

INTERNATIONAL PRACTICAL SHOOTING CONFEDERATION, VICTORIA/TASMANIA

SECTION COORDINATORS ANNUAL REPORT July 2014

Once again IPSC in Victoria is growing at a very consistent rate. Many clubs are telling of not only increased interest, but of increased numbers of people joining their club to pursue IPSC shooting. I can only put this down to the efforts over the years that have been carried out to promote the IPSC discipline, such as the presence at the SSAA Shot Expo's over the years, various advertising carried out by some clubs on Social Media. I would like to think that this is something that I have assisted with during my time as section Coordinator. IPSC in Victoria can only continue to grow if the momentum started can be kept going and it is my hope that this will continue.

The big news this year was the approval for IPSC in Victoria to use greater than .38/9mm calibre in Classic Division in IPSC competition. This took a greater than expected time to come through, but it is in now and will make a difference in IPSC around Australia when the other States apply for the same exemption we now have. Thanks to Greg Moon for submitting the proposal to the LRD.

The PPLA once again hosted the State Titles in February this year and the once again it proved to be the biggest match outside of a Nationals. An enormous crowd of 265 competitors took part and we had a fantastic time. If this growth rate continues, we may need to look at running it over three days if required. Suffice to say that it proves the popularity of IPSC and the need for people to continue to attend, well run big matches.

IPSC Victoria sent many Teams and representatives to the 2014 Nationals in Dalby, Queensland and although we may not have been to successful, the fact that people gained the prestige of representing their State in their chosen sport is something that is considered to be important by the vast majority of those who play our great sport. A number of higher grade shooters did not attend the Nationals due to personal reasons and this their choice. It should also be pointed out that they also chose not to attend the various Selection Matches for their own reasons too. Well done to those who were part of the Teams and to those who attended as individuals also. The only 'downside' to the Nationals was the number of people who became sick after drinking the Dalby 'water'.

State Selection matches have been booked for the State Team Selection for 2015 by using the PPLA, Wodonga, Warragul/Drouin, Sale and the 2015 State Titles matches. This will give people the maximum opportunity to attend the minimum requirement for Team Selection, at this stage it will be a total of 3 best scores, with the State Titles being a mandatory attendance match. Hopefully we will see some of those members who have not been attending the Selection matches turning up again to support the sport that has supported them so often in the past.

Tasmania has elected to stay attached to Victoria for administrative reasons, but will continue to be allowed to 'do their own thing'. This is a shame as they are trailing behind the mainland states with regards to increasing their membership. I can only put this down to a lack of advertising or the drive to increase their numbers. A concerted push by the individual clubs in Tassie is required to boost their numbers. The 2014 State Titles will be held in Launceston with a two day match being held at Van Diemen PC. This clubs runs great matches and I am sure this one will be no different. Unfortunately it is being run too close to the World Shoot and the usual mainland attendees may be missing..

Finally, at all of our major matches we have a collection of men and women in grey shirts and striped shirts 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.

Having spent around 16 years as Section Coordinator in Victoria, I have seen many changes, not only to the people, but to the sport.

However I have decided to step down from the role of Section Coordinator and pass it on to the next person and will not be contesting the Election this year.

I did not make this decision lightly and did give it consideration for a period of time.

I have had some 'robust' discussions with various people over the years, some people have not agreed with some things, but never once was anything done without the good of the organisation first and foremost in my mind. You may not agree with that, but it is the truth. Too many others have tried to ram home their ideas, but in the end, the delegates make the decisions, **NOT** the Senior Executive.

So with that, I thank you all for being part of our great sport and I hope to take up another role that will still see me in attendance at the meetings.

Good luck to the incoming Executive and I hope that the upward progression started can be continued.

See you on a range soon.

Bill Campbell
Section Coordinator
IPSC Victoria/Tasmania
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