

INTERNATIONAL PRACTICAL SHOOTING CONFEDERATION, VICTORIA/TASMANIA

SECTION COORDINATORS ANNUAL REPORT July 2011

With the State Titles in February being hosted once again by PPLA and then followed up 6 weeks later by the National Championships, IPSC shooting was once again very busy.

A very big thank you goes to the PPLA for putting on these matches and to all of their members who contributed so much to making them the successes that they were. It was also good to see a couple of people from other clubs assisting with the construction of the stages prior to the match. We need more of this to ensure that we are all involved with creating and bringing these matches to everyone. It should not be left to one club to do all the work; all clubs need to be involved. Members of other clubs were involved in stage design and this was a good thing as it brought new ideas to the matches.

A few changes were made to the running of the Nationals this year; with one of the main items being changed being the Presentation Dinner. We managed to secure a venue within Werribee to remove the need for people to shift camp or travel a great distance into Melbourne to attend. Combined with a massive reduction in cost we found that a lot more people actually attended the dinner, which was good for everyone. We had a guest speaker, Mr Don Whitten, brother of the AFL legend Ted Whitten, attended and spoke on the work that his brothers Prostate Cancer Foundation has carried out, as well as some humorous anecdotes about Ted. We donated \$1000.00 to the foundation on behalf of all members of IPSC.

The match and all other aspects of it were a great success and my congratulations go out to the winners, and all of the people associated to its success. The 2012 Nationals will be held in Blacktown, NSW next year.

Wodonga Handgun Club asked for a chance to run the 2012 Victorian State Championships and this was granted. They committed themselves to do a lot of work at their range in preparation for this match and from all reports they are well on their way to being ready. Well done for taking the big step to host this match and you are wished all the best.

State Selection matches will once again be hosted by the same three clubs as usual, PPLA, Wodonga and Sale. I know I have said it before, but we really need other clubs to seriously consider standing up and running a match or two. It is a little unfair on these three clubs to be doing all the work and it is really time to see what other clubs are capable of doing.

Once again the SSAA Victoria hosted the SHOT Expo at the Royal Melbourne Showgrounds, and once again IPSC Victoria and PPLA took it upon themselves to get a couple of booths to promote our sport. We were in a pretty good position again this year and with two big screen TV's running continuously, the small group of workers did their best to promote IPSC. Even after repeated requests for assistance only a few people turned up to assist over the weekend. The IPSC booth was there for all clubs and members to promote the sport and only a small number turned out. We did ask that flyers promoting your club be supplied, but only one club provided them. It was disappointing to then hear complaints that not enough was done at the stands to make them 'flashier'. Oh well maybe next time we will get more assistance.

Tasmania is giving some consideration to returning to being a stand alone Section again and I am keen for this to be ongoing. They are growing in membership and now need to look at running their own affairs again. They will be fully supported in their efforts to achieve this. In an attempt to increase their membership, the 2011 Tasmanian State Titles will be an Open competition that non IPSC members will be able to compete in. This was allowed by IPSC Australia as a once off on the basis that it was to introduce a lot of the people in Tasmania who are currently shooting IPSC Style, but who are not members of the association. The match will be held in Launceston in October.

A big event for IPSC in Australia was the awarding of the Australasian 2013 Championships to be held in conjunction with IPSC New Zealand during February of that year. The match will be jointly hosted by Australia and New Zealand at the Rotorua Pistol Club and around 800 plus competitors are expected to attend. This is the closest we will get to hosting a level 4 competition where we will be able

to again use any calibre and standard capacity magazines. A number of IPSC Australia officials have already committed themselves to assisting with the running and administration of this match. We now need members to attend to support their efforts.

This year is a World Shoot Year and I want to wish all those members who will be attending the match in Rhodes, Greece all the very best. It will be a great experience and I wish I was able to attend.

I would like to think that IPSC is starting to grow in leaps and bounds and if the interest that was shown at the SHOT Expo continues, I am sure that we will all see the sport getting bigger in the months to come. So lets all try to do something for the **sport** to see if we can truly make it happen for IPSC in the coming months and years.

At all of our major matches we have a collection of men and women in grey shirts that look after us on the ranges. To the Range Officers who work so hard at the matches to ensure that we are kept to the forefront of IPSC, I offer you my sincere thanks for putting up with the arguments and pleading of all competitors during a comp. We really do thank you for your efforts.

A big thank you from me to all the executive and delegates who attend the meetings each month and to all of those people who help out at every match we hold. Without you giving up your time, we would not have the great sport that we all enjoy so much.

See you on a range soon.

Bill Campbell
Section Coordinator
IPSC Victoria/Tasmania
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