-raising for a better view and consequent miss over the top.

The pistol grip allows a more consistent hand placement for more accuracy, though many S/Ss are also so equipped. Also, the hand is in a more normal position instead of being far less so with a straight stock. With the under barrel much lower in the shoulder pouch, the recoil is in a more direct line, causing less muzzle-flip, allowing for a quicker recovery and faster, more accurate, second shot. The single, selective trigger is quite definitely quicker in use than the double triggers. Many are now



mechanical and not inertia-triggered; pull the trigger again and the other barrel discharges regardless. While the single trigger is standard in O/Us, a S/S with one is a rarity and very much more expensive.

Upon opening the side-by-side the 'gape' of the barrels is good and wide, making quick reloading easy, whilst that of the over-and-under is much less so and frequently inserting a cartridge into the lower barrel requires the gun being opened to its fullest extent, and kept there. Then there's the fact that the fit of the side-by-side stock is more critical; if it is as little as 6mm too short for the user then the second finger of the trigger hand is likely to impact painfully with the rear of the trigger-guard. More than 12mm too long and the stock is liable to end up on the shooter's arm muscle during the mount, again with painful consequences. Also, as the stocks tend to be more slender, the thinner comb

"Upon opening the side-by-side the 'gape' of the barrels is good and wide, making quick reloading easy, whilst that of the over-and-under is much less so"

can whack a slightly lifted cheek more abruptly and the smaller surface area of the butt pad concentrates the recoil more.

Whilst previously the average over-and-under was certainly heavier than the average side-by-side, there were pigeon and water-fowling guns weighing every bit as much and some-times more. Latterly there has been an increasing fad for lightweight over-and-under field guns and these weigh much the same as any side-by-side game gun, and can frequently be lighter.

There has always been the side-lock versus boxlock controversy in the S/S world. From a purely practical point of view the Anson & Deeley boxlock with its minimum of moving parts must be more reliable than any sidelock double with more than three times as many. But the expanse of metal in the sidelocks provides a perfect canvas for the engraver to exhibit his skill and in guns, snobbery certainly rules. The boxlockers promptly brought out sideplates in response.

The sidelockers point to hand-detachable locks as a major advantage, omitting to mention that only a paltry (expensive) few are, so equipped. The boxlockers responded with the Westley Richards hand-detachables aka 'drop-locks'. A few over-and-under makers have models with detachable trigger groups just to further muddy the waters.

There can be no denying the fact that in the last 50 years sales of over-and-unders have far outstripped those of side-by-sides. There is also no denying that the vertical barrels, usually locked with a full-width bolt at the floor of the action do impart more strain on the lock-up and you must take care to never tilt the gun in the swing, something which is hard to do unnoticed with a side-by-side.

So, personal choice and pocket capacity rule. All modern guns are made by CNC machinery, with much the same steel, titanium and alloy metals, any hand-driven process such as hand-engraving pushing up costs markedly. Everyone is forced to use Turkish walnut if a stock with any decent figure is required.





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SHOOTING TIPS

Hints & tips from shotgun shooting pros and authors...

Question: When I miss, I usually miss behind, especially on crossing targets. Recently, I have been trying to focus my eyes on a spot in front of the target, and it seems to help. Does this make sense?

Answer: I think you will find that your "new technique" is fraught with inconsistencies. When you call pull, your most important job is to feed the brain high-definition target information. To successfully and consistently intercept a moving target, regardless of the object being intercepted, you must apply acute visual focus on the target immediately prior to, and through, the moment of interception. Simply "looking" at targets with your peripheral vision or applying soft focus is insufficient.

When it comes to successfully and consistently breaking clay targets, you must acquire the target with your peripheral vision, then intercept the target by applying

acute focus, technically referred to as "foveal focus."

I'm sure you've heard the phrase "see the rings." Many of my students tell me, "I can't always see the rings." While you can't always see the rings on a clay target due to speed or distance, seeing detail on the target should always be your goal. If you can't see specific detail on the target, you should focus on an area no bigger than half of the target. Seeing the rings, the dome or the rim of a target, or even just the front half of a target, ensures you are feeding the brain a sufficient level of target detail to put the muzzle in the right place to break the target.

