



WINGSHOOTER

Magazine of the SA Wingshooters Association

Vol. 29 No. 4 – November/December 2023



2023 Season Photo Journal

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Member Andy Charalambous on the Guinea fowl! Pointed by member Craig Vincent's GSP Rage and backed by young DD Kaptein at the Kendal shoot. Photograph by André van der Westhuizen



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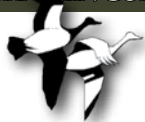
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A WORD IN YOUR EAR



Teamwork!

Wingshooting, generally, is a social activity in which we go to field in groups of various sizes. Some prefer large groups of up to 30 guns on a shoot, where others prefer to go with their best friend only, or even solo. However, I don't know of anyone who goes bird hunting on their own without a bird dog.

Interestingly, I find, our bird dogs tend to act in the same fashion. Some dogs do well in large packs, while others perform better in small packs or even just a pair. Many dogs, especially younger dogs, learn from more experienced and older dogs while they hunt. I've seen this first hand during the years, as well as with my own rescue dog, the late stupendous Jasper. He learned to point by hunting with a certain magnificent bird dog by the name of Oscar. Being witness to canines learning from their buddies only confirms my view that everything is better done in teams, or at the very least – pairs.

Whether you are in a corporate team, a medical team, a management or board team, or a military brigade right down to a small team... together is better! Together we improve moral and motivation.

The photograph above depicts Wynand Visser's GSPs Sneller and Patrys at a shoot near Malmesbury. Sneller is nine years old and Patrys is eight and a half. Together, as a team, they find and retrieve birds. While Sneller is toast from all the hunting and taking a power nap, Patrys is holding the fort and striking a pose for the photograph. A prime example of good team work!

The point is that in this fantastic Association called SA Wingshooters we see every member as part of the team! We invite you to participate in events and give your valuable input and suggestions throughout, so that we can continue to improve across the board – together!

Thanks to the National Council members and the Executive Committee for your continued teamwork.

As always, and most importantly, we'd like to thank all our members for your support and interaction. We wish everyone a blessed festive season and holidays.

Waidmannsheil

André –



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A South African Gun Dog Club Reaches An Amazing Milestone –

The Tvl HPR Field Trial Club reached an unsurpassed milestone in the history of dogs that hunt, point and retrieve, when they tested their 1000th dog for his working ability, conformation and temperament at the University of Pretoria grounds on the first of October 2023.

The Working Test or Natural Ability Test is for dogs of all ages. Here we test your dog for its pointing, hunting, retrieving on land and water, gun shyness, use of its nose, and train-ability. This is the only test where the dog's conformation, biddability and temperament are also evaluated. Since 1992 it was regarded as the minimum requirement by responsible GSP breeders.

The Tvl HPR Field Trial Club is the pioneer of the Working or Natural Ability Test. Introduced by us in 1992, this Test became the norm that has been accepted and used by all the working South African national bodies and clubs of HPR breeds. The Tvl HPR Field Trial Club has now tested more than a 1000 HPR dogs to date and has kept a record of every working dog in South Africa. We maintain the highest standard for the Working Test and our Certificate is a testimony of the high standard, and therefore, the most sought after.

This is the minimum standard for working HPR dogs and the minimum criteria by which all HPR dogs in South Africa should be evaluated. A must for any German Short-haired Pointer owner who is serious about the Standard of his/her dog and who wants to breed. Dogs that passed this Test can rightly claim that they comply to the minimum standard of German Short-haired Pointers in South Africa.

Some interesting statistics:

1. THE STANDARD OF HPR HUNTING DOGS IN SOUTH AFRICA

Number of dogs tested: 1006



Percentage of dogs that passed the Test: 67.9

The passing rate only applies to the dogs that actually completed the Test. In terms of all the HPR dogs in South Africa, we would roughly estimate that the actual passing rate is much nearer to ten per cent. There are countless other HPR dogs out there who have not done the Test and the normal argument is that they do not want to do the test, are too far away, do not recognise, there are better tests etc. etc. Generally, however, it is our experience if you are proud of your dog or the pups that you breed, you will make every effort to do the Test. Therefore, participants of the Test are the cream of the crop. For the breeder of dogs below par, endless arguments can be found not to do the Test.

2. IS THERE A DIFFERENCE BETWEEN SEXES?

Number of males tested: 501

Percentage males that passed: 66.4

Number of females tested: 499

Percentage females that passed: 68.9

This clearly illustrates that there is no significant differences between sexes. It therefore disproves the perception that one of the sexes is better than the other. Since sex ratio at birth is 1:1, it also demonstrate that it is likely that mortality between sexes from birth to working age are also equal.

3. COMPARISON BETWEEN GUNDOG BREEDS TESTED

BREED	NUMBER
GSP	895
Weimaraner	51
English Pointer	19
Hungarian Visla	18
GWP	10
Other breeds	13

This illustrates that the majority of

dogs tested are German Shorthaired Pointers and also illustrates roughly the ratio of the working breeds in South Africa.

Finally, we look at the trend by dividing the pass rate in ten year intervals. With a downward trend of more than ten per cent in the last ten years we might have reason for concern.

Minimum Standard

It must be understood that any test where dogs are evaluated by a pass or fail or even by a grading, represent an average standard and seldom identify outstanding dogs. That is why we regard the Natural Ability Test as the Minimum Standard for German Shorthaired Pointers in South Africa. The ultimate aim to improve the standard of our breed should still be Field Trials. During pointing trials in South Africa a dog is tested on wild birds in their natural habitat. Apart from an outstanding nose, he must also have the intelligence to work difficult terrain efficiently, even in adverse scenting conditions. He must also have a superb hunting desire and self discipline to hold a bird for his owner for any length of time. He must be an easy dog to train, in other words user-friendly. Only superior dogs will get a place in field trials. Much of those characteristics that we love about our HPR dogs and that make a dog pass the Natural Ability Test come from selection at Field Trials albeit being a couple of generations in the past.

Perhaps a last message for all the breeders of German Shorthaired Pointers out there: Please do not try to breed out everything that is their essence.

With right, our Club is the guardian of the HPR standard in South Africa.

Contact the Club at hpr.club@mweb.co.za for more info. At our Club, the dogs and their standard comes first.

– Dr. P.J. Viljoen – Tvl HPR Club



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Bird Dog Medical – Tenacity

At the Tvl HPR Field Trial Club's Bushveld Trial we witnessed a remarkable testimony of a gundog's tenacity.

Dr Albertus Coetzee's young German Short-haired Pointer Stormberg Jaccuse was competing in the Open Stake when he suffered a serious injury but, in spite of the injury, he still completed the retrieve.

It happened like this: During Jaccuse's round he pointed a Francolin. Upon flushing the Francolin was shot. In his eagerness, Jaccuse flew away to do the retrieve. Unknown to everybody there was a stump

with him. The first-aiders struggled to hold Jaccuse down to stop the bleeding and dress the wound.

As soon as Jaccuse was able to stand, he shrugged off the restraining hands, jumped back into the grass and completed



with a short point hidden in the long grass. Jaccuse ran full speed in this stump, cutting open his breast to the bone. Suffering from a 50mm long cut, Jaccuse dropped as if shot, yelping in pain.

Everybody gathered around Jaccuse in great concern. As luck would have it his owner, Albertus, is a veterinary surgeon and also had his custom made First Aid Kit

his retrieve. Remarkable that through the shock, pain and attention he remembered the retrieve, smelled the bird and delivered it to his owner. Even more remarkable is that up to that day he was reluctant to retrieve real birds. These dogs will never cease to amaze us.

– By Slang Viljoen

Photos: Jaco Vermeulen & Albertus Coetzee



Pseudoscience

Nobel Laureate John Clauser said “I Can Confidently Say There is No Real Climate Crisis”.

Dr. John F. Clauser, recipient of the 2022 Nobel Prize in Physics, was elected to serve on the board of directors of the CO2 Coalition earlier this year.

During a speech to the 2023 Quantum Korea conference, he stated categorically: “I can confidently say there is no real climate crisis.” During a recent interview with the Epoch Times, Dr. Clauser stated, “We are totally awash in pseudoscience.”

Further, he identified the United Nations’ Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) as “one of the worst sources of dangerous misinformation.” Despite his views being completely contrary to the “consensus” opinion on climate, he was invited to present a seminar on climate models to the IMF on July 27th. Just before the date, the event was summarily cancelled by the Director of the Independent Evaluation Office of the International Monetary Fund, Pablo Moreno.

Coalition Statement on the IMF Postponing Dr. Clauser –

The postponement of Dr. John Clauser’s presentation to the International Monetary Fund concerning climate models and their use is troubling but not surprising. Any scientific information that differs from the “consensus” opinion of man-made catastrophic warming continues to be systematically suppressed.

Had the event not been postponed, Dr. Clauser was prepared to argue that the science on global warming is far from settled and that extreme caution must be warranted when setting economic policy on oversimplified views of the Earth’s climate system.



