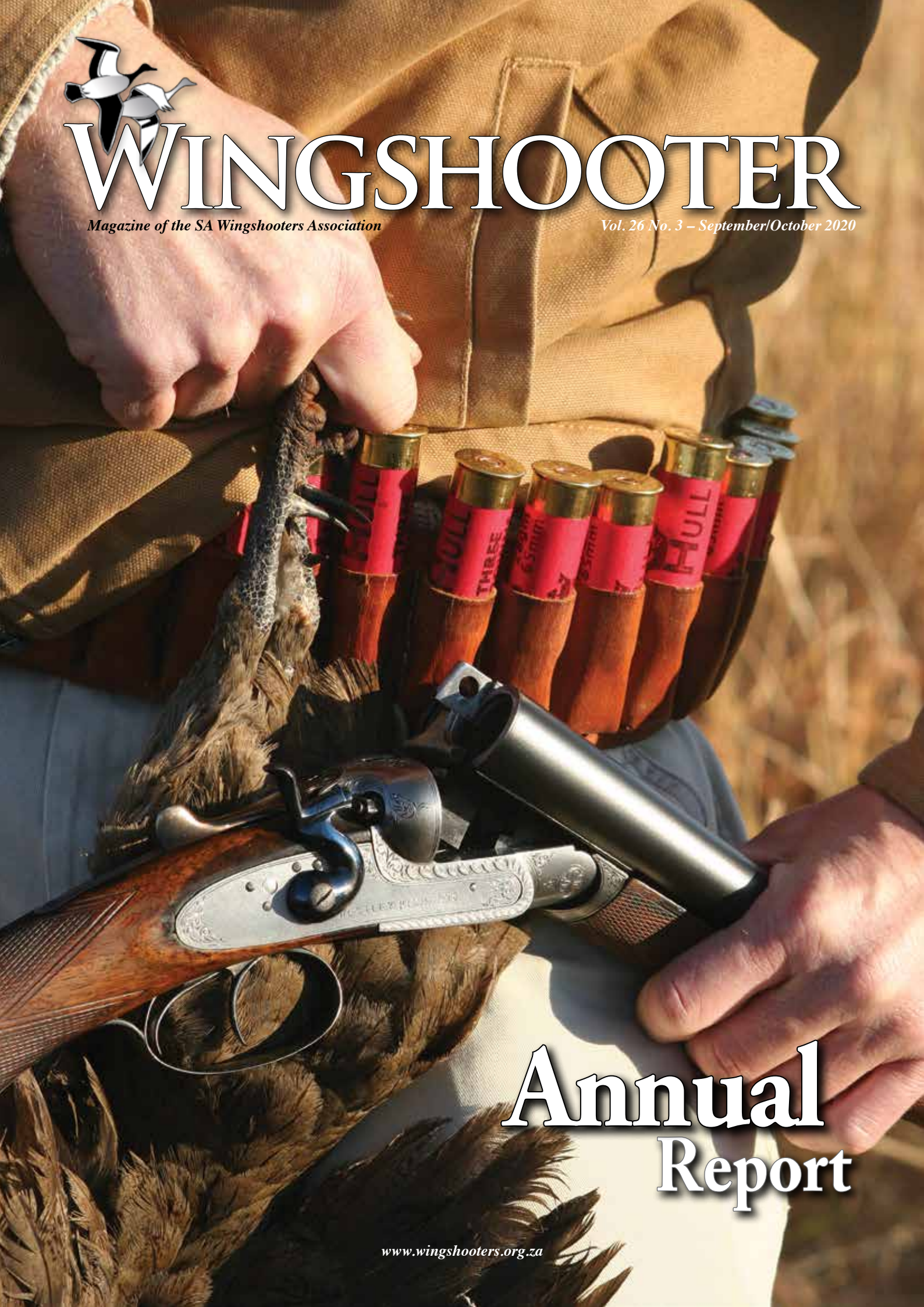




WINGSHOOTER

Magazine of the SA Wingshooters Association

Vol. 26 No. 3 – September/October 2020



Annual Report

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1. Walther FM, Allan MJ, Roepke RKA, Nuernberger MC. 2014. Safety of fluralaner chewable tablets (BRAVECTO®), a novel systemic antiparasitic drug, in dogs after oral administration. *Parasites & Vectors* 7:87, pp 1-7.
2. Walther FM, Paul AJ, Allan MJ, Roepke RKA, Nuernberger MC. 2014. Safety of fluralaner, a novel systemic antiparasitic drug, in MDR1(-/-) Collies after oral administration. *Parasites & Vectors* 7:86, pp1-3.

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As soon as we were allowed to go wingshooting during lockdown, we did. Member Courtney Field at the Rustenburg shoot. Photo by André van der Westhuizen.

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SA WINGSHOOTERS ASSOCIATION



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

NPO No 031-587-NPO • PM/0051/06/04
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Founder of the SA Wingshooters Association

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General Manager and Bookkeeping

Anél van der Westhuizen
071 132 5450. eMail: anel@wingshooters.co.za

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Peter Karsas

Chief Shoot Captains

Debbie Odendaal – Columbidae; Theuns Oelofse – Upland gamebirds;

Dick Broberg – Western Cape; André van der Westhuizen – Waterfowl

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AGM 2020

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, 6 November 2020, 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 2020
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 Andrew Economou, Derek Nell, Genl. John Lizamore, Mike Holman, 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 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 be authorised by the proxy to attend the meetings of the Association and to participate therein whether he 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,

Anél van der Westhuizen
GENERAL MANAGER
31 August 2020, Randburg.
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Extending hunting seasons after strict lockdown – Unethical

As you all know, the hunting season was effectively shortened by the Covid-19 world pandemic and subsequent full lockdowns we experienced as we all could not go hunting.

To this end, there were requests made by some organisations to Minister Creecy to consider the extension of the hunting season. The response from government indicated that it would take a long time to publish new gazettes with

were set for every province and huntable species. One cannot extend a hunting season merely due to a non-start of the season due to human interference or error, as the natural seasons did not change and remain the same. It would be unsporting and unethical of anyone to hunt out of season and by doing so putting pressure on specific breeding species.

This is particularly relevant to gamebirds and waterfowl. In South Africa, there are certain provinces where hunting is allowed, depending on the species, throughout the year anyway! So there is really no reason to apply for permits to hunt out of season. We have some of the longest hunting seasons the world over as it is... no need to extend into breeding seasons!

There are also more than enough P3 exempted game farms where you can hunt plains game almost any time of year.

– SA Wingshooters

Gauteng Hunting Season Not open yet

Gauteng did not gazette a hunting season for 2020 yet. This is the second

unfortunate reality is that many hunters already hunted a variety of species in Gauteng even though there was no open season declared. We hope GDARD realises the reality of not declaring a hunting season timeously.

We were told by the officials at GDARD that the MEC signed the wrong document and the correct document will be signed and gazetted in due course.

The Gauteng hunting licence is valid from 1 May of a particular year to 30 April the following year (this 1 year period). It should be noted, as in most of the provinces, that specific species may only be hunted in their specific dates/months. Therefore, you always need to make sure that you know when the open season is for the bird specie you might be hunting or intend to hunt.

In South African law, the animals that live here belong to the citizens and the government (Nature Conservation Departments) have been given the mandate to manage the resource on behalf of the public.

That is why you may only hunt certain species, during certain periods of the year and only a certain number of them per person per day may be hunted, and all in accordance with the regulations that regulate the hunting activity.



©André vd Westhuizen



extended seasons and the Department of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries (DAFF), rather suggested that individuals apply for special out-of-season permits should they wish to hunt in provinces where the seasons are already closed.

SA Wingshooters is of the opinion that people should rather refrain from hunting outside of the normal hunting seasons, as hunting seasons were scientifically researched through all the various huntable game species and based upon science the seasons and bag limits

instance in about five years that GDARD – Gauteng Department of Agriculture and Rural Development – failed to publish a hunting season for the year. Hunting can only take place once the provincial nature conservation department has issued/printed the hunting season and regulations in an official government gazette. The

Hunting regulations include such stipulations as... you may not hunt at night, or you must be in possession of a valid hunting licence as well as the landowners permission in order to hunt.

We will inform members as soon as the Gauteng hunting Season is gazetted.

– SA Wingshooters



photo: Debbie Odedaal



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Lockdown gamebirds...



Covid-19 and the national lockdown shrunk our hunting season a tad but had the effect for some reason, along with good rains, to offer us fantastic bird numbers once we could go hunting! Adding insult to injury was the fact that Gauteng province failed to gazette their hunting season for 2020, but we managed to get a damage-causing bird permit from GDARD that enabled us to host some shoots.

We sold 711 provincial bird hunting licences on behalf of the provincial departments this year, of which Gauteng province sold 218, 238 licences for Free State, Mpumalanga 141, Eastern Cape 61 and KZN 53.

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.

We launched the first ever long range shooting club in 2013, as well as the first ever postal target shooting annual competition in the early 2000s. We also offer 3-gun and 2-gun sport target shooting for handguns and semi-auto (self-loading) and bolt rifles. We also exclusively offer rim-fire shooting at our PSBC (Precision Small-Bore Club), where we specialise in extended range target shooting at extremely small targets, some of which are as small as a quarter inch (6,35mm).

