



**Queensland State Skeet Carnival**  
**15th to 18th September 2011**  
*(report by Nigel Hughes)*

**See Below for Photos**

**Townsville Clay Target Club** has a well earned reputation for being one of the hardest grounds in Australia to shoot on. This is mainly due to the close proximity of the rocky hillside which forms a disruptive backdrop for the targets and also creates swirling eddies of wind which wreak havoc on the targets thrown by the ageing white flyer traps. The conditions made it impossible to predict a clear winner, with the high gun favourite changing with every round. Of the 65 or so shooters across 450 targets (including the sub gauges), only 10 times was the red chalk applied to the score board for any 50 straights.

Despite the extremely challenging conditions there were some truly remarkable shooting achievements that took place during the event and it was a real test of nerves and fortitude for many.

**Thursday** saw the start of the pre-state multi-gauge event commencing with the 20 gauge which saw **Nick Aird** off to a great start by posting the first 50 straight on the board (having shot it with a 28 gauge).

#### **20 Gauge Pre-State Multi Gauge**

Overall **Nick Aird** Brisbane 50/50  
AA 2nd **Glenn Walker** Brisbane 57/58  
A 1st **Paulette Walker** Brisbane 49/50  
A 2nd **Frank Cooper** Caboolture 48/50  
B 1st **Thomas Rhue** Caboolture 47/50  
B 2nd **Joe Davis** Charters Towers 44/50  
C 1st **Rob Peno** Charters Towers 48/50  
C 2nd **Rob Hunter** 43/50

Increasingly windy conditions saw the start of the 28 gauge and another 6 squads tackle the variable targets. Three shooters achieved a credible 49/50 and a shoot off between **Mark Fanning**, **Lorraine Hughes** and **Nigel Hughes** saw **Mark Fanning** as the eventual winner after a doubles shoot off.

#### **28 Gauge Pre State Multi Gauge**

Overall **Mark Fanning** Brisbane 57/58  
AA 2nd **Nigel Hughes** Caboolture 56/58  
A 1st **Laurie Rodden** Pioneer 47/50  
A 2nd **Mathew Rhue** Caboolture 50/56  
B 1st **Sarah Bennett** Dubbo 46/50  
B 2nd **Henry Haythorpe** Townsville 46/54  
C 1st **Rob Hunter** Townsville 47/54  
C 2nd **Ralph Escriva** 46/54

The last event of the day saw the 6 squads of shooters approach the .410 gauge event with the usual trepidation that .410g shooting brings plus the added pressure of the target variability and swirling afternoon breeze. A doubles shoot off with **Nick Aird** and **Glenn Walker** ran for four stations before **Nick** emerged the winner.

#### **410 Gauge Pre State Multi Gauge**

Overall **Nick Aird** Brisbane 54/58  
AA 2nd **Glenn Walker** Brisbane 53/58  
A 1st **Frank Cooper** Caboolture 45/50  
A 2nd **Paulette Walker** Brisbane 43/50  
B 1st **Adam Bozier** Bundaberg 40/50  
B 2nd **Jim Storch** Blackwater 38/50  
C 1st **Ron Peno** Charters Towers 40/54  
C 2nd **Ray Bourne** Blackwater 39/54

**Friday** 16th September and the final event of the pre state multi gauge with a 50 target 12 gauge event. The squad numbers increased to 12 squads with many people using this event as an 'eye opener' for the QCTA State event. Only one perfect score was posted being that of **Laurie Sceresini** who was the overall winner.

#### **12 gauge pre state**

Overall **Laurie Sceresini** Toowoomba 50/50  
AA 2nd **Harry Bader** Cecil Park 55/56  
A 1st **Laurie Rodden** Pioneer 53/54  
A 2nd **Frank Cooper** Caboolture 52/54  
B 1st **Sarah Bennett** Dubbo 49/50  
B 2nd **Thomas Rhue** Caboolture 50/52  
C 1st **Jim Davis** Charters Towers 49/54  
C 2nd **Rob Hunter** 46/50

**The pre state multi gauge event** resulted in an overall win for **Mark Fanning** (Brisbane) with a score of 190/200.

**Friday** afternoon saw the commencement of the QCTA State Skeet Carnival. The winds had not abated and 13 squads of shooters approached event 1, the 50 target handicap, with high hopes of great scores. At the end of the 50 targets only one perfect score was posted by **Lorraine Hughes**. 15 shooters were called to the first round of the shoot offs and the local knowledge paid off with the final results being:

1st **Errol Reeves** Townsville 122/122  
2nd **Des Barber** Townsville 121/122  
3rd **Aaron Knowle** Gold Coast 92/93

4th **Thomas Rhue** Caboolture 90/94  
5th **Geoff Bryant** Roma 90/92

**Saturday's** event was the hotly contested 100 target State Title event. This was shot in two waves of 50 targets each. No perfect score was achieved but an extremely credible 99/100 was shot by both **Nick Aird** and **Shane Bennett**. Everyone took their positions to watch the shoot off. Station 1 was cleaned by both shooters and station two saw **Shane Bennett** miss the high two of the pair. A dejected Shane stood back and waited for Nick to take his shots on station two but a surprise result for Shane, when **Nick Aird** missed both targets of his pair after the unpredictable wind saw his high two target head for low ground at high speed!