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2023 Competition Target Shooting Results



Annual PSP Target Shooting Winners 2023



HANDGUN – Centrefire

Gold –

Wim A. Lambrechts: 100 (7 x rings)

Silver –

Keith B. Atkins: 99 (4 x-rings)

Bronze –

Alan Harrison: Score 97 (4 x-ring)

RIMFIRE HANDGUN

Gold –

Wim A. Lambrechts: : 99 (3 x-rings)

RIMFIRE RIFLE

Gold –

Wim A. Lambrechts: 100 (10 x-rings)

Silver –

Alan Harrison: 100 (8 x-rings)

Bronze –

Glen I. Moola: 97 (3 x-rings)

CENTREFIRE RIFLE

Gold –

Alan Harrison: 100 (5 x-rings) 16mm

Silver –

Mrs Zania Harrison: 100 (5 x-rings) 21mm

Bronze –

Wim A. Lambrechts: 100 (5 x-rings)

22mm

LRSC 2023 Winners

OVERALL 2023 Points Winners:

Gold: Bernard Cilliers

Silver: Charl Jacobs

Bronze: André van der Westhuizen

4th: Pieter Bettings

5th: Cliff Alexander

.338 F-BA Division:

Gold: Konrad Botes

Silver: Friedel Kirstein

Bronze: Andrew Toy

6.5 F-BA Division:

Gold: Bernard Cilliers

Silver: Pieter Bettings

Bronze: Tony Ernst

.308 F-BA Division:

Gold: Christiaan de la Rey

Silver: Patric Fourie

Bronze: Angus Rheder

.30-06 Springf. Division:

Gold: Ben van Dyk

.300 Win. Mag. Division:

Gold: Tony Ernst

Silver: Andile Solwandle

Bronze: Shaun Ellithorne

.243/6mm F-BA Division:

Gold: Etienne de Waal

Silver: Fanie Holtzhausen

Bronze: André van der Westhuizen

.223 F-BA Division:

Gold: Bernard Cilliers

Silver: Charl Jacobs

Bronze: André van der Westhuizen

.22-250 F-BA Division:

Gold: Friedel Kirstein

.223 F-SL (Self-Loading Rifle) Division:

Gold: Marius Gericke

Open Division (Major):

Gold: Shaun Ellithorne

Silver: Andile Solwandle

Bronze: Patric Fourie

Open Division (Minor):

Gold: Cliff Alexander

Silver: Marius Gericke



TPS 2023 Winners

4-Gun Division (SG / HG / SLR / Bolt):

Gold: David Lillico

Silver: Pieter Greeff

Bronze: Noel Gibson

Trad 3-Gun Division (SG / HG / SLR):

Gold: David Lillico

Silver: André van der Westhuizen

Bronze: Pieter Greeff

3-Gun Division (Handgun / SLR / Bolt):

Gold: David Lillico

Silver: Pieter Greeff

Bronze: Xander Jacobs

2-Gun Division (Handgun / Self-Loading):

Gold: David Lillico

Silver: André vd Westhuizen

Bronze: Bobby Lotter

2-Gun Division (Handgun / Bolt Action):

Gold: David Lillico

Silver: André van der Westhuizen

Bronze: Charl Jacobs



.22PSBC 2023 Winners

.22 LR Tactical Division:

Gold: Johann de Bruin

Silver: Bernard Cilliers

Bronze: Marius Gericke

.22 LR Hunter Division:

Gold: Elmo Ferreira

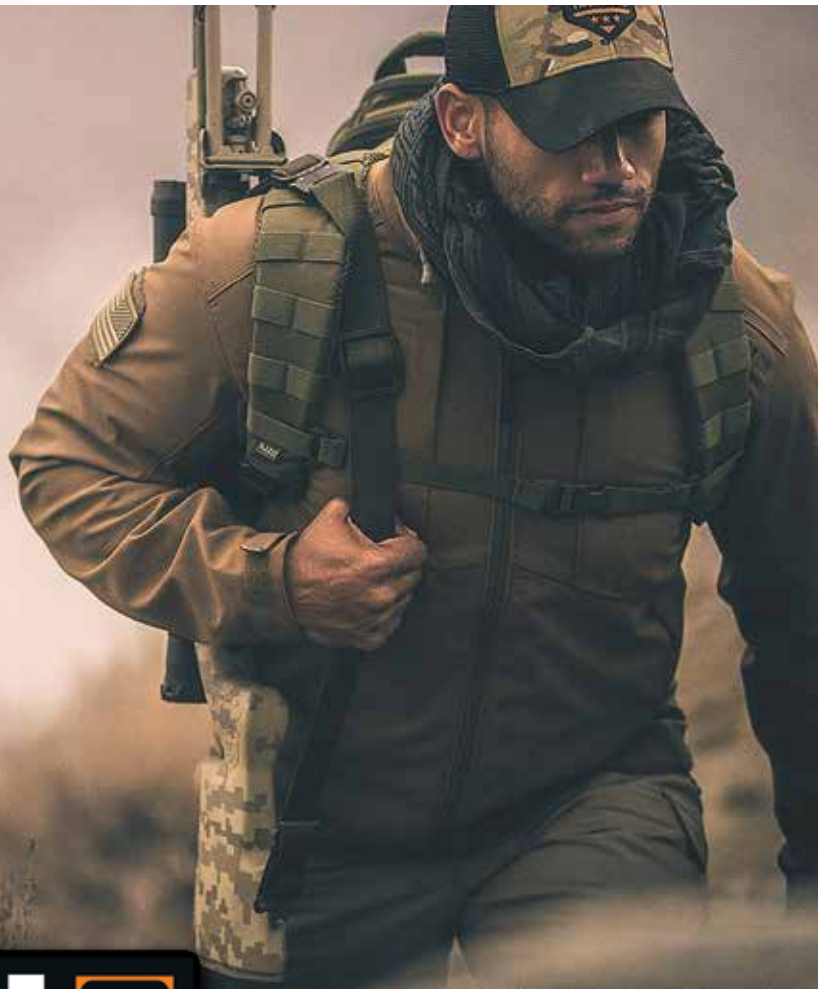
Silver: Bobby Lotter

Bronze: Rui Torres

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Life 2.0

*“Jobs fill your pockets,
adventures fill your soul”*

| by Gustav Vermaas

The sun had just crossed the 0900 mark. Up in the Dakota fields, where the art of upland shooting takes centre stage, things unfold a tad differently than they might in the hot Bosveld of South Africa. Here, the birds require time to settle, to ease into their daily routines. Roga, my German Wirehaired Pointer, is busy quartering the line.

Though he's just two years old, he's no stranger to this dance. His initial excitement with the guides' Labrador has subsided; he is in the zone.

Suddenly, a surge of energy courses through the atmosphere. Roga swiftly transitions into his ninja mode, moving with a combination of stealthy crawls and rapid bursts of motion – the birds are near.

And then, the moment of truth

arrives... Roga is on point!

My eagerness almost betrays me; I nearly succumb to the rookie's impulse to rush in. But the wise words of a hunting friend echo in my mind – trust the dog.

So, I proceed with the utmost caution, navigating the perfect sea of yellow prairie grass with deliberate steps. I relish this moment. Just three meters from Roga, the Pheasant suddenly takes flight, a majestic spectacle against the open sky. The flying dragon has made its grand entrance. The first shot is a hurried attempt, driven by adrenaline, but the second a perfect strike.

A lifelong dream has become reality. I have bagged my first Pheasant, right here in the heart of South Dakota, with my hunting buddy Roga by my side.

For me, the South Dakota hunting expedition of 2022 was the culmination of a journey that began two decades earlier. It all started in 2002 when Jim Cameron introduced me to the exhilarating world of wingshooting. But what truly sealed the deal for me was his incredible GSP, Christa. She was a seasoned veteran, a hunting maestro in her final years and deaf as a doornail. You didn't take her hunt-





ing... she took you. The best teacher I ever had.

Back in those days, Jim was an avid subscriber to the Shooting Sportsman Magazine. Eager to dive deeper into this captivating sport, I immersed myself in every article. What caught my eye was the magnificent photos of Pheasants exploding from the golden grass, with hunters and their dogs cast in statuesque gold by the morning sun. It was a dream that gradually took shape: one day, I would be the one with a Pheasant in my sights, next to my loyal companion, on the vast prairies of South Dakota.

Fast forward 21 years to August 1, 2022, and the dream was about to become a reality. Our journey kicked off with Roga, still young but ready for the adventure, embarking on a flight to Doha and then Montreal in a sturdy wooden crate. My wife Sue and I followed a day later via Amsterdam. The first eight weeks of our adventure were a whirlwind, a cross-Canada dash from Montreal to Vancouver and back through the northern states of the USA, ultimately covering an enormous 12,345 kilometres. The tales of our experiences and adventures, hiking the Canadian Rockies with Roga by our

side, deserve a story of their own.

But let's not forget the reason for this journey: Wingshooting.

Blake, my granddaughter, entered this world on October 1 in Toronto, and as any responsible grandfather would do, I left for a hunting trip almost immediately. Robert Ruark once wrote that "Old Men and Old Dogs Smell Bad." Whether it's true or not, Roga and I certainly knew when we had overstayed our welcome.

Our hunting escapades began with two days of Woodcock hunting in Ontario, Canada. We joined forces with Kevin Lavoie, a true Woodcock specialist. These small migratory birds travel from their breeding grounds in mid-Canada to their wintering sanctuaries in the central United States. With a primary food source of earthworms, woodcock gradually work their way south as the ground freezes along their migration route. These elusive birds are typically found in marshy, nutrient-rich areas teeming with earthworms. Kevin was not only our guide but also a dedicated dog breeder, and on our second day, we were joined by five different dog breeds, including my GWP, Roga, a Vizsla, a Settler, a Springer Spaniel, and Kevin's secret weapon, his Cocker

“With a primary food source of earthworms, woodcock gradually work their way south as the ground freezes along their migration route.”