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

Since last year's report, no less than 298 new members have joined

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

As always, we confirm our dedication and loyalty to our 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 to shoot Captain Debbie Odendaal, who always volunteers to host shoots, even when she's 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 my wife Anél, who does a tremendous job of managing the office for us. I thank our support staff Zinzi Duma and Robert Nyangulu for their continued effort and friendly demeanour.

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

André van der Westhuizen,
Executive Chairman

WIN R20,000!

in our **Member Get A Member** drive



Introduce a friend or family member to join and get the benefits of SA Wingshooters membership and you could BOTH be in with a chance of winning R10,000 EACH in our **Member Get A Member** prize draw this year.

Here's how it works:

Any member that recruits a new member to join full membership, stands a chance to win R10,000 and the new member also stands a chance to win the same amount! The more new members you sign up – the more chances you have at winning R10,000 each!



Rules:

1. Only current members may be eligible for a prize. 2. There is no limit to how many new members a current member may sign up. 3. The current member and new member pair will stand a chance together. 4. Full membership is our standard membership, and does not include junior or senior membership as per our join form. 5. The recruiting member's initials, surname, and first 6 digits of his/her ID must clearly appear on the new member's join form, or be sent in an email to us. 6. Members of management, their families and relatives are not eligible for any prizes. 7. This membership initiative is open to members of SA Wingshooters Association ONLY. 8. Valid for membership of SA Wingshooters (not LRSC, PSP, etc) only. 9. The draw will take place on Friday 26 February 2021 at 12H00 at the SA Wingshooters office in Randburg. 10. Winners will be contacted via phone and email. E&OE. SA Wingshooters 2020.

THE IRON vs. LEAD SHOT CONTROVERSY CONTINUES

It has always surprised me that presumably upright and committed conservationists all too frequently are found to have warped and bent facts, and in fact as near as dammit lied, to suit their particular purpose, and here's another instance.

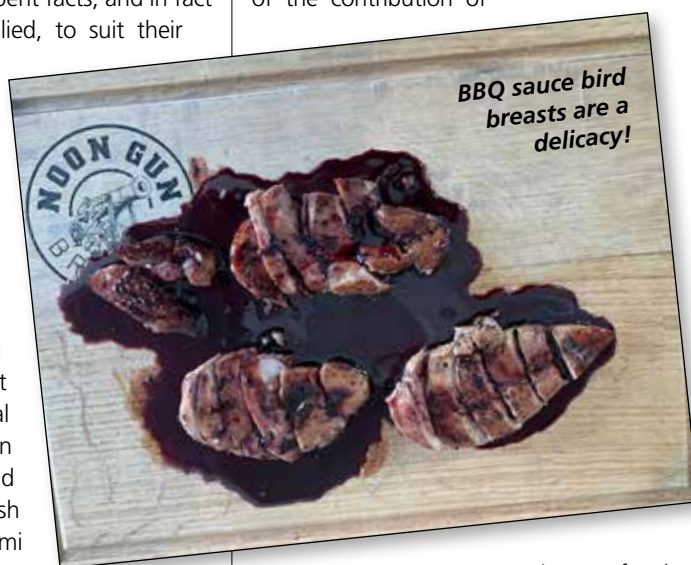
The Lead Ammunition Group (LAG) was set up by the British government at the request of the Wildfowl and Wetlands Trust (WWT) and the Royal Society for Protection of Birds (RSPB), and for once the British government got it semi right and appointed a mostly fair and balanced representative body of experts.

The WWT released a very misleading report upon its work, stating that lead ingestion in thousands of birds was found, on post mortem, to be the major cause of death. The real facts were that only 2,500 recovered carcasses were tested and just 251, or 10%, were so affected. What was not disclosed was that the testing was retro-active, over a 40 year period and 30 of these years preceded the lead shot ban. So only 6 ducks a year were found to have died from lead ingestion.

To make these figures more suspect is the fact that heavy metal testing in tissue samples two-score years ago was nowhere near as accurate as it is today. The criteria for diagnosing lead poisoning are somewhat vague, and tissue testing is the only route to go, but though this was carried out, the results were never published. Intriguing is the fact that wild birds that were trapped and tested and found to have high lead levels were all from the WWT's own reserves where there has been no shooting for donkey's years.

Almost coincidentally with this report

was one from the Foods Standards Agency (FSA) advising that all shot game increased the risk of lead poisoning. This in direct conflict with the European Food Safety Authority (EFSA) who are on record that a game-meat eater is no more at risk than a vegetarian; since cereals and root crops are the main source of lead in human diet. In their 2010 report they showed a chart of the contribution of



various foods and drinks to lead exposure and in a list of 69 products, game-meats come a lowly 57th, less than 1%. It's a pound to a pinch of the proverbial that the WWT and the FSA were acting in conjunction.

If the EFSA are to be believed then all lead shot bans should be rescinded forthwith. In the meantime the LAG has been shedding council members like autumn leaves as the chairman, eerily an ex-director of the BASC, has been issuing statements condemning lead without these being okayed by the council first.

— by Charles Duff.

Coexistence is the key to survival...

...of the Serengeti, Okavango Delta and Kalahari regions, some of the world's most prolific wildlife ecosystems that are surrounded by fast-growing human communities. "Rural livelihoods depend on these forests, fisheries and rangelands, so effective and lasting conservation strategies must find ways not only to protect wildlife and the environment but

also to deliver economic opportunities at local and national scales. In Kenya, for example, up to 65% of all wildlife is found on community and private lands, outside government parks and reserves, and wildlife tourism is a multi-billion dollar industry. As the President of Botswana wrote last year in the Wall Street Journal, 'Elephants need to constitute a benefit, not a burden, to those who live side-by-side with them.'

"All of this is easier said than done, and conservation is littered with projects that promised to make conservation profitable and beneficial to local communities but struggled to deliver. But since Zimbabwe's CAMPFIRE program in the 1980s—which helped pioneer the idea of generating community-level incentives for wildlife conservation through sustainable and locally managed use—the region has



been a source of fertile innovation for conservation efforts around the world. Today, it's clear that it can be done: A "conservation economy" can create jobs and attract investment while protecting and sustaining the ecological wealth that peoples' livelihoods depend on. A rising generation of African conservation entrepreneurs . . . is reframing conservation as a growth sector."

The story is in the Stanford Social Innovation review. The image above is from "The Edge of Existence," a forthcoming documentary about human-wildlife conflict on the boundaries of conservation areas in Africa.

— conservationfrontlines.org

The SA Wingshooters Christmas Shoot



28 November
2020

When: SATURDAY 28 NOVEMBER at 08H30

Where: Wattlespring Gun Club

Bring your own gun, ammo, friends and family and come and have a GREAT DAY with us at the ANNUAL Wingshooters Christmas Shoot. Wattlespring club is 25km east of Pretoria East Hospital and 35km from OR Tambo Airport/Kempton Park

WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW –

Teams of 4 to 5 guns can enter in a group. MEMBERS ONLY! 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

PLEASE NOTE – NO CHILDREN AT MAIN TABLES... they will have their own tables.

HOW MUCH?

- An all-inclusive entry fee of only R450.- per gun.
- Non-shooting family members for LUNCH only R120.-

There will be coffee, tea and rusks on arrival. Lunch: Half chicken, potato salad, mixed greens salad and rolls. Cash bar will be available throughout the day.

PLEASE NOTE: Booking is only confirmed if EFT payment is received* No entries after 23 November!

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* After 23 November 2020 no refunds
will be given for cancellations.

Using Decoys *Intelligently*



All the various methods of decoying birds are all based upon one important principle – those game birds that can be successfully decoyed are all rather curious and gregarious...

However, if heavily shot over, waterfowl can become very wary of decoy deployments as ducks and geese are not entirely stupid. Bad weather conditions always improve the 'pull' of decoys, as the flighting birds look for sheltered spots, and where better to shelter than a place already favoured by others. Unfortunately, most of our Highveld winter weather consists of light winds and three hundred and sixty degree clear blue skies. But the single most important thing you can

do is to keep still and under some cover, it is pointless in putting out a decoy display and then parading up and down in the open. Waterfowl have better vision than we do, plus a wider spectrum of colours, the wise hunter eschews that horrible blaze orange – ducks can see it from miles away – and blue garments come in second in their visibility stakes. If you find it necessary to use blaze orange then it is high time that you pick your hunting companions more carefully. So, use camouflage for waterfowl!

by Charles Duff

Illustrations by Charles Duff

The positioning of waterfowl decoys successfully is an art that requires practice. The beginner should follow the following guidelines:

Decoys must be within shootable range, neither too close nor too far from the hunter so from 10 to 30m maximum. The more the merrier, within practical logistical limitations. Twelve are about the bare minimum, double this is better.