The most common cause of a miss is insufficient visual focus on the target just prior to and through the break point. Sometimes, this can be a lack of visual intensity. In other instances, it may be a softening of focus in an effort to see the barrel-target relationship or, as you suggest, an intentional shifting of the eyes

to a spot in front of the target. While your peripheral vision is critical to the initial visual acquisition of a target, applying acute focus on the target just prior to and through the break point is the critical ingredient to breaking a target.

– This tip came from friend Don Currie
<https://www.doncurrie.com>

The sustained lead method has the most perceived forward allowance. You enter your gun in front of the target at what you perceive to be the correct lead. You keep your central focus on the target and your gun in your peripheral vision.

You track in front of the target and when your gun is fully mounted and it feels right, you pull the trigger. This method is often used on quartering inbound shots below eye level and on the skeet field.

– This tip came from the book
"Shotgunning in the Automatic Mind"
– *The Guide for Shotgunners and Instructors* by Warren Watson and Mike Wilfleyl

Your performance is 100 percent determined by your ability to focus physically and mentally.

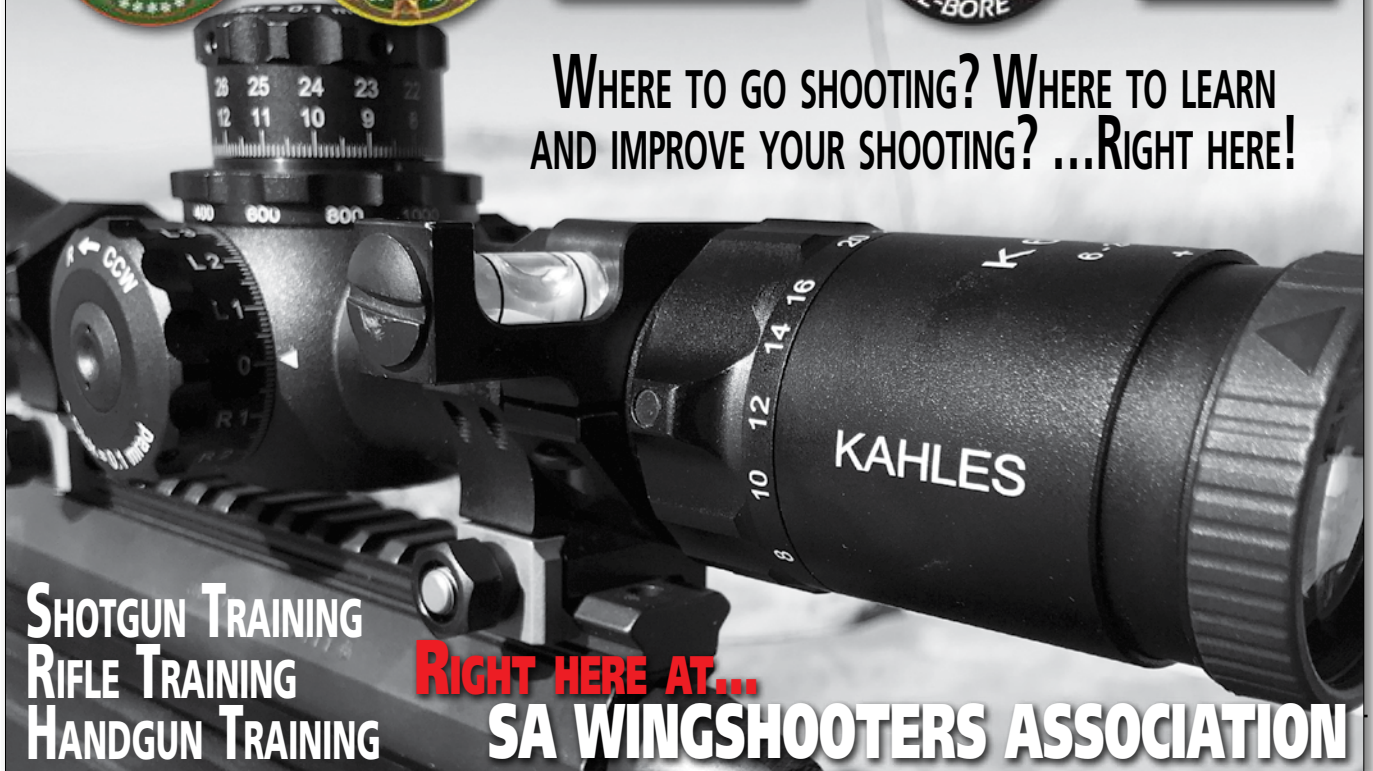
– This tip came from the book *"The Coaching Hour Chronicles – Conversations in the Pursuit of Sporting Clays Excellence, Volume 2"* by Gil & Vicki Ash.