“South Dakota boasts over 7 million Pheasants and consistently ranks as the top state in the country for bird counts and harvests. In 2020 alone, hunters harvested a staggering 1.1 million birds during Pheasant season.”

Spaniel. Those two days of hunting took a toll. Lumbering through mud, navigating fallen trees, and chasing after the birds among saplings left us sore and weary. Woodcock, known for their tight sits and sudden take-offs, pop up just 3 to 4 meters away before zigzagging into the woods. There’s no room for blue-sky shooting here; it’s all about instinct, with only a blur and the sound of the Woodcock’s rocket-like flight. It’s a thrilling but challenging form of shooting that demands trust in your hunting partners.

From there, Roga and I ventured across four states to the heart of corn country - Iowa. Slightly nervous about our Pheasant hunting abilities, we decided to make a detour to Brush Dale Preserve for a four-hour training walk in one of the most picturesque settings imaginable. Imagine the Vredefort Dome with rolling hills, lush trees, meandering rivers, and vast farmlands—that’s Iowa for you.

The following day, we crossed into South Dakota, and what awaited us was exactly what we had come for: endless skies, boundless vistas, vast farmlands, and, of course, the iconic sea of golden prairie grass. Our first stop was Mitchell and its massive 80,000-square-foot Cabela’s store.

South Dakota boasts over 7 million Pheasants and consistently ranks as the top state in the country for bird counts and harvests. In 2020 alone, hunters harvested a staggering 1.1 million birds during Pheasant season. As we checked in at the Kelly Inn, I couldn’t help but notice the gentleman in front of me with an orange cap, two well-trained dogs at heel, and a shotgun bag resting against the counter. We had indeed arrived in Valhalla.

Our two days in Mitchell were nothing short of productive. In South Dakota, the tourism industry relies on Pheasant hunters for its survival, and the locals know it. The retailers welcomed us with open arms, always ready to provide information, brochures, maps, and advice. Cabela’s armed us with all the equipment and knowledge we needed, and we spent our early mornings and late afternoons “hunting” the public lands. South Dakota has over 5 million acres of hunting opportunity on public land and leased private land. I would have reached my bag limit of three roosters on both days if only I had my shotgun with me.

Two hunting sessions were on our South Dakota agenda, with the first taking place at Medicine Creek Pheasant Ranch. This place was the real deal, homesteaded by Oscar and Emma Authier in 1914. Since 1986, it had transformed into a world-class Pheasant hunting operation. Their website proudly proclaimed, “We dedicate our entire farming operation to Pheasant habitat and food plots to ensure you have the hunt of a lifetime. Wild Pheasant hunting is a way of life on the Authier Ranch.”

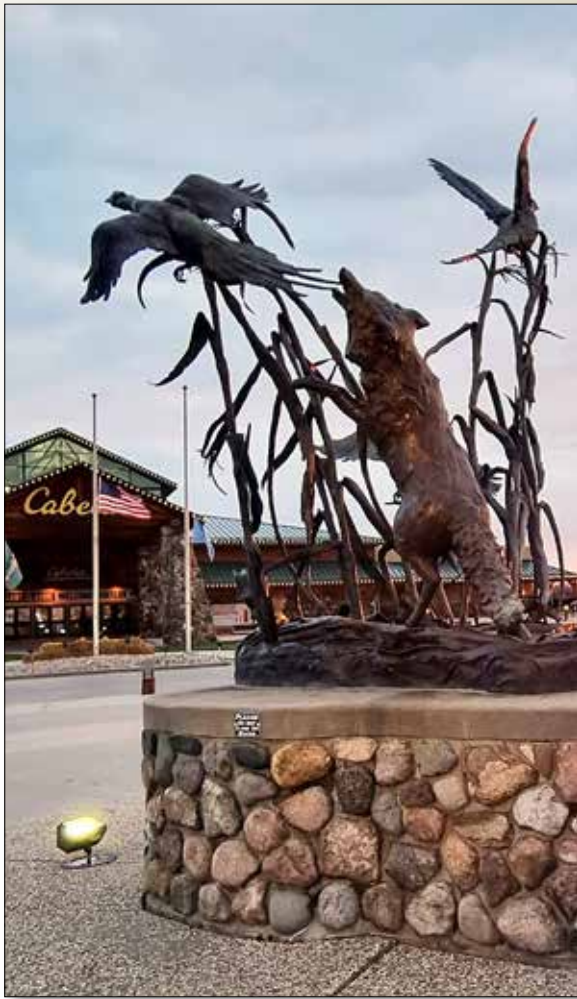
It sounded perfect, but there was initial scepticism on their end about a lone traveller from Africa with a dog but no gun. Sweet talk, photos of Roga, and some videos from South Africa sealed the deal, and we were welcomed with open arms.

Arriving late in the afternoon, we were greeted by the picturesque landscape of Medicine Creek. Alicia Authier, the latest generation, had captured the essence of the American Midwest with her family’s welcoming ranch. As the sun set, we took in the sights of a farm adorned with vintage implements, rustic barns, and warm

farm hospitality. And just to put the icing on the cake, there were several Pheasant roosters strutting their stuff right next to the road as we pulled in.

The evening was spent in Alicia's classic American bar, indulging in homemade American cuisine and bourbon. I found myself explaining to my new Texan friends why this South African was so far from home, in the heart of the United States, with a cheeky dog and no gun.

As dawn broke, Roga and I were shivering with excitement. Ahead of us was still the Sutton Bay



hunt, the long drive to Texas for the Greystone Castle hunt, and an encounter with a black bear. But this was all in the future. For today it will only be Roga, the hired over and under, and a flying dragon.



Some interesting links:

The South Dakota Game, Fish and Parks:

gfp.sd.gov

Medicine Creek: medicinecreek.com

Brush Dale Preserve: brushdale.com

Kevin Lavoie: onpointvizla.com

A video of the Medicine Creek hunt: youtube.com/watch?v=oHTSTIBCCDg

[com/watch?v=oHTSTIBCCDg](http://youtube.com/watch?v=oHTSTIBCCDg)

A video of the Ontario Hunt: youtube.com/watch?v=XWyxMa8CwdI

[watch?v=XWyxMa8CwdI](http://youtube.com/watch?v=XWyxMa8CwdI)



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SHOOTING TIPS

*Some tips to help you shoot better –
clays and birds...*



will be most grateful to see you carrying out.

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

Sporting targets generally fly faster than game birds, and practical hunters on their first round of Sporting Clays panic into poke-and-hope tactics when they find they do not have the same time as on slow-flushing pheasants or incoming ducks and geese.

– This tip came from the book *“Finding the Extra Target – The Ultimate Guide for all the Clay Target Sports”* by John Linn & Stephen Blumenthal.

Most shooters are accustomed to seeing standard-size targets presented and do a pretty good job of estimating the distance to the breakpoint. It is when a midi or mini is presented that shooters tend to overestimate the distance. Because of their smaller size, the midi or mini is never as far away as you think.

– This tip came from the book *“Shotgunning in the Automatic Mind – The Guide for Shotgunners and Instructors”* by Warren Watson and Mike Wilfley. This coffee-table-quality book, crafted for durability in the field, is filled with instructional illustrations to accelerate your shotgunning skills.

Most gun fitters suggest light to moderate cheek pressure, but I recommend more. I’m not alone in this regard. George Digweed, the best sporting clays shooter ever, also suggests firm cheek pressure.

He believes it is the most consistent approach, especially when the shooter is feeling stress.



– This tip came from the book *“Straight Shooting – A World Champion’s Guide to Shotgunning”* by Anthony Matarese, Jr. with Kerry Luft.

Missed targets create more missed targets. If you miss, don’t even think about it unless you know exactly what went wrong. That is the trick to learn. To develop the ability to quickly recognize your mistake so you can correct it immediately. Often, we don’t know what we did wrong and drop a few more targets.

Then later, we realize the error, but it’s too late to salvage the score. This ability requires inner knowledge of the game and a total understanding of your technique. It takes time and many hours of practice, sometimes years, to reach this stage of install error recognition. But it will never arrive if you don’t begin now to consciously develop the skill of instant recall. Know why you missed! Know why you hit a target!

– This tip came from the book *“Precision Shooting – The Trapshooter’s Bible – The Next Step and Beyond”* by James Russell.

In general, a shooter in the ready position should assume an athletic stance similar to that of a boxer, with about 60

percent of the weight forward and 40 percent back and the heels 8 to 10 inches apart.

– This tip came from the book *“Mastering Sporting Clays”* by Don Currie.

Recognizing the visual opportunity each target provides should be a part of your pre-shot planning and routine. Think about it terms of framing a snapshot or video in your mind of the target as it enters the breakpoint.

Sear it into your memory. Ask yourself, “How well can I see the target, how clearly will I see the target, and how long will I see the target?” That’s your visual opportunity.

– This tip came from the book *“Straight Shooting – A World Champion’s Guide to Shotgunning”* by Anthony Matarese, Jr. with Kerry Luft.