The decoys should be in place, and the hunter hidden, well before flight commences. The pattern is most important; the most successful displays allow live birds space to land within the pattern. A 'figure-of-eight', a 'horseshoe' or a large 'C' are recommended. In the case of the latter two, the arc should face into the wind with one arm close in to the hide. Especially when shooting geese, some grazing decoys on the land also work well.

The decoy set must be clearly visible and not hidden in reeds. This can be done by having plenty of decoys, and/or by using larger than life decoys. A good decoy set often has a couple of geese mixed in with the ducks. As visibility is paramount, if you have to choose between a few very large decoys and double the number of smaller, go for the latter as their pattern will cover a larger area. Always use an uneven number of decoys with one off a bit by itself - it will pull in the single stragglers more powerfully. Ducks never bump into each other - nor should decoys. One to two metres apart is the golden rule.

The birds' landing approach is normally into the wind, so your hide should never be so placed in relation to the decoys that they come in over the hide. Anchor lines, with lead weights are essential, and the weight must be balanced to the decoy to prevent wind-generated drift.

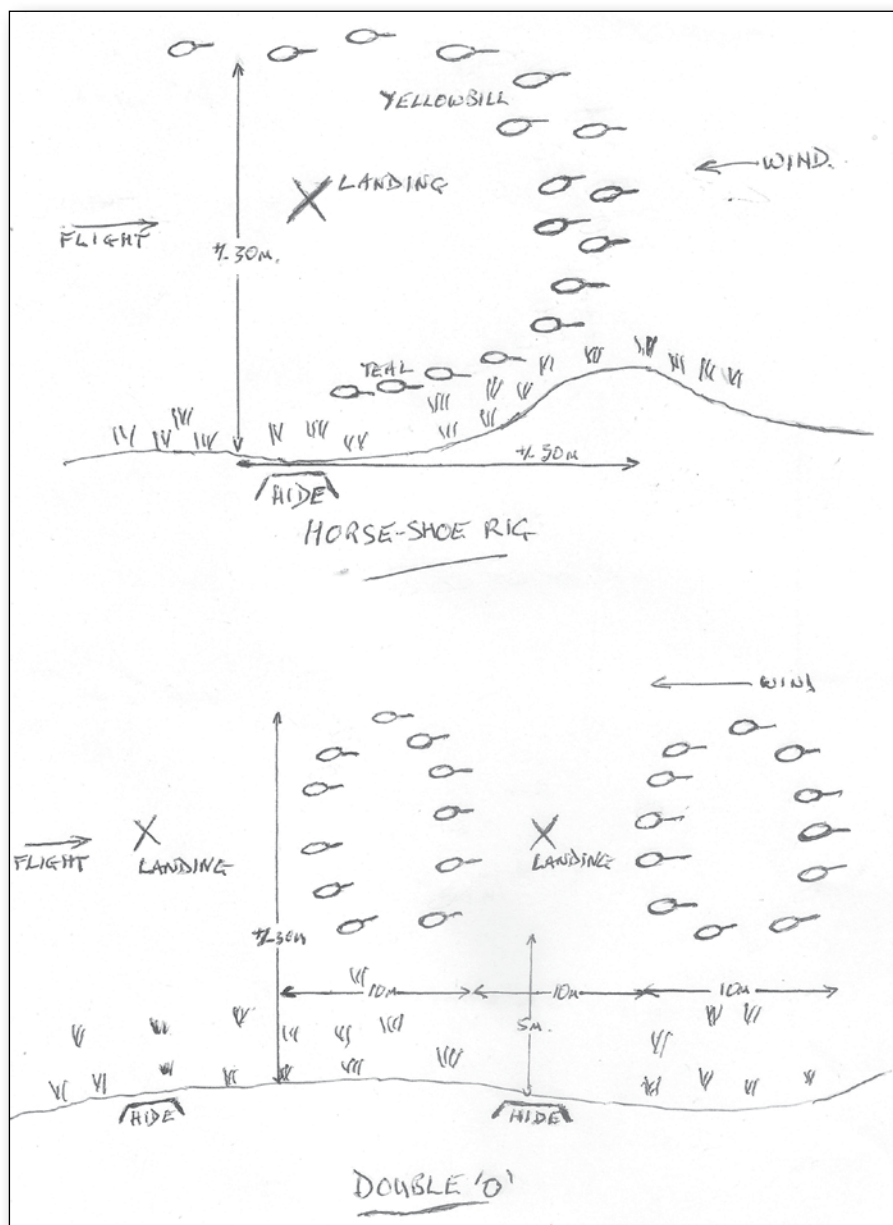
In very windy conditions it may be necessary to double this. Decoys that will be placed in position, by wading or from a boat, only require a single anchor line. This should be at least 1.5 times as long as the water depth.

Those that will be thrown into place must have weighted keels plus a tethering line, which needs to be at

least double the distance you intend to throw the decoy. Movement in very still conditions can be accomplished by leading a tethering line from a decoy through a heavy weight, back to you. The occasional tug on this will cause satisfactory ripples. Alternatively, with a looped line and two weights you can make the decoy 'swim' back and forth. The use of duck calls is increasing, with positive

feeding 'brrrrr' noise works well too - get yourself a duck call and practice, I just use my voice. The new decoys with flapping or spinning wings are very effective and well worth the cost.

Some sketches of decoy spreads are shown, but as many variables have to be considered, only an indication of what is required can be shown. One point needs to be stressed, all of our waterfowl will not land in amongst



results, though most of our water birds are relatively silent, only the shelduck, whistling ducks and Egyptian geese can be said to be quite vocal. I have found that a quiet three note 'quack, quack, quack' dying away on the last quack seems to attract lone yellow-bill and red-bill pairs well and the

other birds, but slightly behind. This is because they fear mid-air collisions with any birds that might be taking off. Thus, always allow a good-sized landing area in the down-wind area.

Decoys work well on our pigeons and doves, though they tend to draw stray pairs and single birds rather

continued overleaf...

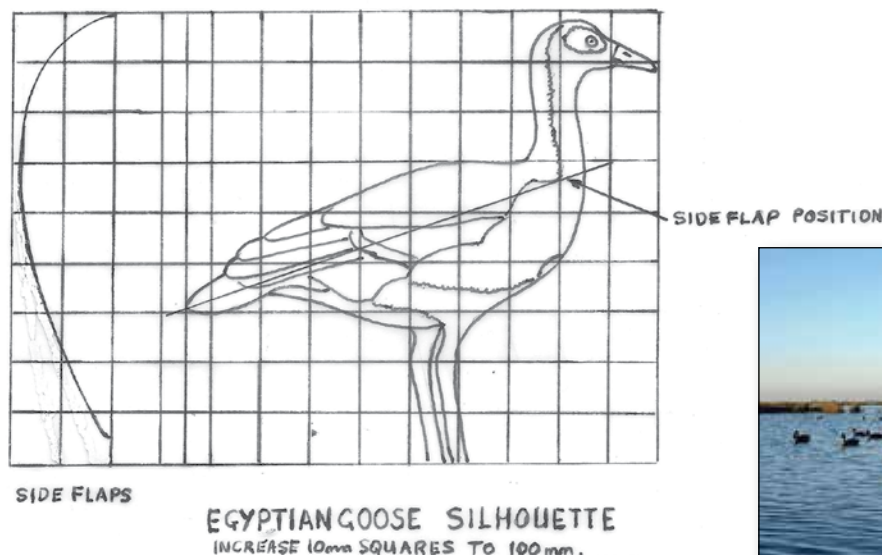
than large flocks. Whole body and shell, rigid or folding plastic decoys are available, as well as foam plastic whole body decoys, which have a clothes-peg for fixing them in position – this works especially well on sunflowers and fences.

The Brits also favour one or two

aerial one - was very much in vogue in Britain from the turn of the century, but has fallen into relative disuse. A kite, with a realistic copy of a hawk upon it, can work extremely well as a holding device on walked-up gamebirds. To work properly, the hawk kite should not be flown too high,

ing position. The commercially available 'Gunning' kites were made in a variety of grades, the top-of-the-line being made of oiled silk.

The best kite to use is from 1.25m to 1.75m in span, tailless, and light blue or grey in colour. Onto the under-side an enlargement of the underneath of a suitable raptor should be traced and coloured in realistically. I lucked onto the one I use being sold at a traffic robot in the Randburg area! I considered having the orange bordering replaced with blue, but it works fine as is. The only bugbear is that most of our hunt-



decoys with wind or battery powered flapping wings in the array. Dead birds are placed with wings outstretched in wire cradles, with long stems to lift them above the vegetation and these are known as "floaters". These cradles can be home-made quite easily. Most successful pigeon hunters make use of downed birds to add to the decoy array, as once again the more birds to the display, the better it works.

A rotating "pigeon magnet" is much in use amongst pigeon shooters in the UK. This consists of an electric motor powering two arms with cradles to hold dead birds, which buzzes around and is reputedly irresistible; they cost about £60 in Britain. The web can give you full detailed instructions of how to make your own using a windscreen-wiper motor.

Decoys also work on crows and ravens, the best being a live 'Judas' bird, though crows are also very attracted to an owl decoy. Many crow hunters use shot birds held up by a wire inserted at the anus and pushed up into the head. Some even freeze and re-use these, but plastic whole-body crow and owl decoys are available and are not so smelly!

