

RAMBLINGS April 2003

By Keith Sinclair, HMS Section Director

North Island HMS championships are scheduled for Awakeri April 11-13, and the range will be open on the afternoon of the 10 for sighting in shots. Dates just to hand for the Winter Series, are July 19-20 and August 16-17, both rounds will be held at Tokoroa. HMS Nationals are being scheduled for November 14-16, followed by the Oceania games, November 17-19 for HMS events.

South Island HMS championships Nelson Pistol Club March 8-9. Weather in Nelson was great all weekend with blue skies, and the clean fresh air of the Golden Downs forest made for a great shoot. Club members kept us well fed with three meals a day, and we in turn looked after the sandflies. This year the North Island contingent was a bit more organised, making use of the cheap airfares that are now available, along with a hire van for transport from the airport. Rex Holland and his fellow club members had done a great job setting up the range, and running the competition. Most of the big bore events were shot on Saturday, with shooting getting off to a late start, due to the sun shining directly into the firing line. Scores were a bit down on last year, as everyone struggled with the light at some stage, also a few rams were rung, so I guess a bit more powder is required. Evan Sanders shot the highest score of the competition in BB unlimited, with a 39x40, and Phillip Murphy shot a personal best score also in BB unlimited of 37x40, with lots of help from his spotter Sara. Warrick Felton cleaned up in BB production with a 37x40, as well as a 35x40 in BB revolver, and went on to win the Big Bore aggregate with 128x160. Sundays shooting was mostly small bore and field pistol events, the tricky breeze and forever changing mirage proved to be a real challenge. But having said that, Murray Templeton still managed a 37x40 in SB unlimited, and a combined score of 112x160 to win the Small Bore aggregate. The Field Pistol aggregate went to Evan Sanders with 33x80. Thanks go to Match Director Rex Holland and Nelson club members for their hospitality in making this an enjoyable weekend. Hopefully next year more competitors from the South, and North Island will find the time to attend.

Until next time safe shooting.

[Keith Sinclair](#)