I n recommending you to train yourself to shoot the bird which looks larger than the rest of the covey and, if possible, to shoot at the leading bird coming towards you (and the biggest bird to your eye should be the leading bird), I am also giving you the advice which your shooting host

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The Prince of Wales *Stock Grip*



by Charles Duff

images from
www.westleyrichards.com

The classic British shotgun stock evolved from the muskets then extant. Consequently, the line of the bottom of the stock was straight from trigger guard to butt plate, and became known as the English style. It worked well with the double trigger guns, which came to predominate the shotgun market. And it was ideal for the impercep-

tible but vital backwards slip of the hand from front to rear trigger for that fast second shot. However, this backwards movement could easily go too far, and so the idea of adding something as a stop to make for a surer grip, added a wooden lump. Over the years I have seen a few old black powder guns with such knobs added to the stock, which evolved into what today is known

as the relaxed semi-pistol grip stock. Its proponents say that it is more hand-filling than a straight English and more relaxed than the full pistol grip stock now used by the majority of manufacturers. The Americans, of course, just had to put pistol grip stocks onto their side by side doubles and rounded this off by discarding the classic splinter forearm and substituting a big fat beavertail version. Thus turning a classic gun into an ugly substitute.

I've used guns with all three stock styles and my conclusions are that if you have a double barreled two trigger shotgun, either side by side or over and under, then you have Hobson's choice – the straight English. The standard pistol gripped stock is pretty-well mandated for clay target shooting, my gripe with the latest versions is that the angle between the hand of the stock and the grip is closing in on 90° and this forces my fingers uncomfortably together. The relaxed semi-pistol gripped stock is my choice for a field gun; it is a lot more ergonomic than the other two. It has also been used successfully on double rifles, making it the most versatile stock version.

I subscribe to 'Shotgun Life', a sometimes very useful daily - I suppose the word is 'blog'. On 16th August they published an article entitled 'The Advantages of a Prince of Wales Stock' in which the writer went to town effusively eulogising the relaxed semi-pistol grip with phrases such as 'superior handling', 'ergonomic design', 'enhances stability', 'reduces recoil', 'increased control' and 'more balanced weight distribution', etc. Fair made my fingers itch to get hold of one!

But here's the problem, the two guns pictured indeed have relaxed semi-pistol grip stocks but these are quite definitely not of Prince of Wales design.

Edward VII was very like the present King Charles III, in that both were the POW for a very long time while their mothers clung to the throne for ages. During his many years of being the POW he gained a well-deserved reputation for being a great sporting shot, turning up at the many shoots to which he was invited with a trio of Purdey hammer lock



image from Shotgunlife.com



image from Shotgunlife.com



Prince of Wales Grip



Woodward Grip

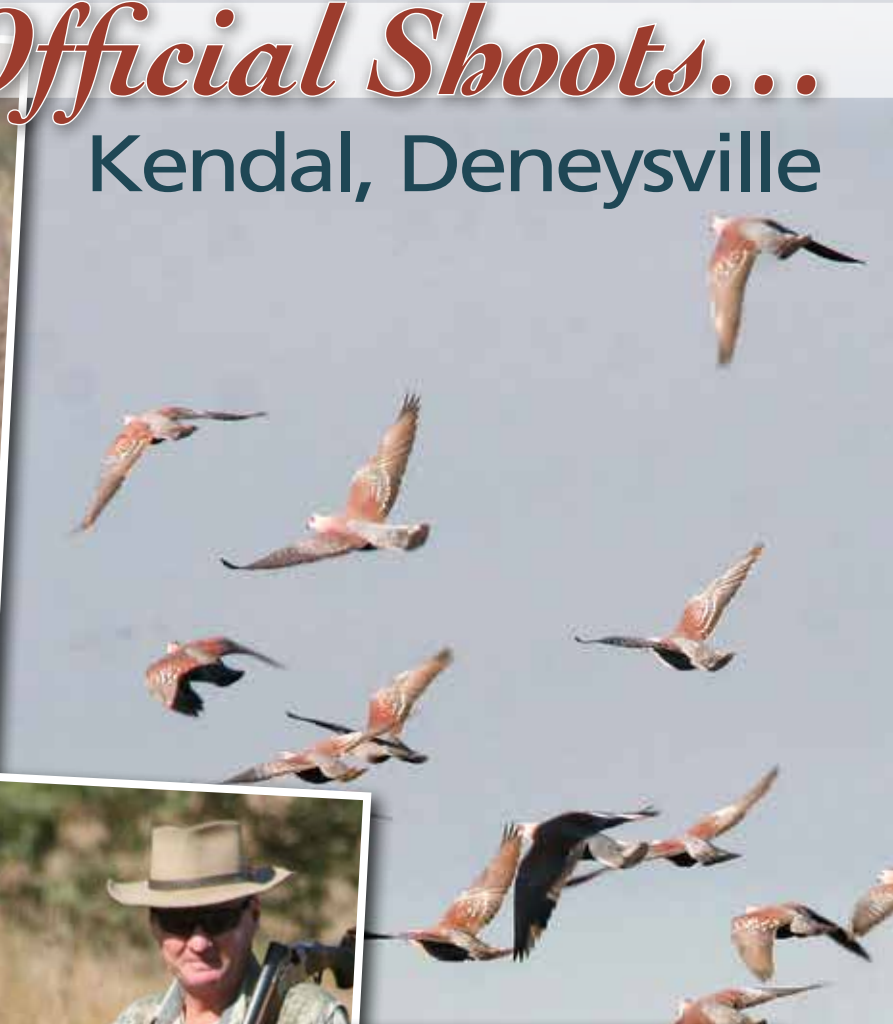
ejector doubles and a pair of loaders with which he enjoyed the many 'grand battues' that came his way. He initiated a form of stock design which departed from the standard in that the end of the relaxed semi-pistol grip was, instead of the usual rounded end, cut off straight close to the line of the barrels and finished with a thin cap, usually of metal, and frequently skeletonized, though horn, ebony and plastic have been used. So, no cap, no POW. As an aside, if you can find a side by side Purdey double

with hammer locks and ejectors, then you have found an ultimate collector's dream, I have only ever seen and handled one in my rather long life.

Somehow the incorrect use of the name has crept into and flourished in American shotgunning and I really would like to reverse this inaccuracy. Shotgun Life please note.

– Images from: <https://www.westleyrichards.com/theexplora/the-stock-grip-options-for-shotguns/used-for-educational-purposes>.

Official Shoots... Kendal, Deneysville



Above: Greg Higgs and Aya at the Kendal shoot
Right: Derek Garton at Kendal
Far Right: Dr Henni Boudjelthia at Deneysville
Below right: Andrew Toy and Andy Charalambous
Below: Jacques Naudé at the Deneysville shoot



& Witkoppies

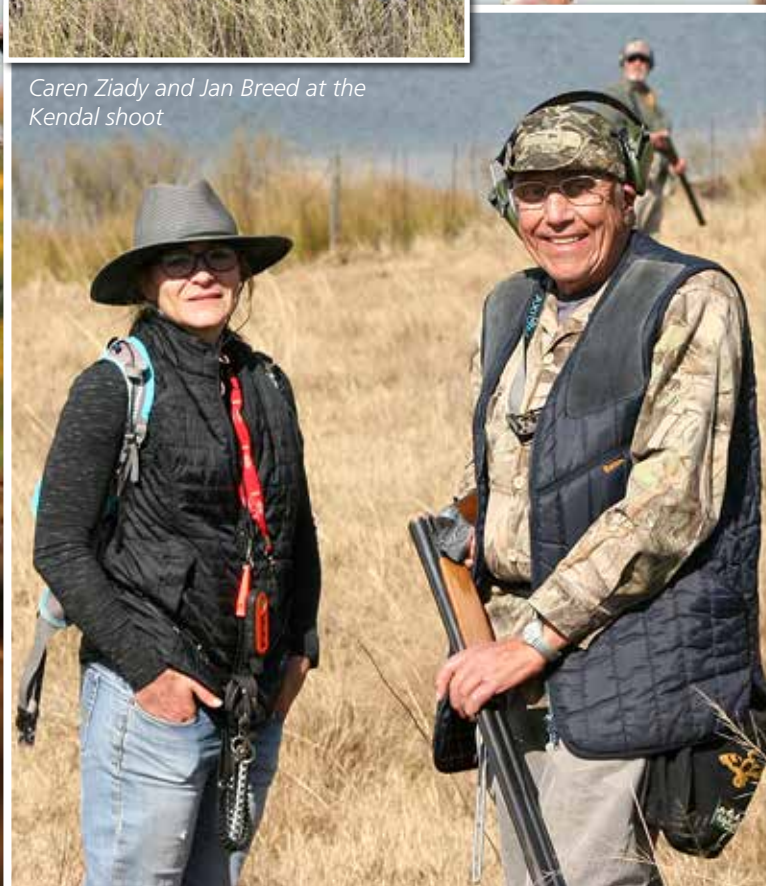
Ian Grey and Rover and Eley at Witkoppies



From left: Luan Dirker, ZC Kruger and Eddie Moolman at Witkoppies



Caren Ziady and Jan Breed at the Kendal shoot



Brad Smith
evidently had
a good walk at
Kendal



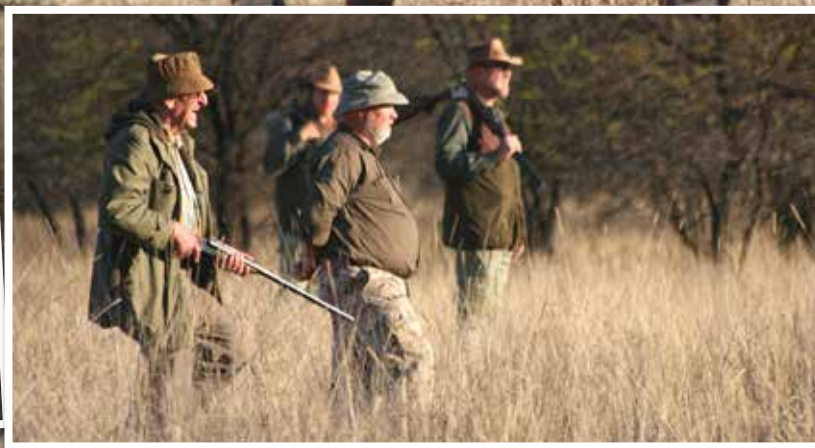
Official Shoots...