A very different form of decoy - an



and should be ahead of the hunters - thus wind direction becomes important, and can determine the axis of movement. Ideally the hunters should be in line abreast, with the kite operator slightly ahead of, and to one side of them, to windward.

This works extremely well on those gamebirds that normally do not sit tight, but run or creep off in front of hunters. Even a well-executed hawk call will often freeze a flock of guinea-fowl for the few minutes needed to get into a shoot-

ing months generally are not windy enough to deploy a kite. Of late the 'August winds' appear to have gone away, or come a bit later when the hunting season is over.

But it is in the field of waterfowling where decoys really reign supreme. Any hunter who regularly undertakes such shooting should make the effort to equip himself with a portable hide and as many decoys as he can afford. We will address hides in another article.

The only draw-back to modern



mass-produced decoys is that the shapes are limited - generally the bird stares ahead. Sleeping and preening ducks, 'duck bums', dabblers or feeders, those with their heads on their breasts, and looking to one side or the other being generally ignored. As these birds indicate to others that all is well, these omissions are surprising. The one decoy you should never see is that with an upwardly out-stretched neck - the alarm position.

Another innovation has been realistically printed silhouette decoys, which are especially popular for our geese species. These can also be easily home-made from hardboard or ply, a pattern for Spurwing is included. The addition of hinged side flaps will increase the effectiveness of the silhouettes, as they will give more 'body' to the decoy when viewed from aloft.

A curious dichotomy exists about silhouette decoys. They are widely used and undoubtedly effective. But it has frequently been reported that from the air the single most discerning thing about waterfowl is their body shape. With very little practice the species could always be identified by this - long before the colours could be discriminated. A famous English poacher and water-fowler stated that only six are needed for geese (conversely most professional American hunters use hundreds). In his opinion "Geese don't notice the faults so much with six, but above that number they begin to spot the mistakes". He advocated flat pear-shaped decoys in marine plywood, painted grey all over with a white pointed tip to the tail to stick in the ground with the decoy tilted up a few degrees to the earth. For our geese, at least 1m x 0.7m size and more black than grey is required.

Then there's another kind of decoy, the "confidence-builder". Certain birds have the reputation in the avian world for being especially alert. Including one in the decoy rig thus imparts more confidence to passers-by. Species such as gulls, shorebirds, egrets or herons are used, though these usually have to be home-made. A decoy crow perched upon your blind can work very well. Using a home-made hand-made common egret decoy, I've lured teal to within 10 metres of my hide. Its leg is an aluminium rod which has been threaded to fit into a corresponding hole in one of my hide poles, which is a simple and secure way of fixing it in position.

Lastly, of course, decoys do no good at all stored in a sack in a shed. I can state categorically that every time I've left mine at home, I've regretted it. Getting to the venue half an hour earlier to put out a spread and erecting a hide has always meant better shooting. So in this, as in so much else, that extra effort is definitely worth it. And one last tip. If you use a hide (and you really should), make absolutely sure that the material does not flap in the wind, this definitely does scare away birds.



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The Official Courier for SA Wingshooters

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 now 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, 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 400m to 1708m. This range also affords us the opportunity to offer a 2-gun sport shooting discipline (handgun and rifle combination shooting with movement and transitions), starting at 10m for handguns, to 100m and then up to 400m 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.

The requirements for obtaining a Dedicated Sport Shooting status will be as follows:

All prospective applicants will have to complete a practical shooting qualification exercise, in either handgun, rifle or shotgun. A minimum final score of 50% must be attained in order to qualify and must be signed

off by a range officer or club official.

All qualified members must submit an annual report to us, in confirmation of their minimum dedicated sport shooting activities, as required. We propose a minimum of three sport shooting activities per year for members in order to retain such status.

Should you hold current dedicated sport shooter status elsewhere, we will accept that status, if it is indeed current, on the basis of RPL.

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.

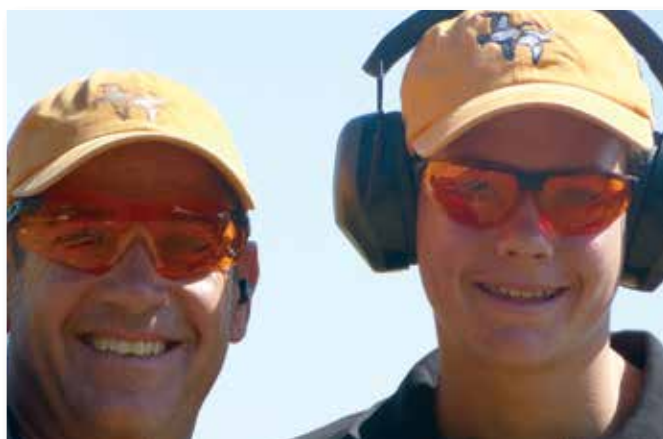
Lastly, as you know, the SA Wingshooters Association has R20-million liability insurance to cover the Association, with each individual member also having R20-million liability insurance as individual cover, for all shooting-related activities.

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



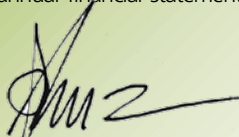


We offer all types of shooting and hunting... as well as coaching!

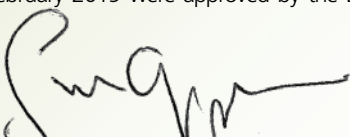


Executive Council's Approval

The annual financial statements for the year ended 28 February 2019 were approved by the Executive Council on 27 August 2019 and signed:



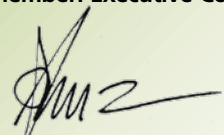
AA van der Westhuizen
Member: Executive Council



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

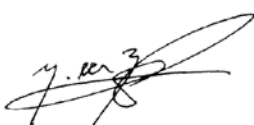
I have compiled the accompanying financial statements of S A Wingshooters Association based on the information the chairman and financial officer has provided. These financial statements comprise the statement of financial position of S A Wingshooters Association as at 29 February 2020, the statement 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

Report by the Executive Council

Membership & Services

Membership fees have again remained the same for the fourth year succession. Currently (at date of this report), the Association has 2612 members who are "current" or "paid up". There are 55 members who are 30 days in arrears, 67 are 60 days in arrears, 36 are 90 days and 133 who are 91 Days plus – totaling 2903 members, an increase of 114 members from 2788 of the previous year. A total of 298 new members joined at the date of this report, since the previous annual report. At the time of this report the LRSC has 107 paid up members and produced an income of R237,067 and the PSP has 270 current members.

During the year under review, competitions, shoots and licence fees produced an income of R168,649 compared to R210,074 in the previous financial year, a 19,72% decrease. More shoots were hosted at a slight loss to benefit members and there were less hunting licence sales. 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 slight 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 R97,739 – an increase of 15,22% from the previous year.

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 has turned out to be very popular and this association has 107 members at the date of this report. The LRSC amounted an expenditure of R108,768 at the time of this report, due to the range having to move to another premises.

General Review

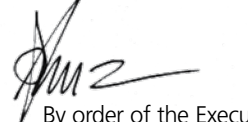
During the operational year under review, we expanded our sport shooting disciplines to include ALL types of sport shooting to cover all firearm types and uses. We introduced the new 'Member-get-a-member' drive, which is proving fairly successful at this stage. In this drive we offer R10,000. to the recruiting member as well as R10,000 for the new member, should they win the draw. We would sincerely like to thank all members for their efforts over the past year to recruit new members. The draw will be in February 2021. There were two national firearm Amnesties, of which the first ended on 31 May 2020 and the new Amnesty is effective from 1 August 2020 to 31 January 2021. Should members have expired white card licences they forgot to renew, please make sure you use the current amnesty to apply new for those firearms. Call the office any time you have questions.

The Covid-19 pandemic had some serious impacts on hunting and life in general. I'm sure you know all about it. To that effect, our office has been open throughout the entire lockdown since the start of level 5 and continues to be open through the national state of disaster to assist members where we can. The positive of this so called pandemic is that the birds have bred very well in virtually all provinces of the country and the shooting has been good, since we were allowed to start subsistence hunting in level 3.

Bird hunting licences remain available for purchase from our offices for Gauteng, Mpumalanga, Free State, KZN and Eastern Cape. SA Wingshooters Association is part of the Hunters Forum and the SAPS-CFR Consultative Forum. Currently, the Executive Chairman of SA Wingshooters serves as Vice-Chairman of this forum. However, the SAPS-CFR Forum is still on hold, due to the SAPS-CFR not wishing to participate in the Forum at this stage. We as an association remain open and more than willing to engage with the SAPS at any stage should they wish to. We also participate in the Poison Working Group and the National Problem Bird Forum, where National Council member, Tim Snow, is our official representative. We remain a corporate member and supporter of BirdLife South Africa and of the Overberg Renosterveld Conservation Trust. Our vision is to engage in joint conservation projects in Southern Africa, in support of bird conservation of game birds and waterfowl and birds in general. 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. The availability of editorial material from the BASC publications for use in our publications is gratefully acknowledged.

