

IN THE BLACK

August, 2004

Hi fellow shooters

The South Island ML Champs were held on the 10th and 11th July at Ashburton Pistol Club. The timing was a bit of a gamble weather wise, being mid winter, but was timed to give our NZ Team a last outing before packing away their firearms for shipping to America for the World Champs. Unfortunately you can no longer just jump on a plane with your guns tucked away in your suitcase!

Any way back to the weather, as it turned out we had two great days with huge frosts but sunny, still days when the frost thawed (about 3pm) just as the sun was beginning to set! Not a huge turnout for this shoot but some creditable scores were produced.

The NZ Team of Derek Barrett, Hugh Bullmore, Brian Gould and Neal Kelly, leave for the World Muzzle Loading Champs from Christchurch on the 13th August with competition starting on Wed 25th with Pistol events being Wed 25th, Kuchenreuter and Cominazzo, Thursday 26th, Mariette and Friday 27th, Tanzutsu. Brian Gould is the Team Manager for the full team of shotgun, rifle and pistol shooters and I must give Brian a huge thank you for all the work he has put into organising this trip.

You can check out the action at www.usimlt.org/pages/6. Do try to send some message of support to these guys before they leave.

Don't forget the new BP cartridge revolver rules are on the this page (above). They can be printed out double sided and stapled together to make a nice simple rule book, saving on the cost of having them printed. Thanks to Dave Tomlinson for setting them up like that.

The 2004 Nationals are being held at Greater Wellington Muzzle Loading Club on 23-25th October so get your bed booked and start practicing now. This is to be held in conjunction with the NZ Black Powder Shooting Federation Pistol Nationals so it promises to be one great weekend of shooting.

We have some exciting news coming up on a new venue for the North Island champs next year. Stay tuned for an announcement soon.

If your club has some members who are interested in learning about muzzle loading shooting or you have a muzzle loader that hasn't been out of the safe for a while please contact me at muzzle@pistolnz.org.nz and arrange a visit of the "Travelling Muzzle Loading Roadshow". We will have two or three top class shooters visit your club with plenty of toys to play with and as much instruction/coaching/advice as you can handle. What better way to expose your club members to a new/different or neglected type of shooting. I promise it will be fun.

Keep your powder dry!

Ian Knight

Muzzle Loading Section Director