### 100 Target State Title

Overall **Shane Bennett** Dubbo 106/108  
AA 1st **Nick Aird** Brisbane 105/108  
AA 2nd **Laurie Sceresini** Toowoomba 103/106  
A 1st **Errol Reeves** Townsville 97/100  
A 2nd **Wayne Reeves** Normanton 96/100  
B 1st **Joe Davis** Charters Towers 100/105  
B 2nd **Adam Bozier** Bundaberg 99/105  
C 1st **Jim Davis** Charters Towers 90/100  
C 2nd **Ron Peno** Charters Towers 87/100  
Veterans **Pat Duty** Townsville 93/100  
Ladies **Sarah Bennett** Dubbo 94/100  
Juniors **Adam Bozier** Bundaberg 99/105

The result of the handicap event plus the 100 target event saw the selection of the top 15 shooters to shoot another 50 targets for selection of the top 5 shooters to represent their state.

**Open Team:** 1. **Nick Aird**, 2. **Errol Reeves**, 3. **Laurie Sceresini**, 4. **Craig O'Neill**, 5. **Laurie Chelepy**.

**Ladies Team:** 1. **Lorraine Hughes**, 2. **Debbie Young** 3. **Tracey Ashton**.

**Veterans Team:** 1. **Pat Duty** 2. **Neil Dimmick** 3. **Doug Killick**.

**Sunday** 18th September and the final day of the event and the inaugural State Title 20 gauge event. Three perfect scores were posted by **Lorraine Hughes**, **Laurie Sceresini** and **Debbie Young**. A short shoot off and an unpredictable high-one saw the end of both Debbie and Lorraine for **Laurie** to emerge the victor.

### 20 Gauge State Title

Overall **Laurie Sceresini** Toowoomba 51/51  
AA 1st **Lorraine Hughes** Caboolture 50/51  
AA 2nd **Glenn Walker** Brisbane 49/50  
A 1st **Debbie Young** Gold Coast 50/51  
A 2nd **Aaron Knowles** Gold Coast 49/51  
B 1st **Thomas Rhue** Caboolture 46/50  
B 2nd **Adam Bozier** Bundaberg 45/50  
C 1st **Ron Peno** Charters Towers 46/50  
C 2nd **Clarence Davis** Charters Towers 53/50  
Ladies **Sarah Bennett** Dubbo 47/50  
Veterans **Neil Dimmick** Gold Coast 48/50  
Juniors **Thomas Rhue** Caboolture 46/50

The final event of the day was the 50 target doubles. With only 1 or 2 targets separating the top 6 or 7 shooters it was anyone's guess who would emerge the winner of the overall high gun. No perfect scores were posted but **Shane Bennett** shot the only 49/50 to finish off a very successful weekend of shooting and saw him take home his second silver badge of the weekend. Three shooters shot a 47/50 being **Craig O'Neill**, **Lorraine Hughes** and **Nigel Hughes** who walked to the shoot off layout. It was quickly down to just Lorraine and Nigel and with a fair amount of jeering and comments from the crowd an entertaining shoot off continued.

### State Doubles Event

Overall **Shane Bennett** Dubbo 49/50  
AA 1st **Mark Fanning** Brisbane 48/50  
AA 2nd **Lorraine Hughes** Caboolture 55/58  
A 1st **Mick McGill** Mount Isa 50/54  
A 2nd **Wayne Reeves** Normanton 51/56  
B 1st **Rob Hunter** Townsville 50/58  
B 2nd **Damien Perreira** Wagga Wagga 49/58  
C 1st **Ron Peno** Charters Towers 39/50  
C 2nd **Ray Bourne** Blackwater 38/52  
Ladies **Vere Storch** Blackwater 43/50  
Juniors **Thomas Rhue** Caboolture 40/50  
Veterans **Neil Dimmick** Gold Coast 44/50

The doubles resulted in an equal score of 241/250 for both **Nick Aird** and **Laurie Sceresini**, with **Mark Fanning**, **Craig O'Neill**, **Shane Bennett** and **Lorraine Hughes** all deliberating the one or two separating them from the chance of the shoot off for overall high gun. A quick change of tubes to 20 gauge and a shoot off bracket commenced with **Nick Aird** being the eventual winner at the end of one bracket.

### Overall High Guns

Overall **Nick Aird** Brisbane 254/264  
AA **Laurie Sceresini** Toowoomba 251/264  
A **Errol Reeve** Townsville 236/250  
B **Thomas Rhue** Caboolture 227/250  
C **Jim Davis** Charters Towers 226/250  
Veterans **Neil Dimmick** Gold Coast 251/278  
Juniors **Adam Bozier** Bundaberg 222/250  
Ladies **Lorraine Hughes** Caboolture 239/250



Click on Thumbnail images:



The 2011 High All Around winner was **Mark Fanning** of Brisbane Gun Club with a score of 430/450.

Our thanks to the sponsors being Glenn Walker, Paulette Walker, Mike Swale and Pat Dury.

*Townsville Gun Club did an excellent job of hosting a great carnival and we look forward to even more inter-state shooters attending the easily accessible State Carnival in Brisbane in September 2012.*

**Photo Gallery**