Financial Results

We are a government registered non-profit organisation and SARS Public Benefit organisation. The income from membership subscriptions amounted to R3,708 075 during the year, an increase of R48,402. (1,32%) over the previous year. The total expenditure increased by 0,68% (R22,675.), despite inflationary pressures and no membership fee increase to R3,357,963 to produce a modest surplus of R350,112. This was achieved thanks to the strong financial discipline of our Association's management, despite expanded membership services and benefits, such as offering official shoots below cost, 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 R2,019,548 – and remains unchanged to the previous years. Our Funds increased to R2,206,059, which includes the Legal Action Fund of R66,707, 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 2020

	Notes	2020 R	2019 R
ASSETS			
NON-CURRENT ASSETS			
Property, plant and equipment	2	162 259	45 899
CURRENT ASSETS			
Deposits		27 492	14 434
Cash and cash equivalents	3,2	2 068 391	1 855 787
TOTAL ASSETS		2 258 142	1 916 120
FUNDS AND LIABILITIES			
FUNDS			
		2 206 059	1 855 947
CURRENT LIABILITY			
Accounts payable		52 083	60 173
TOTAL FUNDS AND LIABILITIES		2 258 142	1 916 120



Statement of Income

SA WINGSHOOTERS ASSOCIATION

STATEMENT OF INCOME

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 29 FEBRUARY 2020

	Note	2020 R	2019 R
INCOME		3 708 075	3 659 673
Advertising		97 739	84 826
Competitions, shoots and licences		168 649	210 074
Donations received - legal action fund		631	990
Income from auction and sale of promotional items		13 418	27 911
Long range shooting program		237 067	220 294
Interest received		109 120	87 771
Membership fees		3 006 757	2 946 131
Postal shooting program		6 678	7 847
Training material and book sales		68 016	73 829
EXPENDITURE		3 357 963	3 335 288
Accounting fees		37 000	34 370
Advertising		13 841	2 564
Bank charges		7 445	7 633
BASC expenses and royalties		1 570	1 449
Cleaning		11 150	9 950
Competitions, shoots and licences		173 378	185 512
Computer expenses		19 782	35 841
Credit card commission		10 226	29 577
Depreciation	2	60 339	71 776
Donations		5 000	-
Entertainment and meetings		13 596	15 248
Huntex expenses		23 006	11 561
Insurance		109 364	102 988
Long range shooting program expenses		108 768	88 805
Management fees - administration services		1 336 352	1 336 352
Management fees - finance and bookkeeping		683 196	683 196
Motor vehicle expenses		77 517	100 042
Printing and stationery		217 390	216 019
Promotional items and prizes		2 348	31 770
Rent, electricity and water		78 000	78 000
Repairs and maintenance		9 046	-
Replacements		5 694	-
Secretarial and bookkeeping services		47 700	44 250
Security expenses		4 940	4 679
Staff refreshments		3 181	3 371
Subscriptions and membership		9 450	9 649
Telephone, courier, fax and postage		202 033	165 388
Trademark expenses		32 651	-
Travelling and accomodation		-	6 074
Wages		20 700	17 500
Website		33 300	40 374
Youth development fund expenses		-	1 350
Surplus of income over expenditure		350 112	324 385

Statement of Changes in Funds

SA WINGSHOOTERS ASSOCIATION

STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN FUNDS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 29 FEBRUARY 2020

	General funds R	Youth development fund R	Publishing revolving fund R	Legal action fund R	Total R
Balance at 1 March 2018	1 335 525	90 951	40 000	65 086	1 531 562
Net surplus for the prior year	324 385				324 385
Transfer from youth development fund	1 351	(1 351)			
Transfer to legal action fund	(990)			990	
Balance at 28 February 2019	1 660 271	89 600	40 000	66 076	1 855 947
Net surplus for the current year	350 112				350 112
Transfer to legal action fund	(631)			631	
Balance at 29 February 2020	2 009 752	89 600	40 000	66 707	2 206 059

Statement of Cash Flows

SA WINGSHOOTERS ASSOCIATION

STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 29 FEBRUARY 2020

	Notes	2020 R	2019 R
Cash flows from operating activities			
Cash generated by the activities of the association	3,1	280 183	308 079
Interest received		109 120	87 771
		<u>389 303</u>	<u>395 850</u>
Cash flows from investing activities			
Acquisition of property, plant and equipment	2	(176 699)	-
Net movement in cash and cash equivalents		<u>212 604</u>	<u>395 850</u>
Cash and cash equivalents at beginning of year		1 855 787	1 459 937
Cash and cash equivalents at end of year	3,2	<u><u>2 068 391</u></u>	<u><u>1 855 787</u></u>

Notes to the Annual Financial Statements

SA WINGSHOOTERS ASSOCIATION

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

29 FEBRUARY 2020

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 2020

2 PROPERTY, PLANT AND EQUIPMENT

	<u>2020</u>			<u>2019</u>		
	<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	395 807	15 034	398 232	389 910	8 322
Computer software	140 136	99 911	40 225	91 086	91 067	19
Equipment	121 840	25 029	96 811	6 800	6 491	309
Furniture and fittings	12 529	12 521	8	12 529	12 521	8
Motor vehicles	220 270	220 270	-	220 270	197 579	22 691
Office equipment	44 735	34 554	10 181	44 735	30 185	14 550
Total	950 351	788 092	162 259	773 652	727 753	45 899

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	8 322	12 609	-	5 897	15 034
Computer software	19	49 050	-	8 844	40 225
Equipment	309	115 040	-	18 538	96 811
Furniture and fittings	8	-	-	-	8
Motor vehicles	22 691	-	-	22 691	-
Office equipment	14 550	-	-	4 369	10 181
Total	45 899	176 699	-	60 339	162 259



Notes to the Annual Financial Statements (continued)

SA WINGSHOOTERS ASSOCIATION

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (continued)

29 FEBRUARY 2020

	2020 R	2019 R
3 NOTES TO THE CASH FLOW STATEMENT		
3,1 Cash generated by operations		
Surplus of income over expenditure	350 112	324 385
Adjustment for interest separately disclosed in the cash flow statement	<u>109 120</u>	<u>87 771</u>
	240 992	236 614
Adjustment for non cash flow item:		
Depreciation	<u>60 339</u>	<u>71 776</u>
	301 331	308 390
(Increase) Decrease in working capital	(21 148)	(311)
Increase (Decrease) in accounts payable	(8 090)	(2 938)
(Increase) Decrease in accounts receivable	-	6 500
(Increase) Decrease in deposits	<u>(13 058)</u>	<u>(3 873)</u>
	<u>280 183</u>	<u>308 079</u>
3,2 Cash and cash equivalents		
Cash and cash equivalents included in the cash flow statement comprise the following:		
Cash at bank	398 044	509 548
Cash on hand	23 336	7 541
Funds on call	1 647 011	1 338 698
	<u>2 068 391</u>	<u>1 855 787</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...

Dieter and Thomas Ochsenbein at Rustenburg



Anton Viljoen
pheasant hunting
in South Dakota



Above: Simon Steyn at the Ultkyk-Lethoba
pigeon shoot

Rex Wardlaw and Tikka



Left: Kevin Reynders with a good variety



Dr Mongezi Milela with his first Buffalo



Top: Wynand Vlsse's advance team 'Sneller' & 'Patrys' at the Gouda Shoot with shoot Captain Dick Broberg. Above: Plenty waterfowl at the Rawhide shoot near Kroonstad.



Neill Grobler and his son Dieter at the Rawhide shoot near Kroonstad hosted by Henk Engelbrecht

Below left, from left: Brad Smith & sons George and Douglas. Below: Brent van Niekerk and friends after Greywing in Molteno.



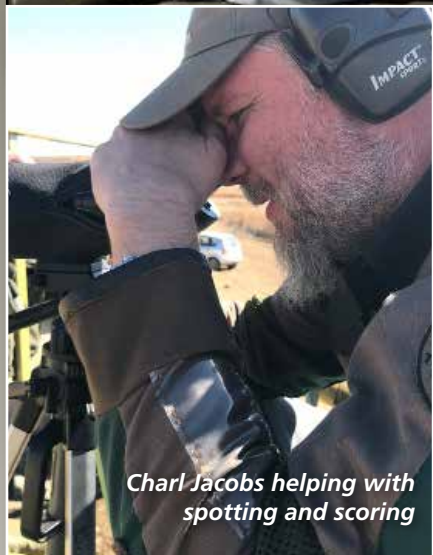
Members on our Range



Martin Mangwaza with his CZ750



Range platform



Charl Jacobs helping with spotting and scoring



Danie Tait with that super 270 of his

From the upper deck of the shooting platform the view is great and so is the sun!



Behind the rifles are, from closest: Simon Steyn and his wife Tara Steyn, Barend Venter and Peet Joubert and guest Ben Richardson.



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The Difference Between a **Deutsch-Drahthaar & a German Wirehaired Pointer**

Written by A.J. DeRosa

July 1, 2019.

with kind permission of projectupland.com



*"Jess", owned retrieves a wounded White-faced Whistling duck.
Duchess (or "Jess" for short) lives with Hannes Oberholzer.*

A look into the ongoing struggle of Deutsch-Drahthaar and German Wirehaired Pointer owners...