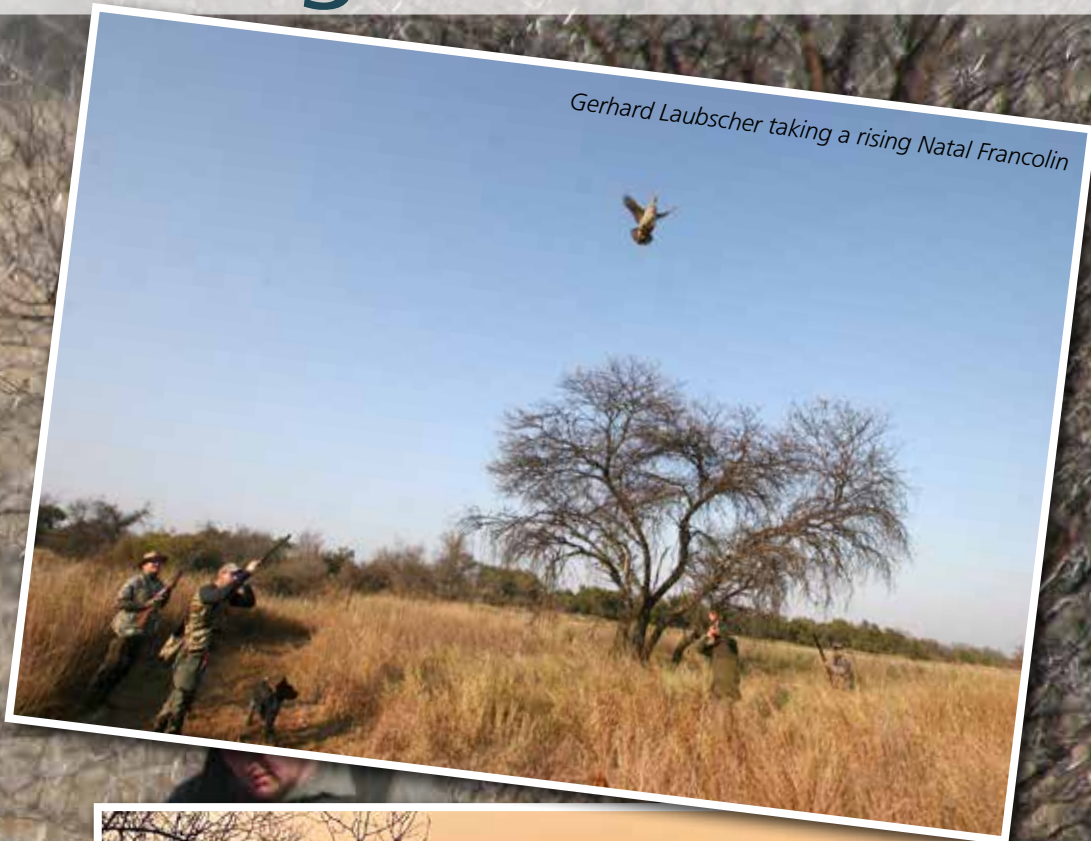
Superb Guineafowl drives – a hallmark of this venue

Join us on these fabulous Official shoots next season! See the dates in next year's shooting calendar, out in early February.

*Below: Bernard Cilliers with a Crested Francolin
Background image: Members on their way back from a Francolin drive – Yes, here Frankie drives work too!
Below Right: Costa Qually walking up to the point*

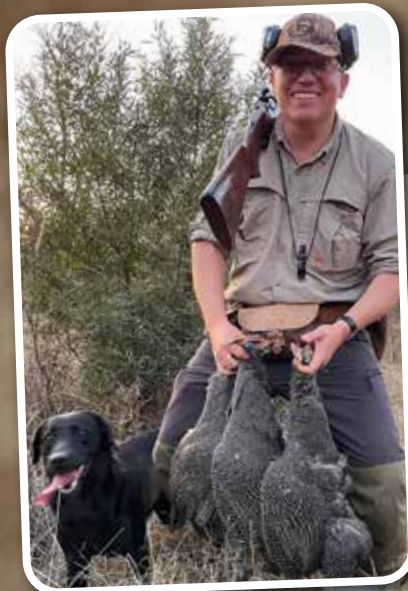


The Rustenburg



Ryan Hammond & Gerhard Laubscher early morning before departure to the field

Official Shoots... The Rustenburg continued



*Left: Carlos von Engel happy after a great Guinea drive.
Below, L to R back: Johan Geldnhuys, Rian Strydom, Ruben Strydom, Wayne Rabe.
Front: Gerhard Laubscher, Ryan Hammond, Richard Curtis.*



Upland birds & Driven Guinea-fowl



Top right, from left to right:
Jakkals Bothma, Frans van Wyk, Brad Smith and Oliver Harmer.

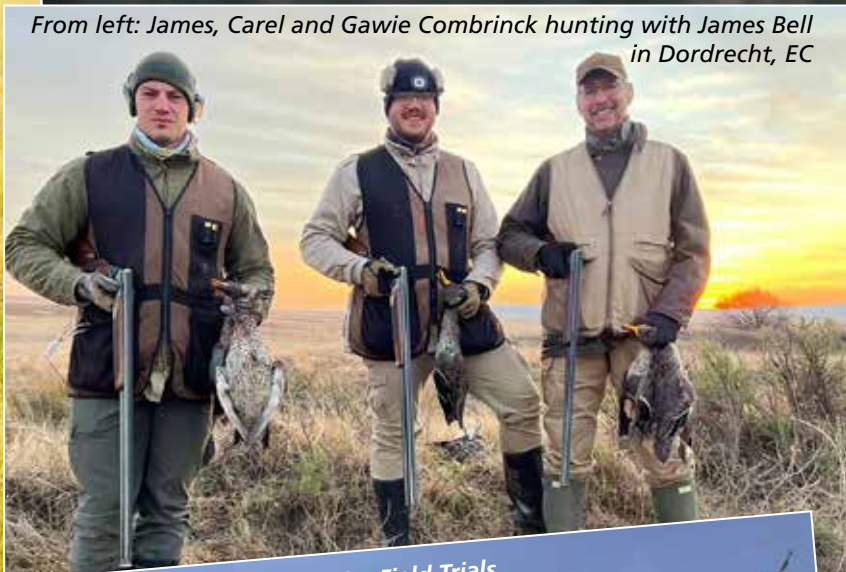
Right, from left:
Gary Hagemann, Gavie Combrinck, Derek Garton, Inx Jordaan and Richard Curtis in front.

Members in the field...

Gen and Anthony Coward at Singita



From left: James, Carel and Gawie Combrinck hunting with James Bell in Dordrecht, EC



Henry Playne at Rietpan



James Bell & Roe at the Border Field Trials



A Guineafowl shoot arranged by Graeme Milborrow and Rolo Nöffke



Tinus Tredoux, Brenton Tyrrell, George Richter & André vd Westhuizen at a Free State bird shoot



Luke Bell and Lady at the Border Field Trials



Chris Kinghorn gives the auto pilot a chance so he can read a bit!



Peter Dounias and Delphi at the SAFTC St Hubert Hunter Field Trial

Roux Struweg and Otto



Official Events... Timbavati Course for members



Members attended a handgun shooting and animal tracking course during July, as advertised in the calendar, hosted in the Timbavati by friend and member Andreas Liebenberg. As always, a valuable and unforgettable experience.

Below: Andreas busy with instruction.

Below right: Mark Schuurmans on the range.



Jason Abbott

Below: Noel Gibson has time for a smile during the intense, and most valuable, 4 days of training.
Left: Practical tracking... for hours at a time!