If we applied math to the question of lead, the formula would rely on the angle, distance and speed of the target, combined with the shooting technique used and the speed of the swing. But there are secondary factors that also affect lead, such as the velocity of the cartridge, the effect of choke on the pattern's width and density and a shooter's reaction time.

– This tip came from the book
"Breaking Clays – Target Tactics, Tips & Techniques" by Chris Batha.



Contact the office to book a shotgun coaching session: 071 132 5450.



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PROVINCIAL BIRD HUNTING SEASONS (and bag limits in brackets)

MPUMALANGA – Gazetted

All year	Rock pigeons (need licence).
1 May-31 Jul	Yellow-billed duck, red-billed teal, Egyptian goose, Spurwing, Guineafowl, Spurfowl, Crested francolin, Coqui francolin, Orange River Partridge, Shelley's.
1 June-31 Aug	Grey Wing, Redwing

FREE STATE – Gazetted

All year	Rock pigeons, Cape turtle dove, Laughing dove.
15 May-15 Sept	Greywing & O/River partridge, all Spurfowl, common quail, guineaowl, 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 – 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). Note: Spurwing remain closed!
1 Jun-30 Sep	Swainsons francolin (5). Helmeted Guineafowl (5).

N-WEST PROVINCE – Same as 2023 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	Guineaowl (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), guineaowl (10), Yellow-billed duck, red-billed teal, shelduck, Cape teal, Cape shoveler, southern pochard (5 in all total combined).
1 Jan-30 April	Yellow-billed duck, red-billed teal, shelduck, Cape teal, Cape shoveler, southern pochard (5 in all total combined).
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 2023

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). Namaqua Sandgrouse (10).
1 Apr-15 Jul	Burchell's Sandgrouse (5).
1 Jan -31 Mar	Namaqualand Magisterial District Yellow-billed duck (10), Red-billed Teal (10), Cape Teal (10), Cape Shoveler (10), Southern Pochard (10).
1 Jan-30 Apr	A maximum combined total of 10 land birds & 10 waterfowl per day.
Note:	

EASTERN CAPE – Gazetted

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-31Aug	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	Guineaowl (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 2023

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.

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.



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Dr Alan Kloeck
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Cell: (082) 449-5257

Working Gundog & Conservation Club (WGCC)

Retrievers
Paula Jordi
E-Mail: paula.jordi@gmail.com
Cell: (082) 823-4024

The Golden Retriever Club (GRC)

Golden Retrievers
Enquiries: goldenretclub@gmail.com

The Gundog Club

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Transvaal Field Trial Association (TFTA)

Retrievers
Charles Trollope
E-Mail: charles@chardale.co.za
Cell: (082) 888-1906.

Working Spaniel Association

Bobby Lotter
E-Mail: bobbylotter@blconsult.co.za
Cell: 083 449 0325

The Weimaraner Club of Gauteng

Frank Winder
082 478 4135
Email: admin@weimaranerclub.co.za
https://weimaranerclub.co.za/

Hungarian Vizsla Club

E-mails: admin@vizslaclub.co.za
Contact person: Thinus van Staden or Anita Erasmus
Tel: 081 568 0155 or 079 882 2191

WESTERN CAPE

Cape Gundog Club

All Gundog Breeds
Lisa Dimech – (Secretary)
Email: dimech.lisa@gmail.com
Noleen Wilson-Taylor (Chair)
Email: noleen@hixnet.co.za

Cape Field Trial Club

All Gundog Breeds (pointers, retrievers)
Secretary: Sarah Roodt
E-mail: sarahlroodt@gmail.com
Tel: 083 270 5402

Versatile Pointing Dog Club

Pointing Breeds (Pointers, HPRs, etc.)
Trudi Winter: 082 924 7440
E-mail: bhulisa@iafrica.com

EASTERN CAPE

Border Field Trial Club

Pointing Breeds
Secretary, Kerry Cockin
082 954 4585.