If you want to start a fight just call someone's Deutsch-Drahthaar a wirehair... I know, I've done it before by accident, which led to my wanting to understand it better.

For those of us outside that world, we often scratch our head and wonder what is the difference between these two bird dog breeds? They started from the same bloodline, including such breeds as the Pudelpointer, Griffon, and the Deutsch-Kurzhaar. And in order for us to fully understand, we must go back the beginning and we should say, distinctively, when there was only one such thing as a Deutsch-Drahthaar.

The History of the Deutsch-Drahthaar

The Deutsch-Drahthaar (DD) is the product of German history. The Germans put a lot of emphasis on



"York" is a VDD registered Drahthaar of Boavida kennel.

the idea of a versatile breed. In the late 19th century, a group of breeders set out to create a dog that could fulfill all the aspects of hunting with a dog, including field, forest, and water. They also hoped to further the idea of a dog that could be used on foot rather than by horseback, a practice which had ruled most breed standards at that time.

In 1902, the Verein Deutsch-Drahthaar (VDD) was founded. Freiherr Sigismund set the standards for the breed with the idea that performance should be the measure of

the breeding program. That standard has been upheld to this day in the true Deutsch-Drahthaar bloodlines.

The Splitting of the German Wirehaired Pointer

In the 1950s, things started to change with the rising popularity of the breed in the United States. The name German wirehaired pointer is the English translation of Deutsch-Drahthaar. Now before anyone starts name calling, stone throwing, and whatever else may come of this candid look into the history of these

continued overleaf...

bird dog breeds, please remember that this is based on the historical references of the VDD, the only recognised breeding registry for the Deutsch-Drahthaar, which includes over 10,000 members in 34 groups throughout the world. In other words, this is the factual history of the breed and not individual breeders throughout the world. The distinction of where the breed is registered is the literal and measurable difference between a German Wirehaired

fact remained that they were not registered with the VDD — and that was a break from the breed standard.

In 1959, the AKC admitted the German wirehaired pointer to its studbook and the German Wirehaired Pointer Club of America (GWPCA) was created and set standards based on an American version of the breed.

What Makes them Different?

The American Kennel Club

not be used to carry on the standards of the breed. This is the largest and most measurable distinction between the two breeds.

Now that's not say that an individual breeder of the German wirehair has not created strict standards for their breed. In fact, the Americans



"Konrad" is a VDD registered Drahthaar with a beautiful "Swartz Schimmel" colouration. Hannes imported him from Germany

Pointer (GWP) and DD.

The popularity in the United States resulted in unrestricted breeding, meaning the dogs chosen to pass on standards were not necessarily held to the breed standards of the VDD. Even if they were, the simple

requires that both parent dogs be purebred of the German Wirehaired breed. On the other hand, the Verein Deutsch-Drahthaar require the parents to have passed several tests in the program before being bred. If they do not pass those tests, that dog will

have taken up varying forms of application of the breed. You can find breeders that specialise in show dogs, field trial dogs, or just straight hunting dogs. This is where researching individual breeders before committing to a dog is important, and such things as accolades can be crucial to that decision. You can also look at groups like NAVHDA who carry on registries for the breed including testing.

There are also some variations in the physical appearance of the breed between the VDD and the GWPCA — the largest being that the GWPCA discourages black roan dogs and allows white dogs. White dogs are forbidden in the VDD. Smooth coated dogs are not allowed to breed in the VDD, and the length of hair varies slightly in breed standard listings between organizations.

To put it all simply: the two breeds — the Deutsch-Drahthaar and the German wirehaired pointer — are subject to different rules. Now as far as the credibility behind each dog in casual bar conversations... that's a whole other topic.



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by Four Sixteen. Photo by Debbie Odendaal

I am fortunate to be a friend of Dries Venter who farms just outside Pretoria towards Bapsfontein, walking distance from the well known SAW Witkoppies venue. Dries farms on 800ha with game and he plants sunflowers and maize annually to provide feed for his game.

Many an afternoon was spent standing on a flight-line shooting Rockies and other pigeons, and on occasion a stimulated ostrich in self-defence! As the adjacent farm housed a chicken battery and feedlot there was always a good supply of pigeons and doves

heading back from the lot to their roosting spots in Pretoria.

One day, Malcolm and I were planning to shoot some Rockies. As we drove into the farm a male ostrich charged towards us and we noticed that the front of his legs was coloured pink. Fortunately he was behind a fence and we took no further notice.



Getting to the field we noticed that the gate leading to the crops had been removed for maintenance. We drove to our normal spot in the blue-gum shade, unpacked and started to shoot.

To our amazement, the same ostrich found a way to get out of his camp and was letting off steam just behind us – fortunately on the other side of a 2,4m game fence. All was fine – ostriches cannot fly or jump over a game fence.

Progressively the distance between us became greater, with me moving away from the vehicles, the flights were fast and furious and the ostrich decided to single me out as company. He must have taken a fancy to my shooting jacket or cap or he may not have liked Malcolm's haircut.

All was fine until I heard a hissing sound much closer behind me and saw that the ostrich was standing one meter from me with now red shins and murder in his eye! Somehow we failed to realise that the maintenance crew had also removed the next gate in line!

As the bird came towards me I realised that I was in deep trouble and visions of holes being kicked in corrugated iron flooded my mind. In front of me was an angry, aroused and extremely frustrated trophy class ostrich, to my back and to the left was a harvested field and a telephone pole and twenty five yards further, next to the fence was a small bush with a tree, midway between and right opposite the small bush.

I did what everyone would have done. Screaming like a banshee I ran for the nearest and only cover, the telephone pole. I have always been fast but I can tell you without any question that it was not fast enough. By the time that I covered seven yards and was turning around the pole the bird was on me!

In desperation I fired one barrel over my shoulder closely past his head. Surely, that should have made him reconsider his actions. He did not even blink! Then followed a series of dashes between the pole and around the tree and then the bush with me stopping whenever I

saw the bird trying his best to kick at me, this resulted in him running into me and then me, with a lot of shouting, accelerating away towards the next turning point whilst firing and reloading whenever possible! I can assure you that reloading an over an under whilst running full tilt with something scary chasing you down, is not as easy as it seems!

In the meantime, and instead of coming to my assistance, Malcolm was 50 yards away rolling in the dust laughing, unable to do anything. Must have been extremely funny – for him and anyone else watching – or maybe he realised that it was not going to end well! I am sure all the farm animals were also watching the pandemonium, waiting to finally see a bird shooter being properly short-changed!

Fortunately our PH friend, Hancke, who had just returned from guiding a big game hunt in Cameroon, drove up in his Landy with his trusty GSP, Rigby, on the back. Realising my predicament he then used his vehicle to push the bird

continued on page 34...



*"I shouted at the bird.
Big mistake, **as**
T-Rex's head
swivelled towards
me and the murderous
eyes burned into mine"*

towards the other side of the field.

By the time that he came back Malcolm had recovered from laughing his arse off and we were standing white faced in roughly triangular line of spent cartridge cases, smiling stupidly at each other.

We were busy greeting each other and laughing about the incident when lo and behold, the bird came up to us again, screeching and giving us the evil eye. At this stage Rigby was still on the load-bed. I am sure he saw the bird returning and decided that discretion is the better part of valour! He just refused to get off the load bed.

Hancke then, being a highly expe-



rienced PH, who had not even taken out his shotgun at that stage, threw a branch at the bird. Which action had no effect, prompting Malcolm to fire a round past his head, resulting in a pellet grazing its neck. In no time, and just like a T-Rex, it focussed on Malcolm and charged from a mere three meters.

Malcolm covered a few yards down the road next to the fence and quickly realised that his short legs were not made for speed as the bird caught up with him. The image of him diving, with shotgun in hand, flat onto the ground with the bird doing its best to rearrange his faculties remains burned in my memory. The penetration of an ostrich toe nail into a hard packed dirt road is frightening! I am sure quite a few of the popular smaller rifle calibres will make less of an indent...

With the ostrich jumping all over him it dawned on me that I had to do something or he would be seriously hurt. I shouted at the bird. Big mistake, as T-Rex's head swivelled towards me and the murderous eyes burned into mine. In a flash it came to me that I had an empty field with no cover behind me and, with me tired of running and nearly out of cartridges, the Miroku came up in a flash and at a distance of one meter the 32 gram no 7's decapitated the bird. I cannot remember if and how far I led him, but it was a perfect hit and the results were spectacular!

Hancke just stood by, shaking his head and dryly noted that he had just driven 6 000 kilometres, hunted ninety days, shot six dwarf forest buffalo and three elephant with clients, all at 15 yards or less, without any problems – only to come back to be nearly killed by an aroused ostrich!

Rigby was, quite happily and understandably, still sitting on the load-bed of the Landy!

White faced, I called Dries to inform him that his prize breeding bird was no more! Fortunately Dries, who I suspect must have had quite a few run-ins with the same bird, took it well and merely asked us to butcher the bird for him.