Executive Committee member
Johan Opperman practicing
magazine changes

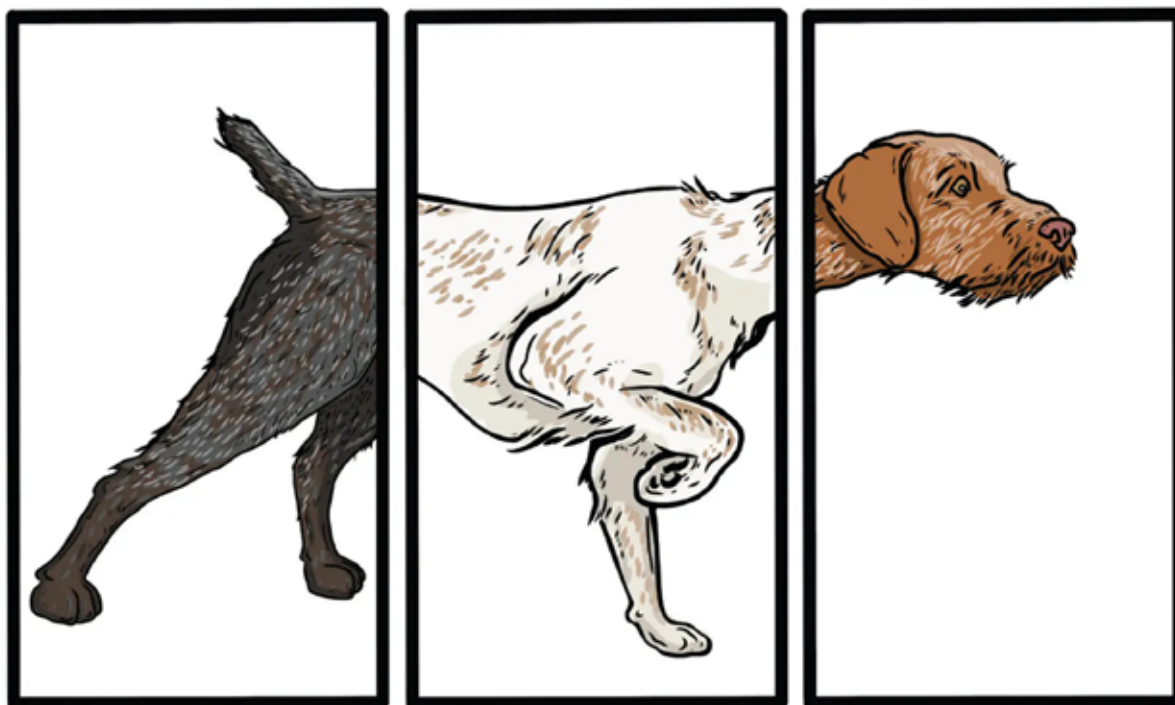


The range

The Myth of the Perfect Dog Breed

Letting go of that quest for perfection in a wide selection of dog breeds.

by Jennifer Wapenski
with kind permission from Project Upland Magazine. projectupland.com
Artwork by Naomi Coates



The art of choosing a bird dog is the subject of countless words – printed and spoken – including good-natured banter among friends. We bird dog owners dissect the subject with surgical precision, all based on the premise that there is one true answer: the perfect

dog. For most of us, the path to our next (or first) bird dog is a journey taken with great care and caution and fraught with anxiety. After all, owning a hunting dog is a big commitment, and nobody wants to get it wrong.

If modern bird hunters all had the same requirements and preferences

for their dogs, we'd have a single bird dog breed. The Common Bird Dog would range at the preferred distance, move at the preferred speed, handle birds by pointing or flushing in the preferred manner, and would, of course, have the preferred coat, color, size, and personality. The sheer number of different bird dog breeds,

however, points to the reality of human opinion.

Every single dog breed reflects the preferences of the people who developed it and the circumstances in which it gained popularity. If the breed has lasted into the modern era, that means it has found a community of enthusiasts who share those preferences and circumstances. The breed may be wildly popular or dangerously rare, but its survival means that humans believe it to be worth the effort of keeping it going. The spectrum of bird dogs is a testament to the diversity of thought and taste among hunters around the globe.

My own journey into bird dogs landed on a rare breed with a tightly-controlled breeding and testing program and, with it, a tight-knit community of like-minded hunters. Deutsch Langhaars are not a common dog breed, and the more years I spend with them and the surrounding community, the more I understand—and even appreciate—the rarity. Are the dogs perfect? Absolutely not. But are they the right fit for the people who surround them? Absolutely yes.

A Well-Bred Dog Will Get the Job Done

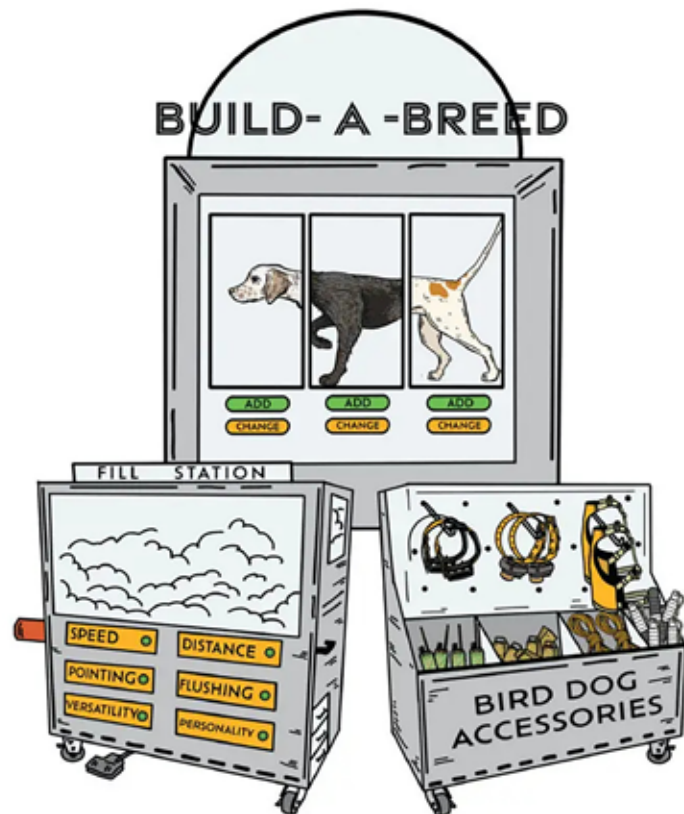
For all the “differences” that we talk endlessly about, when you take a bird’s-eye view, every breed of bird dog is a suitable means to a similar end. You want to hunt birds? A good dog will help you do that and, chances are, you’ll have a good time along the way.

Technology, science and new training methods have improved hunting dog breeds by incredible measures. Decades of trials and tests—whether formally sanctioned or informally waged between friends—have allowed selective breeding to elevate the performance of hunting dogs across the board. Our dogs are good at what they do. All of them. They might look a little different from each other, but each one gets the job done.

That’s what makes the quest for the perfect bird dog more of an exer-

cise in esoterica than an act of necessity. The splitting of hairs between a well-bred German Shorthair and a well-bred Braque Francais should be fun because you enjoy the details, not because it means the difference between whether or not you’re able to hunt birds with your dog. A well-bred Cocker and a well-bred Springer will both have a great nose and an intense desire to find and flush

lar stages for the development of a bird dog owner. First, there’s the overwhelmed stage where you worry about which breed, which breeder, which litter, and which puppy to choose. Then comes the honeymoon phase where this young dog just might be among the greatest bird dogs that ever lived. Often that is followed by the breed evangelist phase: you’ve discovered that the debate is



birds for you; the choice between them simply comes down to your preferences on size and personality. It’s okay to let personal preference take over and like something simply because it speaks to you.

You’ve undoubtedly heard about the five stages of hunter development: the shooting stage, the limiting-out stage, the trophy stage, the method stage, and the sportsman stage. As a hunter progresses through these stages, his or her priorities start to shift as the focus moves from pulling the trigger to appreciating the whole process. The sport transforms into an art.

I would argue that there are simi-

over, the perfect breed of dog does exist, and everyone needs one. Finally, you may find yourself one day waking up in the bird dog nirvana stage, when you realize that the mosaic of bird dogs is the most beautiful thing you can imagine. Sure, the Tibetan Curly-coated Pointing Terrier may not fit your ideal, but you love the fact that it exists in the world and that someone hunts with it.

That’s what makes the fabric of dog breeds so utterly fascinating. I may have no interest in a particular breed because it doesn’t fit my lifestyle or even just my aesthetic preferences. But I’m just one in a couple billion humans and my tastes are

uniquely my own. Hunting dogs are quite literally the manifested vision of generations of hunters from all corners of the world, representing a diversity of thought and circumstance that is almost beyond comprehension.

Perfection is a State of Mind

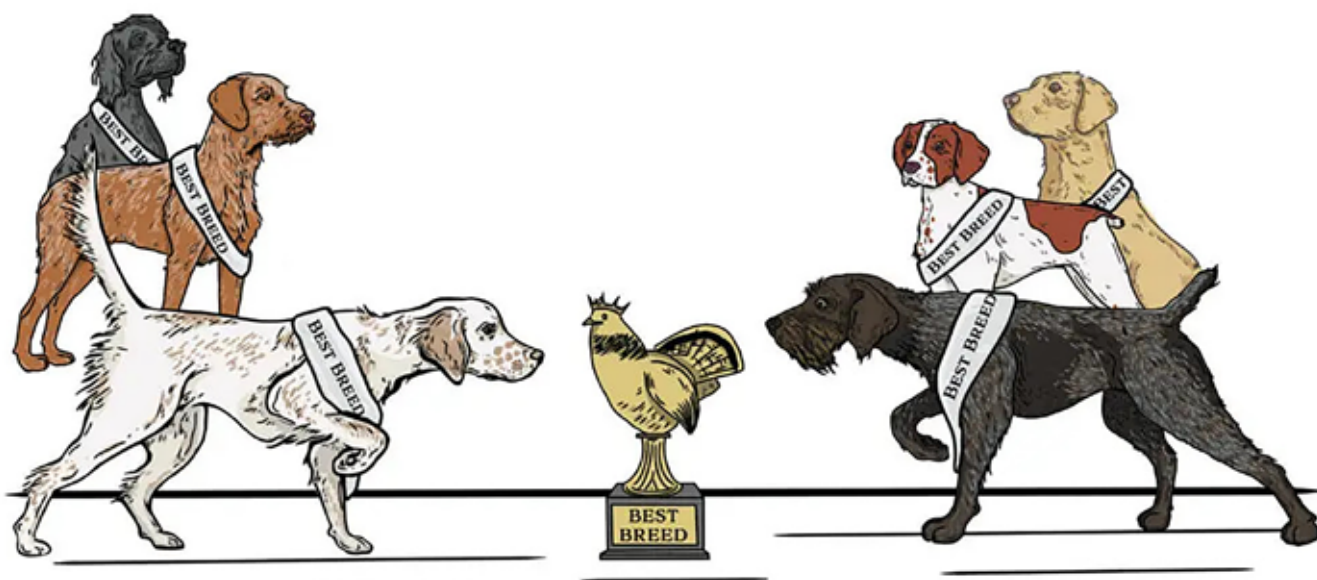
As a breeder, I field a lot of inquiries from people who are in the overwhelmed stage of trying to pick their next bird dog. They've generally done

idea that no dog breed is perfect at everything, and that no individual dog lives up to the ideals of its breed. I found myself in the breed evangelist stage when I fell in love with my dog, had success with her in the field and in the testing world, and made the decision to have our first litter. It was easy to conflate "perfect for me" with "perfect for everyone."

