

# RAMBLINGS October 2000

By Keith Sinclair, HMS Section Director

Coming events. Taupo October 21-22, HMS nationals November 16-19.

Wairarapa Pistol Club, inaugural silhouette shoot August 5-6, Trevor Searancke match organiser. Shooters from around the North Island attended, and apart from a little rain late on Saturday everything went well. The mayor of Carterton Mr Martin Tankersley visited the range, and an article along with photo was published in the Wairarapa Times ages. Robin and Cheryl did a great job keeping everyone fed and thanks go to Sue Young for her assistance in running the range and score board. New silhouette shooter Bruce Cole posted several good scores, 26 SB unlimited and 32 BB unlimited, well done. Top aggregates, BB Philip Dickson 123x160, SB Keith Sinclair 139x160 and FP Evan Sanders 49x80. Trevor is planning to hold another match on February 10-11, and is looking forward to your support.

IV World IMSSU Championships, Brisbane Australia, August 21-30, 2000. NZPA members attending, Philip Dickson, Graeme Anderson, Warrick Felton, Murray Templeton, Evan Sanders, Michelle Felton, Keith Brooks, John Hart and Keith Sinclair. The competition was held at SSAA's Belmont complex, and was jointly run by the national associations of Pistol Australia, and the Sporting Shooters Association of Australia. With over 10,000 members, Belmont caters for all forms of pistol, rifle and shotgun shooting as well as archery. The organizing committee had done a great job rebuilding the 100 & 200 metre pistol ranges, and constructing new 100 & 500 metre ranges for rifle events. Complex personnel worked countless hours ensuring everything ran smoothly, and squadding 750 pistol and 250 rifle matches is a major undertaking. The opening ceremony was held on the evening of August 21, several speakers including the Member of Parliament for Griffith, Mr Kevin Rudd addressed the 192 competitors from 16 countries. After the welcoming speeches Mr Don Ruwoldt President of SSAA Brisbane, invited guests to watch an aborigine dance group. Mr Rudd then declared the competition open by firing a replica Navy cannon. August 22 was the first day of shooting and anyone thinking 39x40's would be good enough soon learnt other wise, as after only four hours 40x40 scores had been shot in most freestyle events. While the weather throughout the competition was generally good with blue skies. At around midday the wind would come up requiring targets to be clamped. This means each targets foot is placed under a retaining device so it cannot fall, the range officer checks every target raising a flag for hits and walking past for misses, a line officer records the score, and targets are then completely repainted for the next shooter. Several of our group achieved 40x40 scores, Warrick Felton BB unlimited, Graeme Anderson SB and BB unlimited, Keith Sinclair BB production and SB & BB unlimited. Also a personal best in SB revolver by Evan Sanders 38x40. Shoot off's were held on August 30 starting at 0715 hrs, and with 81 40x40's shot plus resolving other tied scores was a long process. Shoot off targets were laid out in this order, for Big Bore, a half size chicken, turkey, pig, turkey and chicken at 200 metres. Small Bore .22 targets same configuration at 100 metres, and all standing events used five turkeys at either 75 or 150 metres, being the correct distance for that event. IMSSU rules allow bolt-action pistols to be used in production events as well as a longer sight radius, so shoot off's is an area where we suffered a little. While we did not place in the top three championship medals for each category, we did achieve a number of grade wins and overall everyone shot very well. Gold medal Philip Dickson 17x40 SB standing B grade, Silver medal Keith Brooks 15x40 BB unlimited B grade, Bronze medal Graeme Anderson 40x40 SB unlimited INT grade, Gold medal Keith Sinclair 39x40 SB revolver and 29x40 FP production INT grade. Team scores and placing, Big Bore Keith Sinclair 145, Graeme Anderson 141, Philip Dickson 126, total 412 fifth place. Small Bore Keith Sinclair 140, Graeme Anderson 130, Evan Sanders 126, total 396 seventh place. Field Pistol Keith Sinclair 59, Graeme Anderson 47, Evan Sanders 34, total 140 eighth place. The closing ceremony and medal presentations were held at the Pacific Golf Club with a number of guest speakers including the police commissioner. Mr Rudd MP for Griffith could not attend due to prior commitments, but in a speech to the Australian Parliament spoke highly of the competition, its organisers and achievements of several Australian shooters.

Selection criteria, HMS team selection is intended to be an on going process, and is open to all NZPA members. The last HMS nationals are automatically included as are the best three aggregate scores shot at sanctioned matches within a 12-month period. The aggregate scores are added together and divided by four, with the result forming that persons ranking. The minimum ranking scores considered for team selection to the IMSSU World championships, or IHMSA internationals, is 137 big bore, 130 small bore and 50 field pistol. For all other team selections 134 big bore, 125 small bore and 45 field pistol. Scores from overseas competitions can be used, providing approval is obtained in advance, and the competition has a ranking equal to, or better than the NZ match being replaced.

Until next time safe shooting.  
Keith Sinclair