To this day, whenever I go to a shoot, Dries always chuckles and reminds me to please leave his ostriches alone.



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SHOOTING TIPS

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

As range increases, shooters become increasingly aware that their gun has passed the bird as they fire, but they cannot tell you exactly how much they have led each bird. If you try to engineer the shot too precisely, you will usually end up breaking your visual lock on the target and miss.

– This tip came from the book *“The Orvis Wingshooting Handbook – Proven Techniques for Better Shotgunning – New and Improved”* by Bruce Bowlen.

The main purpose of mental training is to simplify the shooting process so stresses, distractions and pressures cannot intrude on the split second it takes to send the shot to the target and smoke it.

– This tip came from the book *“Mental Training for the Shotgun Sports”* by Michael J. Keyes, M.D.

You must practice like you play. There is no tomorrow, no emotion, no judgement. Just a situation that you will succeed in. Being forgetful is good with adversity. Remembering is good with success. When the failure occurs, learn from it and move on. It's merely feedback to a better performance.

Whatever happens is neither good, nor bad. It just is. It is what you make of it via judgement and blame or feeling and trust. Learning from your mistakes leads to higher performance. Learn what to do, not what not to do.

– This tip came from the book *“The Coaching Hour Chronicles – Conversations in the Pursuit of Sporting Clays Excellence, Volume 4”* by Gil & Vicki Ash.



In a word, with high birds, the stance has to be narrow and the shot must be taken at a point where the body can still move freely without check. The shoulder must come home to the gun and the shot fired before the spine and muscles begin to offer resistant stresses to the upward swing.

– This tip came from the book *“Robert Churchill's Game Shooting”* by Macdonald Hastings.

If you let your head come loose [from the comb] and the gun barrels start to sag during the follow-through on singles, you will be establishing a habit that can hinder you in two ways. First, it may start happening earlier and earlier in the follow-through, until it actually starts to happen before you get the shot clear of the barrel.

Second, you have to stop the barrel completely to reverse direction for the second target of a double. If you can't do so while keeping your head tight down on the comb, you'll be trouble for the second bird..

– This tip came from the book *“Mastering Skeet – Fundamental shooting techniques for hitting the target in championship form”* by King Heiple.

The golden rule with any target that you choose to shoot by maintaining the lead is to ensure that the gun muzzles are never held too far back on its line of flight

so that the clay catches, or overtakes, the gun.

– This tip came from the book *“Move, Mount, Shoot – A Champion's Guide to Sporting Clays”* by John Bidwell with Robin Scott.

And in case you wondered about some of the many stories you've heard of clean kills on ducks and geese at 70 yards, I've measured the sustained lead required for me with the target moving at 40 miles an hour and it is approximately 18 feet!

– This tip came from the book *“Shotgunning – The Art and the Science”* by Bob Brister.

In golf there is the 60/60 rule. That is: 60 percent of the shots happen within 60 yards of the hole. The professionals work on their short game, while the amateurs practice the long shots.

In sporting clays the same principle applies, but the rule is slightly different. It's the 70/28 rule – 70 percent of the targets are presented within 28 yards of the shooter. You can see how shooting 10 out of 10 on the close ones goes a long way in helping you become more consistent on the longer shots.

– This tip came from the book *“If It Ain't Broke, Fix It!”* by Gil & Vicki Ash.

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Shotgun Wisdom

by Charles Duff

The British sportsman has, over the centuries, worked out many aspects of shooting birds with shotguns and the wise man reads and learns:

For a balanced double gun, the barrels length should be twice the length of pull. With modern lighter, stronger barrels this may be increased by not more than 2 inches.

Short barrels are quicker into action, but more 'whippy'; longer barrels are slower but steadier.

With modern powders the whole powder charge is consumed within the first 15-20 inches of the barrel, the rest is there to reduce muzzle flip and to steady the swing

Optimum barrel length is related to shooter size. To handle 32"-plus barrels the shooter should be at least 6 feet tall and well-built.

The ideal 12ga game (or field) gun should weigh between 6 ½ lbs and 6 ¾ lbs.

For tolerable recoil, the gun should weigh 96 times the shot charge, thus for 1oz (28gm) shot, a 6lb gun; 1 ¼oz (36gm) needs a 7 ½ lb gun.

Cartridge and gun combinations producing more than 15 ft/lbs recoil will quickly induce 'recoil headache' and flinch.

To estimate the true range of a bird, take the estimated range, halve this and add 10, thus if estimated range is 40m, real range is 30m.

The more shot is deformed, the more dispersed will be the pattern.

The difference between plastic and fibre wadding is to the order of one degree of choke. Fibre wads do not protect the shot down the barrel.

Larger shot deforms proportionately less than smaller, thus less effect on patterns.

The larger the shot, the less the effect of choke. Choke has no discernible effect on buckshot loads.

The harder the shot, the less it is deformed, but it is then more likely to go straight through a bird, not dumping its kinetic energy inside it.

Shot with 5 – 6% Antimony is very hard and should be used for clay targets only. A couple of percent is preferable for game shooting.

Similarly plated shot, besides being expensive, is not a good idea on game birds.

For optimum performance the pellet load should be balanced to the bore of the barrel. Shot column length to width must be balanced. Heavy loads are all unbalanced and both pattern and velocity suffer and recoil increases.

The .410 3" cartridge has proportionately more pellet deformation than any other due to its extreme length to diameter ratio. Consequently it is never used in American Skeet as its patterns are so bad.

The smaller the gauge, the smaller the shot that should be used.

The lighter the pellet, the more is the effect of wind-drift.

Increasing velocity opens up patterns and increases recoil.

From a cylinder barrel, regardless of bore size, the shot cloud opens up at a rate of +/-25mm in diameter per metre travel. At 36m (40yds) the pattern is +/- 1.4m (4ft) wide and +/-2.5m (10ft) long.

Terminal velocity of No.6 shot is +/- 30fps, but keep those shooting

glasses on!

In the shot cloud, 50% of the pellets are in the first metre, 75% in the first metre and a half.

Loss of velocity is 30% in 20yds, 45% in 30yds and 55% in 60yds, regardless of initial velocity. Faster loads loose velocity proportionately quicker than slower.

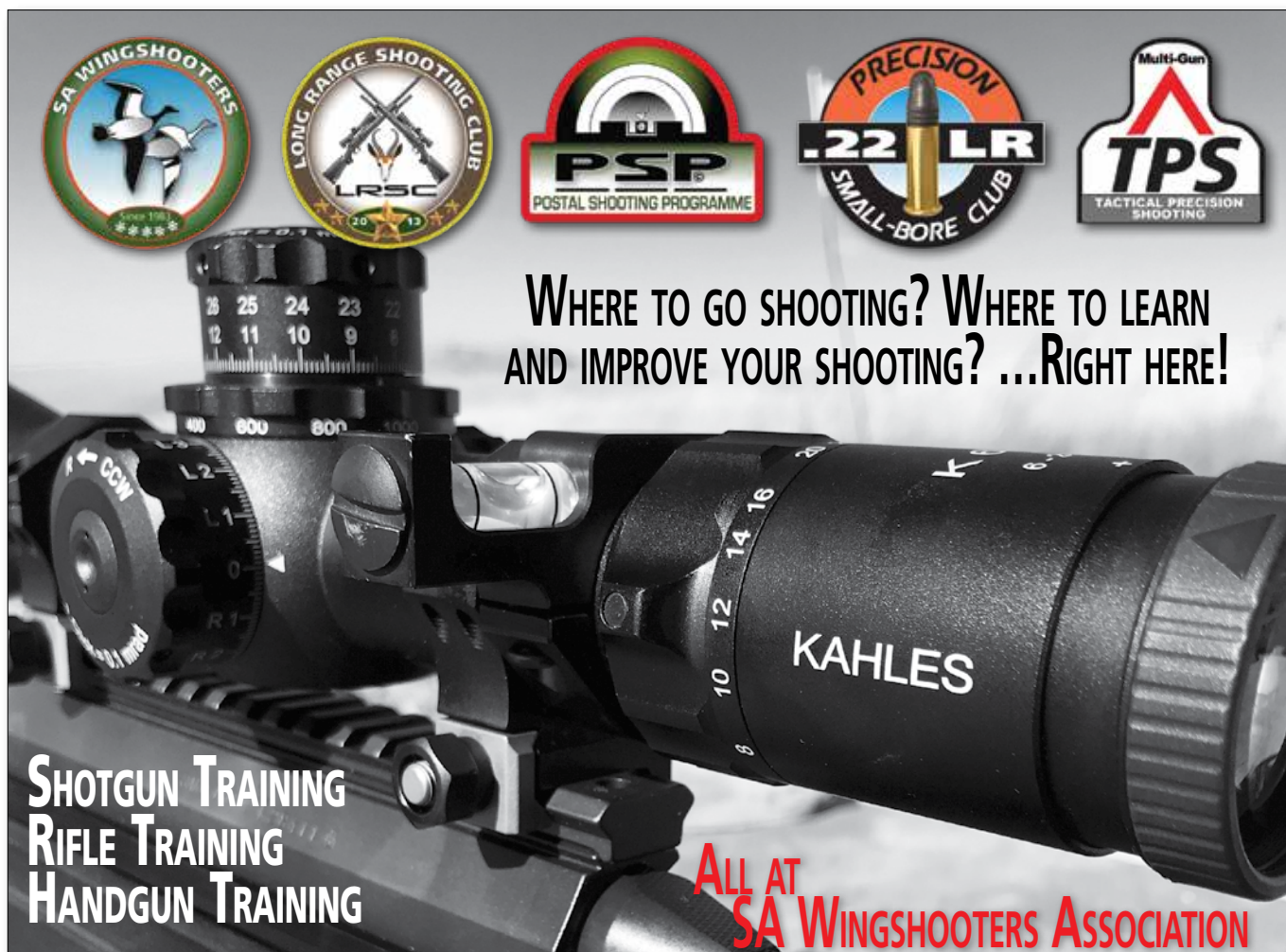
Loss of striking energy is 35% in 20yds, 50% at 40yds and 80% at 60yds.