The reality, though, is that the dogs I love do a lot of things that some hunters wouldn't find quite so

a breed that aligned particularly well with me, but it doesn't matter—they're a good fit for me. When I field inquiries from people interested in learning about the breed, my aim is to describe the dogs honestly and avoid a sales pitch at all costs. A good dog in the wrong home is a heart-wrenching problem to solve, best avoided in the first place by encouraging people to honestly assess their own needs and preferences.

It goes without saying we as hunt-



a ton of research and have a reasonably good idea of what they want, but they're usually stuck between two or three breeds that are—for all intents and purposes—pretty equivalent. It's at this point that I offer some gentle advice.

"Look. Both choices are great. You can't go wrong. At the end of the day, you'll get a puppy, you'll love that dog, and you'll love hunting together. Pick what you like! The dog will hunt."

You can almost hear the stress getting exhaled at this point. It's okay to just fall back on whatever speaks to you. By the time that puppy shows up, the agonizing over making the right decision will be long-forgotten.

Part of letting go of the quest for perfection is the acceptance of the

perfect. For example, they love small mammals every bit as much as they love birds.

Personally, I am happy to come home with rabbits and birds in the bag, but that's not a universal preference. My dogs work productively up to about 250 yards; that's a great distance for the way that I hunt, but it would disappoint a lot of hunters who want their dogs to be finding and holding birds over the horizon. They are high-drive dogs that require a certain lifestyle to accommodate their genetic need for work—they simply will not thrive (or worse) if only given a handful of opportunities to get out each season.

I'll never know if my own preferences developed alongside the dogs that I love or if I happened to choose

ers all love our bird dogs, and it's impossible to not want others to see them in the same glowing light as we do. We humans are a competitive species and our dog preferences are no exception. But for all the friendly banter about the "best breed" that everyone should own, not enough is said about the beauty of the diversity in both hunters and dogs. The idea of the perfect dog may be a myth, but it's absolutely true that the dogs we love can be the perfect dogs for us.

— Jennifer Wapenski is the Director of Operations and Managing Partner at Project Upland Media Group
<https://projectupland.com/hunting-dogs/myth-of-the-perfect-dog/>

This article originally appeared in the Fall 2023 issue of Project Upland Magazine

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CITES Parties Must Decide: Are we Fish, Flesh or Fowl?

The name says it all...

by Stephen Palos – SUCo-SA
Photos by Johan Opperman

At the opening session of the 2023 Animals Committee meeting in Geneva on 19 June, a most obvious and long-standing fact was again expressed by Secretary General Ivonne Higuero. At about 10 min 15 sec into the YouTube recording ((6) 32nd Meeting of the CITES Animals Committee – Morning (June 20) - YouTube) of the meeting she states “and my colleagues have worked hard and spent long hours preparing for this meeting” and just thereafter “the workload has been steadily increasing through the years yet we remain a very small secretariat”.

It is essential to hear this statement in the context of the CITES Aim; to ensure that international trade in specimens of wild animals and plants does not threaten the survival of the species. Consider too the Secretariat’s statement, which should determine priorities. They say that “by 2030 all international trade in wild fauna and flora is legal, sustainable and consistent with long-term conservation of species”.

One wonders how, in a convention so flush with “people of science”, there could be such a deviance from the core business of CITES as the one promoted, pushed and prioritised by parties such as Israel (strongly supported by observer organisations such as Born Free and Wildlife Conservation Society) towards embracing the



*Egyptian Goose
Kolgans*

so-called “role of CITES in reducing risk of future zoonotic disease emergence associated with international wildlife trade”! With existing international organisations such as the World Organisation for Animal Health (WOAH, formerly OIE), the World Health Organization (WHO), World Trade Organisation (WTO) and other far more appropriate entities, why on earth, and at what cost to wildlife conservation, should CITES determine that it has a leading role (or any role) to play in this arena, other than to hear and take note of anything emanating from these aforementioned organisations?

The reason is clear though. Certain parties, robustly supported by many of the well donor-funded

animal-rightist and/or anti-sustainable use observer members, seize any and every opportunity to thwart any form of trade of fauna regardless of how sustainable, beneficial and benign. No crisis is, for them, to be lost as an ideal opportunity to push their nefarious agenda.

The Covid pandemic of late 2019 onwards was a gift they wish to see keep on giving. They must be seriously concerned that science and logic are so rapidly now emerging, breaking down the myths and stupefying so many of the actions globally embraced, as new light is shed weekly on our collective gullibility and misguided acceptance of enforcements, where the “cure” is patently becoming more devastating than the illness

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ever was. Let's unpack pertinent facts. It matters not whether you buy into the wet-market theory, or consider the (ever more favoured) lab-leak one to be the cause. Either way, not a single thing CITES, or for that matter the WOA, WHO or any other entity, could have done, would have prevented the outcome. Wet markets and scientific laboratories ARE a matter of internal, sovereign governance and CITES (rightly so) has absolutely no mandate in this arena and it never should (no matter how the anti-utilisation lobby at CITES campaign otherwise). Any CITES party representative who argues otherwise cannot possibly have the true mandate of his/her foreign policy department, as this flies in the face of

ference.

Rats, fleas, camels, bats, palm civets, racoon dogs, poultry and swine generally do not fall under the purview of CITES. They either don't meet the listing criteria or are not traded across international borders to any great degree formally, if at all. And although these remain the main vector species of zoonosis, in every pandemic event since the Athenian Plague of 430BC it has been the movement or living conditions of people, mostly exacerbated by war, conquest and latterly business/recreational travel, which has spread pandemic.

There is absolutely no scientific hypothesis that can honestly argue that wildlife trade poses any degree of

it is human movement that spreads it, how on earth could CITES, with sway over just 0,08% of global species and then only when these are traded across international boundaries, have any meaningful effect whatsoever?

The Sustainable Use Coalition - Southern Africa recognises that people remain traumatised by the recent pandemic, but this trauma was certainly magnified by the now obvious flaws in the various desperate attempts to manage it.

Certainly, early hard lockdowns would have flattened the trajectory curve and helped better prepare for what was to come. But the bare truth, rapidly emerging now, is that the very implementors of much of the excessive and prolonged hardships did themselves totally flaunt, no doubt through their own realisation of the futility of much of it, their very own rules.

It is disingenuous in the extreme for those fearmongering zealots who will not let this fear and ignorance go, to expect wildlife conservation and the millions of rural people who rely on natural and renewable resources to pay the price of that fear or dogma. Worse perhaps, because they are fully aware of the futility of this exercise within CITES but won't let a good crisis go to waste, is they deliberately push this subject knowing it will create opportunity to frustrate and stymie legitimate wildlife trade as more red tape, costs and frustrations are thrust upon those who are reliant on it. And this, after all, is their sole intent at CITES.

It is time for true scientists, all clear-thinking party representatives, and in particular the CITES Secretariat, to speak candidly and robustly about the true CITES mandate. Officials must resist the traditional habit of welcoming red tape for the sheer sake of job security. Shedding unnecessary and distracting side-shows is crucial if CITES is going to steer true to its correct course in time to really save species from their proven threats. stop this waste and focus on the core function.

What is the original Strategic Objective of The Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora? The name says it all...



Double-Banded Sandgrouse (female)
Dubbelbandsandpatrys (vroulik)

all inter-governmental norms which always prioritise sovereignty.

But more importantly, once the genie was out of the bottle and the pathogen present within humankind, it was never going to be trade in any animal, wild or domestic, alive or dead, which turned it into a pandemic. The jump (most likely mostly for reasons we may never know first from Wuhan to Northern Italy and then elsewhere) was through the transit of people, not animals. CITES has no mandate to determine human transit. More importantly however, is that CITES can (again rightly so) only determine certain narrow parameters and only for a tiny fraction of earth's many species. Going beyond the recent SARS Cov2 pandemic, a review of every pandemic historically on record would result in the same outcome; nothing that CITES could regulate would have made any dif-

fer risk sufficient enough for CITES to redirect its scarce resources, whether human or financial, to this issue. It would act against the interests of conservation, as a deflection of attention, and become a provocative and divisive side issue.