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All hunting breeds
Iain Judd (Secretary). Cell: 079 099 9732
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Photograph by Gerhard Laubscher shooting with host Robbie Stretton



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ID Number:	FARM / CLUB																
Signature or e-mail																	
RIFLE SHOOTING		☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
HANDGUN SHOOTING		☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
SHOTGUN SHOOTING		☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
GAMEBIRD HUNTING		☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
PLAINS GAME HUNTING		☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
OTHER HUNTING or RELATED activities also count towards activities.																	
Activity Description 1:																	
Activity Description 2:																	
Activity Description 3:																	

Or just send us an email stating your minimum activities you did for the year. Easy!

Please note that this report completed by you is an affidavit under oath



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A group of various dogs, including Labradors and Springer Spaniels, standing in a row outdoors.

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

The Compi-Shot logo, featuring two blue silhouettes of a person's head and shoulders with a red circle around the neck area.

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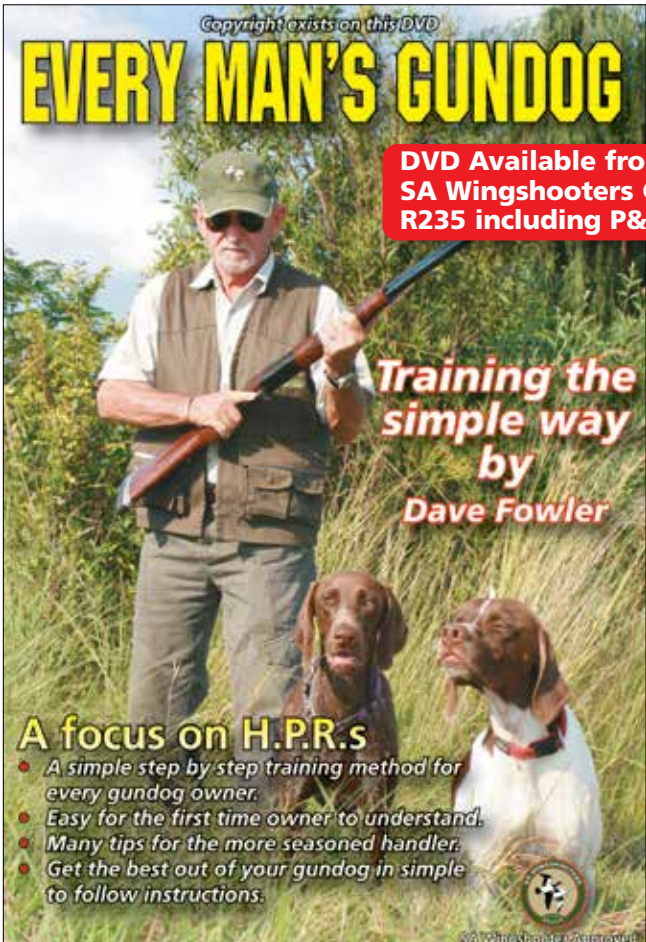
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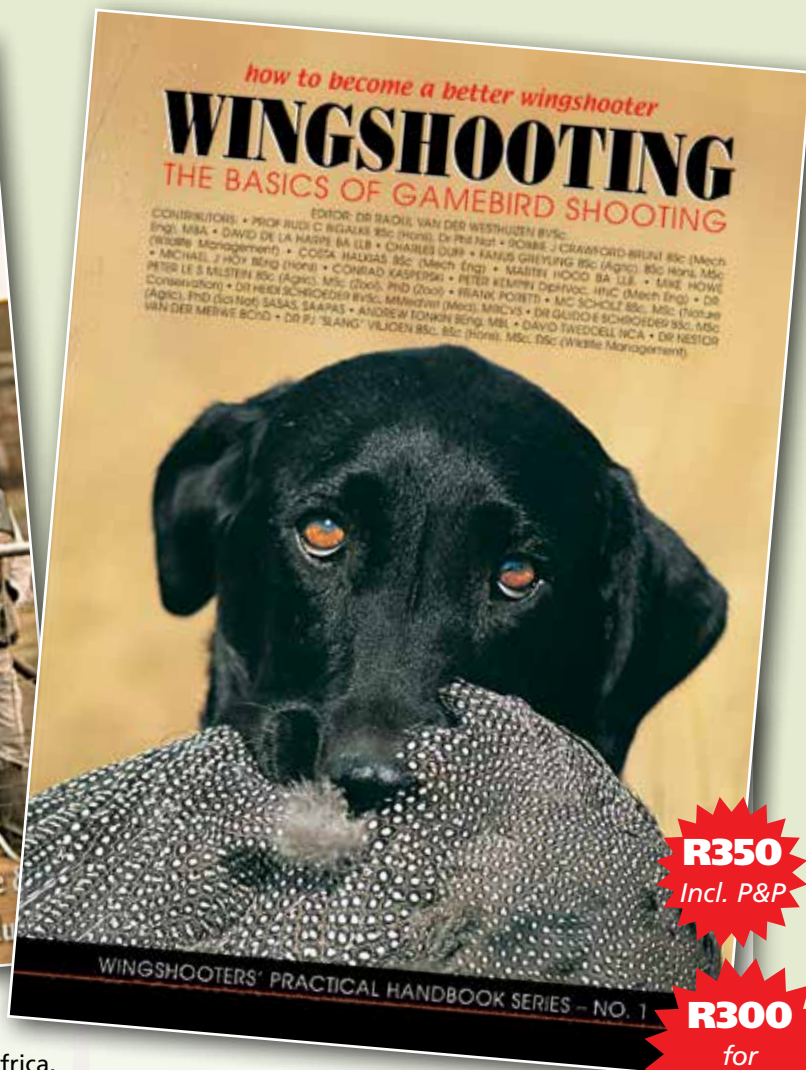
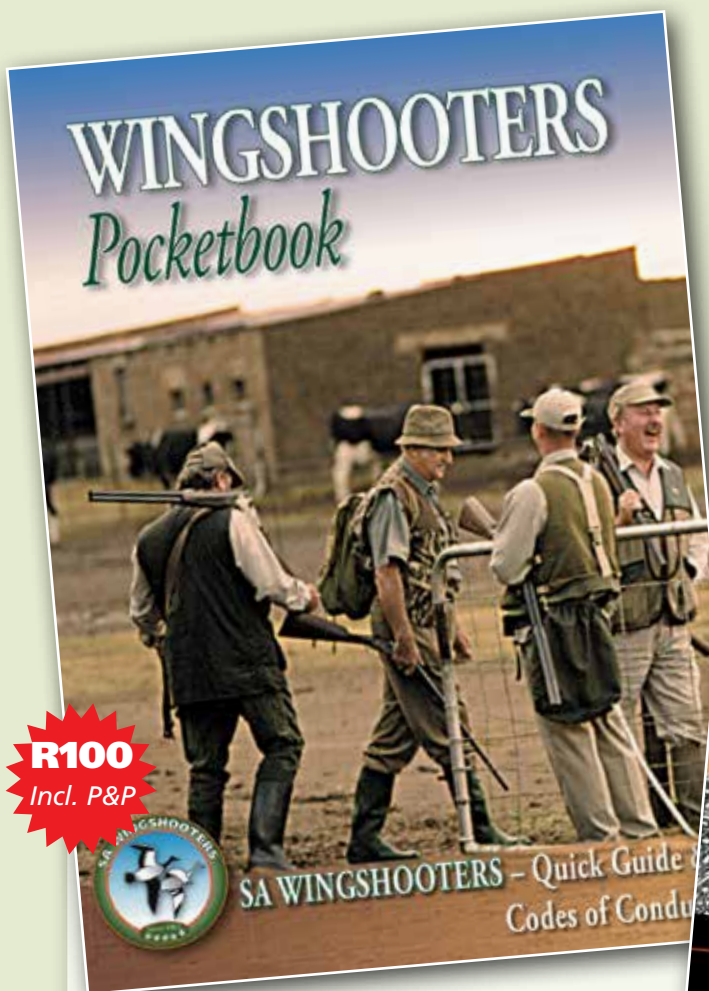
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This pocketbook is the first of its kind in South Africa. It is an essential 'must have' for every wingshooter, particularly *Dedicated Hunters*, and contains:

- The Wingshooters Codes of Conduct, including the codes for bird dogs, shoot organisers and wildfowlers,
- A guide to the identification of gamebirds in the field,
- The combined shooting and hunting log for use by dedicated hunters to comply with the regulations of the Firearms Control Act, incorporating the landowners' hunting permission form... And much more...

'Every Wingshooter should have one'

'In today's world, where it is so important that all hunters act in a responsible and ethical manner, this pocketbook is an essential part of the field hunting gear of every gamebird shooter. We are pleased to support this pocketbook and I strongly recommend it to all who wish to hunt more responsibly. Every Wingshooter should carry it on him in the field'

— Dr Alan Kloock

MD: MSD

'Respect for all Creatures, Great and Small'

'There are very few, if any, hunters who can say they have never shot the wrong quarry by mistake or have committed some thoughtless act, which they, in hindsight, would like to undo. This pocketbook will help all of us to prevent such mistakes and to embody the Wingshooters motto of Respect For Life.'

— Dr Raoul van der Westhuizen

Chairman: SA Wingshooters

HINTS AND TIPS FROM 20 EXPERTS ON THE BASICS OF WINGSHOOTING

This is not just another book on Wingshooting in Southern Africa. It is the definitive practical handbook by 20 top experts, packed with facts. Whether you are a beginner or an advanced shooter, in these pages you are sure to find lots of new tips and tricks from the old hands. The subjects are covered in short and concise fashion and include:

- Shotguns • Gun fit • Gun care • Gauges & shot sizes • Shotshells and ballistics • Shotgun marksmanship • Safety • Game bird identification • How to shoot francolin, guinea fowl, geese, ducks, sand grouse, rock pigeons, etc. • Gun dog breeds • Training your gun dog • Gun dog nutrition and health • Shooting ethics and etiquette • The Gun Control Act • How to get a hunting licence • Game birds for the dinner table • Field trial clubs & associations

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

Go to:

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

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



YOUR ANNUAL DEDICATED ACTIVITY

REPORT (Hunt & Sport) – What to do:

How you can send us your report:

Via e-mail, fax or on-line on your personal member profile.

Go to:

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

and register to create your own profile; or

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.



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- Membership of Police-accredited Hunting & Sport shooting Association
- Exclusive hunting rights and shoots for members only
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- Up-to-date information on the Firearms Control Act
- 4 'WINGSHOOTER' magazines with full shooting calendar
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- Option to join the Long Range Shooting Club and TPS 2-gun/3-gun, etc.

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Sign me up and rush me my membership documents

Deposit your subscription by means of Internet banking (EFT) or deposit it in our bank account as per the details below (email us the proof of payment with the application form) to:
anel@wingshooters.co.za

Bank: ABSA Brooklyn
Branch Code: 335-345
Account Name: SA Wingshooters
Account Number: 1500165460

* 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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SA WINGSHOOTERS

2024

ANNUAL SUBSCRIPTION: (Tick all appropriate boxes)

1. I wish to join for	☐ 1 Year	☐ 2 Years
Join Fee – Once off, plus:	R 350.-	R 350.-
Subscription – Annual*	R 1,362.-	R 2,650.-
*Subscription – over 70's:	☐ R 903.-	☐ R 1,700.-
*Subscription Junior U/21:	☐ R 253.-	☐ R 500.-

You can also join the PSP (Postal Shooting Programme) for rifle and handgun shooting. The PSP offers participation in our annual target shooting competition in various divisions for rifle and handgun shooting:

2. I also wish to Join the PSP ☐ R 100.- ☐ R 190.-

3. I also wish enroll in the Dedicated Hunter Course and/or Dedicated Sport Shooter course:
Dedicated Hunter Manual & Test: R 570.- ☐
Dedicated Sport Shooter Test: R 570.- ☐

TOTAL R .- R .-

Payment Method:

EFT ☐ Bank Deposit ☐

You can also pay in person with a card at our offices.

Your Signature

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.

Title (Mr,Mrs,Dr)

Full Names

ID Number

Postal Address

Postal Code

Residential Address

E-Mail *

*(we email members with news regularly)

Office Tel No.

Fax Number

Home Tel No.