The difference between No.5 and No.6 pellet's striking energy at 20m is 0.462m/kg compared to 0.365m/kg – just 0.097m/kg more. The difference in weight is just 0.02grams per pellet. Hardly earth-shattering!

Loss of pattern is rarely considered, yet with a full choked gun 100% of the pellets should be inside the 30" patterning circle at 30yds. At 40yds the loss is 25-30% and this increases to +/-70% at 60yds. At 80yds the pattern no longer exists, with only 10% of the pellets remaining.

No.6 shot with 270 pellets per ounce has 23% more pellets than No.5s, No.4s have 24% less pellets than No.5s and a whole 59% less than No.6s.

Shotguns are made to shoot slightly higher than line of sight. This is so that you can see the whole bird on top of the muzzles, not just half like a rifle. Most guns have a 60%/40% set-up, i.e. 60% of the pattern is above line of sight. Some prefer 70%/30% and most trap guns are 80% or 90%, some even 100% above line of sight as the target is always rising.



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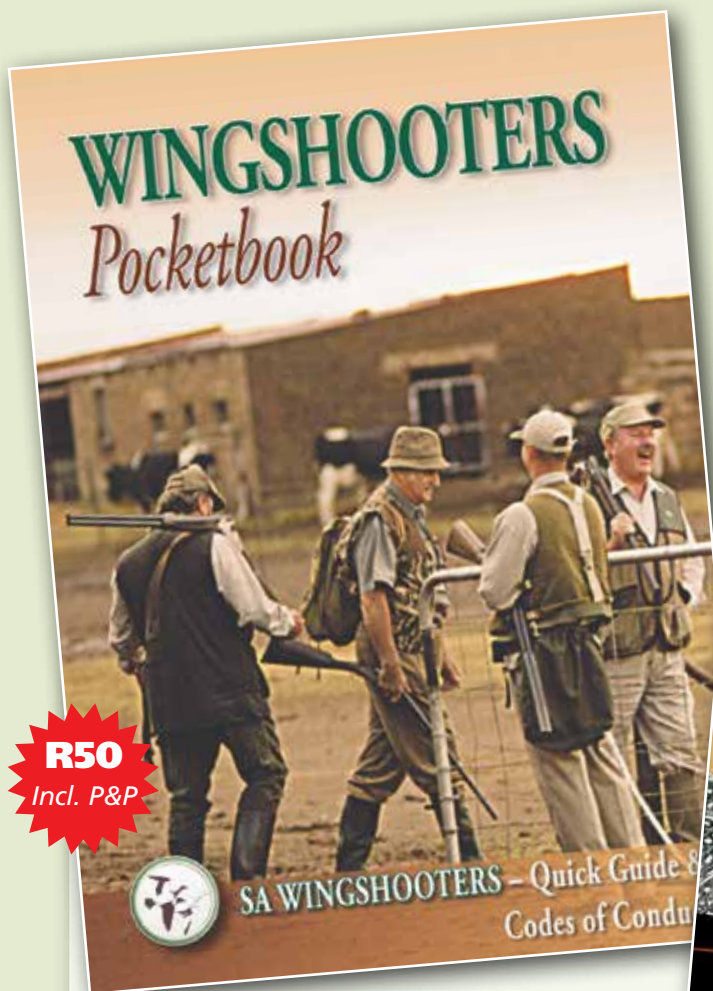
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This pocketbook is the first of its kind in South Africa. It is an essential 'must have' for every wingshooter, particularly *Dedicated Hunters*, and contains:

- 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'

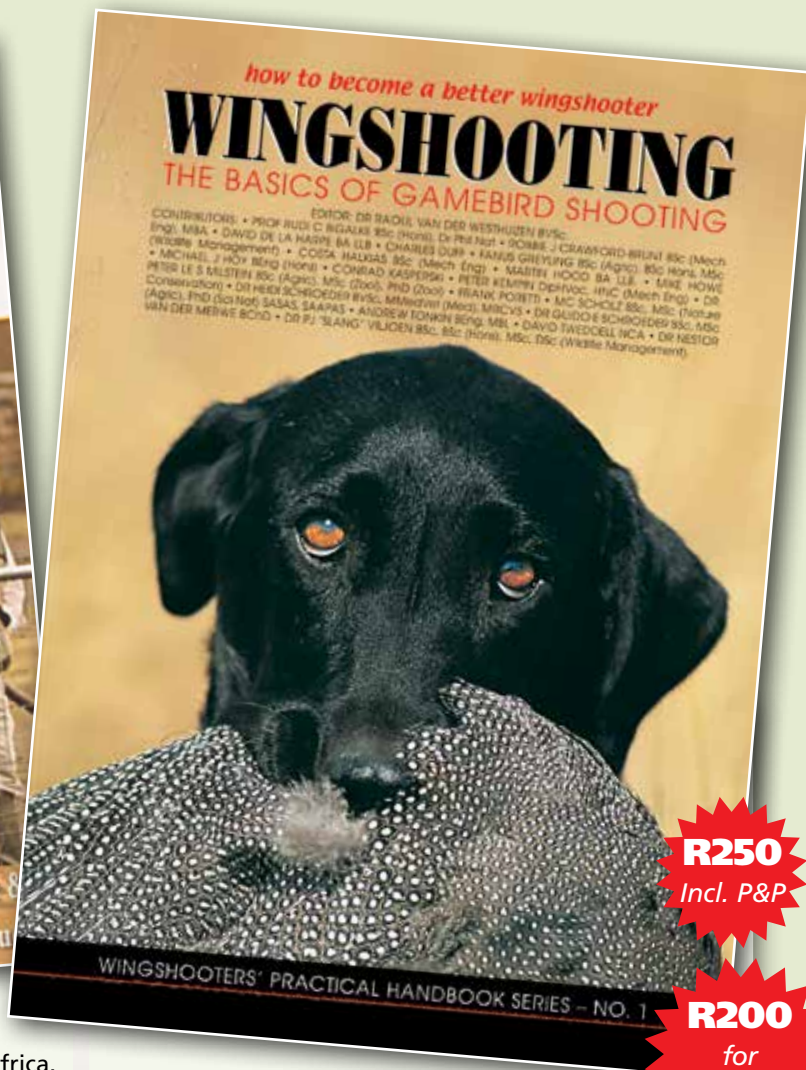
'In today's world, where it is so important that all hunters act in a responsible and ethical manner, this pocketbook is an essential part of the field hunting gear of every gamebird shooter. We are pleased to support this pocketbook and I strongly recommend it to all who wish to hunt more responsibly.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

— Dr Alan Klocek
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.

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 email, 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 email 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 Hunter activity reports are mandatory, by law, for all qualified dedicated hunters!

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.



Join South Africa's No.1 accredited Hunting & Sport shooting association



Some of the great benefits:

- Exclusive members-only access to the Gun Licensing Help-line
- 'Bona-fide Hunters' recognised as credit to Dedicated Hunters, or
- Option to qualify as Dedicated Hunter/Sports Person in terms of Act 60
- Membership of Police-accredited Hunting & Sport shooting Association
- Exclusive hunting rights and shoots for members only
- Access to the National Shooting Venue Database
- Up-to-date information on the Firearms Control Act
- 4 'WINGSHOOTER' magazines with full shooting calendar
- Provincial hunting licences (for most provinces)
- Access to clay shooting clubs, shotgun/Rifle/Handgun clinics and training
- 25% saving on the handbook WINGSHOOTING, with tips & hints by 21 experts on game bird hunting
- Free advice on shooting seasons, gundogs, shotguns, rifles, handguns, etc.
- Free firearm ENDORSEMENTS for any type of firearm.
- R20 million wingshooters' liability insurance included
- Option to join PSP – Postal Shooting Programme for Handguns & Rifles
- Option to join the Long Range Shooting Club and TPS 2-gun/3-gun, etc.

YES! 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.



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SA WINGSHOOTERS
2020

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 and charter. 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.

Cell Phone No.

* 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 do not pay any once-off join fee.

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