PC26/AC32 Doc 10 runs to a staggering 188 pages, and this is just the start. Spread amongst the Secretariat and the officials/staff of participating parties and NGOs, just how much time, acumen and funding that could and should flow to the core CITES mandate will be wasted? CITES deals with approximately 6 600 species of animals out of an estimated total of about 7 770 000 (Mora et al 2011).

Of course, the vast majority of all human/animal interactions are within national borders and involve domesticated species. Given that the zoonotic jump happens locally, and



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Judges and their clubs for the support



All versatile hunting breeds are welcome

Thank you for a year on year increase in Testing Numbers.



The WDDC wishes all a Merry Christmas & Happy New Year!

Mail: Info@drahthaar.co.za

Images from our 2023 LRSC events



Above: Christa Bowles taking aim.
Above right: Francois Coetzee explaining fundamentals.
This image: Christiaan de la Rey won the F-BA .308 division for 2023.



Ready to start... DOPE and Send it!



Marius Gericke & Jacques Mey



When you come to the match to get some sleep!



Cliff Alexander won the 2023 Open Minor Division



Etienne de Waal won the 2023 6mm Division

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Members hunting & shooting 2023

Below: Herman Kirstein with a special Scimitar-Horned Oryx



Members in the middle Neil Swart, Craig Sweet & Philipp Schulz hunting in Canada

Nic Dinham & Schön. Photo by Ian Dodds



Adriaan Venter at Gkhui Gkhui River lodge near Hopetown. Members get discount at this lodge



Trudi Winter forever field trialing



Marius Mostert with a nice Black Wildebeest



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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 1900m. 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 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 (3-gun & 2-gun) sport shooting – we offer multi gun events, where self-loading rifles, 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 shoot-

ing 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!





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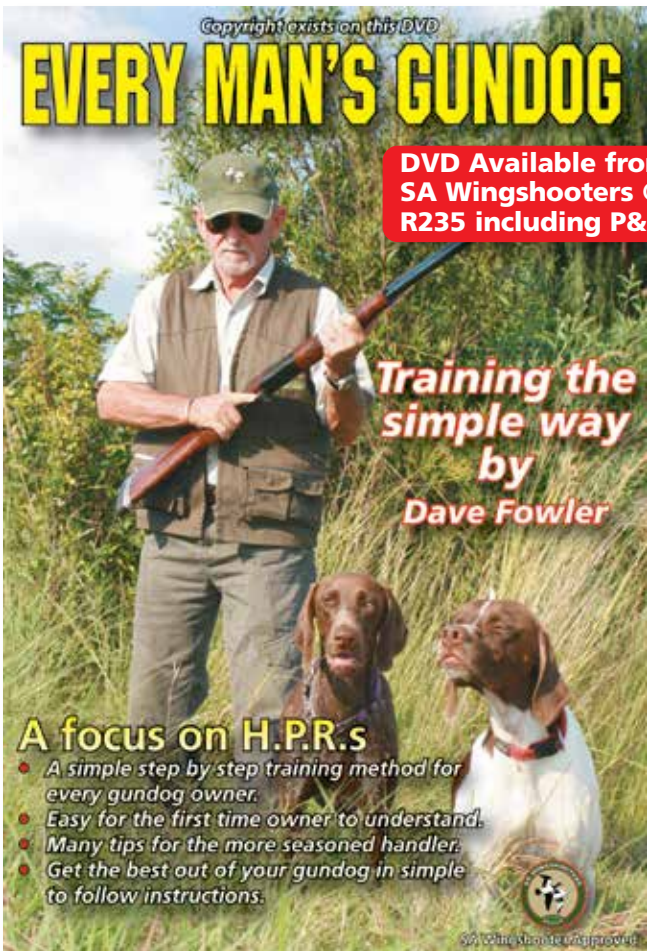
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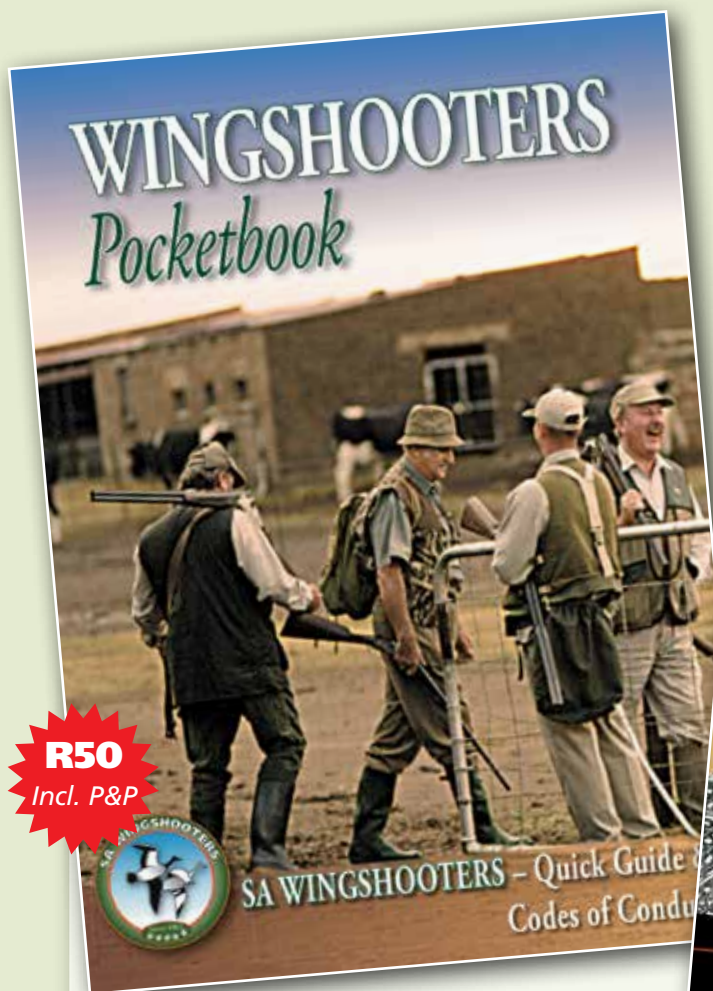
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This pocketbook is the first of its kind in South Africa. It is an essential 'must have' for every wingshooter, particularly *Dedicated Hunters*, and contains:

- 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 Klocek

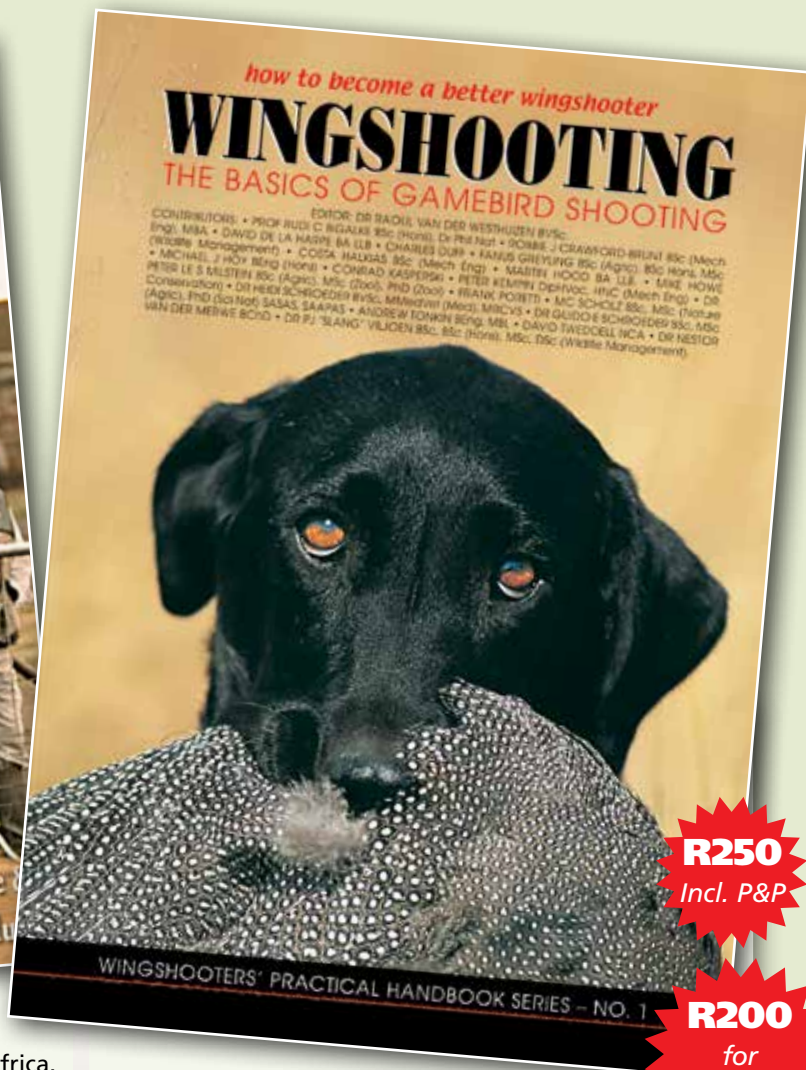
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'Respect for all Creatures, Great and Small'

'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

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<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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* 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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- Option to join the Long Range Shooting Club and TPS 2-gun/3-gun, etc.

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SA WINGSHOOTERS 2023

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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

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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.

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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 do not pay any once-off join fee.

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