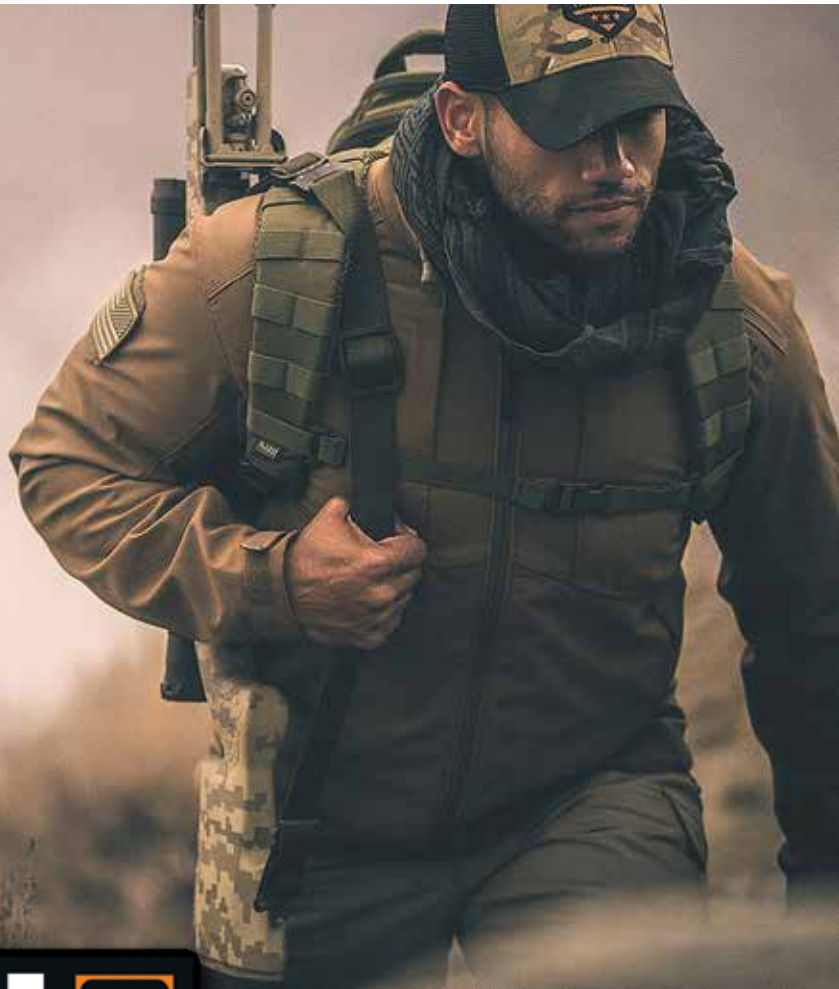
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* The entry fee of R350 is not payable by younger than 21. The annual subscription fee for Juniors (persons younger than 21) is a nominal R253.- (VAT incl), and for persons 70 and older is R903.- Incl. Family memberships available – Contact us

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WE NEED YOUR HELP URGENTLY!

The NGO Wildlife Poisoning Prevention & Conflict Resolution (NPO 132-047) was born from a need to address the problem of wildlife poisoning, initially in South Africa; but also across the sub-region since vultures and wildlife ignore human political boundaries. The training project over the past 5 years aimed to train 100 rangers and enforcers per year (target 500). This goal was addressed by fund-raising internationally; and the goal was exceeded by 20%.

The Annual Report of March 2020 shows 601 rangers trained. Whilst others claim to train many people, their training simply comprises anti-poison information, whilst we enable trainees to respond appropriately as first arrivals/responders at a toxic wildlife crime scene; in a scenario where mistakes lead to loss of court cases. Another significant observation is that poisoning of elephants in and around Hwangwe National Park, Zimbabwe has decreased annually since Zimbabwe Republic Police trainees conducted roadblocks, and confiscated almost 6 tonnes of Sodium cyanide from Zama-zama miners and their associates. Whilst there is no direct link to our training we feel this assumption is plausible.

We also are able to consult to and advise game ranchers and the wildlife industry on game ranch management, wildlife management, stocking rates and carrying capacities. We use game-birds as indicators of environmental health and can advise on their management. A key issue that we promote is Systems Thinking and its application to management; including predator and wildlife conflict management, with emphasis on non-lethal control systems.

Our projects may be viewed on <https://www.wildlifepoisoningprevention.co.za>

Financially, we operate solely as a non profit organisation, so any profit on income re-cycles through our activities. We rely heavily on international donors, since the exchange rate makes international donations very valuable and significant to us. Covid-19 has closed the gates of many zoos who are our primary source of funding; however, we are registered in South Africa as a Public Benefit Organisation (PBO 930047988), which enables us to issue certificates of donation in terms of Section 18(1)(a) of the Income Tax Act. This enables tax deductions in the hands of the donor, whether corporate or private. Such donations must be used within South Africa. As a non-profit, we are required to report annually to the Department of Social Development, both on activity and financially; and we follow good accounting practices, including Annual Independent Financial Statements. A business stress-test conducted in August 2020 indicates success as we have repeated financial surpluses, albeit with poor cash flows and poor sustainability indications. Perhaps this indicates a very frugal operation where all income reaches the projects?

<https://www.wildlifepoisoningprevention.co.za>

PLEASE DONATE !
We can issue section 18a certificates for Tax purposes